

# **The Impact of Project Management Practices on the Project Success: A Study Of Micro Scale Projects in Sri Lanka**

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Neglectful wastage of government funds in executing projects is quite commonly seen. It has been observed that negligence of proper Project Management Practices at different stages of a project has a huge impact on wastage. Therefore, this study is aimed at exploring how Project Management Practices impact on the success of government funded Micro Scale Projects in Sri Lanka. Routine project management practices employed by micro scale project contractors were identified pertaining to nine knowledge areas of Project Management: Time, Cost, Quality, Human Resource, Communication, Risk, Scope, Procurement and Integration and were examined to study how these practices affect the success of a project.

Projects from North Western and Central provinces were selected using convenience sampling to gather data through interviews with project contractors and their respective technical officers. This study stands mainly on qualitative strands of research since the exploratory approach was employed in its investigation and the responses were analyzed using content analysis.

It was found that most of the generally accustomed practices employed by the contractors such as making notes and sketches on project based needs, basic budgetary requirements, dos and don'ts, pertaining to the dimensions such as Scope, Cost, Human Resource, Communication, Procurement and Integration were done according to their intuition developed gradually with their experience. And the practices pertinent to the dimensions such as Time, Quality and Risk were usually limited to the estimate provided by the government and there was hardly any instance where they fail to comply with those estimates provided.

When analyzing the impact made by the above practices on the project they carry on, it was evident that more than 75% of technical officers responded that the work performed by the contractor was satisfactory. The dimension with which technical officers were not satisfied was time due to circumstances like adverse weather conditions, delays in raw material suppliers. It was found that the primary Project Management Practices adopted by the minor scale project contractors have a lesser impact on the success of a project.

**Key words:** *Micro scale projects, Project management practices, Project success*