



National Rural Support Programme



**Union Council Based Poverty Reduction Programme (UCBPRP)
Education Component
Shikarpur and Kashmore at Kandhkot**

Project Completion Report - September, 2012



**National Rural Support Programme
46 agha khan road, F-6/4, Islamabad**

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List of Abbreviations

CO	Community Organization
DG	District Government
DMO	District Monitoring Officer
DOE	Department of Education
DPO	District Programme Officer
ECEC	Early Child Hood Education Centers
EMIS	Education Management Information System
FY	Financial Year
GBES	Government Boys Elementary School
GBPS	Government Boys Primary School
GGES	Government Girls Elementary School
GGPS	Government Girls Primary School
GMMS	Government Masjid Maktab School
IRM	Institute of Rural Management
NRSP	National Rural Support Programme
PMIU	Programme Management Implementation Unit
SRSO	Sindh Rural Support Organization
SDP	School Development Plan
SMC	School Management Committee
SO	Social Organizer
SSK	Shoaib Sultan Khan
SSS	Social Sector Services
RO	Regional Office
RGM	Regional General Manager
RYK	Rahim Yar Khan
TNA	Training Need Assessment
TOT	Training of Trainers
UCBPRP	Union council Base Poverty Reduction Programme
UCs	Union Councils
VO	Village Organization

Executive Summary

Since its inception, education component of UCBPRP has demonstrated visible developments. The project has successfully achieved its targets and objectives. By the end of Sep 2012, provision of education was ensured to 8,290 children in the 102 schools which were made functional by project efforts. Missing facilities have been addressed through CPI work in 68 schools. Class room furniture is provided in 119 schools. SMCs are fully activated and have opened their bank accounts for smooth execution of school improvement plans.

Capacity building of teachers and SMC members successfully completed. Total 198 teachers have been appointed in schools of both districts out of 195 teachers have been trained for advanced and interactive teaching methodologies and to ensure child friendly environment in class rooms. Training of 119 SMCs has been completed. SMCs got stronger, as they played key role in building renovation while exercising decision making, consensus building, procuring and maintaining records. School renovation work is completed in 102 schools while design and estimate preparation work in consultation with SMCs was completed for 102 schools.

Despite project efforts community tribal conflicts do affect project efforts and some of the schools had to be closed due to law and order situation in that area. However joint efforts by community, NRSP and SRSO help in dealing with these situations.

From Jan, 2012 NRSP Sukkur office is operated under the supervision of its regional office in district RYK. Now UCBPRP- Education Component is directly supervised, monitored, and reported by management of NRSP's RO RYK. Project is currently assisting 102 schools made functional by recruitment of teachers in post flood scenario. Project also started 24 second shift girl's primary schools and 9 early childhood centers.

Project Background

An agreement between NRSP and SRSO was signed in October 2009 after the approval of UCBPRP education component. NRSP carried a baseline survey regarding the schools status in project selected UCs of Shikarpur and Kashmore at Kandhkot districts. The baseline about status of education identified large number of nonfunctional schools with absence of teachers as the primary reason of school closure. Poor quality of teaching and non-availability of facilities in schools and women teacher's access to schools were also highlighted in the baseline.



Project strategy focused on revitalization of nonfunctional schools, encouragement of girl's education through an initiative of 2nd shift for girls in boy's school building and engagement of young children through early childhood centers. Project started with need identification of nonfunctional schools in collaboration of Department of Education. Project was successful in identification of schools in two months' time and SMCs were organized around schools but it faced difficulty in making those functional due to unavailability of competent female teachers in the vicinity. Identification of competent female teachers around the schools was difficult task in remote areas which were already under served with regard to girl's education in the past. Project efforts were realigned to find and address nonfunctional schools where competent girl teachers could be available.

After flood 2010, project targets have been revised due to budget constraints. All these targets were to be carried out in span of two years till June 2012. Now NRSP is making development in following schools:

Schools Description	Project Targets	Achievement
Nonfunctional schools Re-functionalized (Morning Shift)	102	102
Girls Primary Schools	44	44
Boys Primary Schools	58	58
Activation of Second Shift Girls Primary Schools	24	24
ECEC established	9	9

NRSP has established 9 ECECs in morning shift schools building in different areas. The target of activation of 24 second shift girls schools is accomplished in the following procedure.

- 7 second shift girls primary schools are functionalized in the existing school buildings of 102 morning shift schools.
- Rest of 17 second shift girls primary schools are established in other government primary schools buildings excluded of 102 morning shift schools buildings.

Project Achievements, Strategy/Process adopted

Various project interventions were conducted during the period in close coordination with Department of Education, SRSO, Village Organizations and SMCs. These included:

- ✓ Continuous social mobilization activities with SMCs
- ✓ Notification of SMCs and Opening of Bank Accounts
- ✓ Capacity building of SMCs
- ✓ Capacity building of Teachers
- ✓ Capacity building of DOE officials
- ✓ Coordination with DOE officials
- ✓ Facilitating renovation of school buildings
- ✓ School infrastructure work
- ✓ Provision of furniture at schools
- ✓ Facilitation in proposal development for continuity of education services for children in the schools
- ✓ Management setup under NRSP RYK region
- ✓ Supporting monitoring and reviews

Continuous social mobilization activities with SMCs

NRSP focused on supporting the SMC members and teachers for ensuring continued presence of children in schools by dialogues with parents and the larger community. SMCs were also engaged in development works of schools initially through planning of development plans and later through execution of these plans after receiving funds from project.

There were few schools however which needed special effort to counter any effects of community disagreements or conflicts. In such cases NRSP and SRSO staff made joint efforts. In the first quarter of 2012, NRSP through its extensive social mobilization efforts and with the coordination of SRSO accomplished a great success of re-functionalized four non-functional schools that were victimized by community based extreme conflicts and disputes. Re-Functionalized four schools are given in table below.

S. No.	Name of School	District
1	Govt. Girls Primary School SalarBhatti	Shikarpur
2	Govt. Boys Primary School Allah Dino Salero	
3	Govt. Girls Primary School ArbabBajkani	Kashmor-Kandhkot
4	Govt. Girls Primary School Taj Muhammad Bajarani	

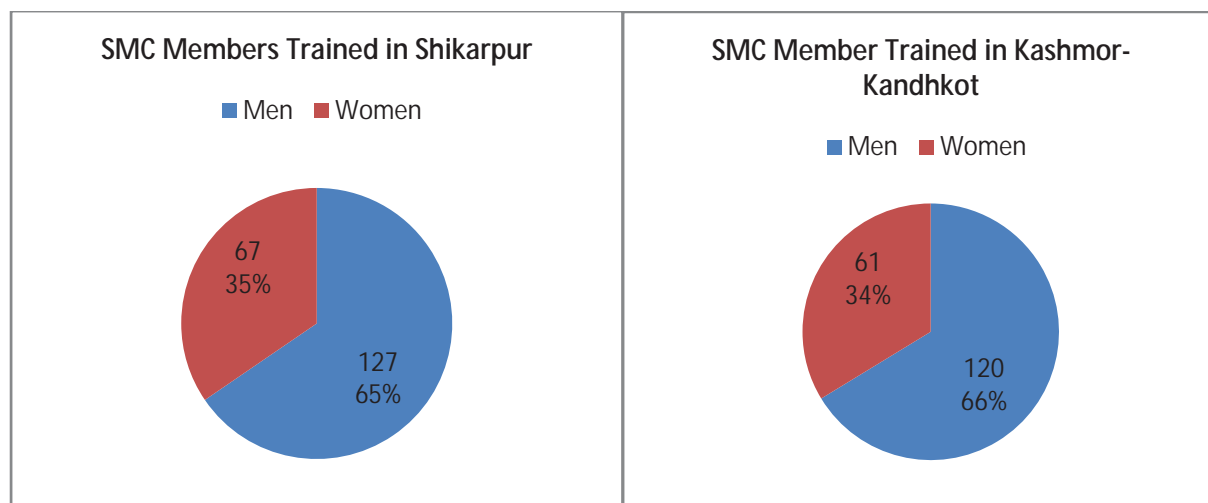
Notification of SMCs and Opening of Bank Accounts

During this phase NRSP successfully notified 119 SMCs and have opened their bank accounts. Easy access to banks, lack of education and non-availability of CNIC hindered the process of bank account opening. However continuous emphasize on community to attain CNIC and linkages with banks resulted the completion of 119 SMCs. List of schools and bankaccounts is given in enclosed annexure.

Capacity building of SMCs

NRSP utilized its experience of SMC training interventions in Punjab, AJ&K and Baluchistan. We developed the record keeping tools developed over time in other projects and adopted successfully. These were translated into Sindhi and adjusted with the Government of Sindh guidelines for SMCs. All the SMCs are being trained for utilization of these record keeping tools. The training materials have been designed in Sindhi and local Sindhi experts are conducting the training. The training has improved the knowledge of the SMC members and also motivated them to improve the performance of schools.

Other areas which SMC training covers include manage a bank account and how to develop a school development plan. NRSP has successfully completed all the SMC members (375 members) training during this period. In 375 trained members, 194 trained from Shikarpur and 181 trained from Kashmor-Kandhkot. Following figures shows the district wise and sex wise bifurcation of trained SCM members.



Major contents of SMC training were

- What is the function of School Management Committee (SMC) & how it works?
- Importance of SMC record and its kinds.
- Strategies of problem solving.
- School development plan and Action plan.
- Way of conducting SMC meeting.
- How to form SMC, its general body and Executive committee.
- Roles & Responsibilities of nominated persons/stake holders of SMC.

Capacity building of Teachers

NRSP always placed its primary focus on capacity building of teachers. Because NRSP believes that teacher plays a key role in success of education reformation. Applying this concept, NRSP has trained 195 teachers belonged to both districts. Teacher training were conducted based on experience of previous training conducted in the last year in which 202 teachers were trained in native language i.e. Sindhi. This time the training was more comprehensive and also had improved impact as teachers are now more used to teaching and had experience of almost one year, which made things understandable. Training would be made effective by NRSP and trainer's team mentoring campaign and if allowed a last round of training in last quarter of project, but that depends on availability of funds after renovation and missing facility campaign is over.

Capacity building of DOE officials

NRSP designed a three day training course for staff of district education department. The training was held in Hyderabad in which staff from both the project districts was invited. In this respect, 21 participants gained valuable knowledge about working of SMCs, their role and expectation of UCBPRP Education Component, EDO, DEO, DDEO, and ADO participated from districts of Shikarpur & Kashmor-Kandhkot. The committed to provide their whole hearted support in last phase of the project.

Coordination with DOE

NRSP coordinated various activities besides meetings, reviews and information sharing about details of teachers employed at the schools NRSP is working in, their SNE status etc. We conducted enrollment campaign with jointly in the area and provided all the necessary guidance and support wherever required by the concerned agencies. Their cooperation was also appreciated despite the constrains department face in terms of other assignments.

Facilitating renovation of school buildings (School infrastructure work)

NRSP strengthened its team efforts by transferring trained engineering staff from adjacent district of Rahim Yar Khan and by training its existing lot of engineers for support of SMCs. These engineers prepared cost estimates and designs in consultation with SMCs. Work mostly relates with renovation and rehabilitation of existing infrastructure which local SMCs are quite capable enough to conduct with timely support of engineers.



NRSP transferred funds in installments to schools. It also made efforts to utilize the funds transferred to few SMCs before floods. The school renovation and physical infrastructure work completed in 94 schools out of 102 schools. In 94 schools are renovated and physical infrastructures schemes are completed with the utilization of Rs. 39.27 million. Unfortunately in eight schools of district Shikar Pur the renovation work could not executed due to extreme disputes and conflicts in community. The detail of CPI work and cost is given in table below.

Progress Report

District	Total CPIs	CPIs approved with TOP	Total estimated cost (PKR million)	Actual cost incurred	CPIs completed	Remarks
Shikarpur	55	55	21.57	20.10	47	CPI work could not initiated in 8 schools due to disputes in community
Kashmor- Kandhkot	47	47	19.36	19.17	47	
Grand total	102	102	40.93	39.27	94	

Provision of furniture at schools

NRSP has identified green wood furniture to school, which includes a desk and bench with back. Furniture will be provided according to enrollment trend at schools. This furniture is water and termite resistant as it is made of recycled plastic and shoppers. At the moment, 2,100 desks/benches have been provided in 119 schools of both districts (Shikarpur: 1,097 and Kashmor-Kandhkot: 1,003).



Provision of sports kits

NRSP also distributed sports kits in 112 schools to create an environment that would help to the growth and development of young minds. One kit include following sports material: Tennis Bats, tennis balls, wickets, foot balls, jumping rope, rackets, badminton net, shuttle box, and Frisbees.



Facilitation in proposal development for continuity of education services for children

NRSP facilitated SRSO in development of various proposals for sustainability of these schools in the future either through funding from donors or through direct funding by District Government making allocations out of funds sanctioned for these schools on annual basis. This process needs high priority as the children need continuity of education services to have impact in the long run.

Management setup under NRSP RYK region

Till Dec, 2011 NRSP Sukkur office was directly reported to its head office in Islamabad regarding all the projects in district Sukkur. To strengthen the programme activities and prompt delivery of project outputs NRSP management decided to handover Sukkur office to NRSP RO RYK. From Jan, 2012 NRSP Sukkur office is operated under the supervision of its regional office in district RYK. Now UCBPRP- Education Component is directly supervised, monitored, and reported by management of NRSP's RO RYK.

Under the management of RGM-NRSP RYK, a separate team for UCBPRP has been formed that exclusively focusing to meet the project objective in given time period.

Supporting monitoring and review

Various reviews and assessment exercises were conducted during last few months which included:

- On Feb 2, 2010 SRSO conducted a third party monitoring and evaluation visit by Sindh Govt. Department of Planning & Development. The team visited four schools from both project districts and submitted their report to SRSO. Their remarks regarding progress indicators were quite satisfactory. One point of improvement was highlighted regarding prompt provision of books in schools.
- Dr. ShirinNarejo (Project Director - UCBPRP) did visit on 09 Feb, 2012 in two schools of district Shikarpur. Her visiting remarks were as under:
“Student presents total attendance in class 2, 36 present, 3 absent, 41 boys present out of 56. Children cleanliness is required more attention. Quality on language, dictation is needed. Over all good work”

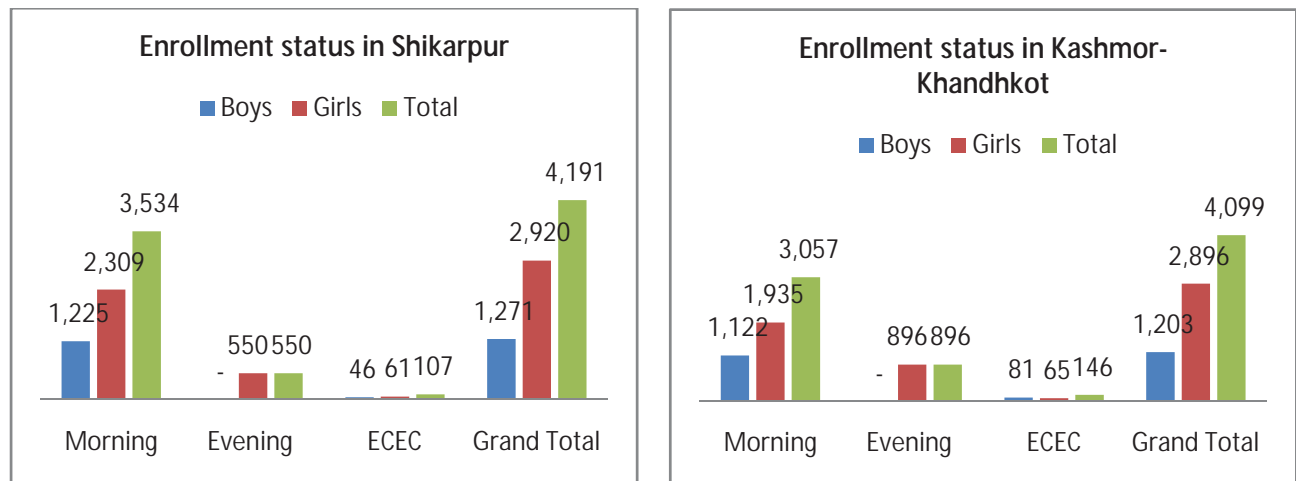
NRSP provided full support and information during these campaigns to the concerned institutions and board members during meetings and field visits.

NRSP team from head office also had multiple visits to the field while monitoring renovation work and training activities of the project. Besides this, NRSP's regional head RPM-NRPS RYK, DPOs and Project Coordinator also conducted multiple visits in different schools of both districts. A regular system of school monitoring by social organizers was developed while SMCs office bearers also provided regular feedback while visiting NRSP offices or through mobile phones. Teachers provided a summary sheet of student's attendance for each day at end of month with verification of office bearers and it served as the basis for release of salary for the teachers.

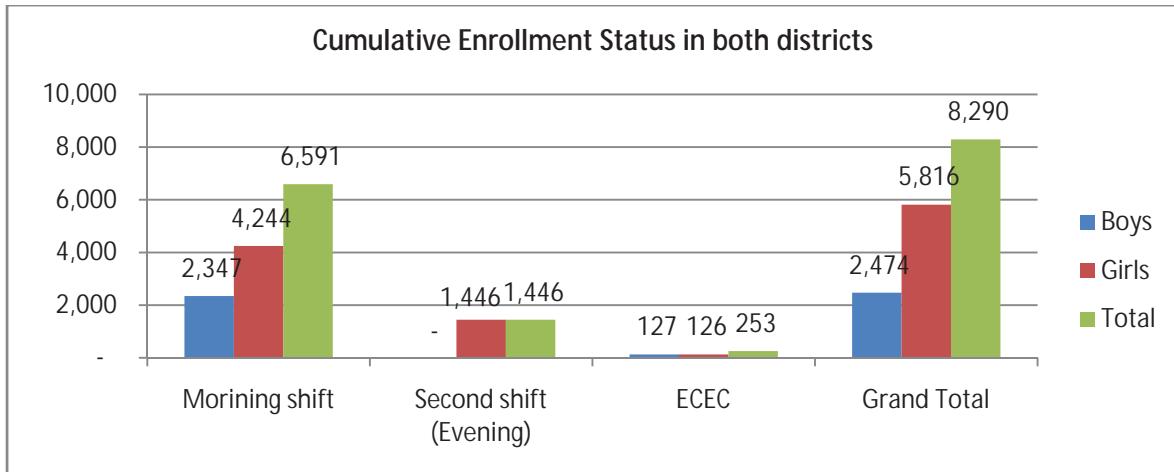
Enrollment Status

Enrollment trends in schools remained very encouraging. Except for the flood part of the project life the number of students has remained present in more than 75 % attendance rate per day. The occasional drops outs were mostly due to some free relief distribution focus by some organizations in neighboring schools. This also proved temporary and with increased monitoring and focus the project was able to achieve its objective on increasing the enrollment with reasonable share of girl's children in these schools.

At the moment 8,290 children out of which 70 % are girls and 30% boys are enrolled in the schools. 80 % of the children are registered in morning shift. 17 % enrolled in second shift girl's schools with 100 % enrollment of girls. 3 % children enrolled in ECEC. To sensitize local community for importance of education and mobilize them to send their children school, SMC members, school teachers along with students carried out house to house campaign for enrollment. However continuity of project interventions remains a big question mark for parents, students and staff. The following graph shows district wise enrollment status as of September, 2012 in both districts.

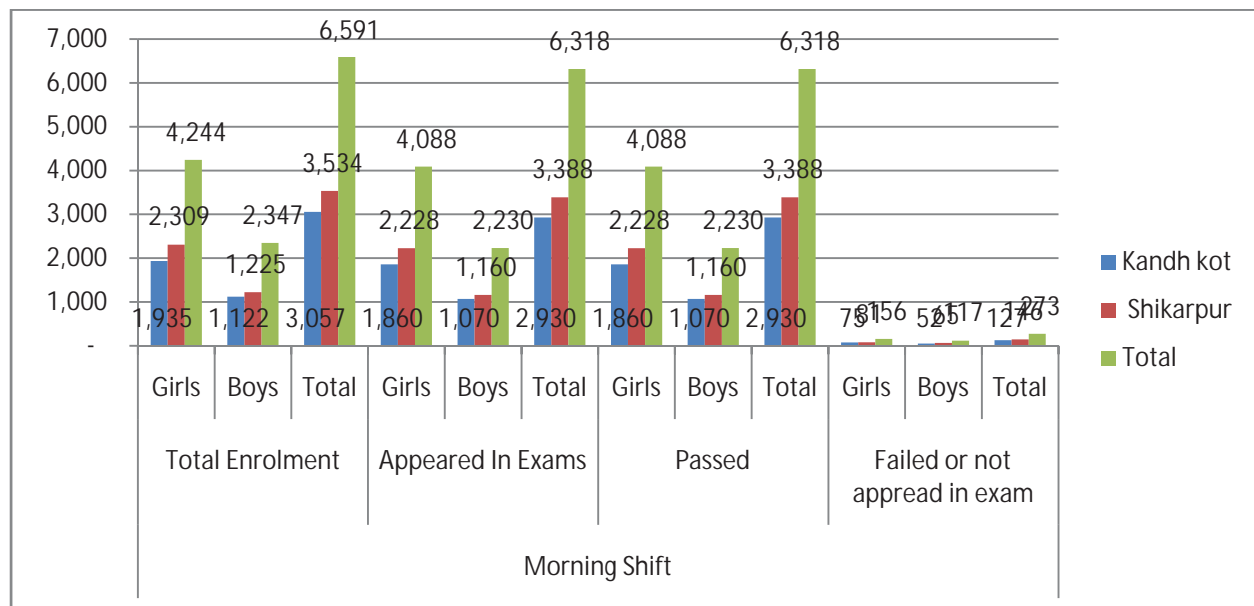


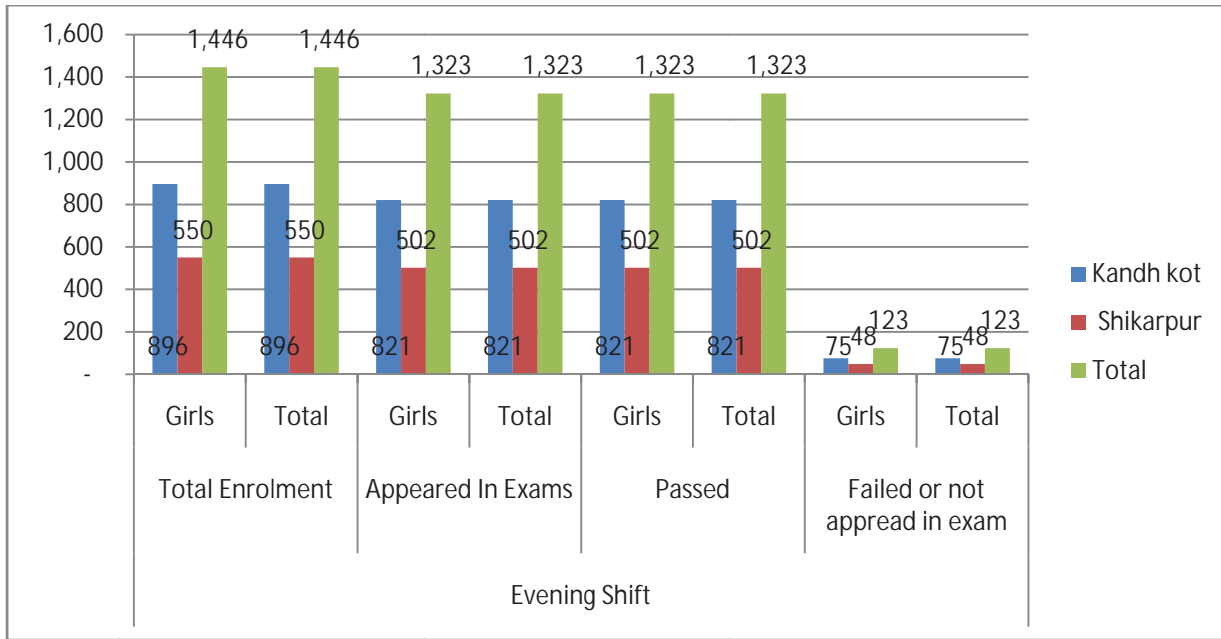
Now the cumulative enrollment in morning shift schools, second shift schools and in ECEC is given below:



Examination Systems and Result Analysis

Exams were held in April 2012 and result is shown in following graphs. DOE, teachers, parent and SMCs are expected good results. However, the number of student not appeared in exams this issue was taken seriously by SMCs. Before this project, students remained engaged in other activities except of education. But now, through UCBPRP's education component non-functional schools were not only made functional but teacher students and parent were sensitized about the importance of education.





Exclusive Visit of SSK

On March 3, 2012, Chairman NRSP and SRSO Sir. Shoaib Sultan Khan (SSK) visited UCBPRP's different programme interventions. He also visited Govt. Boys Primary School Bahadar Khan Khoso located in Tangwani, District Kashmir-Kandhkot. In this visit CEO NRSP, CEO N-IRM and executive officers from Sindh Government also along with him. All the visitors highly appreciated the extensive



efforts of NRSP team to make the school functional that was closed from last 10 years. NRSP has made visible endeavors in reformation of this school. Four teachers have been appointed and now current enrollment of school is 150, out of 83 girls and 67 are boys. School has been renovated and missing facilities have been addressed and most importantly teachers and school council members have been trained.

Visitors Remarks

- *“Delighted to visit functioning school, which I am told remained closed for 10 years, congratulations to all”*

(Shoaib Sultan Khan, The Chairman NRSP)

- *“Deeply impressed with the work of school management committee. This is model for centralization of renewed primary education. I wish them all the best”*

(Dr. Rashid Bajwa, The CEO-NRSP)

Award Distribution among Position holder students

Under Education Component of UCBPR District Kashmore – Kandhkot award were distributed among position holders of all schools. This process is still continuing in the schools. The awards were distributed to encourage position holders. Names of the position holders of students were given by the Teachers and ADO /Supervisors of Education Department.

Recreational visit

During the month of April, 2012, a two days recreational visit was organized for the children of different schools belonging to both project districts. Total 237 children participated in this joyful event organized at



Qasim Park – Sukkur. In this visit teachers were also present, one teacher from each school. They really appreciated this effort of NRSP. According to them their students belong to the tribal areas or closed school areas from last many years and had never celebrated any joyful event in their life collectively. At the time of lunch all the participants were entertained by juices, chicken biryani, mineral water & ice-cream.

School record completion and handing over to SRSO

After the completion of the project in Sep, 2012 all the school level and SMC level record was handed over to SRSO. NRSP strictly emphasized on error free and bias free record completion. This record comprised of all the SMC files, SMC notification, meeting records, bank accounts details, CPIs files and registers.

Challenges

Following challenges were faced during the implementation

1. Availability of female teachers remained a challenging task. The ones identified also need huge investment in capacity building before we could affect the quality of learning by students.
2. Although there was need for education of children but in many areas people are engaged in tribal conflicts or there is general law and order situation which hampers any project interventions.

Annexures

Annexure Kandhkot till September 2012

Annexure Shikarpur till September 2012