



Prosperous, tolerant & resource
intensive Balochistan

BALUCHISTAN NON-FORMAL EDUCATION(NFE) POLICY

2016-2030



Directorate of Literacy & Non-Formal Education, Department of Social
Welfare, Special Education, Literacy & Non-Formal Education, and
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CONTEXT

Non-Formal Education encompasses educational programmes that aims at basic education for out-of-school children, adult literacy, life & work skills and general knowledge for illiterate adults. Non-Formal Education programmes are generally accelerated, flexible and serve as stand along certificate based programmes as bridge courses to enable learners re-enter the formal education and training. NFE promotes life-long learning and provides opportunities to learners to acquire and update knowledge and skills before and after schooling and serves as an investment in human development. NFE in Pakistan is as old as the country itself and finds its origins in the first “Pakistan Education Conference”. The programme gradually earned attention and received adequate funding in 1970. Consequent education policies and plans introduced Mass Literacy Programme, Literacy Centers in schools, factories, farms, union council halls and other community places and Use of Media for literacy along with Basic Education Community Schools.

NFE is enshrined in article 37(b) and 25-A of the Constitution of Pakistan that guarantees the right of literacy and education to adult illiterates and out-of-school children. In addition, National Education Policy (NEP) 2009 recognizes Non-Formal Education as a key approach to reduce illiteracy and out-of-school children and contribute to socio-economic development through social and skills based programmes. The policy stresses upon standards based education and necessitates development and improvement of curricula and learning materials and introduce accreditation. At the same time, the Balochistan Education Sector Plan (BESP) 2013-18 identifies NFE policy as a big gap in



strengthening NFE in Balochistan and the Balochistan Comprehensive Strategy Paper (BCSP) stresses upon the need to strengthen the literacy programmes by actively partnering the prominent organizations to achieve the literacy target, which was set to be 64% for coming 3 to 5 years. The national and provincial priorities for NFE are also supported by the global pledge made in the form of Sustainable Development Goal # 4 and education 2030 framework for action that commits promoting quality and equitable education and life-long learning.

According to PSLM 2014-15 conducted by Pakistan Bureau of Statistics (PBS), literacy rate of 10 years and older population in Balochistan is 44%. The survey describes that rural literacy is 38% as compared to 61% urban and that literacy rate of rural women is as low as 17%. Literacy rate of 15 years and older population in Balochistan is reportedly 38% according to the same source. Rural literacy is 32% and rural women depict only 12% literacy rate. Widespread poverty, especially in rural areas (72% in Balochistan live below poverty line; SDPI 2012) is a cause and effect of the massive illiteracy in the province.

According to N-EMIS 2014-15, around 60% children of school going age (5-16 years) are out-of-schools in Balochistan, which has shown an increasing trend during past 10 years in particular, irrespective of the fact that Balochistan Government has opened 1,583 new schools. According to BCSP, only 10,000 settlements, out of the 22,000 have schools. This situation calls for supply side solutions that are quick, accelerated and flexible.

Government of Balochistan is committed to implement the Balochistan NFE Policy by pursuing policy goal and objectives to promote literacy and basic education in the best possible manner.



POLICY GOAL AND OBJECTIVES:

Policy goal:

Create enabling environment and opportunities for children, youth and adults to benefit from life-long and life-wide education, literacy, life/ vocational skills programmes and contribute in building economically prosperous, politically stable and tolerant Balochistan.

Policy objectives:

Policy objectives include:

1. Provide quality, relevant and dynamic adult literacy programmes to enhance literacy rate up to 64%;
2. Integrate life skills, income generation and area appropriate pre-vocational/ technical training programmes with adult literacy to improve the quality of life and reduce incidence of poverty in the province;
3. Design and execute quality and relevant NFBE/ ALP programmes to reduce out-of-school children especially those excluded from the mainstream schooling to 5%;
4. Substantially contribute to SDG-4 and other SDGs especially relating to gender, health, environment/ climate change and poverty reduction;
5. Create a workable partnership system with relevant government departments, donors and civil society to promote, expand and effectively manage the NFE programmes in Balochistan.



POLICY STATEMENTS AND POLICY ACTIONS

GOVERNANCE AND FINANCING

Strengthening of the directorate

The Directorate of Literacy & NFE, Government of Balochistan will be restructured with an aim to strengthen the institutional capacity to respond to the policy priorities and enhance quality of NFE in Balochistan.

Leadership and capacity building of Directorate of Literacy & NFE

Government of Balochistan will make all necessary arrangements to build the professional capacity of its staff members, so as they contribute in institutional development and enhance the quality of NFE.

Quality assurance/ enhancement of NFE programmes through M&E and R&D

Government of Balochistan will assure and enhance the quality of NFE programmes through effective M&E and research systems.

Data driven management of NFE programmes through NF-EMIS

Government of Balochistan will develop and implement Non-Formal Education Management Information System (NF-EMIS) and embed the same with provincial and national EMIS for data driven management of NFE programmes, informed decision making and reporting of SDG-4 targets and indicators.

Local governance/ parents and community participation

The Government of Balochistan will engage local communities for local governance of NFE programmes for effective and efficient management and accountability

**Creating synergies with social safety nets**

Government of Balochistan will map and connect NFE programmes (selected learners of NFBE/ ALP and adult literacy) with existing social safety nets, e.g. Benazir Income Support Program (Wasila-e-Taleem), Bait-ul-maal, MORA scholarship, micro-financing, etc. for effective and continuing education.

Financing for Non-Formal Education

The Government of Balochistan will allocate budgets for NFE as per the requirements of 25-A and 37(b) (at least 3% of the total education budget as suggested in NEP 2009) as well as mobilize additional resources to expand NFE in Balochistan.

Equivalency and continuing education

The Government of Balochistan will ensure that NFE sector (NFBE/ ALP, youth/ adult literacy & vocational courses) have valid equivalency with other relevant formal education/ training system through acceptable certification.

Accreditation of NFE programmes

The Government of Balochistan will develop and offer a system of accreditation of NFE programmes, including both NFBE/ ALP and Adult Literacy to facilitate and make sure that all the providers of NFE in Balochistan offer standard based and quality NFE programmes.

Public and Private Partnership (PPP) in NFE

The Government of Balochistan will engage relevant actors from public and private (including religious actors and schools/ Madaris) sectors to improve NFE system and delivery in Balochistan.

Provincial Literacy Council

The Government of Balochistan will develop a provincial Literacy council to promote literacy and mass education through enactment, legislation and other policy and plans.



ACCESS AND EQUITY

Access to Non-Formal Education

The Government of Balochistan will provide non-formal basic education/ accelerated learning programme to adults of Balochistan out-of-school children from 5-16 years of age (missed out and drop out) and provide youth & adult literacy coupled with life & vocational skills to illiterate youth and as enshrined in article 25-A and 37(b) of the constitution of Pakistan.

Diversity and complexity of the learners

Government of Balochistan will strive to include the marginalized, vulnerable and excluded groups through NFE programmes by addressing socio-economic, cultural and language diversities

Mother language as subject and medium of instruction

The Government of Balochistan will introduce the mother language as compulsory and additional subject in all NFBE programmes and declare it medium of instruction in NFBE and adult literacy programmes to implement 'The Balochistan Introduction of Mother Languages as Compulsory Additional Subject at Primary level Act, 2014' in letter and spirit.

QUALITY AND RELEVANCE

Curriculum

Government of Balochistan will review and develop new and equivalent curriculum for NFBE, adult literacy and vocational programmes, which are suitable to the diverse socio-economic and cultural needs of children, youth and adults of Balochistan province in partnership with Policy Planning & Implementation Unit (PPIU), Provincial Institute of Teacher Education (PITE), Balochistan



Textbook Board (BTBB), Balochistan Assessment & Examination Commission (BAEC), Directorate of schools, Bureau of Curriculum & education extension (BOC&EC), National Vocational & Technical Training Commission (NAVTTTC), Balochistan Technical Education Vocational Authority (B-TEVTA), other educational institutions, educationists and academicians.

Materials (textbooks, teachers' guide and supplementary teaching & learning materials)

The Government of Balochistan jointly with relevant stakeholders, will develop teaching & learning materials; 1) Textbooks for learners, 2) Guides for teachers, 3) Supplementary reading materials, 4) Teaching & Learning kits for NFBE/ ALP, adult literacy, 5) Basic level vocational training programmes, which must correspond to the prescribed NFE curricula

Instructions/ appropriate pedagogy & andragogy

The Government of Balochistan will organize classroom instructions that offers a variety of methods that are interactive, engaging, and joyful & child friendly, inclusive and based on interesting activities that suit to the multi-grade, multi-culture, multi-lingual, and multi-age contexts of the NFE setting.

Learning environment

The Government of Balochistan will provide learning environment in NFE setting that is interactive, interesting, inclusive, non-discriminative, engaging and enabling that enables the learners of all ages and backgrounds to learn to the best of their potential

Assessment & examination and certification

The Government of Balochistan will develop and implement a comprehensive Assessment & Examination system jointly with BAEC to regularly and effectively



conduct internal and external assessment that leads to valid and legal certification of both NFBE/ ALP and adult literacy programmes.

Management of NFE teachers (standards, recruitment, capacity building)

The Government of Balochistan will develop and implement standards, recruitment criteria, process and the capacity enhancement plans of the NFE teachers on regular and continuing basis to enable them address quality of NFE programmes in Balochistan programmes in Balochistan jointly with PPIU, PITE, BOC&EC, BAEC and Directorate of Schools, NGOs, and other important stakeholders, etc.

Career counselling and guidance

Government will integrate the career and educational counselling and guidance as an integral part of its programmes to help learners continue their education and training and become responsible and productive citizens.

SCOPE OF NON-FORMAL EDUCATION

Non-Formal Education covers both Non-Formal Basic Education (NFBE)/ ALP and Adult Literacy (AL) programmes, which are equivalent and provide continuing education opportunities for learners.

The NFBE; primary level Accelerated Learning Programme (ALP) is equivalent to formal primary education cycle and offers Packages A (up to grade 1), Package B (grade 2 & 3) and Package C (grades 4 & 5). The said programme is flexible and accelerated and is completed in 32-40 months. All children, boys and girls, never enrolled, dropped out at any grade during primary cycle, between the ages of 5-16, without any discrimination of age, socio-economic status,



languages and with mild physical or mental impairment. Adult Literacy, (basic literacy, numeracy, life and income generation skills) enables the adult illiterates to acquire literacy, numeracy and life skills in a period of six months. Literacy pass-outs can seek admission in grade 4 of the formal education programme, which is are, therefore they connect to selected pre-vocational/ skill programmes. All children, youth and adults above 15/ programmes are designed separately for youth (15-29) and adults (30 years and above) so as the 16 years of both men and women without any discrimination of age, socio-economic status, languages and with mild physical/ mental impairment. The AL relevance of the programme is assured and learners find it beneficial for them.

ENVISAGED IMPACT OF BALOCHISTAN NFE POLICY

The NFE policy foresees a thriving Balochistan by contributing to a net increase of 20% (from 44% to 64%) and impart life and area appropriate work skills to contribute to CPEC and other economic targets as well as peace in the province. The policy will contribute in increasing an enrollment of 250,000 in next five years. The policy will also contribute in achieving SDGs relating to gender, health/ nutrition, environment and peace.