

Financing Secondary Education in Kenya: Exploring Strategic Management Approach for Improving Quality of Education

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Abstract

The aim of this paper is to explore the influence of strategic planning in improving the quality of education. The quality of education is directly linked to the effort expended in making arrangements or preparations of educational objectives and determining the requisite resources to facilitate the training, instruction or study that leads to the acquisition of skills or knowledge. Education at secondary sector is of particular importance because it seeks to augment the general intellectual skills acquired at primary level, which are also relevant to any productive occupation including subsequent education. In Kenya, the Decentralized Education Management Activity initiated by the Ministry of Education in 2012 in partnership with USAID embarked on capacity development among education managers at the district and school level to enable them prepare and implement strategic plans. This notwithstanding, education at secondary level continues to experience unique challenges which are more often attributed to deficiencies in planning. Lack of emphasis on careful planning and implementation of plans could have implications for institutions in the current competitive environment. This paper is based on literature search on educational administrators' perceptions of strategic plans, formulation, implementation and their effects on the quality of education. From literature, the vital role of strategic planning in enhancing quality of education is underscored; evidently, some schools have strategic plans in spite of the constraints in their formulation. Strategic planning is viewed as a tool that enables stakeholders to increasingly contribute to the school's strategic objectives which result in long-term sustainability and improvement in quality of education.

Keywords: Strategic Planning, Secondary Education, Quality, Efficiency, Stakeholders Involvement and Sustainable Development