

**THE IMPACT OF SMASSE PROGRAMME ON KCSE PERFORMANCE
IN CHEMISTRY IN MERU SOUTH DISTRICT:
THARAKA NITHI COUNTY**

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ABSTRACT

The study focused on the impact of SMASSE programme on KCSE performance in chemistry in Meru South District, Tharaka Nithi County. The purpose of the study was to determine the impact of SMASSE programme on performance of chemistry in secondary schools in Meru South County. The specific objectives included comparing performance of students in chemistry in pre and post SMASSE in Meru South District, Tharaka Nithi County. Finding out the attitude of students towards chemistry in Meru South District, Tharaka Nithi County. Finding out the attitude of teachers towards teaching chemistry after SMASSE training in Meru South District, Tharaka Nithi County and finding out the attitude of teachers towards the organization of SMASSE training in Meru South District, Tharaka Nithi County. This study adopted a descriptive study design to explore impact of SMASSE programme on KCSE performance in chemistry in Meru South District, Tharaka Nithi County. The target population was 612 comprising of head teachers of 26 secondary schools, heads of chemistry department in the 26 schools and students taking chemistry as a subject. The study adopted simple random sampling method involving a sample size of 428 representing 90% of the target population. Data was collected from primary sources through administration of questionnaires and secondary data was collected from records from the involved schools and the DEOs office in Meru South District. The validity of the instruments was established through piloting. The data was cleaned and coded and then analyzed using the statistical package for social science software (SPSS) version 24.0. Quantitative data was analyzed using descriptive statistics in form of frequencies, percentages, and tables and the results of analysis were presented using frequency distribution tables. The results indicated that there was a positive improvement in KCSE results with a positive mean of 0.029 meaning there was a positive attitude towards chemistry. The study recommends more inservice trainings and SMASSE training to train teachers in the second teaching subject. The mop up mentioned by the DQUASOs was timely hence it should be implemented.