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**IMPACTS OF PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ON PUBLIC
BUDGETING PROCESS OF KURDISTAN**



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UUM
Universiti Utara Malaysia

**DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY
UNIVERSITI UTARA MALAYSIA**

August 2016

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PROCESS OF KURDISTAN**



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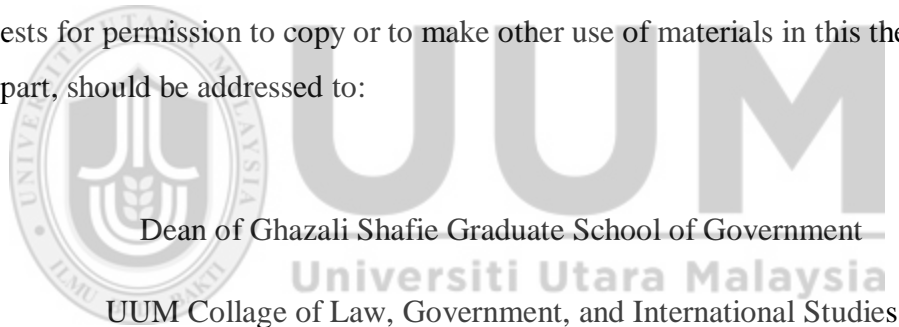
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**A Thesis submitted to Ghazali Shafie Graduate School of Government
in fulfilment of the requirements for the Doctor of Philosophy
Universiti Utara Malaysia**

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ABSTRAK

Kajian ini adalah bagi mengenal pasti hubungan di antara aspek penyertaan awam dan proses belanjawan modal. Objektif kajian ini adalah untuk mengenal pasti faktor-faktor yang menyebabkan kurangnya keterlibatan orang awam dalam sistem belanjawan negara di Kurdistan. Ia juga bertujuan untuk mengenal pasti kesan aspek sistem penyampaian belanjawan, komunikasi dan maklumat ke atas proses belanjawan modal. Bagi memperoleh hasil kajian, kajian ini telah mengedat 465 borang soal-selidik dan menemubual 11 pakar belanjawan dan pegawai-pegawai kerajaan. Pekali korelasi dan regresi berganda digunakan untuk mengkaji hubungan kedua-dua aspek ini. Dapatan kajian menunjukkan korelasi positif yang kuat antara perbincangan, komunikasi, maklumat, dan proses belanjawan modal. Analisis regresi berganda juga mendapati bahawa penyertaan awam menyumbang kesan yang signifikan dalam proses belanjawan modal. Kajian ini turut mendapati bahawa faktor-faktor utama yang menyebabkan kurangnya keterlibatan masyarakat awam dalam sistem penyampaian belanjawan ialah masalah kewangan, campur tangan parti-parti politik, rasuah, kelemahan organisasi masyarakat sivil, ketidaksalingpercayaan, serta pemakaian sistem kewangan yang ketinggalan zaman. Kajian ini juga menunjukkan bahawa komunikasi bajet merangsang proses belanjawan modal secara berkesan. Selain itu, akses kepada maklumat bajet menggalakkan tadbir urus yang baik, mengurangkan rasuah serta mengurangkan penyalahgunaan bajet awam terutamanya berkaitan projek-projek palsu. Ia juga turut merangsang kepada pelaksanaan pelbagai pendekatan bagi menggalakkan penglibatan rakyat dan dengan ini dapat mewujudkan masyarakat yang aktif dan bermaklumat. Untuk itu, bagi mengurangkan ketidakpuasan hati orang ramai terutama terhadap masalah-masalah sistem penyampaian perkhidmatan, rasuah, keraguan keputusan belanjawan, penyalahgunaan bajet awam, kerajaan Kurdistan perlu melibatkan rakyat dalam proses pembuatan keputusan melalui pelbagai sistem informasi, perbincangan, serta perundingan. Kajian ini diharap dapat menyumbang serta memberi implikasi polisi yang baik bagi meningkatkan sistem belanjawan negara di Kurdistan.

Kata Kunci: Proses Belanjawan Modal, Perbincangan awam, Maklumat Awam, Komunikasi, Kurdistan.

ABSTRACT

This study examines the relationship between approaches of public participation and capital budgeting process. The objective of this study is to determine factors that have caused the lack of public deliberation in Kurdistan budgeting system. It also aims to identify the impacts of deliberation, communication, and information in capital budgeting process. The study administered 465 questionnaires and interviewed 11 budget experts and government officials. The correlation coefficient and regression analysis used to examine relationships. The findings indicated strong positive correlations between deliberation, communication, information and capital budgeting process. The regression analyses demonstrated a unique significant contribution of public participation in capital budgeting process. This study revealed the leading factors that caused lack of deliberation embraces money shortages, political parties interference, corruption, weakness of civil society organizations, lack of trust, and the deployment of classical financial system. The study also revealed that budget communication effectively stimulates capital budgeting process. Additionally, access to budget information promotes good governance, minimizes corruption and the misuse of public budget. It also facilitates the implementations of other participatory approaches and creates an informed and active citizenry. To alleviate public dissatisfaction, service problems, corruption, illegitimate budget decisions, and the misuse of public budget, the Kurdistan government must involve citizens in decisions making through informed, deliberative, and consultative programs. This study becomes a notable policy implication to improve Kurdistan budgeting system.

Keywords: Capital Budgeting Process, Public Deliberation, Public Information, Communication, Kurdistan.

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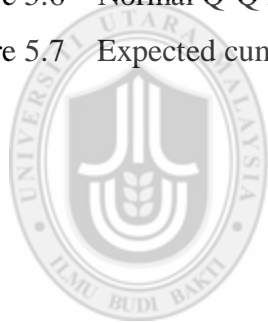
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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

ACDI	Agricultural Cooperative Development International
BOI	Board of Investment
CAG	Community Action Group
CBD	Capital Budget Decision
CSDP	Consultative Service Delivery Program
DCC	General Directorate of Coordination and Cooperation
DQI	Discourse Quality Index
FDI	Foreign Direct Investment
GDP	The gross domestic product
IMF	International Monetary Fund
ISIS	Islamic State of Iraq and Levant
KRG	Kurdistan Regional Government
MoA	Ministry of Agriculture
MoE	Ministry of Electricity
MoP	Ministry of Planning
MoF	Ministry of Finance
MP	Members of Parliament
NGO	None-Governmental Organization
NPM	New Public Management
NTA	National Taxpayers Association
OECD	The Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development
PB	Participatory Budgeting
PBP	Public Budget Participation
PEM	Public Expenditure Management
RTI	Right to Information
UKH	University of Kurdistan-Hewler
UNDP	United Nations Development Program
VOCA	Volunteers in Overseas Cooperative Assistance
WACP	World Alliance for Citizen Participation

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.0 Introduction

Public participation in countries fiscal policies has recently becomes an important determinant of economic development and sustainability. Public participation is seen to be substantial instrument to promote efficiency, effectiveness, equity, service delivery and enhances the level of public satisfaction. It's also significant to preserve democratic principles of government (Yarnell & Fogg, 2007, p.12). In this sense, openness towards local communities has becomes a dominant feature of good governance.



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The Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG) has faced several budget issues lately. The problems emerged due to the mismanagement of the public financial system. The KRG revenue mainly comes from the country's oil and gas export. The total budget approved by the Parliament in 2013 was US\$14,642 billion, while the total population is 5.3 million (Kami, 2013). Previously, Kurdistan Region Received 17 percent of the national Iraqi budget, but the government is no longer receives budget from central government in Baghdad. The KRG is now relies on the oil exports and local incomes that received from customs and taxation. Economically, the KRG is independent. Since the oil price fluctuating, it becomes very difficult for the KRG to expect revenue. Since the price of

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