

Provincial Seminar

on

Gender Disparities in Education Lahore

(December 3-4, 2009)

Organized By

Academy of Educational Planning and Management

Ministry of Education

In Collaboration with Pakistan National Commission for UNESCO

Through participation Program 2008 2009

Compiled by

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Academy of Educational Planning and Management

Ministry of Education

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Preface

Education is pre-requisit for socio-economic development of the country. National Education Policies and Development plans emphasized to reduce the gender disparities from education system. Moreover, one of the goals of Millennium Development is *“to eliminate gender disparity in primary and secondary education preferably by 2005 and in all level by 2015.”* Government of Pakistan has introduced various reforms to reduce the gender disparities in education.

The management of Academy of Educational Planning and Management in collaboration with Pakistan National Commission for UNESCO through UNESCO participation program 2008-09 conducted provincial seminar at Lahore from December 3-4, 2009. In this seminar thirty four middle level Education Managers, Planners and Policy makers have participated. The purpose of this seminar was to investigate the gender disparities in education, causes of these disparities and strategies to be designed for reducing these disparities. Efforts were made to sensitize the participants regarding this crucial policy issue.

I appreciate the efforts made by Khawaja Sabir Hussain, Deputy Director/Project Coordinator and his team members for organizing this seminar. I also appreciate the services of Muhammad Sohail, Research Assistant for typing and composing.

Prof. Dr. Haroona Jatoi
Director General
AEPAM

THE UNIVERSITY OF THE WEST INDIES

Program

The program is designed to provide students with a comprehensive understanding of the various aspects of the field. It includes a strong emphasis on research and critical thinking, as well as practical experience through internships and fieldwork. The curriculum is structured to allow students to explore their interests in depth while also gaining a broad perspective on the discipline. Key areas of focus include the history and evolution of the field, current trends and challenges, and the application of theoretical concepts to real-world scenarios. The program also emphasizes the importance of communication and teamwork skills, which are essential for success in this field.

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Prof. Dr. James Smith
Director General
1999

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Introduction

Education is a social process in which individual is socialized so as to live in the society with dignity and honor. Since the inception of Pakistan, government made efforts to provide universal primary education and quality of education to the citizens of the country. Several National Education Policies were formulated and subsequently five years Development Plans were made for quantitative expansion and qualitative improvement of education system to enhance access to education and provision of quality of education in the country. National Education Policy 1998-2010 emphasized for reducing gender disparities in education. The thrust of Social Action Programs was also to reduce the gender disparities by emphasizing on girls education specifically in rural areas.

One of the goals of Millennium Development is 'to eliminate gender disparity in primary and secondary education, preferably by 2005 and in all levels by 2015'. Being signatory, Government of Pakistan made every possible effort to reduce gender disparities in education by introducing various reforms i.e. Education Sector Reforms (ESR), Education for All (EFA) action plan etc. but these interventions could not remove gender disparities in education particularly in rural area.

There are many reasons of these disparities in education that vary from province to province and district to district in Pakistan. The findings of various Research Studies shows that enrolment in public sector is low and dropouts rate is high at elementary level. Furthermore, girls have less access to education because of distance, level of security, early marriage, poverty, non-availability of physical facilities, particularly toilets for girls' students and teachers in public sector.

Government of Pakistan has addressed through various reforms in education sector. Some progress has been made but still there is need for planning to remove these disparities from education system. Education is a key for socio-economic development in any society. Human Resource Development is

