

**TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER TO LOCAL
PROFESIONALS THROUGH UMA OYA PROJECT
A CASE STUDY**

P.L.N Puranegedara

(138975 H)

Degree of Master of Science

Department of Civil Engineering

University of Moratuwa

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DECLARATION

I declare that this is my own work and this dissertation does not incorporate without acknowledgement any material previously submitted for a degree or diploma in any other University or institute of higher learning and to the best of my knowledge and belief it does not contain any material previously published or written by another person except where the acknowledgement is made in the text.

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The above candidate has carried out research for the Masters Dissertation under my supervision.

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DEDICATED TO

MY BELOVED PARENTS AND TEACHERS

FOR THEIR GUIDENCE,

SUPPORT AND ENCOURAGEMENT

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ABSTRACT

Economic growth of a country is linked with the construction industry. Advancement of construction industry is depend on the degree of transformation of technology in to the field. Therefore it is important to understand deeply the best practices in Technology Transfer (TT) by examining significant areas of enablers and hallmarks. During the past few decades, number of major projects were completed by foreign contractors linking with domestic contractors in various approaches such as joint ventures, partnerships and sub contracts, as well at present large number of foreign firms are involved in major construction projects in the country. Engineering Procurement and Construction (EPC) contract of Uma Oya Multipurpose Development Project (UOMDP) is awarded to FARAB. Though FARAB use new technology, there is a doubt whether appropriate TT benefits will acquire through this contract? Therefore this research was carried out with the objectives of identifying barriers exist in technology transfer to local construction industry through the foreign contract and proposing of strategies to enhance the level of technology transfer to local construction industry from foreign contractors working in Sri Lankan projects. Scope of this research is limited to level of TT to local professionals directly engaged in project activities. Hence carried out interviews with twenty six numbers of senior, middle and junior level professionals working in the project. Collected data was analyzed by Suitability, Acceptability, Feasibility (SAF) model and recommendations were summarized. As a result of deep study through the case, lack of joint venturing (JV), lack of involvement of junior engineers and insufficient involvement of higher educational institutes are within the finding mentioned in the conclusion. Increase of involvement of local contractors through JVs, giving priority to TT clauses in the formation of EPC contracts, opening of TT offices in the Universities and improvements of skill level of non-professional groups are within the recommendations. Further, responsible institutions such as Ceylon Electricity Board, Mahaweli Authority and Irrigation Department should increase the participation of their professionals covering top to bottom levels of their organizations.

Key words: Technology Transfer, Construction industry, Tunnel Boring Machine

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

Abbreviation	Description
EPC	Engineering, Procurement and Construction
TBM	Tunnel Boring Machine
TT	Transfer of Technology
UOMDP	Uma Oya Multipurpose Development Project
SAF	Suitability Acceptability Feasibility

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