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# THE ROLE OF CONTRACT MONITORING ON PERFORMANCE OF CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS IN COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF BUSIA

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#### **ABSTRACT**

This study aimed at finding out the role of contract monitoring on performance of construction contracts in County Government of Busia. Census research design was used in the study. The targeted population was 50 drawn from administrators, engineers, quantity surveyors, finance procurement and contractors. For data collection, this study used both questionnaire and face to face interview to collect data. This research demonstrated that there is a huge relationship between performance of construction projects and monitoring of these contracts. Projects need to be assessed continuously to their conclusion for corrective measures and improvement hence achieving better performance. This was found out through correlation analysis and regression analysis of both variables under the study. From the study, it indicated that there is a strong relationship between monitoring of compliance since donor funded projects in Busia County required strict adherence to the donor requirements for them to continue funding this project. The study also revealed that its key to streamline the project processes from the beginning to the end just to ensure systems are working towards better performance. Beneficiary who are the major stakeholders in the project need to be actively involved in project implementation for its acceptance and success. Lastly, the organization need to give required resources and create a conducive environment for the project success.

Key Words: Process Monitoring, Compliance, Beneficiary Monitoring, Organization Monitoring

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#### **INTRODUCTION**

Contract monitoring are important part of outcome-oriented administration (Rist, Boily & Martin, 2011). Outcome-oriented administration includes knowingly collecting factual data to establish to what intensity the predetermined outcomes are being done to change the design and outcome of actions to improve and be accountable for achievement of the predetermined result (Mayne, 2017).

Contract monitoring is a primary apparatus, the world over, which has boosted the endeavor to realize economic, environmental and sustainability goals. On interstate and global lenses, the sustainability principle and signals for contract monitoring are important in determining, monitoring and reporting on eco-friendly, fiscal and communal tendency, following up advancement against targets and affecting framework and routine (Behn, 2013). Contract monitoring is a vardstick of evaluating the progress of projects with regard to the anticipated outcome. Moreover, it is the continual assembly and processing of data which guides project managers in making accurate and strategic decisions to realize set targets.

Monitoring involves progressively and systematically accumulating distinguishing data as signal in Public projects. Contract monitoring is referred to as a process which enables project managers to speed up desired outcomes and furthermore, alter them. The goal of the process is to better the current and expected results and impact (United Nations Development Programme, 2017). Gyorkos (2013) asserts that monitoring gives the authorities and associates a profound signal of performance and the realization of viable goals with the least available resources. Assessment referees to an elaborate program and dispassionate evaluation of an ongoing or completely performed project including how it is designed, executed and the outcome. This is carried out to give, in advance, an evaluation report of whether the project is appropriate, adept and productive whether it has beneficiaries. impacted the whether the

interventions are sustainable and whether it according to the intention for its creation. According to Aden (2012), Contract Monitoring empowers project managers to make prudent decisions about the project basing on policy, service delivery and adeptness of the project.

Globally, construction intricate is an and fragmented that industry involves many stakeholders namely; clients/project sponsors, project financiers, consultants, facility users and the Government and has wide range of linkages with areas of activity (Hillebrandt, 2000; Pietroforte, 1995). For decades, the construction projects have exceeded the predetermined budgets (Akinci & Fischer, 1998). Media outlets have wildly reported cost overruns in the infrastructure projects across the world (Morris, 1990; Raftery, 2003; Siemiatycki, 2009;). The public's view on construction project performance is that such projects rarely achieve the intended purpose within the predetermined budget ceiling. More than half of the 1778 construction projects that were sponsored by the World Bank exceeded their budgets (Baloi & Price, 2003).

The 2010 constitution of Kenya created devolved governments whose functions included but were not limited to economic and administrative powers. The forty-seven county governments are tasked with coming up appropriate projects that suits the needs of their people thereby invoking the need to have an elaborate system of project monitoring. In the recent past, data collected from CDF projects in relation to project performance suggests that there has been poor management (Wanjiru, 2008; Kamau, 2007; Kaimenyi, 2005). The constitution of envisioned public participation Kenva government projects is a key performance indicator in project management. Counties have already implemented several projects.

Kimonyi (2010) noted that the compliance of nongovernmental organizations in Kenya for the donor requirements was weighty matter. The target of his study was NGOs in Nairobi, how they can comply to rules and regulations of the donor to continue benefiting from the fund and avoid donor freezing. The funding of the study was that most NGOs do monitoring for the sake of avoiding donor freezing. This does not necessarily mean that monitoring is done to ensure success of the project. Mureithi (2015) reviewed factors affecting monitoring systems to project performance. The research found how different factors like stakeholder's politics, budget and freezing have an effect on monitoring. They determine the success or failure of monitoring activity. It fails to address how monitoring helps in the success of the project. He concluded that monitoring systems needs skilled personnel to effectively execute M&E. Muchelule (2018) research looked at Kenya state of corporation performance in relation to monitoring practices employed. He looked at planning, monitoring tools and monitoring techniques influence on project performance. The finding was that this entire variable had an influence of project performance. Stephen Kibet (2017) looked at the study objective which was to examine the variables of effective procurement contracts in Kenya. The study focused on the staff competencies, use of ICT professionals and accountability. The theories include Resource dependency theory and Dynamic capabilities theory. The study concludes that staff competence, use of information and communication technology, professionalism and accountability have statistically significant influence on contract administration in public universities in Kenya. It further concluded that a unit increase in these variables led to a unit increase in procurement contract administration. Cherotich Joyce Rotich 2014 study on contract management practices and operational performance of state corporation in Kenya. The study has established the effect of effective contract management practice on operational performance of state corporation in Kenya. Specific objectives were to identify challenges involved in effective contract management practices in state corporation and establish the effect of contract management practices on operational performance in state corporation in Kenya. The findings of the study

were that state corporation's practice influence contract monitoring that has good impact on effective contract management was found to improve operational of Kenyan organizations. The research recommended contract training programs with the view of enabling contract performance.

#### Statement of the Problem

Contract evaluation is a key process in program implementaion (Meredith & Mantel, 2011). Concerned parties should be updated, promptly and accurately, of the project progress report bearing in mind completion dates and budget ceiling. "Project managers need to undertake more robust contract monitoring of the projects and develop policy and framework for measuring its effect" (Kahilu, 2010).

A successful project is one that is delivered within the budget, stipulated time on as per the schedule, desirable quality, client satisfaction, stakeholder satisfaction and facility user satisfaction. Most of the projects funded by the county governments do not meet some of the project objectives.

Kimonyi (2010), in his study, regularly looked at the compliance of non-governmental organizations in Kenya for the donor requirements. The target was NGOs in Nairobi, how they can comply with rules and regulations of the donor to continue benefiting from the fund and avoid donor freezing. The funding of the study was that most NGOs do monitoring for the sake of avoiding donor freezing. This does not necessarily mean that monitoring is done to ensure success of the project. Mureithi (2015) reviewed the impact of monitoring systems on project execution. The study found how different factors like stakeholder's politics, budget and freezing have an effect on monitoring. They determine the success or failure of monitoring activity. It fails to address how monitoring helps in the success of the project. He concluded that monitoring systems needs skilled personnel to effectively execute M&E. Muchelule (2018) research looked at Kenya state of corporation performance in relation to monitoring practices employed. He looked at planning, monitoring tools

and monitoring techniques influence on project performance. The finding was that this entire variable had an influence of project performance

While the concept of contract monitoring of projects is predominant, the administrative elements of contract monitoring are not well defined in county government projects. Moreover, scanty information is available concerning these projects.

# **Objectives of the Study**

The main research objective was to find out the role of contract monitoring on execution of construction contracts in County government of Busia. The specific objectives were;

- To establish the influence of process monitoring on performance of construction contracts in county government of Busia.
- To assess the influence of compliance monitoring in performance of construction contracts in county government of Busia.
- To evaluate the effect of beneficiary monitoring on performance of construction contracts in county government of Busia.
- To establish the impact of organization monitoring in relation to the execution of construction contracts in the County government of Busia.

The study was guided by the following research hypotheses

- Ho1 Monitoring compliance significantly influences contract performance.
- Ho2 Monitoring process significantly influences contract performance.
- Ho3 Monitoring beneficiary significantly influences contract performance.
- Ho4 Monitoring organization significantly influences contract performance

## LITERATURE REVIEW

# **Process Theory**

This study evaluated Expectation Theory (Lawler, E.., Porter 1967) all the way to Need Hierarchy Theory (Maslow, A. 1943). It is clear from the

theories that whilst process a constantly evolving phenomenon and not a constant and stagnant feature as it was earlier on assumed. The interest in process management has remained high compared to other management trends (Hellström, 2006).

Process theory focuses on individuals. This results in misleading information, since the core focus of an organization is its output on the assigned functions. It is therefore paramount to evaluate an organization as a unit and not members of the unit separately. This brings out strongly process monitoring variable in this study. It also explores the relationship between work effort and performance hence the dependent variable of performance comes out.

# **Participatory Theory**

This theory establishes the impact of participation on the outcome of a project. Public and private sectors have recognized the importance of stakeholder participation in service delivery with regards to project performance. It is no coincidence that Nelson & Wright (1995) asserted that stakeholder participation has improved project monitoring process to a high degree by ensuring efficiency in project management.

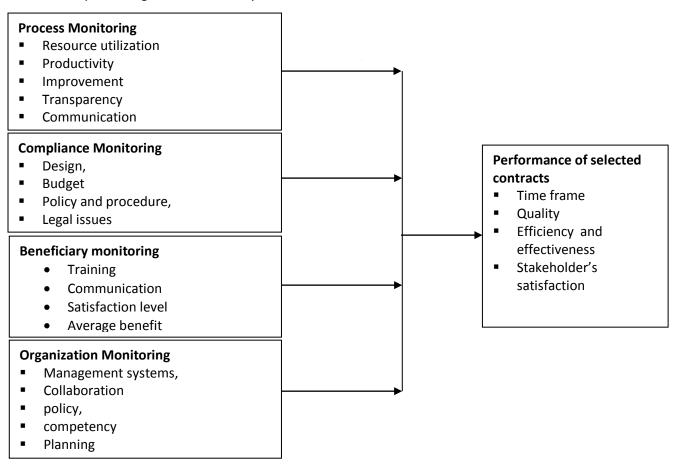
In this theory, the beneficiary monitoring variable strongly comes out as both the organization and other stakeholders' input in the project is looked at for the success of the project.

#### **Stakeholders Theory**

The stakeholder theory was first proposed by Oakley, (2011). Mansuri and Rao, (2013) asserted that project management was a process that inclined more on sustainability and utility of the outut as opposed to the initial perception which weighed more on profit margins. Patton (2008) agreed to this idea and further proposed that the interaction of parties in the project management team was a vital factor in determining the performance of the project. This well explains process monitoring variable.

Staff and stakeholder relations are the engine of project delivery (Ramabodu &Verster, 2010; Raniga & Simpson, 2012). The success of the project is largely determined by the enthusiasm and leadership roles that see to it the available human resource is put into good use. When you look at

management of process, then you are talking about organization systems put in place and compliance to it for the success of the project. Both organization monitoring and compliance monitoring is looked at in this theory.



# **Independent variables**

# **Dependent Variables**

#### Figure1: Conceptual Framework

# **Empirical Review**

Studies as discussed by most researchers' links performance to monitoring. Despite the knowledge that monitoring is of a major factor in contributing to effective project performance, there is still little practice of project monitoring in Kenya. This section looks at existing Knowledge about contract monitoring and performance of contracts. From the result of the study, we can deduce that we have both local and global knowledge on contract monitoring.

In his study (Tache, 2011) 'forming a correlated M & E tool for a long lasting investment project in Romania, he asserted that there is need to use the data gathered from the social surrounding in implementation of the project. He noted that it is important to use findings from the assessment done on the project so as to improve performance. The presence of organizational structure is also essential in managing a project. In addition, Yusuf Wanjala Muchelule (2018) 'impact of monitoring on project success of state cooperation in Kenya'. He reviewed the influence of monitoring planning on

performance, the influence of monitoring tools, monitoring techniques and lastly the influence of adoption of monitoring practices on project performance in Kenya state corporations. He looked at theory of change, utilitarian theory, theory of constraints and social change theory to address his variables.

He used simple random sampling on State Corporation in Kenya with a target population of 187 state corporations. Questionnaires were used as they were seen to be flexible to reach the respondent. Data was collected and analyzed.

According to the research findings, in this study (monitoring planning, tools, technics and adoption of monitoring practices) are variables that have an influence on state cooperation performance of contracts. It was evident that there was a correlation between the above variables and contract performance. In his conclusion, he noted that project performance is a result of adoption of tools, planning, techniques, adoption of practices geared towards monitoring. He recommended that there is need for capacity building in regards to planning on project monitoring by employees in a given organization.

Kimonyi (2010) for example, wrote about contract monitoring and project perfomance. He reviewed projects in Nairobi which are funded by organizations that are not aligned to the government. He concluded that most donor funded projects comply to the requirements to avoid freezing of funds

Mureithi (2015) 'the impact of contract M & E systems on government contracts'. The study noted that there is need for capacity building to stake holders in relation to compliance with the budget and handling stakeholders forums for effective monitoring. However, the study fails to show explicitly how these factors influence the success of projects.

#### **METHODOLOGY**

Census research design was used as the entire population was studied (Orodho 2003). The study covered three sub counties in the county Government of Busia namely Teso south, Matayos and Butula. The targeted population was 50 drawn from administrators, engineers, quantity surveyors, finance procurement and contractors. In this study both questionnaire and face to face interview were used to collect data. Using pilot testing, the viability and utility of the study's tools was evaluated accodingly. The presumed review methodology was applied is regression analysis. It objectively took into account the extent of relation between variables. The regression question was:

 $Y=b_0+b_1+X_1+b_2+X_2+b_3+X_3+b_4+X_4+E$ 

Y = performance

 $b_0$  = coefficient factor

 $b_1$  to  $b_2$  = regression coefficient

 $X_1$  = Process monitoring

 $X_2$  = Compliance monitoring

 $X_3$  = Beneficiary monitoring

 $X_4$  = Organization monitoring

E = Error term

#### **FINDINGS AND DISCUSSIONS**

Fifty of the questionnaires were administered to sampled respondents in three Sub County. However, feedback from 42 questionnaires completely filled denoting 84% turnout. This surpassed Mugenda and Mugenda (2008) of greater than 70% return rate. Fairly good response rate was achieved due to adoption of drop and pick method in the administering of questionnaires. The researcher guaranteed the respondents of their confidentiality.

# Establishing the influence of process monitoring on performance of Construction contracts in county government of Busia

The dependent variable was to find out the impact of process monitoring on performance of construction contracts in Busia County. For this study, variables were rated using a 5-point Likert scale ranging from 1=strongly disagree to 5= strongly agree and were analyzed using mean

scores. A closer mean to 5 meant a stronger agreement to the research question. A score of below 2.5 indicated disagreement with the research

question. A score of around 2.5 indicated uncertainty on the part of the respondent. The results were summarized in tables below.

Table 1: Influence of process monitoring on performance of Construction contracts in county government of Busia

Statement	Mean	Std. Deviation
Process monitoring is well practiced in the county	3	<b>1.</b> 826
Employees are well trained in process monitoring	2	<b>0.</b> 816
There is existence of policy framework	2.75	<b>1 .2</b> 58
Resource utilization	3.25	<b>1.</b> 500
Productivity	3.75	1.259
Aggregate score	2.95	1.33
N=42		

The results in Table 1 indicated that the predominant influence on project performance customer through of process monitoring was due to practice of process monitoring (mean=3.0). Employees were well trained (mean=2.0). The respondents also agreed that their organizations had a policy to guide process monitoring (mean=2.75) another finding was that there is

resource utilization in the county during execution of the project (mean=3.25) Projects work productivity is measured (mean=3.75). The outcomes of this research were in line with a study carried out by Zhaoanjian and Yang (2014) which in its findings observed that process monitoring influence the performance of the project.

Table 2: influence of compliance monitoring in performance of construction contracts in county government of Busia

Statement	Mean	Std. Deviation	
Compliance is well assessed in projects	4.250	0.50	
Employee are well trained on compliance	2.000	0.82	
The departments have financial tools in controlling project budget	2.750	0.96	
There is project designs to be complied with	3.500	0.29	
Procurement Act and regulation are complied with	4.250	0.50	
Aggregate score	3.35	0.81	
N=42			

The Table 2 indicated that the predominant influence on project performance through compliance monitoring is availability of tools to control project budget (mean=2.7). The respondents also agreed that their organizations had well trained employees to handle compliance

monitoring (mean=2.0) an observation was made that project design are complied with (mean=3.5). It was also observed that most of the projects in the county comply with procurement law, thus giving a mean of 4.25. Another finding was that compliance is well practiced in the county (mean=4.25).

Table 3: Evaluating the effect of beneficiary monitoring on performance of selected contracts of county government of Busia

Statement	Mean	Std. Deviation
The County gathers stakeholders' feedback on project implementation	3.75	1.258
There is proper training and public participation by stakeholders	3.50	1.000
Project benefits are assessed	3.75	1.258
Disputes are resolved	4.00	1.414
There is regular consultations	4.25	0.500
Aggregate score	3.85	1.086
N=42		

The results in Table 3 indicated that the predominant influence on project performance through beneficiary monitoring was due to regular consultations (mean=4.25). The respondents also agreed that their organizations had a dispute resolution mechanism (mean=4.0). The county

gathers stakeholders' feedback on project implementation (mean=3.75) an observation which ranked at the same tie whereby majority feels project benefits are assessed (mean=3.75). It was also observed that there is proper training and public participation by stakeholders (mean=3.5)

Table 4: Determining the influence of organization monitoring on performance of construction contracts of county government of Busia

Statement	Mean	Std. Deviation
There is a policy on project monitoring	3.00	1.414
County has required competence to carry out project monitoring	3.50	1.290
Management system are in place to aid project monitoring	2.25	0.50
There is departmental based planning	3.75	1.258
Collaboration is highly exercised	3.5	1.291
Aggregate score	3.20	1.151
N=42		

The Table 4 outcome showed that the predominant influence on project performance through organization monitoring was found to be departmental based planning (mean=3.75). The respondents also agreed that their county had required competence to carry out project

monitoring (mean=3.5) an observation which ranked at the same tie whereby collaboration is highly exercised (mean=3.5). It was also observed that management system is in place at (mean=2.25) then policy on project monitoring at (3.0)

Table 5: Project performance in county government of Busia

Statement Mean	Std. Deviation	
Contract monitoring helps projects to be conwithin set time frame	mpleted 4.50	0.58
Through contract monitoring the desired que the project is achieved	aality of 3.75	1.26
Project budget is adhered to	2.75	0.96
Efficiency and effectiveness are achieved	3.25	0.96
stakeholder's satisfaction is realized	3.5	1.29
Aggregate score	4.5	0.689
N=42		

The results for Table 5 showed that most respondents see that contract monitoring helps projects to be finished in set timelines (mean= 4.5). The same respondent also felt that if projects were monitored then quality will be achieved (mean=3.7). The respondent felt that budgets were adhered to (mean=2.75). In terms achieving efficiency and effectiveness it was agreed that project monitoring was of help (mean=3.25) then it was felt that in conclusion of the projects, stakeholder's satisfaction was realized (mean=3.5)

# **Correlation Analysis**

It was used to measure the implication and extent of the relationship of the objectives. It analyzed the association between independent objectives namely: process monitoring, compliance monitoring, beneficiary monitoring and organization monitoring. Project performance was the dependent variable. Pearson correlation indicated the nature and strength of the relationship while significance value indicates the statistical significance of the study. Correlation analysis was used to test the four hypotheses of this study.

The correlation was done to measure whether it showed a statistically connotation relationship between process monitoring and project performance in county government of Busia. The correlation between process monitoring and project performance (r=0.477; p  $\leq$  0.05) indicated that there was a strong relationship between

process monitoring and project performance. The significance value of 0.002 (p  $\leq$  0.05) revealed that the relationships between compliance and project performance was statistically meaningful. This indicated that process monitoring has a strong consideration in the County.

A correlation analysis made to establish whether statistically significant relationship between process monitoring and project performance in Busia County was present ( r=-0.19;  $p \le 0.05$ ) indicated that there was a weak relationship between organization monitoring and project performance.

The correlation results to measure statistical connotation of the association between beneficiary monitoring and project success was r =0.247; p  $\leq$  0.05 indicates a weak association between beneficiary monitoring and project success. The significance value of 0.124(p  $\leq$  0.05) is statistically significant. This states that the beneficiary monitoring is an indicator in project performance in county government of Busia.

# **Regression Analysis**

Multivariate analysis was used to determine the significance of the relationship between the dependent variable and independent variables put together. The analysis put to test how the independent variables collectively answered the dependent variables. The results were indicated in table 6 below.

Table 6: Combined effect of contract monitoring on project performance

R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate
0.874a	0.764	0.685	0.363

The results in the table above showed that the value obtained for R which is the model correlation coefficient was r=.689<sup>a</sup> which is higher than any zero-order value in the table. This indicated that the models improved when more variables were

incorporated when analyzing influence of project monitoring on its performance in county government of Busia. The value of r square of 47% indicated that contract monitoring has 47% prediction on project performance in Busia County.

Table 7: Summary of ANOVA<sup>a</sup> Results

#### **ANOVA**

	Sum of Squares	Df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Regression	1.28	1	1.280	9.714	0.053ª
	0.395	3	0.131		
	1.675	4			

**Table 8: Summary of Multiple Regression Analysis** 

## Coefficients

	Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients		
	В	Std. Error	Beta	T	Sig.
(Constant)	2.972	.723		4.113	.000
	.386	.136	.415	2.848	.007
compliance	.396	.151	.347	2.627	.013
beneficiary	.126	.094	.174	1.336	.190
Organization	.266	.090	.389	2.964	.005

dent Variable: project performance

From table 8 above, the results indicated that the most important factor that influenced contract monitoring on project performance in selected contracts of county government of Busia was process monitoring ( $\beta$ =0.415p  $\leq$  0.05). This was followed by compliance ( $\beta$ =0.389 $\leq$  0.05). The third most important factor to influence contract monitoring on project performance was beneficiary monitoring. It had a result of ( $\beta$ = 0.347 $\leq$  0.05). The last variable was Organization monitoring which had a result of ( $\beta$ =0.174 $\leq$  0.05).

# **Hypothesis testing**

H<sub>1</sub>. Monitoring compliance significantly influences contract performance.

The results as indicated above ( $\beta$ =0.415p  $\leq$  0.05), indicated that there is a significant relationship. This meant that as it stands, process monitoring can influence performance. As such the alternative hypothesis was accepted.

H<sub>2</sub>. Monitoring process significantly influences contract performance

The results ( $\beta$ =0.347p  $\leq$  0.05), indicated that there is a significant relationship. This meant that as it

stands, product compliance monitoring can influence project performance. As such the alternative hypothesis is accepted.

H<sub>3</sub>. Monitoring beneficiary significantly influence contract performance.

The regression ( $\beta$ =0.174  $\geq$  0.05) indicated that there is a significant relationship between monitoring beneficiaries on project performance in Busia County. As such the alternative hypothesis was accepted.

H<sub>4</sub>. Monitoring organization significantly influences contract performance.

From the results in the regression table ( $\beta$ =0.389 $\leq$  0.05) confirmed that organization monitoring influences project performance in county government of Busia. These results meant that project performance is influenced by organization monitoring, as such the alternative hypothesis is as accepted.

# **CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMENDATION**

The first objective of the study was to establish the influence of process monitoring on performance of construction contracts in county government of Busia. The findings established that there is a big gap in monitoring the process of project implementation. Focus should be put to ensure projects are completed within the stipulated timeframe. Project resources should be well utilized; there should be open communication and routine measure of work productivity. There is delay in feedback as system of monitoring is not in place. Periodic site visits to the area of project and questionnaires to the public should be practiced to get feedback on project progress. The input, process and output are closely related hence there is a strong relationship between process monitoring and the performance of the project.

Objective two of the study was to assess the influence of compliance monitoring on project performance. The findings of the study established that continuous training of staff to improve their skills in monitoring compliance should be

encouraged for better performance of projects in the county. Since some projects are donor funded like the World Bank funds county project under Kenya urban areas support programme, there is compliance to avoid freezing of the funds by the donor. Procurement act and regulation in relation to project execussion is also adhered to. Compliance monitoring strongly affects the performance of projects in county government of Busia.

The third goal of the study was to establish the influence of beneficiary monitoring on project performance. The county impresses the spirit of public participation as it involves the community around in project implementation as required by the law. It gathers feedback, do consultation, resolve disputes and asses benefits during implementation of the project.

From the findings, beneficiaries are key to the performance of the project and they should be involved in the project for its success. There is a strong relationship between beneficiary monitoring and project performance.

The fourth objective of the study was to examine the effect of organization monitoring on performance of selected projects. In the county there is no known institutional framework that has been put in place for effective monitoring and hence the county government should put in place the requisite systems and resources before implementation of its projects for better performance. No policies and management systems put in place for adopting monitoring in the county government which should not be the case. The county has skills and other resources that if taped and their capacity build by training it can handle monitoring and this can lead to improved performance of its projects.

From the findings there is strong relationship between organization monitoring and project performance. From the findings of the study it was evident that all the independent variables which include process, compliance, beneficiary and organization monitoring inn the study influences project performance in county government of Busia. It was confirmed through correlation and regression analysis. Process monitoring if well handled it will lead to better ways of implementing the projects hence improvement on performance. Projects need to comply with designs, procurement act and regulation for it not to attract queries from anticorruption agency. These will lead to smooth flow of the project to its conclusion and success. Beneficiaries should be involved through communication, consultation, training and grievance redress for smooth flow of the project and acceptance. Finally, the county government should put in place all system, policies and general resources required for project monitoring to achieve better performance.

In view of the findings in the study, the following recommendations were proposed based on each variable of the research; County government should improve on process monitoring by ensuring that all the required resources are availed from the start to the end of the project to ensure success of the project. Employees and all stakeholders should be trained on the importance of project monitoring, what needs to be complied with, project implementation process, the roles of project players and the county responsibility in monitoring of projects. The county government should put in place systems, policy and monitoring and evaluation unit in place to coordinate monitoring practices in the county government of Busia for better performance of its projects.

# Areas for further reading

Since county governments were involved in many development projects, there was need for further research on adoption of contract monitoring practices in county governments through the country. Further examinations to ascertain if county governments have put in place policies and framework for adoption of contract monitoring practice is very necessary. Very little is done in the county in respect to contract monitoring of projects and it gives room for further investigation in other counties across the country.

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