

Mauritius

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

Evaluation – First week

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

62 Responses

	1	2	3	4
<u>Quality of activities</u>		(3)	(34)	(25)
Comments		4,8%	54,8%	40,4%
Relevant to the project initiated by the Ministry;				
The activities were really meaningful and well-devised with clear instructions;				
Suitable to this group of specialists from the various fields of education;				
The activities were well planned, and the groups enjoyed presenting their products;				
Much appreciated opportunity to reflect				

<p>individually and in groups; Almost all participants were actively engaged;</p> <p>Very interesting activities, pedagogically instructive;</p> <p>Meet international trends which take into consideration the all sound development of the child;</p> <p>It feels good to participate in such activities;</p> <p>Some participants tend to dominate discussions, thus each of us should be encouraged to talk;</p> <p>Activities are of high level and group work is very effective;</p> <p>Through this activities I came to realise how different transversal competencies can be fostered through various types of activities;</p> <p>We enjoyed the activities, discovered hidden talents in all of us, worked creatively and cooperatively;</p> <p>Accommodation is not appropriate for some of these activities, especially for group work;</p> <p>We were provided with insights into ways and means of re-organising learning and materials to suit learning goals and objectives;</p> <p>Very lively workshop;</p> <p>Some activities were not adapted to primary</p>				
--	--	--	--	--

<p>schools;</p> <p>Although we came from different sectors, we are all feeling at ease with these activities;</p> <p>Some of the activities have implicit objectives upon which we did not comment;</p> <p>It's a good improvement compared to previous workshops;</p> <p>Especially the interactive sessions were very interesting and helpful;</p> <p>We developed a lot of personal and inter-personal skills;</p> <p>Activities were simple, interesting and effective – they allowed us to take a different perspective to teaching and learning;</p> <p>Activities should focus more on teaching curriculum developers the skills to provide a competencies-based curriculum;</p> <p>The activities helped participants to understand what is expected in this new competencies-based approach;</p>				
---	--	--	--	--

<u>Quality of interactions</u>		(5)	(36)	(21)
Comments		8%	58,2%	33,8%
Good presentations, very up-to-date;				
Some participants tend to monopolize discussions and focus on issues irrelevant to curriculum matters;				
We have been able to share our opinions through interaction and have acquired good communication skills;				
It's a lively group;				
The interactions allowed for divergent thinking with an emphasis on functionality and creativity;				
Good functioning in groups;				
Very brilliant, constructive ideas;				
Enriched way of seeing/perceiving situations;				
Some materials were not copied as to reach all participants;				
Quite positive and constructive interactions;				
Excellent interaction between the UNESCO resource person and participants;				
It would have been better with a smaller group;				

<p>Owing to the lack of appropriate space, we were feeling uncomfortable writing down the charts;</p> <p>Through these sessions many opportunities were given to us to know each other much better;</p> <p>Very lively, positive and fruitful interactions;</p> <p>We all feel at ease and free to voice our own opinions;</p> <p>We learned a lot about diversity and constructive management of diversity;</p> <p>We learned how to be open to criticism in a constructive manner;</p> <p>The activities provided for one's own satisfaction;</p> <p>Very good activities - they enhanced our experiences;</p>				
<u>Quality of materials</u>		(6)	(24)	(32)
		9,6%	38,7%	59,7%
Comments				

<p>Very helpful;</p> <p>This is may first workshop where I have been given so many good handouts;</p> <p>Of very high standard;</p> <p>They were presented in a very effective and efficient way;</p> <p>Have consolidated our understanding of a competencies-based curriculum;</p> <p>Can be used as reference for further discussions;</p> <p>Very informative and sufficient;</p> <p>Very good, very detailed – they helped us understand where is education heading for today;</p> <p>There were sufficient materials for everybody;</p> <p>We will be able to compare these materials with our curriculum and adapt appropriate ideas;</p> <p>Good materials, but they weren't distributed in a proper way;</p> <p>All sessions were supported by good handouts;</p> <p>Appropriate, insightful, provide us with depth and variety;</p> <p>Very inspiring – though some of them go against our actual system of education, which is too</p>				
---	--	--	--	--

<p>examination oriented;</p> <p>Materials were distributed gradually, 'topic wise', though quite bulky;</p> <p>I learned a lot from the handouts;</p> <p>For some materials we had only parts of them – we would need the whole syllabus;</p> <p>All the materials were used creatively, we learned a lot;</p> <p>The literature used is relevant to the main topic of our workshop;</p> <p>The materials have helped us a lot in the understanding of the concepts introduced, they helped us understand how the curriculum can actually encompass and reflect a 'competencies-based' approach;</p> <p>The materials were quite 'learner-friendly';</p> <p>Top-quality materials which have obviously been the positive result of profound research work;</p> <p>It would have been better to have access to all these materials beforehand;</p> <p>These materials will help us to improve the writing of our own documents,</p>				
--	--	--	--	--

<p>What I have gained</p>	<p>A clear understanding of what a competencies-based curriculum really is about;</p> <p>We shared a lot;</p> <p>A lot of suggestions for curriculum improvement that should be integrated into our process of curriculum change;</p> <p>A more scientific approach of how to prepare teaching materials;</p> <p>Insight into new trends in curriculum development;</p> <p>Insight into activities that can promote better and sustainable learning experiences;</p> <p>I feel myself in a better situation to accompany teachers;</p> <p>A lot – the competencies-based and integrated approach are welcome – but the question is how often can we use them, especially in primary education. I feel we are all enriched with this workshop. The curriculum should change radically as to allow for competencies-based approaches;</p> <p>An in-depth insight on how to enrich our curriculum with useful competencies;</p> <p>How to foster creativity in students;</p> <p>I feel I have been able to gain a more comparative perspective on international competencies-based</p>
---------------------------	---

	<p>curriculum development;</p> <p>Comparative perspectives – links between context and content;</p> <p>Interesting perspectives – such workshops should be organised regularly in order to improve the skills of curriculum developers in Mauritius;</p> <p>We succeeded to clarify a lot of concepts;</p> <p>Ideas of how to change classroom practices;</p> <p>Interesting suggestions to improve our textbooks;</p> <p>Clear understanding of the curriculum integration concept;</p> <p>Interesting suggestions for teacher training;</p> <p>An overview of all important stages in curriculum development;</p> <p>A new approach to textbook development;</p> <p>Capacity to work interactively;</p> <p>I enjoyed the group work;</p> <p>I've gained a lot to my satisfaction: I know now how to integrate this approach (competencies) in my future materials;</p> <p>I interacted a lot with others and gained new friends;</p>
--	--

	<p>I gained a new way of looking at the curriculum and how to improve curriculum work in Mauritius,</p> <p>I also learned how to be more critical in a constructive way;</p> <p>I learned to use a comparative approach in curriculum development and explore advantages and disadvantages of different solutions;</p> <p>I am more convinced now about the importance of a competencies-based, multidisciplinary curriculum;</p> <p>I gained broad curriculum-related knowledge;</p> <p>I feel more empowered to support the curriculum development process in Mauritius;</p> <p>I learned a lot concerning different types of skills which are important in writing a competencies-based curriculum;</p> <p>I learned how to become more productive in my work;</p> <p>I learned how to develop various transversal competencies and skills through interesting activities;</p> <p>I gained more know-how about curriculum development and improvement of classroom activities;</p> <p>I can connect now better the Mauritian context to</p>
--	--

	the outer world;
What I would like to happen next week	<p>To progress in the same way and focus more on the kind of evaluation that would fit a competencies-based approach;</p> <p>More strategies and concrete examples of integration amongst different subjects;</p> <p>More subject-oriented work on how to include competencies-based approaches in the student workbooks and teacher guides;</p> <p>Further sharing and more successful experiences;</p> <p>More tips of how to integrate a competencies-base approach into our curriculum/activities that would suggest this;</p> <p>Examples of curriculum integration that should be produced by the groups;</p> <p>Discussing how far should we go with the process of curriculum improvement based on competencies? What happens then with evaluation?</p> <p>How to treat the specific competencies in writing the curricula for different learning areas/subjects;</p> <p>To acquire the skills to operate as an efficient curriculum developer;</p> <p>To talk more about how to translate the existing</p>

	<p>curriculum into valuable class-room practices; to work on concrete cases of translating theory into practice;</p> <p>Practical work on improving the curriculum: practical exercises on how to write materials;</p> <p>We should also focus more on textbook improvement;</p> <p>More examples of textbooks from other countries;</p> <p>To know more about Asian countries,</p> <p>To discuss the place of language education in a modern curriculum;</p> <p>We want to work creatively and to have a lot of fun;</p> <p>To focus more on child-centredness;</p> <p>I wish our education authorities would take a sincere and formal engagement to implement what we were discussing here in order to provide a quality curriculum for all;</p> <p>To discuss about how to improve the processes of curriculum development in Mauritius;</p> <p>We should explore more how to avoid curriculum overload based on competencies-based approaches;</p> <p>We should develop a Framework to develop</p>
--	---

	<p>competencies for each class/standard;</p> <p>We should discuss whether an integrated approach is complementary to elitism in schooling;</p> <p>More interaction in smaller groups (3-4) and more participation of female-colleagues in group presentations;</p> <p>More activities exploring the fostering of transversal competencies in the primary curriculum;</p> <p>We should simulate curriculum-writing activities, for instance, in language education;</p> <p>Explore more possibilities for group work with students;</p> <p>We should work more on the affective dimension of the human beings;</p> <p>We should talk more about how to work with children with low abilities;</p> <p>To define competencies for primary education, write statements about them, design competencies-based activities and discuss evaluation of learning outcomes;</p> <p>To explore links between the general and pre-vocational curriculum;</p> <p>To discuss how to improve the efficiency of</p>
--	--

	<p>curriculum development processes based on the competencies approach;</p> <p>To explore how to convert the present curriculum into a competencies-based one;</p> <p>To think more carefully at the follow-up, since this workshop has to be continued based on evaluating its outcomes and giving new orientations to our work;</p> <p>To develop a full lesson as an integrated approach;</p> <p>A discussion on how the school infrastructure could enhance children's achievements;</p>
--	--