

Thursday, October 28 Gr(1) Country Report(4)

Country Report 【Ms. Sarwat Hassan/Pakistan】

The contents include socio-economic issues, education in Pakistan, key issues in the education system, and so on.

Pakistan is in South Asia bordering India, China, and Iran. Pakistan is still a developing country with a population of 127,962,000. The population is increasing day by day. Major crops of Pakistan are wheat, rice, maize, grams, cotton, etc. The country's main issues are overpopulation, illiteracy, unemployment, child labor, corruption, lack of rules and law, nepotism, violence and terrorism, gender discrimination, injustice, illegal drug usage, slow judicial process, poor health facilities, social and economic inequality, inflation, water and food crises, and future energy crises. The literacy rate is 60% in 2015. The gender gap is large.

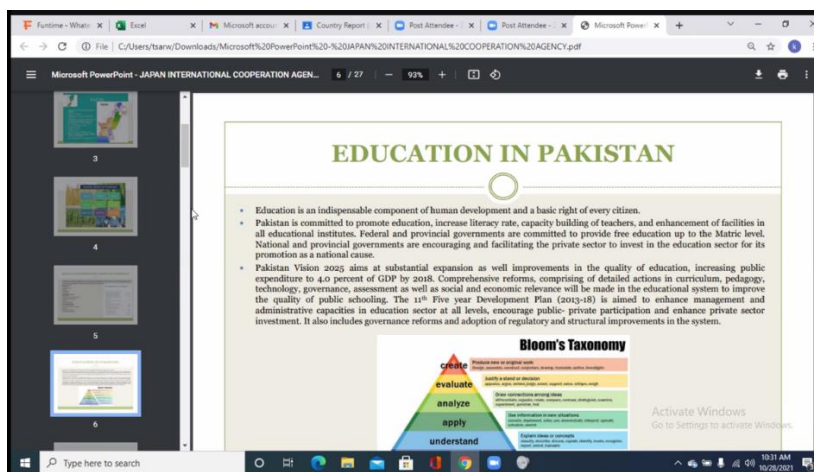
According to the National education policy 1947, education focuses on Islamic ideology, social democracy, and character building. The newest one, National Education Policy 2009, also mentions equality, social cohesion, and sustainable development.

Key issues in education are out-of-school children and to ensure that enrolled children's completion. There are the public sector, private sector, and Madrassah. Education priority is on to decrease out-of-school children and increase the completion rate.

During COVID-19, they are offering distance learning channels and focusing on vulnerable population.

Free education, scholarships, promoting parent involvement, practical education, career counseling, removing rata system (drilling), free teacher qualification and training, teacher training center, standard syllabus, proper planning, enhancing budget, freelancing, and focusing on classroom teaching are suggested.

The presentation was organized. In the question-and-answer session, she was asked about the situation and the difference between Bangladesh as it was a part of Pakistan before. Also, the trainee from Papua New Genia shared how they deal with the problem of nepotism especially on the entrance of higher education.



Thursday, October 28 Gr(2) Country Report(4)

We had a country report on Burkina Faso and a Q&A session. It was mentioned that there is a need for distance education for accessibility of education. However, there were times when communication was difficult due to poor communication conditions, and the training made us realize how difficult it is to spread online education.

Burkina Faso is the 182nd developing country out of 189 countries in the world, and it is facing the challenges of population growth and poverty. In terms of education in Burkina Faso, there are difficulties in accessing school education due to the increase in population. In addition to that, there are issues with literacy. There is also a large problem of inequality in education, with many children from poor families and girls unable to go to school, and a large disparity between urban and rural areas. The quality of education is also an issue due to inadequate educational curricula, educational resources, and educational methods. Because of this situation, educational policies have been implemented to increase the number of schools, guarantee the quality of education, and improve the accessibility of schools. The reforms include changing the curriculum to one based on student empowerment and promoting distance and inclusive education, promoting education to children aged 3-5 years old and providing food through canteens.

After this presentation, participants asked what the merit and demerit are of implementing distance education in Burkina Faso, considering the current situation of COVID-19, and what effects are expected from an educational environment that flexibly combines formal and non-formal education. In this session questions were answered using chat and other means because of problem about communication environment, and a full exchange of opinions was possible.



The image shows a presentation slide with a black border. At the top, there is a grey rectangular box containing the title "On-going Reforms" in black text. Below the title, there is a green rectangular box containing a bulleted list of reforms. The list includes: "« Free education » to cover pre-school level (3-5 years old children);", "Canteen reinforcement;", "Competency-based curriculum reforms;", "Student-centered pedagogies;", "Emergency education ;", "Inclusive school reforms;", "Distance learning reforms;", and "Flexible school system between formal and non-formal,".