

Joint Education Sector Review SINDH

access equity quality inclusion



Early Childhood Education

Education & Literacy Department,

Government of Sindh

February 10, 2015



Introduction

- With over 5.5. million children out of school in Pakistan, early childhood Care, Education & Development IS the light that will guide the way forward.
- Research and evidence support this claim and illustrate both the profound and long term impact early interventions have on health, well being, enrollment, education and economy.



Education For All



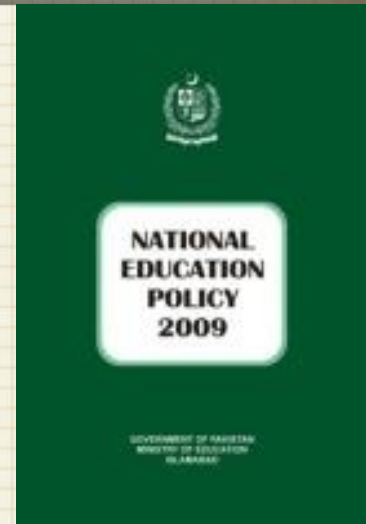
The 2000 Dakar Conference set in motion the trajectory of ECE in Sindh when Pakistan became a signatory thereby promising on...

“...expanding and improving comprehensive early childhood care and education...”



National Education Policy 2009

- NEP 2009 formally introduced Early Childhood Education in Sindh
- It set certain parameters and an overall trajectory
- However, it left a lot of room to envision the evolution of ECE in Sindh



NEP 2009 on ECE - Quality & Access

- 1 – Holistic development via Play
- 2 – Age Group 3 to 5 years
- 3 – Universal Access by 2019
- 4 – ECE Classes attached to Primary Schools
- 5 – ECE Teachers undergo 2 years training
- 6 – Revise & Utilize National ECE Curriculum



Sindh Education Sector Plan 2014-18

OBJECTIVES

1. Develop Policy & Standards
2. Transform Katchi into ECE Classes
3. Increase Enrollment
4. Establish Resource Centers
5. Provision of ECE Teachers
6. Training of ECE Teachers
7. Review & revise ECE Curriculum
8. Provision of Learning Materials
9. Support Transition

- SESP dedicated Chapter 5 to overarching analysis of ECE in Sindh
- It formalized a 5 year plan for ECE Implementation
- Strategies and Targets were highlighted and are being implemented



Situation Analysis & Progress

1. The Education & Literacy Department (ELD), Government of Sindh notified an ECE Task Force and Technical Working Groups
 - a) Policy & Advocacy
 - b) Curriculum & Learning Materials
 - c) Learning Standards & Assessment
 - d) Teacher Education & Training
 - e) Parents & Community
2. ELD Sindh conducted numerous ECE Policy Dialogues and Workshops throughout 2014



Situation Analysis & Progress

- ELD Sindh hosted the first Regional Conference on Early Childhood Education and Development for South Asian Perspectives in mid 2014
- ELD Sindh notified the first Curriculum Implementation Framework for Sindh in mid 2014, addressing ECE to Class XII
- ELD Sindh was presented for the first time in the ARNEC Asia Pacific Regional ECD Conference in Manila Philippines in 2014 on EFA Post 2015 Development Agenda for ECD and Peace-building



Challenges

- SESP Targets begin from early 2014 but official implementation began in the last quarter of 2014
- Delays in decision-making – Adapting Conceptual Plan to meet Ground Realities
- Issues with regard to budgetary support and policy approvals before the plan began implementation on ground

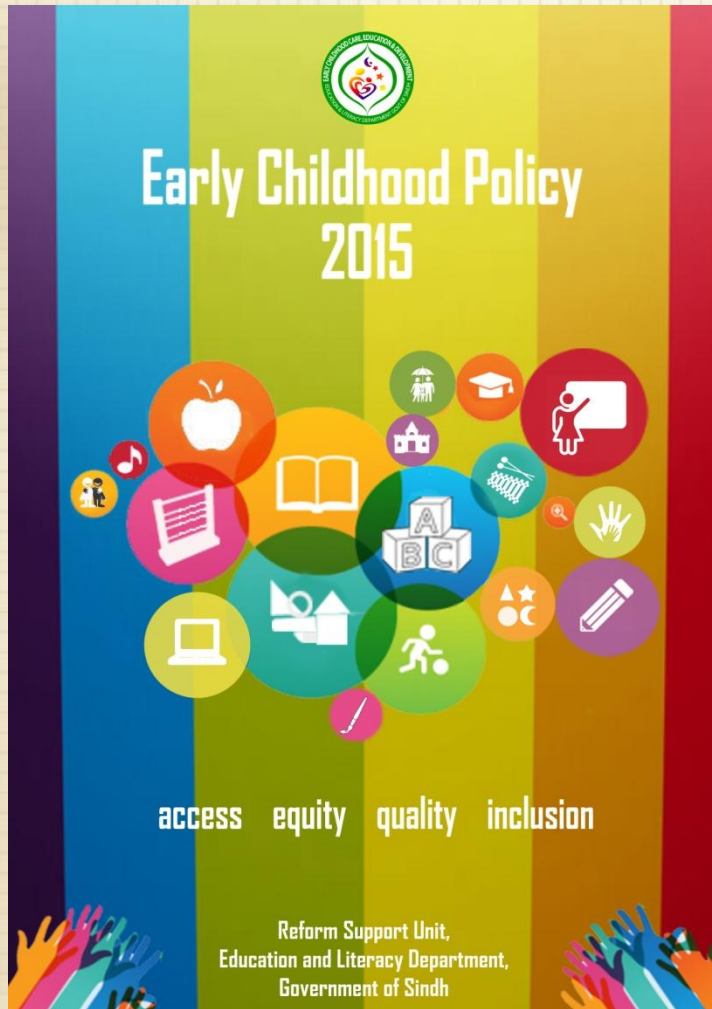


ECE Progress on SESP 2014-18

TARGETS, STATUS, CHALLENGES



Early Childhood Education Policy



VISION

The provision of responsive, high-quality, accessible and inclusive early childhood care and education for all children and families living in Sindh through early childhood teachers/caregivers/practitioners who are trained, qualified, willing and able to understand and address the needs of all children with no exception, in a safe, healthy, caring and developmentally appropriate environment.



ECE Policy & Standards

TARGET

- By 2014, ECD/ECE Policy and Standards are developed and approved through legislation

STATUS

- ECE Policy and Standards Draft completed in 2014
- Finalization of document acquisition of requisite approval is in progress

CHALLENGE

- Delays in decision making - Developing consensus on the Target Age Group (3-5years) & Curriculum
- Alignment with Free & Compulsory Education Act (5-16 years)



Transforming Katchi into ECE Classes

TARGET

- By 2018, transforming 8000 Katchi classes into ECE Classes in public sector schools

STATUS

- Currently selected 2 Consolidated Schools per Taluka/Town for introducing an ECE class (1 boys school & 1 girls school)
- Completed selection criteria for training of serving Primary School Teachers who will teach ECE classes.

CHALLENGE

- More than 600,000 enrolled in Katchi Classes. SESP target states 240,000 children.
- Develop criteria for selection of schools where Katchi Classes exist and mechanism of conversion



Increase ECE Enrollment

TARGET

- By 2018, enhance EC NER from 32% to 45%
- By 2018, districts must have minimum 30% enrollment

STATUS

- Conducted brainstorming session on ECE Campaign and Awareness inviting Development Partners to highlight success stories and propose possible interventions

CHALLENGE

- Piloting or phasing implementation of ECE breeds resentment among community that is deprived of that facility for that period of time



Establish Resource Centers

TARGET

- By 2016, established and operational 121 ECE Resource Centers

STATUS

- Centers are in the process of being identified (1 per Taluka)

CHALLENGE

- Recruitment Rules require ECE Coordinator Post



Provision of ECE Teachers

TARGET

- By 2018, Establish 8121 post for ECE Teachers

STATUS

- Notified ECE Teacher Cadre
- Cadre begins from Grade 15 to Grade 17
- Included in New Recruitment Policy for next tranche of recruitment of teachers in 2015-16

CHALLENGE

- Recruitment Rules are in litigation and therefore no recruitment can take place until a decision is reached
- Qualification criteria for ECE teachers in the initial implementation requires Diploma & Certificate in ECE/Montessori/Nursery - Currently there is insufficient qualified institutes and individuals in the market



Training of ECE Teachers

TARGET

- By 2018, training 8121 ECE Teachers

STATUS

- Plan for Training Primary School teachers of selected consolidated schools has been developed
- Plan will be submitted to Finance Department for funding
- Training will be conducted in academic year 2015-16.
- STEDA to initiate teacher education program for ECE sub sector.

CHALLENGE

- Initial Training can only be administered when recruitment takes place.
- No Initial Teacher Education Programs.
- STEDA to functionalized in full strength.
- Insufficient qualified institutes and individuals in the market



Revise & Review ECE Curriculum & Materials

TARGET

- By 2016, Teaching and Learning Materials are available and actively utilized

STATUS

- As per the recommendations of the ECE Task Force, in the initial phase ECE National Curriculum 2007 will be adopted in academic year 2015-16
- Development and utilization of learning materials is part of the teacher training program
- Funds provided to Consolidated schools will be utilized for learning material and environment

CHALLENGE

- ECE National Curriculum is a one-year curriculum and therefore does not cater to the current targeted age-group 3-5 years



Supporting Transition

TARGET

- All Teachers receive ECE Guidelines for transition to Class 1

STATUS

- ECE Classes to be established where Katchi classes are currently existing
- Transition protocols will be part of the ECE Policy and Standards to be approved
- Bureau of Curriculum (BoC) will develop Transition Guidelines following policy approval

CHALLENGE

- Related to previous challenges as mentioned in Teacher Recruitment, ECE Curriculum & Teacher Training



Thank You

