

WORKING PAPER FOR PDWP

Project Profile

Part-A

Date of receipt of PC-I in P&DB : 20-02-2025

1. **Project Title** North Punjab Non Formal Education Project
2. **Location** 17 districts of Punjab (Gujranwala, Gujrat, Hafizabad, Mandi Bahaud-Din, Wazirabad, Narowal, Sialkot, Attock, Chakwal, Jhelum, Rawalpindi, Murree, Talagang, Bhakkar, Khushab, Mianwali, & Sargodha).
3. **Sponsoring Agency** Literacy & Non Formal Basic Education Department
4. **Executing Agency** Directorate General of Literacy & Non Formal Basic Education
5. **Operation & Maintenance** Directorate General of Literacy & Non Formal Basic Education
6. **Cost of the Project**

(Rs. in million)

Component	Approved Cost	Proposed Cost	Difference
Capital	---	---	----
Revenue	3,744.960	5,299.140	1,544.180

7. **Cost of project in ADP 2024-25:** Rs. 2,300 Million, Allocation Rs.890.00 Million
8. **Source of Funding** ADP 2024-25 at G.S. No. 142
9. **Name of the Relevant Department(s) and Stakeholder(s) invited in Pre-PDWP**
 - i. Finance Department
 - ii. Punjab Economic Research Institute, P&D Board
 - iii. DG M&E, P&D Board
 - iv. Economic Wing, P&D Board
10. **Name of the sector's Specialist, Consultant / Advisor / Expert invited in Pre-PDWP** Consultant Education P&DB
11. **Gestation Period:** 36 Months (till October 2027)
12. **Description & Justification**

The Literacy & Non-Formal Basic Education (NFBE) Department in Punjab aims to provide basic education to out-of-school children (OOSC) and improve adult literacy, focusing on marginalized communities. According to 7th Population & Housing census 2023, 25.37 million children of the age band 5-16 years are out of school i.e. 10.5% of total population of Pakistan and 36 % of total population of same age bracket (5-16 Years). The number of OOSC (5-16 Years) in Punjab is 9.6 million, 27% of population of 5-16 years age population as below:

Table 1: OOSC Share of Punjab

Indicator	Total Population	Literacy Rate	Population (5-16 Years)	OOSC(5-16Years)
Pakistan	241.499 M	61%	71.27 M	25.37 M (35.6%)
Punjab	127.688 M	66%	35.57 M	9.60 M (26.99%)
Punjab (share in %)	52.87%	-	49.91%	37.84%

Above table shows that huge number of out of school children is present in the province which requires deep focus and commitment to fulfil the target of 84.5% literacy in Punjab by 2030. A comprehensive multi-sectoral strategy accompanied by adequate budget shall also be required to bring the ratio of OOSC in single digit as first level of achievement.

There are demographical differences among the regions of Punjab which needs focus on region basis. The following region wise data of OOSC and Literacy Rate shows disparity of need in this regard:

Sr. No.	Region	OOSC (Census 2023)	Literacy Rate (Census 2023)
1	Central Punjab	3,009,861	65.1%
2	North Punjab	1,895,297	72.2%
3	South Punjab	4,694,886	53.1%
Total Punjab		9,600,044	66.2%

Role of Literacy & NFBE Department

Nevertheless, Literacy & NFBE Department is providing basic education, at present, to more than 600,000 out of school children through the establishment of 19,803 Literacy Institutions across Punjab through three development projects i.e **Central Punjab Non Formal Education Project, North Punjab Non Formal Education Project & South Punjab Non Formal Education Project**. Through these three projects, the department will be able to provide Non Formal Basic Education to more than 801,500 out of school children (OOSC) during the gestation of these projects. Practically, the department was able to enroll and mainstream approximately 10% of the total population of OOSC of the Province. The per annum cost per child is around Rs.5,000 as per approved projects. As can be seen, the model adopted by Literacy & NFBE Department provides the solution for bringing OOSC in to learning atmosphere at minimum cost.

To ensure equity and empowerment, the Department has made an effort to launch the Non-Formal Education intervention on the basis of regions due to inter regional disparities to address the issues specifically. The instant PC-I intends to focus in the 17 Districts which fall in the North Punjab. Under this project 6,136 Non-Formal Basic Education schools including 140 Non-Formal Education Elementary Schools will be established and targeted beneficiary group will be more than 242,460 out of school children within the age of 5-16 years in North Districts of Punjab. The Department shall focus on out-of-school children which are overage (7 to 16 years) for addition in NFBE & NFEE Schools under Central Punjab Non-Formal Education Project. However, the admission of 5 to less than 7 years learners shall be admissible only in the particular areas where free education facility has not been provided by the Government of Punjab.

The elementary program (Establishment of NFEEs) is designed specifically for OOSC and drop outs students of primary schools of less privileged areas where opportunities for middle level education are less. The program has been designed to impart technical skill at middle level. 13 skills trades (Basics of Hotel Management, Introduction to tourism, Basics of Graphic Design, Media Production, Fundamentals of cooking, Agriculture, Live-Stock, Internet of Things (IOT), Dress Making, Beautician, Applied Electrician, Plumbing and HVACR (Heating, Ventilation, Air conditioning, Refrigeration)) have been included and the curriculum has been designed in consultation with TEVTA, NAVTEC, PSDA, PCTB, PEC, QAED etc. Moreover, this is an Accelerated Learning Program (ALP) designed to impart middle education to OOSC in 18 months instead of 36 months.

14 **Objectives of the Project**

- Impart primary & Elementary education to out-of-school children via non-formal approach (alternative learning pathways).
- Special focus on disempowered/neglected segments of society, especially women and rural youth on a priority basis.
- Contribute towards achievement/realisation of sustainable development goals (SDGs) concerning primary education.

Rationale of the Revision

The 1st revision of North Punjab Non Formal Education project has been made due to the following reasons:

1. Increase in NFE Teachers monthly remuneration

The Punjab Cabinet in its 22nd meeting held on 14-01-2025 has decided to increase the NFE teachers' Remuneration from Rs.12,500/per month to Rs.20,000/per month w.e.f P&D proposed date 01-01-2025.

2. Increase in Project Cost

The Project Cost has been increased from 3744.960 million to 5299.139 million due to increase in monthly Remuneration of teachers from Rs.12,500 to Rs.20,000 per month.

15 **Scope of the Project**

NFBES Teachers, Schools & Learners

- 5,996 Non-formal Basic Education Schools (NFBES) shall be established.
- 5,996 Non-formal Education teachers shall be engaged.
- 75% (minimum) shall be female teachers.
- 239,840 Non-Formal Education learners shall be the beneficiaries.
- More than 50% beneficiaries (learners) shall be girls
- 44,000 learners shall be Primary Pass-outs/promoted.

NFEES Teachers, Schools & Learners

- 140 Non-Formal Education Elementary Schools (NFEES) shall be established.
- 280 Non-Formal Education teachers shall be engaged.
- 75% (minimum) shall be female teachers.
- More than 50% beneficiaries (learners) shall be girls.
- 2,800 shall be Elementary level beneficiaries
- 2,240 learners shall be Elementary pass-outs/promoted

Skill Program for Elementary School learners

PCTB has approved Accelerated Learning Program (ALP)-Elementary Curriculum of Literacy & NFBE Department on 20-09-2024 for Middle-Tech program. Further, the textbooks of ALP-Middle/Middle-Tech has also been approved from PCTB in BOG meeting held on 10-02-2025. This includes 13 trades ((Basics of Hotel Management, Introduction to tourism, Basics of Graphic Design, Media Production, Fundamentals of cooking, Agriculture, Live-Stock, Internet of Things (IOT), Dress Making, Beautician, Applied Electrician, Plumbing and HVACR (Heating, Ventilation, Air conditioning, Refrigeration) out of which one trade will be taught in individual elementary school.

Student-Teacher Ratio

-35:1 (approximate average for NFBES)

-20:2 (approximate average for NFEES)

Schools Establishment Criteria/Process

- Baseline Survey
- Community Mobilization
- Identification of sites for NFBES/NFEES

- Identification of NFBES/NFEES learners
- Selection of NFE teachers
- Enrolment of NFBES/NFEES learners
- Provision of School and Learner Kits

Teachers Hiring Criteria

- **NFBES Teacher:** Graduation (minimum 50% obtained marks)
- **NFEES Teacher:** Graduation (minimum 50 % obtained marks)
- **Remuneration:** Rs.16,000/- per month + Rs.4,000/- per month in lieu of utility & mobile SIM data charges.
- **Gender:** Male / Female / Transgender.
- Job capability test and subsequent interview of successful potential candidates and recommendation of suitable candidates by a committee strictly in accordance with the policy/ criteria as notified by the L& NFBED.
- The classes will be held 06 days a week, 04 hours a day. The total period of Primary education is 48 months (Katchi to Grade-5) while for elementary education it is 18 months.

Learners Criteria

- Out of School Children
- Formal School Dropouts
- 05 – 16 Years (in particular Areas where free education facility by government is not being provided)
- 07-16 Years (in general shall be observed)
- Male, Female & Transgender.

Learning Outcomes class-wise: (Annex-A)

16 Summary of Project Cost

Sr. No.	Description	Approved Cost	Proposed Cost in 1 st Revision	Difference
1	NFBES/NFEES Teachers' Honorarium (6,276 Teachers) for 6,136 schools @12,500/month(approved), @20,000/month (proposed in revision after approval from Cabinet)	2,740,200,000	4,294,380,000	1,554,180,000 =(5996x7500x34) +(280x7500x12)
2	Procurement of School Kit(Annexure-B) (Non-Consumable Items) 500 NFBES	43,663,360	43,663,360	0
	Procurement of School Kit (Consumable Items) 6,136 NFBES/NFEES			
3	Procurement of Learner Kit (5,996 NFBES) @ 30 learners per school (Annexure-C)	956,954,600	956,954,600	0
	Procurement of Learner Kit (140 NFEES) @ 20 learners per school			
4	Field Operations (Transportation)			0

	Field Operations (Publicity & Advertisement)	4,502,000	4,502,000	
	Total Cost	3,744,959,960	5,299,139,960	1,554,180,000

17 **Relationship with SDG's**

SDG 4: Ensure Inclusive and Equitable Education and Promote Lifelong Learning Opportunities for all.

SDG 5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls.

18 **Unit Cost**

Rs. 607 (cost of learner per month).

19 **Annual Recurring Expenditure**

N/A

20 **Annual Income after completion**

N/A

21 **Requirement of vehicles / staff / consultancy (with justification)**

N/A

22 **Existing Facilities**

Existing facilities of School Kit items available with closing projects will be utilized. However, need based procurement of School kit items will be made. 20273 NFBES shall be continued through North, Central and South Punjab Non formal Education project. Facility of free textbooks will be provided as compulsory.

23 **Monitoring Mechanism**

- Monitoring & Assessment Wing shall cater to said needs of monitoring and evaluation other than field staff.
- District-based staff has been provided with IT Gadgets (smartphones or tablets) as per the provision of funds of PNFEP-II/TSKL-II.
- The Department has developed and notified comprehensive, “NFE Monitoring Mechanism, Punjab” and “Punjab NFE Assessment and Certification System” recently for effective monitoring and assessment of NFE schools and learners.

24 **Consideration by Pre-PDWP**

The project costing Rs. 5,299.140 million was discussed in Pre-PDWP meeting held on 21-02-2025 under the Chairmanship of Member (Education), P&DB. The observations of P&D and other stakeholders and the replies submitted by the Department are reproduced as under:

Observations of Pre-PDWP dated 21-02-2025.

Sr. No.	Observation	Reply of Department	Remarks by P&D
1	Please justify the increase in monthly teachers' honorarium from Rs.12,500/- to Rs.20,000/- w.e.f. 01.01.2025.	Cabinet in its 22nd meeting held on 14.01.2025 increased monthly teachers' honorarium from Rs.12,500/- to Rs.20,000/- w.e.f. 01.01.2025 which requires revision of PC-Is before payment to the teachers on revised rate.	Noted

2	Why the teachers' selection criteria has been changed in Revision of PC-I for 3 projects of Central, South and North regions of Punjab ?	Since teachers' honorarium has been increased, the department would have to face external pressures in hiring of teachers. Therefore, it is appropriated to improve teacher selection criteria to find quality teachers. At this stage, qualification for hiring of NFE teacher in Central and North regions is upgraded to graduation, keeping in view the higher literacy rates of these regions. While qualification for hiring of NFE teacher in South region is remained same i.e. intermediate, due to lower literacy rate of the region.	Noted
3	Approval of teachers' agreement by the Administrative Department has been added in PC-I. Why it was needed?	Initially, there was not mentioned any approving authority for teachers' agreement in PC-I. The same was being exercised by the head of the project(s). In revised PC-Is, approval of teachers' agreements was entrusted to the Administrative Department for ensuring transparency and to avoid any litigation on future.	Noted

25 Recommendations

The Scheme costing Rs. 5,299.140 Million is placed before PDWP for consideration.