

Managing Resources, Securing the Future

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Introduction

Resource management refers to the systematic planning, organizing, directing, and controlling of various resources such as human, financial, material, technological, time, and natural resources to achieve organizational goals efficiently and effectively. Since resources are limited and wants are unlimited, their proper management is essential for growth, sustainability, and competitiveness. As life gradually grew more complex, the methods used became more refined. In our own pioneer groups, methods used to control his environment were simple and direct. In modern technology, we must depend on reasoned ways of accomplishing results. Fixed rules and traditional ways of doing things are less applicable. So, man is forced to make a choice of the means to obtain what he wants to reach his end. Management, a valuable aid to the improvement of life, is a means of achieving goals. The interrelated activities of the management process include planning, organizing, implementing, and evaluating the results.

Importance of Resource Management

Management is a means of adjusting to change and also results in change. Home management paves way for a better growth of the family members. Life has become very complex because man has increased tools and has changed the tactics of living. Resource management is the process of using a one's resources in the most efficient way possible. These resources can include tangible resources such as goods and equipment, financial resources, and labour resources such as employees. Resource management can include ideas such as making sure one has enough physical resources for one's business, but not an overabundance so that products won't get used or making sure that people are assigned to tasks that will keep them busy and not have too much downtime.

Resources are inputs in the process of management. Human, environmental, and economic resources are stored in an available bank of readiness to be selected and utilized in various combinations through the management process. Information and creative thought increase the power of resource inputs in gratification of goals and the creation of desirable quality of living.

The purpose of management is to control change. Change is the result of the management process. Change is

directly related to quality of living. If the quality of life produced is satisfactory, new goals may be established and the process of management begun again. If the changes produce dissatisfaction with quality of living, the situation can be re-evaluated, alternate goals and resources selected, and action redirected through the appropriate management sub-systems. Management occurs on many levels, some more effective than others. It also depends on the quality of planning, organizing, implementing, and evaluating that transfers resources into services for other family members. These may be thought of as either goods or services that are produced or consumed by family members in the course of everyday living. It is, therefore, crucial to the potential quality of life in this nation and the world that education and effort be directed toward improving the quality of individual and family management.

The purpose of Family Resource Management

- To use available resources efficiently in order to achieve goals. To improve the quality of family life.
- To enable family members to achieve their full potential

Nature of Home Management: For a person or a family, management is planned activity directed toward the nurturing of values and the satisfying of wants. It makes use of the findings of science and of knowledge concerning all aspects of family life—economic, social, psychological, physical, spiritual, and techno-logical. It applies this knowledge in using the family's resources to meet living situations. Home management is the administrative side of family living. It is the dynamic force that puts the machinery of homemaking. It involves decision-making that leads to action. It makes use of findings of science and knowledge. It applies to solve problems, and to help resolve conflicts.

Nature and Role of the Management Process: It involves the weighing of values and the making of decisions. Management is a planned activity directed towards accomplishing desired ends. Everyone learns to manage, the resources at his disposal. All manage in some degree of competence.

Interrelatedness of the management functions: In the management model, the four sub-systems are planning, organizing, implementing, and evaluating. One of the management functions cannot operate without interacting

with the other which affects the effectiveness. Hence, the effectiveness of each management process is dependent upon the quality and appropriateness of the other functions in terms of the desired change.

Habits and management: Habits can be resources for management. A manager does not need to consider how to perform routine tasks. If habits are not serving their original purposes; then habits may need to be evaluated.

Quality of management: The quality of management in the home is recognized by the presence of mismanagement. Whenever action is planned and controlled, management occurs. Observations from working with many families show some of the reasons.

- Family goals may be so weak that they fail to motivate careful use of resources.
- Family members may not completely understand the meaning of management.
- Family members simply may be unaware of all available resources, especially the human resources.
- People are inclined to seek formulas to use resources they know about.
- People may not realize the need to evaluate their experiences and the results of their activities.
- The inability to distinguish “essentials” from “niceties” be a basic problem.

Significance of resource management

1. Optimum utilization of resources it ensures that resources are used to their fullest potential without waste or underutilization. Proper allocation avoids idle capacity and improves overall efficiency. According to Koontz and Weihrich, management is the art of getting things done through people and other resources effectively.
2. Cost control and economic efficiency: effective resource planning reduces unnecessary expenditure and operational costs. By managing materials, manpower, and finances efficiently, organizations can maximize returns with minimum investment.
3. Achievement of organizational objectives: well-managed resources are aligned with organizational goals, enabling timely completion of tasks and projects. This ensures better performance and goal accomplishment.
4. Improved productivity and performance: efficient use of human and material resources leads to higher productivity, better quality output, and improved employee performance.
5. Better planning and decision-making: accurate information about available resources helps managers plan, forecast, and make informed decisions. Resource

management provides a strong foundation for strategic and operational planning.

6. Risk reduction and stability: proper management helps identify future shortages and uncertainties, reducing risks related to delays, cost overruns, and conflicts.
7. Sustainability and long-term growth resource management promotes conservation and sustainable use of natural and organizational resources, ensuring long-term survival and environmental responsibility.

Scope of resource management

1. Human resource management this includes manpower planning, recruitment, selection, training, development, motivation, and performance appraisal. Human resources are considered the most valuable asset of an organization.
2. Financial resource management involves budgeting, financial planning, cost control, fund allocation, and investment decisions. Efficient financial management ensures liquidity and profitability.
3. Material resource management covers procurement, inventory control, storage, transportation, and distribution of materials. Proper material management avoids shortages and excess stock.
4. Time management is a critical resource. Effective scheduling, prioritization, and monitoring ensure timely completion of activities and projects.
5. Technological resource management includes planning, acquisition, utilization, and maintenance of machinery, tools, equipment, and information systems to enhance productivity and innovation.
6. Natural resource management focuses on the sustainable use of land, water, energy, and environmental resources to support development without harming future generations.
7. Information resource management involves collection, storage, processing, and use of data and information systems to support decision-making and organizational efficiency.

Conclusion

Resource management plays a vital role in improving efficiency, productivity, and sustainability in organizations. Its wide scope covers all essential resources required to achieve objectives effectively and to ensure long-term growth and competitiveness. Management in family living is effective to the degree that it results in the accomplishment of work which must be carried forward in the home, makes possible better use of money and abilities, releases time and energy from work to allow time for recreational activities, improves the choice and use made of goods, influences the establishment of reasonable standards, and integrates human

values into living as changed conditions affect family life. Such management is helpful and satisfying to individuals and to the group

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