

ABSTRACT

The study was conducted in Urban West Region Unguja, to assess academic performance of science subjects and mathematics in secondary schools of Zanzibar. The study highlighted the causes of the massive failure of science subjects and mathematics in secondary schools found in Zanzibar. The topic synthesized the previous works from other researchers concerning to massive failures of science subjects and mathematics in different area around the world and Tanzania, the researcher assessed the uncovered gape and fill it to concrete the issue. Also, the conceptual framework was used to conceptualize the scenario of the massive failure and find out the major factors for massive failure with reference to objectives of the study. In methodological section, both simple random and purposive sampling was used to select the respondents; primary data was collected using questionnaires, interview whereas secondary data was collected from statistical records found in internet, library, newspapers, journals, and books. Data was analysed by using Microsoft Excel and the findings after data collection was given out. Also, to render and protect the privacy of the respondents, no such sensitive information was shared to third parties. The study found out that the factors influencing poor performance were; Inadequate number of teachers, Lack of teaching and learning materials, Poor teaching methods (theory) and students' attitudes towards science subjects. The study concludes that Scarcity of qualified Science subjects' teachers and inadequate availability of teaching and learning materials are the major factors influencing poor performance of science subjects in secondary schools of Unguja especially in West region "A". The study recommends the following; The Ministry of education should ensure enough availability of qualified science subjects and mathematics' teachers in secondary schools, and to make sure there is availability of adequate teaching and learning materials like books, teaching aids, specimens, chemicals and laboratory apparatuses, with conducive learning and friendly environment at schools.

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