FACTORS AFFECTING TIMELY COMPLETION OF VISION 2030 FLAGSHIP PROJECTS IN THE WATER SECTOR IN KENYA: A CASE OF

KISERIAN DAM IN KAJIADO AND BADASA DAM IN MARSABIT

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ABSTRACT

The Kenya vision 2030 is the national long term development blue print that aims to transform Kenya into a newly industrialized and middle- income Country providing a high quality of life to all its citizens by 2030 in a clean and secure environment. Under the Vision the Government has prioritized a number of projects within sectors of the economy under the foundation of Infrastructure development as critical towards realizing the above vision. Within the water sector, a total of 22 large dams spread out in the country have been flagged as priority. Kiserian in Kaijiado district and Badasa in Marsabit district are two such priority projects currently under construction. Timely implementation of the said flagship projects is critical if the desired benefits are to be realized. Kiserian Dam was behind schedule by one year. Badasa dam was behind schedule by 15 months. The delays will ultimately result in project cost overruns besides delaying in generating the needed project benefits such as stimulating economic growth in their areas. The objective of this research study was to establish key factors that contributed to delays in completion of these projects so that lessons can be learnt from them and be used to improve on future planning and management of similar projects in Kenya. The study used descriptive research involving field survey targeting middle and senior project management staff of the two projects. Data was collected using both closed and open ended questionnaire as well as structured interviews. Project reports were also be reviewed by the researcher. Collected data was analysed using descriptive statistics and included frequency distribution tables, pie charts, diagrams and measures of central tendency such as mean, mode and median. The study found out that contractors responsibilities, project related factors, consultants responsibilities, owners responsibilities, professional management, design and documentation factors, materials related factors, execution related factors, labour and equipment, contractual relationship were some of the major factors affecting the delay in the projects. The study recommended various measures for the clients, contractors and consultants on all the factors to reduce delays in the completion of the factors.