

MONITORING AND EVALUATION AND SUSTAINABILITY OF SOCIAL PROJECTS IN RWANDA

A CASE STUDY OF SERVICE D'AIDE MÉDICAL D'URGENCE (SAMU) PROGRAMME OF MINISTRY OF HEALTH IN KICUKIRO DISTRICT (2009-2011)

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ABSTRACT

The purpose of this Research project consist on assessing the effectiveness of project monitoring and evaluation in Service d'Aide Médical d'Urgence (SAMU) programme of Ministry of health, Rwanda specially in Kicukiro district. The study was carried out between January and July 2013. Target population was 60 people's staff of SAMU in Kicukiro district. Therefore the sample size was 37 obtained by using the proportion of 62%. This study assessed how effectively the Service d'Aide Médical d'Urgence (SAMU) programme implemented by the Ministry of Health is monitored and evaluated. The study investigated the monitoring and evaluation practices of the Ministry of Health (MoH) and compared them with the best practices. It also seeks to identify the challenges faced in carrying out monitoring and evaluation. Data for the study were collected using the descriptive survey method where a questionnaire was administered to SAMU staff. The research used both quantitative and qualitative data. With regard to the understanding of the value of monitoring, respondents have different views. In fact, a majority has not been reached in relation to this statement. For the evaluation, there is a clear superiority of respondents (47.9%) who believe that the evaluation is an operation limited in time, which aims to assess systematically and objectively the relevance, performance and success of social projects underway or completed. Regarding the use of monitoring reports, respondents are also shared, but it still exudes a majority of respondents (58.3%) who believe that the monitoring reports of a social project to serve corrective adjustments required during implementation without reaching evaluation. Several methods and tools contribute to the implementation of monitoring and evaluation in Rwanda. The Marp, Focus Group, and the Swot ZOPP are the most commonly used methods. Indeed, for monitoring, 84.5% of respondents use the Marp while 96.1% of respondents use the other focus group for evaluation, 68.1% of respondents use the Marp while 69.8% of respondents use the focus group. By cons, evaluations are often performed in SAMU (64.9%). For the large number (46.7%), the absence of reliable statistics, logical framework within projects, poor definition of indicators, mistrust of the management team of the project are the main difficulties that practitioners follow assessment in Rwanda. It is imperative that the SAMU start or involve itself more in income generating activities in order to reduce their over reliance on the government for funding its activities as means of ensuring sustainability of its activities in event that the government cease funding, the beneficiaries should be more involved in activities of SAMU, particularly setting the agenda. There is need for training in this aspect of monitoring and evaluation, relax the reporting requirements and need for a more participatory approach.