



*“Improving access to Primary Education for the most vulnerable, specially girls.”*

## Universal Primary Education

National Commission for  
Human Development



As part of NCHD's mission to address root causes of illiteracy, we work with district governments to improve people's access to education facilities. NCHD Education Program is committed to create an enabling environment for achievement of EFA/MDGs in Pakistan, using innovative and fast-track initiatives which shall ultimately help Government of Pakistan to achieve and sustain the EFA indicators, within minimum possible time. Our interventions under Universal Primary Education (UPE) program are developed to help government at district level meet the challenges in the field of education.

*“NCHD works to improve people's access to the available education facilities by increasing enrollment, reducing dropout, and ensuring quality education”.*

### Innovative strategies to achieve Universal Primary Education

**Yearly Operational Planning for the successful implementation of plans:** To prepare activity based plans and its successful implementation NCHD's trained staff facilitates District Education Offices and provides training to their subordinate offices. The District Line Departments are also facilitated to compile the progress, critically analyze and review the plans for any necessary refinements on monthly basis.

**Baseline Data collection 0-9 year children to ensure credible database for planning:** To establish a baseline for having exact number and names of children to be enrolled, NCHD has assisted the district Education Departments for carrying out 100% household data of 0-9 year children through door to door census.

**UPE Registers – A local ledger based UPE-MIS for schools:** Universal Primary Education Registers have been introduced in all the primary schools to maintain results of baseline survey in an organized and analyzed form determining the target for intake enrollment every year. All children between the ages of 0-9 are registered age wise in order to generate list of out of school children at the time of enrollment campaign for coming years. UPE registers are designed in the way to capture data of new births at the villages/school level. This makes is a living document for serving as the basis for informed planning to ensure 100% enrollment in primary schools for all the times to come.

### Do you know?

- There are 19 million primary school age children in Pakistan. Out of which almost half are still out of school.
- Gross enrollment rate in schools is 70% but almost 50% children get dropout of schools before reaching the fifth class. Only one third of the 50% survivors pass the primary education.
- By building strong and meaningful community linkages, NCHD makes government education system sustainable to achieve the challenge of providing quality primary education to every child of the country.
- We strengthens Ministry of Education/Departments of Education by setting up feeder schools where no government schools are present with in three kilometer radius, providing additional teachers to the government schools, and providing teachers' training on quality education.

### Enrollment Campaign

It is vital to ensure that eligible children are enrolled in schools as early as possible at the start of every academic year. Children who are left out in the beginning not only run the risk of never making it to school but also if they join late they have to struggle a great deal to come at par with the early starters. NCHD's Enrollment Campaign is formally planned and implemented every year with the objective to ensure 100% intake enrollment. The process for enrollment campaign mainly includes development of lists of out-of-school target children through UPE registers. Then training of teachers is conducted on how to enroll 100% children. Through educational walks and door to door visit of volunteers to the households with out of school children, active participation of the communities is ensured. The supervisors/managers of the department vigilantly monitor the whole activity and validate the enrollment of children afterwards.



### Feeder Schools/Teachers – serving the un-served areas for increasing access to:

**Schooling:** Upon successfully completing the enrollment campaign; the locations are identified where children could not be enrolled due to non availability of government school or closed school. NCHD provides these children with the Feeder Schools. Along with it, Feeder Teachers are provided as temporary arrangement in all such situations where no government school exists, or government school is closed due to non-availability of teacher or children cannot be enrolled due to disturbed student teacher ratio in a government school.



**Dropout Follow-up to reduce children dropout rate:** The major contributors to the dropout are; schooling being a boring experience for children; and lack of follow-up by the teachers, parents and community on absent children. To make schooling a pleasant and joyful

experience for children NCHD provides teachers with the training on employing activity based joyful learning methods; while to strengthen and institutionalize the process for follow-up on absent children the teachers are trained to follow a simple six steps process to pursue absent children and bring them back to schools. These six steps involve follow-up by the teacher, students, community volunteers, Parent Teacher Association members, influential and local community at large.

### Community Participation/ Volunteers/ revamping of PTAs:

To improve and promote community participation, direct linkage of teachers with community members is necessary. Activities like holding broad based community meetings, parent teacher meetings and school council meetings are implemented to improve upon the linkage between teachers and community/parents.



**Monthly Goshwara – School performance recording and reporting mechanism:** Monthly Goshwara is a comprehensive format for reporting performance of school, covering the input, process and output parameters i.e. enrollment, dropout, learning achievement of children, community participation, school physical infrastructure, status of staff etc. Teachers are trained to report on all above indicators/activities with most vital details to their immediate supervisors on monthly basis. The managers use these reports for providing timely advice to respective schools.

**Progress Review, Planning and Training Meetings (PRMs):** Supervisory and managerial staff at the district level is trained by NCHD to hold outcome-based progress review meetings on monthly basis. The progress review and planning meetings are held at all managerial and supervisory levels of the district education department i.e. District, Tehsil/Taluka, and Markaz/Circle levels. Progress of the schools is compiled, reviewed and analyzed through Monthly Goshwara, against all output and process indicators, and corrective/preventive actions initiated. All the participants, at respective levels are provided immediate approvals, guidance and training to ensure effective running of the schools. This is one of the most vital activities to meet the challenge of achieving UPE.

**Currently, NCHD is running 15,684 feeder schools with 7,179 feeder teachers serving in government primary schools/re-opening the closed schools and 8,505 community feeder schools established in the most under served areas of Pakistan.**

