



Collective

June 2010

PPRS Project Supports 98 New Private Schools

Promoting Private Schooling in Rural Sindh (PPRS) Project was launched by the SEF under the Public Private Partnership Component of the Sindh Education Reform Program 2008-2009. The 4-year pilot phase envisages establishment of 1000 private schools across 10 districts of Sindh that rank poorly along three indicators: the size of out of school children population (4-9 years), distance to the nearest primary school, and gender disparity in primary school participation.

200 schools were established in 2009 under the first phase. To set up private schools in phase II, entrepreneurs were selected via a comprehensive and transparent selection process and 98 additional schools were established in early 2010.

The project interventions presently reaching out to the 298 schools include per child subsidy base model (provision of Rs. 350 per month per child enrolled) and Base Plus Model (provision of Rs. 350 per month per boy enrolled & provision of Rs. 450 per month per girl enrolled, respectively); teachers' professional development; capacity building of entrepreneurs; enrichment of the learning environment; and regular school monitoring. In the 200 Phase 1 schools, per-child subsidies (tranches 5th & 6th) were released in March 2010. Three capacity building sessions were organized for school management and academic staff.

700 new schools will be established under phase III of the project in the coming months.



Hon'ble Senior Minister for Education & Literacy Pir Mazhar ul Haq accompanied by Lt. Gen. (Retd.) Moinuddin Haider announcing the 2nd Phase schools under PPRS Project

Integrated Education Learning Program supports 302 Private Schools

The two-year 'Integrated Education Learning Program' is designed to extend financial as well as technical support to 1500 new and existing private schools (private/community/trust owned, etc.) through the per child subsidy model, directly reaching out to 450,000 children of ages 5 to 18 years. The program includes

support to new schools in 13 districts while existing schools across all 23 districts of the province can apply for support. Financial support to schools comprises per child subsidy for each child enrolled at the rate Rs. 300 per child per month. The educational interventions are planned to focus on grassroots' capacity building in

school management and administration, improvement of the learning environment through professional development of teachers, and provision of learning resources for meaningful teaching-learning activities for children.

302 schools are presently supported under the IELP. For

selection of 1198 additional schools, thousands of applications were received from new/existing schools. Field verifications have been initiated for short-listing against the eligibility criteria i.e. the location specification; availability of teachers and their qualification; prospective students; and availability of basic space and other facilities.

Quality Education Interventions piloted in 30 Schools

During 2008-10, the SEF brought together the public and private sectors once again for school reform in Sindh. Undertaken in partnership with the Foundation Open Society Institute (FOSI) and the Pakistan Centre for Philanthropy (PCP), the 'Improving Quality of Education Programme (IQEP)' was implemented by the SEF in 30 schools (government, low-cost private and community based) of Hyderabad cluster.

The programme comprised of a two-tiered implementation approach focusing on service delivery for improving quality education within schools and undertaking research and advocacy for reviewing and advocating for improved quality interventions. During the two year period, provision of learning material, training of teachers, capacity building of school heads and parental involvement sessions were undertaken to improve students' learning and achievement levels. 6000 children, 250 teachers and school heads have directly benefited from the



interventions. School management committees, parents and district education officials were secondary beneficiaries of the programme.

At project completion, a seminar will invite the various stakeholders once more to highlight the success stories of programme interventions, share details of quality education interventions, research-based learnings and challenges faced during the 2 years of implementation so that the model can be scaled up and replicated in other schools.



UNESCO & SEF partner for Adult Education

The SEF and UNESCO have embarked upon a 1-year collaborative initiative whereby SEF will extend technical support for establishing 10 adult community learning centers in Sukkur. The baseline study has already been undertaken and the centers will start operation according to schedule. Sindh Development Society will work as the local implementing partner responsible for day-to-day management of the centers and implementation of programmatic interventions.

CAPACITY BUILDING

Capacity Building of Teaching Staff

Teachers Training in Accelerated Curriculum

The SEF is implementing a fast-track curriculum in 250 schools as part of the 'Rural based Community Schools' Project. The Project reaches out to around 14,000 children (4-16 years age bracket) who have dropped out or never been enrolled in formal schools. A fast-track academic program developed by 'New Century Education' has been introduced which is based on competency guidelines laid down by the government. In light of the pupils' developmental stages, two levels of accelerated curriculum are followed in the schools i.e. 'Behtareen' (primary level proficiency in 3 years) for children in the 4-9 years age bracket and 'Teztareen' (primary level proficiency in 1 year) for the 9-16 years age group.

Professional development of academic staff being a key prerequisite for achieving improvement in education service delivery is an important component of the Project. During the 4-year duration, teachers in partner schools will receive training on 3 levels of 'Behtareen' and 'Teztareen' (literacy and primary levels) curricula. Teachers were trained on level 1 of 'Behtareen' in 2009.

In January 2010, a 'Training Need Analysis' was carried out by SEF's Learning Support Unit as a follow-up of teachers' training. Based on the needs identification, 5-



day refresher was planned for 250 teachers. Held in March 2010, the sessions on level 1 of 'Behtareen' curriculum re-oriented the teachers on basic competencies' requirements in languages and Math and interactive teaching methodologies to make learning interesting and fun.

Moreover, another cohort of 250 teachers from the project schools was trained in 'Teztareen' (literacy level) curriculum. The training held during June-July 2010 concurrently across the 10 target districts i.e. Sukkur, Dadu, Sanghar, Jamshoro, Qambar Shahdadkot, Karachi, Khairpur, Larkana, Mirpurkhas, and Hyderabad, highlighted subject-based content, teaching methodologies and continuous assessment techniques. The sessions were highly interactive and demonstrated a good blend of theory and practice.

Subject-Based Training for Primary School Teachers

Under the 'Improving Quality of Education Programme' professional development of teachers was emphasized as a key in strengthening academic interventions across 30 partner schools in Hyderabad cluster. A 5-day training followed by a 3-day refresher was conducted in January and May 2010 respectively for 60 primary school teachers of grades 3 to 5.

The trainings featured an interface between theory, research and practice and focused on a variety of

instructional strategies. These included direct instruction, active learning approaches, inquiry and the development of critical thinking skills. The sessions dealt in-depth knowledge in various subjects such as Science, Social Studies, English, Urdu and Math.

The refresher training provided an opportunity to both teachers and trainers to collectively reflect upon the progress in students' learning outcomes. Sessions reinforced teaching and training approaches and discussed successful strategies and challenges faced during field implementation of the academic interventions across the target schools.



Specialized Training for ECE Teachers

In March 2010, the Early Learning Program, being implemented in 150 government schools, organized a 3-day refresher for 150 teachers from districts Badin, Khairpur, Ghotki, Noshero Feroz and Tando Muhammad Khan. The training was

based on competencies of the National ECE curriculum and emphasized pedagogical practices in light of the high scope approach. Lesson planning and assessment techniques were also discussed at dedicated sessions.

Refresher Training & Learning Support for Private Schools

The 'Promoting Private Schooling in Rural Sindh' Project organized a 3-day refresher training for 400 teachers from the 200 Phase 1 schools. Held in April 2010, in districts Larkana, Khairpur, Dadu, Hyderabad, Benazirabad and Umerkot, the sessions were refresher for the teachers on the contents of the "Get Ahead Series" (Oxford University Press). The training also discussed use of child-friendly pedagogical practices within the classroom, this time with more practical approaches.

The sessions provided a forum for information sharing as well as an opportunity to reflect upon teaching practices for improving pedagogical approaches for enhanced students' learning outcomes.

Field-based learning support visits followed the training



program where teachers were given new teaching-learning inputs. SEF trainers demonstrated ways to actively engage children in the learning process and discussed matters relating to lesson planning and academic interventions.

Strengthening School Management

SEF undertakes institutional capacity development of both school operators and school management bodies so that school management is cognizant of and responsive to the learning needs of students. Series of interventions across various schooling models undertaken over the six months period are detailed as under:

Capacity Building for Private School Entrepreneurs

In May 2010, a 4-day orientation was organized in Karachi for 80 school entrepreneurs from the 'Promoting Private Schooling in Rural Sindh' Project. Sessions provided a detailed overview on the toolkit prepared by the SEF comprising guiding principles, policies and procedures for effective school planning and management. A highlight of the training was the field-trip to various

schooling models to provide direct exposure to quality standards in place in varying educational settings.



Training for Partner NGOs

A day-long training was conducted in Karachi during February 2010 for the 10 implementing organizations partnering with SEF under the 'Rural Based Community School' Project. A total of 20 participants were provided detailed orientation on their roles and responsibilities as implementing partners. Concepts of academic planning and assessment for an accelerated curriculum, financial management and record keeping were also discussed.



Training for School Management Bodies

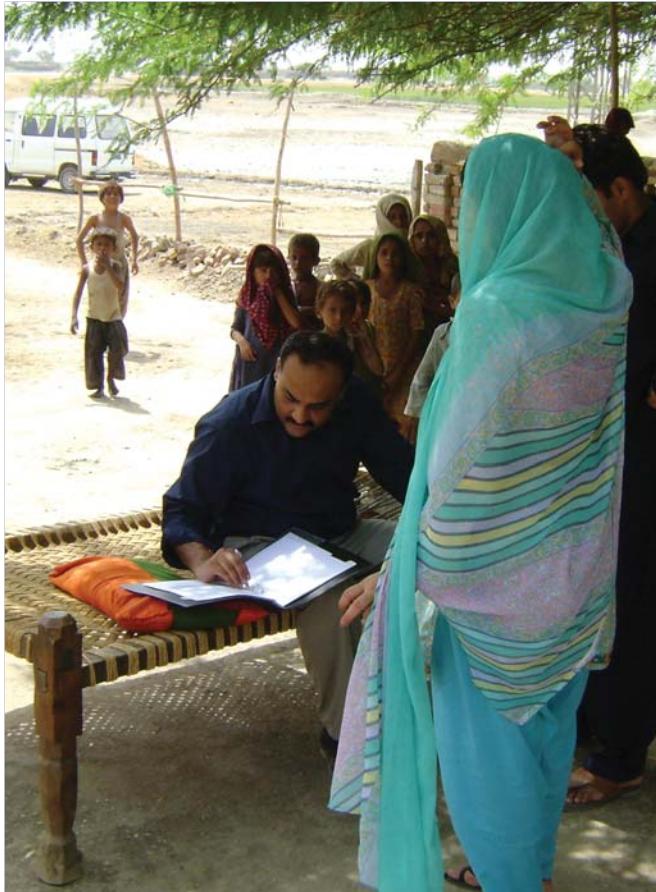
School Management Bodies (SMBs) from the 30 partner schools received training at Hyderabad during January 2010 as part of the 'Improving Quality of Education Programme'. Routine matters of school management, areas of quality education and aspects of school improvement planning were covered during the 2-day long sessions attended by 60 SMB members. Second round of training for the SMBs was organized in May 2010. Major themes covered reflective thinking; classroom management and conflict resolution. The sessions aim to support, enhance and sustain quality of teaching and learning within schools by empowering school managers to play their social and technical roles more efficiently.

Professional Development

Special efforts were made towards capacity building of trainers through ongoing workshops, training programs, ToTs and refreshers. Some critical areas such as subject-based sessions; syllabi orientations; language workshops; strategies for effective classrooms; ECD and adult education concepts were covered in coordination with external trainers/ organizations such as the British Council, New Century Education, ABES, etc.

Formal arrangements for professional development were supported by informal peer-teaching and the sharing of field experiences and educational resources within the trainers and program teams. Exchange of ideas through interactive sittings and brainstorming sessions have greatly facilitated in building collective staff capacity for delivery of effective training programs for stakeholders.

RESEARCH & MONITORING



Monitoring of Schools

Monitoring across various SEF programs is undertaken routinely to gather information on school level indicators. Bi-annual monitoring was undertaken across Early Learning Program and the Rural Based Community Schools Project. Monitoring of 250 RBCS Project schools in February 2010 was supervised by SEF and undertaken in coordination with the 10 implementing partner NGOs. Bi-annual monitoring of 200 schools under PPRS Project was undertaken in January 2010 and across the 150 ELP schools in 5 districts during April and May 2010. A round of inspections across the PPRS Project was also conducted in April-May 2010. The data gathered has helped determine the quality of educational interventions underway in partner schools, school needs, learning support requirements and provided the basis for continuing support to the schools.

Verification Surveys

SEF's Research, Monitoring & Evaluation Unit is leading the field surveys being undertaken by external research firms for verifying applications received under the Integrated Education Learning Program. Data gathered through the surveys will be used in short-listing applicants before the final selection of schools.

Our Friends & Partners



Hon'ble Pir Mazhar ul Haq (Senior Minister for Education & Literacy-GoS) with MD-SEF



MD, SEF briefing Dr. Qaiser Bengali (Advisor to Chief Minister Sindh) about SEF programs



Ms. Sharmila Faruqi (Advisor to Chief Minister Sindh) in conversation with MD-SEF



Mr. Raja Anwar (Advisor to Chief Minister Punjab and Chairman Punjab Education Foundation) during his visit to SEF



Hon'ble Pir Mazhar ul Haq (Senior Minister for Education-GoS) during a discussion with Dr. Nabila Soomro (Dow University)



Dr. Sardar Ghous Buksh Maher (MNA) and Mr. Shehryar Maher (MPA Sindh Assembly) during their visit to SEF



Director-SEF welcoming Lt. Gen. (Retd.) Moinuddin Haider at PPRS Phase II Launch



Representatives from NIPA on a study tour meet with MD-SEF



Mr. Maikeal Barbar & Mr. Parvez Iqbal (Ministry of Education) in a meeting at SEF



Dr. M. Ibraheem Shah Bukhari (Vice Chancellor-Preston University) during a discussion with MD-SEF



Mr. Effendi (Founder-New Sindh Madressah School) with Mr. Qazi Arif (Secretary, Board of Technical Education) at SEF event



Mr. Mansoob Siddiqi (Director Private Schools) in conversation with MD-SEF



MD-SEF presenting Appreciation award to School Adopter Ms. Shagufta Amin Dada



Participants from Young Professional Leadership Program visiting SEF



Representatives from Aga Khan Foundation (Pakistan) in an RCC: ECD Program Review meeting at SEF Head Office

Our Friends & Partners



Delegation from World Bank in a meeting with SEF staff



Dr. Mujeeb Tahir (Director Planning, Frontier Education Foundation) and members of the delegation with MD, SEF



Renowned columnists/writers Mr. Asif Noorani, Ms. Zubaida Mustafa & School Adopter Ms. Masooda Ahmed at SEF event



Famous Columnist Mr. Ardesir Cowasjee meeting with Prof. Anita Ghulam Ali



Mr. Vim Biervlet & Mr. Jamshed Khan (European Union) during their visit to SEF



Delegation from Japan Literacy Cooperation Agency (JICA) in a meeting with MD, SEF



David Martin (Director Pakistan - British Council) with MD-SEF



Prof. Anita Ghulam Ali briefing a Chinese delegation at SEF



Representatives from the British Council in a meeting at SEF

SEF Partner Schools



District: Thatta



District: Badin



District: Dadu



District: Sanghar



District: Larkana



District: Qamber-Shadad Kot

Team at Work



In Loving Memory of Rana Moeed

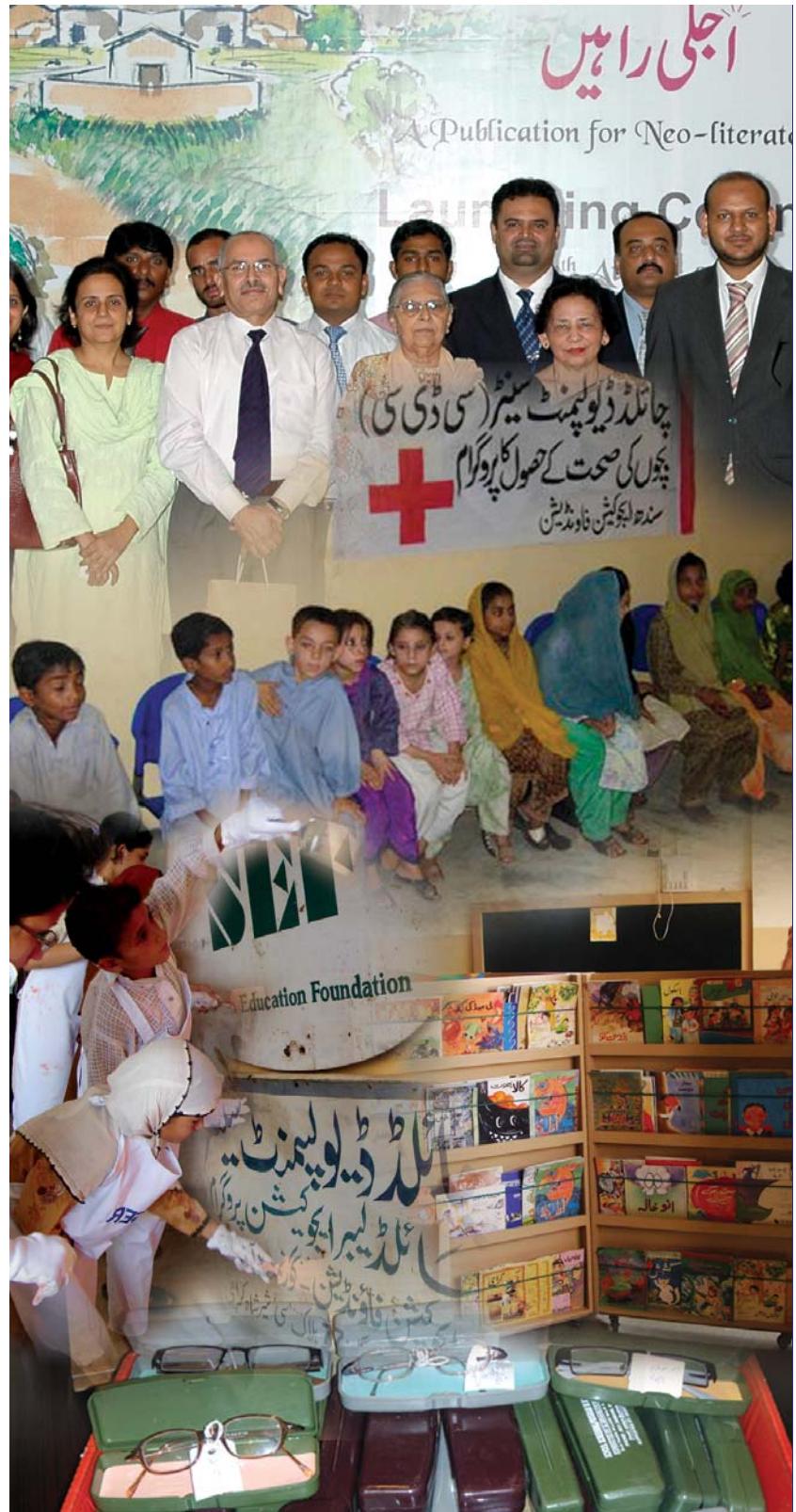
"If you do not want to be forgotten when you are dead, either write something worth reading or do things worth writing".



Ms. Rana Moeed, one of our dear colleagues, passed away on May 28th 2010. Her four-year association with the organization was instrumental in developing many successful partnerships. With selfless dedication and deep commitment to her profession, Rana touched countless lives, particularly those of children and women groups. Her span of work ranged from enriching educational interventions to creating public-private linkages for continuing education project; health and hygiene provisions; skills training workshops; library set-up; health screening; and free eye and dental check-ups. Hundred of working children and marginalized women continue to benefit through these interventions.

With Rana's passing we have lost one of the finest colleagues and a passionate advocate for the marginalized segments of society. SEF salutes her commitment and contribution which will continue to serve as the beacon of direction for our younger and new friends.

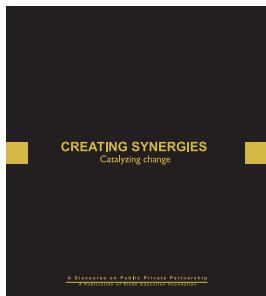
We miss you!



Ms. Rana envisioned a series of initiatives to enrich the lives of children and adult women and was instrumental in establishing successful partnerships to implement the following interventions:

- Provision of nutrition packs
- Free health camps; medicines, vaccines & accessories
- Safety gears for working children
- Educational Resource for neo-literate adults
- Resources for improving learning environment at CDC.

PUBLICATIONS & RESOURCES



Public Private Partnerships – A Discourse

SEF's latest publication is a comprehensive discourse that reinforces the private and public sector partnerships as a feasible development strategy, that allows for more efficient solutions for service provision. The publication outlines successful public-private partnerships; key

strategies and approaches as well as showcases the different kinds of public-private engagement processes. Considering the contrasting priorities of the two sectors under discussion, the booklet recognizes the need for communication to bring synergy for optimum results. SEF's experiences in implementing PPPs for provision of education and basic health awareness to marginalized communities for almost two decades are also highlighted. The publication serves as a useful follow-up to the symposium on Public Private Partnership "Bridging the Gap: Synergizing efforts for Social Development" held by SEF in March 2009.

Training Resources

Subject Specific Guides for Teachers

The guides on English, Science and Mathematics are designed for classes I and II to assist teachers in implementing the Oxford University Press course in SEF partner schools across Sindh. The guides are developed in English and Sindhi to facilitate improved understanding of subject matter and aid instructions in primary classrooms.

Instruction Manual for Primary School Teachers

A series of Subject Specific Manuals have been developed in Sindhi, Urdu and English to improve teachers' content knowledge of primary grade subjects. Teaching techniques specifically for teaching of language (Urdu and English), Social Studies, Mathematics and Science along with subject specific and integrated lesson planning tips are included in the manual. Dedicated chapters present teaching methodologies; classroom management techniques; conflict resolution, grade wise lesson plans and activities' suggestions for effective teaching-learning.

Guide for School Management Bodies

The guide for parents and school committees is meant to encourage participatory management of schools and greater parental involvement in children's education process. Topics covered include classroom support, consultative management approaches; techniques for conflict resolution, team building, group decision making, leadership; tips on school improvement and

strategies to help mobilize community participation in school governance.

Teachers' Manuals for Accelerated Education

The teachers' manuals are guides to the accelerated curriculum that is designed for children who were out of the school or formerly disengaged with schooling. The specially designed syllabi i.e. 'Behtareen' and 'Taiztareen', allow age-groups 4-9 and 10-16 to achieve the necessary competencies for primary schooling in 3 years and 1 year respectively. The course has a focus on phonics, diagraphs, photo memory and icon reading to make learning interactive. Teachers' manuals encompass Basic Literacy and Primary Level subject modules on Mathematics, Social Studies, Science and Islamiat. Detailed scheme of work, session plans, assessment techniques and evaluation tools are also included for the teachers.

Facilitators' Manual on Early Childhood Education

This comprehensive manual in Sindhi and English languages outlines foundational skills to encourage children on the road to lifelong learning. 'High Scope Learning Approach' and suggestions for using teaching-aids to address various learning areas and interactive activities are presented in detail. Model lesson plans, formative assessment techniques, case studies, exercises and colored illustrations are given to make the manual as practical and user friendly as possible; and facilitate teachers in fostering children's cognitive, social, moral, emotional and language development.

School Management Toolkit

The SEF strives to ensure that the quality of education across its partner schools not only meets the requirements prescribed in the National Curriculum but also matches credible benchmarks of excellence in terms of being child friendly and contextually relevant. The quality protocols that can be adopted and institutionalized by any school to qualify as an institution offering high quality of education to the children

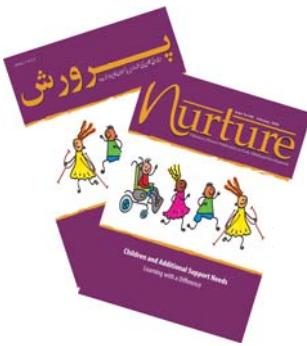
comprises of good governance; standardized learning practices; curriculum planning; quantifiable assessment techniques and effective school management. The school management toolkit focuses on these protocols and will facilitate school leaders and school manager to work independently as well as collectively towards attaining high standards of educational quality within their schools. Hopefully the guide will serve as an effective tool for institutional strengthening of the partner schools.

Project Documentaries

SEF showcased two of its recent initiatives i.e. the PPRS Project and the Integrated Education Learning Program through video documentaries. Both the projects, in their unique capacities aim to reach out to marginalized communities with quality education interventions. The

documentaries details public-private partnership education models, basics of financial and technical support, role of stakeholders as well as program experiences and lessons learnt. The thirty-minute documentaries in Urdu and Sindhi will serve as an important advocacy tool for creating awareness about SEF's portfolio as also in greater ownership for the program interventions at the grassroots.

ECD Magazine



The 8th issue of SEF publication "Nurture" and its Urdu parallel "Parwarish" were recently published on the theme 'Children and Additional Support Needs'. The information featured aims to bring awareness about additional support needs and ways to address the pedagogical, institutional and social barriers. Other topics include timely detection of warning signs, inclusive education, and role of parents, teachers and therapists in understanding and responding to the needs of children with ASN. Responsibilities of peers and caregivers, as well as the society at large, have been

emphasized as well through practical guidelines for promoting an enabling environment for all children. An Organizational Directory has also been included in the pack which gives an overview of a cross-section of organizations geographically, and across a spectrum of additional support needs that are working in Pakistan and catering to diverse needs of children across the country.

Nurture and Parwarish magazines are circulated nationally to young parents, caregivers, teachers, school heads and various educational and public and private sector organizations. The magazine is developed by the SEF as part of the Releasing Confidence & Creativity: ECD Programme which is funded and supported by Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands and Aga Khan Foundation (Pakistan).



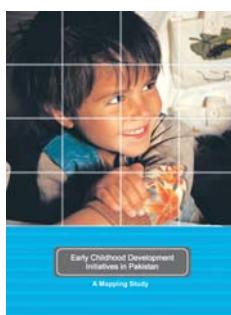
Children's Newsletter

The SEF periodically publishes Children's Newsletter in Urdu and Sindhi languages. CN is an educational resource that targets young children. The Newsletter is one of the key interventions undertaken by SEF to enhance learning in early years classrooms.

The recently published issues highlight some very pertinent themes including 'Respecting Elders', 'H1N1 – A New Flu', 'Children & Disasters' and 'Our Animal Friends'. Important concepts have been presented through interesting anecdotes and illustrations and

activities have been included to reinforce the lessons. Two of the issues emphasize that real happiness comes from respecting and loving those around us. The other issues highlight various global concerns including the H1N1 flu, earthquake, thunderstorm, fire, bomb scare and floods. Causes and safety tips are provided to help children cope with such situations.

The newsletter is very popular amongst the school children and has not only facilitated the teaching of many important lessons to children but has also been instrumental in stimulating creativity and imagination.



ECD Mapping Study

The ECD Mapping study carried out as a part of the RCC:ECD Programme shares with the readers the synergized efforts made by various organizations in the area of Early Childhood Development in Pakistan. Based on extensive desktop and field research the study outlines the benefits

of investing in ECD, provides a situational analysis of ECD in Pakistan; expands upon the aims and objectives of the RCC: ECD Programme and finally focuses towards details of initiatives undertaken by 29 organizations across the country. The Mapping Study is being disseminated widely across academic institutions, NGOs, public and private sector organizations in an effort to strengthen ECD networks within Pakistan; and build up active partnerships for well being of young children and their families.

EVENTS

Phase 2 of Promoting Private Schooling in Rural Sindh (PPRS) Project launched

The launch event of "Promoting Private Schooling in Rural Sindh (PPRS) Project" Phase II was organized by Sindh Education Foundation in March, 2010 at a local hotel in Karachi. PPRS is SEF's public private partnership initiative supported by the Government of Sindh aiming at increasing access to quality education facilities for the marginalized children of Sindh. Recently 98 new schools were added to the list to take the total project outreach to 298 schools in 10 districts.

Hon'ble Pir Mazhar ul Haq, (Senior Minister for Education & Literacy, GoS), as Chief Guest formally launched the new private schools. The event featured key note addresses by Hon'ble Qaiser Bengali (Advisor to CM), Mr. Mohammad Memon (Director AKU-IED) and Ms. Naheed Durrani (Special Secretary, Finance, GoS) who were in unanimous agreement about the declining state



of the country's educational standards and suggested models and techniques than can help improve the situation. The key note speeches set the premise for the panel discussion that included Hon'ble Pir Mazhar ul Haque, Hon'ble Sharmila Farooqui (Advisor to Chief Minister), Lt. Gen (Rtd) Moinuddin Haider (Former Governor Sindh) and Dr. Mohammad Memon in a discourse entitled "Quality Education in Public Sector: Need for Innovative Models". At the end of the seminar, 77 entrepreneurs from 10 districts of Sindh were presented offer letters by the Senior Minister.

District wide Orientations on IEHP

District level orientation sessions for the 'Integrated Education Learning Program' were carried out by SEF during February 2010. The sessions provided an overview of SEF Portfolio and details of the IEHP Program model. Ms. Sharmila Farooqui (Advisor to CM, Sindh), Mr. Noman Islam Shaikh (Parliamentary Secretary for Railways), Mr. Dabra (Advisor to CM, Sindh) and Barrister Mujeed ul Haq chaired the events in Hyderabad, Sukkur, Mirpurkhas and Dadu respectively. The orientations were attended by representatives of the Education Department, Government of Sindh and NGOs, civil society representatives and prospective entrepreneurs.

Management representatives shared the overview of the Foundation's portfolio as well as the salient features of IEHP.



Adopters' Appreciation Meetings

SEF's Adopt-a-School Program, a pioneering initiative that encourages private sector patronage of public sector schools, called for adopters' appreciation meeting in May 2010. Fifteen adopters, accompanied by respective school heads from 42 schools participated in the proceedings. MD,SEF lauded the relentless efforts of school adopters in improving the educational provisions in government schools. During individual meetings, SEF representatives also discussed the challenges faced by the adopters so that interventions can be facilitated in future. A highlight of the meeting was distribution of educational packs (comprising bags, books, educational CDs and blankets) received from the people of the United States of America for school children in Pakistan.



SINDH EDUCATION FOUNDATION

Government of Sindh

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