It’s a Right!
Make it Right!
Education for
Girls & Women
NOW!

GLOBAL ACTION WEEK
2-8 May 2011 - Pakistan

Policy Brief No. 04
Out of School Children
Access and Equity

Annual Status of Education Report
ASER 2010
Facilitated by SAFED

www.safedafed.org
## Out of School Children - National and Provincial Profiles

### Access – Children (6-16 Years)
School Enrollment and Out of School Children

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Schooling</th>
<th>Out of School</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Islamabad</td>
<td>97%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AJK</td>
<td>95%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gilgit</td>
<td>94%</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KPK</td>
<td>85%</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Punjab</td>
<td>85%</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sindh</td>
<td>68%</td>
<td>32%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balochistan</td>
<td>65%</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

% Out of School Children (Age 6-16 yrs)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Province</th>
<th>Never Enrolled</th>
<th>Drop Out</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>National</td>
<td>13.8</td>
<td>6.6</td>
<td>20.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AJK</td>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>4.2</td>
<td>5.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Islamabad Capital Territory</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>2.1</td>
<td>3.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balochistan</td>
<td>28.6</td>
<td>6.5</td>
<td>35.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gilgit Baltistan</td>
<td>3.4</td>
<td>2.9</td>
<td>6.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Khyber Pakhtunkhwa</td>
<td>8.6</td>
<td>6.1</td>
<td>14.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Punjab</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>7.9</td>
<td>15.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sindh</td>
<td>25.5</td>
<td>6.2</td>
<td>31.7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Policy Brief-Out of School Children-Access and Equity

Data Interpretation:

The category of out of school children comprises of

- Children who have either dropped out of school or
- Children who have never been enrolled in school

According to the UNESCO EFA Global Monitoring Report 2008, in Pakistan about 6.5 million children are out of school. Nigeria is number one with 8 million out-of-school children, Pakistan at second place with 6.5 million and India at third with 4.5 million.

**ASER Pakistan 2010 (rural) Survey**

The Annual Status of Education Report (ASER) Pakistan 2010 surveyed 32 rural districts of Pakistan and collected information on 54,062 children (58% male, 42% female) for 3-16 years age group from 19,006 households in 960 villages, 852 government schools and 445 private schools.

**National**: Out of 54,062 children surveyed, 20.4% were found to be out of school. 13.8% never enrolled and 6.6% dropped out. Among the out of school children, 50.1% were girls.

**Of 6-10 year olds**: 83% Enrollment is recorded with 60% boys and 40% girls. Of the 17% out of school children, 52% are girls compared to 48% boys.

**Balochistan**: Out of 9,433 children surveyed, 35.1% were found to be out of school. 28.6% never enrolled and 6.5% dropped out.

**Sindh**: Out of 10,625 children surveyed, 31.7% were out of school. 25.5% never enrolled and 6.2% dropped out.

**Punjab**: Out of 20,790 children surveyed, 15.4% were out of school. 7.5% never enrolled and 7.9% dropped out.

**Khyber Pakhtunkhwa**: Out of the 6763 children surveyed, 14.7% were out of school. 8.6% never enrolled and 6.1% dropped out.

**Gilgit-Baltistan**: Out of 1,047 children surveyed, 6.3% were out of school. 3.4% never enrolled and 2.9% dropped out.

**AJK**: Out of 3,173 children surveyed, 5.3% were out of school. 1.1% never enrolled and 4.2% dropped out.

**Key Issues**

- Children are never enrolled in some instances because there are no schools available. The National Educational Census 2005 revealed that out of 50,585 villages surveyed, 10,908 had no institutions and out of 26,809 urban blocks, 6149 were without institutions.

- ASER (2010) data reveals there were 108 villages where there were no government schools.

- Percentage of older children who dropped out in age group 14-16 yrs is 17% and that for age group 6-10 yrs is 2.4% revealing that the trend for drop out may be reducing (ASER 2010)
Reasons why children are out of school

- No school in the vicinity – or school is far away hindering girls access in particular
- Basic facilities like toilet, boundary wall and drinking water are unavailable in schools
- Harsh attitude of teachers; use of corporal punishment in schools
- Parents perception that children are not learning any useful/ income generating skills
- Poverty at home
- Parents need helping hands at work e.g. in the fields- seasons for harvest and sowing or looking after their brothers/sisters at home.
- Parents feel insecure sending girls to schools if they are far and/or lack security and facilities.
- Children from religious minorities are discriminated against facing problems getting enrolled and remaining in schools.

Under Article 25 – A, the 18th Amendment to the Constitution (2010) Education is a Fundamental Right for children 5-16 years, requiring urgent actions for access and quality

Suggested Actions for Out of School Children

- Current budgetary allocation for education has dipped to 1.5 % of the GDP. This needs to be raised urgently for ensuring that each rural/urban block has a school
- Schools need to be built in villages/neighbourhoods where there are none existing.
- Some provinces are heavily indebted and need extra grants for new schools and improvement
- Provide social safety nets like Benazir Income Support Program /vouchers that are specifically directed towards education, for the poorest 20-30% households.
- Upgrade existing primary schools in all provinces to middle level so that children have opportunities to transit from primary to middle and then to secondary levels of education.
- Expansion of non-formal learning options is critical for out of school children. They need to be provided catch up/ second chance programs and mainstreamed to schools when ready
- Provide opportunities for skill based learning and life skills for older out of school children to ensure that they learn skills most appropriate to local markets.
- Provide hot cooked meals preferably or cooking oil /wheat to attract parents to send their children to school. These programs are successful nation-wide with favorable results.
- Ensure boundary walls and security personnel in girls’ schools.
- For schools which are at a distance community can provide chaperones to walk all children to the nearby school.
- Government can make it mandatory for industry to make the dependents of their employees educated at least until grade X or matriculation – SECP 2007

References
