

**An Analysis of Public Private Partnership
(PPP) Projects as a Resilient Strategy for
Responding to the post Impact of Covid-19
Pandemic in Africa.**

By

Innocent Nuwagaba and Peter Kiuluku
Eastern And Southern Africa Management
Institute

Abstract

Public Private Partnership (PPP) Projects are now being considered as a resilient approach for developing the needed infrastructural across Africa in this era of post covid 19. Governments all over Africa are now resorting to a number of PPP Projects to develop physical and social infrastructure needed to respond to the post impact of Covid-19 pandemic in Africa. The successful adoption of such PPPs is however being hindered by inadequate agile and resilient public administration mechanisms to deal with the post impact of COVID 19 in Africa. The main objective of the study is to analyse the use of PPPs in dealing with the post impact of COVID 19 in Africa. Data collected through review of scholarly literature was analysed using narratives. The study findings revealed that Africa is now using PPPs as a resilient measure to manage the post impact of COVID 19. It was recommended that Governments all over Africa need to always use PPP Projects as a resilient mechanism to effectively address the social economic challenges caused by COVID 19 pandemic.

INTRODUCTION

In two decades, PPPs have become a resilient strategy for global governance, bringing together public & private actors in joint decision-making to solve problems (Antoine, 2024).

Recently, global PPPs played a central role in the post covid pandemic through a new global initiative called the access to covid-19 tools accelerator (act-a), which aimed “to bring covid-19 vaccines, tests and treatments to everyone, everywhere (act-a, 2023).

The COVID-19 provides a chance to many African countries to come up with resilient approaches to deal with its post impact (Hunt & Noble, 2020).

In Africa, more than 3 trillion dollars that is needed in order to meet Sustainable Development Goals among which is economic partnerships (United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, 2024).

Africa has great potential to build resilient and successful economies despite the climate crisis which has already led to extreme weather conditions across the continent (African Development Bank Group, 2024).

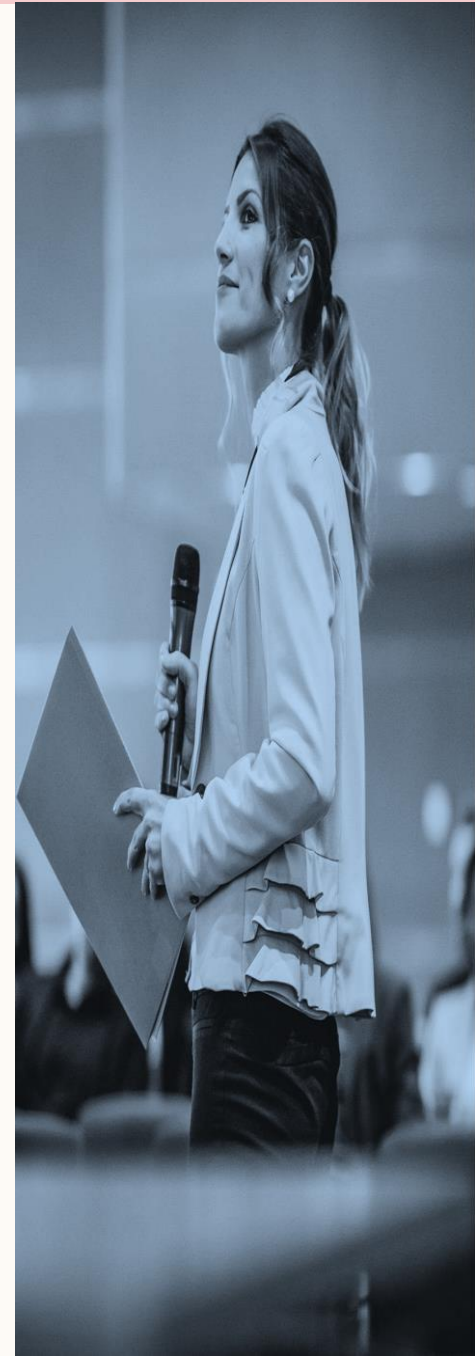
As a result, the issue of using PPPs to develop resilient infrastructure for dealing with challenges associated with post COVID 19 period in Africa is now becoming a major focus (Akalewold, Akaninyene, Seye, Sanni, 2021).

In response to these COVID 19 challenges, Joudyian, Doshmangir, Mahdavi, Tabrizi and Gordeev (2021) suggest that Africa needs to use PPPs as resilient initiatives to deliver services to affected citizens in a more effective manner.



LITERATURE REVIEW

- The implementation of PPP infrastructure projects has grown significantly in both developing and developed nations (Gabriel, Jose & Alberto, 2024).
- These projects are a valuable tool to address simultaneously the heterogeneous needs and demands of the wide arrangement of internal and external stakeholders (Khallaf, Guevara, Mendez-Gonzalez, & Castelblanco, 2024),
- However, the continuity of these projects is endangered by unprecedented challenges derived from extraordinary global crises that occur periodically.
- PPPS must deal with these crises while guaranteeing the necessary financial government resources demanded throughout their life cycle, reduce the potential impacts on ecosystems (Gabriel, Jose & Alberto, 2024).
- Ideally, the term resilience implies the capacity to experience, respond, and recover from a particular crisis (Hertel, Elouafi, Ewert, Tanticharoen, 2021).
- Looking at the perspective of the health aspect, resilience can provide one an opportunity to be availed with the necessary medical care so that he or she is capable of responding to and recover from a dangerous ill health (Pumelela, Mandla & Khaya, 2020).
- In the context of COVID-19, people in Africa are likely to be more resilient to the post impact of COVID 19 if they are provided with better-quality medical care services (Hertel, Elouafi, Ewert, Tanticharoen, 2021).
- To strengthen such healthcare systems through use of resilient infrastructure, the private healthcare industries and the public health sector need to collaborate through PPP arrangements (Hertel, Elouafi, Ewert, Tanticharoen, 2021).



Methodology

- This study adopted an exploratory approach in in developing this article.⁵
- To get insights on what has so far been realised as far as impact of Covid-19 in Africa, is concerned, a theoretical review was embarked on to collect data.
- Data was analyzed and used to assess the use of PPPs as a resilient approach to responding to impact of COVID 19 in Africa.
- According to Steward (1984), a theoretical approach can be used in instances where empirical study is not possible.
- To ensure dependability, the study collected data from reports of reputable agencies, peer reviewed scholarly journal articles, bibliographies, conference papers, national government publications, and local government publications.
- Since the COVID 19 pandemic was relatively new about four years, the study focused on reviewing data from other additional reputable sources of bi-lateral and multi-lateral agencies such as United nations, WHO, World Bank and Africa Center for Disease Control.
- From first contact documents, additional articles and documents were identified and reviewed

Findings

- According to Nazaruk (2020), in northern Africa, Morocco has launched a PPP intended to attract investment in industrial sector and create employment opportunities for highly skilled workforce affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Egypt has so far done better than other countries because of promoting macroeconomic resilience against COVID 19 based on a number of reforms among which was use of PPPs (Omar, 2021).
- In Southern Africa, Botswana, has used PPPs to provide a resilient approach by working with a mobile network provider that UNICEF negotiated a zero-rating internet access for the COVID-19 tracker system and provision of android tablets. (UNICEF, 2020).
- Mwangi (2020) contends that in South Africa, government is using her already established PPP projects in deal with the post COVID 19 crisis.
- In East Africa, According to Maractho (2021), Covid-19 is one of those health issues that low-income countries like Uganda is using PPP projects to critically address.
- In Kenya, government is using PPPs as a resilient measure to ensure fiscal reduction, changes to public spending and an increase in foreign lending so as to have a clear positive impact over GDP (Nechifor, Ferrari, Kihui, Laichena, Omanyo, Musamali & Kiriga, 2020).
- In West Africa, Edobor (2020) contends that Nigeria has opted the use of PPP projects to provide resilient healthcare infrastructure.
- According to Evans (2020), in Ghana, the health care service for the COVID 19 response is using PPPs as a resilient approach to develop a health information app called BISA.
- In horn of Africa, a UN report (2020b) indicate that Ethiopia is working with private and third sector agencies to implement a PPP project code named "Tenachin Bejachin" at a total cost of US\$6 million so as to provide the essential services needed by about 1.2 million people that are pronevulnerable to the crisis caused by COVID-19 (UN, 2020)
- In central Africa, Data Pop Alliance (2020) shows that the Government of the DR Congo has used PPPs to put in place a national health emergency response, plan de réponse humanitaire (PRH), as a resilient measure to respond to COVID-19 (Ipsos, 2020).

Conclusion and recommendations

- The study was successful in investigating the use of PPP as a resilient mechanism for developing infrastructure during COVID 19 Pandemic.
- The concept of resilience in line with developing health care infrastructure to deal with COVID 19 was discussed.
- The use of PPPs in developing resilient infrastructure against COVID 19 was also discussed. PPPs can be used to build resilient infrastructure to respond to COVID 19.
- Therefore, PPP infrastructure can be used to adapt to the new COVID 19 crisis in terms of meeting capacity needs, implementing new infection control plans, anticipating the additional staffing needs.
- There is therefore need for African governments to work with the private sector in developing policies for responding to post impact of COVID 19.
- It is recommended that PPP contracts used should always include contract clauses for meeting operation costs during post COVID 19 period.
- The uncertainty nature of COVID 19 should inform managers of health systems to design facilities that can adapt to COVID 19 emergencies.
- PPPs need to be used to develop mobile clinic facilities for such COVID 19 emergencies.
- Using PPPs to improve resilience of health infrastructure can help African governments to effectively prepare for future COVID 19 emergencies.
- PPPs can be used to expand health infrastructure to meet the current high demand for health care services by post Covid 19 patients.
- PPPs can also be used to build the capacity of the health staff that are at the fore front of fighting the COVID 19.

**THANK
YOU**

God bless you.