

Supply risk management and timely completion of force account construction projects among local government authorities in Dodoma, Tanzania

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Abstract

Purpose – The study’s purpose is to contribute to the supply risk management literature by examining its implications in Tanzania, specifically in the timely completion of force account construction projects in Local Government Authorities (LGAs).

Design/methodology/approach – A cross-sectional survey design was employed to gather data from 318 respondents in primary schools within the Dodoma region. A covariance-based structural equation modelling (CB-SEM) structural equation modelling was employed to examine the relationship of the variables.

Findings – The study’s findings underscore the crucial role of supply risk management, including multi-sourcing, effective supplier selection, post-qualification of suppliers, and effective communication with suppliers in the timely completion of FA construction projects. Notably, effective supplier selection emerges as the most influential factor, significantly contributing to the timely completion of these projects.

Research limitations/implications – The study focused on LGAs in Tanzania. It is important to exercise caution when making broad generalizations about the findings. Also, the study was based on a cross sectional survey design; future research could consider a longitudinal design approach.

Practical implications – This study offers practical insights for procurement practitioners and members of the Force Account committee in the public sector, offering guidance on how to improve the management of supply risks and, consequently, enhance the timely completion of construction projects.

Originality/value – This study stands out in the literature by examining the implications of supply risk management on the timely completion of force account construction projects in Tanzania. It significantly enriches the existing knowledge of supply risk management, particularly in the context of effective supplier selection in public procurement. These insights are of great value to researchers, practitioners, and policymakers in the field.

Keywords Construction projects, Force account, Procurement, Supply risk management, Timely completion of projects

Paper type Research paper

1. Introduction

Globally, the successful completion of a project is significantly influenced by the implementation of a suitable procurement management plan (Deshpande *et al.*, 2020). To achieve a project delivery triangle, including cost, time, and quality, it is important to select a capable and suitable supplier who can deliver materials without any disruptions (Cengiz *et al.*, 2017). Also, it is critical to choose an appropriate procurement strategy, given that every project possesses distinct characteristics and demands (Ghosh and Sar, 2022). Supplier management, as among procurement strategies, must be considered in enhancing

