

Pakistan Basic Facts

South Asian subcontinent
796,000 square kilometer
Semi-arid
155 million population
2.7% growth rate
104/100 male female
ratio
USD 736 GNP per capita



Food Security in Pakistan

- ◆ While there is physical access to food year-round, the population is so poor that more than half spend 50% or more of their incomes on food; and many have difficulty in buying sufficient food.
- ◆ Nearly one half of Pakistanis suffer from **"poverty of opportunities"**- inability to take advantage of development opportunities due to illiteracy, poor health, malnutrition and poverty

Social Development Indicators for Pakistan

- ◆ 62% adults cannot read or write
- ◆ of these - 76% are women
- ◆ 8.2 million children are out of school
- ◆ 45% population has no access to safe drinking water
- ◆ 40% population has limited access to health services
- ◆ 38% children under five years are malnourished
- ◆ 700,000 young children die each year-54% deaths are due to malnutrition.

Female literacy in Pakistan: Some Hard Facts

*Pakistan's literacy and enrolment rates are
among the lowest in the world*

- ◆ **8.2 million children** do not attend primary school, of these **5.9 million** are girls
- ◆ **76 % of the** female adult population is illiterate
- ◆ **75 % of rural girls** drop out at the primary level
- ◆ **57 % of primary-age girls** attend school compared with 89 % of boys
- ◆ Girls' participation rates at all levels are lower than boys
- ◆ Female teacher absenteeism is very high in rural areas

Female literacy in Pakistan: Some Hard Facts

*Girls' participation rates at all levels
are lower than boys*

- ◆ Female teacher absenteeism is very high in rural areas
- ◆ Literacy rate for rural females is 20.09%
 1. Kohistan 4.62
 2. Rajanpur 6.26
 3. Tharparkar 5.34
 4. Qila Abdullah 5.37

What it means

◆ Girls' participation rates (5-9 years) for WFP-targeted districts

◆ Kohistan	1.47 %
◆ Kalat	3.5 %
◆ Lasbela	5.3 %
◆ Kharan	7.4 %
◆ Tharparkar	8.6 %
◆ Thatta	9.5%

Denial of Opportunity

- ◆ Rural women and girls face a disproportionate burden of poverty
- ◆ Rigid orthodox norms and stifling socio-cultural customs and traditions
- ◆ Lack of mobility of girls
- ◆ Affordability
- ◆ Bias for educating sons

Programme Objectives

**Promote primary education for girls in targeted areas
and increase girls' literacy rate overall**

By increasing:

- ◆ Enrolment
- ◆ Attendance
- ◆ Retention

Assistance to Girls Primary Education

Phase 1 (1994-2001)

- Pilot in in 900 schools
- Government contribution (6%)
- Limited monitoring by the government
- Beneficiary number 50,000

Phase 2 (2002-2004)

- Programme expanded to 3003 schools based on VAM identification. Baseline for schools was completed
- Government contribution increased to 11%
- Project document was approved by the highest forum
- One government Officer at provincial level for programme implementation
- EDOs (Executive Education Officer) were involved in the programme- database was developed for all assisted schools
- Increased number to 2,60,000

Assistance to Girls Primary Education

Phase 3 (2005-2009)

- Programme continued in 3003 schools with major focus on retention and completion rate
- Government contribution increased to 14-20%
- Project implementation unit at provincial and district level were added for the effective implementation
- More emphasis on
 - ◆ Capacity building of the senior management in the programme/issues
 - ◆ Teachers training in class management, and community participation
 - ◆ Teachers and missing facilities
 - ◆ School census to capture needs for each schools
 - ◆ Other activities (Art competitions though private sponsorship)
 - ◆ Partnership and joint programming
- Schools upgraded to accommodate the primary graduated from WFP assisted schools
- Current enrollment reached to 307,999.

Implementation Strategy

- ◆ Girls receive a 3.7 kg tin of oil each month for attending schools for 20 days in a month-Teacher needs 22 days attendance to be entitled for one tin.
- ◆ GoP contributes the costs of transportation of edible oil from port to school; and staff for programme implementation.
- ◆ WFP provides edible oil and training to the counterpart staff in project implementation

Impact

It has been established and confirmed through a number of major studies in each phase that the programme achieved objectives of:

- Increased enrolment
- Increased retention
- Improved attendance

.....THE REAL IMPACT!!!!

Food aid has acted as a catalyst of social change

And bringing a quiet change in a non-threatening way!!

Now Challenges!

- ◆ Education Programme needs 5-8 year firm commitment to show real impact in terms of programme indicators
- ◆ Food aid is a strong enabler- brings and retains girls in schools but food alone cannot guarantee the retention/and completion rate
- ◆ Increased enrollment can create the problem of quality if required teachers and facilities are not provided
- ◆ Advocacy, partnership and joint programming needs staff and information



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National School Feeding Programme in Pakistan



Ministry of Social Welfare
and
Special Education



Core Issues

- ◆ During last two decades, Pakistan has witnessed low Human Development Progress as a result of cut in Public Expenditure due to Structural Adjustment Programmes.
- ◆ The Low Social Sector Indicators had a feature of wide gender, regional and rural-urban disparities.
- ◆ Women and Children, especially the girls were widely affected.



Human Development

◆ Key Indicators (Poverty):

Population below Poverty Line	2004-05	23.9%
Population below minimum dietary requirement	2000-01	30.0%
Underweight Children below five years age	2000-01	41.5%



Human Development

Indicators (Education)

Net Primary Enrolment ratio	2004-05	
Total		52%
Female		48%
Male		56%
Literacy Rate (10+ Age)	2004-05	
Total		53%
Female		40%
Male		65%



Human Development

Indicators (Health)

Infant (under 1 Year) Mortality Rate (per thousand)	2004-05	73
Children (under 5) Mortality rate (per thousand)	2004-05	100
Maternal Mortality Rate mothers died during child birth (per 100,000)	2004-05	400



Introduction of Economic Reforms

Cognizant of the low Human Development Indicators, the Government introduced comprehensive Economic Reforms Agenda in 2001 to improve, *inter alia*, peoples access to social services, job creation, livelihood development and social safety nets programme with specific concentration on reducing gender gap and inter-regional rural/urban disparities.



Intervention Programs

- Food Stamp Scheme
- Subsidy on Food
- Micronutrient Programme
- School Feeding Program



FOOD Stamp/Subsidy Schemes

- Food Stamp Programme was introduced to support 1.46 Million Households living below poverty line
- Government is spending Rs 4.4 billion annually on supply of wheat at subsidized rate to the poor population.
- In next years budget an amount of Rs 22 billion is kept for providing subsidized food items through Utility Stores outlet.
- Micronutrients (vitamin A & D) have been included in Children's immunization package



School Feeding Programmes

1) Tawana Pakistan Program

School Feeding Program (Tawana Pakistan)



- Nutrition status of Pakistani girls is lowest if compared with East and South Asia and the Pacific.
- Federal Program specially designed to meet multiple objectives of:
 - a) Meeting nutrition requirement of girls students
 - b) Improving health status of the girl students
 - c) Targeting increased primary school enrolment for girl students in poor regions.



The Arrangements

- Program started in January 2002
- Mobilization of Parents Committee for each school
- Cooking of meals by the Parents Committee
- Serving of daily fresh cooked lunch to the girl students present in the school
- Total expenditure on the Program was Rs 887 million (US \$15 million) by June 2005.



The Package

- Targeting girls Population of age group 5 to 12 in Primary Schools
- Coverage Across the Country in 29 high poverty districts at a cost of Rs.3600.0 M (US \$ 60.0 m)
- Benefiting over 348,000 girls in 4,731 primary schools
- Serving of Meals for 25 days per month and 10 months per year.
- Package includes micronutrient supplement twice a week and Albendazole biannually for de-worming



Implementation Arrangements

- A Federal Government Funded Programme
- Implemented by Ministry of Social Welfare (Pakistan Baitul Maal as executing agency)
- Agha Khan University, Karachi was contracted to develop training material and training of community mobilization.
- Appointment of 11 NGO partners to provide support and monitor the programme.
- Procurement of Micronutrients and Albendazole was made through UNICEF under an MOU signed with them.



The Constraints

- Project was suspended in June 2005 due to certain issues highlighted during its monitoring:
 - Lack of ownership at the levels of provincial and district governments
 - Delay in release of funds
 - Non existence of incentive package for school teachers



The Constraints

- Cooking of food during school hours disturbed the academic environment and caused drudgery to the school teachers.
- Non acceptability of micronutrients by parents which caused severe health problems for the girl students in some cases.
- Could not yield desired results of school participation rate by girls in certain areas.



The Revised Project with new design

- The Project suspended in June 2005 again launched in March 2007 with change in scope and implementation mechanism on the recommendations of third party evaluation .
- Cooked food has been replaced by packed food consisting of nutritious biscuits (100 gms and milk (250 ml) daily to girls 5-12 years.
- The package will be provided to the girls students present in school during lunch break.
- The project will cover 550,000 girls from 6885 schools in 50 high poverty districts.



The Revised Project

- The Programme will be implemented through Provincial and District Governments.
- At National Level the Programme will be coordinated by a National Coordination Cell under the Ministry of Social Welfare.
- The stakeholders of original project, i.e., Pakistan Baitul Maal, Aga Khan University and 11 NGOs have been kept out of the implementation of the revised project.



Objectives of the revised project

- To improve nutrition status of enrolled girl students (5-12 years) in government girls primary schools
- Increase enrolment and to prevent drop outs.
- Create awareness about healthy life style in the community
- Promote participatory process of capacity building for human development and community empowerment through a nexus of elected councilors and community



Objectives of the revised project

- Reduction of gender gap in school enrolment
- Reduction of human development gap across regions and urban/rural areas
- To generate data/information on improvement of girls education, nutritional status and community involvement, training in income generation skills.



2) National School Nutrition Program



National School Nutrition Program

- ◆ Planning commission set up a committee to scrutinize program, compare with global best practices and recommend options of a technically sound nutrient package
- ◆ Committee held detailed deliberations and discussed issue with WFP authorities including Dr. Francisco Espejo Head School Feeding unit, WFP headquarter Rome, representatives of Ministry of social Welfare and Special Education and Tawana Pakistan Project
- ◆ Comprehensive report prepared which covers current nutrition scenario, impact of nutrition on educational achievements, alternative approaches to address malnutrition in school children and experience across the world



Salient features

Nutrition Package

- ◆ Use of fortified biscuits with ingredients to provide 1/3rd of daily caloric need and 2/3rd of essential nutrient and mineral needs of early school going children
- ◆ Milk biscuits will have following ingredients:
 - whole wheat flour
 - skimmed milk powder (DSM)
 - canola oil and nutrient pre-mix
- ◆ Milk biscuits contain milk nutrient while avoiding logistics of its supply in liquid form. Price of milk is about twice that of biscuits while energy/nutrient level is 30% less.
- ◆ Fresh milk not recommended because of delivery quality control, perishability, waste disposal problems and cost compared to low caloric and nutrient contents.



Manufacture

Local manufacture envisaged with strict quality control through Technical Committee.

Coverage

- ◆ Phased expansion proposed to cover all rural girl primary schools. Primary schools with co-education, both boys and girls will receive milk biscuits.
- ◆ Approximate beneficiary students will be 6.1million in 65000 rural Government Primary Schools (including mixed) out of which 2.4 million would be boys in 38882 mixed schools in rural areas which is 65% of total primary school enrollment of the country.

Management

- ◆ National steering committee under Deputy Chairman Planning Commission with membership of Education, Social welfare and Special Education, Health and representatives of Provincial Governments
- ◆ Technical Advisory Committee for quality control of Nutrition Package.
- ◆ Administrative Committee for procurement headed by Chief Secretary/ACS/Chairman of P&D Departments of the Province. Provincial Committee will also set up its own Technical sub committee.
- ◆ Program at school level will be implemented through School Management Committee.



Monitoring educational Growth Performance

- Uniform training module and package will be developed for two aspects of management, implementation and monitoring

Research and Growth Monitoring

- Worthwhile data on 4 million girls of 5-12 age will become available, enrollment figures will also get verified.

Financial Aspect:

- About 1.6 million students to be covered @Rs. 600 per student, annual cost come to Rs 9.5 million, including 10% admin cost. Total cost estimated at Rs. 10.45 billion per year.
- Total primary school enrollment is 21.3 million in 157,000 primary schools. Total bill for covering entire primary school population estimated at Rs. 36.5 billion. However, only rural primary school girls recommended in first phase
- Pilot Project at estimated cost of Rs. 500 million for rural primary girls in 10 districts being prepared by M/O Education. Tentative allocation of Rs 100 million provided in PSDP 2007-08



THANK YOU