

**STRATEGIC PLANNING AND EDUCATION SECTOR PERFORMANCE IN RWANDA  
A CASE OF RWANDA MINISTRY OF EDUCATION 2008-2012**

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**ABSTRACT**

Strategic planning serves a variety of purposes in a system/organization. It clearly defines the purpose of the system, organization or a sector. It sets realistic goals and strategic and consistent objectives with that mission in a defined time frame within the sector/ system capacity for implementation. Education sector performance depends on strategic planning. Having clear Vision, mission, goal and objectives is the basis to perform the system management. The major objective of this study is to analyze the effect of strategic planning on education sector performance in Rwanda during the period extended 2008-2012. The researcher has used descriptive and analytical methodology with a structured questionnaire for 81 sample respondents who are homogenous and purposively selected. To simplify interpretation of the research findings, statistical tables have been used. Findings confirm the significant relationship between strategic planning and education sector performance. Education sector strategic planning influences the achievements of the sector. It contributes to fill the gap and challenges that faced by the education sector as well as its long term development. Major effects of strategic planning are mainly in way of making adequate decisions, prioritization, effective coordination and improvement in management, optimum use of resources, quick development and objectives achievement. Findings recommend that education sector leadership to embrace effective strategic planning together with implementation strategies, resources, monitoring and evaluation as well as provision of competitive planners.