



**STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT, SOCIAL CAPITAL AND PROJECT
SUSTAINABILITY OF WATER RESOURCES IN PALLISA DISTRICT**

BY

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PLAN A

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DECLARATION

I Swafiyya Nakyeyune do hereby declare that this dissertation is my original work and it has not been submitted to any other university or institution of higher learning for an academic award. This document is the result of my independent research effort and investigation. Due acknowledgment has been made to other scholars' works.

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APPROVAL

We the undersigned supervisors do confirm here that this research report by Swafiyya Nakyeeyune (BU/GS18/MBA/16) has been under our supervision and is now ready for submission. This research report has been submitted to the Faculty of Management Sciences with our approval as the supervisors of the candidate.

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DEDICATION

I dedicate this research report to my dear mother, Mrs. SAIDA Bidi, who has struggled a lot to see me through this painstaking academic journey. May the Almighty Allah bless her abundantly. I extend my appreciation to all my relatives, friends, colleagues, and Busitema University fraternity as a whole.

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

CDF	Constituency Development Fund (CDF)
DLG	District Local Government
GoU	Government of Uganda
KPI	Key Performance Indicators
PPP	Public private partnership
PS	Project Sustainability
RWS	Rural Water Supply
SE	Stakeholder Engagement
SC	Social Capital
SPSS	Statistical Package for social scientists
UBOS	Uganda Bureau of Statistics

DEFINITION OF KEY TERMS

Project

This is a distinctive set of coordinated activities, with a fixed starting and finishing point, taken on by an individual to meet specific objectives within defined and performance parameters.

Water resource

These are sources of freshwater that are used in society for example boreholes.

Stakeholder engagement

This is defined as the process where an organization involves persons or organizations that may be affected by the decisions it makes or can affect the implementation of decisions.

Project planning

This refers to the use of budgetary resources to plan and subsequently report the progress within the project.

Project implementation

This is the process of managing resources to deliver products or deliverables.

Project monitoring and evaluation

This refers to evaluating indicators, assessment of performance, feedback, assessing the project.

Social capital

These are features of a social group, for example, networks, trust, and norms which facilitate coordination and cooperation for mutual benefit.

Network

This refers to the interaction among people to exchange information and develop social contacts.

Norms

This refers to an accepted way of doing things among a given group.

Trust

This refers to a situation where members in the society rely on one another's actions or decisions since they are confident in them and feel safe on their decisions.

Project sustainability

The capacity of a project to continue delivering its intended benefits over the long term.

Social demand

This is when a project considers human and societal interests.

Economic demand

This is when a project considers its economic effects and benefits to society.

Environment demand

This is when a project consider effects on the nature of the environment.

ABSTRACT

This study examined the mediation role of social capital in the relationship between stakeholder engagement and project sustainability on water resources in Pallisa District. Using a cross-sectional research design and quantitative approach, we drew a sample of 103 projects for a total population of 140 water resources in Pallisa District. Using SPSS, the study found that stakeholder engagement and social capital independently predicted project sustainability. As well, social capital emerged as a significant positive partial mediator in the relationship between stakeholder engagement and project sustainability. The study contributes to project sustainability literature by providing support for social capital as a significant mediator in the relationship between stakeholder engagement and project sustainability among water resource projects. Given the study findings, the study recommends enhanced stakeholder engagement and building robust social networks as these have been found key drivers for project sustainability improvement. This study was limited by a research approach which was purely quantitative with associated problems such as inability to control the research environment, improper representation of the target population besides limited study outcomes.

Keywords: *Stakeholder Engagement, Social Capital and Project Sustainability*