

# Review of: "Effects of Teachers' Professional Development on Students' Academic Achievement"

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**Potential competing interests:** No potential competing interests to declare.

1. In the abstract, no results are described.
2. In the abstract, it seems that the national needs are not linked to the proposal, which is very poorly described. The abstract should align the needs with the instruction/programme/instruction given to the students.
3. The first phrase in the abstract, 'Learning outcomes in African and Caribbean countries do not seem to be improving in recent years,' does not align with the first one in the Introduction section, 'Teaching and learning in Africa and the Caribbean have improved drastically in recent years as the percentage of pupils completing elementary schools across countries has risen.'
4. The introduction should provide clues on why mathematics is an issue to investigate and what problems students are facing given the poor national results. At the same time, the authors concentrate on the needs of the teachers and what they should do, but the manuscript does not concentrate on the changes teachers in mathematics should face up to. The Introduction is then confusing and should contextualize better if the question is addressed to students or teachers, or both.
5. The hypotheses are not correctly formulated. Or there should be a previous statement in which the experimental proposal should be clearly defined. And not only this, there is a pre and a post, but there is not any description of what is in the middle. We need to know that information. What differences are expected to find between the control and the experimental group? What's the instruction in each case?
6. I really do not understand why this paper does not provide the crucial information on how the addressed programme could be repeated in other parts of the world. I guess that the most relevant information is not provided.