



Labour Education Foundation

Community Literacy and Facilitation Centers in Lahore

A project in collaboration with STS

Activity Report

June to December 2012

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Introduction

LEF is implementing its various projects for Labour rights since its inception. Its aim is to organize, capacitate and advocate the workers on their rights and provide informed input to trade unions and various civil society organizations for promoting workers' rights.

LEF is implementing a new project titled "Community Literacy & Facilitation Centers in Lahore" in six different places at Lahore. The project aims at providing education to the informal sector workers in terms of illiteracy, corruption, unemployment, child labour, intensifying poverty and workers' rights. Under this project the centers will provide basic reading and writing skills. Following are the activities which were done to implement this project.

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1- Introductory Meeting with Staff:

An introductory meeting with staff was held on 10th May 2012 at LEF office Lahore. The basic purpose of this meeting was to introduce within the staff about the new project and take input from them. Khalid Mehmood and Shehnaz Iqbal explained in detail about the projects demand and how to implement it. Criteria for staff hiring and interview schedule were finalized. Areas for centers were discussed and after discussion it was finalized as Jallo Moor, Sutter Mill, Shahdarah Mustafabad, Shahdarah Yousaf Park, Moman Pura and Youhanabad were selected.

2- Hiring of Staff:

Advertisement for the post of Program Coordinator, Social Mobilizer and Teachers were given in Daily Jang newspaper on 7th April 2012. For the Community Literacy and Facilitation Centers Project the applications received for Project Coordinator were 6, for Social Mobilizer 5 and for Teachers were 15. Short listed candidates were called off for interview and after written and verbal communication they were selected according to project needs and requirements.

3- Selection Of Places for Centers:

Several field visits were organized and arranged in the month of May and June 2012 at different places like Shahdarah (Yousaf Park), Shahdarah(Mustafabad), Moman Pura, Jallo Moor and Sutter Mill for selecting the appropriate places for centers. Many hurdles and difficulties were faced within the community but in mid of June suitable places were selected within the selected areas.

4- Teachers Training Workshop:

Teachers training workshop was organized on 22-23rd May, 2012 at LEF Hall, Lahore. Five teachers which were selected participated in it. Shahnaz Iqbal, Jalvat Ali, Nazli Javaid and Salman Ali were conducting this workshop. Discussion on different topics was made within the training workshop like

- **Role of Trade Unions**
- **Present Situation of Workers**
- **Laws regarding workers' rights**
- **Human Rights issues**

Objectives of Training Workshop:

- Detail information about the project
- Teachers teaching methodologies
- To be well known about LEF background
- Target Groups in the project
- To enhance and build their self-confidence

5- Teaching Aid Supplies:

- At the start of centers teaching aids and equipment's were delivered to six centers on May and first week of June 2012. It consisted of Blackboards, Color pencils, Note books, Writing Pads and other useful material. A list of these items was formed and proper signatures were taken from teachers. Scanned list can be provided on requirement. Below is annex A of some material which was delivered;

Annex (A)

Items
Black Board

Color Pencils
Note Books
Writing Pads
Kitchen material (Plates, Glass, Cups, fire stove, sauce pans
Furniture (Table and Chair)
Teacher dairies and files
Clock
Celling Fans
Bucket

- In December 2012 more solid and informative teaching material and other apparatus were bought for each center. Previous material was used by the learners like drawing pencils, rubber and drawing books so new were purchased. As it was discussed with Mr.Jamal while his visit to Pakistan that more recreational material should be bought for these learners. So different playing games and story books were purchased and all items were delivered to each center in the last week of December. Items list is prepared and can be provided its scan copy on demand. Below is the list of material which was provided in Annex (B)

Annex (B)

Items
Black Board
Color Pencils
Emergency Lights
Furniture (Almari)
Recreational Games (Chess, Badminton, Luddo, Bat and Ball, Scrabble and Monopoly
Dictionaries
Pictorial Books
Drawing Books

6- Teachers Monthly Meeting:

From June to December 2012, 6 monthly teachers meeting were organized. In which 6 teachers, Program Coordinator and Social Mobilizer participated in it.

Objectives:

- A monthly teachers meeting is essential for building and maintaining smooth running practices within an organization
- It helps to improve collective performance, encouraging greater productivity and boosting more skills
- Sharing of ideas and problems if occurred
- Motivating teachers to help each other succeeds, reinforcing their commitment to working towards a common goal

Agenda:

- Progress of the centers.
- Teachers report about the centers.
- Meetings with CMC members
- Working of CMC and functioning their responsibilities
- Regularity of learners
- Issues regarding center
- Examination pattern

- Examination Schedule
- Progress of centers library
- Improvement aspects
- Hurdles and complications in motivating community
- Upcoming plans

7- Teachers Reports:

Each month teachers present centers report in Monthly Teachers Meeting. From June to December 2012, **6 reports** were handed over to Program Coordinator and Social Mobilizer. A brief report pattern has been developed which covers all section of the syllabus. Below are the summarized reports of each center,

Shahdarah (Mustafabad) center:

- Book 1 and Book 2 has been completed
- Drawing books are completed
- Stitching class is going on
- Learners can do signatures in Urdu and English as well
- Make up classes for examination is going on
- Oral test is being taken from learners

Shahdarah (Yousaf Park) Center:

- Book 1 is completed by all learners
- Book 2 is going on
- Revision of syllabus is under process
- Learners have learnt English and Urdu names of different Vegetables, Fruits and animals
- Brainstorming games are being played with the learners
- Learners are able to write and signature their names

Youhanabad Center:

- Book 1 and 2 is completed
- Mathematics syllabus is going on
- Revision of English and Urdu alphabets started
- Learners can speak English words quite easily
- English and Urdu names of Vegetables, Fruits and Animals have been learnt by the learners
- All learners can write their name in English and Urdu as well
- Learners have organized a theater group which perform in community on human rights issues
- Examination will be held on 2nd week of January 2013

Sutter Mill Center:

- Phase 1 and Phase 2 books are completed
- Maths syllabus is completed
- Learners are active and helping mobilizing the community for next phase
- Learners have learnt different English words which we use in our daily lives
- They show keen interest in politics and like to do debate on it
- Some learners have learned English welcome speech
- Central Management Committee (CMC) is helping center and working for the betterment
- Examination will be held on 2nd week of January 2013

Jallo Moor Center:

- Phase 1 and Phase 2 books are completed
- Examinations are held in last week of December 2012
- Result waiting

Note: In Jallo Moor center learners' turnout was not according to the target as community was not serious for it. Teacher of this center gave her special efforts for mobilizing the community but at last place of the center has been changed. New place for the center is looked after and hopefully in start of January first week 2013 it will sort out.

Moman Pura Center:

- Both books have been completed by the learners
- Revision is being started
- Examinations are going to be held in 2nd week of January 2013

Note: Center place has been changed because learners were not giving proper time to the center. Attendance was short as lame excuses were coming from learners' side. After proper meeting with teacher place of the center was changed to Dubai Chowk area close to Moman Pura. An orientation session was held with this community and to see their interest. This place has been finalized and in start of February it will be properly functional. Sidra will remain teacher in this center as well.

8- Orientation Sessions:

Objective:

The motto for these orientation sessions was to develop good communication skills and confidence within the learners. Basically orientation sessions aim was to highlight and brand awareness about social, political and economic issues which Pakistan is facing. Program coordinator and Social Mobilizer delivered lectures on different Human Rights topics. Brain storming games were played during these sessions. From June to December 2012, 32 orientation sessions were conducted in six centers and 742 learners male and female were attending it. Below is the detail explained in **Annex C**

Theme:

To raise human rights awareness; create a basic understanding of what human rights are and human rights history; what constitutes a human rights violation; how to be respectful of those less fortunate; ways to make a difference; create cultural respect.

Topics of Orientations Sessions:

- 10 sessions on Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR)
- 6 sessions on violence against women and Sexual Harrasment
- 6 sessions on Role of Trade union in Pakistan
- 5 sessions on Bangle Workers documentary produced by Labour Education Foundation
- 5 sessions on Advantages of Newspaper reading

Annex C:

Center Name	Total Orientation Sessions	Total Participants	Female	Male
Shahdarah Mustafabad	7	173	165	8
Youhanabad	4	95	5	90
Moman Pura	7	167	162	5
Sutter Mill	4	83	23	60
Shahdarah Yousaf Park	5	102	54	48
Jallo Moor	5	122	81	41

Results Achieved:

Through these orientation sessions it helped the learners to groom their knowledge and become a productive member of this society. They took heavy participation and asked relevant questions from the facilitators. The most important thing is that all the learners agreed on some terms like Equality, Human Dignity, Indivisibility, Interdependency, Non-Discrimination and Responsibility. Orientation sessions created many thoughtful provisions within the learners like

- **Critical thinking skills**
- **Ability to Treat Self and Others Fairly**
- **Respect for Others**
- **Performing Community Service and Action**
- **Knowing Human Rights**
- **Understanding other Points of View**
- **Social Responsibility**
- **Civic Engagement**
- **Integrating Human Rights into Personal Awareness and Behaviors**
- **Knowing Human Rights Standards**

9- Meetings with Central Management Committee (CMC):

From June to December 2012, 12 meetings were arranged with the members of CMC. These committees consist of 8 members male and female. The basic purpose for these meetings was to discuss the problems and upcoming plans of the centers. Discussions were made with them on progress of the center and what techniques should be adopted for mobilizing the community.

Objective:

The main purpose of its creation is to improve the effectiveness and appropriateness of the regulatory system and ensure its continued development.

Decisions:

- Pamphlets should be printed which contains information about the centers
- They will help the Teachers for mobilizing the community
- Meeting with CMC members will be arranged once a week
- Teachers will take help from CMC members in any situation and condition

10- Trade Union Training Workshop:

Basic Trade Union Training Workshop was organized on 26-27th September, 2012 at LEF Hall, Lahore. Three energetic learners from each center participated in it. Total 20 participants were attending it in which **11** were **female** and **9** were **male**.

Facilitators: Shahnaz Iqbal, Nazli Javaid, Farooq Tariq, Jalvat Ali and Salman Ali

Topics for Training:

- **Political and Economic situation of workers in Pakistan**
- **Gender Discrimination**
- **Role of Trade Union and its Importance**

Objectives:

- To be well aware about the trade union movements within Pakistan and across Pakistan
- Participants should learn about the social and cultural behaviors.
- Learn about the basic concept of trade union
- Get information about workers' rights
- They should be aware about constitutional rights which are not implemented
- Should be well aware about the role of trade unions
- Enhance their confidence and mentality level

11- Challenges:

- In community mostly learners are living on rent places so there permanent link with center is not much effective
- Regular meetings with CMC members is an issue due to different timings of their work
- Selection of places for two centers
- Timing issues of learners due to their work
- Regularity of learners is a problem due to work load (overtime)at their work places(Youhana abad, Jallo Moore, Yousaf Park)
- Due to Load shedding learners are not able to pay full attention on their studies.

12- Achievements:

- The target of 180 learners in six centers has been achieved
- Examinations of Jallo Moor center has been done
- Set up of mini libraries in each center is under going
- Skill center has also been working in Moman Pura center as well as in Shahdarah Mustafabad Center
- Learners are considerably familiar with useful words which we use in our daily lives
- 32 orientation sessions conducted on different topics.