

## A Value Management Approach for Managing Social Project Risks of International Funding Discontinuity in Guyana

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**Abstract:** *It is not unusual for social development projects funded by International Development Partners to come to an end, without maintaining benefit flows after the funding period. The study aims to explore the efficacy of using Value Management (VM) as an approach to minimise the risks of the projects going into cessation after funding from International Development Partners (IDPs) is no longer forthcoming. A simulated “Value Statement” workshop was facilitated by VM experts to identify obstacles and examine factors affecting project sustainability. It included collecting and documenting the views of those integrally involved in the project on what is the meaning of sustainability, recording the experiences of the project to ensure the sustainability of project results beyond implementation, examining the project design, monitoring and implementation and its relatedness to the sustainability of outcomes. A VM-based strategic framework was developed. It was found that adopting VM at the initial stage of social development projects could bring impact on reducing the risks of projects being unsustainable when external funding ends. Risk management (RM) and Gateway (GW) methods could be synchronised with VM as parallel processes for successful project implementation. Future research could validate the value factors and VM criteria identified for managing social development projects.*

**Keywords:** *Value Management, Sustainability, Risk Management, Gateway, Guyana*