

LOG FRAME AND COMPLETION OF CDF HEALTH CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS IN BUSIA COUNTY, KENYA

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Abstract: Monitoring and evaluation of projects is fundamental if the project objectives and success is to be achieved since it improves overall efficiency of project planning, management and implementation. This study sought to establish the influence of log frame on completion of CDF health construction projects in Busia County, Kenya. This study employed a descriptive survey research design. The total target population for the study comprised of 166 and therefore sample size for this study was 52 respondents. The main tools of data collection for this study were questionnaires and interview schedules for the key informants. The researcher administered questionnaires directly to the target respondents. Frequency tables with varying percentages were used to present the findings. The data was analyzed using both descriptive (arithmetic means, standard deviations), and inferential (Simple, multiple linear regression and Pearson's correlation coefficient) statistical methods with the aid of SPSS-version 21 computer software. Tests of statistical assumptions were carried out before data analysis to avoid invalidation of statistical analysis. The hypotheses was tested at $\alpha=.05$ level of significance. H_{01} : There is a significant relationship between log frame and completion of CDF health construction projects in Busia County, Kenya, was rejected since $P=0.000<0.05$; The researcher recommends that government policies should be integrated to monitoring and evaluation tools in order to fast struck completion of CDF health construction.

Keywords: project planning, CDF health construction projects, statistical methods, computer software.

1. INTRODUCTION

Background to the study:

M&E log frame is fundamental on any health project. It provides the schedule to be followed on the project implementation to its sustainability. According to Milika (2011), the logical frame work helps to analyse an existing situation like, including the identification of stakeholders' needs and the definition of related objectives, establish a causal link between inputs, activities, results, purpose and overall objective; (vertical logic), define the assumptions on which the project logic builds; identify the potential risks for achieving objectives and purpose; establish a system for monitoring and evaluating a communication and learning process among the stakeholders; like clients or beneficiaries, planners, decision- makers and implementers. It also considers strength weaknesses, opportunities and threats (SWOT).

Among South African NGOs, there was widespread adherence to the logical framework as a foundation for evaluation and reporting with its' use as a planning tool locking organizations into established timeframes and specified outputs (Applebaum, 2017). These rigid timeframes of project funding and 14 LFAs do not accord well with the complex uneven nature of development work (Smith and Chircop, 2013). Furthermore, quantitative rather than qualitative indicators could be used to advantage as they were easily measured to demonstrate success while qualitative measures of how much was understood or subsequently used were largely avoided (Bornstein, 2016).

According to Nyandemo (2010), logical framework is essential it is the first step in project planning and implementation Nyandemo further observes that logical framework requires under taking three main tasks: (i) the objectives or goals clearly stated, (ii) the target group or beneficiaries clearly stated, and (iii) the time frame showing when the costs and when benefits are likely to occur. It improves planning by highlighting linkages.

Attempts to utilize the LFA in the region have been observed in countries such as Ghana where JMK consultants were contracted by Denmark to assist the LFA workshop in Ghana. It sought to establish a consensus in Ghana and its member organizations about development program with the LEV national association to enable Ghana build their capacity to handle its role as an advocacy organization. This would enable the country to design projects using logical framework planning approach with overall and immediate objectives, indicators, target groups" analysis is undertaking, (JMK, 2014). To be a huge step taken by Ghana in the implementation of projects.

Statement of the problem:

The use of log frame is key at attaining completion of construction projects. Log frame provides a framework that makes project implementation to run smoothly. Despite knowledge and importance of the use of log frame a number of projects being undertaken are not completed or if they are then it's out of the project schedule. Failure to complete CDF projects has been recorded in all the constituencies in Busia County. The study therefore sought to establish the influence of log frame on completion of CDF health construction projects in Busia County, Kenya.

Objective of the Study:

The study aimed:

To establish the influence of log frame on completion of CDF health construction projects in Busia County, Kenya.

Research Question:

The study sought to answer the following question:

What is the influence of log frame on completion of CDF health construction projects in Busia County, Kenya?

Research Hypothesis:

H₁: There is a significant relationship between log frame and completion of CDF health construction projects in Busia County, Kenya.

2. LITERATURE REVIEW

Among South African NGOs, there was widespread adherence to the logical framework as a foundation for evaluation and reporting with its use as a planning tool locking organizations into established timeframes and specified outputs. These rigid timeframes of project funding and LFAs do not accord well with the complex uneven nature of development work. Furthermore, quantitative rather than qualitative indicators could be used to advantage as they were easily measured to demonstrate success while qualitative measures of how much was understood or subsequently used were largely avoided (Bornstein, 2006).

The task of monitoring and evaluation becomes significantly more challenging as one move up the log frame and emphasis shifts from performance monitoring to results measurement. Moreover, working at the top end of the results chain is a question less of monitoring indicators than of systematic analysis of available evidence which can be a very data-intensive exercise, especially since such higher-level indicators become increasingly costly to collect and complex to analyze (Edmunds and Marchant, 2008). Bakewell and Garbutt (2005) in their study noted that, where the Logical Framework Analysis (LFA) is used for monitoring and evaluation the focus is often the logical framework; to look at the expected achievements laid out in the matrix, rather than the work itself. In theory, Bakewell and Garbutt argue, that the logical framework can be revised through the programme cycle and changes made, at least to the output level; however, in practice this rarely happens. In the study one donor representative claimed that they encourage NGO partners to review their logical frameworks, but the same person thought that a well-designed framework would not need changing.

In the Ugandan Rwenzori region a study by Busiinge (2010) found that donors rarely operate outside the log frame approach where they are boxed in results that are put in the project log frame, and yet sometimes the situation on the ground might affect the achievement of some of the results hence requiring some aspects of the project to be changed. Therefore, any suggested changes by the implementing organizations had to go through prolonged to and fro communication over the changes. A critique to this argument however, is that the log frame brings significant benefits for a range of stakeholders while their longevity suggests that, to a great extent, they meet the needs of powerful decision-makers in development organizations (Jacobs, Barnett and Ponsford, 2010). Furthermore, they simplify complex social situations and make them relatively easy to understand, linking budgets to actions and expected results while also providing a tool for setting measurable goals, the basis for assessing performance towards them and for holding implementing organizations or staff to account.

NGOs adapt to the variety of log frames as well as templates for the narrative/technical and financial reports used by funding agencies which is an added complexity to the use of the log frame. Moreover, the variety of log frames used and disseminated by international agencies, require that counterparts learn not only how to work with a particular type of log frame but how to work with the various types of log frames (Martinez, 2011). The choice of appropriate indicators is an art that requires experience and skill involving a thorough understanding of the information needs of project management and information users at different levels. Furthermore, choosing indicators requires knowledge of how best to obtain and analyze the data for the indicators, and of the limits imposed by both costs and techniques. Input and output indicators are easier to assess than effect or impact indicators, but the lower level indicators only provide an indirect measure of the success of a project (Barton, 1997). With reference to the standards, the worth of an indicator (or a set of them) is to facilitate systematic inquiry through collection, analysis and interpretation of accurate and relevant data. Irrelevant or inadequate indicators often compromise validity of the data collected (Bamberger, et al., 2006).

According to Grove and Zwi (2008), the log frame contains a natural bias towards quantification in that the matrix demands „objectively verifiable indicators, forcing projects to consider how they will measure progress towards intended outcomes; while setting clear objectives and identifying ways of measuring these from the outset helps management and other stakeholders to identify where the project is succeeding or failing, this emphasis on the measurable also represents a crucial weakness. In particular, Grove and Zwi argue that relationships between people (both internal and external to the project) and process issues (how the project is undertaken) are likely to be neglected, with attention focused on the most tangible outputs, such as clinics built or vaccinations administered.

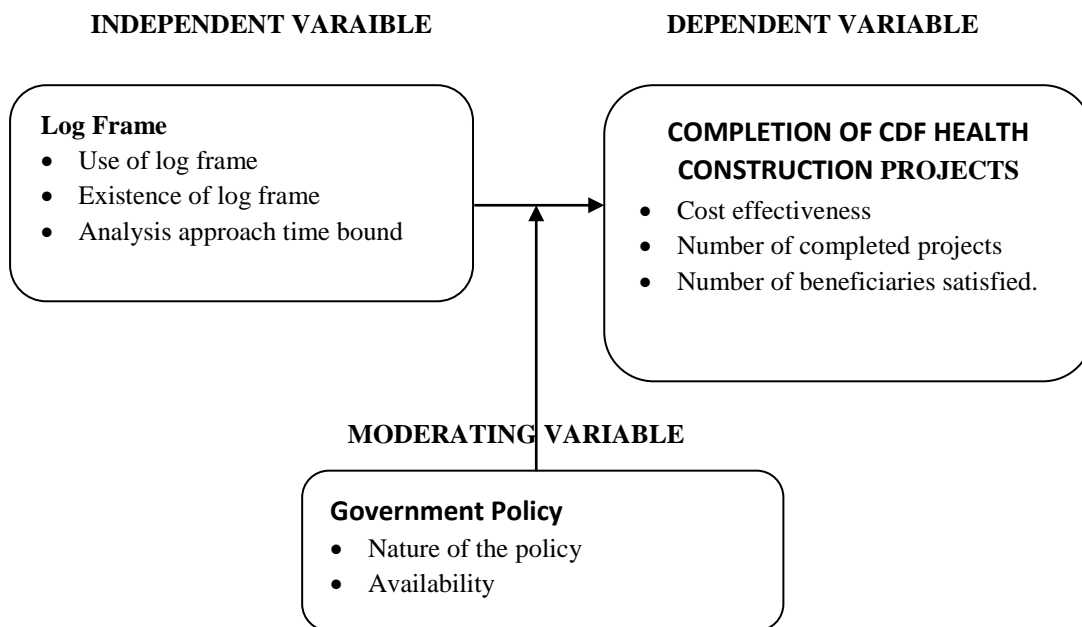
In most of the cases, regular progress reporting is conducted for donor purposes that gives an account of activities undertaken and immediate outputs, but misses out on qualitative information as to whether the objectives of the program are being achieved or fall short at the end of the project (Khan, 2003). In order to reassure back donors that their money has been well-spent and has made a measurable difference, quantitative indicators are required. Furthermore, an over-reliance on quantitative data may mean that the real essence of change is not recorded or understood thus there is a considerable challenge in providing the aid system with the numbers it needs, but also ensuring that these numbers are both meaningful and practical to collect (Hailey and James, 2003).

The classic mantra for M&E has been to develop Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Reliable and Time bound (SMART) indicators. Therefore, the drive for setting up M&E systems based only on easily measurable quantitative indicators has perhaps been one of the key reasons for the failure of M&E systems to contribute useful information for the management of development initiatives. Hence both qualitative and quantitative information are critical, yet an indicator driven approach to M&E often drives systems in the direction of quantitative information, yet it is often the qualitative information that is required for explanation, analysis and sound decision making (Woodhill, 2005). While quantitative analysis of the success and impact of community-based projects is appreciated as an objective and empirical method of assessment, there is need to go beyond numbers to monitor, capture, evaluate, report and record successes and impact. Additionally, there are ways to capture the impact of workshops and community dialogues in qualitative ways (USAID KENYA, 2010).

Theoretical Review:

The study was anchored on two theories, theory of change and the realistic theory.

Conceptual framework:



3. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The research design for the study was descriptive survey. The target population for the study was 166 respondents comprising of 42 community local leaders, 62 project management committee members and 62 officers in charge of health institutions. The sample size for the study was 52 comprising 14 Community local leaders, 19 officers in charge of health institutions and 19 project management committee officials drawn from all the seven constituencies of Busia County.

The study employed the use of questionnaire for collecting quantitative data. Data was then analysed using descriptive statistics of mean, percentages and frequencies. Data from the likert scale was analysed by inferential statistics. The hypothesis was analysed using Pearson correlation coefficient. H₁ There is significant relationship between log frame and completion of CDF health construction project in Busia County, Kenya.

Testing of hypothesis was done at 95% confidence level.

Completion of CDF health construction projects = f(log frame, random error)

$$Y_j = \beta_0 + \beta_2 X_2 + \alpha_i$$

Study Findings:

Table 1: Descriptive Analysis of influence of log frame on completion of CDF health construction projects

Statements	5 SA	4 A	3 N	2 D	1 SD	Mean	Std. Deviation
• Use of log frame plays a role in completion of CDF projects	1(5.9%)	8(47.1%)	7(41.2)	0(0.0%)	1(5.9%)	3.47	.874
• Existence of log frame ensures completion of CDF projects	2(11.8%)	5(29.4%)	9(52.9%)	0(0.0%)	1(5.9%)	3.41	0.939
• Having time frame for different activities enhances completion of projects	2(11.8%)	5(29.4%)	9(52.9%)	0(0.0%)	1(5.9%)	3.41	0.939

Composite mean=3.93; Composite standard deviation=0.939

Three items were developed to measure the extent of the relationship of log frame on the completion CDF health construction projects

Item 1 sought to establish the extent to which the use of log frame plays a role in the completion of CDF health construction projects. The mean score was 3.41 while the standard deviation was 0.874. This result indicates that the majority; 8(47.1%) of the respondents agreed that log frame plays a role in the completion of CDF health construction projects, followed by 7(41.2%) who neutral that log frame plays a role in the completion of CDF health construction projects, 2 (11.8%) both strongly agreed and strongly disagreed that log frame plays a role in the completion of CDF health construction projects whereas 0(0.00%) disagreed that log frame plays a role in the completion of CDF health construction projects. Item 2 sought to establish the extent to which the existence of log frame ensures completion of CDF health construction projects. The mean score was 3.41 while the standard deviation was 0.939. This result indicates that the majority; 9(52.9%) of the respondents were neutral that the existence of log frame ensures completion of CDF health construction projects, followed by 5(29.4%) who agreed that the existence of log frame ensures completion of CDF health construction projects, and 2(11.8%) both strongly agreed that the existence of log frame ensures completion of CDF health construction projects, while 1(5.9%) strongly disagreed that existence of log frame ensures completion of CDF health construction projects. Item 3 sought to establish the extent to which the having time frame for different activities enhances completion of CDF health construction projects. The mean score was 3.41 while the standard deviation was 0.939. This result indicates that the majority; 9(52.9%) of the respondents were neutral that the having time frame for different activities enhances completion of CDF health construction projects, followed by 5(29.4%) who agreed that having time frame for different activities enhances completion of CDF health construction projects and 2(11.8%) both strongly agreed that having time frame for different activities enhances completion of CDF health construction projects, while 1(5.9%) strongly disagreed that having time frame for different activities enhances completion of CDF health construction projects. The composite mean score for these three items was 3.930; while the composite standard deviation was 0.939. The implication of this finding is that majority of the respondents agreed that the having time frame for different activities enhances completion of CDF health construction projects. This findings are consistent with Mwanzia (2004).

Table 2: Correlation Analysis on of log frame Influence on completion of CDF health construction projects

Log frame indicators		Completion of CDF health construction projects
Use of log frame plays a role in completion of CDF health projects	Pearson correlation	.519*
	sig. (2-tailed)	.033
	N	17
Existence of log frame ensures completion of CDF health projects	Pearson correlation	.494*
	sig. (2-tailed)	.044
	N	17
Having time frame for different activities enhances completion of CDF health projects	Pearson correlation	.590*
	sig. (2-tailed)	.013
	N	17
Completed CDF health construction projects	Pearson correlation	1
	sig. (2-tailed)	
	N	17

The study sought to examine the relationship between log frame use and completion of CDF health projects. Pearson correlation coefficient was used to test the relationship between log frame use and completion of CDF health projects; this was done at 95% level of confidence. To test the extent of the relationship between log frame use and completion of CDF health projects three characteristics of log frame use were computed based on the following hypothesis;

H₁: There is significant relationship between log frame use and completion of CDF health projects.

The Pearson's Product Moment Correlation coefficients showed that all the three items of log frame use were positively correlated to the completion of CDF health construction projects. The positive sign of correlation observed suggests that the completion of CDF health construction projects moves in the same direction with the continued involvement of log frames. In addition the correlation statistics results on the relationship between log frame use and CDF health construction projects indicated that all the log frame use indicators were significantly related (P -values <0.05) against the indicators of and CDF health construction projects. The small p -values ($p<0.05$) implies that there is a significant relationship between the log frame use and CDF health construction projects, leading to rejection of the null hypothesis that is no significant relationship between log frame use and the CDF health construction projects and it was concluded that there was a significant relationship between log frame use and the completion CDF health construction projects. The results are consistent with the findings of other studies that found significant relationships between log frame use and the CDF health construction projects Milika (2011).

4. CONCLUSION

The study findings indicated that all the Log frame use indicators were significantly related (P -values <0.05) against the indicators of and Completion of CDF health construction projects leading to rejection of the null hypothesis that is no significant relationship between Log frame use and Completion of CDF health construction projects .

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