



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



Together we are creating a **ROSHAN PAKISTAN**

Sindh Basic Education Program

In partnership with the Government of Sindh

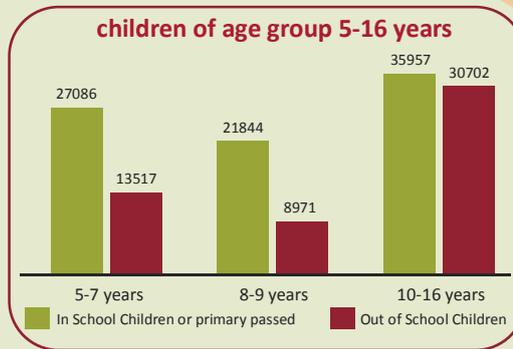


NEWSLETTER | Vol. III | July - September 2015

The Government of Sindh and U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) are working together to implement the Sindh Basic Education Program (SBEP) to improve the quality and access to basic education for children in Sindh by increasing and sustaining student enrollment at primary, middle and secondary levels. USAID's \$155 million program is being implemented by Government of Sindh's (GoS) Education and Literacy Department, with an additional \$10 million contribution from GoS. The implementation period is 2012 – 2016 (extension till 2018).

53,000 out-of-school children: A challenging task ahead

Sindh Reading Program (SRP) conducted household survey of out-of-school children in 269 SBEP target communities engaging 1,606 SMC members. The survey for age group of 5-16 years children shows that there are over 53,000 out of school children in target age group that need to be enrolled in formal education system. Altogether, 39 percent of children are out-of-school, the highest ratio being 48 percent in age group of 10-16 years.



Message

Sindh Basic Education Program is holistic in its approach with all the components complementing each other. It is not only construction, not only improving reading skills, teachers training, mobilization of local community or increasing girls' enrollment through a robust institutional arrangements for public private partnerships and systems improvement; it is all of these and much more. With strong commitment and support from the Education & Literacy department, Government of Sindh (GoS), and USAID, SBEP has been making commendable progress and will continue to do so to meet all stated targets and outcomes.

Tameezuddin Khero
Program Director

The Steering Committee meets to review progress

The 11th meeting of SBEP's Program Steering Committee was held on Thursday, September 03, 2015. The meeting was chaired by the Secretary Education, Dr. Fazlullah Pechuho and was attended by the representatives from PMIU, USAID, SRP, CMP, PRP, SCDP, A&E contractor, P&D Department, Finance Department, RSU, Director of Schools Education, and Additional Deputy Commissioners. The committee meets every quarter to review progress on SBEP. Secretary showed satisfaction on construction work of schools.



11th Steering Committee meeting held at PMIU, Karachi.



www.sbec.gos.pk

New school buildings for better learning

Construction of the first batch of four under-construction schools in Khairpur and Sukkur is expected to be completed by last week of November 2015. Government Boys Elementary School (GBES) Koro Goth in Khairpur is anticipated to be the first school to be handed over to the education department. The process of up-gradation of GBES Koro Goth from elementary school to high school (grade 1 to 10) is also recommended. With rolling out of 9 packages, there are 58 schools that are at different levels of construction in Khairpur, Sukkur, Larkana, Karachi and Dadu.



Secretary Education and Literacy Department, GoS, Dr. Fazlullah Pechuho, visited SBEP under-construction schools of district Larkana and showed satisfaction over the progress of work.

Upcoming Construction Packages			
Packages	District/ Town	Number of Schools	Update
10 to 12	Kambar Shahdad Kot	21	NOC for 21 schools has been issued from the office of Secretary Education, GoS.
13-14	Jacobabad	17	NOC for 17 schools is being sought from the office of Secretary Education, GoS.
15	Karachi-2	4	Land mutation for 4 remaining schools in Karachi is expected to start in October 2015.
16-17	Kashmore	13	Geo technical is in progress.



GBES Koro Goth, Khairpur



GBHS Jajh Regulator, Khairpur

Regional workshops for sharing EGRA results



Secretary Education, Dr. Fazlullah Pechuho officially opening the EGRA dissemination Workshop.

SRP conducted consultation workshop at the regional level for a broader dissemination of results of the Early Grades Reading Assessment (EGRA). Altogether four workshops were conducted for all eight program districts. District-wise EGRA baseline results were shared with District Education Management and other stakeholders. Workshops were held during July 2-11, 2015.

Training on teaching methods for effective early grade reading

SRP held a five-day face-to-face training session in Sukkur in August 2015. Over 2,000 people attended the training, which included Teaching and Learning Associates (TLAs), back-up TLAs, field monitors, and project staff. TLAs are being engaged to support 1,900 new teachers through training.



World Literacy Day celebrated

On the World Literacy Day (September 8), SRP staff engaged with girl students at GGPS Intelligence No 1 School, Kemari and read out to them in interactive sessions. SRP celebrated the Day to focus public opinion on the root cause of illiteracy: lack of reading skills.



Lifting reading standards to new heights: SRP Chief of Party and a little school girl carrying the message of 'Read to Lead' this Literacy World Day



Putting the flags out for the eight years Rukhsar who has surprised everyone with her innate abilities

In the past children could only give 3 or 4 words by identifying relevant letters instead of sounds, but with the introduction of new reading techniques such as phonemic awareness by SRP in its schools, children have demonstrated a significant difference. Among those students is Rukhsar, an 8 year old girl from GGPS Ahadi Khan Rajper and an active and intelligent student in her class. Rukhsar was able to demonstrate 32 words in her classroom only by listening to its

sound in front of her class. After the Face To Face and On The Job trainings, the new pedagogical techniques are implemented by those teachers who have benefited from these trainings and its results are evident on the project's ultimate beneficiaries. The written and verbal assessments of students reflects the success in the field.



Bringing out-of-school children to schools

The team of Community Mobilization Program (CMP) mobilized parents and community members for enrolling 1,324 (460 girls and 864 boys) out-of-school children in targeted areas of the program. Since the commencement of program 17,008 (6,540 girls and 10,468 boys) have been enrolled in government schools.



Training of SMC members to develop small grant proposal

CMP provided training to 82 SMC members for preparing proposals for small grants. CMP will award small grants to SMCs up to \$1,500.



20 applicants of the EOI for EMOs have been prequalified to bid for the RFP. This is a very encouraging outcome of CMP efforts to assist GOS in establishing a pool of potential EMOs for implementation of the GOS' EMO policy reform.



Intel-Pakistan in facilitation with CMP for developing science projects

Intel-Pakistan with Community Mobilization Program team facilitated 69 students and teachers in developing 29 science projects / abstracts on different topics in Larkana, Sukkur and Khairpur Districts and Karachi. Intel experts will assess these abstracts for qualification for participation in Intel's Sindh Provincial Science Fair.



Expanding the role of School Management Committees (SMCs)

CMP team formed 116 SMC subcommittees, consisting of 580 members in 29 schools during July-August 2015. Altogether, 1,628 SMC subcommittees, consisting of 8,140 members, have been formed thus far in 407 schools across the seven targeted districts and five towns of Karachi. The sub-committee have been formed in specific areas such as social mobilization, monitoring and evaluation, disaster risk reduction, etc.



CMP organized International Literacy Day

CMP organized 'International Literacy Day' on September 8, to highlight the significance of Literacy in Sindh. In nine events 2,811 participants (Female 1,333 & Male 1,478) participated.



Celebration of International Literacy Day at Larkana

Communities lend their support for school improvement

- In Kashmore, head teacher of GBPS Ghouspur, Syed Zulfiqar Ali Shah, contributed for the construction of three toilets and rehabilitation of two non-functional toilets. He also donated for installation of hand pump and for renovation of the school building.
- In GBHS Sardaroo Khoso, a teacher donated a refrigerator for the students.
- In GBHS Karampur, head teacher Ali Bilawal installed water hand pump for the students.
- In Buxapur, a local philanthropist purchased fans for the class rooms of GBPS Altaf Domki-I, thus relieving students from extreme hot weather.



Water flasks distributed among students

Deloitte join hands with SBEP

Deloitte Pakistan has joined SBEP as an implementing partner for Sindh Capacity Development Project (SCDP). It is a three-years project to support the sustainability of the SBEP by ensuring stronger governance and improved public accountability in the education sector through systems building and institutional strengthening of PMIU and Education and Literacy Department. More specifically, SCDP aims to: improve efficiency and effectiveness of the PMIU to manage and implement SBEP in an effective and transparent manner; strengthen the effectiveness and impact of SBEP through the implementation of the M&E plan and further disseminate knowledge to guide the education sector's M&E programs and practices in Sindh; facilitate the systematic generation of knowledge on education challenges and innovative interventions and strategies to inform decision-makers for the improvement of education policies and programs in general and SBEP in particular; and strengthen capacities, systems and policies of the E&LD to improve the education services in conjunction with the education reforms in Sindh.

CMP distributed water flasks

CMP team distributed 2,931 water flasks among 2,808 students of 18 schools located in Dadu, Sukkur, Jacobabad, Larkana, Qambar-Shahdadkot and Khairpur Districts and Karachi, whose students had participated in environment day events celebrated in their schools, last quarter.