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Planning and Project Performance: A Case Study of Marie Stopes International Uganda .

The general objective of the study was to investigate planning and project performance, a case study of Marie Stopes International Uganda. Marie Stopes International Uganda was used as a case study for the research where simple random sampling was used to obtain a representative sample of 103 respondents. Both qualitative and quantitative research design methods were adopted and data was collected using self-administered questionnaires, key informant interview guide, documentary sources and analysed using the Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS).

The research findings from correlation analysis between independent and dependent variables revealed a significant positive relationship between scheduling project activities and project performance ($r=0.348^*$; $p<0.05$), cost planning and project performance ($r=0.349^*$; $p<0.05$), risk planning and project performance ($r=0.1438^*$; $p<0.05$), and staff training and project performance ($r=0.384^*$; $p<0.05$). The findings from the regression analysis revealed that the independent variables could only explain 18% of the variance in project performance (adjusted $R^2=0.018$). The variables that were significant in predicting project performance were scheduling project activities ($p=0.004<0.05$), cost planning ($p=0.003<0.05$) and staff training ($p=0.000<0.05$) however, risk planning was not significant in predicting project performance ($p=0.138>0.05$). The study recommended that Marie Stopes International Uganda should ensure project planning is enhanced to improve project performance. Project planning can be enhanced by scheduling project activities, carrying out cost planning, training staff and carrying out risk planning.

Key Words: Planning, Project Performance, Marie Stopes International Uganda