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DEPARTMENT OF QUANTITY SURVEYING

AN ANALYSIS ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF PUBLIC PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS (PPPs) FOR SUCCESSFUL PROJECTS DELIVERY IN ZIMBABWE

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ABSTRACT

Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs) in the delivery of public services have become a phenomenon which is spreading in the globe and generating great interest. In Zimbabwe, the massive deficit and continuous deterioration in existing public infrastructure due to the growing population demands has stimulated the government to look at this alternative service delivery method. There is not enough funding by the Government based on current infrastructure delivery models to meet the country's growing infrastructure needs. Henceforth, due to these increased pressures on the government budgets, the government has taken a policy position to adopt PPPs to deliver infrastructure and ease the fiscal pressure. The study aimed to make an analysis on the implementation of PPPs to deliver projects successfully. It sought to investigate the different PPP models utilized in Zimbabwe, assess the challenges which impact on the success of PPPs and identify the critical success factors (CSFs) which ensure successful delivery of PPP projects. The data was collected using questionnaires, interviews and case studies. The data was presented in form of tables, pie charts and graphs. The data was analyzed using SPSS version 16.0. Statistical methods utilized included the frequency and severity index, and relative importance index. The research concluded that the number and nature of projects in the country prove that Zimbabwe is still in its infancy in implementing PPP projects. The research noted that the BOT model is highly utilized in most PPP projects because the government is reluctant to transfer ownership of its assets to the private sector. There is minimal utilization of other models such as the DBFO, BLO, BOOT, DBT and ROT. The study also noted that delays in agreements and negotiations in PPP projects has been attributed by improper shareholding structures, inefficiency of bureaucratic processes and the shifting of policies and goal posts by the government. The study concluded that there is no PPP framework and the inadequacy of the 2004 PPP Guidelines is an impediment to the successful implementation of PPP projects in Zimbabwe. However, it was noted that there is a Joint Venture Bill approved by the Cabinet to cover all facets of PPP policy but it has not yet been enacted by law. The research also concluded that effective procurement is the most important of all CSFs as it embraces principles which ensure transparency and competition in PPP implementation. Addressing these principles in a PPP framework ensures successful projects delivery. The research recommended that the government should establish a robust legal framework, a PPP Unit and a Central Support Mechanism to ensure the successful delivery of PPP projects.