

NEWSLETTER 2023



FOUNDATIONAL LEARNING AND EARLY CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION IN EMERGENCIES

11th-12th July, 2023
MARRIOTT HOTEL, KARACHI



Save the Children



Agenda Highlights

- 1- To draw attention to the urgency of action for acknowledging and addressing foundational learning in floods/emergency crises.
- 2- To mainstream ECCE in emergencies with clear indicators at output and outcome levels.
- 3- To address ECCE & FL consistently and as priority areas across the relief, recovery, and development phases during emergencies.

The conference was hosted by the **School Education Literacy Department (SELD)** with **UNICEF** as the main sponsor, along with **VSO**, **Save the Children**, the **Pakistan Alliance for Maths and Science (PAMS)**, and **Idara-e-Taleem-o-Aagahi (ITA)** as the technical partners, organizing this significant event.

The 2-Day Conference featured 2 **Panel Discussions** and a **Thematic Working Group** on each day. Day 1 centered around Early Education in Emergencies, while Day 2 focused on Foundational Learning. The event witnessed a remarkable turnout, with over 240 participants in attendance.

PROMINENT SPEAKERS

There were many notable speakers including Sindh Education Minister Syed Ali Sardar Shah, Sindh Minister for Health and Population Welfare Dr. Azra Fazal Pechuho, UNICEF Sindh Chief of Field Office Rem Bahadur Chand, Mr. Qasim Siraj Soomro, MPA, Sindh Assembly and Sindh Secretary for School Education and Literacy Development (SELD) Gulam Akbar Laghari among other representatives from UNICEF, World Bank, and Idara-e-Taleem-o-Aagahi (ITA).



PANEL DISCUSSIONS

Day-2

Panel 1

Moderator: Mr. Junaid Samo, CPM, RSU

Topic:

Making the Investment Case for Early Years in Emergencies - SDG 4.2.1

Participants:

Sindh Education Foundation (SEF), UNICEF, the World Bank, Idara e Taleem o Agahi (ITA), and Voluntary Service Overseas (VSO)

**Panel 2:**

Moderator - Dr. Fauzia Khan, Additional Secretary, SELD

Topic:

Holistic ECCE, a Multi-Sectoral Imperative (Nutrition, Health, Climate Change)

Participants:

Mr. Farman Khan (Save the Children), Ms. Mina Zamand (World Bank), Dr. Saba Shuja (UNICEF), Dr. Sahib Jan Badar (AAP Health) and Ms. Baela Raza Jamil (ITA)

Panel 3:

Moderator - Faiz Muhammad Chhalgri, Head Master of SELD

Topic:

Teachers' Perspectives on ECCE in Emergencies

Participants:

Teachers who worked on ECCE in Emergencies



Day-2

Panel 1:

Moderator - Baela Raza Jamil, CEO, ITA

Topic:

Action for Foundational Learning in Emergencies: Provincial & National Perspectives

Participants:

Secretaries and special secretaries from all provinces of Pakistan, including the Federal. Among the attendees were Mr. Ghulam Akbar Laghari - Secretary SELD, Sindh, Mr. Abdul Rauf Baloch - Secretary, SED Balochistan, Mr. Qaiser Rashid - Additional Secretary, SED Punjab, Mr. Khawaja Mazharul Haq - Additional Secretary, Education Department South Punjab, Mr. Mushtaq Hussain - Additional Secretary, E&SED Peshawar, Dr. M. Shahid Soroya, DG, Pakistan Institute for Education (PIE), and Ms. Freya Perry, Education Advisor FCDO

Panel 2:

Moderator - Mr. Salman Naveed, CEO, PAMS

Topic:

Effective approaches to promoting foundational learning during emergencies.

Participants:

- Ms. Meenal Javed and Mr. Fida Hussain, ITA - Teaching at the Right Level - Chalo Parho Barho (CPB)
- Mr. Abid Gill, NFE/JICA - Accelerated Learning Pathways
- Mr. Jibrán Jamshed, Microsoft Pakistan - EdTech and Foundational Learning.
- Mr. Kazi Kabir, SEF - Formative Assessment of Foundational Learning
- Mr. Piaro Khan, DCAR - Language of Instruction and Students' Learning Assessment
- Mr. Farman Khan, Save the Children Pakistan - Technology for Accelerated Learning



ADDITIONAL LEARNING MATERIAL

During the conference, SEF (Sindh Education Foundation), Save the Children, JICA (Japan International Cooperation Agency), SGD (Sustainable Development Goals), ITA (Idara-e-Taleem-o-Aagahi), and Rupani Foundation set up stalls to showcase their learning solutions for emergencies. Each organization presented their innovative approaches, resources, and programs aimed at addressing education challenges during crises and ensuring access to quality learning opportunities for affected communities. Participants had the opportunity to explore and learn from the diverse range of initiatives showcased at the stalls, fostering collaboration and knowledge-sharing to better respond to educational needs in emergency situations.

CONSOLIDATED CALL TO ACTION OF THE CONFERENCE

The participants shaped the call to Action In the following five succinct and overlapping areas:

- a) What, Where & How for FL & ECCE as priority sectors that need multi-sectoral planning, emergency preparedness in pre and in-service training, flexible learning supporting headteachers/teachers with an updated directory of accessible learning packages and inclusive outcomes-based measures for interventions.
- b) **Content and Pedagogy:**
For ECCE, build skills in Nurturing Care Framework (NCF) and Climate Change, play-based pedagogy, Parental and Community Engagement, and SEL.
For FL initiate simple assessment of children in affected schools/areas with a focus on academic and non-academic areas of literacy, numeracy mapped to SLOs, integrating (SEL) and Climate Change content and tools. Build Capacity for Teaching at the Right Level /Accelerated Learning to learn, co-create content, and holistic implementation in emergency contexts.
- c) Urgency for a Common agreed set of **simple tools for Assessment** and Tracking of ECCE and Foundational Learning with digital assessments/apps where possible and agreed indicators accessible to all organizations working in emergencies.

- d) Continuity of Learning for ECCE & FL must be in safe and/or culturally weather-appropriate temporary learning spaces with accelerated and flexible learning approaches in both face-to-face and hybrid formats with appropriate TLMs active libraries ensuring capacity building and support for teachers/volunteers with community engagement; and
- e) Engage institutionally with multi-sectoral actors on the ground for health, nutrition, and social safety nets for stabilizing the poorest most vulnerable groups supported by NADRA in birth registration and access to emergency cash transfers.



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