

Randomised Field Trial for the Adoption Diagnostics of Municipal Infrastructure Asset Management Systems in Uganda

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ABSTRACT

Background: Municipal infrastructure asset management systems (MIAMS) are critical for sustainable urban development in sub-Saharan Africa, yet their adoption by local government authorities remains inconsistent and poorly understood. Existing studies often rely on self-reported survey data, lacking rigorous causal evidence on the factors that drive or hinder implementation.

Purpose and objectives: This working paper presents a methodological evaluation designed to measure the causal effect of a targeted technical support intervention on the adoption rates of MIAMS. The primary objective is to quantify the adoption elasticity with respect to structured diagnostic support.

Keywords: *Municipal infrastructure asset management, Sub-Saharan Africa, Randomised controlled trial, Technology adoption, Local government authorities, Uganda*

Article Highlights

- A 22 percentage point increase in adoption was measured following a structured diagnostic intervention.
- Data standardisation protocols emerged as the most critical barrier to full system implementation.
- The randomised trial provides causal evidence for the efficacy of technical support in resource-constrained settings.
- The methodology establishes a robust framework for evaluating engineering management interventions.

Methodological Note

Intent-to-treat analysis of a randomised field trial with 48 Ugandan municipalities, using a verified implementation index to measure adoption.

This trial offers causal evidence for scaling asset management systems in sub-Saharan Africa.

ABSTRACT-ONLY PUBLICATION

This is an abstract-only publication. The complete research paper with full methodology, results, discussion, and references is available upon request.

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