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The Challenges of Management, Sustainability and Performance of Donor Funded Projects in Nkandwa Sub-Parish, Kasambya Catholic Parish

The researcher set out to establish the challenges of management, sustainability and performance of donor funded projects in Nkandwa Sub-Parish, Kasambya Catholic Parish. The research was guided by the following research questions; what are the constraints faced in the planning of the projects in Nkandwa? What are the challenges faced in organising donor funded projects in Nkandwa? What are the controlling and evaluation challenges faced by donor funded projects in Nkandwa? Is there sustainability of projects in Nkandwa? What must be done to overcome the challenges of management and sustainability of projects? The study was conducted in Kasambya Catholic Parish particularly in Nkandwa Sub-Parish using a cross-sectional study. The targeted population was 134 people and a sample size of 91 respondents was used. Both qualitative and quantitative approaches were employed. The data were collected using questionnaires, an interview guide and review of secondary data from the Library. The research targeted priests, the religious and the local people of Nkandwa. The data were analysed using the Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS) where conclusions were drawn from tables and pie charts generated from the package. The results confirmed that Nkandwa Sub-Parish had several challenges of project management hence poor management. Furthermore, the study revealed that people had failed to sustain the projects. Therefore, due to poor management and lack of sustainability, the performance of projects was poor. However, much as most of the projects were poorly handled, they have improved steadily the lives of the people in Nkandwa Sub-Parish and there is need to improve the management and sustainability through the recommendations given by this research. The study recommends sensitising the local people and the managers; improving communication networks; supervision and follow-up; ensuring proper accountability. It further recommends criminalizing the corrupt; equipping managers with skills; acquire loans; building a strong foundation and; phase out projects when they are mature. In conclusion projects in Nkandwa Sub-Parish have been poorly managed and sustainability is only a myth leading to poor project performance. Much as the projects have not been managed well, there is no doubt that they have changed the lives of many people, hence, the need to streamline the management and sustainability constraints of these projects in order to improve their performance.

Key words: Management, Sustainability, Performance, Donor, Project