

Non-state Providers and Public-private Partnerships in Education for the Poor

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Context

EDUCATION AND THE OBLIGATIONS OF THE STATE

Historically, most social services (incl education) were supplied by the private sector, and for the very poor, faith-based organizations.

With development, education as a human right:

- Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948)
- Convention Against Discrimination in Education (1960)
- Convention on the Rights of the Child (1989)
- Education for All (1990, 2000)
- Millennium Declaration (2000)

International conventions and commitments provide legitimate legal basis to assert the State as the ultimate guarantor of the right to education.

“Parents have a prior right to choose the kind of education that shall be given to their children.”

– Universal Declaration of Human Rights, 1948

ROLE OF STATE IN EDUCATION

To meet commitments, CRC calls for governments need to *respect* and *protect* and *fulfill* rights.

Possible roles that governments can play in the education sector:

- Provider (e.g., public schools)
- Funder/Purchaser (e.g. grants, scholarships, purchaser of educational services..)
- Regulator/enabler (thru regulatory policies, support to non-state providers thru incentives...)

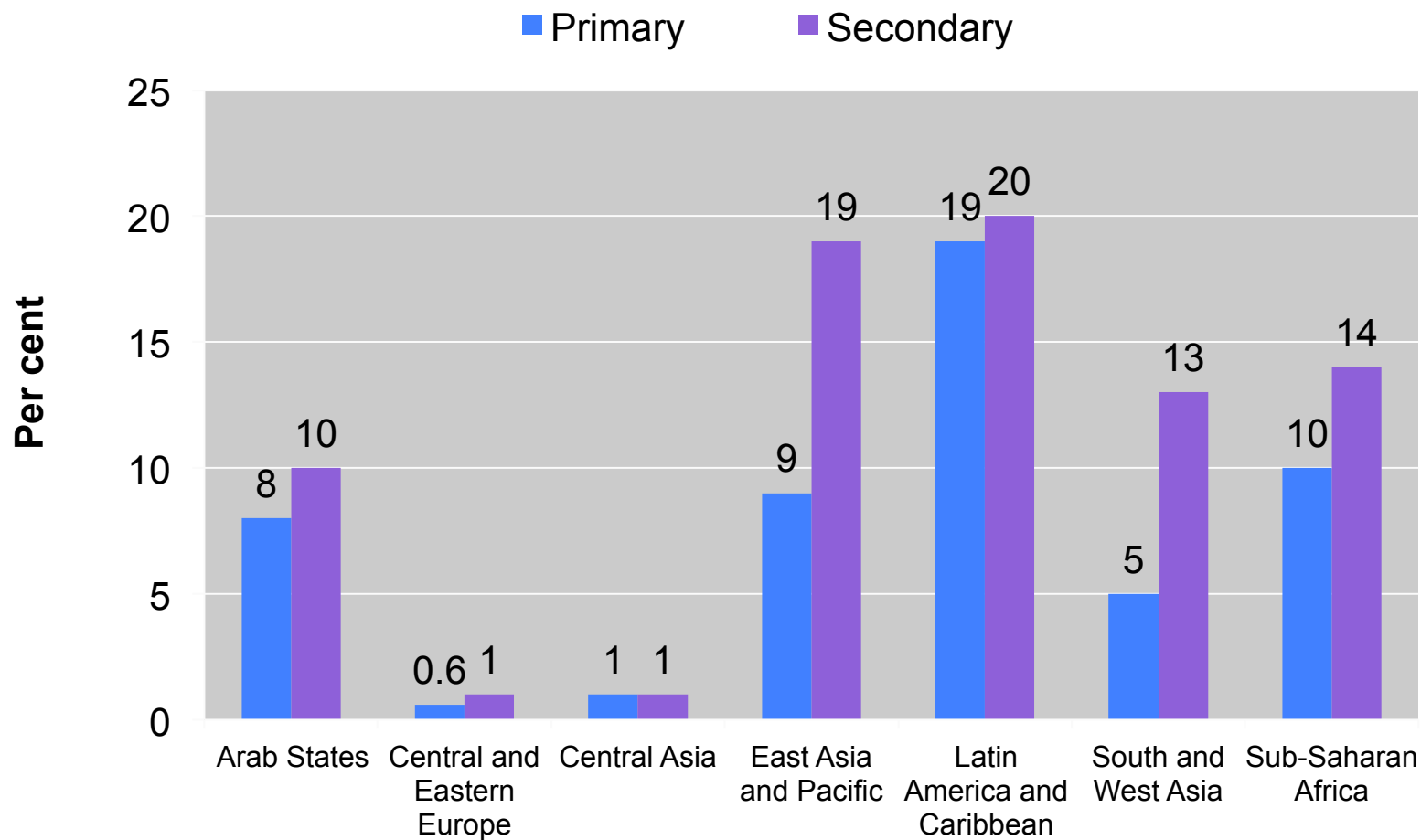
State's role in ensuring the right to education can involve regulation and funding –not necessarily direct provision.

No education system is fully provided by the State.

NON-STATE PROVIDERS IN EDUCATION

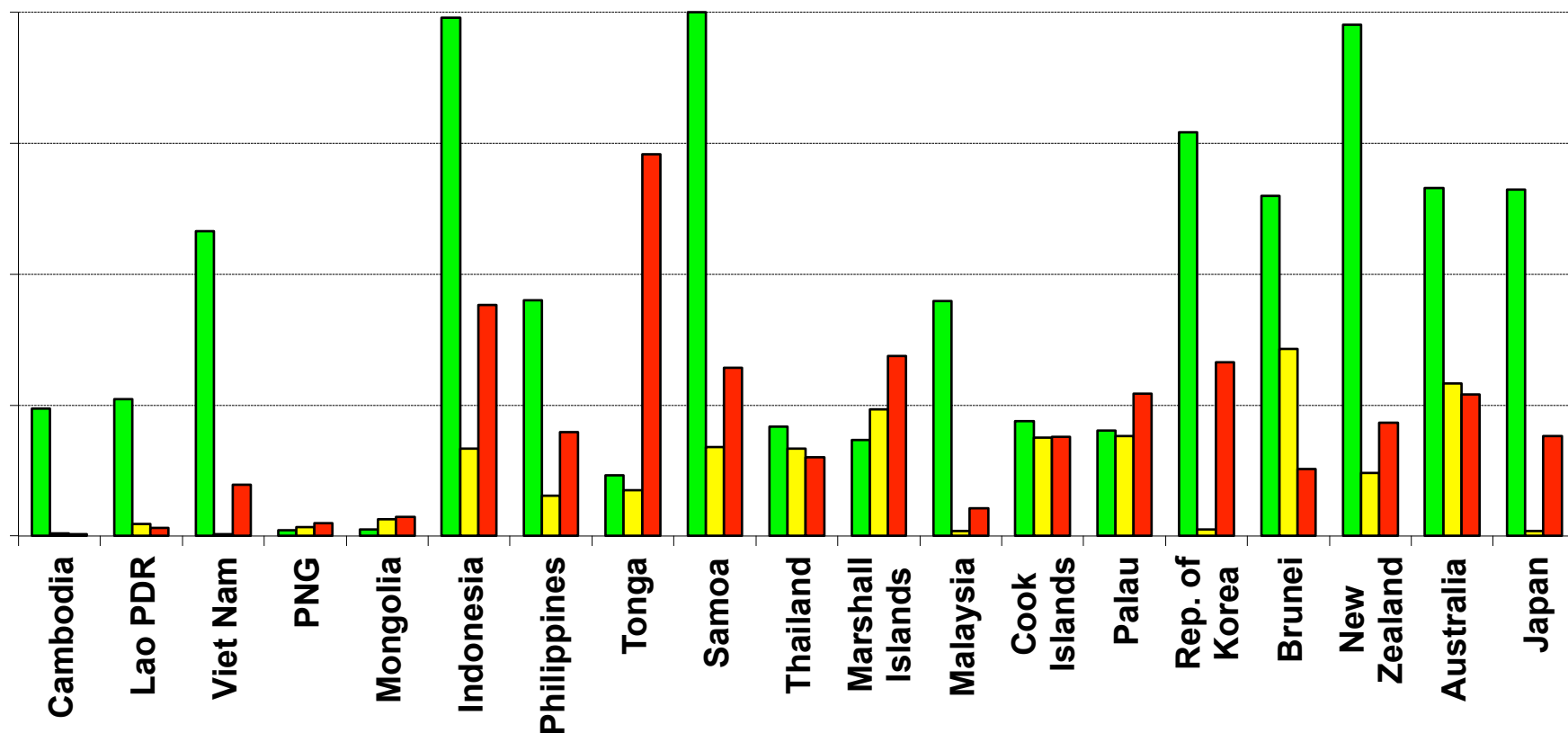
- **Play an important (and growing) role in the delivery of education across the Asia Pacific**
- **Fill critical gaps in access, quality and equity in educational opportunities**
- **Non-state schools often preferred or only available provider of education services to the poor and disadvantaged:**
 - **For-profits**
 - **NGO schools**
 - **Community schools**
 - **Faith-based schools.**

PRIVATE ENROLLMENT SHARE, BY REGION, 2007



Private Enrolments as a Share of Total Enrolments, East Asia and the Pacific, 2007

■ Pre-primary ■ Primary ■ Secondary



PRIVATE SCHOOLS FOR THE POOR?

- **Private schools are not the exclusive privilege of the wealthy - increasing evidence they serve poor and disadvantaged populations:**
 - 37% of children from lowest income quintile were in private schools in Lahore (Alderman et al, 2001)
 - Private schools provide education alternatives for the poor and those in remote areas in Indonesia (Postiglione and Tan, 2007)
 - Private schools make up 65.1% to 74.7% of schools serving the poor in Hyderabad (Tooley and Dixon, 2005)
 - Significance of low-fee private schools in poor areas of South Africa (Center for Development and Enterprise, 2010).

“The notion that private schools are servicing the needs of a small minority of wealthy parents is misplaced.”

– *Oxfam Education Report, 2000*

The Role of PPPs in Education

BASICS OF PPPs

- **Key Elements:**
 - Formal arrangement between public and private sectors
 - Private financing and/or private delivery of public services
 - Ultimate responsibility remains with public sector
 - Arrangement often based on explicit contract
 - Focus on service delivery and outputs/outcomes, not inputs
 - Sharing of risks/rewards between public and private sectors.

Partnerships widely used, with a range of objectives – improving efficiency, quality and access.

CLASSIFYING PARTNERSHIPS IN BASIC EDUCATION (1)

- **Many ways of classifying partnerships in basic education. One classification is as follows:**
 - Education service delivery programs
 - Demand-side financing programs
 - Infrastructure PPPs
 - Education support initiatives
 - Philanthropic activities/Multi-stakeholder partnerships.

EXAMPLES OF PARTNERSHIPS IN EDUCATION

Partnership Type	Examples
Contracting for the Delivery of Education Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Government Sponsorship of Private School Students, Cote d'Ivoire• Educational Services Contracting, Philippines• Alternative Education, New Zealand• Fe y Alegria, South America• Foundation Assisted Schools, Punjab (Pakistan)• Universal Secondary Education, Uganda
Private Management of Public Schools	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Concession Schools (Bogota), Colombia• Railways Schools/Management of Government Schools Lahore/Developments in Learning, Pakistan• Independent Schools, Qatar• Contract schools and Charter Schools, USA• Transformed Schools, China
Infrastructure PPPs	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Private Finance Initiative, UK• Leasing of Public Schools to Private Operators, Pakistan• School Private Finance Projects, Australia, Canada, Germany, New Zealand• Build Transfer Lease Scheme, South Korea• PPP for New Schools, Egypt

EXAMPLES OF EDUCATION PARTNERSHIPS (CONT'D)

Partnership Type	Examples
Adopt-a-School Initiatives	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sindh Education Foundation (Sindh), Pakistan• National Education Foundation, Pakistan• Adopt-a-School Program, Philippines• Pakistan Centre for Philanthropy, Pakistan
Adopt-a-School and School Management Programs	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• CDG Lahore/CARE, Pakistan• Developments in Literacy/Various Providers, Pakistan
Vouchers/Subsidies	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• PACES voucher program, Colombia• Voucher scheme, Chile• Private school subsidies, Cote d'Ivoire• School funding system, the Netherlands• Voucher system, Sweden• Milwaukee Parental Choice Program, USA• Voucher scheme, Qatar• Punjab Education Foundation programs, Pakistan• State tax credit programs, USA

EXAMPLES OF PARTNERSHIPS IN EDUCATION (CONT'D)

Partnership Type	Examples
Education Support Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Private sector school review, UK, Dubai, Thailand, Abu Dhabi• Private sector accreditation services, Philippines• School testing services, USA and Philippines• Private sector teacher training, Bangladesh and Pakistan
Philanthropic Initiatives	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• WWF Global Education Initiative – Jordan, India, Egypt, Palestinian National Authority• Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation• Synergeia, Philippines• Academies Program, UK• League of Corporate Foundations, Philippines• Charter School Growth Fund, USA• School construction, Philippines

Classifying Partnerships in Basic Education (2)

Also, non-state provider assistance to public schools, public assistance to non-state providers, etc.

Partner to support the State	Partner supported by the State
Deliver teacher training for the State	Receive teacher training from the State
Develop curriculum, textbooks and reading materials for the State	Receive free textbooks and reading materials from the State
Assist the State in inspecting and monitoring schools	Special policies to govern standards and registration of private schools targeting the poor/disadvantaged
Private schools required to provide free seats to disadvantaged children	Private schools receive State stipend per poor/disadvantaged children enrolled
Contractors responsible for repairing schools and constructing toilets/water facilities	Private schools eligible for free water/toilet facilities if 50% of students are from disadvantaged groups



Making Public-private Partnerships Work for the Disadvantaged

COMMON WEAKNESSES IN THE POLICY ENVIRONMENT FOR NON-STATE SCHOOLS

- **Lack of legal recognition for non-state schools.**
- **School registration criteria and processes often limit scope for establishment of new schools:**
 - Unrealistic establishment criteria (eg. Infrastructure, land area)
 - Unclear link between regulation and better outcomes
 - Cumbersome and non-transparent registration and other processes
 - Corruption and subjective enforcement of regulation
- **Absence of funding for private school students.**

Hence, disproportionate impact on the educational opportunities of the poor by driving out many schools serving them

IMPROVING THE POLICY ENVIRONMENT FOR NON-STATE SCHOOLS

- Legal recognition of non-state providers.
- Clear regulatory framework that satisfy the basic objectives of autonomy and accountability for protection of best interest of children
- Better information on school performance.
- Explore use of public-private partnerships, including funding for non-state schools, government contracting and private management of public schools.
- Incentives for philanthropy.

SUMMARY

- **Non-state providers plays a crucial role in providing education to the poor, with potential to improve access, efficiency and quality of learning for the marginalized.**
- **Governments must deliver on their commitments to protect the basic rights to education for all, and they can do so by regulating and enabling education, rather than necessarily provide it.**
- **Good policy design can facilitate contribution from the private sector in education.**
- **Many PPP options to encourage, support and benefit from the involvement of non-state providers in education**

“It doesn’t matter if a cat is black or white, as long as it catches mice.”

- Deng Xiaoping

THANK YOU

FOR COMMENTS AND
INQUIRIES, CONTACT
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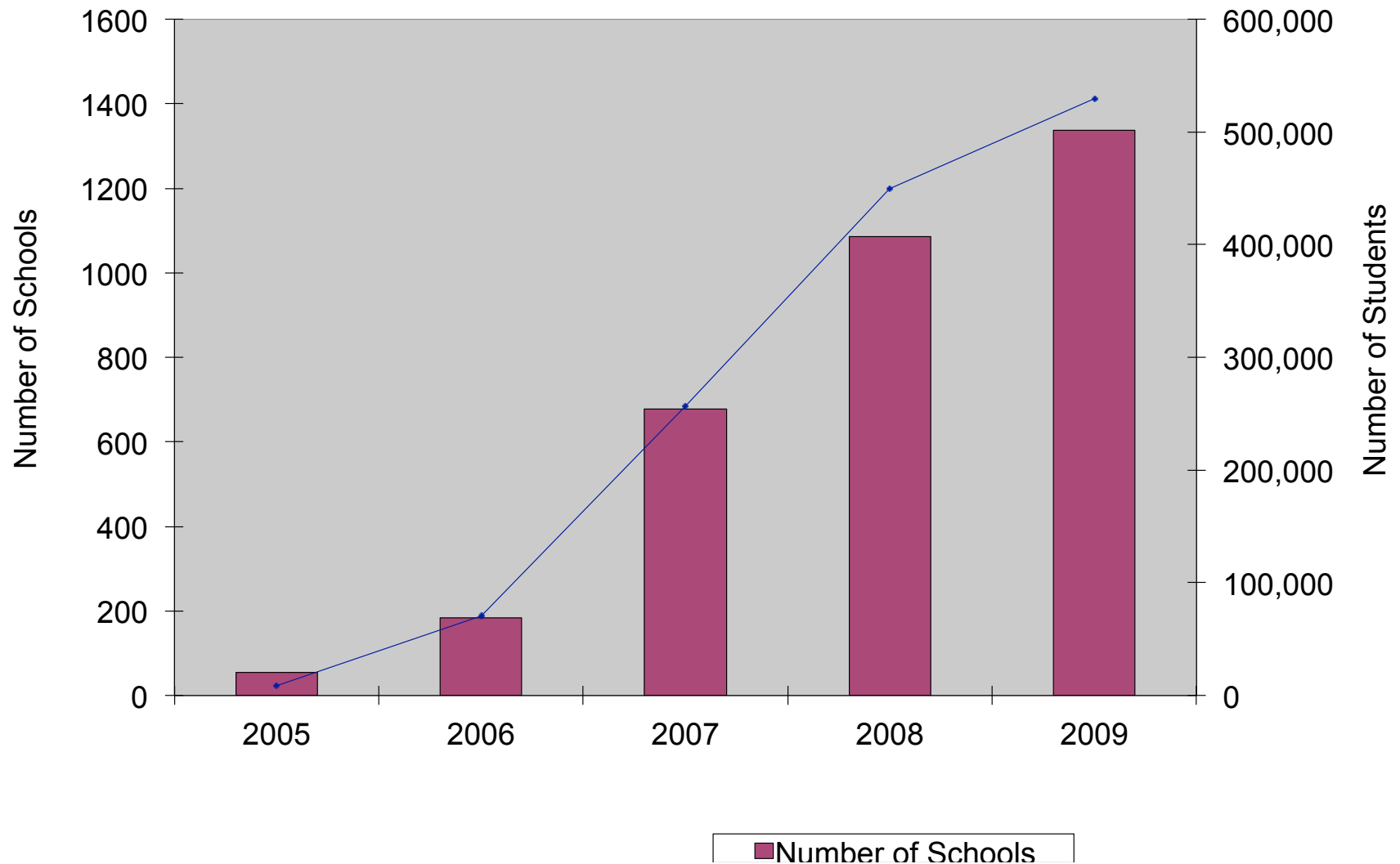


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FOUNDATION ASSISTED SCHOOLS PROGRAM, PUNJAB (PAKISTAN)



ESC RECIPIENTS AND SCHOOLS, 1986/87-2005/06

