



Islamic Development Bank
Together We Build A Better Future

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

Islamic Solidarity Fund for Development

Vocational Literacy Program For Poverty Reduction

COMCEC 25th FOLLOW-UP MEETING

IZMIR, TURKEY – MAY 2009

Contents

Vocational Literacy Program
For
Poverty Reduction

An Initiative for

Islamic Partnership
On
Literacy and Poverty Reduction

Abstract

Program

- ❖ Program of US\$500 million
- ❖ Five Years implementation

Goals

Address two key gaps facing poor illiterate families :

- ❖ a gap in knowledge
- ❖ a gap in the access to financial services

Target

- ❖ Reach about 2.1 million people in OIC countries, out of which about 25 percent through individuals or organizations will have access to micro-financing

Resource Mobilization

- ❖ The Board of Directors of the Islamic Solidarity Fund for Development (ISFD) earmarked US\$100 million as seed money for the financing of VOLIP

US\$400 million to be mobilized

Framework

**OIC Summit
(Makkah Al-
Mukarramah
(December 2005)**



**Islamic Solidarity
Fund for development
(May 2007)**



VOLIP

**IDB 1440H Vision
2006**



**IDB Policy Paper on
Poverty Reduction
(April 2007)**



Status of Illiteracy in OIC Countries

Main Characteristics

- ❖ Overall situation
- ❖ Sub Saharan Africa
- ❖ Youth literacy

Overall situation in OIC countries

- ❖ High incidence of illiteracy (32%)
- ❖ Majority of the countries remain far from achieving the core Education MDGs
- ❖ 60% of the 30 countries with the Lowest Education Development Index are IDB member countries

Sub Saharan Africa

- ❖ Average primary education net enrollment in Sub-Saharan Africa is hardly 64% (VS 94% of Northern Africa)
- ❖ Girls represents 60% of the out of school children
- ❖ SSA concentrates 40% of the out of school population (VS 15% of MENA)

Youth Literacy

- ❖ More than 36 million youth aged 15-24 years are illiterate
- ❖ 63% of the illiterate population are female

The ISFD Approach

Innovation

To implement the directives of the OIC 3rd Extraordinary Summit, the Islamic Solidarity Fund for Development (ISFD) developed an innovative literacy program to address two main gaps facing the poor illiterate families:

- ❖ Knowledge Gap
- ❖ *Gap in access to financial services*

Knowledge

- ❖ Focus on children and adults who have so to speak "missed the boat"
- ❖ Combining a package that aims to benefit a whole family, creating synergy and adding to intra family incentives to learn

Access to financial services

- ❖ Combining literacy training with access to micro-finance programs to adults in families
- ❖ providing qualified adults with training to use micro-finance productively to both raise and reduce volatility in their incomes

The ISFD Approach

Objectives

The main objective of the Program is to reduce poverty, particularly among women and the rural populations by equipping them with relevant functional literacy competencies and notional skills while giving them access to microfinance schemes, in order to enable them to improve their own development.

The Program will Contribute to the attainment of three major MDGs:

- ❖ Achieve Universal Primary Education
- ❖ Empower Women & Promote Equality
- ❖ Eradicate extreme Poverty and Hunger

Universal Primary Education

Providing non formal education and literacy programs to women and men

Women Empowerment

Providing tailored literacy program to women workers and by increasing their economic role

Extreme Poverty and Hunger

Achieving full and productive employment and decent work for all (including Women and Youth)

The ISFD Approach

Beneficiaries

➔ ***Low Education MDGs performers***

- ➔ Countries with low chance of achieving the goal
- ➔ Post conflict and fragile countries at risk
- ➔ Medium chance of achieving the goal

➔ ***Countries with large number of illiterate***

- ➔ Countries which have made progress in formal education but with large size of illiterate population (more than 5 million)

The ISFD Approach

Sub-Programs

Out of school Children

- ➔ Train **200,000** out of school children in the 9-15 age group
- ➔ Give a second chance to school- drop-outs without acceptable literacy competencies;
- ➔ Provide training opportunity to children who never attended schools

Women Workers Groups

- ➔ Provide functional literacy competencies to **500,000** women workers
- ➔ Improve Skills & Knowledge
- ➔ Provide 50% access working capital or light investment financings

Teenagers and young adults

- ➔ Give an acceptable level of notional literacy
- ➔ Target : **400,000** teens & young adults
- ➔ 60 % of the trainees to be assisted through micro finance

Adult Groups

- ➔ Provide literacy program to **9 countries** with large numbers of illiterate people (+ 5 million each)
- ➔ Target : **one million people**

Micro Finance

- ➔ More than **500,000** individuals through organizations will have access to micro financing

The ISFD Approach

Ways of Achievement

In partnership with local communities, NGOs, organized groups and associations, the private sector and government concerned entities, the Program will be implemented as follows:

- ➔ **A first batch of countries (4/5) selected according to the approach described above**
- ➔ **An illiteracy mapping carried out within each of the selected countries, in parallel with a Country Poverty Assessment (CPA)**
- ➔ **Regions within the country selected based on the illiteracy map and the CPA results**
- ➔ **Results of the exercise shared with all partners and stakeholders who will be invited to join the program**
- ➔ **Monitoring and evaluation process systematically carried out through implementation period**
- ➔ **Close Follow-Up of Trainees being absorbed for professional activities (self employment or organized groups, or employees) into the Market**
- ➔ **The program revised taking into consideration lessons learned from the pilot phase**
- ➔ **The program duplicated to other IDB member countries**

First Bach

Senegal

Niger

Mauritania

Yemen

Resource Mobilization

Given:

- the consistency of the Vocational Literacy Program with the directive of the 3rd Extraordinary OIC Summit, the IDB 1440H vision, the ISFD goals, the MDGs; and
- the innovative nature of this program aiming at simultaneously addressing the two key gaps facing poor illiterate families (i.e.: gap in skills & knowledge and gap in the access to financing)

➔ ISFD has earmarked US\$ 100 million to participate in the financing of the program (US\$500 million)

➔ ISFD is calling for an Islamic Partnership and Alliances on Vocational Literacy and for Poverty reduction

➔ ISFD appeals to the OIC Member Countries, Private Economic Operators, International Organizations & Foundations and Individuals to mobilize additional resources for the program

MERCI

Thank you

شكرا على حسن استماعكم