Imdad Baloch

Contact Detail:

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Professional Skills:

Soft Skills
Teamwork, Time Management, Mentoring, leadership skills and communication, Interpersonal skills, Smart decision-making through analysis and judgement, Flexibility, Adaptability and Empathy, Professional Work ethics.

Digital Skills
MS Office Packages,
Data Analysis and Visualization (Stata, Power BI, Tableau),
Instructional Design (Storyline 360, Abode Captivate 19),
Collaborative Tools: G-suite Application, MS Team, Adobe Suite,

Research and Referencing tools:
Nvivo and Zotero

Language Skills

Fluent in English & Urdu/ Hindi, Sindhi, Saraiki, Balochi; Mediocre in Punjab and Pashto.

Profile Summary

Imdad Baloch is a seasoned professional with over 20 years of experience in education and international development, specializing in the design and implementation of large-scale educational projects. His expertise spans across pre-K, primary, and higher education, with a particular focus on girls' education, vocational training, and EdTech initiatives. He has held key leadership positions, including his current role as a Doctoral Fellow in International Education Policy at the University of Maryland and his role as Country Co-Lead & EdTech Specialist with EdTech Hub, where he has been instrumental in providing strategic advice and developing research-based guidance for low- and middle-income countries.

Throughout his career, Imdad has collaborated with global organizations such as USAID, FCDO,the World Bank, and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, contributing to various high-impact projects. His professional background showcases his leadership roles in various organizations, including EdTech Hub, RTI International, World Learning, Education Development Center, American Institutes for Research, Save the Children International, and Aga Khan Foundation. His work with these organizations and among others, highlights his ability to lead complex educational initiatives and produce valuable research outputs that inform policy and practice.

Imdad has also played a crucial role in advancing education policy reforms in Pakistan, leveraging his deep understanding of local education systems to drive meaningful change.

His contributions to the field are further evidenced by his numerous publications, which focus on the intersection of education technology and policy, particularly in challenging contexts such as Pakistan. With a strong foundation in both practical and theoretical aspects of education, Imdad is well-positioned to continue influencing education policy and development on a global scale.

Education

- PhD. University of Maryland, College Park, MD, USA (2023-2028)
- MA in Education and International Development, IOE-University College London, UK, Sep 2008.
- Master in (Teacher Education), Institute for Educational Development, The Aga Khan University, Karachi, 2003.
- BS in Computer Technology, Institute of Physics and Technology, University of Sindh, 1996

Certificate:

- Certificate in Dimensions of Teacher Policy-The World Bank (May-June 2014)
- STEM Education Fellow (International Visitor Leadership Program), Department of State, United States, 2010
- Certificate in Educational Leadership and Management, Institute for Educational Development, The Aga Khan University, Karachi, Jul 2000

PhD. (International Education Policy)   August 2023-May-2028
University of Maryland, College Park, MD, USA
Graduate Assistant II – (August 2023-July 2025 & June 2025 -May 2026)
- Assisting faculty in finding teaching resources involves identifying relevant literature, connecting with experts, and refining research proposals.
- Assisting program faculty in reviewing admission applications as well as promoting, scheduling, and organizing professional seminars, guest speaker events, and other social and professional networking opportunities.coming students
- Managing employer relations for compiling and sharing assistantship/ fellowship opportunities for new incoming students
- Mentoring new incoming students and participating in departmental meetings.
- Designed. Developed and maintained the database of International Education Policy Program graduate students and alumni.

Researcher- Autism, Family, Culture, and Communication Education Lab (ACCEL) research lab, Oct 2024-June 2026
- As a graduate student, I contributed to the successful submission of a research proposal on Asian American Families with Autism.
- Contribute to the execution of the research activities that included devising a research plan, research tools, data collection, clearing, organizing, analyzing and writing research report.

Research Lab Manager   January 2025-August 2025
University of Maryland, College Park, MD, USA

- Served as a manager for Autism, Family, Culture, and Communication Education Lab (ACCEL) research lab. My responsibilities included cleaning, organizing, analyzing, categorizing, and thematizing qualitative and quantitative research data. I was also responsible for mentoring and supporting a team of undergraduate and graduate research assistants in cleaning, organizing, and analyzing research data (quantitative and qualitative). I also assisted the professor by contributing to the write-up of research journal articles, research grants, and conference proposals/abstract submissions.

President- Education in Conflicts and Emergencies   August 2024-July 2025
(UMD-Students Organization)

- Provided leadership for the organization's plans and activities
- led a team of graduate and undergraduate students to realize the vision and mission of the organization
- Successfully prepared and submitted a grant proposal for funding.
- Executed the grant successfully and prepared and submitted the grant's completion report.

Country Co-Lead & EdTech Specialist   May, 2020 to Present
EdTech Hub (Results for Development)   Islamabad, Pakistan
- Prepare policy, research or practitioner briefs, guidance documents, summaries of evidence, and blog posts on commonly asked questions related to EdTech.
- Provide expert advice (for now, via phone and video consultations, and when safe, in-person) to low- and middle-income country governments on EdTech issues.
- Provide expert advice to innovators that are testing interventions using technology.
- Prepare guidance materials or draft strategies and related policy advice related to EdTech for country governments.
- Lead or contribute to research at the country level, including design of contextually relevant research, management of research teams, identification and screening of pertinent literature, analysis, and report/ paper writing.

Advisor (Consultant)-USAID-ILOA   **Feb 2023 - Apr 2023**
International Rescue Committee ·   **Islamabad, Pakistan**
- A key member of the research team conducted the scan of the Basic Education Sector (pre-primary, primary and secondary) in Pakistan to inform the development of USAID/Pakistan new Country Development Cooperation Strategy (CDCS). The key tasks included were:
- Literature/desk review summary document/education sector assessment,
- The in-country data collection plan (including sampling of provinces, districts, and individuals).
- Data collection instruments (interview and focus discussion group guides).
- Conduct in-country data collection
- Participation in USAID/Pakistan and ILOA team briefings as needed.
- Contributing data analysis and written content for the final reporting document.
- Incorporating feedback from stakeholders

Adviser (Consultant)   **10/2021 to 02/2022**
Adam Smith International   **Islamabad, Pakistan**
- Work closely with the Technology for Teaching (T4T) team supported by the World Bank under ASPIRE
- project in collaboration with the Ministry of Federal Education and Professional Training
- Lead and deliver the landscape review for Balochistan.
- Participate in brainstorming sessions and stakeholder events as required.
- Complete a desk review of TPD programs, especially at the Balochistan level.
- Map TPD programs in regions identified in the public and private sectors.
- Undertake research and data collection in regions identified.
- Complete analysis of data.
- Lead the write-up of key deliverables related to (inception report, desk review, analytical report, case
- studies and final report).

Education Research Consultant   **11/2019 to 12/2021**
RTI-International,   **Islamabad, Pakistan**
Study-1. Learning at Scale funded by Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
Study-2. Return to Learning- A USAID Commissioned Case Study)
- Manage the entire research activity at the country level.
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- Acted as the point of contact for RTI-International at the country level for the activity.
- Managed the research firm hired to conduct the research activity in Pakistan.
- Provide overall oversight to the data collection process.
- Created and maintained cordial relations with government officials and respondents in the field.
- Maintained regular communication with the Principal Investigator.
- Supported the drafting of the case studies and developing analysis.
- Led/ Co-authored the write-up of key deliverables related to (inception report, desk review, analytical
- report, case studies and final report).
- Planned/led/Co-facilitated analysis validation workshops/presentations.

Project Lead   **06/2019 to 08/2019**
World Learning/Pakistan Reading Project   **Islamabad, Pakistan**
- Provided overall leadership to management of programs, finance, operations, procurement, IT, com- munications, and security.
- Oversight to programs and operations of Pakistan Reading Project in 20 districts of two regions of Paki-
- stan, i.e., Azad Jammu and Kashmir (AJK) and Gilgit-Baltistan (GB)
- Developed and maintained sustained relationships with key national and regional policymakers and other stakeholders, including ministerial and secretaries' level
- Led the process of co-planning and execution of project activities with government counterparts.
- Served as the face of the World Learning and Pakistan Reading Project for AJK and GB within the consortium and with counterparts
- Maintained excellent rapport with USAID, consortium partners, donor community and HQ.

Chief of Party-USAID-Advancing Girls Education and Skills   **02/2019 to 05/2019**
World Learning-   **Islamabad, Pakistan**

- Managed the entire project portfolio and served as the lead point person for the project scope of work,
- the award, and strategic partnership.
- Liaised with senior-level government officials, including secretaries and ministers.
- Led/ participated in senior and executive-level meetings and committees.
- Led the process of co-planning and execution of project activities with government counterparts and
- consortium partners.
- Provided leadership to the senior member team of the project and consortium partners.
- Managed a team of 40+ project core staff and 60+ project-affiliated staff.

Country Director-Programs and Business Development   **01/2017 to 01/2019**
World Learning   **Islamabad, Pakistan**

- Provided technical Oversight and backstopping to World Learning's country programs portfolio.
- Served on Senior Leadership Team, collaborating closely with the donors, counterparts, and consortium partners to ensure coordination, activities implementation, and management of all programmatic activities and provide approvals for field implementation plans.
- Ensured and facilitated the institutional capacity-building and structural reform initiatives guided by the clients' and donors' priorities.
- Supervised a team of Head of Offices and Technical Advisors
- Managed and mentored a department of 180+ staff.

Head of Office/Regional Director   **12/2015 to 12/2016**
World Learning   **Muzaffarabad (AJK)**

- Successfully led a large and diverse program, operations, and finance team charged with implementing the project activities in 10 districts of the AJK region.
- Established participatory accountability and efficiency framework for high-quality implementation of
- project interventions
- Acted as the Lead Point of Contact for the project in the region and the central project team
- Worked as a senior member of a number of the project's internal committees and as a key member of the project steering committee.
- Managed 120+ staff in the region and districts.

Technical Manager   **09/2013 to 11/2016**
World Learning   **Muzaffarabad (AJK)**

- Provided professional leadership to 70+ program staff supporting school/ community up to apex institution-level capacity building and reform initiatives and activities.
- Led the formulation and monitoring of region-specific project implementation framework.
- Conceptualized spelt out and got successfully implemented the project's community engagement
- strategy.
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Consultant/Coordinator- Grants   **01/2013 to 08/2013**
USAID-TEP/ Education Development Center   **Islamabad, Pakistan**

- Led sub-award grants process for seven partner organizations and 110 government higher education institutions across Pakistan.
- In coordination with HQ, led the preparation and submission of award documentation to the donor for
- final approval.
- Provided grants management oversight to the sub-awardees for successful implementation and com- pletion of sub-grants.

Provincial Manager, Assessment and Research　　　　　**10/2012 to 12/2012**
Save the Children International　　　　　　　　　　**Karachi, Pakistan**

- Led Assessment and Research component of Sindh Reading Project.
- Provided technical leadership to Assessment and Research component activities to contribute to the
- accomplishment of the project's key targets.
- Supervised and mentored the project's assessment and research team.
- Led the student baseline assessment framework design in collaboration with Save the Children Country
- Office, Technical Unit.
- Led various academic publications and the project's final write-ups and dissemination activities.

Project Manager　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　**07/2011 to 09/2012**
Save the Children International　　　　　　　　**Tharparkar, Pakistan**
- Ensured and managed resources for the institutional transformation of Thardeep Rural Development Programme (TRDP) as Children Rights focused Rural Support Program (RPS).
- Sustained strategic partnerships with government, implementing partners & external stakeholders.
- Provided technical backstopping and overall oversight of the project plans.
- Identified opportunities to enhance the implementing partner's institutional and technical capacity.
- Developed and launched advocacy programs for sustainability and scale-up of the project results.

Regional Coordinator　　　　　　　　　　　　　　**07/2010 to 06/2011**
Aga Khan Foundation and American Institutes for Research　　**Karachi, Pakistan**
- Led overall planning and implementation of a large-scale teacher mentoring program for middle-grade teachers in public sector schools of 11 districts of Sindh province.
- Initiated and technically supported institutional development interventions for apex institutions for teacher development, curriculum development and district education offices of the department of education in the project intervention districts.
- Served as the lead Point of Contact for the project activities in the project intervention areas
- Identified, built, and sustained strategic partnerships with key partners and stakeholders.
- Supervised and mentored 60+ project staff.

Project Manager ECCD and School Improvement　　　　**03/2007 to 12/2007**
Mountain Institute for Educational Development,　　　　**Mansehra, Pakistan**
- Prepared strategic project proposal, detailed implementation plan and budget;
- Responsible for the overall implementation of the establishment of 100 community-supported ECCD center
- Developed, implemented and monitored the community engagement plans.
- Developed, implemented, and monitored capacity-building plans for caregivers, community resource persons, parents and village education committees.
- Led, supported and supervised the team of 24 Teacher Educators and Community Mobilizers.
- Prepared and submitted quarterly and annual reports to donors.

Project Director/ Principal　　　　　　　　　　　　**08/1998 to 02/2007**
SMB-Quaid-e-Azam Public School (A Residential School)　　**Karachi, Pakistan**
- Provided administrative and academic leadership to teaching and non-teaching staff of the school (800 (day scholars and residential), 62 teaching staff, 25 non-teaching staff)
- Ensured school staff and students are familiar with and follow the approved policies and procedures.
- Provided capacity-building and growth opportunities to school staff and students.
- Ensured assets are safe, secure and available to staff and students for the designated purpose.
- Prepared proposals and concept notes for seeking grants.
- Attended and secured the required support from School Board Trustees, parents and civil society.
- Developed and expanded professional networking.

Tutor/District Coordniator   **09/2004 to 06/2006**
The Aga University   **Turbat, Balochistan**

- Developed district-specific professional development plans.
- Designed and implemented TNAs.
- Coordinated with the government, local NGOs and other stakeholders.
- Developed and maintained the beneficiaries' database.
- Established and provided technical support to 32 Learning Resource Centers and 43 teacher mentors.

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Professional Membership

- Member of Comparative and International Education Society (CIES), U.S.A
- Member of UKFIET- The Education and Development Forum, Oxford, UK
- Member of International Network for Education in Emergencies (INEE)
- Member of Pakistan Alliance for Early Childhood Education, Islamabad, Pakistan
- Member of Education, Leadership and Learning Theories in Asia, Karachi, Pakistan

Key Publications:

- [Improving Learning Outcomes for Asia (ILOA) Mechanism Pakistan Basic Education Sector Assessment](#)
- Learning continuity in response to climate emergencies: Pakistan's 2022 floods
- [Technical Report]
- [Considering EdTech in climate emergencies: to what extent and when is it feasibl](#)e? A Blogpost
- Technology for Teaching: Teacher Professional Development Landscape Review commissioned by the World Bank
- [Pakistan Digital Learning Landscape Analysis [](#)Technical Report] funded by UNICEF, Pakistan
- Khalayleh, A., Baloch, I., Dele-Ajayi, O., & Kaye, T. (2021). [A Monitoring and Evaluation Framework for Blended Learning: Pakistan [](#)Working Paper]. EdTech Hub.
- Baloch, I., Kaye, T., Koomar, S.& McBurnie, C. (2020). [Pakistan Distance-Learning Topic Brief: Providing Distance Learning to Hard-to-reach Children (](#)Helpdesk Response No. 16). EdTech Hub.
- Baloch, I., & Taddese, A. (2020). EdTech in Pakistan: A Rapid Scan [EdTech Hub Country Scan].
- Enhancing Science Teachers' Pedagogical Content Knowledge: Why and How? Published in Euro- Asian Journal of Applied Science (2005)