

Influences of Project Cost Estimation in South African Construction Industry

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SUMMARY

The purpose of this study is to investigate appropriate key factors influencing construction project cost estimates with a view to improving construction project performance. The research adopted a quantitative approach and a survey questionnaire was employed as instrument of collecting information, focusing on the construction professionals in the Gauteng and Mpumalanga Provinces in South Africa. The survey revealed major factors affecting estimates of construction projects were accuracy of Bill of Quantities for the project, clarity and accuracy of the information related to the project before execution, duration of contract period, complexity of design, estimator's method and cost control technique as well as project time schedule with all resources for estimation use. Noticeably, all the identified indicators were found to be the responsibilities of the clients and appointed consultants with regards to the design parameters during pre-tender stage. The research study can be used to further investigate the level of performance and the selection criteria of construction project consultants.