

**STRATEGIC SYNERGIES EMPLOYED BY SCHOOL MANAGERS DURING
UTILIZATION OF ECONOMIC RESOURCES IN SECONDARY SCHOOLS IN
KIRINYAGA CENTRAL DISTRICT, KENYA**

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ABSTRACT

There is a measurable disagreement during utilization of economic resources. At times, there are claims and even misunderstandings between the providers and school managers on how resources

are utilized. Proposed study aimed to evaluate the strategic synergies employed by school managers during economic resources utilization in secondary school. Objectives of the study were: to examine extent to which synergized strategies enhance consolidation and to analyze manner in which strategic synergies coordinate utilization of resources. The proposed study was guided by the cost benefit theory of economics and adopted descriptive survey design. The study locale was Kirinyaga Central District. The study population comprised of 600 respondents:- 30 principals, 30 Deputy principals, 390 BOM members, and 150 HODs from 30 public secondary school. Using stratified random sampling a sample of 10 schools were selected. Simple random sampling was used to select 2 county secondary schools, 2 district schools and 6 district day schools. The study used a sample of 130 respondents comprised of 10 principals, 10 deputy principals, 50 HODs, 60 BOM members. Data was collected using interview schedules for principals and deputy principals, focused group discussions were for BOM members. Questionnaires were for the HODs. Research instruments validity was assessed by experts and the supervisor while reliability was ascertained by test-retest technique. Quantitative data collected was analyzed using descriptive statistics of graphs, percentages, frequency tables while qualitative data analyzes was done thematically. Hypotheses were tested using correlation co-efficient to test the relationships between independent and dependent variables.. The respondents were asked to indicate whether the different and similar strategies are blended or few are applied. Based on the research findings, it was found that 56% of the respondents said that the strategies are blended while 44% indicated that just a few strategies were applied in the utilization of economic resources. The different strategies according to the respondents are understood by all the stakeholders in order to ensure proper utilization of economic resources. It was concluded harmonization is employed to a large extent as indicated by 58% of the respondents. It was established that harmonization in the utilization of resources was employed to a moderate extent as supported by 22% of the respondents. Notably, 20% of the respondents indicated that harmonization in the utilization of economic resources was employed to a small extent by schools management. The study recommended that education planners and Managers need to strengthen school monitoring and evaluation mechanism so as to improve access and stakeholder participation in in realizing strategic synergies in resource utilization. An urgent need for an inter- sectoral budget restructuring to release more resources for education was established, this will go a long way in meeting both students and teachers requirement for effective service delivery in improving the school system efficiency, goals and objectives.