

## **DIFFICULTIES FACED BY TEACHERS WHEN PRACTICING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES IN THE CLASSROOM**

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Teachers currently face many challenges in adapting to the dynamic changes in the field of education. Research findings show that continuous Professional Development (CPD) of science teachers is vital to improve teachers' knowledge, skills and attitudes in relation to dynamic changes in the field of education and enhance the quality of science teaching. The purpose of this study was to examine the difficulties faced by science teachers when practicing received professional Development activities in the classroom.

Mixed methods approach was used in this study. Quantitative data were obtained by administering a questionnaire to 100 randomly selected science teachers. Based on the responses to the questionnaire 10 science teachers were purposefully selected for the semi-structured interviews. The quantitative data were analyzed using descriptive statistics. Interview data were transcribed and the emerging assertions were identified.

The results show that most science teachers received many CPD opportunities within and outside the school and different types of instructions in many fields in their in service sessions. 96% appreciated the benefits of CPD to them. 27% reported that they are still having issues in implementing them in the school. They reported that they have many problems and the majority of them haven't enough resources to practice their science teaching in their classrooms. The lack of knowledge of effective teaching strategies, inadequate knowledge to conduct practical sessions effectively and time management problems were among the identified issues. Furthermore, they suggested implementing activities to following-up CPD programmes and more teacher supervisions with appropriate feedback.

The findings clearly show that CPD programmes support science teachers' professional developments. Support after supervision and providing instructions enhances the teacher's professional development. However, to improve the quality of their CPD, the issues that teachers face during their day- to-day teaching would be considered.