

Sindh Education Foundation  
Government of Sindh

# ADOPT - A - SCHOOL PROGRAM

strengthening public schools through partnerships





# ADOPT-A-SCHOOL PROGRAM

## VISION

To establish public private & public community partnerships for improvement of government schools

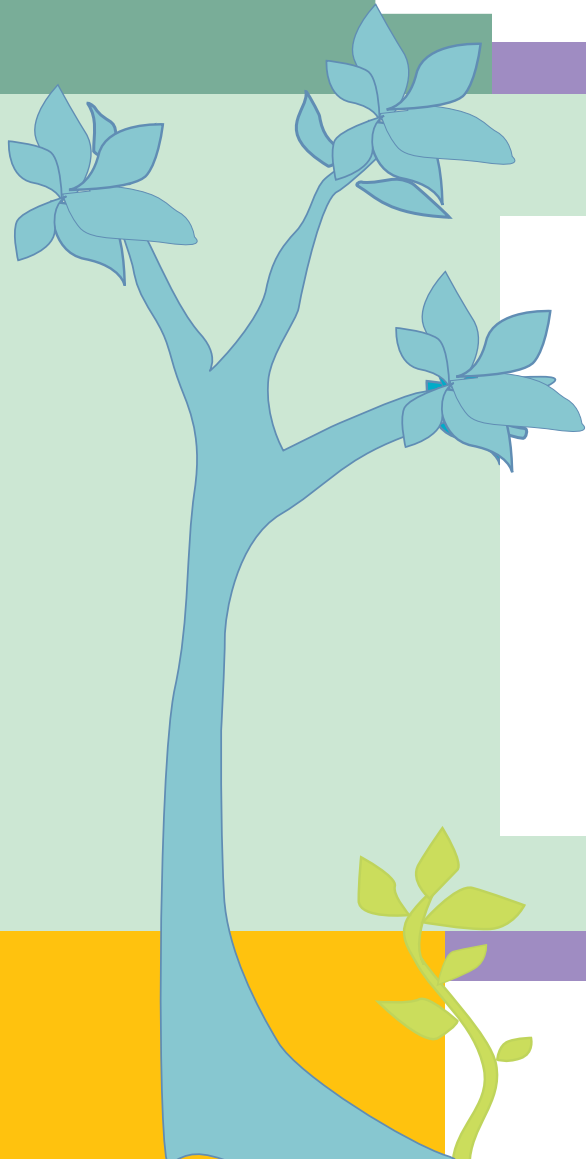
## OBJECTIVES

Government school improvement through:

- Mobilizing support from the civil society, private sector, NGOs/CBOs, corporate sector and philanthropists.
- Facilitating adopters to develop and implement school development plans for improvement of adopted schools
- Providing quality inputs to enrich the learning environment in the schools
- Gauging the impact of adopters' initiatives on the overall standards of education and especially students' learning outcomes
- Developing and strengthening linkages with all stakeholders within and outside the school.

## TARGET AREA

The province of Sindh



# PROCEDURE

## OF SCHOOL ADOPTION

### PRE APPROVAL PHASE

- Program guidelines are provided to the individual/organization upon request.
- Identification of a school mutually agreed by the adopter and SEF.
- Meeting with the school administration and needs analysis of the school.
- Approval of adoption and contract signing.

### POST APPROVAL PHASE

- An initial meeting of all stakeholders (including the Adopter, school administration and the Sindh Education Foundation.)
- Signing of registration forms/agreement for adoption.
- Introduction of adopters with the School Management Committee (SMC) and the community.
- Development of linkages with the Department of Education and concerned departments for school improvement.
- School Development Planning (SDP).

### IMPLEMENTATION PHASE

After adoption you can work towards achieving targets as per the SDP:

- Improving school environment and facilities.
- Initiating co-curricular activities.
- Mobilizing the school management towards school improvement.

# HOW TO GET STARTED

1 Please fill and post the attached form to The Adopt-A-School Program, Sindh Education Foundation Head Office in Karachi

2 SEF will contact you for school identification and initiating the adoption process.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Designation: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Organization/Individual: \_\_\_\_\_

Postal Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Mobile Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Have you identified a school (s) for sdoption:

Yes       No

If Yes, please provide name and address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

What type of support are you planning to extend to the school(s) post adoption?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Comments:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



The Adopt-A-School Program  
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# PROGRAM INTERVENTIONS



## SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT PLANNING (SDP)

Adopters can develop and implement viable School Development Plans for the adopted schools. SEF will offer capacity building workshops to facilitate adopters for devising these plans. The purpose of SDP will be to set out time bound targets and strategies for monitoring, adoption facilitation, capacity building of adopters. Research will also be conducted to evaluate the impact of adopted schools in improving the academic output of schools.

## ENRICHMENT OF LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

Since child centered learning environment is at the heart of SEF's education philosophy, an enriched classroom experience is vital for students. These will entail story books, flash cards, reference books, classroom displays and other supplementary material to aid teachers and students to make learning an engaging experience. SEF will facilitate adopters in creating an environment within schools that allow for an enriching learning experience for students.

## STUDENT ASSESSMENT

To gauge the impact of adopter driven quality initiatives on student learning outcomes and overall education standards of the school, SEF will conduct regular student assessment.

# D E F I N I N G



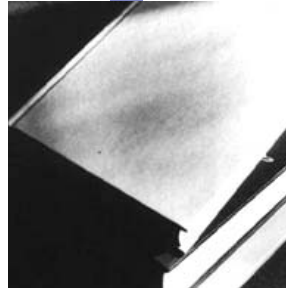
## WHAT DO WE MEAN BY 'ADOPTION'?

Adoption illustrates 'nurturing'. In more than one way, adopting a school also means nurturing the school, children and other stakeholders. Most government schools in the province of Sindh lack quality education and basic facilities consequently exposing thousands of children to ill-equipped schools and poor quality of education. By adopting a school one can play a crucial role by improving the physical conditions and the standard of education in government schools.

## SCHOOL ADOPTION

Through adoption the Sindh Education Foundation strives to establish sustainable public private partnership for government school improvement. SEF encourages

- individuals/organizations to adopt government schools and guides them to ensure government school revival.



## CAN YOU BE AN ADOPTER?

You don't have to be a registered NGO/CBO or a company. If you are a concerned individual or group with a keen interest in government school revitalization, you can be an adopter. The SEF will match you up with a school; preferably one of your choice.



# A D O P T I O N



## How can you **HELP** in Reviving a Government School?

### Y o u c a n

- Identify school development needs and prioritize.
- Devise School Development Plan (SDP) with SEF's facilitation.
- Improve school infrastructure and learning environment as per SDP targets.
- Undertake regular visits to the school.
- Ensure a congenial working environment in the school.
- Work closely with the SMC, parents, teachers and community for school improvement.
- Take all possible steps to improve the standard of education offered to children.

## What are your **RESPONSIBILITIES** as an adopter?

- A caregiver and contributor.
- Develop and implement the School Development Plan and monitor progress on targets.
- Participate in trainings organized by SEF.
- Share school progress and reports with SEF on a regular basis.
- Ensure a congenial working environment in the school and take all steps necessary for raising the standards of education offered.
- Work closely with school level stakeholders (teachers, SMC and community)
- Facilitate SEF for undertaking quality initiatives in schools including trainings, student assessment, monitoring etc.

## **RIGHTS** as an adopter

You are a caregiver, and a friend to the school and community. You will be provided a lot of support from the Sindh Education Foundation and the Department of Education to preserve and protect your investment of time and money in the school. However, a mutually respectful relationship will be ideal in the school, keeping in consideration that the parents, teachers and community members are the real custodians of the education interventions.

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## What is the role of SEF in adoption?

SEF being the focal organization for the program is primarily responsible for facilitating school adoptions and working closely with the adopters and schools to achieve the desired school improvement outcomes. Other responsibilities include creating an interface amongst adopters, government and school, training adopters for School Development Planning, mobilizing learning resources to schools, annual school monitoring and student assessment. SEF will also help adopters to explore and identify resource mobilization and networking avenues for strengthening of adopted schools.

## Can the adopter take any action against the school staff?

No. The Adopter cannot take any direct action against the school staff in any circumstances. The adopter has the right to submit reports against errant staff. Based on the written complaints of the adopter, the Department of Education is liable to take disciplinary action against errant staff. The adopter can also recommend policy level administrative changes within the government school setup.

quantity), poor academic environment, lack of recreation and self development avenues for both students and teachers are some of the most pressing concerns faced by the public schools.

## Is the Adopt-A-School program approved by the government ?

Yes. The Adopt-A-School Program is approved and supported by the Government of Sindh. A new policy has been approved for expanding the program and empowering the adopters further to bring about sustainable transformation in public schools.

## What are the most common requirements of government schools?

Poor infrastructural conditions, missing basic facilities (toilets, clean drinking water), inadequate teaching staff (in terms of both quality and

## When a school is adopted does the ownership of the school transfer to the adopter?

No. The adoption of a school does not entail the handing over of school property (i.e. building, material etc.) or the privatization/ denationalization of the school. Adoption is a process by which an individual/organization becomes a caregiver or friend so as to improve the overall standard of the school.

# Salient Features of the MoU

Government of Sindh intends to upgrade existing Government schools identified by District Government, into quality schools under its "Adopt-a-School Program". These schools will be developed by the adopter with an overall objective of improving student learning outcomes through "School Development Plan."

The Government shall provide funding to the adopted school through "School Management Committee" to meet operational expenditures of the school including utilities of the school.

The Government shall ensure that government teachers are identified and attend trainings regularly and that the adopter is allowed entry into government schools to observe and give follow up support to teachers participating in the training program.

The Government shall support the adopter in resolving school based issues and problems in coordination with the district government.

The District Government shall coordinate with the management of adopted school and extend all necessary support to ensure that targets are achieved in the given timeframe.

The District Government shall ensure that teachers and teaching/non-teaching staff are not altered to the disadvantage of the school.

# Salient Features of the MoU

The adopter shall be responsible for the overall supervision of the adopted school.

The adopter may hire teaching and non-teaching staff on contract as and when required with financial obligation on the adopter.

The adopter shall maintain enrollment, retention and examination certification record of the adopted school as per agreed criteria and shall share periodical reports with stakeholders.

SEF will be responsible for the overall facilitation and providing any technical support.

SEF will be the focal organization for program coordination.

SEF will be responsible for improving the quality of the program through teacher development, curriculum enrichment, school monitoring and student assessment.

The SEF shall conduct/ facilitate capacity building sessions on school development planning for adopters as well as district government officials.

# How an adopter can make a difference?



- The adopter shall provide for the overall supervision of the adopted school.
- The adopter shall serve as patron of the SMC and must ensure active participation of the SMC through teachers and parental involvement. In case SMC does not exist in the school the adopter shall establish SMC through election.
- The adopter can hire teaching and non-teaching staff on contract as and when required with financial obligation on the adopter.
- The adopter can mobilize material, financial and human resources for smooth functioning of school.
- The adopter shall ensure that the “School Development Plan” is implemented in letter and spirit. However, any amendment/ alteration or change in “School Development Plan” can only be done with the mutual consent of SEF.

# How an adopter can make a difference?



- The adopter shall galvanize community support through SMC for enhancing enrollment in the school.
- The adopter shall ensure enrollment, retention and examination certification record of the adopted school as per agreed criteria and shall share periodical reports with stakeholders.
- The adopter shall work closely with school level stakeholders for the betterment of the school especially for improving the overall quality of education and particularly creating a positive impact on students' learning outcome.
- The adopter can include government teachers from neighboring government schools in the teacher training programs.

## Other initiatives of the Sindh Education Foundation

- Child Labor Education Program (CLEP)
- Early Learning Program (ELP)
- Integrated Education Learning Program (IELP)
- Promoting Private Schooling in Rural Sindh Project (PPRS)
- Rural based Community Schools (RBCS) Project
- Women's Literacy and Empowerment Program (WLEP)

“ EMPOWERING

DISADVANTAGED

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APPROACHES TO LEARNING

AND EDUCATION ”





## ABOUT THE SINDH EDUCATION FOUNDATION

The Sindh Education Foundation (SEF) has been working since 1992 to empower disadvantaged communities of Sindh towards social change by creating and facilitating new approaches to learning and education. The Foundation works on a diverse portfolio of programs through promotion of Public, Private and Community Partnerships and seeks to address not only the goals of Education For All and quality education targets but also create greater ownership and sustainability of the educational interventions. These objectives are achieved through provision of employment, entrepreneurship and institutional development opportunities at the grassroots level. With financial support from the Department of Education and Literacy, Government of Sindh, the Foundation's portfolio is continuously expanding to reach out to over 500,000 beneficiaries through a network of more than 3,000 schools in underserved areas of Sindh.

The SEF provides regular school support fund, teacher training and salaries, resource material for enrichment of curriculum and capacity building of the local community bodies in areas

of school establishment and management. The continued support to these educational institutions is a reflection of the Foundation's persistent advocacy and efforts for establishment of effective and replicable quality education models; and represents collective efforts of all our partners in advancing educational excellence and equity in the province.

# CONTACT

The Adopt-A-School Program

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