

Pakistan Scottish Scholarship Scheme for School Children 2017-18

Final Report

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Introduction

In 2010, the Pakistani government introduced the 18th Amendment to its Constitution under which Article 25-A clearly states that the “State shall provide free and compulsory education to ALL children of the age five to sixteen years in such a manner as may be determined by law”. In spite of the government’s commitment, Pakistan still has 25 million¹ children, between the ages of 5-16, out of schools.

Recent ASER² 2015 data shows that out of the total out of school children of age 6-16 (i.e. 19%), 11 % are girls. For each income quartile, the inequality is exacerbated for the poorest and within them, especially girls (WIDE tool in ASER metrics). Moreover, the results further reveal that socio-economic background influences gender inequity. The richest quartile has the highest percentage of children enrolled (80%) whereas the poorest quartile has the lowest enrolment rate (61%).

This on-going education crisis is evident from the country’s poor ranking at 113 out of 120 countries in the Education Development Index.³ While factors such as lack of access to schools, missing facilities, untrained teacher and low learning levels all contribute to the low enrolments levels, financial constraints are one of the biggest barriers.

Even though it the State’s responsibility to provide its citizens with quality free education, a responsibility they are cognizant of, on account of inefficient resource allocation and limited funding, the government is unfortunately unable to fully meet the demand for education. Scholarships such as those offered by the Scottish governments make education more affordable, allowing parents to continue their children’s education without any financial or economic burden.

The previous two cycles of Scottish Scholarship for School Children have had a great impact, benefitting thousands of school going children. They have not only provided families with the opportunity to pursue and continue schooling but also supported the Pakistani Government in decreasing the number of out of school children.

This year too, the Scottish Scholarship for School Children is being offered to children across Pakistan, providing underprivileged school children at primary and secondary level with scholarships, ensuring that their education is not hindered due to financial constraints. With 22 million children still out of schools, these scholarships will undoubtedly positively impact the lives of many more.

These scholarships will allow students to complete their current level of education without any additional financial or economic burden on their families, and will be implemented in British Council’s existing school networks.

Region and Partner Selection

The 2017-18 cycle of scholarships was launched in May/June 2017. Based on past experience and knowledge of various regions, British Council identified partners across Pakistan. Partners were selected on the basis of current enrolment rates, number of at risk students, and schools that host

¹ 25 Million Broken Promises, Alif Ailaan 2015

² The Annual Status of Education Report (ASER) is the largest citizen led; household based initiative that aims to provide reliable estimates on the schooling status of children aged 3-16 years residing in all rural and urban districts of Pakistan.

³ Fact Sheet: Education for All Global Monitoring Report; UNESCO 2012

minorities and those with disabilities. Furthermore, partners identified are located in areas where access to education is even more restricted due to issues such as missing facilities, limited access to schools and resources, extremism, natural disasters and overall high levels of poverty.

Partner schools were identified in the following region:

Sindh
Baluchistan
Punjab
Khyber Pakhtunkhwa
Gilgit-Baltistan
Azad Jammu and Kashmir

Scholarship Disbursement Plan

The larger portion – 60 percent – of the funds attained under this scholarship scheme has been allocated to children from disadvantaged households allowing them to continue their basic education without hindrance from financial constraints or associated barriers.

Given that Pakistan has an unfortunate history when it comes to equal rights for minorities, 20 percent of the scholarships will be allocated to religious minorities. Minorities in Pakistan are generally under educated and underemployed, these scholarships will therefore provide them with the much needed advantage of completing their education.

The final 20 percent of these scholarships will be awarded to students with disabilities. In Pakistan, approximately 2.54% of population is disabled, with over 60% of them living in the rural areas⁴. Some estimates suggest that there are 330 special education schools in Islamabad, Punjab, Sindh and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa provinces and as many as 50% of children with disabilities do not have access to such schools.⁵

Scottish Scholarship Scheme for School Children, 2017-18		
Scholarship Disbursement Categories		
	Scholarship Category	% of Total Funding
1	Children from disadvantaged backgrounds	60
2	Children from minority groups	20
3	Children with disabilities	20

Keeping in mind the above identified categories, a region wise disbursement plan was developed with the aim of ensuring equal amounts of funding across each region. The table below details this disbursement plan.

⁴ Helping Hand for relief and Development, 2012; 'Persons with disabilities statistics 2012'

⁵ Moving from the margins, Mainstreaming persons with disabilities in Pakistan; The Economist Intelligence Unit

Scottish Scholarship Scheme for School Children, 2017-18

Region Wise Scholarship Disbursement Plan			
Region	Disadvantaged Backgrounds	Disabilities	Minority Groups
Gilgit Baltistan	175	25	-
AJK	175	25	-
KP	250	50	-
Punjab	350	50	-
Sindh	175	25	-
Baluchistan	75	25	-
Minorities	-	-	400
Disabilities	-	200	-
Total	1200	400	400

Applications and Shortlisting

After the partners were identified, they were charged with the responsibility of advertising the scholarships in their respective schools, inviting applications for consideration.

Application forms designed by the British Council were shared with all partners. Where needed, these scholarship forms were also translated in Urdu (Annex A). Once submitted, the application forms were reviewed, assessing the needs and merit of each candidate. The list of shortlisted candidates will be shared with British Council who will then make a final selection.

For monitoring and evaluation purposes, reporting templates were also shared with the partners (Annex B and C). Duly filled forms and templates will be submitted to the British Council to ensure transparency.

2017 Scholarships Awarded

This year, with effective negotiations and collaborative partners, British Council was able to award 2000 scholarships, bypassing the originally proposed figure of 1200 by 800.

Agreements with all partners have been signed and funds dispersed. Even though recipients have been identified, scholarships will be awarded in April at the start of the academic year.

The table below shows a list of all partners, the number of scholarships awarded at each school, and the city and region the schools are situated in:

Sr. No.	Region	Implementing partner	No. of Scholarships	Cities	Comments
1	Gilgit Baltistan	Iqra Fund [200 for Skardu Public Schools, 200 Special Education Dept. GB] - http://www.iqr	400	Skardu, Gilgit	All public sector schools

afund.org					
2	PaK	Read Foundation - https://readfoundation.org.uk	200	PaK (AJK)	Private sector
3	Rawalpindi	Diocesan Board of Education - https://www.dberwp.com	350	Islamabad and Rawalpindi	Minority
4	Khyber Pakhtunkhwa	Education Department KP - http://www.kpese.gov.pk	300	Bannu, Mansehra, Mardan	All public sector schools
5	Punjab	Bilal School https://www.facebook.com/bilalschoolvehari	75	Vaheri	Low cost private school
6	Punjab	AKRA – Anjuman Khuddam-e-Rasool Allah http://www.akra.com.pk/donors.html	75	Okara (Renala Khurd)	Low cost private school
7	Punjab	Light of Hope Schools (FC College) http://www.fccollege.edu.pk/light-hope-school	50	Lahore	Low cost private school
8	Punjab	Care Foundation http://carepakistan.org	50	Lahore	Low cost private/public partnership schools
9	Punjab	National Catholic Education Commission Pakistan http://ncec.org.pk	100	Lahore, Faisalabad	Minority private schools
10	Punjab	MOJAZ Foundation http://www.mojaz.org	100	Narowal	Public/Private schools
11	Baluchistan	WANG http://wang.org.pk	100	Lasbela	Public schools

12	Sindh	Aga Khan Education Services Pakistan (AKESP) http://www.akdn.org/pakistan/akes	200	Karachi	Low cost private schools
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Monitoring and Evaluation

An update of funds disbursement of the 2017 cycle is now due with the start of the school term April onwards and will be requested from school partners in May 2017. The interim report for this cycle from school partners will be requested in November 2018 as some of the recipients will be graduating in August 2017.

Standardised reporting tools have already been shared with partners. Our internal monitoring and evaluation team is working with the Pakistan Scottish Scholarship team to develop an improved M&E framework for the 2017-18cycle.

School Safety and Teacher Training

Increasing frequency of disasters – natural and man-made – in Pakistan has affected the general public in several ways, but is leaving the worst impact on school children in particular. Most of the school buildings and educational institutions do not comply with the hazard (such as earthquake, flooding, landslides and associated disasters) resistance designs, are poorly constructed, and lack preparedness and response plans. The teachers and the staff at these schools are not aware of safety procedures and don't know how to react in case of emergencies. There is a dire need to make the schools in Pakistan safer and train teachers to deal with emergencies.

As its contribution to the project, the British Council in collaboration with the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) developed School Safety Guidelines titled, "Pakistan School Safety Framework (PSSF)".

A training toolkit for school preparedness, risk reduction, and education emergencies under the framework's initial concept has been prepared. As a pilot, the toolkit will be introduced in 63 schools in all the regions/provinces of Pakistan including AJK, GB, KPK, Punjab, Sindh. The partner schools have been identified and training initiated.



Still to Come

Over the course of the next few months, once the schools re-open and the new term begins, partners will host award ceremonies for scholarship recipients.

British Council is also working on developing a brief documentary to highlight the impact that Scottish funding has had in Pakistan.

Annex

Annex A - Scholarship Application Form, English



Pakistan Scottish Scholarships Scheme for School Children 2017-18

Application Form

PHOTOGRAPH

A. Basic information

Student full name	
Date of birth/Age	
Gender	
Religion	
Place of birth	
Any known disability	
Telephone number(s)	
Present address	
Permanent address	

B. Parents information

Father's name	
Father's occupation	
Date of death (if applicable)	
Mother's name	
Mother's occupation	
Date of death (if applicable)	
Guardian name (in case parents have died)	
Guardian's occupation	

C. Education history

Have you been to school before?	Yes	No
Current school name		
Current class		
Marks achieved in last class		
Attendance record		

D. Financial history

Father/Guardian's occupation	
Organisation name	
Total monthly income	
Mother's occupation	
Total monthly income	

E. Siblings data

Name	Age	Occupation

Required documentation (to be attached)

1. Copy of CNIC/Form 'B' (Student & Parents/Guardian)
2. Salary Slip of Parents/Guardian (in case of Govt/Private Sector Employee; Pension Slip (in case of retired from Govt Service)
3. Copy of certificate/results sheet of most recently completed class

Data Protection Policy

Your personal information will be used in line with British Council standards. The British Council will treat all personal information in accordance with UK law and its own privacy policy. The British Council will not sell or disclose your details to third parties for commercial reasons.

Under UK Data Protection law you have the right to ask for a copy of the information we hold on you, for which we may charge a fee, and the right to ask us to correct any inaccurate information. If you want more information about this please contact your local British Council office or the data protection team dataprotection@britishcouncil.org.

Your signature below shows your understanding and agreement with our data-protection policy.

Signature of Applicant (in case of minors, by Father/Guardian)

Date: _____



Scottish Scholarship Scheme – Schools

Reporting Template, 2017-18

Sr No	School Name	Region/City	Student Name	Student Gender	Student Age	Student Current Class	Student Disability(Yes/No)	Scholarship Amount	Parent/Guardian Name	Parent/Guardian Total Monthly Income	Parent/Guardian Contact Information	School Focal Person	Focal Person Contact Number

Annex C - Scholarship Narrative Report Template

Narrative Report

1. Selection process

Date/s (of selection):

School/s:

Location/s:

a. Selection committee members

Name	Designation

b. Details of selection process:

Means	Mark where
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	applicable
Face-to-face meetings with parents	
Face to face meetings with children	
Application forms	
School recommendation	
Community/partner recommendation	
Other (give details):	

c. Verification process (meeting eligibility criteria)

Means	Mark where applicable
Schools records (academic and financial)	
Community database/records	
Physical verification (visit to house, etc)	
Other: (give details)	

2. Number of scholarship-holders per school

3. Number of total scholarship-holders (final)

4. Number of total applications received

5. Any challenges faced

6. Comments/suggestions/feedback (from partners/schools/beneficiaries)

7. Award details (waived/ awarded under scholarship)

Description	No of students	Award disbursement (e.g. one-time, bi-annual, quarterly, annual, monthly)
Tuition fee		
Uniform		
Stationery		
Books		
Travel		
Other (give details)		

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8. Academic performance

Case study

- Name
- Age
- Class
- School (name and location)
- Place of residence (village/district/province)

Narrative (story/background)

Quote

Picture (with consent)