

Mauritius

Two-week workshop: Developing skills for a competencies-based approach in curriculum development

13-24 February 2006

Evaluation - final

- 1- Weak
- 2- Fair/Average
- 3 - Good
- 4 - Excellent

53 Responses

	1	2	3	4
<u>Overall quality of the workshop</u>		(1)	(27)	(25)
Comments		1,8%	51%	47,2%
Excellent;				
Very relevant to our concerns and goals;				

<p>Good and appropriate for me as a subject panel member;</p> <p>Valuable discussions;</p> <p>Genuine issues were tackled;</p> <p>Facilities were very good except the venue (not very appropriate for group work);</p> <p>Very rich in information;</p> <p>The workshop was carried out in a very professional manner;</p> <p>Very interactive, but it would have worked better with a smaller group;</p> <p>Very good presentations and discussions, but some more specific areas could have been tackled;</p> <p>The activities were interesting, nevertheless we would need more inspiration for designing and implementing a new curriculum;</p> <p>Top quality materials;</p> <p>Cognitive conflict with creative and meaningful interactions;</p> <p>More activities as to how to devise exercises/tasks enabling pupils to develop competencies could have been proposed;</p>				
---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--	--	--	--

<p>Would have benefited from more hands-on writing exercises of curriculum materials;</p> <p>Sometimes comments from participants were irrelevant;</p> <p>Group work was very efficient;</p> <p>Good organisation, despite the tight schedule;</p> <p>Balanced agenda;</p> <p>Like a 'world class' activity – one which we have now a chance to follow and to translate it into our own classes;</p> <p>On the whole – it was very good – but I would like to know how to cater for the low achievers as well as average ones in terms of assessment;</p> <p>Activities were well presented, well planned and reliable;</p> <p>Covered a wide range of topics – defined terms clearly;</p>				
<p><u>Contribution of the resource person</u></p>			(13)	(40)
<p>Comments</p>			24,5	75,5%
<p>Very insightful and knowledgeable;</p>				

<p>Very competent and well-versed in curriculum development;</p> <p>Constantly very high;</p> <p>Unfortunately, her contributions have been somehow disturbed by futile discussions on the part of some of the participants;</p> <p>Shared many personal experiences about curriculum;</p> <p>Has a very in-depth knowledge of curriculum development;</p> <p>Showed good listening skills,</p> <p>Very receptive to comments and positive attitude;</p> <p>Positive in all situations;</p> <p>Pleasant and musical voice;</p> <p>Very helpful to us, members of the subject panel;</p> <p>Contributed much in terms of personal experiences and involving the participants in the activities;</p> <p>Knows her subject well;</p> <p>Outstanding. Very resourceful and supportive;</p> <p>Delivered a lot to us;</p>				
----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--	--	--	--

<p>Excellent – it's the first time that we have got such a workshop;</p> <p>She has done a marvellous job;</p> <p>Accurate – she knows the field well and the workshop was fruitful;</p> <p>The resource person has shown how professionalism is immersed in the topics discussed;</p> <p>The workshop was well-planned and we are now ready to face the next, forthcoming issues;</p> <p>Up to our expectations – very clear and precise;</p> <p>Fostered interactions a lot;</p> <p>Excellent ideas of how to foster student's progress;</p>				
<p><u>Contribution of the participants</u></p> <p>1,8%</p> <p>Comments</p> <p>Active participation of all in activities and debates;</p>	<p>(1)</p> <p>1,8%</p>	<p>(5)</p> <p>9,4%</p>	<p>(34)</p> <p>64,2%</p>	<p>(13)</p> <p>24,6</p>

<p>It has been a very interactive participation of our family of curriculum developers, though some of the coordinators did not attend;</p> <p>Very good interaction amongst participants;</p> <p>Some people tended to monopolize discussions;</p> <p>Participants expressed constructive criticism towards our present curriculum;</p> <p>Very good level of interaction, but some people talked only for their own benefits;</p> <p>Wide range of discussions;</p> <p>Based on experiences and geared towards the welfare of children;</p> <p>Lack of active participation from these following institutions: Mauritius Exams Syndicate; Mahatma Gandhi Institute; Mauritius Institute of Education;</p> <p>Areas convergent with the activity-based lessons;</p> <p>Rapporteurs should have been given the opportunity to use PPT. or OHP in order to present the group work;</p> <p>Too many discussions on issues other than the competencies-based approach;</p> <p>I have the impression that some people have not said what they really wanted to...or what the realities are according to them;</p>				
---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--	--	--	--

<p>Too much emphasis was laid upon the pre-voc system – what about the pupils of higher primary level?</p> <p>Very active and rich;</p> <p>The participants enjoyed to be an active part of the workshop;</p> <p>I want to congratulate all participants for their valuable contributions;</p>				
<p><u>Usefulness of the workshop</u></p> <p>Comments</p> <p>Broad knowledge of curriculum (structure and content) and curriculum writing;</p> <p>Insight into the integration of transversal competencies into the curriculum;</p> <p>Workshop at international standards;</p> <p>Such workshops should be organized on a regular basis, depending on future actions;</p>		<p><b>(2)</b></p> <p><b>3,7%</b></p>	<p><b>(24)</b></p> <p><b>45,3%</b></p>	<p><b>(27)</b></p> <p><b>60%</b></p>

<p>Quite useful in terms of understanding the challenges linked with the development of the Curriculum Framework;</p> <p>We would need to work more on how to translate the gains of the workshop into new curriculum materials, such as textbooks;</p> <p>The workshop has at least given me more scope of how to improve the framing of textbooks though linking theory with students' experiences;</p> <p>Able to situate what curriculum writing is;</p> <p>A practical and beneficial approach to competencies-based curriculum;</p> <p>The workshop will only be useful if the recommendations can be successfully implemented and full support can be sought from the ministry;</p> <p>It is not clear what is expected from us, members of the subject panel – how far can we go with revising/improving the curriculum/textbooks and changing the evaluation system;</p> <p>Very informative;</p> <p>Helped us to understand how the curriculum can be more user-friendly and motivate students to learn;</p> <p>Hope that all what we discussed and shared will be implemented;</p>				
-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--	--	--	--



<p>We need to learn more in order to master good curriculum writing and implementation;</p> <p>Appropriate and conducted at the right moment. Should also plan for such activities for teachers involved in curriculum development and implementation;</p> <p>We got an idea of how to start with our task;</p> <p>Very helpful for curriculum review and proposals for change to competencies-based approaches. Participants have been provided with adequate literature and materials for skills development in competencies-based curriculum;</p> <p>It is the main opportunity to market the change which is more than necessary;</p> <p>The workshop was very good – but will teachers accept these changes abruptly?</p> <p>The workshop was OK, but 30-35% failures in our schools we cannot explain only through textbooks and curriculum. There are other factors, such as infrastructure, school environment, lack of parental support, lack of stakeholder support – these factors should be tackled too;</p> <p>The workshop proved very beneficial to go public with such a competencies-based project to improve the curriculum;</p> <p>I have doubts about the outcome – depends on what will happen next;</p>				
-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--	--	--	--

We should definitely try out and implement what we learned here;				
<b><u>Personal gains</u></b>	<p>Never before I've attended such a workshop on curriculum reform. Therefore I benefited much from it especially on modern curriculum development and the issues of competencies;</p> <p>Some more knowledge about curriculum development and sharing with colleagues from other subject panels;</p> <p>Excellent interaction and sharing of ideas;</p> <p>Positive criticism about our own materials and suggestions for future improvement;</p> <p>I had an opportunity to express my views;</p> <p>Clear understanding of competencies;</p> <p>Everything is clearer to me now concerning curriculum work;</p> <p>Ideas about how to foster learning outcomes in terms of student competencies;</p> <p>Got an overview of the upcoming work to set up the new Curriculum Framework,</p> <p>Enjoyed the interactive aspect of the workshop;</p> <p>The workshop has given me a very broad idea of what curriculum really is and what we are lacking, and what are the challenges looking at us</p>			

	<p>for improving the curriculum and for a better future;</p> <p>Opinions of partners in curriculum from different levels;</p> <p>Models of curriculum development from other countries;</p> <p>I developed my communication skills;</p> <p>Insight into the evaluation of competencies (especially of transversal competencies in the primary curriculum),</p> <p>I am now convinced of the effectiveness of small-group work;</p> <p>I understand now the urgent need of including many of these transversal competencies into our curriculum and textbooks;</p> <p>I am now aware of how can children benefit from a new curriculum;</p> <p>Personally I have got the idea of how to proceed with the writing of the textbook and how the different skills can be addressed in redesigning our textbooks;</p> <p>Many useful information about the curriculum framework and the overall process of curriculum development;</p> <p>Learnt much from the resource person as regards the different curricula in other countries;</p>
--	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

	<p>Handouts given were penetrating documents in curriculum development;</p> <p>Gained more knowledge about writing textbooks, but I have still to ask my self how to unload the curriculum and how far to go in changing/improving the curriculum;</p> <p>The resource person should further guide the panel members so that we can complete the exercise assigned to us;</p> <p>The need to focus more on students for they are the ones who have to grow;</p> <p>A thorough understanding of competency-based curriculum and its implications;</p> <p>Learned a lot about how to integrate concepts in different learning areas;</p> <p>Learned a lot about different skills needed in writing the curriculum for different learning areas;</p> <p>I have learned a lot about the process of learning and curriculum integration;</p> <p>A better experience of what is happening in the country and also an overall view of curricula from different other countries;</p> <p>Advantages and challenges linked to competencies;</p>
--	---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

	<p>It was very informative, especially with regard to the Scandinavian experiences;</p> <p>How to influence teaching and learning based on a good curriculum framework and improved learning materials;</p> <p>How to link curriculum, teaching and learning strategies and assessment better;</p> <p>How to conceive interesting activities as part of the formal curriculum;</p> <p>I happened to build up on what I had in my scheme. These has been an extension of my knowledge regarding education and curriculum;</p> <p>Techniques to enhance the acquisition and development of competencies in young children;</p> <p>How curriculum documents could reflect a competencies-based approach;</p> <p>I understood more about where the curriculum stands in the progress of a country;</p> <p>Awareness of modern curriculum development as a dynamic process with many priorities, with many people involved and lots of challenges;</p> <p>We feel now stronger to face these new challenges;</p> <p>The most well-structured workshop I've attended so far;</p>
--	----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

	<p>Much food for thought;</p> <p>I feel more equipped to provide monitoring of teachers and schools,</p> <p>Many of the aspects mentioned are being practised in our RCA schools;</p>
<b><u>Suggestions for follow-up</u></b>	<p>To carry out more such activities in the future;</p> <p>The workshop report should be circulated to all participants;</p> <p>The outcomes of this workshop should go to schools – teachers are actually agents of change;</p> <p>We need to identify other issues to be further addressed;</p> <p>I wish we will all be part of the follow-up process;</p> <p>Once the framework is set up/finalised, some pre-testing of new resource materials should be undertaken;</p> <p>Another similar workshop to evaluate the new Framework and learning materials;</p> <p>More teachers should also be invited to participate in such workshops;</p> <p>To be more subject-oriented;</p> <p>To focus more on implementation and changes in assessment strategies at primary level;</p>

	<p>The MoE should be less prescriptive, and listen more to people who are in direct contact with schools. They should take into account more the real situation in schools today;</p> <p>Teacher training should be also envisaged if we want a competencies-based approach;</p> <p>More focus on implementation and monitoring at subject level;</p> <p>To take into consideration the children's needs (on short-, medium- and long-term);</p> <p>All the workshop recommendations should be implemented as soon as possible;</p> <p>Curriculum developers should be given incentives;</p> <p>Changes of the assessment system, as to fit the competencies-based approach;</p> <p>Piloting and monitoring of new materials;</p> <p>The UNESCO resource person should take part in the follow-up and should help us evaluate and monitor the new materials;</p> <p>It is now a must to go on with such an important project. Up to now I have understood a lot of new things about writing the new curriculum materials.</p> <p>We also need to focus on some aspects which we</p>
--	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

	<p>did not have time to focus now;</p> <p>We would need more such workshops for primary education only;</p> <p>Regular such workshops including all stakeholders;</p> <p>We have to reconsider the adequacy of resource persons/members per different subject panels;</p> <p>A library has to be set up for resource persons/members of the subject panels to consult up-to-date literature;</p> <p>Follow-up should be done with the same UNESCO resource person;</p> <p>Regular meetings of different panels;</p> <p>A good delegation for Burkina Fasso (curriculum and poverty alleviation project);</p> <p>To improve our systematic process of curriculum development;</p> <p>A curriculum committee to be set up and links to be established with all stakeholders;</p> <p>Plan for a good time frame of the curriculum reform;</p> <p>To know more about how to evaluate transversal competencies;</p> <p>To learn more about modern layout of textbooks</p>
--	----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------



	<p>in support of quality learning;</p> <p>The workshop has been substantially organised and the outcomes have excelled. My suggestion is that they should not be put in a drawer. A <i>Comité d'élite</i> must be set-up to further monitor the work.</p> <p>Similar workshops devoted to specific learning areas;</p> <p>Setting up a documentation centre with adequate materials for curriculum development;</p> <p>Regular meetings for monitoring and feedback;</p> <p>We are ready for the next workshop – so we are looking for it,</p> <p>Involve the teacher unions in similar type of activity;</p> <p>The teacher guides to be more explicit about the idea of this new competencies-based curriculum;</p> <p>More focus also on research activities;</p> <p>There should be more coordination among stakeholders – to date, various components of our education system are under the authority of different bodies;</p> <p>More autonomy should be given to primary inspectors,</p> <p>Ample facilities should be given to all schools for</p>
--	------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

	<p>the implementation of the new curriculum;</p> <p>Coordinators must visit the schools regularly;</p> <p>Coordinators and textbook authors should be granted more time and facilities to work properly;</p> <p>Workshop to analyse the new curriculum framework,</p> <p>Give clear instructions concerning counselling and orientation;</p> <p>Participants from Rodrigues are very thankful to the MoE for having invited them to this workshop and want to stay close to further developments – thus they would like to be further part of the announced curriculum reform;</p> <p>To reduce the work load of students based on quality standards;</p>
--	-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------