



Sindh Education Foundation  
Government of Sindh

# COLLECTIVE

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July to December 2024 | Issue X Volume II

## Commendation to a Visionary Leader



**Mr. Abdul Kabir Kazi**

Manging Director, SEF  
February 2020 - November 2024





Since 2019, Abdul Kabir Kazi has led the Sindh Education Foundation (SEF) with his unwavering dedication and visionary leadership, driving the organization toward significant growth. Under his leadership, SEF has substantially expanded its outreach, supporting nearly one million students through a network of 2,950 formal and non-formal educational institutions in collaboration with over 1,400 partners across Sindh. His tenure has been marked by a relentless focus on ensuring access to quality education for underserved communities. Moreover, he redefined SEF's operational framework by prioritizing innovation and reform, consolidating its program portfolio, standardizing school policies, and strengthening quality assurance and monitoring mechanisms. His initiatives not only enhanced the Foundation's

impact but also empowered its workforce through unprecedented human resource development efforts.

Furthermore, Abdul Kabir Kazi's dedication to educational reform extended to the integration of technology into learning, equipping students for a rapidly evolving future. His unwavering focus on equity and innovation has indelibly shaped Sindh's educational landscape, fostering sustainable opportunities for countless children. In recognition of his remarkable contributions, all SEF employees express profound gratitude for his leadership and extend their heartfelt wishes for his continued health, prosperity, and success.



# Board of Governors (BoGs) Meeting



August 8, 2024, Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah presided over the 13th meeting of the Board of Governors of the Sindh Education Foundation (SEF). The Chief Minister emphasized the importance of addressing the challenge of out-of-school children by setting a target to enroll 300,000 such children into schools. He also advocated for the expansion of the non-formal, Accelerated Digital Learning Program, building upon insights from its pilot phase.

The meeting was attended by prominent stakeholders, including the Education Minister and Vice Chairman of SEF BoGs, Syed Sardar Ali Shah, Chief Secretary Asif Hyder Shah, PSCM Agha Wasif, Chairman P&D Najam Shah, Secretary School Education Zahid Abbasi, Secretary Finance Fayaz Jatoi, as well as private members such as Dr. Kaisar Bengali, Dr. Qazi Masood, Dr. Mohammad Memon, and MD SEF Abdul Kabir Kazi, among others.

In his briefing, MD SEF Abdul Kabir Kazi highlighted that the SEF currently supports nearly one million students across 2,734 Foundation-Assisted Schools, 35 Peoples Schools, 223 Learning Centers, and 125 Microschools. He further reported that 4,452 students are currently benefiting from scholarships, while 804 scholarship recipients had successfully completed their education earlier in the year. The Chief Minister directed SEF to expand its outreach to cover all districts, noting that the Foundation currently operates in six regions and 23 districts.

Additionally, the Board approved plans to establish 2,000 digital classrooms by the 2025-26 academic year. The initiative aims to incorporate skill development programs under the "Learn to Earn" framework, equipping students with essential 21st-century skills to enhance their employability and livelihood opportunities.

The Board approved the annual budget of Rs. 15,955 million, as allocated by the Finance Department, but noted concerns regarding its adequacy. The Chief Minister instructed the Finance Department to reassess SEF's budgetary allocations and propose measures to address potential shortfalls.

During the session, MD SEF also presented strategic updates and reviewed the recommendations from the past three meetings of SEF's Executive and Finance Committee. These recommendations were thoroughly examined and subsequently approved by the Board.

# Secretary (SE&LD) Takes Additional Charge as Managing Director of Sindh Education Foundation (SEF)



Karachi, November 21, 2024 - The Government of Sindh has assigned Mr. Zahid Ali Abbasi, Secretary of the School Education and Literacy Department (SE&LD), has been assigned the additional charge of Managing Director of the Sindh Education Foundation (SEF).

A day after assuming charge, Secretary (SE&LD) visited the SEF Head Office on November 21, 2024, to meet with the Foundation's management and staff. During his visit, he toured various offices within the premises and had an introductory meeting with the senior and mid-level management.

He praised the Sindh Education Foundation for its pivotal role in promoting education across underserved regions of Sindh. He expressed his commitment to steering the organization toward greater success and growth.



# Launch of Sindh NFE Scorecard 2022-23



On November 26, 2024, the Directorate of Literacy and Non-Formal Education (LNFE) in collaboration with the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) successfully organized the event “Launch of Sindh NFE Scorecard 2022-23” at the School Education and Literacy Department (SE&LD) office, PNSC Building, Karachi.

The event was chaired by the Secretary of School Education and Literacy Department, Mr. Zahid Ali Abbasi, who officially launched the NFE Scorecard. He lauded the

efforts of all stakeholders involved and praised the comprehensiveness, design, and overall significance of the scorecard in promoting non-formal education in Sindh

From the Sindh Education Foundation (SEF), Mr. Nisar Banbhan, Director of Programs and Planning, and Ms. Saima Siddiqui, Assistant Director of AALTP, also participated. Notably, SEF plays a pivotal role in NFE by providing an accelerated education platform to 13,752 learners, holding a 35% share of the overall NFE portfolio

in Sindh—the highest among all stakeholders.

The Secretary SE&LD acknowledged SEF’s contributions and emphasized the need to further expand its efforts in NFE while integrating skill-based training into its initiatives.

The event served as a significant milestone in advancing non-formal education in Sindh, fostering collaboration and collective action toward literacy and lifelong learning.

# Institutional Collaborations and Arrangements

## Collaboration of Sindh Education Foundation (SEF) with Technoknowledge (Pvt. Ltd.) for Advance Digital Learning



The Sindh Education Foundation (SEF) signed a Letter of Understanding (LOU) on July 5, 2024 with Technoknowledge, Pakistan a fastest-growing Ed-Tech company for coding and developing technologies based computer curricula.

The Technoknowledge will build the capacity building of 35 teachers from 10 schools of SEF and implement their curricula in grades 6,7, and 8. This project is designed to enhance the analytical, coding, computation, and problem-solving skills of students and teachers.

Mr. Abdul Jabbar Mari Director (HR and P&P) from SEF and Ms. Tanvir Maqsood,

Co-Founder and Chief Operating Officer signed the letter of understanding on behalf of M/s Technoknowledge Ltd. Mr Abdul Kabir Kazi MD SEF along with Ms Sara Murtaza, Director T&A, along with other team members witnessed the ceremony. Ms. Tanvir Maqsood briefly highlighted the digital interventions of M/s Technoknowledge in different parts of Pakistan to SEF team.

This partnership highlights SEF's commitment to adopting innovative approaches that address the evolving challenges in education, bringing interactive and effective digital learning closer to students in even the most remote areas.



## SEF and PPHI Sindh Collaborate to Enhance Health Services in FAS



The Sindh Education Foundation (SEF) and People Primary Healthcare Initiative (PPHI) Sindh signed a Letter of Understanding (LoU) on November 12, 2024, aimed at improving health-related activities across SEF's Foundation-Assisted Schools in Sindh.

Through this collaboration, both organizations seek to provide health education, routine examinations, screenings, vaccinations, and referrals for students. In this regard, the SEF will facilitate geo-mapping of schools to align them with nearby PPHI health facilities. Meanwhile, PPHI will support in health related education sessions, conducting screenings, and training of SEF field staff.

This is a first kind of a collaboration of SEF with any health service provider of Government of Sindh, jointly concerned about the low indicators of health and physical growth of students. The LoU is initially signed for three years and will be renewed based on mutual agreement.

## Boosting Digital Learning in FAS Primary Schools in Collaboration with Karmuqabla



The Sindh Education Foundation (SEF), in collaboration with Karmuqabla, has launched an initiative to enhance digital learning skills among 20 FAS primary schools (grades 1-3) across the Sindh. The program focuses on improving analytical, computational, and problem-solving skills through interactive video lessons, quizzes, and coding activities. Under this Letter of Understanding (LOU),

effective from September 2024 (ending in August 2025). SEF will provide necessary resources and training facilities, while Karmuqabla will deliver digital curriculum access, capacity building for teachers, and technical support. The initiative aims to integrate technology-based education without any financial implications for SEF.

# TRAINING & DEVELOPMENT:

## Management Training on 'Leadership in Crisis'

The Sindh Education Foundation (SEF) organized a management training on "Leadership in Crisis" on July 26-27, 2024, at Futurum, YPDC Karachi. The training was led by the Managing Director Mr. Abdul Kabir Kazi and Director GA&C and HR Ms. Shahpara Rizvi. The 2-day training was attended by the management of SEF including Directors, Deputy Directors, Assistant Directors and Regional Heads. The session included simulations, role plays, group work and presentations, to help participants develop practical skills and strategies for managing crises.



Ms. Rizvi emphasized that crisis leadership is crucial in ensuring stability during tough times, helping leaders to make informed decisions that can minimize the impact of a crisis. It also aimed to enhance communication skills, ensuring leaders can convey clear and effective messages to their teams and stakeholders during crises.

Similarly, MD-SEF Mr. Abdul Kabir Kazi highlighted SEF's extensive experience in crisis management, particularly during the pandemic and natural disasters. He shared how SEF was the first organization in the province to initiate online learning through Microsoft Teams and establish Temporary Learning Centres in flood-affected areas.



The objective here was to share these real-life crisis management experiences with the leadership team, allowing them to learn from past successes and challenges. This knowledge empowers leaders to adopt innovative approaches and strategies to ensure the continuity of operations and support affected communities during future crises.

Additionally, the training focused on building resilience within the leadership team, ensuring they can guide their teams with confidence through uncertainty. This objective aligns with SEF's goal of fostering a culture of preparedness, where leaders are empowered to anticipate potential crises, identify early warning signs, and implement proactive measures.



# Management Training on 'Synchronization and Transformation'

A mental well-being focused session designed to enhance participants' understanding of mental health and provide practical tools to improve emotional resilience with the topic "Synchronization and Transformation" was organized by the Human Resource Department of SEF for the senior and middle-level management officials at the YPDC, Futurum on 22nd August, 2024.

Ms. Afsheen Hussain, A licensed psychotherapist, experienced in different forms of counseling was specially invited to conduct the sessions. She is a certified therapist from Therapy Works. Ms. Afsheen is an experienced counselor working with a diverse range of clients bringing in issues related to academics, the workplace, and relationships. She has also received a British license from an accreditation body of counselors and psychotherapists, namely the BACP (British Association of Counselling and Psychotherapy).

This workshop covered topics such as stress management, mindfulness, self-care strategies, and the importance of seeking support when needed. Through interactive activities, discussions, and expert guidance, attendees learned how to recognize the signs of mental health challenges in themselves and others. The goal is to foster a supportive environment where individuals feel empowered to prioritize their mental health, develop coping mechanisms, and create a balanced approach to life's demands.

At the end, Ms. Shahpara Rizvi, Director HR/GA&C along with Ms. Afsheen Hussain, psychotherapist and the moderator of the session, distributed certificates among the participants.



# Training of Teaching Support Associates



The capacity building training was conducted jointly by the Training & Assessment department from 28th -31st July 2024 Cycle 1 & 3rd - 8th August 2024 Cycle 2 focused on multiple areas. In this training, the teaching support associates (TSAs) got a chance to understand the broader concept of adapting the pedagogical landscape and reshaping the learning experience with the concept of conducive learning and ways of creating a conducive environment for learners. In addition to this, the power of pedagogy to technique was deeply discussed with the TSAs with subject-specific and general pedagogies.



Furthermore, the TSAs were familiarized with the entire process of classroom observation, and how to use observation tool. In addition, the assessment team discussed in detail the concepts related to assessment. This discussion served the main purpose of equipping the TSAs with the knowledge and skills of identifying learning gaps in schools and providing targeted, specific feedback and support to schools. Hence, the training embedded comprehensive tools and techniques that enhance the learning competencies of TSAs.

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## Training of SEF Officials on Academics - Refresher I

The Training Unit has consistently prioritized the capacity-building of Foundation-Assisted Schools (FAS) at all levels. To enhance the academic competencies of SEF officials, a Training of SEF Officials on Academics was conducted in two cycles, from September 5 to 8 and September 10 to 13, 2024. The primary objective of this training was to strengthen the skills of teams from Program and Planning (P&P), Monitoring and Evaluation Cell (M&E), Assessment Unit (AU), and other Departments and Units provide effective support during Regular School Support Visits (RSSV).

In response to this need, the Training Unit planned to execute a 5-day "Training of SEF Officials on Academics - Refresher I" for 254 employees from the Karachi, Hyderabad, Mirpurkhas, Shaheed Benazirabad, Sukkur, and Larkana divisions.

The key objectives of the Training were:

- » To understand the concept of school for Holistic Development of a child.
- » To gain the concept of Learning & Learner - Brain Development.





- » To understand Importance of Digital Learning in Schools.
- » To build a focus on "Age-wise" Learning Processes, Brain Development & Learning Environment.
- » To learn essentials of "Academic Management" within the school premises.
- » To understand the importance of "Team Work, Child Psychology, Importance Girls Education, SOS, LPs, COT, Co-Curricular Activities, Teaching & Learning Processes in Classroom" etc.
- » To understand the utility and procedure of the "Regular School Support Visit (RSSV), tools, in upcoming Regular Schools Support Visit (RSSV) field activity.



# Subject-Based Training of Post-Primary Teachers



The Sindh Education Foundation (SEF) has initiated a two-year plan to enhance the skills of 3,000 post-primary teachers in English, Mathematics, and Science. This initiative is being implemented in collaboration with Premier Diverse Learning Concept (PDLC), a third-party partner of SEF selected through competitive process.

The training program, designed for 15 days per subject, adopts a Project-based Learning Approach. This methodology aims to strengthen the teaching and learning process while fostering students' engagement through hands-on activities and practical experiences. By equipping teachers with innovative teaching techniques, the program aims to make learning more effective and enjoyable for students.

As of October 2024, the program has completed phases 1 to 5 and successfully trained 1,500 teachers in various districts Karachi, Ghotki, Sukkur, Khairpur, Jamshoro, Hyderabad, Tando Muhammad Khan, Matiari, Tando Allahyar, Sujawal, Thatta, Shaheed Benazirabad, Umerkot, Sanghar, Mirpurkhas, Jacobabad, Shikarpur, Kashmore, and Mithi-Tharparkar.





# Mehergarh (A Center for Learning) Hosts Training on Embracing Pakistan's Cultural Diversity



From October 3rd to 6th, 2024, Mehergarh organized a transformative four-day residential training titled "Acknowledging Cultural Diversity of Pakistan." Held at Village Mera Baigwal near Simly Dam Road, the event brought together participants from diverse backgrounds to explore Pakistan's rich cultural heritage and its role in fostering peace, inclusivity, and national unity. From Sindh Education Foundation Ms Maria Irshad, Senior Officer-Training Unit and Mr Sanjay Kumar Senior Officer Adocacy and Communication Unit participated in this residential training.

The training aimed to promote awareness and respect for Pakistan's cultural diversity, emphasising the importance of cultural inclusivity and its role in fostering peace and development. Participants were provided with practical tools to address cultural challenges in various sectors, encouraging dialogue on how diversity contributes to national unity and social harmony.

The training featured prominent presenters who shared their expertise on various aspects of cultural diversity. Dr. Fouzia Saeed, a renowned activist and author, discussed Pakistan's cultural heritage and the significance of folklore in preserving diversity. Dr. Kamran, a historian, focused on the historical dimensions of cultural diversity with an emphasis on Indo-Pak history and its influence on contemporary society. Maleeha Saeed, a social development expert, shared her experiences in community mobilization and fostering intercultural cooperation, while Munawar Ali, a linguist and advocate for inclusivity, highlighted the importance of mother languages and grassroots movements.

Moreover, the representatives from UNESCO contributed an international perspective, discussing the global importance of cultural preservation and the role of international organizations in promoting diversity.

# The TechnoKnowledge Training



Under the Letter of Understanding (LoU) signed between SEF and Technoknowledge a comprehensive training program aimed at enhancing the skills of teachers and master trainers working with students in grades 6, 7, and 8 was organized from 23rd -28th September 2024.

The training by the facilitators of Technoknowledge engaged 35 participants, including 15 master trainers from various districts and 20 teachers. The primary objective was to equip these educators with the knowledge and tools necessary to inspire their students in the realm of computer programming to support the targeted intervention under LoU of SEF and Technoknowledge.

The program began with an introduction to the

basics of computer programming, followed by hands-on activities that made learning interactive and engaging. Participants were introduced to essential programming tools, providing them with practical experience that they could then pass on to their students.

As the training progressed, the focus shifted to Python, one of the most widely used programming languages today. Trainers covered foundational concepts that will not only aid students in grades 6 to 8 but also prepare them for more advanced studies in grades 9 and 10.

Through, this initiative, Techno Knowledge aims to empower educator to ignite curiosity and enthusiasm for coding in classrooms of selected FAS, ultimately shaping the next generation of skilled programming.



# Final Assessment of Package C and E learners under AALTP



The Sindh Education Foundation conducted two rounds of rigorous, three-day assessment activity from 22nd to 24th November 2024 for approximately 5000 learners enrolled in Package C and from 23rd to 25th December 2024 for approximately 1100 learners enrolled in Package E respectively under its Adolescent and Adult Learning and Training Program (AALTP). The exercise is aimed at certifying the learners who will pass with primary and post-primary/elementary equivalency certification by the Government of Sindh. It was conducted in 17 districts of the province.

The Directorate of Literacy and Non-Formal Education, SE&LD, Govt. of Sindh supervised

the assessment exercise and notified District Examination Committees (DECs) comprised of District Education Officers and Taluka Education Officers visited the centers regularly to monitor the activity.

The Foundation's Adolescent and Adult Learning and Training Program (AALTP) shines as a beacon of hope, an important initiative to address the post-primary education gap and the Out of School Children (OOSC) crisis. By providing primary and post-primary/elementary equivalency certification, the trust of learners who had never gone to school or dropped out will be restored in the system so they serve as productive citizens of society.

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## One-day consultative workshop JICA AQAL Project Framework

A one-day consultative workshop was held on October 11, 2024, at the YPDC, SEF Futurum Center in Karachi. The workshop aimed to develop an Action Plan for the Alternative Learning Program (ALP) and was organized collaboratively by the Directorate of Literacy and Non-Formal Education, the JICA AQAL Project, and UNHCR.

The event saw active participation from the SEF Training Unit, including Director T&A, Ms. Sara Murtaza, Assistant Director Ms. Sanam Khokhar, and Officer Ms. Uruj. Key discussions focused on collecting data on refugees/registered learners, policies, and challenges faced by the Non-Formal Education (NFE)



team in community engagement, resource allocation, and establishment of monitoring, assessment, and evaluation mechanisms. The session concluded with a closing address by the Director of LNFE, Mr. Abdul Jabbar Mari.

# People's School Program (PSP) Annual Quality Assurance Activities



As part of the Annual Quality Assurance Framework (QAF), the PSP schools across various districts were visited between August 26 and 31, 2024. These visits were conducted to ensure that educational standards and overall school performance align with the strategic goals of the PSP.

Key objectives of the visits:

- **Assessment of Quality Standards:** To assess the overall quality of education, infrastructure, and administrative processes in PSP schools across all districts.
- **Identification of Quality Gaps:** To identify gaps in several areas, ranging from teaching methods and student performance and infrastructure needs. This step is crucial to understanding the areas that require immediate or long-term attention.

To address the identified gaps, tailored action plans were formulated. These plans include targeted training programs aimed at enhancing the skills of teachers and school staff to improve educational outcomes and effectively bridge quality gaps.





# ‘Synchronicity and Mindfulness’ Sessions for Teaching Support Associates



The series of sessions on Synchronicity and Mindfulness, conducted by renowned Psychotherapist and Mental Health Counsellor, Ms. Afsheen Hussain, for Teaching Support Associates (TSAs) under the Teach for Sindh Program, successfully concluded on August 24, 2024, at YPDC Futurum, Karachi. These sessions aimed at empowering TSAs with strategies to enhance their mindfulness and synchronicity in classrooms, fostering a deeper connection with students and enhancing the overall learning environment.

The sessions were designed with a focus on recognizing both verbal and non-verbal cues, thereby equipping TSAs with the ability to respond more mindfully to students' needs. This approach is essential for improving student engagement and performance, ensuring that each child can participate fully and perform to the best of their ability. Throughout the sessions, a range of activities and interventions were implemented to reinforce these key concepts.



At the end of the session, certificates are awarded to the Teaching Support Associates by Mr. Nisar Banbhan, Director of Programs & Planning Department, and Mr. Ashfaque Hussain, Assistant Director of G&AC.

# VISITS AND MEETINGS

## MD SEF visited Ghazali Education Foundation

On September 6-7, 2024, the Managing Director of the Sindh Education Foundation (SEF) visited the Ghazali Education Foundation, where he met with the senior management team to discuss new collaborative projects aimed at improving literacy rates and the quality of education in underserved regions.



The meeting highlighted the shared commitment of both organizations to advancing sustainable education initiatives across Sindh and Punjab.

On September 7, the MD of SEF also visited Ghazali Premier College, where he toured the facilities, including the science labs, sports grounds, and student hostels. He also met with

students from Sindh province, who shared their positive experiences, particularly regarding the inclusive and supportive environment at the college. Mr. Abdul Kabir Kazi praised the college's holistic approach to education and appreciated the strong partnership between SEF and the Ghazali Education Foundation.

## MD-SEF Inaugurates Three Schools in Umerkot and Tharparkar to Promote Quality Education



The Managing Director of Sindh Education Foundation (SEF), Mr. Abdul Kabir Kazi, inaugurated three SEF-assisted schools in the districts of Umerkot and Tharparkar. These events, attended by key SEF officials, local stakeholders, and community members, marked a milestone in SEF's mission to provide quality education to remote areas.



The first inauguration took place at the SEF-Assisted Secondary School in Village Sameja Muhalla, Umerkot. Speaking on the occasion, Mr. Kazi highlighted SEF's commitment to empowering desert communities through education. The school, equipped with a modern curriculum and enhanced facilities, aims to bridge the educational gap in the region.



The second school, Aijaz Ahmed Rajput Elementary School, located in Village Khan Muhammad Rajput, Umerkot, also opened its doors to students. The ceremony emphasized SEF's efforts to support schools through public-private partnerships, ensuring access to quality education and professional teacher training. The event concluded with tree planting and prayers, reflecting the community's gratitude for SEF's initiatives.

The third school inaugurated was in New Kunbhar Colony, Mithi, District Tharparkar. This school showcases SEF's innovative approach, featuring smart classrooms equipped with LED screens for interactive lessons in Science, English, Sindhi, and Urdu. During the visit, Mr. Kazi and his team



interacted with students and teachers, who expressed excitement about the enhanced learning environment provided by the new technology.

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## M.D SEF's Visit to the Newly Established AALTP Centre at Khairpur

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On September 3, 2024, the Managing Director of SEF, Mr Abdul Kabir Kazi, paid a surprise visit to the newly established AALTP Centre in Khairpur District. During his visit, he observed the overall environment of the centre, interacted with learners, teachers, and the centre's management, and provided thoughtful directives for further improvements. MD-SEF particularly enjoyed engaging with the learners. He was accompanied by Director GA&C, Ms Shahpara Rizvi; Deputy Director M&E/HR, Mr Feroz Mansoor; the Regional Head of Sukkur; the District Head of Khairpur; and members of the program teams..



# Annual Conference for Performance Review of Schools Under People's School Program (PSP) & Ceremony of Award of Offer Letters to Public Schools



In November 2024, the Sindh Education Foundation successfully organized two key events that marked a significant step forward in advancing educational opportunities across the province.

The first event brought together 19 partner organizations and provided a great platform for these partners to showcase their performance reviews, highlighting the progress achieved in 35 schools under the People's School Program, Sindh Education Foundation. Each partner delivered detailed presentations, showcasing their academic achievements, operational improvements, and successful strategies implemented during

the year. Furthermore, the discussions allowed participants to address common challenges faced during program implementation and collaboratively explore practical solutions to overcome them.

In addition, the conference emphasized future planning by setting objectives for the upcoming year and ensuring alignment with the Quality Assurance Framework. These discussions aimed to establish a clear path forward while strengthening collaboration among stakeholders. Overall, the conference served as a valuable opportunity for reflection, knowledge-sharing, and enhanced coordination between the





partner organizations, the Sindh Education Foundation, and the Government of Sindh, contributing to the sustained growth and success of the People's School Program.

The day also witnessed a significant ceremony marking the completion of the selection process for organizations tasked with revitalizing public schools in Tando Allahyar, Bhit Shah, Tando Adam, Thull, and Qamber Shahdadkot. As part of the Sindh Education Foundation's public-private partnership model, this initiative aims to improve educational opportunities and quality in these regions.

During the ceremony, the Managing Director of the Sindh Education Foundation presented offer letters to the shortlisted organizations selected to manage and operate these five public schools. The following organizations were awarded the responsibility of overseeing the management of these institutions:

1. Ziauddin University
2. Ghazali Education Foundation
3. Moawin Foundation
4. Taleem Foundation
5. Research and Development Foundation

This initiative marks a critical step towards improving public education in these areas, ensuring that these schools are effectively managed and that students receive the best possible education.



# VISITS OF DELEGATIONS

## RTI International Delegation Explores Future Collaborations with SEF



On October 7, 2024, Mr. Jonathan Stern, Director of Education, RTI International and Ms. Catie Corbin, Senior Business Development Manager RTI International along with Mr. Naveed Sheikh (Consultant) visited Sindh Education Foundation and had a meeting with the Senior Management of SEF to discuss the potential of future collaborations in the areas of Research and Program Development & Implementation. The Managing Director, SEF, Mr. Abdul Kabir Kazi welcomed the delegation and shared the progress and shed light on the work being done by SEF.

## The Asian Development Bank (ADB) team visited the SEF Head Office



On July 22, 2024, a mission from the Asian Development Bank (ADB) visited the Sindh Education Foundation (SEF) at its Head Office in Karachi. The primary aim of this visit was to gain a comprehensive understanding of SEF's Accelerated Learning Program. During the visit, SEF's management team delivered a detailed presentation, highlighting the key features of the ALP model, its objectives, and its impact. They also discussed other initiatives related to the program, offering a thorough overview of SEF's efforts in improving education outcomes in the region.



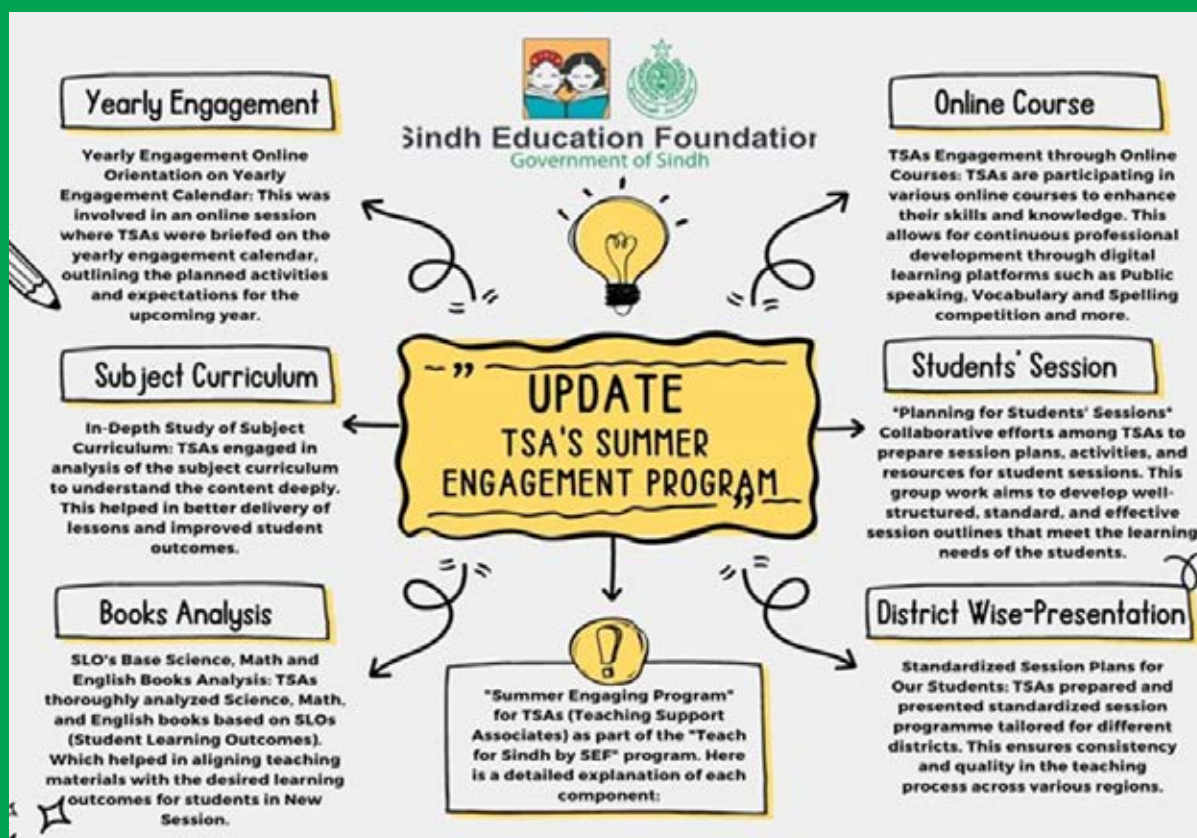
# Meeting Between SEF and Asian Development Bank (ADB)



On November 25, 2024, a delegation from the Asian Development Bank (ADB) met with the Sindh Education Foundation (SEF) at the SEF Head Office to discuss progress on the Sindh Education Impact Bond (SEIB). The ADB delegation included Mr Farrukh Moriani, Team Lead SEIB; Mr Naveed Saleh Siddique, Senior Data Governance Advisor; Mr Naveed Sheikh, SEIB Consultant; and Ms Batool Ali, SEIB Consultant. The purpose of the meeting was to review the ongoing collaboration between SEF and ADB, focusing on the validation study and implementation plans for the SEIB, a project aimed at improving education outcomes in Sindh through innovative financing models.

Representing SEF were Mr Zahid Ali Abbasi, Secretary of the School Education & Literacy Department (SE&LD) and Managing Director of SEF; Ms Shahpara Rizvi, Deputy Managing Director (Operations/Support Services); Mr Moula Bakhsh Shaikh, Director General of Monitoring & Evaluation; and Mr Nisar Banbhan, Director of Programs & Planning. Deputy and Assistant Directors from the Programs, Monitoring & Evaluation (M&E), IT, and PSDU teams were also present at the meeting. The meeting reaffirmed both organisations' commitment to the successful design and implementation of the SEIB, highlighting the need for continuous collaboration to accomplish the initiative's objectives.

# TSAs' Summer Engagement Program



We are delighted to highlight the efforts and commitment of our Teaching Support Associates as they participated in various impactful activities this summer under the guidance of Districts, Regions, and Teach for Sindh Management Unit. Their dedication to improving education and nurturing growth is truly commendable. Here's an overview of their summer engagement Program:

## Online Orientation on Yearly Engagement Calendar

Virtual sessions were conducted to clarify the purpose of the yearly engagement calendar and these activities are aligned with the Foundation's goals and objectives.

## TSAs Engagement through Online Courses

Tailored online courses were developed to enhance the TSAs' proficiency in teaching Science, Mathematics, language, and project-based learning.

## Textbook Analysis

Our TSAs have completed comprehensive textbook analysis, curriculum understanding, and timetable development through self-study and provided video tutorials.

## Planning and Group work for Students' Sessions

Collaborative efforts among TSAs to prepare session plans, activities, and resources for student sessions as outlined in the yearly engagement plan. This group work aims to develop standardized and effective session outlines.

## District-wise Presentations

In virtual meetings TSAs are presenting student sessions for feedback and finalization, ensuring high-quality and standardized session plans for our students.



# Director Programs & Planning (SEF) visited FAS Schools in Sukkur

On September 25, 2024, the SEF Director of Programs and Planning (P&P), Deputy Director P&P North, Regional Head Sukkur, and District Head Sukkur visited 04 schools in District Sukkur. The objective of the visit was to observe and support educational initiatives, ensuring quality education for students. The Key Highlights of the Visit are as follows:

- The team assessed school buildings, and classrooms to identify renovation or upgrade needs.
- Discussions with teachers focused on effective teaching methods and professional development opportunities.
- Interactions with students to understand their concerns and suggestions for improving education.



## Chinese Language Program Launched at FAS Schools in Karachi

Karachi, September 19-20, 2024 - The implementation of a Chinese language program has officially begun at Foundation-Assisted Schools (FAS) across Karachi's Districts I and II. Students from grades 8 to 10 will be enrolled in online Chinese classes via the TANG Cloud Platform.

As part of the initiative, Chinese language instructors from the TANG program, along with the district team, visited the schools to introduce the curriculum to school management and faculty.

During their visit, the TANG team provided comprehensive briefings to head teachers, staff, and students, ensuring everyone was prepared for the new language program. This new opportunity aims to provide students with valuable language skills, enhancing their educational experience and future prospects.



# Public School Hyderabad Honors SEF Students' Academic Achievements



On September 20, 2024 – Public School Hyderabad organized an event to recognize the outstanding academic achievements of Sindh Education Foundation (SEF) students who excelled in the Aga Khan University Examination Board (AKU-EB) exams. The ceremony was attended by Ms. Naheed Abbasi, Deputy Director Central Zone-SEF, alongside Ms. Shazia Solangi (Assistant Director-RPU) and the District Heads of Jamshoro and Hyderabad. The event celebrated the exceptional skills and hard work of the students, acknowledging their commitment to academic excellence.

A total of 196 SEF students appeared in the AKU-EB examination, with several earning remarkable distinctions: one student achieved 100% in Physics, another secured 100% in Sindhi, a student scored 74/75 in Sindhi, and two others earned 99/100 in Physics and Urdu, respectively. In addition, 63 Grade 9

students received A-1 and A grades, while 69 Grade 11 students also achieved A-1 and A grades, marking a notable accomplishment for the SEF community.

Ms. Naheed Abbasi praised the dedication of the students, teachers, and the management of Public School Hyderabad. On behalf of the Managing Director of Sindh Education Foundation, Abdul Kabir Kazi, she announced a prize of Rs. 2 lakh for students who earned distinctions in various subjects. She also conveyed congratulations from Mr. Kazi M.D SEF to all the students.

The event featured performances by students, including tableaux, songs, and speeches, showcasing their talents in extracurricular activities. The ceremony concluded with Certificates distinctions to the students and a vote of thanks from the Public School Hyderabad management.



# Launch of the 25th Digital Learning School Under the TTWF Program at Foundation Assisted School, Karachi.



The inauguration ceremony of the 25th Digital Learning School, in collaboration with Teach The World Foundation (TTWF), was held on October 18, 2024, at the Foundation Assisted School in Safoora Goth, Karachi.

The event was graced by Mr. Shafeeq Khan, President of TTWF, Mr. Farhan, CEO of TTWF, Mr. Nisar Bhabhan, Director P&P, Mr. Mukhtar Chandio, Deputy Director (South), Mr. Abdul Fatah, Regional Head Karachi, and Dr. Humera, District Head Karachi-I.

This initiative aims to bridge the educational gap and equip students with essential digital skills to thrive in the modern age. With the support of distinguished guests and the dedication of the school community, the program is set to make a significant impact on the educational landscape of the Karachi region.





# HIGHLIGHTS



A team from SEF, comprising the Director of Academics, Deputy Director of Programs, Deputy Director of PSDU, and Deputy Director of Training and Assessment (T&A), visited Dr. AQ Khan School to review its annual academic progress and orient the 2024 batch.



On September 21, 2024, the Girls' Education Awareness and Enrollment Drive was successfully conducted at FAS Diamond Public School, Mirokhan. The event was attended by the SEF district team, educationists, social workers, and mothers from the community, emphasizing the importance of girls' education, particularly at the post-secondary level.



On October 5, 2024, Girls Community Secondary School, Willliabad, celebrated International Teachers' Day to honor their teachers. The event began with a welcome address by the school principal, followed by inspiring performances, including songs by students, dedicated to the invaluable contributions of teachers.



On 21st October 2024, Foundation Assisted Bright Beginning Higher Secondary School, Taluka Dharki, District Ghotki, organized a highly insightful career counseling session titled "Guiding the Future: A Legacy of Career Mentorship."



Engro Foundation organized the 3rd Inter School Debate Competition for Girls in District Ghotki on 26th October 2024, centered around the theme, "Ya Desh Hay Andhee Logon Ka" ("This Country Belongs to the Blind People"). A total of 22 schools from across District Ghotki including those affiliated with the Sindh Education Foundation (SEF), government schools, and private institutions.



From October 8 to 10, 2024, the Science & Arts Expo was held at Oscar Elementary School, Jamshoro. In the Expo Students showcased their extraordinary models and charts.



# HIGHLIGHTS



On 16 September 2024 the Eid Milad-un-Nabi (PBUH) was joyfully celebrated at the SEF Foundation Assisted PSP School, managed by the Mowain Foundation. The event saw enthusiastic participation from both students and teachers.



On September 21, 2024, the Girls' Education Awareness and Enrollment Drive was successfully conducted at FAS Diamond Public School, Mirokhan. The event was attended by the SEF district team, educationists, social workers, and mothers from the community, emphasizing the importance of girls' education, particularly at the post-secondary level.



On December 09, 2024, Mr. Ashfaque Hussain Mirani (Regional head Karachi), the District Head of Karachi-II, and the regional team conducted a surprise visit to schools in District South, Karachi. The visit focused on assessing infrastructure, basic facilities, STR & SCR, and using books and workbooks.



On December 05, 2024, Member of Provincial Assembly Sindh, and the Former Minister for Education Mr Jam Mehtab Dahar attended Sindh Culture Day Celebration 2024 at Foundation Assisted People's School managed by the Mowain Foundation in Taluka Ubauro, District Ghotki.



The Mid-term Examinations for the 2024-25 academic year have commenced at in Foundation Assisted Schools. Students have shown remarkable discipline and dedication as they tackle their first paper, demonstrating their commitment to academic excellence.



On December 2024, the District Office Ghotki successfully organized an orientation session on Project-Based Learning (PBL) with academic coordinators and senior teachers from selected schools in the district led by Mr Ali Usman Deputy Director North Zone.

# 23rd Steering Committee Meeting of Adopt-A-School Program



Karachi, December 11, 2024 - The 23rd meeting of the Adopt-a-School Program Steering Committee (PSC) was chaired by Ms. Shahpara Rizvi, Deputy Managing Director of the Sindh Education Foundation (SEF), with Mr. Moula Bakhsh Shaikh, Director General (M&E, SE&LD), representing SE&LD's Secretary.

Key attendees included senior SE&LD officials, civil society members, and SEF

representatives. The committee reviewed new school adoption applications, discussed agreement extensions, and assessed program progress. Strategies to strengthen partnerships and enhance access to quality education were explored.

The meeting concluded with a unified commitment to advancing the program's success and sustaining its impact.

## SEF's School Monitoring Highlights

The M&E Cell has completed its Regular Monitoring Activity (RMA) for the fiscal year 2024-25, assessing 2,649 Foundation Assisted Schools (FAS), 35 People's School Program (PSP) schools, and 130 Alternative Learning Pathway (AALTP) centers across Sindh. The exercise, carried out between October and December 2024, evaluated school performance, enrollment, infrastructure, staffing, and compliance with SEF standards.

According to the findings, 2,537 schools were successfully visited, with 2,525 found operational and 12 closed. Additionally, 618 schools lacked proper registration records, while 422 had not renewed their registration. Student enrollment stood at 887,158, with a headcount ratio of 80%. Sukkur recorded the highest enrollment (214,799), while Hyderabad-II had the lowest (64,752).

The dropout rate was 10%, with 89,595 students leaving school in the previous year.

The report highlights gaps in infrastructure, including inadequate classrooms, poor ventilation, and lack of functional toilets. Teacher presence was recorded at 94%, with 68% of educators holding graduate or master's degrees. However, the availability of subject specialists remained at 19%, while 25% of teachers had received formal training.

The M&E Cell has recommended improved data verification, compulsory record-keeping at schools, and enhanced coordination with the Subsidy Management Unit (SMU) for real-time data accuracy. The monitoring exercise underscores SEF's commitment to strengthening Sindh's education system through evidence-based improvements.



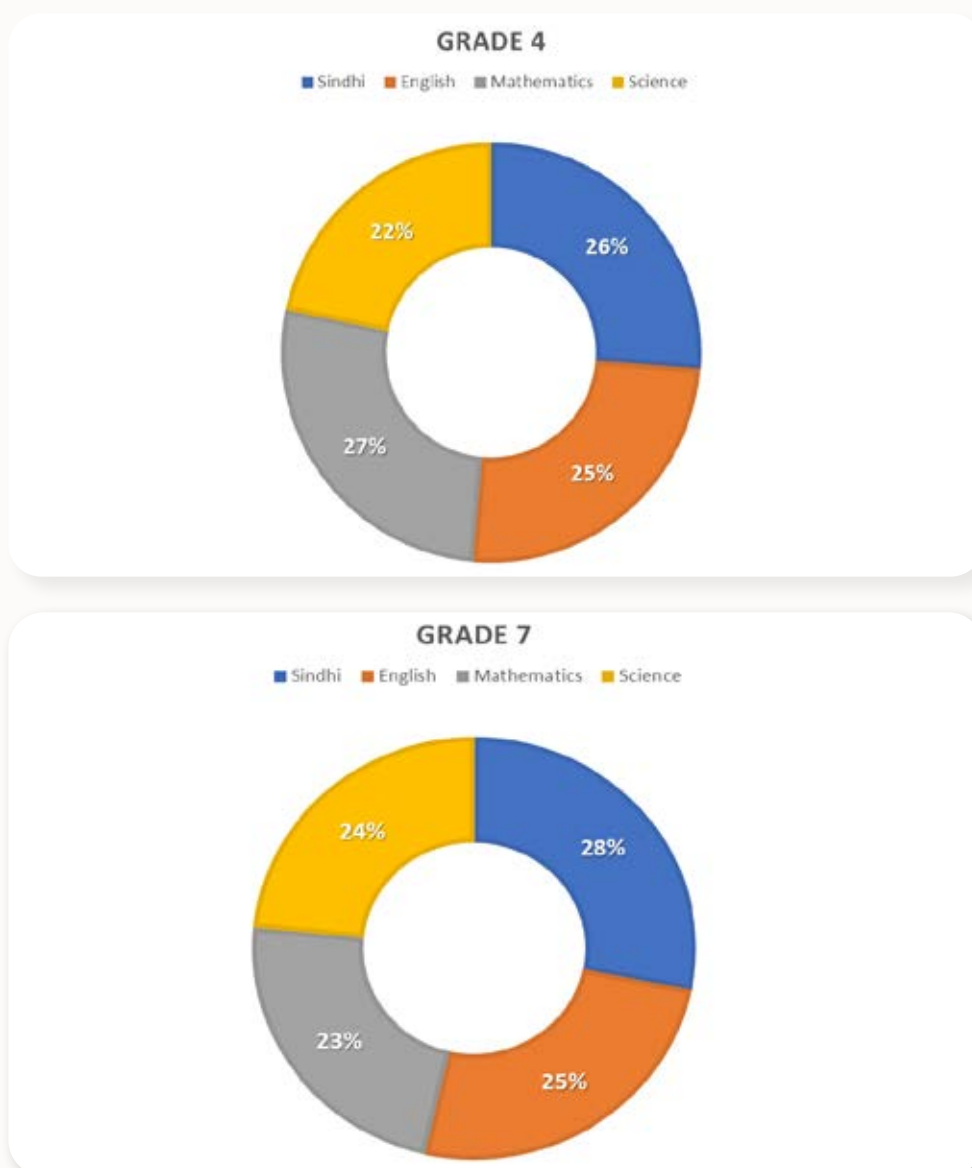
# Annual Quality Assurance Test 2023-24: Key Insights and Trends

The Assessment Unit (AU) successfully conducted the Annual Quality Assurance Test (QAT) 2023-24 for Grade 4 and Grade 7 students during February and March 2024. The assessment, executed by Sukkur IBA University, was electronically marked to ensure transparency and accuracy. This year, approximately 37,000 students from 2,294 schools across Sindh participated in the evaluation.

The overall average score stood at 50.2%, with Grade 7 students performing better than Grade 4 across most subjects. A

subject-wise breakdown shows that students scored higher in Sindhi (54.6%) and English (50.8%) compared to Mathematics (50.4%) and Science (45.2%), highlighting a relative strength in language subjects over Science and Mathematics.

These findings indicate the need for focused interventions in Science and Mathematics while further strengthening language competencies. The assessment serves as a valuable tool for identifying learning gaps and enhancing the quality of education in Sindh.



# Regular School Support Visits (RSSV)

**An initiative aimed at improving the quality of education FAS across Sindh**

The Regular School Support Visit (RSSV) is a significant initiative aimed at improving the quality of education in public schools across Sindh province. This program involves regular visits to schools to assess their needs, provide technical assistance, and monitor progress.

Total 33 teams are dedicatedly engaged in this activity from the training unit and program to conduct school visits, provide technical assistance to head teachers, teachers and students, and monitor the impact of the interventions.



The primary objectives of the RSSV are to enhance teaching and learning, strengthen school infrastructure, empower teachers, strengthen school leadership, and engage with the community.

The RSSV has been implemented in all districts of Sindh, including Karachi, Hyderabad, Thatta, Badin, Mirpurkhas, Shaheed Benazirabad, Dadu, Sukkur, Ghotki, Shikarpur, Larkana, Qamber, and Khairpur. Over 1150 schools have benefited from these visits.

The RSSV has had a positive impact on the school of SEF in Sindh. It has led to improved student learning outcomes, enhanced teacher capacity, strengthened school infrastructure, increased community involvement, and improved school governance and management.

By addressing the specific needs of schools and providing targeted support, the RSSV is contributing to a more equitable and quality education across Sindh.



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