

Water station for the Commune of Bình Trinh Dong, Vietnam

Degree programme : EMBA | Specialisation : EMBA General Management

Donors of Cooperation and Development projects set high requirements for project analysis and dimensioning. The effort to prepare the needed documentation has an impact on the resources of small NGOs based on voluntary work. Using a practical example, analytical instruments were bundled and scaled aiming to build a toolkit which can be implemented with a contained effort.

The NGO and the project

ACTI Espérance, headquartered in Balerna (TI), has been promoting cooperation and development activities since 2000 mainly in Indochina, financing numerous schools, bridges and water wells. In 2018, ACTI Espérance was asked by the Vietnamese community of Bình Trinh Dong to finance a new kind of project, an infrastructure to pump, store and distribute drinking water to over 300 households.

Goal and output

Based on the practical case, the goal is to adapt, scale and bundle analytical instruments. The resulting procedure must be applicable by small NGOs with contained effort and at the same being able to handle the complexity of Cooperation and Development projects.

In parallel, the results generated from the application of the developed procedure on the real case, are used to prepare applications to public funding competitions to finance the project.

Methods and approach

Project Analysis

The analytical part was split in two phases. The first phase summarized and structured the available information and analyzed the context of the project. The Scenario Technique was implemented in order to deal with the uncertainties given from the initial high-level information received. The resulting scenarios were structured so that they could easily be reviewed based on the additional information received.

In the second phase the Problem Tree technique was implemented using the information elaborated in the context analysis. Based on that, a Systemic Analysis of the project and its environment was performed in order to evaluate relevance and efficiency of the submitted project.

Project Dimensioning

Based on the results of the analytical part, the project was dimensioned in terms of time and costs (to the extents allowed from the available information). Following this, the criteria which was examined for the founding application (relevance, efficiency, effectiveness, impact and sustainability) were evaluated and the results reported in the application forms.

Result

The developed procedure and instruments are bundled in a modular way. This allows the selection of which instrument to implement as a function of complexity and the availability of information for the specific case.

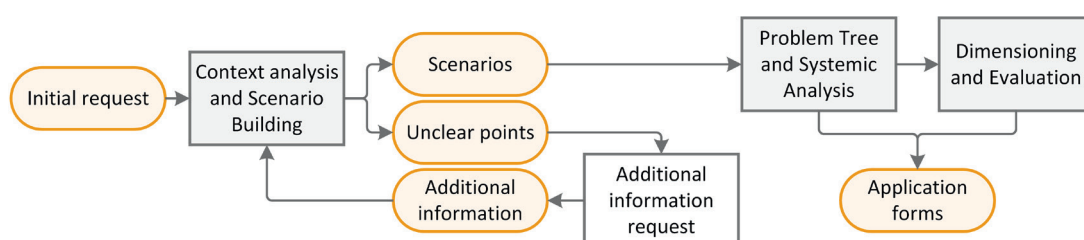
As this procedure requires a certain degree of effort, its implementation makes sense under the following conditions:

- The project has a certain degree of complexity
- Not all information is available from the beginning
- Pre-analysis of the project is required for approval

For the project in consideration, the funding application forms were filled out to the extents permitted by the available information, highlighting which points need to be further elaborated.



Fabio Benelli
fabio.benelli@riseup.net



Implemented steps (squares) and obtained outputs (ovals)