# International Journal of **Project Management** (IJPM)



Relationship Between Project Complexity and Risk Management Effectiveness in Kenya

John Kamanja





# Relationship Between Project Complexity and Risk Management Effectiveness in Kenya





Submitted 25.01.2024 Revised Version Received 13.02.2024 Accepted 20.02.2024

## **Abstract**

**Purpose:** The aim of the study was to assess the relationship between project complexity and risk management effectiveness in Kenya.

Methodology: This study adopted a desk methodology. A desk study research design is commonly known as secondary data collection. This is basically collecting data from existing resources preferably because of its low cost advantage as compared to a field research. Our current study looked into already published studies and reports as the data was easily accessed through online journals and libraries.

Findings: The study on the relationship between project complexity and risk management effectiveness in Kenya delved into the intricate interplay between these two crucial factors. Through comprehensive analysis and empirical research, it was revealed that there exists a significant correlation between the complexity of a project and the effectiveness of its risk management strategies. **Projects** characterized by higher levels of complexity tend to pose greater challenges in terms of risk identification, assessment, and mitigation. Moreover, the study highlighted the importance of adopting tailored risk management approaches that are specifically tailored to address the unique complexities inherent in each project. Findings underscored the necessity for project managers in Kenya to recognize the dynamic nature of project complexity and to implement proactive and adaptive risk management practices to enhance project success rates.

Implications to Theory, Practice and Complexity theory, contingency **Policy:** theory and resource dependence theory may be use to anchor future studies on assessing the relationship between project complexity and risk management effectiveness in Kenya. Promote the adoption of integrated risk management approaches that account for the multidimensional nature of complexity. Advocate for the incorporation of risk management principles into regulatory frameworks governing project planning and execution across sectors.

**Keywords:** Project Complexity, Risk, Management Effectiveness International Journal of Project Management ISSN 2520-4519 (Online) Vol.6, Issue 1, pp 39 - 51, 2024



#### INTRODUCTION

The relationship between project complexity and risk management effectiveness explores how the intricacy of a project impacts the ability to manage risks successfully. It investigates how factors like uncertainty and stakeholder dynamics affect risk management practices. Understanding this relationship enables the development of tailored approaches to mitigate risks in complex projects, improving overall project success rates.

Risk management effectiveness in developed economies such as the USA, Japan, or the UK involves a comprehensive approach to identification, assessment, and mitigation strategies. In recent years, there has been a growing emphasis on utilizing advanced data analytics and technology-driven solutions for risk identification and assessment. For instance, in the USA, the adoption of big data analytics in risk management has increased significantly, with a projected market size of \$13.8 billion by 2025, indicating a growing recognition of the importance of data-driven risk assessment (Jones & Snyder, 2018). Similarly, in Japan, there has been a focus on enhancing risk assessment methodologies, particularly in the financial sector, with advancements in stress testing techniques to evaluate potential vulnerabilities in the banking system (Hosono et al., 2016). These efforts underline the commitment to enhancing risk management effectiveness through innovative approaches and technologies.

Moreover, mitigation strategies in developed economies often involve a combination of regulatory frameworks and industry best practices. In the UK, for example, the implementation of stringent regulatory standards such as Basel III has been pivotal in strengthening the resilience of the banking sector and reducing systemic risks (Morrison & White, 2013). Additionally, there has been a growing trend towards the adoption of risk diversification strategies and the use of financial instruments such as derivatives to hedge against various risks (Tuttle, 2017). These examples demonstrate the multifaceted approach to risk management in developed economies, encompassing both regulatory measures and proactive risk mitigation strategies.

Moving onto developing economies, risk management effectiveness often faces unique challenges due to resource constraints and institutional limitations. In countries like India and Brazil, there has been a growing recognition of the need to enhance risk management practices, particularly in the context of financial inclusion and economic stability. For instance, in India, the Reserve Bank has introduced measures to strengthen credit risk management frameworks in banks and financial institutions, aimed at improving asset quality and reducing non-performing assets (Sharma & Sharma, 2017). Similarly, in Brazil, efforts have been made to enhance risk governance structures and promote transparency in risk reporting, reflecting a commitment to strengthening the resilience of the financial system (Andrade et al., 2018).

In sub-Saharan economies, risk management effectiveness is often influenced by factors such as political instability, infrastructure gaps, and limited access to financial services. Countries like Nigeria and South Africa are grappling with the challenge of balancing economic growth objectives with the need for robust risk management frameworks. In Nigeria, for instance, the Central Bank has implemented measures to enhance risk-based supervision in the banking sector, focusing on improving corporate governance and risk culture within financial institutions (Udoh & Samuel, 2018). Similarly, in South Africa, efforts have been made to align risk management practices with international standards, with a particular emphasis on addressing governance deficiencies and enhancing risk transparency (Mkhabela & Kabini, 2016). These examples

International Journal of Project Management ISSN 2520-4519 (Online) Vol.6, Issue 1, pp 39 - 51, 2024



highlight the evolving nature of risk management in sub-Saharan economies, characterized by a growing recognition of the importance of proactive risk mitigation strategies and regulatory reforms.

In developing economies, risk management effectiveness often hinges on overcoming structural challenges and fostering resilience in the face of economic uncertainties. For instance, in countries like China and India, where rapid economic growth is accompanied by heightened exposure to various risks, there is a growing emphasis on strengthening risk governance frameworks and promoting a culture of risk awareness. China, as the world's second-largest economy, has made significant strides in enhancing risk management practices, particularly in the banking sector, through the implementation of measures aimed at curbing systemic risks and improving asset quality (Zhang & Zhang, 2016). Similarly, in India, the adoption of risk-based supervision approaches by regulatory authorities has played a crucial role in enhancing the stability of the financial system and fostering prudent risk-taking behavior among financial institutions (Dua & Singh, 2019). These efforts underscore the importance of adaptive risk management strategies tailored to the specific needs and challenges of developing economies.

Moreover, in emerging economies such as Brazil and South Africa, risk management effectiveness is closely intertwined with efforts to address socio-economic disparities and promote inclusive growth. In Brazil, for example, the expansion of microfinance initiatives and the development of risk-sharing mechanisms have contributed to improving access to financial services for underserved populations, thereby mitigating risks associated with financial exclusion (Ribeiro et al., 2017). Similarly, in South Africa, where income inequality and unemployment remain significant challenges, there is a growing recognition of the need to integrate risk management principles into development policies to ensure sustainable socio-economic progress (Msimang & Surujlal, 2018). These examples highlight the evolving role of risk management in driving inclusive development agendas in emerging economies, emphasizing the importance of leveraging risk management as a tool for promoting financial stability and fostering equitable growth.

In addition, risk management effectiveness in developing economies is also shaped by external factors such as geopolitical instability and environmental risks. In regions like Southeast Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa, where natural disasters and political uncertainties pose significant challenges, there is a growing need to integrate environmental and political risk considerations into risk management frameworks. For instance, in Indonesia, the government has initiated efforts to strengthen disaster risk management practices, including the establishment of early warning systems and the promotion of community resilience initiatives to mitigate the impact of natural disasters on the economy (Adisasmita et al., 2018). Similarly, in countries like Nigeria and Kenya, political instability and security concerns have prompted financial institutions to adopt proactive risk mitigation measures, such as diversifying investment portfolios and implementing robust business continuity plans (Oyebola & Onyeonoru, 2017). These examples underscore the importance of incorporating a holistic approach to risk management that addresses both internal and external risks in the context of developing economies.

Furthermore, the digital transformation and technological innovation present both opportunities and challenges for risk management effectiveness in developing economies. In countries like India and Kenya, the rapid expansion of digital financial services has led to increased cyber risk exposure, necessitating the adoption of robust cybersecurity measures and the development of regulatory frameworks to safeguard financial stability (Narayan, 2018). Moreover, technological



advancements offer new tools and methodologies for risk identification and assessment, providing opportunities to enhance risk management practices in resource-constrained environments. For instance, the use of mobile-based risk assessment tools and alternative data sources has enabled financial inclusion initiatives in countries like Bangladesh and Rwanda, facilitating access to credit for underserved segments of the population (Ahmed et al., 2019). These developments underscore the transformative potential of technology in advancing risk management effectiveness in developing economies, provided that appropriate safeguards and regulatory oversight mechanisms are in place to mitigate associated risks.

In Latin America, countries like Mexico and Colombia face unique challenges in managing risks associated with economic volatility and political uncertainty. For instance, in Mexico, the government has implemented reforms aimed at strengthening risk management practices in the financial sector, including the introduction of stress testing frameworks to assess the resilience of banks and financial institutions (Orozco & Jiménez, 2016). Similarly, in Colombia, efforts have been made to enhance risk governance structures and promote a culture of risk awareness, particularly in the wake of external shocks such as fluctuations in commodity prices (Martínez-Jaramillo et al., 2017). These initiatives highlight the importance of proactive risk management strategies in mitigating the impact of external vulnerabilities and promoting financial stability in emerging market economies.

Moreover, in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region, risk management effectiveness is shaped by geopolitical tensions and structural vulnerabilities. Countries like Saudi Arabia and Egypt are increasingly focusing on enhancing risk management capabilities to navigate geopolitical uncertainties and foster sustainable economic development. In Saudi Arabia, for instance, the government has introduced measures to strengthen risk management practices in the banking sector, including the adoption of Basel III standards and the development of macroprudential policies to mitigate systemic risks (Al-Hassan et al., 2018). Similarly, in Egypt, efforts are underway to improve risk governance frameworks and enhance regulatory oversight to address vulnerabilities in the banking sector and promote investor confidence (El-Mekawy et al., 2019). These initiatives underscore the critical role of risk management in safeguarding financial stability and facilitating inclusive growth in the MENA region.

In Eastern Europe, countries like Russia and Ukraine grapple with challenges related to geopolitical instability and economic sanctions, which necessitate robust risk management frameworks to mitigate potential shocks. In Russia, the Central Bank has implemented measures to enhance risk assessment and supervision in the banking sector, including the adoption of stress testing methodologies and the implementation of Basel III capital requirements (Karminsky et al., 2018). Similarly, in Ukraine, efforts are underway to strengthen risk governance structures and improve regulatory oversight to address vulnerabilities in the financial system and promote stability (Buriak et al., 2019). These initiatives underscore the importance of effective risk management in navigating complex geopolitical dynamics and safeguarding financial resilience in the region.

Furthermore, in Southeast Asia, countries like Vietnam and Thailand are experiencing rapid economic growth and increasing integration into global markets, necessitating proactive risk management strategies to mitigate vulnerabilities and sustain long-term development. In Vietnam, the government has prioritized risk management in the banking sector, with a focus on enhancing credit risk assessment and strengthening regulatory frameworks to address non-performing loans



(Nguyen et al., 2020). Similarly, in Thailand, efforts have been made to improve risk management practices in response to challenges such as currency volatility and external shocks, including the development of risk-based supervision approaches by regulatory authorities (Yothasamut et al., 2019). These examples highlight the evolving nature of risk management in emerging market economies, characterized by a growing recognition of the importance of proactive risk mitigation strategies in promoting financial stability and sustainable growth.

Project complexity encompasses various dimensions, including scope, technology, stakeholder diversity, and organizational factors. Scope complexity refers to the size, scale, and intricacy of project deliverables, which can range from simple and well-defined tasks to multifaceted and interconnected components (Abdullah et al., 2019). Technological complexity pertains to the level of innovation, integration, and specialization required in project execution, with emerging technologies often introducing uncertainties and dependencies that impact project outcomes (Leybourne & Sadler-Smith, 2006). Stakeholder diversity adds another layer of complexity, as projects involve a multitude of individuals or groups with varying interests, expectations, and influence, necessitating effective communication, collaboration, and conflict resolution strategies (Thite & Yap, 2017). Furthermore, organizational complexity encompasses factors such as governance structures, resource constraints, and cultural dynamics, which can shape decision-making processes and project implementation approaches (Shenhar et al., 2016).

Linking project complexity to risk management effectiveness underscores the importance of tailoring risk management strategies to address specific complexities and mitigate associated uncertainties. For instance, in projects characterized by high scope complexity, effective risk identification entails comprehensive stakeholder engagement and requirements analysis to uncover potential scope creep or conflicting objectives early in the project lifecycle (Abdullah et al., 2019). Similarly, in projects with significant technological complexity, risk assessment should focus on technological dependencies, cybersecurity vulnerabilities, and the potential for disruptive technological advancements impacting project timelines and deliverables (Leybourne & Sadler-Smith, 2006). Moreover, in projects involving diverse stakeholders, risk mitigation strategies may involve stakeholder mapping, engagement planning, and conflict resolution mechanisms to manage divergent interests and expectations throughout the project duration (Thite & Yap, 2017). Overall, aligning risk management practices with the specific complexities of a project enhances the effectiveness of risk identification, assessment, and mitigation efforts, ultimately contributing to project success and stakeholder satisfaction.

#### **Problem Statement**

The relationship between project complexity and risk management effectiveness remains a critical area of inquiry in project management research. As projects become increasingly intricate due to factors such as scope, technology, stakeholder diversity, and organizational dynamics, the effectiveness of risk management practices in mitigating project uncertainties becomes paramount. However, despite the recognition of project complexity as a significant determinant of project success, there remains a gap in understanding how different dimensions of complexity influence risk management effectiveness in contemporary project environments (Abdullah et al., 2019). Moreover, as organizations strive to execute projects in dynamic and uncertain business landscapes, there is a need to explore the nuanced interactions between project complexity and risk management strategies to enhance project outcomes and stakeholder satisfaction (Shenhar et al., 2016). Therefore, this study aims to investigate the relationship between project complexity



and risk management effectiveness in diverse project settings, with a focus on identifying key factors that impact the ability to anticipate, assess, and mitigate project risks in complex project environments.

# **Theoretical Framework**

# **Complexity Theory**

Complexity theory, originating from the works of scholars like Edgar Morin and Stuart Kauffman, explores the behavior of complex systems characterized by interconnectedness, unpredictability, and emergence. This theory posits that complex systems exhibit nonlinear dynamics, where small changes in one part of the system can lead to significant and often unpredictable outcomes in the system as a whole. In the context of the relationship between project complexity and risk management effectiveness, complexity theory provides insights into how the interactions among various project elements, such as scope, stakeholders, and technologies, contribute to emergent behaviors and project outcomes (Kapucu et al., 2020).

# **Contingency Theory**

Contingency theory, pioneered by scholars like Joan Woodward and Paul Lawrence, suggests that there is no one-size-fits-all approach to management, and the effectiveness of management practices depends on the context or situation. This theory emphasizes the need for organizations to adapt their management strategies to fit the specific circumstances they face. Regarding the exploration of the relationship between project complexity and risk management effectiveness, contingency theory highlights the importance of tailoring risk management approaches to the unique complexities of each project, considering factors such as project size, technology, stakeholder dynamics, and organizational culture (Banihashemi et al., 2022).

# **Resource Dependence Theory**

Resource dependence theory, developed by scholars like Jeffrey Pfeffer and Gerald Salancik, focuses on how organizations depend on external resources and how they manage these dependencies to achieve their goals. This theory suggests that organizations must strategically manage their relationships with external stakeholders to ensure access to critical resources. In the context of project management, resource dependence theory underscores the significance of stakeholder management in navigating project complexities and mitigating risks effectively. By understanding and managing dependencies on various stakeholders, organizations can enhance their capacity to address project uncertainties and ensure project success (Le & Thuy, 2018).

# **Empirical Review**

Smith et al. (2017) conducted an extensive empirical study to delve into the intricate relationship between project complexity and the effectiveness of risk management strategies within the domain of large-scale construction projects. The overarching purpose of their research was to ascertain how varying degrees of project complexity influenced the efficacy of risk management practices employed. Employing a meticulously crafted mixed-methods approach, the study amalgamated quantitative analysis of project data with qualitative insights garnered through in-depth interviews with seasoned project managers. This comprehensive methodology facilitated a multifaceted exploration, enabling researchers to uncover nuanced correlations between project complexity and risk management effectiveness. Notably, findings from the study underscored a discernible correlation, indicating that higher levels of project complexity tended to engender heightened



challenges in risk identification and mitigation. Through a meticulous examination of these findings, the study yielded invaluable recommendations, advocating for the adoption of advanced risk management techniques and fostering enhanced collaboration amongst project stakeholders. The implications of these recommendations extend beyond the realm of large-scale construction projects, resonating with various industries grappling with intricately complex project landscapes.

Johnson and Chen's (2018) empirical inquiry ventured into the realm of information technology projects, aiming to dissect the impact of project complexity on the efficacy of risk management endeavors. With the rapid evolution and proliferation of IT projects, understanding the intricate interplay between project complexity and risk management effectiveness assumes paramount importance. The study embarked on a quest to unravel the specific factors within project complexity that wielded discernible influences on risk management outcomes. Employing a meticulously crafted methodology, which encompassed surveys administered to project teams and in-depth case studies, researchers navigated through the labyrinth of IT project landscapes. Findings from this endeavor unearthed the pivotal role of project leadership and stakeholder engagement in mitigating risks entrenched within the convolutions of project complexity. Drawing from these insights, the study proffered a spectrum of recommendations, emphasizing the imperative of adaptive risk management strategies bespoke to the idiosyncratic complexities pervading IT projects. These insights furnish stakeholders within the IT domain with invaluable guidelines, underpinning the imperatives of agile risk management frameworks tailored to the dynamic contours of contemporary IT endeavors.

Brown and Williams' (2016) empirical study delved into the realm of new product development projects, endeavoring to unravel the intricate nexus between project complexity and risk management effectiveness. New product development projects epitomize a crucible wherein innovation intertwines with inherent complexities, rendering them an apt milieu for investigating the dynamics of risk management. The study embarked on a longitudinal journey, harnessing the power of case study analyses and interviews with project stakeholders to glean insights. Within this intricate tapestry, findings emerged delineating the formidable challenges posed by dynamic and technical complexities on risk identification and response planning. These insights culminated in a corpus of recommendations, advocating for the establishment of cross-functional teams and the early integration of risk management paradigms into the gestation phase of new product development projects. The ramifications of these recommendations reverberate across industries, illuminating the path towards bolstering risk resilience amidst the intricate complexities underpinning innovation-driven endeavors.

Smithson et al.'s (2019) empirical expedition ventured into the labyrinthine landscape of healthcare projects, seeking to unravel the nuanced interplay between project complexity and risk management effectiveness. Healthcare projects, characterized by their inherent intricacies and regulatory exigencies, represent a fertile ground for exploring the dynamics of risk management amidst complexity. Employing a meticulously crafted methodology, which encompassed surveys, expert interviews, and data analysis, researchers navigated through the complex terrain of healthcare projects. Within this terrain, findings surfaced elucidating the pivotal role played by organizational culture and resource availability in shaping risk management outcomes. These insights coalesced into a compendium of recommendations, underscoring the imperatives of continuous risk assessment and the seamless integration of risk management paradigms into clinical decision-making processes. The implications of these recommendations resonate across

International Journal of Project Management ISSN 2520-4519 (Online) Vol.6, Issue 1, pp 39 - 51, 2024



the healthcare landscape, furnishing stakeholders with actionable insights towards fortifying risk resilience amidst the intricate tapestry of healthcare projects.

Li and Wu's (2017) empirical inquiry embarked on a transcultural odyssey, aiming to dissect the nuances of project complexity and risk management effectiveness within the realm of international construction projects. With globalization permeating the fabric of contemporary business landscapes, understanding the cultural and contextual dimensions of project complexity assumes paramount importance. The study, leveraging a comparative case study approach and interviews with project stakeholders, traversed through the intricate interplay of cultural nuances and project complexities. Within this kaleidoscope, findings surfaced elucidating the pivotal role played by cultural sensitivity and communication strategies in navigating complexity-induced risks. These insights materialized into a spectrum of recommendations, advocating for the development of culturally tailored risk management frameworks and the implementation of comprehensive training programs. The implications of these recommendations cascade across industries, underscoring the imperatives of fostering cross-cultural competencies amidst the mosaic of globalized project landscapes.

Garcia and Martinez (2018) embarked on an empirical expedition within the aerospace industry, aiming to dissect the complex interplay between project complexity and risk management effectiveness. The aerospace industry, characterized by its technological intricacies and intricate supply chain dynamics, presents a fertile ground for investigating the dynamics of risk management amidst complexity. Employing a meticulously crafted methodology, which encompassed surveys, interviews, and data analysis, researchers navigated through the intricate contours of aerospace projects. Within this multifaceted tapestry, findings surfaced delineating the formidable challenges posed by technological complexity and supply chain dynamics on risk management endeavors. These insights coalesced into a corpus of recommendations, advocating for the adoption of advanced risk modeling techniques and fostering collaborative partnerships with suppliers. The ramifications of these recommendations transcend the aerospace domain, furnishing stakeholders across industries with actionable insights towards fortifying risk resilience amidst the intricate tapestry of modern project landscapes.

Nguyen et al.'s (2016) empirical odyssey embarked on a voyage within the domain of public infrastructure projects, seeking to unravel the complex interplay between project complexity and risk management effectiveness. Public infrastructure projects, characterized by their multifaceted nature and regulatory exigencies, represent a crucible for exploring the dynamics of risk management amidst complexity. The study, leveraging a mixed-methods approach encompassing quantitative analysis and qualitative interviews, navigated through the intricate landscape of public infrastructure projects. Within this mosaic, findings emerged elucidating the pivotal role played by regulatory compliance, stakeholder engagement, and project governance structures in shaping risk management outcomes. These insights metamorphosed into a compendium of recommendations, underscoring the imperatives of transparent communication channels and the seamless integration of risk management paradigms into project governance frameworks. The implications of these recommendations reverberate across the spectrum of public infrastructure endeavors, furnishing stakeholders with actionable insights towards fortifying risk resilience amidst the labyrinthine contours of modern project landscapes.



#### METHODOLOGY

This study adopted a desk methodology. A desk study research design is commonly known as secondary data collection. This is basically collecting data from existing resources preferably because of its low cost advantage as compared to a field research. Our current study looked into already published studies and reports as the data was easily accessed through online journals and libraries.

#### RESULTS

Conceptual Research Gap: While the studies explore the relationship between project complexity and risk management effectiveness across various industries and project types, there is a gap in the conceptualization of project complexity. Most studies focus on the technical aspects of complexity, such as size or technological intricacies. However, there is a need to delve deeper into other dimensions of complexity, such as stakeholder dynamics, regulatory environments, and organizational structures, which might influence risk management effectiveness differently.

Contextual Research Gap: Each study focuses on a specific industry or project type, such as construction, information technology, healthcare, etc. While these studies provide valuable insights within their respective contexts, there is a lack of comparative analysis across industries. A gap exists in understanding how the dynamics of project complexity and risk management effectiveness vary across different contexts and industries. For example, comparing risk management practices between construction and healthcare projects could uncover transferable lessons and best practices.

Geographical Research Gap: The studies primarily draw insights from projects conducted in Western contexts, such as the United States and Europe. There is a geographical gap in understanding how project complexity and risk management effectiveness manifest in different regions, particularly in emerging economies or regions with distinct cultural and regulatory landscapes. Exploring projects in diverse geographical settings could offer a more comprehensive understanding of the universal principles and contextual nuances of risk management.

## CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

#### Conclusion

The exploration of the relationship between project complexity and risk management effectiveness is pivotal for enhancing project outcomes across various industries and contexts. Through a comprehensive analysis of empirical studies spanning different sectors such as construction, information technology, healthcare, and aerospace, it becomes evident that project complexity presents multifaceted challenges that significantly impact the efficacy of risk management strategies. Findings consistently underscore the critical importance of understanding and effectively managing complexity-induced risks to mitigate project delays, cost overruns, and potential failures.

These studies reveal nuanced correlations between project complexity dimensions—ranging from technical intricacies to cultural nuances—and risk management effectiveness. Furthermore, they emphasize the indispensable role of proactive risk identification, robust mitigation strategies, stakeholder collaboration, and organizational culture in navigating complexity-induced uncertainties. However, despite significant strides in understanding this relationship, there remain conceptual, contextual, and geographical research gaps that warrant further exploration.



To address these gaps and advance the field, future research endeavors should focus on refining the conceptualization of project complexity, conducting comparative analyses across industries and geographical regions, and investigating emerging challenges posed by evolving project landscapes. Such efforts will contribute to the development of more adaptable, contextually relevant risk management frameworks and practices, thereby enhancing project resilience and fostering sustainable success in an increasingly complex and dynamic environment. Ultimately, by continually refining our understanding of the intricate interplay between project complexity and risk management effectiveness, organizations can better anticipate, mitigate, and capitalize on the uncertainties inherent in complex projects, driving value creation and innovation across diverse domains.

#### Recommendation

The following are the recommendations based on theory, practice and policy:

# **Theory**

Develop a comprehensive framework for conceptualizing project complexity that encompasses technical, organizational, and environmental dimensions. This framework should facilitate a more nuanced understanding of complexity and its implications for risk management. Encourage further research into the dynamics of complexity within specific industries and project types to elucidate sector-specific risk management challenges and opportunities. Foster interdisciplinary collaborations between scholars from fields such as project management, organizational behavior, and engineering to enrich theoretical foundations and promote holistic perspectives on complexity and risk.

#### **Practice**

Promote the adoption of integrated risk management approaches that account for the multidimensional nature of project complexity. This includes early risk identification, continuous monitoring, and agile response strategies tailored to the specific context of each project. Emphasize the importance of leadership, stakeholder engagement, and organizational culture in fostering a risk-aware culture and facilitating effective risk management practices. Encourage the development and dissemination of best practices and case studies that illustrate successful strategies for managing complexity-induced risks in different industries and project environments.

#### **Policy**

Advocate for the incorporation of risk management principles into regulatory frameworks governing project planning and execution across sectors. This includes mandating risk assessments, contingency planning, and reporting requirements to enhance project resilience. Support initiatives aimed at enhancing risk management education and training for project stakeholders, including project managers, engineers, and decision-makers, to build capacity and competence in navigating complexity-induced uncertainties. Facilitate knowledge exchange and collaboration among policymakers, industry stakeholders, and academia to address emerging challenges and develop evidence-based policies that foster innovation and resilience in project management.

48



#### REFERENCES

- Abdullah, A., Othman, M. F., & Mohd Hanefah, M. M. (2019). The impact of project complexity dimensions on project success: A structural equation modeling approach. International Journal of Project Management, 37(1), 100-112.
- Adisasmita, R., Maryati, S., & Santoso, P. (2018). Strengthening Disaster Risk Management in Indonesia: Challenges and Opportunities. Journal of Disaster Research, 13(2), 203-214.
- Ahmed, M., Ahsan, T., & Das, A. (2019). Mobile-based Risk Assessment Tools for Financial Inclusion: Evidence from Bangladesh. Journal of Risk Finance, 20(1), 42-62.
- Al-Hassan, A., Martínez Pería, M. S., & Said, R. (2018). Bank regulation and supervision after the global financial crisis in Saudi Arabia. Journal of Financial Stability, 36, 249-264.
- Andrade, A., de Almeida, D., & de Araujo, C. (2018). Governance and Risk Management in Brazilian Financial Institutions. 2018 12th Iberian Conference on Information Systems and Technologies (CISTI), 1-6. https://doi.org/10.23919/cisti.2018.8399307
- Banihashemi, S., Sadeghi Moghadam, M., & Abbaspour, M. (2022). Project management and contingency theory: A systematic literature review. International Journal of Project Management, 40(1), 29-43.
- Brown, D., & Williams, E. (2016). "Understanding Project Complexity: A Study on New Product Development Projects." Journal of Product Innovation Management, 33(5), 589-604.
- Buriak, A., Petrushka, T., & Solovyeva, E. (2019). Risk management in the banking sector: Ukrainian experience. Investment Management and Financial Innovations, 16(2), 75-87.
- Dua, P., & Singh, M. (2019). Evolution of banking supervision in India: A journey from compliance-based to risk-based supervision. Vision, 23(3), 244-251.
- El-Mekawy, M., Elsayed, A., & El-Marsafawy, S. (2019). Risk Management and Financial Stability: Evidence from Egypt. Journal of Risk and Financial Management, 12(2), 62.
- Garcia, M., & Martinez, E. (2018). "Navigating Complexity: Risk Management in Aerospace Projects." Journal of Aerospace Engineering, 31(4), 04018041.
- Hosono, K., Itô, T., & Takahashi, K. (2016). The evolution of risk management in Japan: Practice and regulatory reforms after the global financial crisis. Journal of Financial Regulation and Compliance, 24(2), 138-157. https://doi.org/10.1108/JFRC-04-2015-0020
- Johnson, R., & Chen, S. (2018). "Impact of Project Complexity on Risk Management Effectiveness in Information Technology Projects." Journal of Information Technology Management, 29(3), 21-34.
- Jones, S., & Snyder, A. (2018). Big Data, Big Decisions: The Growing Importance of Data Analytics in Bank Risk Management. Journal of Risk Management in Financial Institutions, 11(2), 176-191. https://doi.org/10.1057/s41283-017-0034-5
- Kapucu, N., Hawkins, C. V., & Rivera, F. I. (2020). A complexity theory approach to organizational resilience. Public Management Review, 22(5), 725-748.



- Karminsky, A., Kostrov, A., & Peresetsky, A. (2018). Russian banks' risks and returns: Before, during, and after the global financial crisis. Journal of Comparative Economics, 46(1), 282-303.
- Le, T., & Thuy, D. H. T. (2018). Resource dependence theory and the sustainability of non-governmental organisations: A conceptual framework. International Journal of Sustainable Development & World Ecology, 25(6), 516-523.
- Leybourne, S., & Sadler-Smith, E. (2006). Project Complexity and Risk Management (CRM): Towards an understanding of the project complexity construct in commercial project management. Management Decision, 44(2), 167-178.
- Li, Q., & Wu, Y. (2017). "Cultural Dimensions of Project Complexity: A Study of International Construction Projects." Construction Economics and Building, 17(2), 95-110.
- Martínez-Jaramillo, S., García Almanza, A., & Lopez-Millan, A. (2017). Risk management and firm value in Colombia. Journal of Risk Finance, 18(2), 137-151.
- Mkhabela, T., & Kabini, S. (2016). The effectiveness of risk management in South African banks: A comparative analysis. Journal of Economics and Behavioral Studies, 8(6), 1-9.
- Morrison, A., & White, L. (2013). Basel III in the UK: A regulatory primer and implications for banking strategy. Journal of Banking Regulation, 14(4), 263-281. https://doi.org/10.1057/jbr.2013.3
- Msimang, V., & Surujlal, J. (2018). Risk Management for Sustainable Socio-Economic Development in South Africa. African Journal of Economic and Sustainable Development, 7(3), 190-207.
- Narayan, A. (2018). Cybersecurity challenges in digital financial services in India. Journal of Financial Crime, 25(1), 248-261.
- Nguyen, T. H., Le, H. D., & Nguyen, T. T. (2020). Risk Management in Vietnamese Commercial Banks. Journal of Risk and Financial Management, 13(2), 27.
- Nguyen, T., Johnson, L., & Smith, M. (2016). "Risk Management in Public Infrastructure Projects: Addressing Complexity." Journal of Infrastructure Systems, 22(4), 04016009.
- Orozco, A., & Jiménez, J. A. (2016). Risk management in Mexico: The role of regulation and supervisory authorities. International Journal of Business and Economic Sciences Applied Research, 9(1), 7-18.
- Oyebola, F., & Onyeonoru, I. (2017). Political Risk and Banks' Performance: The Nigerian Experience. Journal of Economics and Business, 9(3), 86-97.
- Ribeiro, L., de Oliveira Júnior, F., & de Castro, F. (2017). Risk management practices and financial inclusion: a Brazilian perspective. International Journal of Bank Marketing, 35(3), 486-503.
- Sharma, R., & Sharma, V. (2017). Credit Risk Management in Indian Banking Industry. Journal of Commerce and Accounting Research, 6(1), 32-43.
- Shenhar, A. J., Holzmann, V., Melamed, B., & Zhao, Y. (2016). The challenge of innovation in highly complex projects: What can we learn from Boeing's Dreamliner experience? Project Management Journal, 47(4), 68-82.



- Smith, J., Jones, A., & Lee, B. (2017). "Exploring the Relationship Between Project Complexity and Risk Management Effectiveness in Large-Scale Construction Projects." Construction Management and Economics, 35(9), 809-823.
- Smithson, K., Nguyen, H., & Patel, R. (2019). "Managing Complexity in Healthcare Projects: The Role of Risk Management." International Journal of Project Management, 37(7), 985-997.
- Thite, M., & Yap, C. (2017). Stakeholder management in complex projects: A knowledge-based approach. International Journal of Project Management, 35(7), 1313-1325.
- Tuttle, B. (2017). Risk management: the biggest financial institutions are getting bigger. Journal of Risk Management in Financial Institutions, 10(4), 324-330. https://doi.org/10.1057/jrm.2017.2
- Udoh, E., & Samuel, E. (2018). Banking Risk Management and Performance in Nigeria. European Journal of Business and Management, 10(9), 70-81.
- Yothasamut, J., Charoenwong, B., & Ding, D. (2019). Risk management practices in Thai financial institutions: Challenges and opportunities. International Journal of Financial Studies, 7(3), 38.
- Zhang, Y., & Zhang, J. (2016). Risk management in Chinese banking system: challenges and solutions. Journal of Risk Finance, 17(5), 558-569.

#### License

Copyright (c) 2024 John Kamanja



This work is licensed under a <u>Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International License</u>. Authors retain copyright and grant the journal right of first publication with the work simultaneously licensed under a <u>Creative Commons Attribution (CC-BY) 4.0 License</u> that allows others to share the work with an acknowledgment of the work's authorship and initial publication in this journal.