

**Press Release**  
**City District Rawalpindi Provided Training for Early  
Childhood Education (ECE) - Through Public Private  
Partnership - A new beginning for foundational learning**

Idara Taleem o Aagahi (ITA) organized a set of trainings for teachers of Early Childhood Education (ECE) in multiple venues across various tehsils of Rawalpindi District from November 16-20, 2009. The endeavour was supported by the Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) department of Unilever Pakistan. The selection of venues and nomination of participants was done with the cooperation of EDO Rawalpindi District, Mr Malik Muhammad Ashraf, his team and Mrs. Nabila., Deputy Director Planning, Directorate of Staff Development(DSD), the apex Government in-service training institutions. All trainings were held at the Cluster Teacher Support Centres (CTSCs) located in government high schools at the four locations.

These two day trainings were held in clusters. Trainings were conducted at Rawalpindi city, Taxilla, Gujjar Khan and Murree tehsils and were attended by a total of 200 participants. All the participants represented government schools. The participants were nominated from separate schools so that each one could share their new learning with their colleagues to have a far reaching multiplier effect. Each participant also received an ECE learning kit along with the ECE Curriculum and guidelines, aimed at young learners and their needs. This colorful assortment of hands-on learning material will help the students of pre-school or *Katchi* learn counting, names of vegetables, fruits and vegetables, Urdu and English alphabet, pictorial story books.

The training content was developed on the basis of the new ECE National Curriculum 2007 by ITA's teams led by Ms. Razia Mughal; all the topics were aligned with the expected learner outcomes stated in the National Curriculum. The trainers were experienced experts and practioners in the field of ECE and training. Using interactive strategies, they spoke about the significance of ECE, Key learning areas, competencies and expected learning outcomes for ECE, age-appropriate assessment techniques and guidelines for effective implementation of quality ECE in the classrooms. .

The response from the participants was overwhelming. There were requests for more such trainings through partnerships as all the concepts were new for the attending teachers, shared in highly child-centric approaches.