Expanding citizen voice in education systems accountability: Evidence from citizen led assessments

‘Expanding citizen voice in education systems accountability: Evidence from citizen led assessments”

Sehar Saeed

October 26th – October 28th
NEQMAP Conference

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Theory of Change

Mobilize partners and volunteers to collect evidence

Communicate findings

Mobilize communities to voice needs and take action

Advocate for government or service provider action

Focus education priorities and resources on improving learning

Improve government responsiveness/accountability to citizen’s needs and demands

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Call for citizens to come together!

Transforming ordinary into extra-ordinary people by involving them in RESEARCH & ADVOCACY
### The Rigor & Stages of Mobilization

**Civil Society and Social Capital Formation**

**IMPLEMENTATION CYCLE**

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<th>Objective</th>
<th>Evidence</th>
<th>Impact</th>
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<td>• Informs RTE</td>
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<td>• Field Survey</td>
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<td>• Access</td>
<td>• Data Collection</td>
<td>• Provided Baseline for provincial Sector Reforms/Plans</td>
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<td>• Finalizing Reports:</td>
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<td>• National</td>
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<td>• Provincial</td>
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<td>• District</td>
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<td>• Policy Briefs</td>
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<td>• District Report Cards</td>
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<td>• National, Provincial, District</td>
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<td>• Poster (target/actions based)</td>
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- **Advocacy**
  - Report Launches
  - National, Provincial, District
  - Policy Dialogues
  - Regional /Local
  - Village Gatherings
  - CSO Coalition Meetings
  - Media Training
  - Mass Dissemination
  - Poster (target/actions based)

- **Impact**
  - Informs RTE
  - High Level Endorsements
  - Provided Baseline for provincial Sector Reforms/Plans
  - Influenced political agenda/campaigns
  - Media Campaigns for transforming education
  - Triggered Research
  - Demand from research institutions

- **Civil Society and Social Capital Formation**
Seeking Stakeholders Attention: Building Social Capital

- Politicians
- Parliamentarians
- Bureaucrats
- Judiciary & Judicial Academies
- Academia / Think tanks

Decision Makers

- Children
- Parents / Community
- Teachers/ Associations
- Youth
- Media

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• Collecting evidence of learning levels of children

• Seek evidence-based engagement to transform conditions of exclusion and learning challenges at the household, community, school, and college level.

• Communities across the country who commit to rethinking their conditions, values and structures for change.

• Collaborating with partners across networks (national, regional & global) to influence progress through synergistic collaboration & actions

• Engages inspiring leaders as communicators of ideas, learning solutions, change, practice and accountability.

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Accountability of Policy Makers: Examples from the field

- Mali, Senegal and East Africa (Beekunko, Jangandoo and Uwezo) have invited local elected officials, district education officers and others to participate in their assessments.
- In Senegal, Jàngandoo has started to use social media in its campaign.
- ASER Pakistan started a campaign called ‘Politicians Knocking on Doors.’
- In both India and Pakistan, there have been promising efforts to work collaboratively with state and local education officials to use assessment results to inform the design of education programs to accelerate learning.
ASER PAKISTAN ADVOCACY CAMPAIGN

A STORY OF PARTNERSHIPS AND CITIZEN PARTICIPATION
Communicating ASER: The Advocacy Model

Village
- Village baithak (Community gatherings)
- Mobilize citizens.
- Targets teachers, parents, government field officers.

District
- District Seminar /launch based on ASER findings
- Civil society coalitions for Education Development
- Demand for quality education generated through advocacy & action posters
- District Report Cards

Provincial/State
- Provincial Seminar/launch
- Departmental briefings based on ASER data
- Policy seminars/dialogues – thematic e.g. OOSC/Gender

National
- National Launch on ASER Findings
- Briefing to Research institution i.e. SDPI, Jinnah institute, PMIU, etc.
- And many more

Global Influencing Post 2015 Agenda through LMTF, Advisory Board Meeting etc.

Media Partners:
- Newspaper
- TV campaigns
- Social Media
  - Face book
  - Twitter
  - Policy booklets
  - Friends of ASER
  - Presentations
  - Media Kits

Global Influencing Post 2015 Agenda through LMTF, Advisory Board Meeting etc.
Citizens Involved in Research & Advocacy

- Policy Briefs
- Posters
- District Report Cards
- ASER Baithaks (Community Gatherings)
- Videos: Politicians Knocking on the Door for Education
- Media Coverage

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Right to Education, Advocates for education

**Policy Dialogues:** A series of Dialogues were held across Pakistan to highlight and understand the status of RTE from the perspective of the government bodies, civil society, NGOs and all stakeholders.

**#Up4School:** Pakistan to break all records by collection 3 million signatures in support of making the Right of Education to ALL.

**Education Youth Ambassadors:** September 22nd 2014, saw the birth of the Education Youth Ambassadors in Pakistan launched in Collaboration with A World at School (AWAS), an initiative by Sir Gordon Brown, Special Envoy for Education with the UN Secretary General.

**Global Business for Coalition:** Private sector cooperation across Pakistan have joined hands under one umbrella to further the cause of education.

**Education Countdown:**
1. Provide Safe schools in emergencies
2. Stop Child Marriage
3. Abolish Child Labor
4. End discrimination against girls
5. Teacher training
Children’s Literature Festival/Teachers’ Literature Festival

16 Children’s Literature Festivals

Children’s Literature Festival

3 Teachers’ Literature Festival

CLF has been conducted in all 4 provinces

Attendance of over 335,000 children/teachers/parents

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Contribution to the FIELD!

- Large scale annual citizen led nationwide citizens’ audit of learning generate an enormous energy and synergy.
- As an evaluation of citizens, parents & government performance.
- Bring educational issues to the forefront by involving all stakeholders from local to global.
- Provide large scale data sets for research and policy communities.
- Influence actions – village - district – state national and global agendas.

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THANK YOU...!