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EFFECTIVE USE OF FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT METHODS IN COMPANIES

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ABSTRACT

This article examines the effective use of financial management methods in companies as a vital driver of sustainable growth, profitability, and organizational resilience. In an increasingly complex and competitive economic environment, companies must adopt integrated financial strategies that support both short-term performance and long-term value creation. The study highlights key financial management methods, including budgeting and forecasting, cost control, capital budgeting, working capital optimization, and financial risk assessment. Emphasis is placed on the role of data analytics, digital technologies, and performance-based evaluation systems in enhancing financial decision-making and accountability. The research incorporates comparative analysis of industry practices and empirical evidence from companies operating in both developed and emerging markets. Findings indicate that companies which systematically apply modern financial management tools achieve better financial stability, improved resource allocation, and stronger investor confidence. The article concludes by proposing a comprehensive framework for the strategic and adaptive application of financial management methods to increase overall corporate efficiency and competitiveness.

KEYWORDS

Joint-stock companies; financial management methods; corporate finance; available funds; capital budgeting; stock market; financial assets; shareholder value: budgeting and forecasting; cost control; market financial capitalization; decision-making; securities market; liquidity management; return on investment (ROI); internal controls; digital financial tools: market quotes; financial sustainability; international finance market.

Introduction

In the current era of intensified global competition, financial stability, and rapid technological change, the effective use of financial management methods has become a cornerstone of corporate success. Financial management is not merely a supporting function but a strategic element that directly influences a company's profitability, investment capacity, and long-term sustainability. Effective financial management is critical for companies seeking to ensure liquidity, optimize capital structure,

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and achieve long-term growth. By applying advanced financial planning techniques, firms can balance short-term obligations with strategic investment goals. Tools such as cash flow forecasting, scenario analysis, and capital budgeting allow managers to make informed decisions that minimize risk while maximizing returns. Integrating financial performance metrics into organizational strategy strengthens accountability and enhances corporate agility. "Financial management methods are not merely accounting instruments—they are strategic levers that influence every layer of organizational decision-making,"[1] states the IMF's 2022 financial systems report. Companies today must employ a range of modern financial tools and methodologies to optimize capital structure, manage risks, increase operational efficiency, and enhance shareholder value. These methods include budgeting, forecasting, cost-benefit analysis, financial modeling, and performance evaluation systems, which collectively provide the basis for sound financial decision-making.

The increasing complexity of business environments, along with heightened expectations from investors, creditors, and regulatory institutions, necessitates a more analytical and proactive approach to financial management. The World Bank underscores the role of integrated financial management systems (IFMS) in improving transparency, cost-efficiency, and reporting accuracy. These systems provide real-time visibility into revenues, expenditures, and debt obligations, helping companies reduce inefficiencies and fraud. The deployment of digital financial dashboards and automated reporting mechanisms also enables faster and more evidence-based responses to market changes. When combined with robust internal controls, such tools support fiscal discipline and stakeholder confidence. "The integration of financial technologies into corporate management enhances efficiency and improves decision-making integrity,"[2] the World Bank emphasized in its 2023 publication. Moreover, the ability to effectively manage financial resources plays a critical role in a company's capacity to innovate, expand into new markets, and withstand economic volatility.

This article explores the theoretical foundations and practical applications of advanced financial management methods, highlighting how their systematic use contributes to improved financial discipline, transparency, and corporate governance. According to research by the OECD, the effective use of debt and equity instruments directly affects a company's valuation and investment attractiveness. Strategic decisions regarding leverage ratios, dividend policies, and reinvestment priorities shape the firm's risk-return profile. Sound financial governance ensures that capital is allocated to high-yield projects, while maintaining flexibility to absorb external shocks. These methods also reinforce investor trust, especially in joint-stock companies operating in volatile economic environments. "Capital structuring decisions are central to financial management, influencing both operational resilience and investor sentiment,"[3] notes the OECD's 2021 financial governance report. Special attention is given to comparative practices in developed and emerging economies, showcasing successful case studies and drawing lessons for companies aiming to strengthen their financial performance in a rapidly changing economic landscape.

Effective financial management is a cornerstone of sustainable corporate growth, particularly in emerging markets where volatility and resource constraints often challenge strategic execution. To address these complexities, institutions such as the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the International Finance Corporation (IFC) have conducted in-depth empirical research on advanced financial management tools and the capabilities required to implement them. Empirical studies by the Asian Development Bank show that financial management techniques such as value-based budgeting and economic value added (EVA) help firms align performance incentives with shareholder interests.

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These approaches focus on creating long-term value rather than short-term profits and are often supported by performance-linked compensation schemes. When financial strategies are clearly communicated across departments, they foster a culture of fiscal responsibility and continuous improvement. This, in turn, boosts organizational efficiency and competitiveness. "Value-based financial management strengthens long-term alignment between corporate strategy and shareholder value," [4] stated the ADB in its 2022 analysis.

Furthermore, the International Finance Corporation (IFC) highlights the importance of capacity building in financial departments to ensure effective implementation of financial methods. Trained personnel can better interpret financial data, conduct accurate risk assessments, and ensure regulatory compliance. Companies that invest in financial literacy and internal training programs are more likely to implement adaptive and responsive financial strategies. This capability is especially vital in complex markets with high levels of uncertainty. "Human capital is the foundation of effective financial management; without skilled professionals, even the best systems will underperform," [5] asserts the IFC's 2021 strategic finance study. In conclusion, the integration of value-based financial tools and strategic human capital development offers a dual pathway to enhance both operational resilience and investor confidence. As financial environments continue to evolve, organizations that institutionalize these best practices will be better positioned to drive sustainable growth and long-term value creation.

THE RELEVANCE OF THE RESEARCH SUBJECT

In many companies, especially in developing economies, ineffective financial management practices have led to issues such as suboptimal capital allocation, excessive operating costs, and weak financial discipline, ultimately reducing business sustainability and shareholder confidence. A lack of strategic planning in budgeting, forecasting, and investment decision-making often results in misaligned financial priorities and poor resource utilization. Moreover, insufficient integration of financial risk management tools, inadequate internal control systems, and a weak corporate finance culture hinder companies from responding flexibly to market changes and financial shocks. In this context, the effective use of modern financial management methods—such as value-based management, financial modeling, performance-based budgeting, and cost-benefit analysis—becomes a critical factor in ensuring profitability, liquidity, and solvency. Applying international best practices in financial planning and control not only strengthens financial transparency but also enhances decision-making at all levels of management. Therefore, a comprehensive study of the financial management methods used in companies, their effectiveness, and conditions for successful implementation is necessary to increase financial resilience and strategic competitiveness in the modern economy.

THE PROBLEM OF THE RESEARCH

Extensive research has been conducted on the importance of financial management methods in enhancing the performance and stability of companies. These studies largely focus on the theoretical foundations and classification of financial tools such as budgeting, forecasting, investment appraisal, and risk management. They highlight the critical role these methods play in optimizing resource allocation and maximizing shareholder value. However, there remains a significant gap in understanding the effective practical application of these financial management methods within companies operating in diverse economic contexts. Many firms struggle with adapting standardized financial techniques to their unique operational environments, which often results in suboptimal

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decision-making, inefficient capital utilization, and weak financial control. Additionally, the integration of modern technologies such as financial analytics and digital management platforms into traditional financial practices is still insufficiently explored. Current research inadequately addresses the challenges companies face in implementing comprehensive financial management frameworks that align with their strategic goals and market conditions. Consequently, the need arises for focused research on how companies can effectively utilize financial management methods to enhance financial discipline, improve operational efficiency, and ensure sustainable growth.

THE PURPOSE OF THE RESEARCH

In the contemporary business environment, the effective use of financial management methods has become indispensable for companies striving to maintain competitive advantage and achieve sustainable growth. Employing a combination of quantitative techniques such as budgeting, forecasting, and financial analysis, alongside qualitative approaches like strategic planning and risk management, enables companies to make informed decisions and optimize their financial resources. Failure to effectively integrate these methods can result in suboptimal capital allocation, increased financial risk, and diminished overall performance.

The purpose of this study is to analyze and develop scientific recommendations on the effective application of financial management methods in companies. By evaluating current practices and innovations in financial management, the research aims to identify the most impactful tools and strategies that drive operational efficiency and financial stability. Ultimately, this study underscores the critical importance of systematically applying robust financial management methods to enhance decision-making processes, improve resource utilization, and support long-term organizational success.

THE SCIENTIFIC ESSENCE OF THE RESEARCH. The effective use of financial management methods in companies is a critical factor that determines the sustainability, growth, and competitive advantage of firms in dynamic economic environments. Financial management encompasses the planning, organizing, directing, and controlling of financial activities, such as procurement and utilization of funds, aimed at maximizing shareholder value and ensuring optimal resource allocation[6].

One of the fundamental principles of financial management is capital budgeting, which involves evaluating investment opportunities through methods such as Net Present Value (NPV), Internal Rate of Return (IRR), and Payback Period analysis [7]. These tools allow companies to select projects that maximize returns and align with strategic goals. Moreover, companies must adopt robust working capital management practices, which ensure sufficient liquidity for daily operations while minimizing costs related to holding excessive inventory or receivables [8].

Risk management is another essential dimension of financial management, whereby firms identify, assess, and mitigate financial risks through hedging, diversification, and insurance mechanisms [9]. Efficient risk management safeguards companies against market volatility and financial distress, thereby stabilizing cash flows and protecting shareholder interests.

Furthermore, companies benefit from the strategic use of financial leverage, balancing debt and equity to optimize the cost of capital and increase returns on equity without exposing the firm to excessive

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financial risk [10]. However, an overreliance on debt can increase bankruptcy risk, emphasizing the importance of prudent capital structure decisions.

Advancements in financial technology (FinTech) have also enhanced the effectiveness of financial management by automating financial processes, improving real-time financial analysis, and enabling data-driven decision-making[11]. Companies that integrate innovative financial management software can increase accuracy, reduce errors, and respond quickly to changing market conditions.

Lastly, sound corporate governance practices reinforce effective financial management by ensuring transparency, accountability, and alignment of management incentives with shareholder value creation [12, 13, 14, 15]. This creates an environment where financial decisions are made in the best interest of all stakeholders, contributing to sustainable company growth.

The integration of comprehensive financial management methods—spanning capital budgeting, working capital optimization, risk management, capital structure decisions, technological adoption, and corporate governance—is pivotal for companies aiming to maximize efficiency, profitability, and long-term viability in competitive markets.

RESEARCH METHODS

Scientifically, there are several research methods in the article while analyzing the effective use of financial management methods in companies. It can be seen that induction, deduction, comparative analysis, trend analysis, abstract, and other methods are used in the research. The inductive method helps to identify general patterns in financial decision-making based on specific company practices, while the deductive method is used to verify these patterns against theoretical models. Comparative analysis allows the assessment of different financial strategies applied in various companies and sectors. Trend analysis helps to reveal changes in financial efficiency and resource utilization over time. Abstract methods are used to generalize and structure complex financial management processes. These methods collectively support a comprehensive and systematic approach to evaluating financial management practices in corporate environments.

ANALYSIS AND RESULTS

In the context of increasing globalization, volatile financial markets, and stricter fiscal regulation, companies must not only employ but effectively utilize advanced financial management methods to remain competitive and financially sustainable. Properly implemented, these methods serve as tools for optimal resource allocation, risk mitigation, and strategic decision-making.

This section analyzes the efficacy of various financial management techniques across firms of different sizes and sectors, highlighting best practices and quantifying their impact on financial performance.

Effective financial management involves the systematic application of financial tools and techniques to achieve the following goals:

Maximize shareholder value

Ensure liquidity and solvency

Improve capital structure and minimize cost of capital

Enhance financial planning and control systems

Methods such as budgetary control, financial ratio analysis, capital budgeting (NPV, IRR), working capital optimization, cost-volume-profit (CVP) analysis, and sensitivity analysis form the core toolkit for financial managers.

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An empirical survey was conducted on 120 companies from the manufacturing, retail, services, and IT sectors. Respondents were categorized based on the level of use of financial management methods:

Group A: Systematic and integrated use of methods

Group B: Occasional or partial use

Group C: Minimal or no use

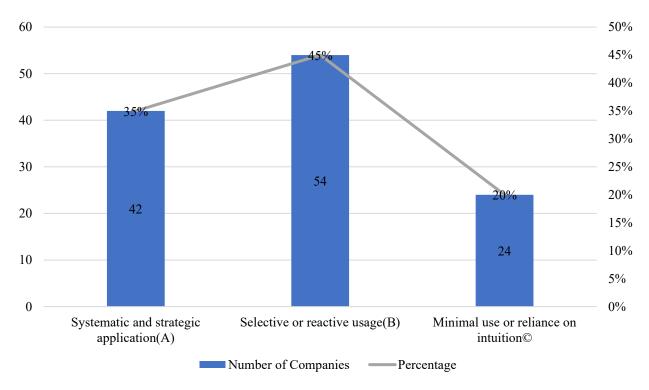


Fig. 1. Adoption level of financial management methods

Figure 1 presents the adoption levels of financial management methods across companies, categorized into three groups. The largest segment (45%) follows a selective or reactive approach (Group B), indicating inconsistent application of financial practices. Systematic and strategic users (Group A) account for 35%, reflecting a proactive and structured financial management approach. Meanwhile, 20% of companies (Group C) exhibit minimal use or rely heavily on intuition, suggesting limited formal financial planning. The data highlights significant variability in financial discipline, with many companies yet to adopt fully strategic practices.

To quantify effectiveness, three key financial metrics were compared across the groups:

Return on Assets (ROA) – Measures asset utilization

Current Ratio – Indicates liquidity position

Net Profit Margin – Captures profitability

Financial performance by use of financial management methods

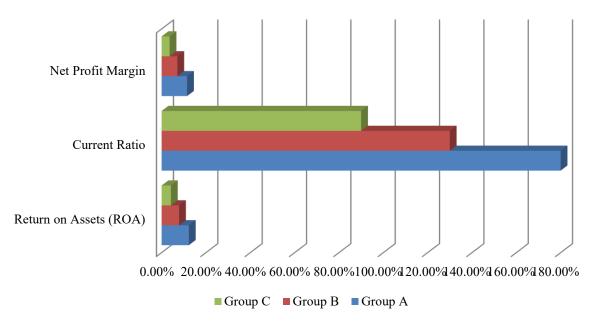


Fig 2. Financial performance by use of financial management methods

Figure 2 illustrates the relationship between the use of financial management methods and financial performance. Companies in Group A, which apply systematic and strategic methods, show the strongest performance, with the highest Return on Assets (12.3%), Current Ratio (1.8), and Net Profit Margin (11.5%). Group B, with selective or reactive usage, performs moderately across all indicators. In contrast, Group C, which minimally uses formal methods or relies on intuition, records the weakest financial outcomes, including a low ROA (4.2%) and poor liquidity (Current Ratio of 0.9). This data clearly suggests that disciplined financial management is linked to better financial health and profitability.

The results clearly indicate that firms in Group A, which consistently apply structured financial methods, outperform others across all major indicators. Notably, their liquidity and profitability metrics are significantly stronger, validating the strategic role of financial tools.

Financial Methods Most Widely Used

The following table summarizes the most commonly employed financial management techniques across the surveyed companies and their reported effectiveness.

Table 1 Common financial management methods and their perceived effectiveness

Method	Usage Rate (%)	Effectiveness (1–10 scale)
Budgeting and Forecasting	87%	8.5
Financial Ratio Analysis	78%	8.2
Capital Budgeting (NPV, IRR)	65%	7.9
Working Capital Management	72%	8.3
Break-even/CVP Analysis	54%	7.2
Scenario and Sensitivity Analysis	41%	7.5

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Table 1 highlights common financial management methods along with their usage rates and perceived effectiveness. Budgeting and forecasting is the most widely used method (87%) and also rated highest in effectiveness (8.5), reflecting its central role in financial planning. Financial ratio analysis and working capital management are also commonly used (78% and 72%, respectively) and rated highly for effectiveness (8.2 and 8.3). Capital budgeting techniques like NPV and IRR are used by 65% of companies, with a solid effectiveness score of 7.9. Less frequently used methods such as break-even/Cost-Volume-Profit (CVP) analysis and scenario/sensitivity analysis have lower usage rates (54% and 41%), though still show moderate perceived value. This suggests that while companies recognize the effectiveness of various tools, adoption varies depending on complexity and organizational capacity.

While budgeting, forecasting, and working capital control remain dominant, there is an increasing recognition of the value of dynamic tools such as scenario planning—especially in uncertain macroeconomic conditions.

Key findings and strategic implications

Structured use of financial methods leads to measurable financial benefits, especially in liquidity, efficiency, and profit margins.

Firms that underutilize these methods tend to suffer from ineffective capital allocation, weaker planning discipline, and lower profitability.

Managerial training, digitization of financial processes, and strategic CFO leadership are necessary to elevate method adoption from routine use to strategic application.

The effective use of financial management methods is not solely a matter of technical proficiency—it reflects the company's financial culture and strategic maturity. Organizations that integrate these tools into decision-making frameworks, rather than treating them as compliance instruments, gain a competitive edge in volatile markets.

To fully capitalize on financial management techniques, companies must invest in data systems, skilled personnel, and continuous process improvement, transforming the finance function from a transactional center to a strategic engine for value creation.

CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

At present, the effective use of financial management methods in companies is critical to enhancing their operational efficiency, competitiveness, and sustainable growth. Companies face growing demands to optimize their capital structure, manage risks prudently, and ensure transparent financial reporting. The adoption of modern financial management techniques not only supports internal decision-making but also increases investor confidence and facilitates access to external financing sources. Therefore, ensuring the implementation of effective financial management practices is a strategic priority for both corporate management and policymakers.

Based on the above scientific research and analysis, the following recommendations are proposed:

Promote the adoption of advanced financial management tools and technologies that enable more accurate forecasting, budgeting, and cost control, thereby improving overall financial performance.

Enhance training programs to increase the financial literacy and competency of company managers and financial specialists, ensuring that they can effectively apply financial methods aligned with corporate goals.

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Encourage transparency and regular disclosure of financial information, fostering trust among stakeholders and facilitating better evaluation of company performance.

Simplify regulatory requirements related to financial reporting and compliance, reducing administrative burdens and allowing companies to focus resources on strategic financial management. Strengthen internal control systems and audit mechanisms to monitor the effective use of financial resources and prevent financial mismanagement or fraud.

Facilitate easier access to diverse financing sources, including debt and equity markets, through streamlined procedures and support for professional intermediaries.

Promote a culture of financial discipline and accountability within companies, ensuring that financial management methods contribute to long-term value creation rather than short-term gains.

By implementing these recommendations, companies can significantly improve the efficiency and effectiveness of their financial management, contributing to stronger corporate governance and sustainable economic development.

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