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Organisational Characteristics and Financial Sustainability of Civil Society Organisations in Uganda: A Case of Study of Wakiso District

The study examines the effect of organisational factors and sustainability of Civil Society Organisations (CSO"s) in Uganda. It explores organisational factors through organisational structures, management style and reward systems while sustainability of CSO"s was operationalised through management of operational cost, ability to generate own revenues and community ownership of projects managed by CSO's. The study was conducted under three specific objectives which include; assessing the organisational characteristics, examining sustainability of CSO"s and exploring the relationship between organisational factors and sustainability of CSO"s. The study adopted mainly a qualitative research approach supported by a quantitative approach in a case study design and the study was done in a short period of time thus cross-sectional dimensions. The key findings indicate that organisational structure, management style and reward system all do exist in CSO"s and respondents indicated that in some CSO"s these aspects are functional whereas others have deficits. Similarly, the sustainability of CSO"s was found to be having many constraints in many CSOs especially due to over reliance on external funding for both operational costs and development activities. Nevertheless, many of the CSO"s have managed to build internal capacity to start planning to generate own resources which although is still on the lower level. The study also found out that there is a linkage between organisational factors and sustainability of those CSO"s, which was clearly established through questionnaire interviews and statements obtained from respondents. The study, therefore, concludes that there exists a relationship between organisational factors and sustainability of CSO"s. It, therefore, recommends that management of CSO"s should strengthen the organisational factors as well as address issues that are critical to the sustainability of CSOs.

Key words: Sustainability, financial, Civil, Society