



NNP NEWS

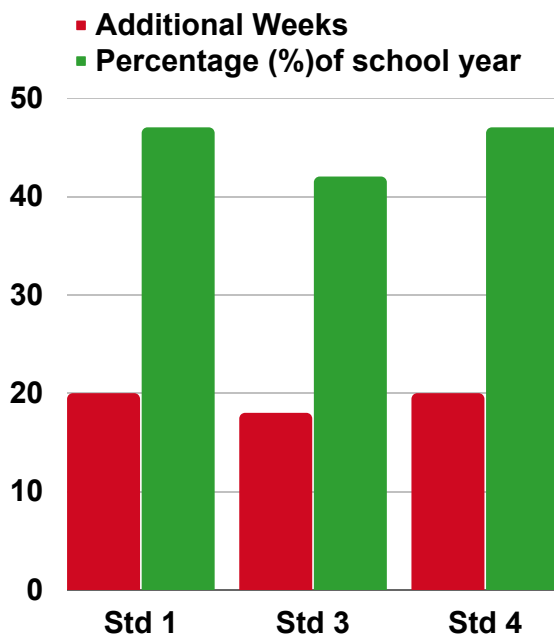
National Numeracy Programme Newsletter

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INDEPENDENT EVALUATION OF THE NNP PILOT

The gains that learners in treatment schools achieved, would have taken learners in comparison schools:



Standard 1: an additional 20 weeks (47% of a school year)

Standard 3: an additional 18 weeks (42% of a school year)

Standard 4: an additional 20 weeks (47% of a school year)

BULLETIN BOARD

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

Joint Monitoring Visits with EdTech Hub

Meeting with teacher Training Team (TLC consolidation)

Std 1 Term 2 Workbook Validation Meeting

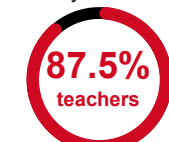
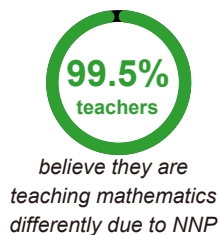
Workshop on Development of Training package by Montfort College

The NNP Pilot evaluation was conducted by School to School (STS) with the Malawian Centre for Educational Research and Training (CERT) to:

- Gather information on participants' views about the programme
- Assess the mathematics skills of learners
- Examine how teachers have changed their approach to mathematics instruction
- Provide insight into the efficacy of NNP materials and the in-service teacher training methodology.

The Early Grade Mathematics Assessment (EGMA) was used to capture learners' numeracy skills. In addition, a range of quantitative tools as well as several qualitative tools were administered to treatment and comparison schools

Some of the findings below:



TEACHERS' REACTION

Teachers credited training with providing them with the knowledge they needed to implement the NNP



The proportion of teachers who agreed that the NNP teacher guide is 'easy to use' increased from a little over 1/4 to almost 1/2

The proportion of teachers who felt prepared to implement the NNP rose from less than 1/2 to over 2/3



Mathematics teaching in treatment schools is of significantly higher quality than teaching in comparison schools

Significant improvements in classroom practice emerged between teachers at treatment and comparison schools when they reflected on learning with learners



HIGH-FLYING CHIDI ZONE EMBRACES NNP IN STYLE

by: Prisca Semu

Chididi is one of the zones located 22km away from Nkhotakota Boma (central region of Malawi) along the lakeshore of the Mzuzu-Salima road. The zone under Traditional Authority (T/A) Kalimanjira has 12 schools with 136 teachers, of which 48 are female and 88 are male. Chididi zone, despite being under the Expanded Pilot districts, is doing great strides in National Numeracy Program implementation.

It has registered the highest number of schools conducting Teacher Learning Circles (TLCs) with 11 out of 12 schools reported to have conducted TLCs.



“*The visits by NNP Specialists at our school has motivated teachers here because once they come, teachers seek clarifications on different NNP areas. As of now, teachers are able to draw up lesson plans on their own. They also encourage us the benefits of conducting TLCs regularly.*”

Agatha Memory Mlenga - Infant Section Head, Kayadzi school

The zone devised a formula whereby all their NNP Specialists are supposed to have team coaching visits to schools throughout the term. The Specialists also support TLCs in the schools and they all have their TLC plans. Chrissy Chibwana, the zonal Primary Education Advisor PEA shares the secret; "I make sure that my facilitators make a joint visit plan to schools once every fortnight to ensure that teachers are supported". Asked as to why they decided to come up with the plan, the 53 year old replies, "In the first weeks of this session (Term 1) when I was doing supervision, a number of teachers complained to me that they were having challenges to understand the puzzle pieces and how they relate to the teacher's guide. They were also struggling to make a lesson plan. This prompted me to liaise with my facilitators to find a way forward."

This has indeed proved fruitful as teachers in the zone are complimenting this initiative saying it is helping them in areas they are struggling in when it comes to mathematics lesson delivery. Agatha Memory Mlenga, an Infant Section Head at Kayadzi school explains, "The visits by NNP Specialists at our school has motivated teachers here because once they come, teachers seek clarifications on different NNP areas. As of now, teachers are able to draw up lesson plans on their own. They also encourage us the benefits of conducting TLCs regularly."

MEET THE "OPS" TEAM



From Left to Right: Willy Kazembe, Edith Chihana and Patrice Saiti

Meet the team that makes sure the programme, office and all operations run smoothly and effectively for the NNP.

They provide members staff with all the necessary materials and resources to carry out their duties, that the office is conducive, they ensure that all health and safety protocols are intact and followed. They make travel and accommodation arrangements, they organise local running and long distance travel and procurement.

The team is led by the Operations Manager Willy Kazembe, Edith Chihana is the Office Manager and Patrice Saiti is the Administrative Assistant. They are always ready and willing to lend a hand, with their brightest smiles. Thank you Ops Team!!!

PROGRAMME REACH



1,800,000+

Standard 1 - 4 learner workbooks printed and distributed

9,000

teachers have been trained to use a new approach to teaching based on the Learner Workbooks



45

instructional videos developed and distributed for use during school-based teacher trainings

