

SCSPEB Update

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"To create partnership between beneficiaries the Government and funding organization in all social sector for Sustainable development".



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Excel Camp

Student learning is the primary goal of any school and system of education. Learning is a complex, multi-dimensional and lifelong process which demands a variety of teaching and learning strategies and process. An environment that provides students with knowledge and ability to solve problems in everyday life must impart communication skills, creative and critical thinking, and problem-solving intelligence.

ED-LINKS is a USAID sponsored project which aims at improving the quality of education at middle and secondary levels in 11 districts of Balochistan. The Ed LINKS is making various interventions to achieve its objectives. One of the interventions to improve the learning environment by engaging students in hands-on activities through holding six-day EXCEL camp. These camps are subject-specific and include Science (Physics, Chemistry and Biology), Math, English and Information Technology. The first Excel Camp was organized at Boys Scout Head Quarters Quetta during October 12-17, 2009. Society for Community Support for Primary Education in Baluchistan, as a partner of Ed - LINKS, was responsible for the organization of the first Excel Camp in Baluchistan.

The objective of the excel camp was to transform the students into curious explorers, strengthen their ability to work in teams and improve collaborative learning, develop leadership skills and bridging of learning gaps between schools, teachers and community, to develop skills of critical thinking, inquiry based learning and building self esteem.

The camp facilitated 197 students and 66 teachers from the projected districts i.e. Pishin Killa Abdullah, Killa Saifullah Lioralai, Kacchi, Sibi, Naseerabad, Khuzdar, Awaran, Punjgoor and Kech. The students included 121 boys' and 77 girls while 36 male and 30 female teachers participated in the Excel camp. The criterion for selection of students was regularity, talent, sound academic progress and participation of students in the school based Science club activities. Incidentally the teachers of every school were qualified from where the students were selected, for participation in the camp. The Camp was a residential activity aiming at creating habits of cooperation, cohesion, team work and understanding each others problems and solving them through mutual sharing of knowledge and experiences. The BoC and the PITE provided their Technical support in planning and conducting the camp.

The students were encouraged to think and develop their own models in the areas of Science, Mathematics, English and learning technology. Their work was really amazing particularly because they

had used very low cost and readily available material. The teachers worked with them like their monitors and facilitators. It created a new enthusiasm and curiosity among the participants to learn at their own and present their perception, vision and work before the class. The teachers also had a new experience of facilitating the students to learn through hands on practice techniques, justify their perception and move ahead, rather than rote memorization.

The schools of Quetta city and their teachers were also invited to visit the camp and see how the facilitation and learning process was going on. Eleven schools and about 230 of their teachers and students visited the camp and they also joined the process. The students of College Of Education also visited the camp. They also learned how various theories of learning were being practiced in the areas of Science, Mathematics and English. They commented that these theories they would have never been able to understand if they had not visited the camp.

The Executive District Education officers and quite a few Heads of High schools also visited the camp and witnessed the working of various groups of students, teachers and the facilitators. They realized that our teachers and students are very hard working and committed to learn. What is missing in the system is leadership and support. They went back, they said, with a new vision and they promised that they will multiply the efforts in their district and schools.

Mr. Shafeeq Ahmed Khan (Late) Minister of Education Balochistan, and Dr. Ruqia Hashmi Minister for Inter Provincial Coordination, visited the camp on its concluding day and visited an Exhibition of the projects completed by the participants during the camp. They also participated in the closing ceremony where the students expressed their feelings and experiences before the audience. Both the celebrities said that they were encouraged looking at the projects done by the students and discussing various issues with them. They thought that if conducive teaching atmosphere is provided, our students can demonstrate to be the best in the country. They promised that they will leave no stone unturned to provide the needed facilities to the schools to improve the present situation. They hoped that activities like Excel camp, will be held frequently and in the districts so that more and more teachers and students may be able to take benefits of the opportunities.

The participants of the camp were so sad to depart a place of learning and their feeling was a good tool of assessing the success of the camp.

Quarterly Achievements

ED-LINKS

- * Planning for organizing an EXCEL CAMP for 200 students and 66 teachers.
- * A comprehensive report of EXCEL CAMP developed and submitted.
- * Meetings with EDO's on district level conducted for nomination of teachers from focused Schools for TDP Cycle 2.
- * Report of TDP cycle 1 completed and circulated.
- * Initiation of TDP Cycle 3 in all the 11 focused districts under Ed-Links.



Community Girls' Middle School Project

- * Education Department forwarded the case to Finance Department for creation of posts for mainstreaming of middle and high schools upgraded under CGMS project.
- * 89 Examination Forms of students of Classes 9th & 10th for SSC Exams submitted to BISE Quetta.
- * 103 students of class 8th appeared in Departmental exams of the districts.
- * Annual Exams of students were chalked out and conducted.
- * Construction of Khudaidadzai and Haikalzai school buildings completed and shifted to new building.
- * Construction of Earth Quake affected Middle School Ahmedoon. School building completed and CGMS Warchoom is in progress.



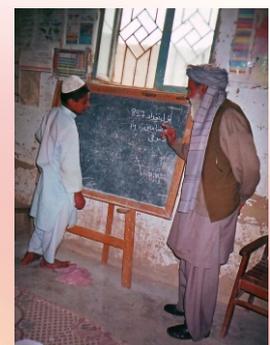
Teacher Training Wing "SCSPEB"

- * Finalization of 12 days Teacher Training Report Phase II and submission to BEF, MHI, LAFAM & NIRE.
- * Monitoring and support to BESP schools Phase II.
- * Finalization of module for Administrators focusing on "Services Rules Government of Balochistan".
- * Completion of reading materials on "Services Rules Government of Balochistan" for Education Field Officers.
- * Completion of module on development and use of teaching aids for Primary School Teachers.
- * Facilitation in development of module on Teachers' Attachment Program under ED-LINKS.
- * Designed and conducted 15 days training of Master Trainers under "Adult Literacy and Skill Development Program".
- * Designed and conducted 10 days training of 50 ECE facilitators under ECE Child Friendly School focused by UNICEF. The training of 50 more teachers will be imparted in March 2010.
- * Facilitated in conduction of Excel Camp Balochistan under ED-LINKS.
- * 15 days teacher training conducted under Adult Literacy & Skill Development Program.



Afghan Refugees Education Project (AREP)

- * Conduction of Annual exams in all camp schools, the percentage of successful students remained 73% in Muslim Bagh and 60% in Muhammad Khail.
- * 69 Follow up visits conducted in both camps, 37 M.Khail and 32 M.Bagh.
- * 14 teachers meetings conducted in both camps, Mohammad Khail and Muslim Bagh regarding regularity of students in schools before and during Examination.
- * 35 SMC (Male/Female) meetings conducted in both camps, Mohammad Khail & M.Bagh in order to solve school related problems.
- * 02 combine meetings conducted with Head teachers, teachers, SMC members and parents in both camps Mohammad Khail & Muslim Bagh regarding attendance of students and their cleanliness in schools / HBGSs.
- * 05 meetings conducted with community workers (male/Female) in Muslim Bagh camp regarding regularity of students in schools.
- * Study material distributed in 18 schools of both Camps (M.Khail & M.Bagh including home base center in M.Bagh camp).
- * Stipend distributed among the teachers and watchmen in all 07 schools of Mohammad Khail and 04 schools and 07 HBGSs in Muslim Bagh camp.
- * School monitoring / Class room observation visits conducted in all 18 schools of both camps Mohammad Khail and Muslim Bagh.



Quarterly Achievements

Refugee Affected Hosting Areas (RAHA)

- * Orientation of staff recruited under the project for both the districts Quetta and Pishin.
- * Conducted Meetings with Education Department in Quetta and Pishin districts.
- * Signing of MOU with Education Department for both the districts.
- * 75 consultative meeting conducted in Quetta while 39 in Pishin. 16 Parents Teachers School management Committees' formed in Quetta and 32 in Pishin.
- * 21 Health & Hygiene sessions conducted in Quetta and 31 in Pishin.
- * 37 B.O.Q's developed in Quetta and 44 in Pishin district.
- * Monitoring of project activities completed.
- * Renovation of 24 schools in Quetta and 26 in Pishin District.
- * Six trainings regarding the Roles and Responsibilities of PTSMC's conducted in Quetta District.



Releasing Confidence & Creativity

- * Monitoring and provision of classroom support by teams and Lead Teachers in 91 schools.
- * 1 class room constructed in GGMS Badal Kareez
- * ECE classroom improvement & Materials provision (basic stationary items) to all RCC schools
- * 3 cluster based 6 Days Training on "Child Learning Disabilities and Contemporary teaching and learning Approaches" including class I and II teachers and EFOs
- * 40 plan sharing and review meetings conducted with EFOs / DEBs and other district Government officials.
- * 2 new ECE Teachers identified and tests conducted & hired new ECE teacher
- * 17 teacher tests conducted for Adult Literacy Centers.
- * Identification of GGPS Nomani & Behrozai
- * Consultative meetings held with 28 WVECs and 18 PTSMCs by teams.
- * Meetings held with 9 PTSMCs and 15 WVECs by Lead Teachers.
- * One School PTSMCs bank account was replaced
- * 26 WVECs Annual Performance Reviews were conducted by teams
- * 27 PTSMCs Annual Performance Reviews were conducted by teams
- * 12 child competition seminar conducted in clusters.
- * 7 District Advocacy Seminars conducted.
- * 24 meetings conducted with LTs to review the performance.
- * RCC field Team (ECE F & LTs) participation in AKU-HDP training / workshops:
- * Regular collection of information on RCC progress
- * Maintaining of school files and data entry
- * House hold survey of 2 RCC focused villages of summer zone
- * Documentation of the activities at school and community level
- * School record maintaining at school level verified and forwarded.
- * Support in child profile data collection
- * Verification of HH Survey in 22 Schools of Summer Zone



Basic Literacy and Skill Development Program

- * Identification and Demarcation of areas for establishment of Literacy centers.
- * Conduction of Household survey in 13 villages of Tehsil Nokundi District Chaghi.
- * Establishment of 4 Literacy centers.
- * Recruitment of Teachers for 4 Literacy centers.
- * Identification of potential learners through Household survey.
- * Data base developed and data entry of the project.
- * Teachers and Learners profiles developed.
- * Teaching and learning material provided to the Learning centers.



SCSPEB News

- * Implementation of “Basic Literacy and Skill Development Program” in Nokundi district Chaghi funded by Tethyan Copper Co. Ltd.
- * An incidental death of Minister Education Mr. Shafiqe Ahmed Khan (May his soul rest in peace) caused a great loss in the Department of Education in Balochistan. His efforts in the Education Sector will be memorized in “Golden Words.”
- * Support in training of 45 ECE Facilitators of ECE Child Friendly Schools focused by UNICEF.
- * Successful conduction of first Excel Camp at Balochistan level organized by ED-LINKS at Boys Scout Head Quarters Quetta October 12-17, 2009. SCSPEB, as an implementing partner, was responsible for the organization of the Excel Camp.
- * Participation in Seminar held by “Pakistan Center for Philanthropy” at Serena Hotel Islamabad.
- * Audit for the year 2008-09 has been successful completed by Avais Hyder Liaquat Noman.



Success Story

Releasing Confidence and Creativity an Early Childhood Education program was implemented in district Pishin in 2003. There are 8 girls' schools under the focus of the project and functioning very well. The program focuses on children of 4-5 years age group and works on developmental domains (physical, Social, Emotional and Cognitive) of the focused children.

Government Girls Primary School Killi Razzaq is a primary school from Kachi to class five. Ms. Balanasta is a Matric pass girl and was appointed as an ECE teacher in 2003. She is working very enthusiastically. The total enrollment of ECE/Kachi Class was 40 in year 2005. There was also a student in the class named “Ms. Balanasta D/o Mr. Salahuddin” who was an intelligent student of ECE class and taking keen interest in the classroom activities.

According to her teacher, during the winter vacations, she visited Balanasta's house to discuss overall progress of the child with her mother. When she entered the house, she found more or less 15 children sitting in a circle in one corner of the house and busy in some kind of activity. When she observed closely it was very much surprising for her to see that Balanasta was performing as a teacher and all the children sitting around were busy in a group work activity given by their teacher “Small Balanasta”. The children with their small hands prepared different mud items and set them under Goshas. The pictures were also the part of Goshas that were taken from newspapers. On the side wall a piece of paper was pasted as a Planner. The whole environment was giving a very beautiful picture and replica of the ECE classroom in the school.

After observing the children the teacher met the grandmother and mother of Balanasta. In reply to her inquisition about the activity going on in their house both elders were very happy and told the teacher that since vacation these children have been regularly conducting this class. Moreover they appreciated the change in the behavior of their children who instead of creating problems now remain busy in some kind of constructive activity.

Balanasta's mother told the teacher that these activities of the children became the source of her learning as she has learnt counting with the help of her daughter. While sharing all these about her daughter the teacher said that the smile and twinkling in the eyes of her mother is unforgettable and cannot be expressed in words.

In short this shows the reflection of the interest created in studies among the children through this modern teaching and learning approach under the RCC joyful, child friendly environment that was a dream before.

