Examining the Implications of International Grants on Research Outputs of Universities in the Global South: A Case of Mbarara University of Science and Technology (MUST), Uganda

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Introduction

The study aimed at determining the contribution of international grants on research training, publication, and research uptake.

Objectives

- 1) To assess the contribution of international grants on research training at MUST
- 2) To establish the research publication outputs as a result of international grants at MUST
- 3) To ascertain how international grants have contributed to additional current and future research uptake at MUST

Methodology

The study adopted case study and descriptive research designs using a mixed-method approach involving purposive and simple random sampling techniques. Data were collected from primary and secondary data sources. Questionnaires and an interview guide were used as data collection tools. Analysis was done quantitatively and qualitatively whereby thematic analysis and descriptive statistics were applied respectively.

Key findings

Results showed that research at MUST positively influenced training and publications and that research grants fairly influenced research uptake at MUST.

Key recommendations

There should be a collaboration between researchers in the global north and the south from the first days of the programme implementation. Support should go to staff development programmes to boost the capacity of University researchers. Researchers should aim at high-impact journals to publish. More funds should be provided for research uptake-policy and community engagement.

Key references

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