

ABSTRACT

PROJECT SUSTAINABILITY: THE TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO EXPERIENCE

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Projects are one form of investment activity used to stimulate growth and development, especially in developing countries such as Trinidad and Tobago. The experience with these projects however has not been good. The projects have utilised public funds without providing lasting commensurate national benefits, be they economic or social. Investment activity therefore, that is sustainable is seen as a necessity for the establishment of a platform for growth and development. The essence of project sustainability is the long term generation of benefits.

The study identifies factors impacting on the sustainability of certain projects and proposed a framework for ensuring that sustainability considerations are factored into the design and implementation of projects. The projects were evaluated through an examination of the factors conditioning sustainability, categorised under the headings: management and organisation, government policy and the political factor, the financial factor, the socio-cultural factor and the technological factor.

The findings of the thesis indicate that the main impediment to project sustainability in Trinidad and Tobago is the institutional/administrative framework that contributes to the financial difficulties experienced in the cases studied. The evidence suggests that once the recommended actions and proposals are adopted the result would be the design and development of sustainable projects.

Keywords: Heather Denyse Diana Titus; Project Sustainability.