



NNP NEWS

National Numeracy Programme Newsletter

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STANDARD ONE TEACHER TRAINING



BULLETIN BOARD

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

Master Trainer Orientation
7th - 9th August 2023

Std 2 - Std 4 Teacher Training
14th - 31st August 2023

Distribution of Term One
Teaching and Learning Materials
7th Aug - 4th Sept 2023

From 17th to 27th July 2023, NNP Standard 1 Teacher Trainings were carried out in over 100 Teacher Development Centres (TDCs) ahead of the 2023/24 academic year with over 2,200 Standard 1 teachers participating in this activity. The impact of this comprehensive teacher training programme extends far beyond the educators themselves. Standard 1, being the crucial foundation of a child's educational journey, holds immense significance in shaping their academic trajectory. With the introduction of new materials, mathematics learners are set to have a transformative learning experience. These carefully crafted materials utilize a child-centric approach, employing engaging visuals, interactive exercises, and real-life applications to foster a deep understanding of mathematical concepts.

During one of the teacher training monitoring visits, Elvis Kondowe, a teacher from Lupachi zone in Nkhotakota expressed his views saying "These new materials are simpler to use, they are more appealing to the learner because they are now in colour, the content starts with introduction of numbers that makes the learners learn numbers easily. They are helpful to teachers as well since they encourage the teacher to develop a good lesson plan because the Teacher's Guide and the Workbook complement each other, they make the teacher deliver the lesson easily as each lesson has its own guide."

“ *These new materials are helpful to teachers, they encourage the teacher to develop good lesson plans.*

Elvis Kondowe - Std One Teacher **”**

Agness Gama, one of the facilitators at Mphungu zone in Lilongwe commented that the teachers are extremely enthusiastic for the trainings, their attendance and participation has been high and exemplary.

Standard 2 - 4 Teacher trainings will begin on 14th August 2023 with the anticipation that over 5000 teachers will be trained.



SCHOOL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE SUPPORTING TLCs WITH MEALS FOR TEACHERS

Prisca Semu & Holmes Chirwa



In a bid to reinforce school-based Continuous Professional Development (CPD)s, the NNP's current training model involves the conduct of Teacher Learning Circles (TLCs) which are organised by the trained NNP Facilitators in their respective schools as part of their regular duties. However, the teacher attendance rate has always been a concern for school authorities. Realising the importance of school-based CPDs amid the teacher attendance challenge, Kamdidi, one of the NNP's expanded pilot schools, has been supporting its teachers attending TLCs with meals, as a way of increasing teacher participation. The support comes from the School Management Committee and Parent Teachers' Association, who mobilise funds for the meals, and refreshments.

Lekani Kayange, one of the NNP facilitators from the school had this to say while sharing the best practice during one of the trainings, "The time we started conducting NNP TLCs we were facing a lot of challenges. Some of the challenges were that a few teachers could attend the TLCs due to a lack of motivation. Sometimes teachers could stay in the TLCs for a few minutes and leave without any discussion. They are now providing teachers with food whenever we are conducting TLCs." According to Kayange absenteeism is now a thing of the past. All the teachers from Std 1 to 8 attend the TLCs. The intervention has led to increased participation and has enabled them to have adequate time for practice and discussion during TLCs. In terms of TLC duration, Kayenge said "at first, we could have less than thirty minutes in the TLCs, but this time we're spending almost 2 hours discussing Skills and Strategies used in the NNP" finished Kayange.

The school is located 12Km North - West of Nkhamenya Teacher Development Centre in Kasungu. As one way of promoting the sustainability of the TLCs, the NNP has been lobbying with school authorities to engage school management in supporting the TLCs with refreshments for teachers. Moving forward these best practices will be shared with other schools beyond the impact schools to help sustain the school-based CPDs given the challenges associated with the School Improvement Grants.

INTRODUCING THE NEW NNP TEACHING AND LEARNING MATERIALS

Old version of STD 1 workbook

New version of STD 1 workbook

The newly developed, state-of-the-art training materials, were designed to cater to the diverse learning needs of both teachers and students. Among the improvements are full colour pages and a Teachers Guide for each term with each lesson corresponding to the workbook. The materials encompass the latest pedagogical methodologies, interactive activities, and practical teaching strategies, empowering teachers to foster creativity and critical thinking within their classrooms. By encouraging active participation and promoting a positive learning environment, these innovative materials will lay the groundwork for a lifelong love of learning, empowering students to confidently tackle more complex mathematical challenges as they progress through their educational years.

