Preparedness of Teachers in Integrating Information Communication Technology in Public Primary Schools in Thika, Kiambu County, Kenya

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ABSTRACT
This study sought to investigate the preparedness of teachers in integrating Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) in public primary schools in Thika, Kiambu County. The study objectives were: to establish the ICT infrastructure available, to determine the attitudes and perceptions of the teachers towards the use of ICTs, to assess the levels of training of teachers in use of ICTs and to find out the initiatives the schools have taken towards integrating ICTs in teaching and learning. The study adopted a descriptive survey design. The target population was 17 head teachers and 250 teachers. Stratified sampling technique was used to group the participants by categories of head teachers and teachers while simple random sampling was used to select study respondents from the sampled schools. The study sample consisted of 9 head teachers and 45 teachers. Questionnaires, interview guides and observation checklist was used in data collection. The quantitative data was analyzed using descriptive statistics with the help of SPSS-Version 21. The qualitative data was analyzed using content analysis where ideas were grouped into themes. Tables and graphs were used to present the data findings. The study findings indicated that schools are barely equipped with ICT infrastructure though majority are connected to the national power grid, both the teachers and head teachers are positive towards use of ICT in schools, majority of teachers had acquired basic computing skills without being formally trained in ICT with majority of those who had formal training in ICT being trained in computer Packages level at school level, schools are taking little initiatives towards integrating ICTs in teaching and learning. The study recommended that the government needs to equip schools with necessary ICT infrastructure and build capacity of teachers through sensitizing and training teachers on benefits of using ICTs in education.

Keywords: ICT, Public Primary Schools, ICT Integration, ICT Infrastructure, Primary School Teachers.