

CHUKA



UNIVERSITY

UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS

EXAMINATION FOR AWARD OF MASTERS IN AGRIBUSINESS MANAGEMENT

AGBM 821: AGRICULTURAL PROJECT MANAGEMENT

STREAMS: AGBM

TIME: 3 HOURS

DAY/DATE: WEDNESDAY 16/04/2025

8.30 A.M. – 11.30 A.M.

INSTRUCTIONS: ANSWER ANY THREE QUESTIONS

QUESTION ONE (20 MARKS)

- a) Tharaka Nithi County, located in the eastern region of Kenya, has a largely agricultural economy, but many smallholder farmers face challenges in accessing quality seeds. The lack of access to certified seeds results in low crop yields, threatening food security in the region. To address this, a student has been tasked with constructing a project plan for a small-scale seed distribution initiative aimed at improving access to high-quality seeds for smallholder farmers. The project will be funded by a local NGO that supports sustainable agriculture. The budget for the project is \$10,000, and the project is expected to last six months, including planning, execution, and monitoring. To address this, a student is tasked to constructing a project plan for a small-scale seed distribution initiative aimed at improving access to high-quality seeds for smallholder farmers. (8 marks)
- b) Expound on four reasons that create a rush to meet project deadlines (4 marks)
- c) Explain four main roles of the calendar of activities in a project (4 marks)
- d) Prepare a budget for the above project (4 marks)

QUESTION TWO (20 MARKS)

- a) Over the years since independence, Kenya's rural development projects strategy has changed from top down to bottom up approach. In your view explain three strengths of bottom-up approach (6 marks)
- b) Explain the importance of stipulating the major milestones and target dates for a project (5 marks)
- c) Elucidate five inputs necessary for a project to be successful (5 marks)
- d) Explain four main approaches used in monitoring and evaluation of projects (4 marks)

QUESTION THREE (20 MARKS)

- a) A rural community in an underdeveloped region relies primarily on external sources for its food supply. Due to rising costs and inconsistent food availability, the community has decided to create a large vegetable garden to promote food security, enhance nutrition, and provide a sustainable local food source. The garden will be a collaborative project involving community members, local NGOs, and an agricultural consultant. The project is expected to be completed in six months, with a budget of \$20,000. The goal of the project is to establish a community-managed vegetable garden that grows a variety of crops such as tomatoes, spinach, carrots, and potatoes, using sustainable agricultural practices. The garden will serve as a primary source of vegetables for the community and provide an opportunity for locals to learn modern farming techniques.
- i) Discuss five needs for this agricultural project (5 marks)
 - ii) Explain four key components analysis for project planning and management which determines whether a project is viable and identifying potential challenges (4 marks)
 - iii) Construct 8 activity critical path analysis (CPM) diagram for the community project and identify the critical tasks (11 marks)

QUESTION FOUR (20 MARKS)

- a) Explain four basic premises for project monitoring and evaluation (4 marks)
 - b) Elucidate five inputs necessary for a project to be successful (5 marks)
 - c) Explain the advantages and disadvantages of using Gantt chart as an element of planning in projects (6 marks)
 - d) Compare between payback period analysis and average rate of return in projects and give a conclusion (5 marks)
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