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# THE INFLUENCE OF ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE, RESOURCES AND CULTURE ON PROJECT PERFORMANCE: A STUDY AMONG CONSTRUCTION FIRMS IN PENANG

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# MASTER OF SCIENCE (MANAGEMENT) UNIVERSITI UTARA MALAYSIA

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#### ABSTRACT

The purpose of this study is to investigate on the influence of organizational structures, resources and cultures on project performance among construction firms in Penang. A survey of a representative sample of 142 respondents was used in this study. This study is a quantitative method and the data from questionnaires were analyzed using Statistical Package for Social Science (SPSS) 22.0. Multiple regression analyses were performed to tests the hypotheses of the study. The findings confirmed that there were two hypotheses, organizational structures and cultures have a positive significant association with project performance. The primary contribution in this study is to enhance the understanding on the significant factors that influence on project performance among managers/contractors in construction firms in Penang.



#### ABSTRAK

Tujuan kajian ini adalah untuk menjalankan siasatan terhadap pengaruh struktur organisasi, sumber dan budaya ke atas prestasi projek di kalangan syarikat-syarikat pembinaan di Pulau Pinang. Kajiselidik yang mewakili sampel seramai 142 responden telah digunakan dalam kajian ini. Kajian ini adalah kaedah kuantitatif dan data daripada soalselidik dianalisa dengan menggunakan Statistical Package for Social Science (SPSS) 22.0. Analisis regresi berganda telah digunakan untuk menguji hipotesis kajian ini. Keputusan kajian membuktikan bahawa terdapat dua pemboleh ubah tidak bersandar – struktur organisasi dan budaya organisasi yang mempunyai hubungan positif dan signifikan dengan prestasi projek. Sumbangan utama kajian ini adalah untuk meningkatkan pemahaman tentang faktor-faktor signifikan yang mempengaruhi prestasi projek di kalangan pengurus/kontraktor firma-firma pembinaan di Pulau Pinang.

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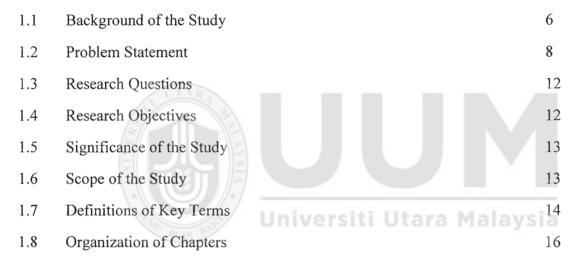
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#### **CHAPTER 1**

#### INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 Background of the Study

In a current business scenario, the construction firms have revolved a great significant challenge due to rapid development and execution of new products and services (Gan, 2000). In Malaysia, the major activities that contribute to the development of the economy growth are came from the residential, industrial, commercial and services sectors. Essentially, according to Jatarona, MdYusof, Ismail and Saar (2015),the Malaysian government is the major client for the construction industry in Malaysia. The projects mostly concentrate on the development of the basic infrastructure likes roads, dams, irrigation works, schools, houses, and other physical foundations. These projects are very useful to boost and sustain the standard of living of the nations. However, there are non-performing projects reported due to poor management. Jatarona et al. (2015) claimed that in Malaysia, sick projects are reported at 235 in 2013 and 191 in 2014. Though there is the decrement of 20 percent in sick projects, but there is a need for company to systematically monitor the project performance of the firm.

In 2015, the Malaysian National Budget 2015 has allocated RM770 billion in public projects, however the outcomes are yet unrevealed; thus it stimulates the negative perception from the investors on the public construction project in Malaysia as a whole. Besides, this sector is also reported low profitability and lack managementon training of staff as well as the research and development(Yong and Mustaffa, 2012). Limited trust, minimal cooperation and commitment,

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