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# Funding from the Gauteng department of social development: the experiences of project managers at non-profit organisations (NPOs) in Soweto

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## The Abstract

Non-profit organisations (NPOs) play a vital role in contributing to social development in South Africa, however, funding to develop and implement projects appears to be challenging. The primary purpose of the study was to explore the experiences of project managers at non-Profit Organisations in Soweto about the funding from the Gauteng Department of Social Development (GDSD)**.** The study adopted the qualitative research approach and a multiple case study design. The study was undertaken amongst 15 NPO Project Managers from NPOs located Johannesburg South Region (Soweto) and two key informants from the Gauteng Department of Social Development. For the purpose of this study, the researcher used purposive sampling technique to select the research participants. Two different interview guides comprising of open ended questions were utilised as research instruments. Semi structured interviews were used as the method of data collection. Thematic analysis was used to analyse the data. The main findings of the study, were that Non-Profit Organisations from Soweto had challenges in accessing funding from the Gauteng Department of Social Development and such findings included delays in payments of subsidies in the beginning of every financial year, inadequate funding that does not cater for all their programmes as the funding criteria are not working in favour for the NPOs. It is hoped that these findings will create a platform for the Gauteng Department of Social Development and Non-Profit Organisations to work together in re-assessing funding policies in respect of NPOs in Gauteng and their contribution to efforts of Social Development at large.



**Keywords:** Non-Profit organisations, funding, experience, challenges, project managers, Gauteng Department of Social Development.