

HOLISTIC EARLY CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION (ECCE) IN PAKISTAN

Asia-Pacific Regional ECD Conference

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'The Transformative Power of Early Childhood Development (ECD):
The Importance of Holistic Interventions'

Prof. Muhammad Rafique Tahir
Joint Educational Advisor

Ministry of Federal Education and Professional Training
Pakistan

An ECCE Policy Framework for Pakistan

- Pakistan recognized the importance of ECCE in the National Education Policy 2009.
- National Curriculum for ECE developed – Training Module for ECE teachers developed based on the curriculum along with minimum learning standards for ECE
- ECCE was included in Provincial Education Sector Reforms Program with appropriation of funds.
- Prime Minister’s Education Reforms – Introducing Montessori classes in public schools in the federal capital (Islamabad).
- Encouraging public-private sector partnerships to achieve SDG 4 target 4.2 (Parwaan National Centre of Excellence on Early Childhood Care and Education, UNICEF, World Bank, Teacher’s Resource Centre, Aga Khan Foundation, Save the Children, Rupani Foundation)
- Inter-sectoral integration (health and education) for provision of quality Early Childhood Care and Education
- Inter-Provincial Education Ministers Conference (IPEMC), convened by the Ministry of Federal Education and Professional Training, serves as a coordinating unit across all provinces and as a platform of advocating reforms pertaining to the early childhood care and education
- Ministry of Federal Education and Professional Training is currently revising the National Curriculum Policy 2009. ECCE is being given special attention in the revision process.
- Degree, diploma and certificate programmes in ECCE have been introduced in a number of teacher education institutions across the country

Context: Challenges Facing Pakistan

EARLY CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION

- 22.06 million children(5-16) are out of school in Pakistan (*Pakistan Education Statistics 2015-2016*)
- 8.74million children are *enrolled in pre-primary education*(Male: 4.79million & Female: 3.95million)Public Sector Enrollment: 4.53million & Private Sector: 4.21million, GER: 74%, NER:60%, Out of School Children(3-5): 2.3Million
- 45% of children under 5 in Pakistan suffer from stunting which causes delayed development and impaired cognitive function and poor learning outcomes. (Global Nutrition Report 2015, Nutrition Country Profile-Pakistan)
- 15% of children under the age of five suffer from acute malnutrition, a proportion that exceeds the emergency threshold. (United Nations Children’s Fund(UNICEF) “Pakistan Annual Report 2013”)
- Only 15% of children aged 6-23 months receive the minimum acceptable diet, based on the recommended infant-and-young-child feeding practices. (National Institute of Population Studies, Pakistan “Pakistan Demographic and Health Survey 2012/13)

HOLISTIC ECD IN PAKISTAN

- Public Sector Intervention
- Public – Private Partnership



PUBLIC SECTOR INTERVENTION

- National Education Policy(2009) focuses on ECE
- National Curriculum developed & implemented
- An additional classroom equipped with learning material based on ECE curriculum is provided
- ECE teachers are recruited and trained
- Teacher training modules developed based on ECE Curriculum
- M-Technology is used for training of the ECE rural teachers
- Monitoring system for ECE is in place



PUBLIC – PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP

- Broad-class Listen to Learn- Interactive Radio Instruction
- PARWAAN – National Centre of Excellence on ECCE
- Informed Parents – RUPANI FOUNDATION

Broad Class – Listen to Learn

- POWER99 Foundation pioneered interactive radio instruction program to improve the quality, equity and inclusiveness of education with the ultimate goal of improving school achievements .
- The program uses radio broadcast and exposes learners to regular, curriculum-based content . Medium of instruction is Urdu and regional language.





Program has won first prize as “*Most Innovative Development Project*” among submissions from all over world , during 17th annual Global Development Network conference.



Innovative Pedagogical Approaches in Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) in the Asia-Pacific region: A Resource Pack

The Nine Documented Cases

The Nine Documented Cases

Innovative Pedagogical Approaches from Australia, China, India, Japan, Nepal, New Zealand, Pakistan, the Solomon Islands and Thailand



- On-Country Learning: Murdoch University, Australia
- Sihuan Playgroup, Beijing, China
- The Education for Children of Migrant Labour, Bengaluru, India
- Kaede Kindergarten, Hiroshima, Japan
- Educate the Future (EtF), Save the Children Nepal
- Te Puna Reo o Nga Kakano; Wellington, New Zealand
- Broadclass Listen to Learn: POWER99 Foundation, Pakistan
- Save the Children Early Child Development Centres, Solomon Islands
- Mother-tongue based Early Childhood Care and Education: Foundation for Applied linguistics, Chiang Mai, Thailand

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Parwaan Preschool –A School Readiness Programme

An innovative model that engages and trains youth in entrepreneurial and pedagogical skills for provision of quality and affordable early childhood care and education opportunities to children of age 3-5 years to boost their learning outcomes.

The programme caters to the learning and development needs preschool age (3-5 years) children by engaging:

- Young Entrepreneurs
- Education Departments
- Health Departments
- Financial Institutions
- Local Political Leadership
- Community
- Network of ECCE Experts
- Policy Makers
- Parliamentarians

Programme Vision 2030
Establishing 0.5 million ECCE Centers



Programme Features

A low-cost model for provision of ECCE services at community level

ECCE course in line with National ECE Curriculum 2007

Interest-free loan facility

Integration of health and education

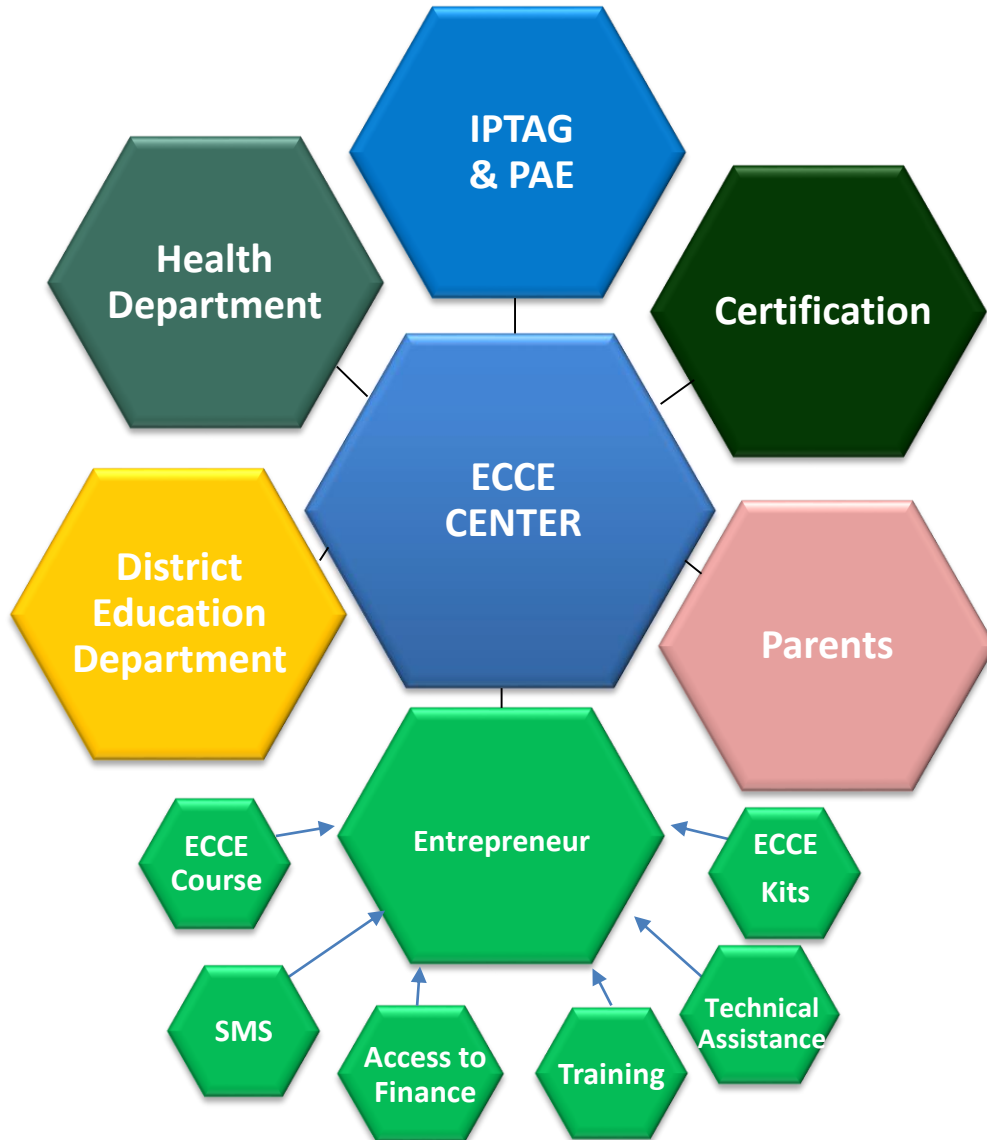
ECCE centers certification

Comprehensive training

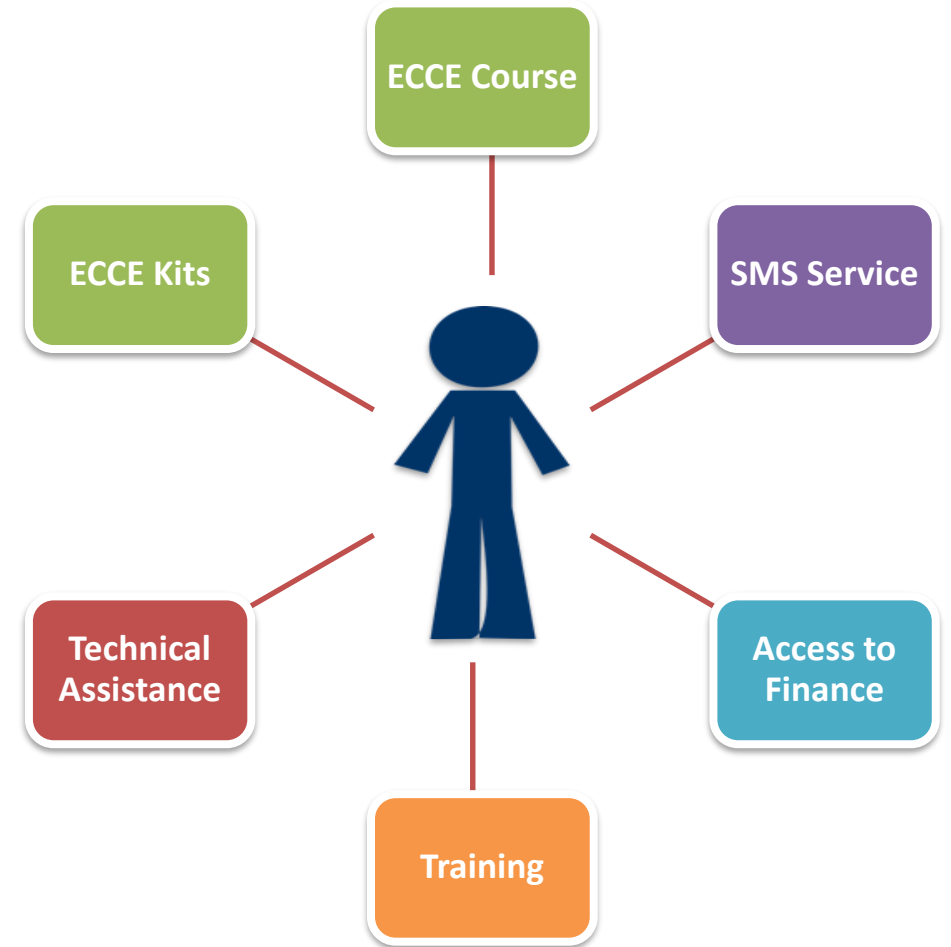
Self sustainable model

Contextually synchronized with Pakistani settings

Parwaan Preschool Model



Facilitation to an Entrepreneur



Programme Flow

Selection of youth through a wide scale advertisement campaign

Training of selected youth on Entrepreneurial & Pedagogical Skills

Establishing and operationalization of ECCE centers

Children availing ECCE services

Resulting in School readiness of children and improved socio-economic condition of youth

About the Programme

Phase – I

- Duration: 11 Months (Apr-2016– Feb-2017)
- Target Districts: 5
- Khushab, Bahawalpur, Kohat, Charsadda, ICT

Phase – II

- Duration: 2 years
- Target Provinces/ Regions: 13
- Punjab, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Baluchistan



72,000+
Beneficiary
Children: 3-5
year old

5,000
Beneficiary
Youth: young
men &
women

Programme
Outreach: 13
districts

Programme
Duration:
3 Years

Training In Entrepreneurial Skills

- What is Entrepreneurship & Innovation?
- Understanding social entrepreneurship:
- Business Model Canvas
- Human Center Design (HCD) + Market Research
- Branding & Marketing
- Financial Modeling
- Risk Management
- Pitching & Storytelling
- Adaptive Leadership
- Administrative and financial management



Training in ECCE Pedagogical Skills

- Philosophy of ECCE with the concept of brain development research
- Significance of Early Years Learning Interventions
- High scope approach
- Active learning
- Cross cutting themes (Gender, inclusiveness, Convention on Rights of Child)
- Child health and safety
- Family involvement
- Community mobilization
- Creating ECCE environment
- Emergent Literacy and Math
- Book making, Daily Routines, Project based Learning
- Micro-teaching on daily lesson plans
- Developing learning material through low/no cost



One year course developed

- Developed 180 daily lesson plans for 36 weeks for ECCE Children age (3-5) years based on the National Early Childhood Curriculum and research based ECCE methodologies.
- This is used by entrepreneurs/ facilitators during daily activities of the centres leading children towards school readiness.

Financial access to entrepreneurs

- Facilitating entrepreneurs in receiving financial support to expand their ECCE centers.
- Akhuwat (microfinance institution) will provide loan to 50 entrepreneurs while negotiations are underway with Prime Minister's Youth Business Loan Scheme and National Bank of Pakistan to provide small loans to the entrepreneurs.



Photo: Parwaan ECCE center

Health services to ECCE centers

- Engaging lady health workers to provide the following services in the ECCE centers to integrate health with education for holistic development of children:
 - Provide polio immunization to children in the ECCE centers
 - Provide health screening services to children in the ECCE centers for referral
 - Conduct health/hygiene awareness raising sessions for mothers of the children in the ECCE centers.

SMS service for entrepreneurs

- Messages are sent to entrepreneurs on a weekly basis including motivational and informative messages on ECED to encourage and propel entrepreneurs.

Entrepreneur Certification of ECCE centers

- The centers will receive endorsement certification from Allama Iqbal Open University Early Childhood Education Departments to ensure their quality assurance according to international standards.

Impact of The Programme

Beneficiaries	Current Status	Target (2016-19)	Beyond (Projections)
Children	1500	72,000	10,000,000
Entrepreneurs (Trained)	135	5,000	500,000
Monthly Average Income per Entrepreneur	PKR. 6000	PKR. 51,000	

INFORMED PARENTS – RUPANI FOUNDATION

- Documentary



Thank You



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