

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT IN PRE-CONSTRUCTION PROJECT PLANNING FOR SUCCESSFUL PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP (PPP) PROJECTS IN SRI LANKA

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ABSTRACT

Public-Private Partnership (PPP) is an infrastructure delivery strategy used by the government's around the world for financing infrastructure projects with the aid of private sector funds & technological expertise. Even though Sri Lanka has been using PPP since the 1990s, the aftermath was far from desirable due to numerous issues that have encountered due to poor project planning. The numerous problems which occurred during the different project phases are not shocking depending upon the heterogeneous stakeholders who have been involved. Therefore, it is crucial to engage the stakeholders in the pre-construction project planning to prepare a comprehensive & efficient project plan which leads the project towards the success.

The main objectives of this research is to show the impact of the Stakeholder Engagement (SE) to the success of the PPP projects. The objectives of this study have been realized through a mixed research methodology, which comprises with a quantitative data collection through a questionnaire survey and a qualitative data collection through semi-structured interviews conducted with experts in the construction caliber. Data collected through a questionnaire survey was analysed through the SPSS software, to identify the relationship between the Key Development Factors of SE and the success of the PPP projects & the impact of Key Development Factors of SE and the PPP project success.

The findings of this study have revealed that the PPP projects in Sri Lanka can lead to gain more success by ensuring all the project stakeholders are engaged in a more systematic approach in the pre-construction planning phase. Despite that, findings have also revealed that awareness of the SE should be enhanced among the project parties for better engagement of the stakeholders and most of the major challenges to the SE can be eliminated through the alterations and modifications to the current systems of SE.

Key Words: Stakeholder Engagement, Pre-construction, Project planning, Public-Private Partnership, Success