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THE MULTIPLE ROLES OF A PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT TEACHER (PDT)

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Abstract

School improvement can be conceived broadly as encompassing the whole range of areas related to the school such as curriculum, human resources, the physical environment, and financial resources. Each of these areas, in turn, is itself immensely broad.

This presentation will highlight the particular role played by a Professional Development Teacher (PDT) and Principal in contributing to school improvement in a local trust-operated school. Seventy-six per cent of the staff members of the school are graduates of various programmes conducted at Aga Khan University Institute for Educational Development (AKU-IED).

The focus will particularly be on the purpose and procedures of some specific programmes and activities undertaken towards the attainment of the school's vision.

The paper will highlight the multiple roles of a PDT in areas such as teachers' professional development, administrative matters, and curriculum management with special reference to text books and assessment procedure. In addition to these, some strategies and innovative practices, including comprehensive needs assessment with data related to students' achievement standards, will be shared. The data collected contributed towards making some difference in students' learning outcomes and, in a broad way, to the school culture and structure.

The paper attempts to share some documents related to success stories, learning experiences, and challenges experienced by the PDT while working as a team member with teachers on the school improvement programmes and promoting a learning culture.