

Review of: "Procurement Planning & the Rwanda Biomedical Centre (RBC)"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

I think it is interesting topic, but it is recommended that researcher pay attention to the following issues.

- The research paper mentioned "For example, the Auditor General's report (2015) indicated some inconsistencies in the procurement process at the RBC. Likewise, a national daily, the New Times, reported that RBC was the least performer."

It is recommended to briefly describe the inconsistencies that mentioned in Auditor General's report.

- The research paper mentioned "about by loopholes left by the Regulations, which may be used by dishonest people to make the process inefficient."

It is recommended to describe in brief the loopholes that mentioned in previous studies.

- The research paper mentioned "procurement system, some government institutions in Rwanda still practice lengthy bureaucratic procurement processes in acquiring goods and services, corruption, and discriminatory awards of tenders, hence some government projects have failed."

Is there any report or study establish these claims?

- The research paper mentioned "The researcher believes that poor procurement planning has an effect on the performance of RBC."

It is recommended that this sentence rephrase, for example, "The researcher believes that poor procurement planning could be one of factors has an effect on the performance of RBC." Due to, it is still personal believe by researcher without proves.

- The references: (Thomson, 2004; Gelderman, et al. 2006; De Boer and Telgen, 2008; Basheka and Bisangabasaija, 2010; Kakwezi and Nyeko, 2010)

Regarding to these studies subject to review,

A. It is recommended if researcher could find references more up to date.

B. It is recommended if researcher would find references related to Rwanda public procurements.

- Please full name of “PPOA”
- PPDA (2006).

Please full name of this reference and register it in below references list.

- PPDA (2009).

Please full name of this reference and register it in below references list.

- Please full name of this reference “RPPA”
- (Edvardsson, 1998).

Please full name of this reference and register it in below references list.

- Tookey et al. (2001).

Please full name of this reference and register it in below references list.

- The research paper mentioned “The conceptual framework shows the hypothesised relationship between procurement planning and performance. Procurement planning, which is the independent variable, is represented by needs assessment, cost estimation, and quality specification, while performance (dependent variable) is measured in terms of efficiency, economy, and effectiveness. The hypothesised conceptual framework in Figure 1 shows the possible relationship between procurement planning and performance. The arrows indicate the direction of the effect of procurement planning on performance. Needs assessment, cost estimation, and quality specification have been selected as the predictor variables of procurement planning, while performance was measured based on three indicators: effectiveness, efficiency, and economy.”

Why researcher considered herein that procurement planning (independent variable) effects on performance (dependent variable)? Why it's not mutual relationship?

For example, fair tendering procedures could derive the right price in local market. Also, buyer could propose right specifications that meet needs of customers due to his/her previous experience.

- The research paper mentioned “The sample of 61 employees (44 from the Finance department and 17 from the Procurement department)”

Why other participants like medical experts, admin, doctors...etc. didn't include? They are, in one way or another, involved in the application of public procurement.

- (Saunders et al., 2000).

Please full name of this reference and register it in below references list.

- Kothari (1998) and Saunders et al. (1999),

Please full name of this reference and register it in below references list.

- The research paper mentioned “In addition, when the study involves both deductive and inductive approaches, questionnaires are usually the preferred method. Furthermore, when the study involves identifying a relationship between variables, questionnaires help to gather data that describe a relationship between different variables.”

Is there any reference support this point of view??

- Discussion of Findings section

Why the researcher repeated explanations again? this information already mentioned above.

- The research paper mentioned “The findings from the survey revealed that the cost of the procurement function was reduced through procurement planning and service delivery at RBC, where 29.5% of respondents mentioned that it had highly reduced, 52.5% said it was reduced, and 18% stated it was fairly reduced. The quality of service in regard to the procurement function improved due to the procurement planning strategy. The study concluded that quality specification is an integral part of the procurement function, which every purchasing department should have in place - not least the RBC.”

These findings depended on respondents' points of view, but what about official statistics and official public report? Are there reports support this point of views??

- The research paper mentioned “Some of the challenges included inconvenient business registration; inaccurate management information & analytics; lack of one-stop procurement portal; and inefficient document and records management system” (Quartz, 2018). Interestingly, the government of Rwanda has been championing a course for the development of an e-procurement system since 2017, as the case of the launch of ‘Umucyo’ (meaning transparency) shows (Quartz, 2018)”

Does the researcher propose these practices?

- The researcher; in conclusions and implications section; compared two cases one from Rwanda and other from Kenya. Are these cases similar in terms of nature of public procurement, procedures, operating systems, and surrounding circumstances?