



News Release



Office of Public Affairs

U.S. Embassy

USAID Promotes Teaching Improvements in Pakistan

Islamabad, March 27: A project funded by the US Agency for International Development (USAID), the Interactive Teaching and Learning Methodologies Program, has completed a series of 8 workshops in which over 500 teachers of Grades I and II in 140 schools learned new approaches to teaching that engage students' interest and foster analytical thinking. The training was conducted at three Teachers' Resource Centers around Islamabad.

USAID Pakistan's Mission Director, Mr. Jonathan Addleton, visited one of the final training sessions at Federal Government Junior Model School G 9/3 Islamabad on Tuesday along with Prof. Rafeeq Tahir, Director of Coordination at the Federal Directorate of Education, and the Chief Executive of Children's Resources International Pakistan, Ms. Mehnaz Aziz.

"The old adage that nothing in the world is constant except for change has never been truer than it is today," Mr. Addleton told the teachers in Urdu. "To flourish in this changing world, it's not enough to know a set of facts; students need to have the analytical tools to adapt to new situations. Education that imparts these tools is critical to Pakistan's future."

On behalf of USAID and in support of the Government of Pakistan's Education Sector Reform Agenda, Children's Resources International has been implementing the Interactive Teaching and Learning Methodologies Program from kindergarten to grade VIII in public schools throughout the Islamabad school district, Rawalpindi City District and Karachi City District.

The methodologies taught have proved successful in more than thirty five countries. In Pakistan, since 2002 the child-centered, interactive teaching methodology has improved confidence and critical thinking skills of children in participating schools.

Through its intergenerational Family Literacy Program, the USAID-funded CRI project has taught basic reading and math skills to more than 3,000 parents, mostly mothers. Five thousand more parents will benefit from the program over the next three years. CRI's courses have also been incorporated as reference material in the course outline of the B.Ed and M. Ed curriculums being revamped by the Higher Education Commission.

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The Interactive Teaching and Learning Methodologies Program is part of the \$197.9 the US has invested, through USAID, in education in Pakistan since 2002.

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