

**Topic: *Financing of Church-Founded Secondary Schools in Uganda and its Implications to their Educational Effectiveness: A case of Kampala, Mukono and Namirembe Dioceses***

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**ABSTRACT**

The study examined the financing of church-founded secondary schools in Uganda and its implications to their educational effectiveness using Kampala, Mukono and Namirembe dioceses as case studies. The study answered questions on: the sources of income for the church-founded secondary schools in Uganda, the financial resource allocation modalities in church-founded secondary schools, the possible alternative financing mechanisms that can be adopted by church-founded secondary schools and how the funding policies/mechanisms affect the Uganda church founded schools' effectiveness? The study was underpinned by Von Bertalanffy in (1959) & Armstrong, (2009) systems theory. The systems theory was complimented by Rutter's (1979) school effectiveness model and the implied human capital theory. Rutter's (1979) school effectiveness model provides parameters that can be used to measure the school effectiveness namely: the quality/nature of; school facilities and equipment's, implicit and explicit financial support, qualified teaching and non-teaching staff, school leadership, classroom/school climate, the percentage of funds allocation to learning activities and experiences/instruction. The study adopted a cross-sectional survey design which enabled the utilisation of both quantitative and qualitative research approaches. The study population and sample was drawn from the secondary school stakeholders in the three denominational ecclesiastical provinces of Kampala, Namirembe and Mukono dioceses. The specific study sample was selected using simple random and purposive sampling techniques. The study used the self-administered questionnaires, interview guides, focus group discussion guides and observation checklist to gather the sought data. The study made the following revelations and conclusions: It was revealed that the key sources of income for most church-founded secondary schools in Kampala, Mukono and Namirembe dioceses includes: government subvention funds, students' tuition and donations from church skewered donors. It was also revealed that most of the income of the church founded schools (financial resource allocation modalities) include: staff salaries, welfare and remuneration. It also includes: tithe, government taxes, purchase of scholastic materials such as chalk, as well as financing of the school recurrent /running costs. It was also revealed that there are many potential alternative sources of income for the study schools: these among others could include: sell of agriculture produce since many of these schools are sited on large pieces of land. The funding models in most of the church founded schools has been enabling them to effectively carry out their mandates of providing quality academic services and as evangelisation ground for the respective denominational bodies. The study recommends that whereas there is evidence of past stable sources of income enjoyed by church founded schools, there is an imperative for their respective leadership to become more innovative/creative given the occurrence of educational shocks such as Covid-19 lock down when almost all possible conventional sources of income waned. There is also a need to come up with a model which accommodates saving and purchase of treasury bills which could be sold and the proceeds used in times of adversity.

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