

ROLE OF PRIVATE PARTNERS IN PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS FOR PROMOTION OF THE BIG 4 AGENDA: A CASE OF KENYA TVET CENTERS FOR EXCELLENCE.

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ABSTRACT

Currently, Kenya Technical and vocational education and training centers (TVETs) are propelled toward vision 2030 aimed at getting Kenyans into a higher quality of life in an industrialized middle-income country. Economies are developed through skills training, requiring TVETs to provide graduates with quality and relevant skills and competencies for the labor markets. With this expectation, Kenya government has facilitated TVET Centers for excellency with modern equipment for excellency in competency trainings. However, the semiskilled trainers in TVETs require more competence to use the equipment, and infrastructure for proper storage and effective use of the equipment are needed. In developing economies like Africa, need by states for external funders for development and improved services is recognized, hence Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs). Effective and successful implementation of PPP projects means local governments have created a conducive environment for private partners. Contractual arrangements for delivery of a facility or service implies the private sector provides funds or operates leadership as business or investor organization, while the public sector engages at one or all levels of government. Winning a willing donor and sustaining the partnership faces serious challenges. This paper explains the need for continued engagement of private stakeholders in providing necessary support for skills development in TVETs. It reveals the long-term consequences of early private partner disengagement from TVET partners and suggests solutions to the challenges faced by private partners in their engagement in TVET delivery. The paper confirms the importance of institutionalizing the operations between private and public stakeholders in the TVET Center.

Key words: Private-Public Partnership, TVET Centers, Continued partnerships, Policy.