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NOYED-Ghana urges government to increase capitation grant

The Net Organization for Youth Empowerment and Development (NOYED – Ghana), has urged government to increase, and ensure the timely release of the capitation grant, to enable schools undertake academic performance improvement activities, including in-service training for teachers.

This formed part of recommendations made by NOYED – Ghana after conducting a monitoring exercise into in-service training activities of selected schools in six districts of the Northern, Upper East and Upper West Regions, during the 2013/2014 academic year.

The districts included Tamale Metro, Karaga, Bolga Municipal, Builsa North, Wa Central and Nadowli.

The monitoring exercise which formed part of NOYED – Ghana’s Improving Teacher Capacity for Better Delivery Project, and sponsored by STAR-Ghana, was conducted in collaboration with other stakeholders, including the Northern Network for Education Development and the Education Sub-Committee of the Tamale Metro.

Mr Alhassan Abdulai Iddi, Executive Director of NOYED – Ghana, who presented the recommendations at a meeting in Tamale on Friday, said key findings of the monitoring exercise established improved academic performance in schools where teachers underwent regular in-service training.

The meeting, organised by NOYED – Ghana, and attended by head-teachers and School Management Committee (SMC) members from selected basic schools in Tamale Metro, was to generate ideas for local level funding of regular in-service training for teachers to ensure improved academic performance.

MrAbdulaiIddi said “There should be regular monitoring by circuit supervisors, the directorate of education and other partners in education development, to check on in-service training organisation and applications in the classrooms.”

He said Parent-Teacher Associations (PTAs) and SMCs should be involved in fundraising to support the organization of in-service training for teachers.

He said in-service training should be organised at least twice a term, for especially teachers of core subjects, adding there should be improvisation of teaching and learning materials to ensure maximum impact.

He said in-service training “Should be organised during holidays and or after classes so as to help students and pupils make good use of the contact hours in schools.”

Madam Ayishetu Osman, Head-teacher of Anwar-Rahamman Islamic Primary School, underscored the significance of in-service training for teachers, and called on PTAs, SMCs and teachers to pool resources to regularly undertake in-service training activities.

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