

**EFFECTIVENESS OF QUALITY ASSURANCE AND STANDARDS
OFFICERS IN PROMOTING TEACHER INSTRUCTIONAL
PRACTICES IN SECONDARY SCHOOLS OF KISHI COUNTY,
KENYA**

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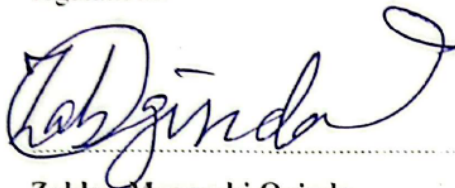
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**A RESEARCH PROJECT SUBMITTED IN PARTIAL
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UNIVERSITY**

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DECLARATION

I confirm that this research project is my original work and has not been presented in any other university/institution for certification. The project has been complemented by referenced works duly acknowledged. Where text, data, graphics, pictures or tables have been borrowed from other works including the internet, the sources are specifically accredited through referencing in accordance with anti-plagiarism regulations.



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31/10/2016

Date

We confirm that the work reported in this project was carried out by the candidate under our supervision as University supervisors



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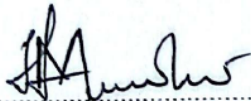
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ABSTRACT

The core function of the directorate of Quality Assurance and Standards (QAS) is ensuring Quality education. This entails monitoring of curriculum implementation in schools. The members of staff of the directorate are expected to visit schools regularly, conduct seminars and In-service courses for teachers, and promote advisory services among other activities. Reports have indicated that Quality Assurance and Standards in Kenya is a thorny issue. Even with the efforts made for instance in training, appointing qualified personnel and providing necessary materials, in strengthening the department, it is still wanting. It is against this background that this study sought to find out the role effectiveness of quality assurance and standards officers in promoting teacher instructional practices Masaba South sub-county, Kisii County. The main objective of the study is to assess the extent to which QASOs are improving teacher instructional practices in Masaba South sub-county, Kisii County, to evaluate the effectiveness of QASOs in promoting teacher instructional practices in Masaba South sub-county, Kisii County and lastly is to identify impediments faced by QASOs in their role of promoting teacher instructional practices in Masaba South sub-county, Kisii county. The research adopted a descriptive research design. Simple random sampling was used to sample 120 teachers from secondary schools in Masaba South sub-county, Kisii County. Systematic random sampling was used to select 40 secondary schools in Masaba South sub-county, Kisii County. Therefore, the sample size included 40 schools, 40 principals and 120 teachers from the Sub-County. Questionnaires were used to collect data from the head teachers and teachers. Data collected was analyzed using descriptive statistics. The study established that the exercise helped both principals and teachers to perform their duties more effectively and also became better educators. The major roles played by QASOs during in instructional practices were visiting teachers in the classroom to observe their teaching methodologies; checking lesson preparation, checking records and schemes of work and also ensuring teachers have adequate teaching and learning materials. Regarding the extent to which QASOs' activities address all round performance indicators, the study concludes that the major activities that QASOs in Masaba South Sub-Counties engaged in were monitoring and advising schools on academic performance; advising schools on sports, games, drama and music; and advising on curriculum delivery and assessment. However, the results of the analysis revealed that majority of the QASOs were not engaging in monitoring and advising schools on environmental conservation and school provision of career guidance. The major challenges experienced by QASOs while carrying out their roles were poor transport system, inadequate directorate of quality assurance and standard staffs, lack of qualified personnel in the directorate and teachers' negative attitude towards the officers. From the findings the study finally concludes that without proper instructional practices by the QASOs, the education system has jeopardized and its implications leading to poor quality education and outcome. The study recommends that the Ministry of Education should allocate more funds towards recruitment of the QASOs to curb the problem of understaffing in the Sub-County; QASOs should visit schools more frequently for supervision and also have a follow-up mechanism in order to ensure that their recommendations are implemented; among other recommendations.