



Collective

December 2011

Educational Intervention for Juvenile Inmates



Education plays a fundamental role in the development of any society and is a basic human right. For almost two decades now, the Sindh Education Foundation has been working hard to improve access to basic education for the most marginalized segments. In line with this vision, SEF has initiated a small scale educational intervention for juvenile delinquents – one of the most vulnerable groups who are in dire need of access to learning and education. The project has been initiated in the Sukkur Jail upon the request of Jail authorities. Prior to project initiation, a needs assessment visit was conducted to understand the context and dynamics of the jail so that an intervention which is close to the needs of the target group could be designed. The Jail School Project (JSP) will impart functional literacy, numeracy and social and life skills through an integrated and accelerated learning model as well as promote a conducive learning environment where the inmates can express themselves openly and develop not just cognitive proficiency, but also interpersonal skills.

The initial intervention aims to benefit 30-40 juveniles aged between 8-15 years. Primary level competencies of the National Curriculum will be attained in the two year project duration through an accelerated and integrated curriculum, Teztareen. Support by SEF includes provision of textbooks, and supplementary learning material, teacher recruitment, training and salary and project supervision. A 2-day training-of-trainers was conducted on December 9 and 10, 2011 in Sukkur followed by a 5-day capacity building session from December 9 to 13, for the 3 teachers of the school. The training provided an orientation on the accelerated curriculum. Teaching strategies, planning, implementation and assessment procedures have also been explained to the teachers during site-based support visits.

It is expected that by providing a genuine opportunity for change and transformation, the education intervention for the young learners will have wider social benefits for the society.



Mr. Ayaz Soomro (Minister for Law & Prisons, Government of Sindh) inaugurates the educational facility in Sukkur Jail

185 New Schools approved under PPRS Project

In 2009, the Sindh Education Foundation in collaboration with the Reform Support Unit and the World Bank launched the Promoting Private Schooling in Rural Sindh (PPRS) Project which aims to improve the quality of education provided to children in marginalized areas of Sindh. 300 schools were established during the course of the project's first 2 phases. Per-child subsidy is being provided on a regular basis to functional schools of both Phases 1 and 2. The Oxford University Press textbooks and students bags were distributed to the 300 partner schools as part of SEF's material support component. In addition to provision of educational material, SEF undertakes teachers' professional development and offers training support to the entrepreneurs in school leadership and effective school management.

In PPRS Phase III, a total of 185 applications were selected for school establishment under Round 1. The selection was made after applications were screened against criteria and field level verification by the research firms was conducted in the 10 target districts. Cluster based orientation sessions were organized for the newly selected entrepreneurs regarding roles and responsibilities for school establishment and management and partnership

requisites. During the orientations, contracts between SEF and entrepreneurs were also signed.

For initiation of the new schools, 1st tranche of student subsidy, OUP textbooks and student bags were provided to the school entrepreneurs. Data cleaning and scrutiny for the applications collected under PPRS Phase-III Rounds 2 & 3 have been



completed. After the selection of the PPRS Phase III Round 1 Schools, the applications for PPRS Phase III Rounds 2 and 3 are ready for verification survey.

Institutional Support to over 1300 Private Schools

The Integrated Education Learning Program (IELP) is extending support to 1300 new and existing private schools across Sindh. The program brings together the public and private sectors comprising the Government of Sindh, NGOs, CBOs, trusts and individual entrepreneurs to increase access to and improving the quality of education (at primary, elementary and secondary levels) in the province. Post the contract signing activity, the first tranche of subsidy (for the April to June quarter) has been released in the month of August 2011 to newly selected and existing partner schools.

An inspection survey was conducted in the last quarter of the year across all the partner schools.

The second tranche of subsidy will be released on the basis of enrollment and headcount data collected through inspection survey. The inspection also brought other pressing issues to attention regarding infrastructure, fund utilization, and capacity building requirements at academic and administrative levels.

In November 2011, a training for school operators was organized and administrative and financial guidelines were provided to more than 500 school owners. The capacity building seeks to ensure enhanced academic and administrative roles and responsibilities of school operators for effective educational intervention at grassroots.

Education Reform in Public Schools

SEF's Adopt a School Program is based on Public Private Partnership and mobilizes support from the private sector and civil society for educational reforms in public schools. Monitoring and school support visits were carried out at the adopted schools for collection of data on indicators like enrollment, attendance, adopters' interventions, role of school bodies, etc. The program team also facilitated visits by Teach for Pakistan (TfP) and Citizens Archive of Pakistan (CAP) to various schools which work in collaboration with the program for

the purpose of academic enrichment. Moreover, school bags provided by Mobilink Foundation were distributed to children in three public schools working with the program in Karachi.

For adoption of new schools, the AASP team carried out needs assessment surveys, arranged adopters' visits to the respective schools, developed school improvement plans and arranged stakeholders' meetings with school management, adopters and government functionaries. Adoption of 18 schools



was facilitated by SEF over the last six months. The details are as follows:

- ❑ 1 school in Karachi adopted by Pakistan Naval Services
- ❑ 1 school in District Matiari adopted by an individual adopter – Mr. Zahid Latif
- ❑ 10 schools in Karachi adopted by Ravian Education Services Trust and *Justju*
- ❑ 6 schools in Karachi adopted by The Care Foundation

CDC's Working Children: At the Forefront of Change

SEF established the Child Labor Education Program (CLEP) to help the working children acquire an education that would otherwise not be possible. CLEP's Child Development Center, established in the midst of Karachi's manufacturing hub – the SITE industrial area, has been initiated to engage children in self-development through counseling and behavioral facilities, self-realization through educational, recreational, co-curricular activities and self – maintenance through safety and health awareness.



The children of CDC proved their mettle by taking part and winning in Safeguard's 'Design for Change' challenge that engaged 35,000 children of classes 3 to 8 in 7000 schools across Pakistan. The campaign aimed at engaging children as change agents by identifying a problem, imagining possible solutions and doing what they can to make a difference. With the help of a mentor, a team of 5 students at the CDC initiated the – Kitabon kee Muramat project which garnered them the 'Quickest Impact' award amongst the 35 prizes disbursed under the DFC program. The children repaired books in the school library by fixing the spines, binding, and pasting the torn edges, so the books could be of use again. On November 29, 2011 the children were invited on television to be interviewed about their novel idea and how they utilized their skills to address the issue.

Moreover, recreational activities at the CDC were undertaken through the quarters for enhancing children's progress and development. An educational visit was conducted to the local planetarium. Furthermore, children were also encouraged to take part in the Children's Literature Festival that aimed to promote reading, creativity and critical thinking among children.

Initiatives towards Women Empowerment

The Women's Literacy and Empowerment Program (WLEP) is one of the Foundation's key interventions for enhancing education for women through providing literacy, skills, awareness and community engagement opportunities. Currently, WLEP interventions are undertaken across 13 Women's Literacy and Empowerment Centers (WLECs) in Sehwan and Malir (Karachi) districts benefiting 380 women learners. The knowledge and opportunities for self-development offered to women at these centers helps not only the learners and their families, but also the community at large. Over the last six months, awareness sessions were held at the centers highlighting different diseases

(with an emphasis on dengue fever) as well as methods of disease prevention and remedies. Besides enhancing awareness about health and safety, many cultural and recreational forums were organized at the field level such as celebration of Special Children's day, Iqbal day, Eid-ul-Azha etc. in which women learners and community members participated with zest and vigor.

Recently, the Women's Literacy and Empowerment Program also celebrated the efforts of the Learning Facilitators (LFs) for their hard work and dedication and highlighted the achievement of learners who met the required competence levels in basic literacy



and numeracy skills. WLEP held a certificate distribution in their honor in which SEF awarded 300 certificates to the learners and distributed 23 appreciation shields to the LFs. An award was also presented to Professor Rehana Mughni, Program Advisor, SEF, for her unwavering contribution to the WLEP program and efforts in enhancing women's learning and development. Efforts of SDS, one of SEF's partner organizations in WLEP, were also acknowledged.

Accelerated Learning Program for Out-of-School Children

250 Rural Based Community Schools (RBCS) are being run under the umbrella of Sindh Education Foundation with the help of local implementing partner organizations. Undertaken across 10 districts of Sindh i.e. Karachi, Jamshoro, Hyderabad, Mirpurkhas, Sanghar, Dadu, Larkana, Kambar Shadadkot, Khairpur and Sukkur, the Project is providing out-of-school children with direct access to quality education so they can achieve primary level competencies, as per the National Curriculum, in 3 years. At least 13,000 children are enrolled in RBCS schools benefiting from the accelerated academic program implemented through 500 locally hired and trained teachers. Over the past quarters, course books for the accelerated syllabus Behtareen I and II were provided to the partner NGOs for distribution across the 250 schools. A series of performance review meetings were held with each implementing organization in which school-wise progress and challenges were documented



and aspects of administrative and academic implementation for enhancing the effectiveness of school interventions were discussed.

Enhancing Students' Learning

As part of the Improving Quality of Education Programme, a series of interventions to improve educational quality were undertaken by SEF over the past years. These have comprised teachers' professional development initiatives, provision of learning material to schools on integrated themes and school support mechanisms to ensure trickle down and continuation of best practices at the grassroots level beyond the project duration.

SEF conducted a series of school visits to ensure smooth implementation of the teachers training program and to observe progression of quality interventions and the usage of learning material in schools. The team also carried out student assessments to determine the impact of the quality interventions on students' learning.

Student achievement levels were found to have a direct correlation to a nurturing learning environment provided by the Programme across the 30 target schools of Hyderabad cluster.



Curriculum Orientation to Primary School Teachers



Keeping in view the programmatic objectives of SEF's Promoting Private Schooling in Rural Sindh Project, 9-day concurrent training sessions were

led by the Learning Support Unit from July 22 to 30 across the ten project districts. 600 teachers from 297 PPRS partner schools (Phase I & II) participated in the training.

The focus of the sessions was to refresh concepts from the Oxford University Press Syllabus, Get Ahead Series for Grades 1 & 2 and to introduce syllabus for Grade 3. PPRS Phase I teachers attended the refresher for Get Ahead Series Book 2 while Phase II teachers were reoriented with Get Ahead Series Book 1. Teachers of grade 3 (Phase 1 schools) attended the orientation on Get Ahead Series for grade 3. These refreshers provided teachers an opportunity to demonstrate and reflect critically upon their teaching practices. The refreshers also gave them a chance to share their experiences on content teaching and successful methodologies for teaching children effectively.

Professional Development for Effective School Management

As part of SEF's quality education framework, building capacity of grassroots level stakeholders is a key thrust area to ensure effective implementation of academic and administrative interventions in the schools. In this regard, 3-day district based training was conducted concurrently across 7 regions in Sindh (Hyderabad, Larkana, Nawabshah, Mirpurkhas, Sukkur, Dadu and Karachi). The sessions were held from June 1 to 3, 2011 and attended by 369 individual school operators and 136 representatives from partner organizations of 895 newly selected IELP partner schools. A training for existing school operators was also conducted

from November 15 to 17 in Karachi attended by 94 school entrepreneurs.

Sessions focused on academic and administrative roles and responsibilities of school operators for running effective schools. The concept of "school as an organization" was discussed and the school operators were introduced to the administrative and financial guidelines which were to be fulfilled during the partnership tenure. A manual elaborating the guidelines for school operators was especially developed and distributed among school operators during the training.

Training for Adult Education Facilitators



Adult Learning Facilitators (LFs) across 10 Community Learning Centers were provided refresher training from 9 to 12 December 2011 to improve the teaching of numeracy and basic literacy (English, Sindhi and Urdu) to adult women learners.

This training will prove instrumental in increasing functional literacy of 250 CLC learners presently enrolled in the 10 centers. Early this year, the LFs from the 10 centers in Khairpur and Naushehroferoze had earlier received training on effective CLC management, andragogical techniques and community mobilization methodologies. The sessions were led by SEF's Program Advisor and an expert on adult education and trainers from the Learning Support Unit.



General Moinudeen Haider, Ex-Governor Sindh, discussing school adoption with MD SEF



SEF Management presenting updates to the Executive Committee



MD discussing cost-effective school infrastructure with renowned architect Mr. Arif Hassan



Representatives from UNICEF share details of their community radio programme for girls' education



Mr. Karamat Ali, Director PILER, shares details of PILER's women and children workers programmes with SEF



MD SEF presenting commendation to PPRS entrepreneur, Mr. Summo, for his efforts to educate children in Umerkot



Mr. Zia Ul Islam discusses details of education interventions with MD, SEF



Representatives share focus of USAID education programs during a meeting at SEF



Dr. Muhammad Memon, Director AKU-IED and Dr. Almina Pradhan during a discussion at the Foundation



World Bank Mission and SEF during a meeting at the SEF Head Office



The British Council team in a meeting at the SEF Head Office



Stakeholders discuss details of school adoption at a meeting organized by Adopt-a-School Program

I G H T S



Working children at SEF's Child Development Center receive school bags from Mobilink representatives



SEF conducts press briefing to announce the launch of the third phase of PPRS Project



SEF's Program Advisor carries out pre-testing of the beginners resource developed for adult literacy



SEF Regional Coordinators brief Senior Management on efforts towards flood relief in school communities



SEF staff conducting English language classes for working children



SEF publications and resources displayed in Lahore at the Children's Literature Festival



Vocational classes for adult learners underway at the Women's Literacy & Empowerment Center in Malir



Program team during an assessment visit to a partner school in Khairpur



Partner school teachers attend training on child-centered pedagogy and effective assessment techniques



SEF Project Coordinators present progress during review meetings with Senior Management



Director SEF discusses educational interventions for working children during a review meeting



SEF launches a new reader developed by SEF Program Advisor for adult education

Educational Sessions for Working Children

In order to enhance awareness, critical thinking and confidence in children, the teachers of CDC organized various interactive sessions during the last quarter of 2011. Children participated enthusiastically in the learning forums titled 'Advantages and Disadvantages of Mobile Phones' and 'Skill is better than education: A Discussion'. An orientation on 'Life Skills' was also organized during which the speaker, Mr. Sirajuddin Sheikh – a local business owner, shared experiences of struggle and success based on his own life lessons. Moreover, a community awareness session was conducted by Professor Rehana Mughni (Program Advisor, SEF) at CDC in October titled 'Behavioral Changes in Children'. The session was attended by 18 community members including mothers. The session aimed to help mothers to understand the characteristics of child development; reasons of behavioral changes among children and ways to deal with varying emotional needs of growing age.

Furthermore, SEF partnered with Intel for capacity building of teachers of the Child Development Center to enhance their computer skills and enable them to introduce technology to students as part of

the learning framework. A 2-day training titled "*Easy Steps – A Basic Course of Computer Education*" was



conducted by Intel at the SEF Head Office on July 18-19, 2011. Led by an Intel trainer, the session was attended by 11 CDC teachers, Center principal and program staff. An introduction to basic computer skills was provided to the teachers so they improve work efficiency and also embrace technology in the students' learning process.

Learning Sessions for SEF Staff

Training and capacity building of employees is routinely undertaken by the Sindh Education Foundation to not only increase work efficiency but also to prepare the workforce to assume greater challenges.

Over the past quarters, learning sessions were organized with experts from diverse fields and attended by staff members in Karachi.



A session 'Sufism and Peace' was organized on July 26, 2011. Mr. Agha Saleem, a senior journalist and columnist, spoke at the forum. Mr. Saleem is known for his translations of the poetry of Shah Abdul Latif Bhittai, a legendary Sufi saint from Sindh. He emphasized the influences of love and peace found in the great poet's work. He also discussed the challenges faced in translating such a great body of work and his efforts in capturing the real essence of the words to keep the meanings intact.

Another session was organized on November 16, 2011 titled 'Learning outside the Conventional Paradigm'. Renowned novelist and playwright of Pakistan, Ms. Fatima Suraiya Bajia was invited to share lessons from life. She shared her powerful views on education, culture and society with a focus on learning outside the conventional educational paradigm. Her talk highlighted the importance of reviewing the present education system and



enriching the learning environment for children so it underlines our cultural and social needs, which she feels is paramount in moving towards a positive social change.

The learning sessions were well received by the SEF team and provided valuable learning avenues for professional and personal development.

MONITORING ACTIVITIES

The Sindh Education Foundation conducts monitoring activities routinely across its programs and schools to study school performance, students' progress and efficiency of implemented initiatives to advise areas of improvement in programs. The details are as follows:

In PPRS Project Phase III, data cleaning and scrutiny was undertaken for applications received under Rounds 2 and 3. Earlier for Round 1, applications were screened against the selection criteria and the verification survey conducted by research firms. The hard data collected during the field was matched with the soft data already entered. In case of any discrepancy, both the data were verified and then synchronized. A total of 185 applicants were selected for school establishment in the first round.

Supervision was carried out by the R, M&E Unit during the inspection survey undertaken in schools under the Integrated Education Learning Program (IELP). Schools from 6 districts (Sukkur, Shikarpur, Khairpur, Jacobabad, Naushehro Feroze and Ghotki) were visited during the visits. The survey gathered data on student enrolment, the effectiveness of trainings by gauging application of concepts by teachers, progress on curriculum and condition of school infrastructure. The findings facilitated in determining the standard of education being provided by the IELP partner schools.

In December 2011, monitoring was undertaken for CLEP to further enrich program design. The Monitoring Unit conducted field visit to the Child Development Center at Sher Shah Colony. The team gathered information on multiple school indicators and documented observations on classroom environment and performance of teachers and students as well as inspected the status of the center infrastructure.

The annual WLEP field monitoring was conducted in the month of December, 2011 in Karachi and Jamshoro across the 13 adult education centres. The team monitored all relevant aspects which included educational and administrative concerns and also recorded the condition of the physical infrastructure. Field work was completed and data compiling and analysis is in progress. The results will help determine areas of improvement for enhanced educational quality.

A monitoring survey was initiated in December for the Adopt-a-School Program in Karachi, Hyderabad and Khairpur. More than 100 schools are to be inspected during the course of this activity. The survey is undertaken to gauge the impact of teachers training on the quality of education provided in the schools. Information is also being documented on indicators including the condition of physical infrastructure, teacher and students' enrolment, attendance, academic / support staff record and details of adopters' contributions for improving education quality in the public schools.

Employees Code of Conduct in Vernacular Languages

جنسی بنیادن تي هیساتڻ هرگز برداشت نہ کیو ویندو

ملازمین لاءِ اخلاقی ضابطہ کار

”نوڪريءَ واري جڳهه تي جنسي طور تي هيستائڻ کان محفوظ رکڻ وارو قانون 2010ع“
هي ضابطہ اخلاق لاڳو ڪرڻ کانپوءِ توهان جو ادارو مڪمل طور تي هن قانون تي عمل پيرا ٿي سگهي ٿو.

جنسی طور پر ہر اسان کرنا ہرگز قبول نہیں

ملازمین کے لیے ضابطہ اخلاق

”کام کرنے کی جگہ پر جنسی ہراسانی سے تحفظ کے قانون، مجریہ 2010“
یہ ضابطہ اخلاق اپنا کر آپ کا ادارہ اس قانون پر مکمل عمل درآمد کر سکتا ہے۔

The Employees Code of Conduct has been developed in light of the law passed by the Pakistan Government in 2010 focusing on sexual harassment experienced at the workplace by employees. Called the 'Protection against Harassment of Women at Workplace Act 2010', the intention of the law is to provide an opportunity to all organizations, public, private and civil society, to develop a self regulatory mechanism whereby organizations could handle the

problems related to sexual harassment internally.

SEF translated the Employees Code of Conduct in Urdu and Sindhi and circulated it to all employees and school stakeholders in Sindh. Adoption of the Code not only makes the organization fully in compliance with the Act but will also facilitate in ensuring that the work environment is free of sexual harassment, intimidation and abuse.

Magazine on ECD

'Nurture' is published by the SEF under the Releasing Confidence & Creativity: ECD Programme. The latest issue of the publication takes a holistic view of Early Child Development and highlights the critical aspects of a child's development in an effort to educate and empower communities to be better caregivers for children.

The English and Urdu versions of the magazine were developed and shared online for readers ranging from caregivers of young children to ECD practitioners comprising educationists, teachers, school heads and organizations working in the area of ECD.



Children's Newsletter

The Children's Newsletter, a publication and classroom resource developed under the Releasing Confidence and Creativity: ECD Programme, is aimed at enhancing learning during the early years. The newsletter is used as a means to raise awareness about important issues amongst children through a range of activities and stories.

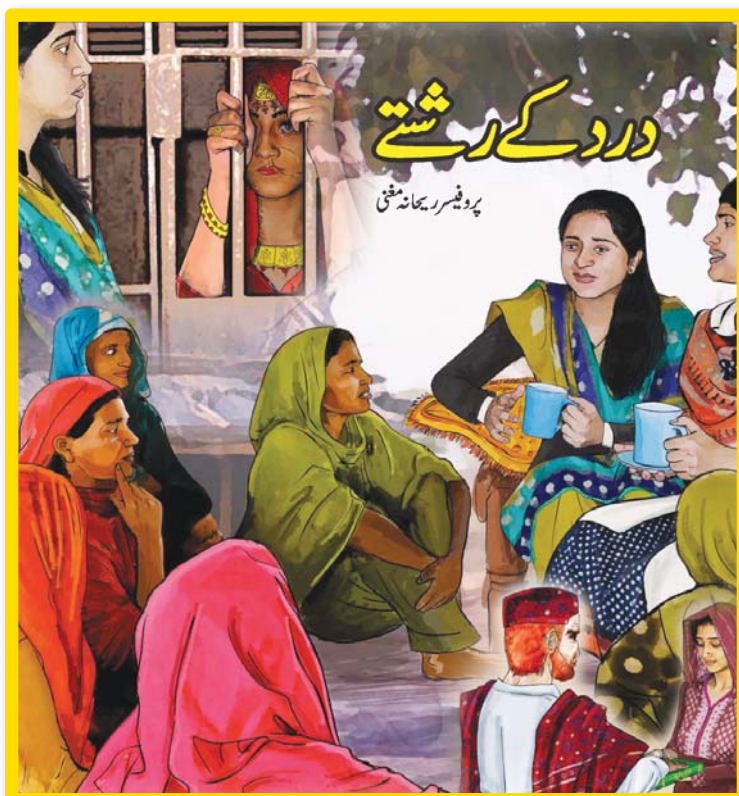
'Good Habits' is the theme for the recently published issue which highlights the significance of behaviors and good habits that impact children's well being and overall disposition as responsible members of the society.



Adult Education Resource

The recently launched 'Dard Kay Rishtay' is the latest addition to SEF's adult learning resources. The story, authored by SEF's adult education expert, Professor Rehana Mughni, will be used to educate the community especially adult women and raise awareness about social issues that are closely linked to women's lives and the role they can play in addressing them as members of the society. The story is sourced from various parts of Sindh and collected through first-hand interactions with communities, especially marginalized women at the grassroots.

Issue based resource materials and learning aids for adult education are published by SEF regularly and are a manifestation of the Foundation's continuous efforts to empower adult women through education and awareness.



Launch of Education Facility for Young Inmates



Adnan Mubin, presented an overview of SEF and introduced the academic program to be introduced in the jail school which aims to help students achieve functional literacy skills; improve self-esteem and self-image; attain knowledge in reading, writing, math, etc; and acquire adequate social skills.

A Memorandum of Understanding was signed between SEF and the Superintendent, Sukkur Jail and then presented to the Minister Ayaz Soomro. Jail superintendent Mr. Qazi Nazir Ahmed welcomed the initiative and expressed the need for literacy and education programs to facilitate young offenders towards a productive life once they are released from confinement.

The Sindh Education Foundation launched the Jail School Project for the juvenile inmates on December 12, 2011. In a ceremony organized at the Sukkur Central Jail, over hundred people attended the Ceremony comprising government officials, police representatives, media personnel, civil society members and members from the SEF.

Mr. Ayaz Soomro (Sindh Minister for Law and Prisons) chaired the event for the launch of the first ever formal educational facility inside a prison in Sindh. Mr. Soomro emphasized that imprisonment aims to reform the criminal element of society and there is no better way for reformation than education. Appreciating the Sindh Education Foundation's work in educating marginalized segments, he assured that with good skills and an education, released prisoners can be better prepared for success in life.

Professor Anita Ghulam Ali (Managing Director, SEF), through a video message, addressed the audience and urged the juvenile inmates to enroll for the program which aims to be both therapeutic and rehabilitative to help prepare the young learners for a successful re-entry to the community. Mr. Aziz Kabani (Director, SEF) spoke about the elements of the education facility and expressed hope that the inmates will pass on the light of education and use it to benefit society. Senior Manager, Mr.



Dr. Ameer Ahmad Sheikh, the Deputy Inspector General Police of Sukkur region, invited everyone to build on the strengths of the prison school and its students. The Sukkur Jail School, he added, is the starting point and he hopes to see such educational facilities across other jails in Sindh as well.

For the young inmates, the school facility is a new chapter in life that gives them a chance to start over. Those attending the proceedings expressed eagerness in pursuing an education that will help them escape the cycles of poverty and violence that have dominated their lives so they can rejoin the society at a better standing.

Course Completion Ceremony for Adult Learners

The Sindh Education Foundation organized a ceremony to mark the successful completion of adult education course by 300 women from Karachi and Sehwan. The ceremony held on November 30, 2011 at a local hotel in Karachi was attended by learners and teachers of the Women's Literacy and Empowerment Program (WLEP). Over 200 participants comprising the learners, members of the civil society, government officials, media personnel, educationists and representatives from the corporate sector attended the event.

WLEP's integrated curriculum is aimed at addressing several key areas of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) including primary health service, early childhood education, and women's economic empowerment through teaching and vocational skills. In 2011, 300 successful learners from 23 adult centers achieved primary level competency in accordance with the national curriculum. Certificates were awarded to more than 80 qualified learners attending the ceremony. Appreciation Certificates were given to the learning facilitators



of the adult literacy centers being run in Malir and Sehwan.

Professor Anita Ghulam Ali (S.I.) congratulated the women on their achievement and emphasized that replicating this innovation for women development, will go a long way in addressing issues of educational

access to social and economically marginalized groups. An eminent speaker at the event, Dr. Habiba Hasan, a pediatrician by profession and a women's rights activist, stated that the commitment and tireless efforts made by the SEF under the visionary leadership of its founding Managing Director has not only empowered women and provided them with opportunities unavailable to them before but has also managed to bring a fundamental change in community outlook and perception regarding women.

SEF's adult education expert, Professor Rehana Mughni, also introduced the recently developed adult literacy resource 'Dard Kay Rishtay'. She emphasized the use of indigenous and contextually relevant resources as a unique methodology for educating adults. She added that the book not only highlights issues, identified through years of extensive primary research in the communities, but also to some extent proposes viable solutions. All the participants at the event also received a copy of the book.

PPRS Project announces Phase III



The launch event of 'Promoting Private Schooling in Rural Sindh (PPRS) Project' Phase 3 Round-1 was organized by Sindh Education Foundation on October 29, 2011 at a local hotel in Karachi with over 350 participants in attendance. The audience included newly selected school entrepreneurs, non-governmental organizations, school administrators, members of civil society organizations, government officials, media personnel, educationists and representatives from corporate sector. Dr. Mohammad Memon, Director, AKU-Institute for Educational Development, chaired the event which announced support to 185 new private schools in 10 districts of Sindh. This announcement marks addition to the portfolio of 300 schools which are being already supported under Phases 1 and 2 of the Project. Dr. Memon appreciated the milestones

achieved through the Project and the eminent role of leadership as well as efforts of the team in successfully catalyzing private sector support for making education accessible in the most marginalized parts of the province. He added further that the success of the project was evident in the results shown by the impact evaluation carried out by the World Bank.

Professor Anita Ghulam Ali (S.I.) highlighted the milestones achieved by the PPRS Project as one of SEF's successful public private partnership initiatives supported by the Government of Sindh. She congratulated the 185 newly selected school owners and invited their support in the unified efforts for education. She emphasized that the idea is not just to open a school but to initiate a sustainable space which is central and conducive to learning and knowledge sharing within the community. Mr. Dushaynt Raju, Senior Economist, World Bank, praised the PPRS Project and the efforts of Sindh Education Foundation. He stated that the Project is one of the most innovative initiatives present today in the developing world particularly in terms of the cost-effectiveness of the interventions. The success of the earlier phases, he emphasized, show great promise in improving the quality and outreach of education in the Sindh province.

The entrepreneurs from the 185 selected schools were awarded offer letters to mark the formal initiation of partnership under the PPRS Project.