COMMUNITY GIRL'S MIDDLE SCHOOL PROJECT (CGMS) **A Success Story**



Introductory Stage

The province of Balochistan has since long been starving from low participation rate in Education, particularly rural female education. The Government of Balochistan has invested huge amount of funds for introduction of primary education in the rural areas. The donors have also helped the government in attaining the noble objective of promotion of female education in rural areas but the efforts have not yielded required results.

In terms of the economic and social statistics, Balochistan is the most undeveloped province of Pakistan, where the literacy ratio is 37% while for female literacy is 19%. The ratio of middle schools to primary schools in Balochistan is 1: 10 against the normal set standard of 1:5. The main cause of situation is that the parents are not fully convinced that their daughters will do better in life if they do their primary education. Keeping in mind the dispersed population and long distances between the villages, the middle schools are not adequate in numbers for the access of primary passed Girl's. In this perspective a focused innovative approach is required which may not only assist the government to achieve their target but also prove sustainable in its own to continue with providing the education services under the supervision and support of the government and community jointly where the financial resources were not much required to sustain the education services in the rural areas.

Thought the Government believes that middle schools should be opened in adequate number to meet the need but the cost on construction of building and teaching staff is so high that it steps back in such planning.

In the obtaining situation and based on its experience and knowledge, Society for Community Support for Primary Education, Balochistan (SCSPEB), floated an idea that classes VI-VIII may be introduced in government girls primary schools where local teachers may be appointed. This school may be situated in cluster of girls' primary schools, which may serve as its feeders. The SCSPEB discussed the idea with Development in Literacy (DiL), a Pakistani origin American women's organization operating in Pakistan, at the beginning the DIL saw an impossible potential of success in the idea.

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SCSPEB

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

SCSPEB

Killi Shadi Khan, Samungli Road Quetta Tel: 081-2885891-2 Fax: 081-2885893

Liaison Office: House # 224 - Street # 18 - Sector - F-10/2 Islamabad Ph:-051-2102920

Web Site: www.scspeb.org E.mail: scspeb@yahoo.com society@scspeb.org

Initiation Stage



However detailed and series of discussions helped, DIL and SCSPEB agreed to launch a Project in the districts of Mastung, Pishin, and Ziarat. The idea was further shared with the Education Department on August 29, 2002. The Education Department agreed to grant permission to the SCSPEB/ Dil to introduce classes VI-VIII in 10 clusters of such Government Primary Schools of the districts where facility of middle school education was not available in an accessible radius. The schools were named as Community Girls Middle Schools. Under the objective to Strengthen and expand quality of female middle-education through a sustainable innovative commendable model, the SCSPEB embarked on the implementation strategy.

In order to process 10 CGMS schools house hold data from 52 clusters was collected and household survey of 109 villages was conducted to find potential site for opening of schools. The potential clusters identified were four in Pishin (P/S Haikalzai, Khudaidadzai, Manzaki Boztan and Verya Rodh Mullazai) three in Ziarat (P/S Ahmadoon, Warchoom and Shar-e-Kawas) and three in Mastung (P/S Karez Noor Mohammad, Ghanj Dhori and Khurasani). Every cluster holds minimum three feeding schools.

A strong coordination mechanism was developed with government officials, District Consultative Committees were formed to share project status at district level, sensitize the parents about elementary education, create support for enrollments and retention at elementary level and motivation & mobilization of local communities towards promotion of girls education at elementary level. Education Councils were formed to develop the linkages among the communities, implementers (SCSPEB) and the government.











Teachers' Selection

On the basis of ground realities; teachers qualification was reduced to metric or FA, Written tests were conducted at the office of DO (Female) in the presence of DO (Male & Female). After the teachers' selection and their training of teachers, the schools were formally inaugurated in the community provided buildings. The community representatives from all the cluster/villages and the officials from the Education Department participated in the event. The MOUs were got signed with District Education Departments of the intervening districts to develop a sense of cooperation and mutual understanding along with the confirmation for conducting the Departmental Examinations of the CGM/HS Project Schools.

Community inspiration



The teams went door to door to identify and motivate the class 5th pass girls sitting at home for want of girls middle schools in the vicinity. The team also met the parents and the community. They brought the idea in a welcome mode. They told that they could not afford sending their daughters to other villages for middle education because to social norms did not permit besides the expenditure. The education council worked committed, the result was that all the schools enrolled respectable number of children in the inception year. The GGMS Rodh Mulazai and Kareez Noor Muhammad enrolled largest number of students.

Some of the students, who were enrolled in the schools, resided at far away distances from the schools established in the nearby villages. To facilitate these students and teachers living at the faraway distances, vehicles were deployed for the following four schools to facilitate the students in this regard

- 1. CGMS Karez Noor Mohammed district Mastung,
- 2. CGMS Haikalzai (Pishin),
- 3. CGMS Rode Malazai (Pishin)
- 4. CGMS Warchoom (Ziarat).

After the success of CGMS scheme the communities demanded the secondary school education facilities. The DIL generously responded and agreed to upgrade the CGMS Noor Muhammad, Haikalzai and Rode Mulazai to High standard. These schools attracted a reasonable number of girls for enrolment and the area got girls secondary schools facility for the first time.



Monitoring

The school follow up visits were conducted on regular basis. The ratio of follow up visits was 2 to 3 for each CGM/HS project schools, per month. The objective was to observe the students' & teachers' attendance and to provide on job support to the teachers.

Teachers' Capacity Building



The teachers were given classroom & teaching support (on Job) on different contents taught in the classroom including paper setting on advanced methodologies (Subjective/Objective), assessment of answer sheets & preparation of results of the students and maintenance of record e.g. Admission/Attendance registers, Visitor books, Library register and stock registers etc.

More than 6 sandwich training programs of 12 to 60 days' duration were conducted to enhance the capacity of the teachers in learning-teaching activities and content knowledge of the subject matter, especially in Science, English and Maths. Besides these programs, 2-4 days cluster training programs were held during the summer vacations.



Libraries and Computer Labs Establishment

The libraries were established in all focused schools. Science labs were established in three upgraded schools (CGHS Hailkalzai, CGHS Rode Malazai and Karez Noor Mohammed). The scientific material for middle level was also provided and mini labs were established in all focused schools. Computer labs had been established in CGHS Karez Noor Mohammed, CGHS Hailkalzai & CGHS Rode Malazai. 6 days training was imparted to teachers on the basics& use of computer to the teachers before establishment of computer labs.



School Building Construction



The school building requirement was on the highest priority, as they were functioning in the community provided buildings. The schools needed their own buildings as the enrolment of the schools had increased. The space in the classrooms was not enough to accommodate large number of students. A proposal was initiated for construction of building, the representatives of DIL visited the school to assess the building needs of schools. They sanction the funds. Construction committees were framed by the SCSPEB through ECs procurement/ purchase of material and to monitor the construction work and make payments.



Earth Quack 2008

In the year 2008 the earth quack hit district Ziarat (Balochistan), it were collapsed 3 CGMS schools Ahmadoon, Warchoom & Shara-e-kawas. On the appeal of SCSPEB for the rehabilitation/reconstruction of these schools, Rotary Club International (Balochistan) came forward to rehabilitate/reconstruct these schools. Ahmadoon and Warchoom schools are reconstructed with Earth Quack resistant structure and the educational activities have commenced in the new buildings. However the CGMS Shara-e-kawas is under construction so far because the funds are released recently by the Rotary International (Balochistan) for the reconstruction of the school.

SSC & Middle Examination



The first batch of girls of Community Girls Middle Schools (CGMS) appeared in the Departmental Middle School Examinations conducted by the Education Department in the year 2005 and demonstrated very encouraging results, some of the girls stand among the first ten students of their districts in metric. The schools have been demonstrating very good results constantly. It encouraged the SCSPEB and Development in Literacy to Introduce classes 9th & 10th in 3 of the schools namely Haikalzai and Rodh mullazai in Pishin District and Karez Noor Mohammad in Mastung District. The students of 9th and 10th classes were to be registered with the BBISE Quetta for SSC Examinations 2007 as regular student. It was a uphill task however the Government of Balochistan, Education Department and the Board of Intermediate & Secondary Education, Quetta appreciated the interest of the students and agreed to register them as a regular students, which is a unique example in the country. The first batch of students appeared for SSC examination and all of them passed with 100% result. Most of them were placed first 40candidates appeared in the BISE Quetta.

In the year 2008, a batch of 139 students appeared in the SSC Examinations of the BBISE, and 542 students graduated in the Middle Standard Examination till the year 2010. Under the project 1200 girls students were facilitated to obtained Middle schooling and Secondary Education during the period of five years from more than 1500 households of the areas of focused districts.



Teachers Educational Qualification Improvement

It was a great achievement of the project that besides the professional education, the teachers during their service improved their educational qualification as well. This improvement enhanced the learning teaching capacity of the teachers and this made direct effects on the learning environment of the school and the board examination results of the schools.

Mainstreaming of the CGM/HS Schools



The mainstreaming process was started in 2005 as the project was to be completed in the year 2008. This process was to lead the schools to become a part of the Government system and help teachers to become public employees. It was also cumbersome task because there was hardly such prudence in the province.

The then Governor of Balochistan Mr. Awais Ghani visited one of the project schools (CGHS Verya Rodh Mullazai) in 2007. He was also impressed by the performance of the school that he promised to bring the project schools in the mainstream of Government schools.

In the year 2009 the Education Minister Mr. Shafeeq Ahmed showed his interest in the CGMS schools. He visited the SCSPEB office and held detailed discussion on the CGMS project. He decided to visit the schools and assess the quality of education and determine the feasibility of taking over the responsibility of the schools. He visited two schools randomly. He felt satisfaction and initiated cause for the approval of the Chief Minister Balochistan Nawab Raisani who accordant his consent to the proposal. The education department notified all the project schools as up graded government schools vide notification number 16-4/2007-E-SO (D)/4274-76 dated 18th June, 2009 with effect from 1st July 2009. However the sanction of the posts and the salaries of the teachers were postponed till the budget of fiscal year 2010-11.







Budget Allocation

SNE was initiated through Director of Education Balochistan for the sanction of posts of existing teachers and allocation of budget for 2010-11. The Government fulfilled its commitment and provides budget for 10 schools for the fiscal year 2010-2011. 53 posts for CGM/HS schools have been sanctioned including 3 Head Mistresses, 10 SSTs, 7 Drawing Masters, 10 JATs, 10 JETs, 3 Clerks and 10 Naib Qasids in this regard.

The CGMS is a success story, it started as an illusion. The success seemed almost impossible but the process oriented effort, willingness and commitment of the communities and hard work of teachers made it possible. The model demonstrated the project has attracted the interest of the donors. The UNICEF has already adopted the idea for its 40-80 middle schools and others are trying to understand it for their future interventions. The model a cost effective, efficient and outcome oriented scheme. It can help the Government in overcoming the cost portion in opening of girls middle schools in the rural Balochistan.

Project Wise Quarterly Activities and Achievements



Releasing Confidence & creativity (RCC)

- Monitoring visits to 151 School, 41 by team and 110 by Lead Teachers.
- Provision of basic stationery material to all RCC schools.
- Conducted 7 Days Training on "Adult Literacy" in 6 clusters.
 - Conducted 8 days Teacher trainings on "Early Child Protection" in 4 clusters.
- 32 plan sharing and review Meetings with EFOs / DEBs and other district Government officials.
- A new ECE teacher was appointed through proper procedure
- Conducted 2 Adult Literacy teacher, 6 ECE teacher and 1 LT tests.
- Identification of GGMS Mosani.
- Established 1 ECE class room.
 - Held 64 consultative meetings with WVECs/PTSMCs by team and LTs.
- Conducted 2 consultative meetings with EC.
- ♦ 61 (32 WVECs/29 PTSMCs) Annual Performance Reviews were conducted by team.
- Held a cluster meeting in Pishin (Boys).
- Conducted 13 meetings with LTs.
- Regular collection of information on RCC progress.
- Data entry of school files.
- Documentation of the activities at school and community level.
- Maintaining School record at school level.
- Capacity building of field Teams.
 - ♦ 11 days training on "National curriculum & Material development" by AKU-HDP
 - 4 days training on "Adult Literacy"
 - ♦ 3 Days training on "Basic Of Girl Guide"







Afghan Refugees Education Program (AREP)



- Conducted 24 meetings with SMC & FSMC
- ♦ Conducted 56 meeting with teachers
 - Held 3 Combine Meetings
- ♦ Conducted 1 Community Meeting in Mohammad Khail camp
- Participated in 2 Trainings on Social Mobilization
- ♦ 436 New Registration
- Induction of a teacher tests and Recruited 3teachers
- Conducted 56 School Monitoring visits and 2 Class room support
- Establishment of 2 HBGCs
- ♦ Formed 7 FSMCs for HBGCs







Teachers Training Cell (TTC)

- Conducted 4 days training on "Adult Literacy" for RCC-ECE Facilitator
- Developed & submitted a report on Adult Literacy.
- Developed a "Mentoring" module for UNICEF-ECE facilitators
- 3 days Orientation of team on Facilitators Module
- 05 days Facilitators Training on ECE program for UNICEF focused child friendly schools
- Developed training report and submitted to Provincial Coordinator UNICEF
- Held Adult Literacy Certificate distribution ceremony in Nauk Kundi District Chaghi
- Adult Literacy program report developed and submitted
- Meeting with RCC team to compile the ECE module developed by RCC & Teacher Training Wing.
- Ameeting with Director PITE to discuss the ECE module.
- Attended a meeting with NIM staff to discuss the Elementary Education and feed back for improvement.
- Training coordinator meeting with NIM officer to discuss a research on "Balochistan Text Book Board"
- 2 days meeting on Rubrics for the national professional standards for teachers in Pakistan at Quetta.
- Training Coordinator Attended a 3 days consultative training workshop on Gender main streaming in education sector at Lahore (May 23-25, 2010)
- Training Coordinator Attended a 2 days' workshop in Islamabad on Budget Tracking June 3 4, 2010
- Attended a 2 days' workshop at Scout head quarter, Quetta on Inter Reviewing of Literacy Curriculum
- Training Coordinator attended a seminar on Education in Balochistan and delivered a lecture on "Standards of School Education", "Reasons for Decline" and "Remedial Measures".
- Initiated work on Activities for developing competencies of ECE level







ED-Links

- Nominated 500 SSTs for Teachers Development program (TDP) Cycle 2, 2010
- Issued Teachers reliving orders from concern EDO(E)
- More than 350,000 copies of Science Math and English modules for TDP were printed, bind as booklets and dispatched to the Districts
- Provided Bags with material to 500 Participants and 60 RPs of TDP at District level.
- The 1st & 2nd phase of Science, Math and English accomplished successfully through participation of 188 teachers in Science and 178 Teachers in English.
- District Level Briefings on TDP to EDO (E), DCOs and other district officials. Monitoring of TDP (Visits of PSSC and other ED-links provincial Officials).



Balochistan Education Program (BEP)

- Conducted assessment of 156 schools
 - 3 Schools identified for up gradation from primary to middle
- 1 school identified to upgrade from middle to high
 - Identified 25 schools for Establishment of ECE class
 - Identified 30 schools for provision of missing facilities
- Formed 34 schools PTSMCs
- Held 5 plan sharing consortium meetings with partner organizations and Department of Education Government of Balochistan.
- Held a meeting with Mr. Fritz First Secretary / Mr. Sadaat Senior Officer Education, EKN.
- The launching ceremony of the Balochistan Education Project held on 7th May at Serena Hotel
- Conducted 21 coordination meetings at field level with stake holders and at school level.











Adult Literacy & Skill Development

- Conducted 6 co-ordination meetings with (TCC officials, DDO, EDO, Government, School Principle & Girls school Teachers).
- ♦ Conducted 2 combine meetings with teachers.
- ♦ Conducted Learner's test to judge the learning on monthly basis
- ♦ Conduct of extracurricular activities like News paper reading competition to encourage the learners
- ♦ Conducted 4 Life skill/first aid trainings in all literacy centers
- Provision of literacy material on monthly basis
- Final Tests conducted to assess the learning
- ♦ Held Certificate Distribution Ceremony in 4 literacy centers
- Monitoring team monitored all Literacy centers and a report is submitted to MD-SCSPEB.





SCSPEB News



- ♦ Japanese Consulate visited Killi Sam Khail and Killi Sahabzada schools on 24th April, 2010, Up Graded by the SCSPEB under Japanese Project.
- SCSPEB with collaboration of CQE & I-SAPS conducted "Financing in Education Dialogue" on 13th April, 2010 at boy scouts hall Quetta.
- ♦ SCSPEB Stall presentation on "Mother & Child Care / Mena Bazar Week" held by UNICEF & Government of Balochistan (GOB) on 5th _ 10th April, 2010.
- ♦ Provincial Minister of education (Balochistan) visited to SCSPEB office on 6th April, 2010 focusing the Mainstreaming of CGM/HS schools.
- Inauguration ceremony of Balochistan Education Project (BEP) by Save the Children UK on 7th May 2010 at Serena Hotel Quetta.
- SCSPEB's Annual function Celebrated on 17th May, 2010 at SCSPEB office Quetta.
- SCSPEB's Adult Literacy project closing ceremony & course completion certificates distribution held at cluster level by the SCSPEB on 11th May, 2010.
- ♦ The Government of Balochistan has sanctioned Budget for all the CGM/HS schools in 2010-11.







Head Office:

Killi Shadi Khan, Samungli Road Quetta Tel: 081-2885891-2 Fax: 081-2885893

Web Site: www.scspeb.org

E.mail: scspeb@yahoo.com - scspeb@gmail.com - society@scspeb.org

Liaison Office:

House # 224-Street # 18 - Sector - F-10/2 Islamabad. Tel: 051-2102920 E-mail: societyisd@scspeb.org