

## Early Childhood Development (ECD) Centers “SANJAH VEHRA/PANJHO VEHRO” or “OUR COURTYARD” in flood affected areas of Punjab & Sindh



دبي العطاء  
Dubai Cares



“SANJAH VEHRA” (SV) or PANJHO VEHRO (PV) means an *abode of peace, child protection and development, ownership, community participation and women's empowerment; a holistic approach for strong early foundations & learning for children* SV/PV are community based units catering to children (6 months to 4 +years) and their mothers, embedded in maternal and child health, nutrition, learning stimulation, strong parenting, and social support.

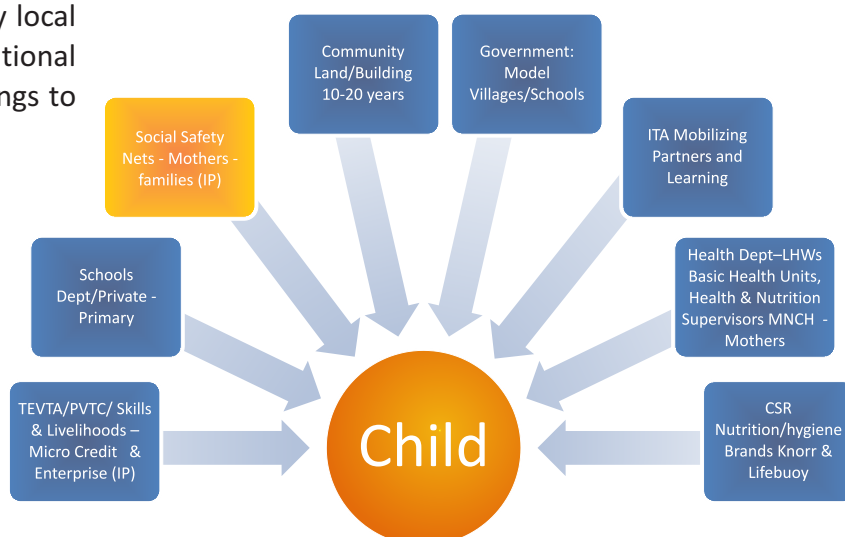
Under the Dubai Cares project, “Promoting Education in Flood Affected Areas”, ITA has established 15 innovative comprehensive ECD day care centres catering to 3000 children and their mothers in Muzaffargarh and Rahim Yar Khan districts in Punjab, and Shikarpur District in Sindh. ECD day care centres are locally known as “**Sanjha Vehrah**” in Punjab, and “**Panjho Vehro**” in Sindh.

Each ECD day care centre is provided two trained ECD facilitators and local Lady Health Workers (LHW) to ensure the ready availability to children's health, growth monitoring, nutrition and learning stimulation. The center offers rural children a safe learning environment, equipped with age and developmentally appropriate furniture, swings and teaching learning materials (TLMs). Above all, a safe space allows mothers to return to work in the fields, brick kilns, rebuilding homes and reconstructing their lives.

ECD day care centre is a cost effective **sustainable intervention**: the building is provided by the local community or the government, and is managed by local 'Mothers Committees'. In some of the centres vocational training is also extended to mothers / female siblings to empower them with skills and livelihood options.

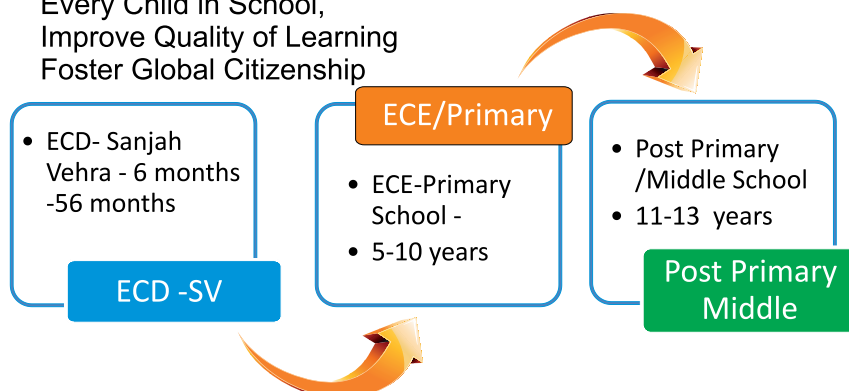


### Sanjah Vehra / Panjho Vehro (SV/PV) Unique Partnerships for the Child



## Transitions: ECD – Primary & Post Primary School Catching Early: 3 Pillars of Education First Initiative

Every Child in School,  
Improve Quality of Learning  
Foster Global Citizenship



**Sanjah Vehra - connecting families, communities and learning**

### SV/PV – ECD Achievements at a Glance:

- Maintenance of proper Birth & Immunization records of Children and Mothers
- Proper monitoring of growth record of the enrolled children at ECD Day Care Centres; regularly screening by local lady health workers (LHW) and doctors (private/from BHUs)
- Weekly provision of Nutritious Food (prepared in attached Kitchen)for children with demonstration to mothers and caregivers
- Right Based – gender empowerment sessions for community mothers
- Awareness sessions by LHWs on health & hygiene, nutritional needs, preventive health, reproductive and maternal health
- Caretaking of children in safe hands and space at SV while their mothers are away at work
- Development of learning readiness & numeracy using interactive nurturing techniques for children ages 2 years or more
- Timely enrollment in nearby schools that are also supported by the Dubai Cares WSIP program in flood affected areas

85% of the SVs' graduates when mainstreamed in formal schools were found better equipped for learning. Women are sharing economic burden of their households and taking part in household decisions after being trained and empowered with certified vocational skills at SVs.

Idara-e-Taleem-o-Aagahi (ITA) aims at expanding the network of its ECD Day Care Centre across the villages and slums of Pakistan as it is the only integrated community based and sustainable solution to address the needs of the ECCE age group (0-8 years) and young caregivers.

Nearby government schools are also partnered under the Whole School Improvement Program (WSIP) of ITA with the support of Dubai Cares in order to ensure timely mainstreaming of children from SVs / PVs into well functioning schools so that they may transit from pre primary to primary education with assured learning outcomes.

Districts	ECD Centers	Beneficiaries and Staff
Muzaffargarh	07	Children = 1400-1600 ; Mothers = 700 Staff : 6 (Centre Manager, Lady Health Worker & Teachers)
Rahim Yar Khan	04	Children = 800 -1000 ; Mothers = 400 Staff : 6 (Centre Manager, Lady Health Worker & Teachers)
Shikarpur	04	Children: 800 -1000; Mothers: 400 Staff : 6 (Centre Manager, Lady Health Worker & Teachers)

