

The International Development Construction Project Lifecycle – A Perfect Storm



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Introduction

In 2021 developing countries received over \$169 billion in official development aid¹. Most of the assistance is provided through projects and yet, despite the size of the aid sector, recent research indicates that the efficiency and effectiveness of development projects is often dissatisfactory^{2,3,4,5}. This work investigates the lifecycle of international development (ID) construction projects to understand the challenges that are encountered during each stage of a project and how they impact upon a projects' success.

Methods

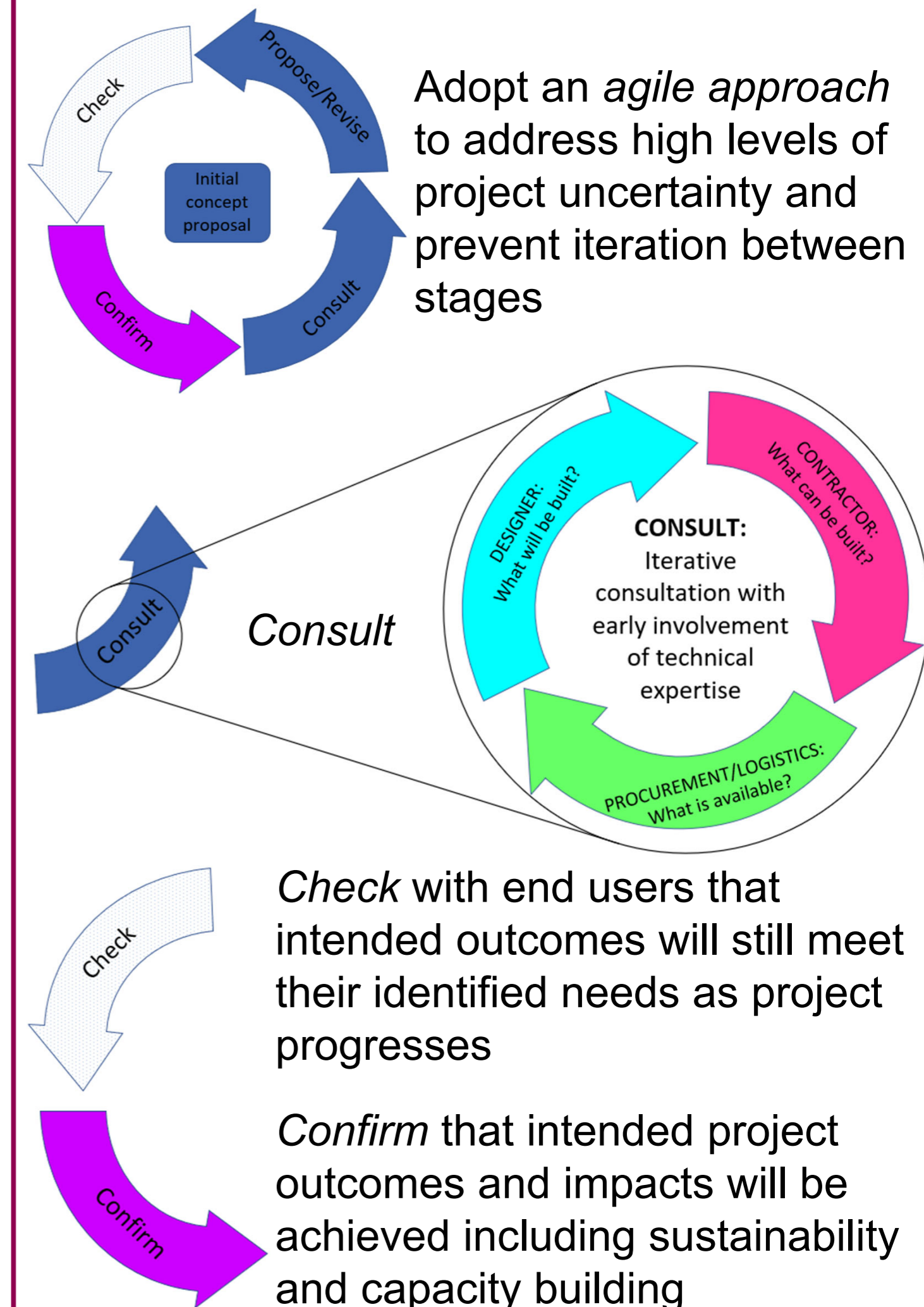
- Development of an inter-agency working group of 21 sector specialists.
- Focus group discussion to gain a broad understanding of the context and main challenges encountered during projects.
- Two rounds of 21 key informant interviews: firstly to explore project issues in more detail, and secondly to obtain feedback on the ID project methodology.
- Thematic analysis of interview data.

Results

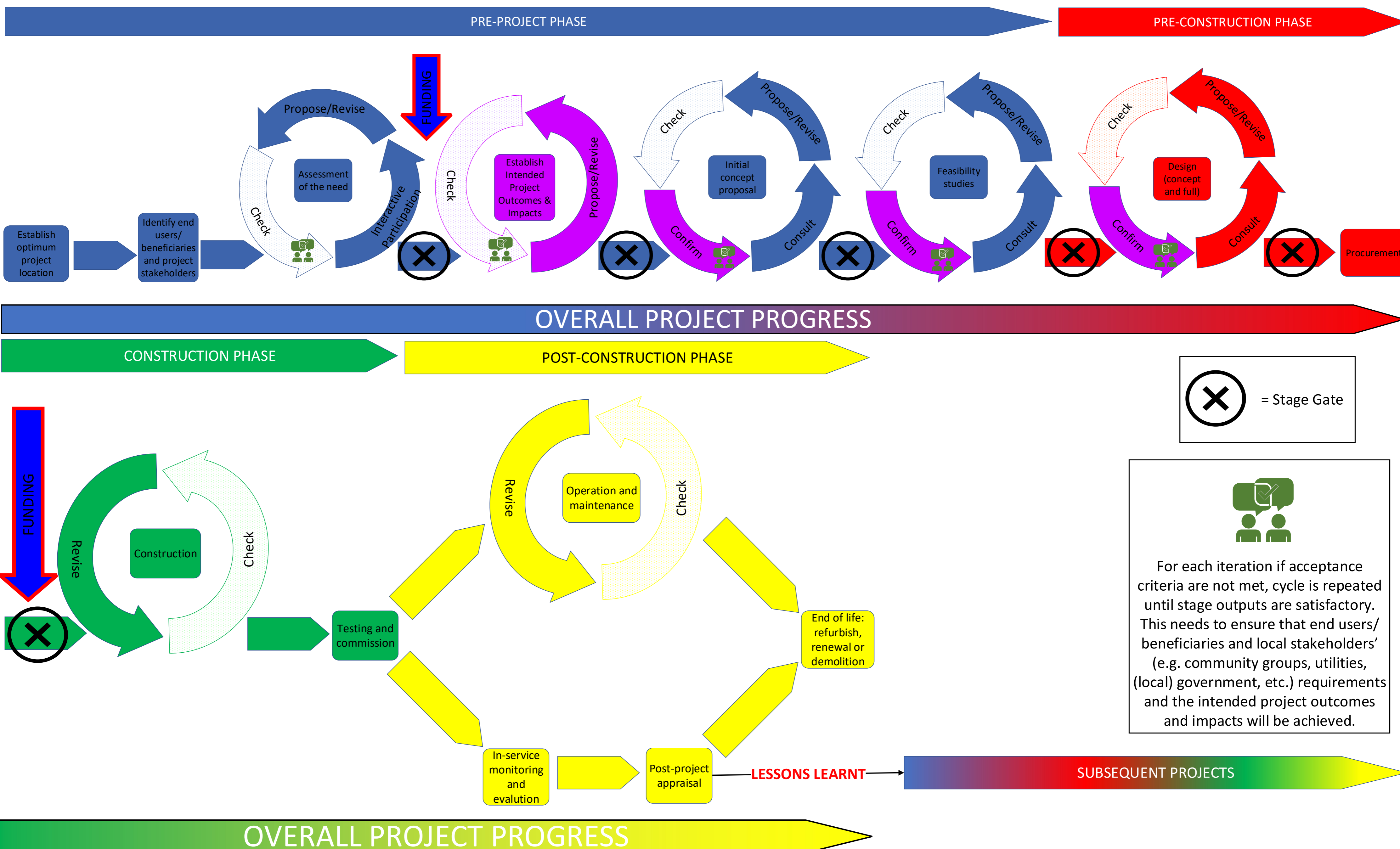
Four main themes emerged from the analysis with several key factors identified with each:

1. **Constraints**
 - a) Insufficient time dedicated to pre-project phase.
 - b) Lack of funding for technical expertise and project planning.
 - c) Scarcity of resources in project contexts.
2. **Abilities**
 - a) Low construction competency within NGO's.
 - b) Limited capacity of NGOs.
 - c) Inadequate capability of NGOs.
3. **Project performance**
 - a) Poor project output sustainability.
 - b) Inadequate focus on capacity building.
 - c) Lack of meaningful monitoring, evaluation, accountability and learning.
4. **Project context**
 - a) Variability of contexts.
 - b) High instability of contexts.
 - c) Sparse availability of information and data.

Recommendations and Conclusion



A Proposed Hybrid Methodology For International Development Construction Project Delivery



REFERENCES

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