

ANALYSIS OF STAKEHOLDERS' PARTICIPATION IN THE IMPLEMENTATION
OF STRATEGIC PLANS IN PRIMARY SCHOOLS IN MUTOMO DISTRICT, KITUI
COUNTY, KENYA

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ABSTRACT

The aim of this study was to investigate the stakeholders' level of participation in the implementation of strategic plans in primary schools in Mutomo District, Kitui County, Kenya. This study was guided by the following objectives; to determine the extent of participation of parents in the implementation of strategic plans in primary schools in Mutomo District, To determine the extent of participation of teachers in the implementation of strategic plans in primary schools in Mutomo District, To determine the extent of participation of head teachers in the implementation of strategic plans in primary schools in Mutomo District and to suggest possible ways of improving stakeholders participation in implementing strategic plans in primary schools in Mutomo District. This study employed a descriptive research design. The target population comprised of, 25 Head Teachers, 25 Teachers and 25 PTA Members. The total target population comprised of 75 respondents. The researcher used purposive sampling to select head teachers and PTA Members and simple random sampling to select teachers. The sample size was 30 respondents comprising of 10 Head Teacher, 10 teachers and 10 PTA members. The main research instruments for this study were questionnaires for Head Teacher, teachers and interview schedules for PTA members. The researcher conducted a pilot study from 2 Head Teacher, 2 PTA Members and 2 teachers from 2 public primary schools that will not be included in the study. A research permit was obtained from the Ministry of Education (MoE) after research approval by the university. Data was coded and analysed using SPSS and Ms Excel and presented using pie charts, tables and bar graphs to illustrate the research findings. The study established that head teachers made an effort of including all the stakeholders in the implementation of strategic plans, to ensure that everyone's interests are met. It emerged from the study that the schools had effective leadership, which had a positive effect on strategic planning in schools. Effective leadership in strategic planning plays the role of making plans for the future, providing better awareness of needs and of the facilities related issues and environment, defining the overall mission of the organization and focuses on the objectives, providing a sense of direction, continuity, and effective staffing and leadership. The study recommends that school administrators should sensitize BoM members, P.T.A members, teachers, local leaders and community members on the importance of strategic plans and mobilize their support in preparation and implementation of strategic plans; the Government should also ensure that school funds are released on time and that strategic plans are considered when determining the amount of money to be disbursed to each school. This could be done by making strategic planning mandatory as a condition for government funding. It could also be done by monitoring and evaluating schools' progress.