

Effects of strengthening of mathematics and sciences programmes on teachers' pedagogical skills in public secondary schools in Nyamira North district, Kenya

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Abstract:

The purpose of the study was to assess the effects of Strengthening of Mathematics and Sciences in Secondary Education training in pedagogical skills in sciences on teachers' performance at Kenya Certificate of Secondary Education in Nyamira north district, in enhancing the capabilities of Science teachers in teaching of science, robust and reloaded methodologies and changed attitudes in both the teachers and student of sciences. The study also sought to establish whether SMASSE has had any meaningful impact in the grade attained in the Kenya national examination council (KNEC), Kenya certificate of secondary education. (KCSE) physics results. The location of the study was Nyamira North district. Data was collected in the district. The study targeted; science teachers, trainers and officer from the district education officer (D.E.O) office in charge of the programme. Questionnaires were used to gather information from the teachers and in-service trainers. Interview guide was used to gather information from the officer in charge of SMASSE. Data was analyzed using statistical package for social science .The results were presented using frequency tables. The study found that SMASSE INSET has caused changes in the performance of physics teachers to very great extent. The study also found that SMASSE INSET helped in improving teacher's attitude towards the subject. It was revealed by the study that SMASSE INSET had enabled schools to have increased improvised equipment's, which helps school in practical lessons. The study also established that SMASSE INSET has caused regular and frequent interaction among physics teachers, the study further established that SMASSE INSET was not fully institutionalized in Nyamira north district. In line with the findings and conclusion of the study, the researcher would make the following recommendations as a precursor to improving physic performance in secondary school through full institutionalizing SMASSE INSET; there is need for full institutionalizing SMASSE INSET as it will help physics teachers in their teaching to very great extent, there is need for teachers to attend SMASSE INSET as this will help in improving teacher's attitude of the subject and thus improving school performance, there is need for school to encourage their science teachers to adopt SMASSE INSET since it's found to enable schools to have increased improvised equipment's, there study recommends that there is need for increased SMASSE INSET as it causes regular and frequent interaction among physics teachers and the study further revealed there is need for full institutionalize SMASSE INSET.