

THE EFFICIENCY AND EFFECTIVENESS OF USING GOVERNMENT BUDGET.

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ABSTRACT

The majority of Rajabhat Universities in Thailand depend heavily on government budget to manage their university every year. Assistance from the government of Thailand to education institutions has often come with conditions of using the budget with high efficiency and effectiveness. The problems of inefficiency and ineffective use of budget will reduce the potential budget for the next year. Therefore, Suan Sunandha Rajabhat University committed to improving the effective of using government budget through better condonation mechanisms, better control and monitoring, and better supervising. The objectives of this study were to examine the level of efficiency and effectiveness of using government budget as well as to offer guideline of maximum benefits of using government budget. In order to gain the findings of this study, a qualitative method was utilized with 15 staff members of the university who were involved with the process of receiving and using government budget each year. The findings from the focus group unveiled that the strong foundation and high ethical use of budget with strong coordination on monitoring and evaluating of each projects. A general commitment on transparency is certainly implemented in the campus. The process of implementing anticorruption had a strong support from management level, faculty members, and staff members all over the university. There were many strategies and regulations to maintain the efficiency and effectiveness use of government budget in Suan Sunandha Rajabhat University.

Keyword: Efficiency, Effectiveness, Government Budget

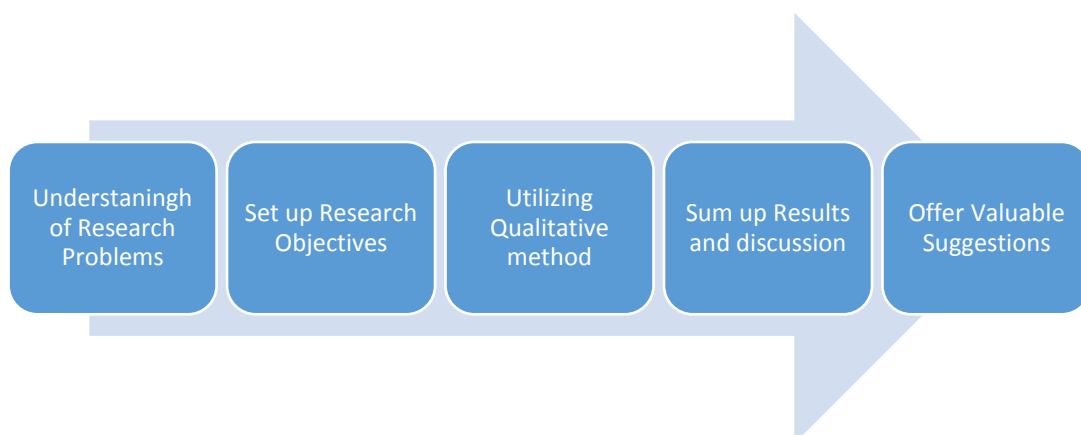
INTRODUCTION

Many of universities in Thailand were subsidized by the government. Suan Sunandha Rajabhat University is one of the Rajabhat Universities that has been subsidized by the government for many decades. The subsidized is the chunk fund that has been calculated by the ministry of education and provide to each university yearly. However, the trend of the subsidized fund is increasing every year. The university has been encouraged to be more independent and to take care of its own employees with more and more direct revenues which come directly from the tuition fees from the students. Ironically, the overall number of students in Thailand has been declining due to the fact that Thailand has a decline birth rate and Thailand is moving toward aging society which means the number of old people is increasing faster than the number of young people. The number of students entering university level is obviously declining steady, therefore, each university actually needs more subsidy money than before. But the tax money collection during the economic downturn is not sufficient to increase any more subsidized funds to all universities around Thailand. Therefore, it is both necessary and important for Suan Sunandha Rajabhat University to spend the subsidized fund effectively and efficiently.

A government budget is a document about the financial and money prepared by the government institutions or political entity and educational institutions who are subsidized by the government funds to presenting its anticipated revenues and proposed spending for the coming financial year. In Thai government system and Thai parliamentary systems, the budget was determine each year with the approval of many systems and many process and certainly with the approval of the legislature and then each ministry and its agencies. It is important for the university to have control over the use of the revenues and expenditures of the government. It is important for each Rajabhat university to start to be more dependency on government budget due to the declining of number of students and their enrollment each year. However, the assistance from the government of Thailand to education institutions has often come with to conditions of using the budget with high efficiency and effectiveness. The permanent problems of inefficiency and ineffective using of budget will reduce the potential budget for the next year. Therefore, the researcher is interested to study more in detail about the effectiveness and efficiency of using the government budget.

METHODOLOGY

Certainly, due to the fact that there are declining number of students and its enrollments, the majority of Rajabhat Universities in Thailand started to depend heavily on government budget to manage their university every year now and in the near future. Therefore, Suan Sunandha Rajabhat University have committed to improving the effective of using government budget through better condonation mechanisms, better control and monitoring, and better supervising. The purposes of this study were to examine the level of efficiency and effectiveness of using government budget as well as to offer guideline of maximum benefits of using government budget. In order to gain the findings of this study, a qualitative method was utilized with 15 staff members of the university who were involved with the process of receiving and using government budget each year. The data collection period was about three months or the first quarter of the year 2019. Most of the sample group was selected by quota for each department in the campus in order to obtain a variety of opinions and suggestions. There are five important process of conducting this study: First is to define research problems about the effectiveness and the efficiency of using government budget, Second is to set up research purposes which aims to investigate the problems and to offer suggestion, Third is to use the qualitative method by an in-depth interview, Fourth is to obtain results and discussion from the in-depth interview, and finally to gather the opinions and suggestions from the respondents. In order to obtain the useful and proper findings and answers to this research objectives, a qualitative research study of 15 informants was chosen for the purposes.



FINDINGS

By employing the method of in-depth interview and focus group, the findings of this study can be reported from the respondents had a vast experience with the government budget each year. The findings from the focus group unveiled that there were strong foundation and high ethical use of budget with strong coordination on monitoring and evaluating of each project in the campus of Suan Sunandha Rajabhat University. A general commitment on transparency is certainly implemented in the campus. The process of implementing anticorruption had a strong support from management level, faculty members, and staff members all over the university. There were many strategies and regulations to maintain the efficiency and effectiveness use of government budget in Suan Sunandha Rajabhat University. Each year there are many committees of government budget oversight to both controlling the use of the budget and monitoring the effectiveness and efficiency using of the fund whether each project reached objectives or not. It is important to understand many component of the government budget. Therefore, the staff of the university who handles this issues need to update their knowledge and skills each year.

SUGGESTIONS

The suggestions from this study to enhance the level effectiveness and efficiency of using the government budget included be clear and transparency and also realize that the use of government budget must be able to monitoring closely. The open book style is one of the most transparency and better use of the government budget. Second, it is important to build rapport and strong teamwork, treat your teammate with respect, focus on what can be implement to fit the policy from the government and allow benefits of implementation to fall upon the target group as much as possible. Third, it is important to create positive attitude of being effectiveness and efficiency using the government budget, make it a corporate value and focus on the high standard of ethics in system of implementation of the budget throughout the projects. Finally, the support from the high ranking executives are both necessary and vital to the success of the being effective and efficient using of government budget.

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