

## ABSTRACT

In today's world, Information systems (IS) are essential in enhancing organizations competitiveness and it is universally agreeable that IS has significant effects on how firms handle their internal and external processes they encounter daily and making future decisions. Most researchers in adoption of Information Systems (IS) by users in an organization have used divergent approaches concentrating on individual, organization and technological factors that influence or hinder levels of adoption so as to guarantee successful use of implemented IS. This study focused on success factors for virtual server adoption related to; environmental, technological, organizational and human factors. These are some of the factors from identified literature review that were noted in a global context to influence server virtualization adoption process. The main objective of the study was to investigate the success factors affecting the adoption of server virtualization technology by firms listed in the Nairobi Securities Exchange (NSE). The study used a correlational research design targeting the staff in the Information Technology (IT) and Operations departments of listed firms on the NSE. The target population was made up of 120 persons, and the study used a census method. The research used questionnaires to collect primary data. The collected data was sorted, coded using the statistical package for social sciences (SPSS) version 21.0 for production of graphs, tables, descriptive statistics and inferential statistics. The study used a positivist research philosophy, since the researcher used structured questionnaire to collect quantitative data that was analysed quantitatively. Correlation analysis revealed the four research factors had a positive and significant association with server virtualization adoption (SVA). The study established that the environmental factors are positively and significantly correlated with Server Virtualization adoption. ( $r=0.119$ ,  $p=0.012$ ), technological factors and server virtualization adoption are positively and significantly related ( $r=0.368$ ,  $p=0.000$ ). The study revealed further that organizational and server virtualization adoption are positively and significantly related ( $r=0.245$ ,  $p=0.001$ ), and that human factors and server virtualization adoption are positively and significantly related ( $r=0.121$ ,  $p=0.000$ ). The study recommends that organizations should develop proper infrastructure to match the constantly evolving virtualized environment that runs their servers; that organizations running virtual servers should invest in continuous training and skills development in order to have highly skilled personnel; that organizations create sustainable backups for their VM file systems. The study adds to body of knowledge by outlining the success factors that firms should use to improve the success rate of their server virtualization adoption efforts.