

FaSMEd at AIMSSEC

What is FaSMEd?

FaSMEd is a three year research project in mathematics and science education. The focus is on effective uses of formative assessment with low achieving students, supported with appropriate technologies.

What is the research?

There are two main strands of research:

1) developing a toolkit and 2) producing and synthesising a set of case studies.

The toolkit

The project uses a design research approach to developing a 'toolkit' of resources, including classroom activities, diagnostic testing and professional development.

The toolkit is developed in iterative cycles; teachers use a version of the toolkit in their everyday teaching, and it is then further refined and developed by drawing on the experiences of these teachers.

The case studies

Researchers will work with six to eight teachers, observing what they do in the classroom and finding out what works well.



Professional

The South African suggestion for a FaSMEd toolkit



What's happened in South Africa?

In South Africa the focus has been on:

1. Outreach: workshops with teachers on formative assessment to give them a taste of what the toolkit might include
2. Toolkit: first thoughts about what could work in the South African context and research into toolkit design

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The South African home for FaSMEd: a wordpress blog



South African teachers work on a 'formative assessment lesson'

Who's in FaSMEd?

The project is led by the University of Newcastle, UK
Other partners are:

The University of Nottingham, UK
Ecole Normale Supérieure De Lyon, France
National University Of Ireland Maynooth, Eire
University Of Duisburg-Essen, Germany
University Of Turin, Italy
University Of Utrecht, The Netherlands
African Institute For Mathematical Sciences Schools Enrichment Centre, South Africa
University College Of Trondheim, Norway



What are the acronyms?

FaSMEd = Formative Assessment in Science and Mathematics Education
AIMSSEC = African Institute of Mathematical Sciences, Schools Enrichment Centre

