

**A STUDY ON THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE IRQUE PROJECT  
ON THE QUALITY OF THE UNDERGRADUATES OF THE  
EASTERN UNIVERSITY, SRI LANKA**

*Special Reference to Institutional Block Grant I of the IRQUE Project*

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## ABSTRACT

In the today's globally competitive environment Sri Lanka needs a new generation of its own educated young people to better contribute to its economic development and social well-being. The project on Improving Relevance and Quality of Undergraduate Education or IRQUE, has recognized the potential of our youth to lead the country towards the reliable goal. In order to fulfill this need of the country its youth have to be well equipped with knowledge and skills necessary to face today's global competition. Under the IRQUE project, all universities in Sri Lanka are encouraged to ensure quality and relevance to all their undergraduate courses.

The project envisages improving the relevance of the undergraduate education by enhancing the institutional capacity through resource development and supporting programmes for addressing quality issues related to the improving the Information Technology (IT), enhancing Student Learning Environment, and English Language skills of students and promoting Social and Intercultural Harmony.

This study empirically investigated the main four variables of the IBG I of the IRQUE project (Improvement of Information Technology, English Language Competency, Students Learning Environment, Social Harmony among the students) that could influence the improvement of the quality of the undergraduate of the Eastern University, Sri Lanka.

The study was conducted among the sample of 200 students who were randomly selected from the all four faculties from main Campus of EUSL. Of which only 172 students responded to the survey. Data were collected through questionnaires and analyzed using the software SPSS version 11.0. The data analysis included the univariate analysis. The frequency distribution analysis was done for all variables.

The results of the analysis indicated that all the variables significantly contributed for improving the relevance and quality of the undergraduates of EUSL. Finally it was concluded that the IRQUE project implemented successfully at the Eastern University, Sri Lanka had contributed considerably on the quality of the undergraduates of the EUSL.

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