THE DETERMINATION OF LABOUR PRODUCTIVITY FOR A SELECTED CONSTRUCTION OPERATION i.e. PLASTERING WORK FOR A HOUSING PROJECT

A PROJECT REPORT PRESENTED IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE AWARD OF ADVANCED DIPLOMA IN CIVIL ENGINEERING OF MARA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

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ABSTRACT

Construction is such a vast, fragmented, and complex industry that it is hard to identify and define the problem of productivity and cost effectiveness, what more to resolve them.

The objective of this research is to determine the labour productivity for plastering work and to identify the factors affecting its productivity. Observations and monitoring were carried out on four crews. The measurement task was done daily at the end of the work shift.

Findings indicated that the output, hence productivity was affected by factors such as experience (level of skills), salary, work conditions and management. Recommendations towards productivity improvements are forwarded from the findings.

1 INTRODUCTION

Construction is the world's largest and most challenging industry. A construction project involves from inception to completion the to creation permanent and lasting facility that meet aesthetic, quality, safety, and functional requirements. It involves mobilisation and organisation of many types of people who probably have not worked together and who immediately expect that organisation to function smoothly [1].

The construction industry is a dynamic, robust but is also a complex industry. However, its productivity has not kept pace with its need in recent years. Among the major reasons for the productivity decline are the increased size and complexity of projects, budget constraints, high cost of construction materials, labour shortage and tighter governmental requirements.

In the practical sense, there is no easy way to measure total productivity. Therefore, many partial productivity measurements have been in use for years in order to judge productivity by some form of index. In the construction industry, manhours per unit produced is popularly used as a productivity index [2].