# Implementation of BLOSSOMS in Pakistan

M Kashif Farooq From

Lahore University of Management Sciences (LUMS)
Punjab Information Technology Board (PITB)

#### **Abstract**

- Background: Pakistan has heterogeneous education systems (Local & International)
- Implementation issues:
  - localization,
  - language controversy,
  - curriculum alignment,
  - implementation,
  - Assessment
  - resources
- Proposed implementation model for BLOSSOMS in Pakistan

# Generally

- Teachers are interested in using blended learning to attain a better professional profile,
- to take advantage of learning benefits offered by Information Technology (IT) but always in the context of the school culture otherwise they strongly connected to the established student examination system [1]

Ref [1]: Demetriadis, S., et al., "Cultures in negotiation": teachers' acceptance/resistance attitudes considering the infusion of technology into schools.

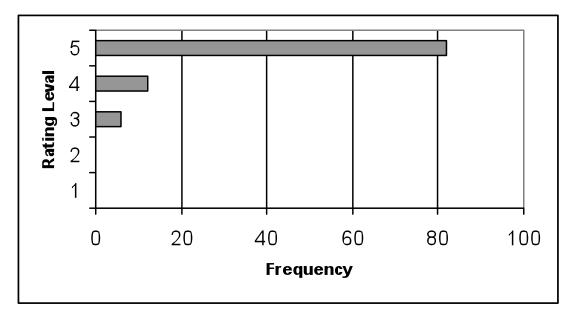
Computers & Education, 2003. 41(1): p. 19-37

# **Survey of Academic Community**

- More than 80 teachers from following various institutions participated in the workshop
- LCWU, Kinnaird College, Punjab School, Sharif Education Complex, Lahore Grammar, Beacon house, Educators, Salamat Schools System etc.
- More than 20 teachers participated virtually
- Many BLOSSOMS video-modules presented for the workshop audience

#### **Conceptual Level**

All the participants agreed on point

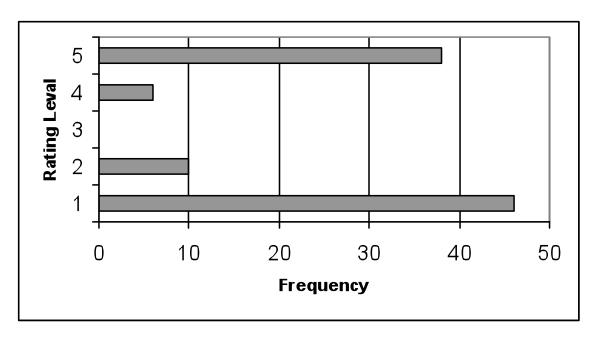


- •BLOSSOMS video modules are conceptual in nature (More than 80% people agreed )
- Higher education needs conceptual students

#### Localization

In Pakistan, there are two systems of education

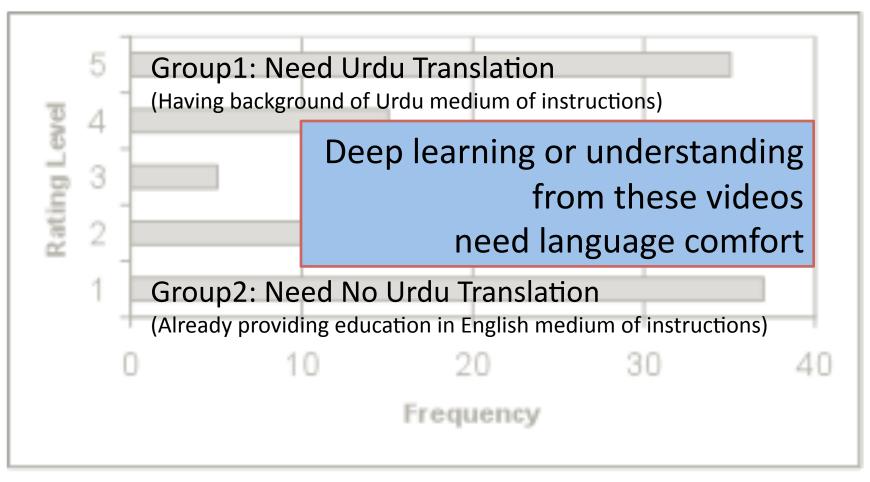
- •O & A-Level (international)
- Matric & FSc (local)



**Need of Localization** 

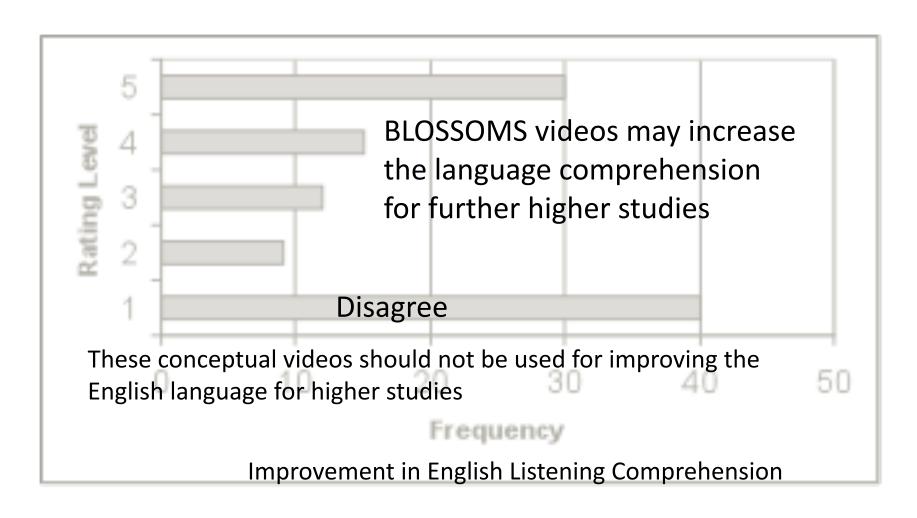
- Stronger group believes that there is no need of localization
- People belong to international system are used to foreign education system while
- other people related to local system have their own apprehensions.

#### **Language Barrier**

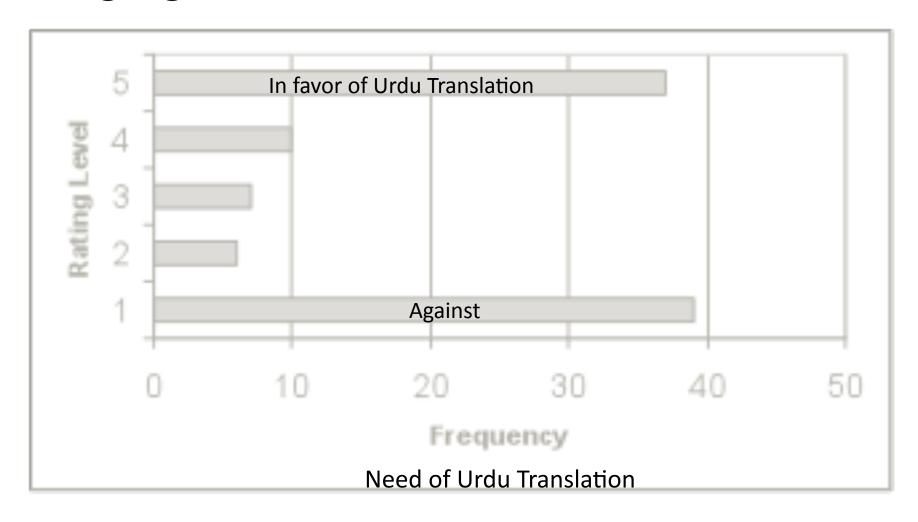


Level of Language Barrier

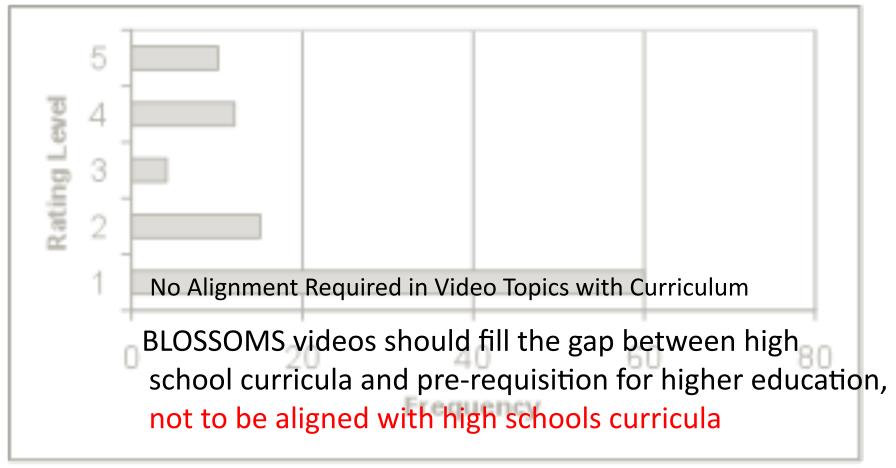
#### **Language Barrier**



#### **Language Barrier**

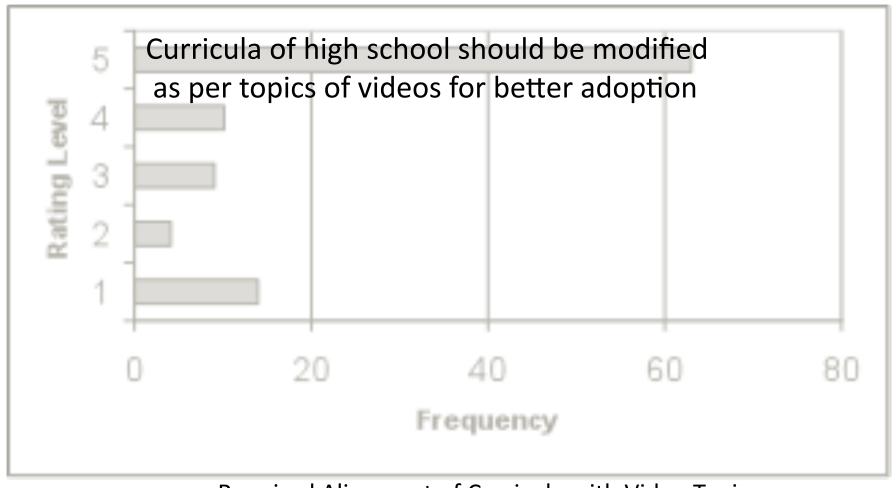


#### Alignment with curriculum



Required Alignment of Video Topics with Curriculum

#### Alignment with curriculum

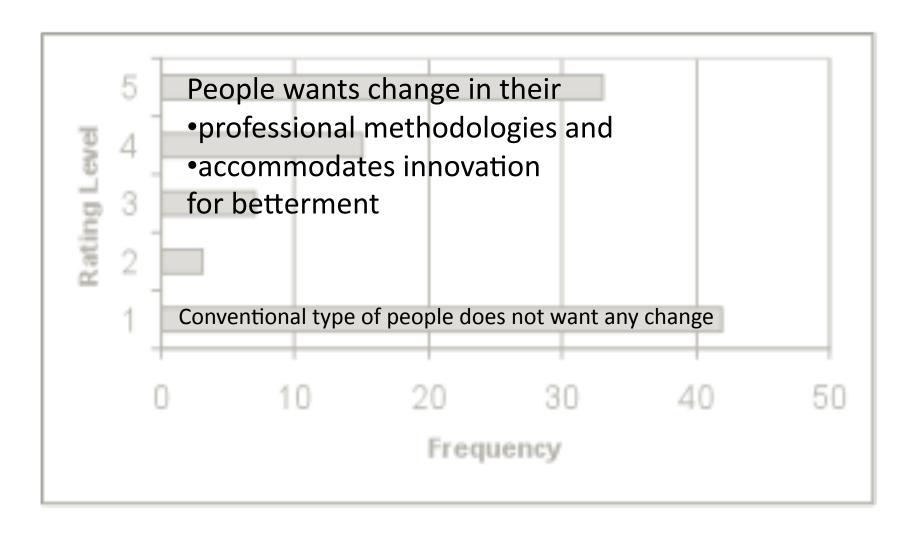


Required Alignment of Curricula with Video Topics

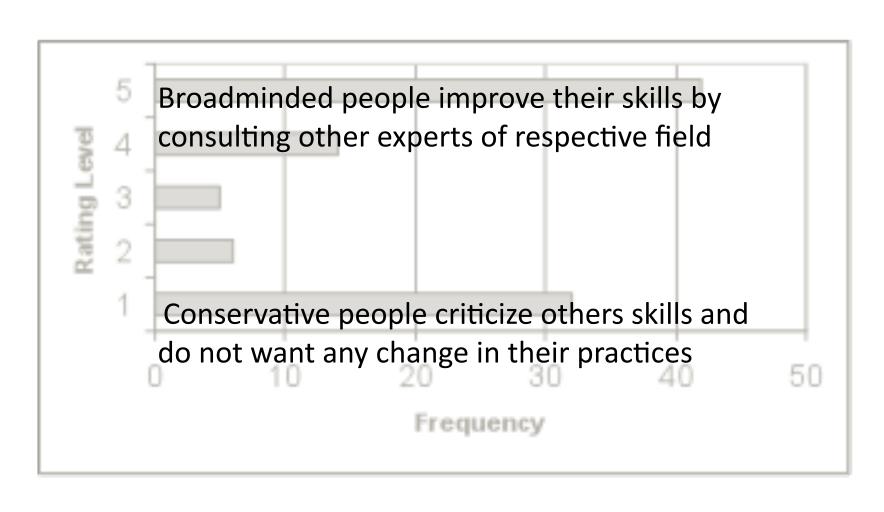
#### **Implementation**

- Faculty acceptance
- Improvement of teaching skills
- Enforcement
- Academic calendar

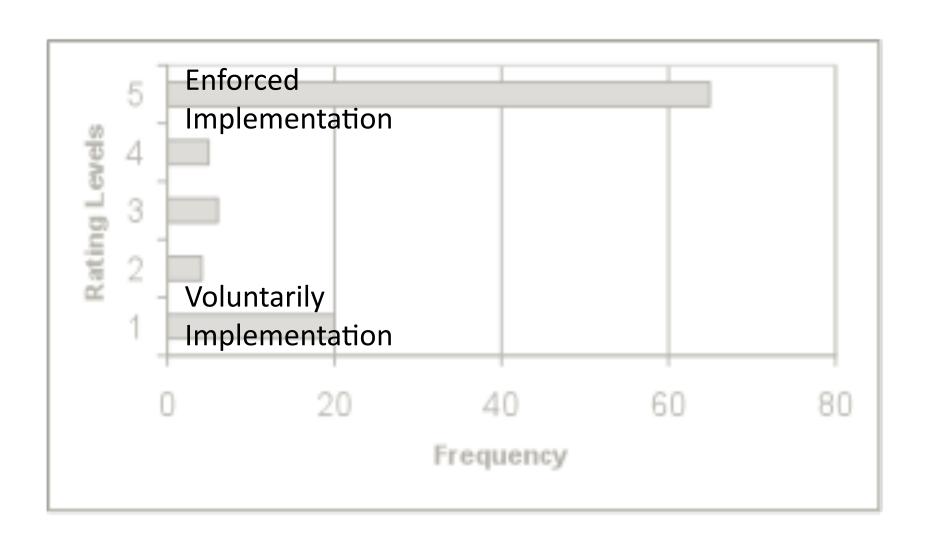
# Implementation: Faculty acceptance



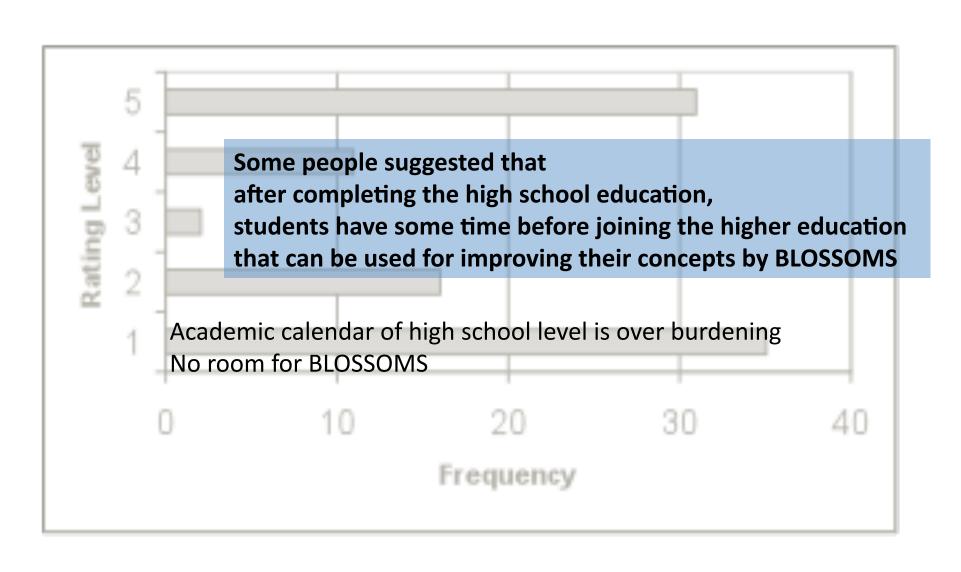
# Implementation: Improvement of teaching skills



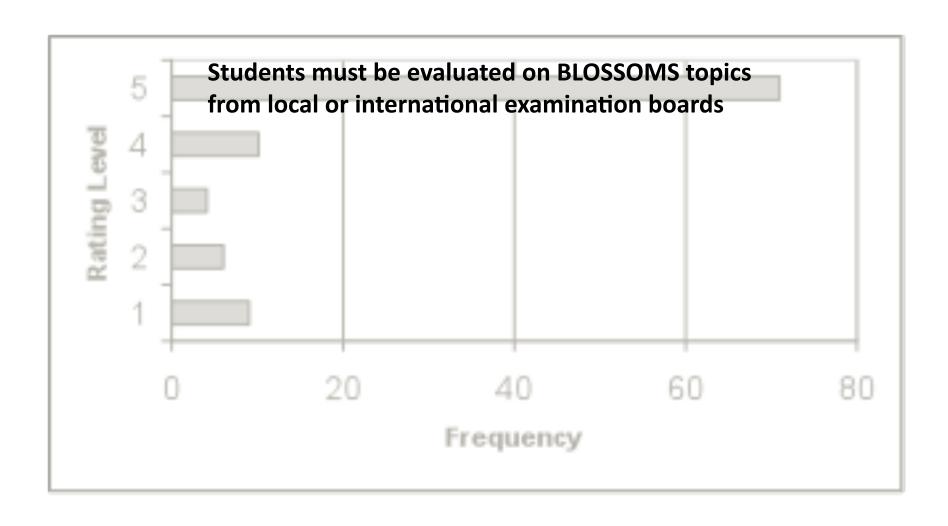
# Implementation: Enforcement



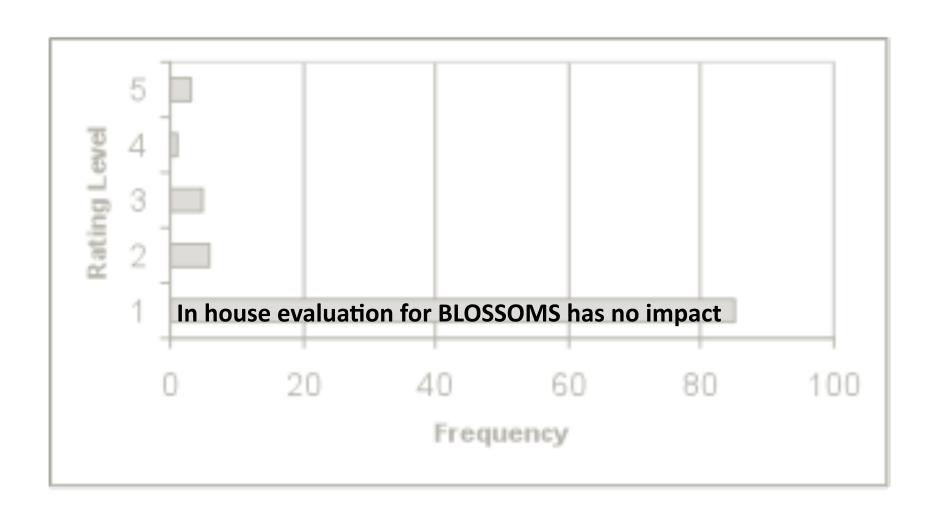
# Implementation: Academic Calendar



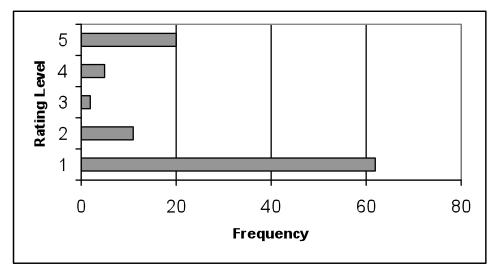
# Assessment: External Evaluation



### Assessment: Internal Evaluation



### Resource Barrier for Institutes

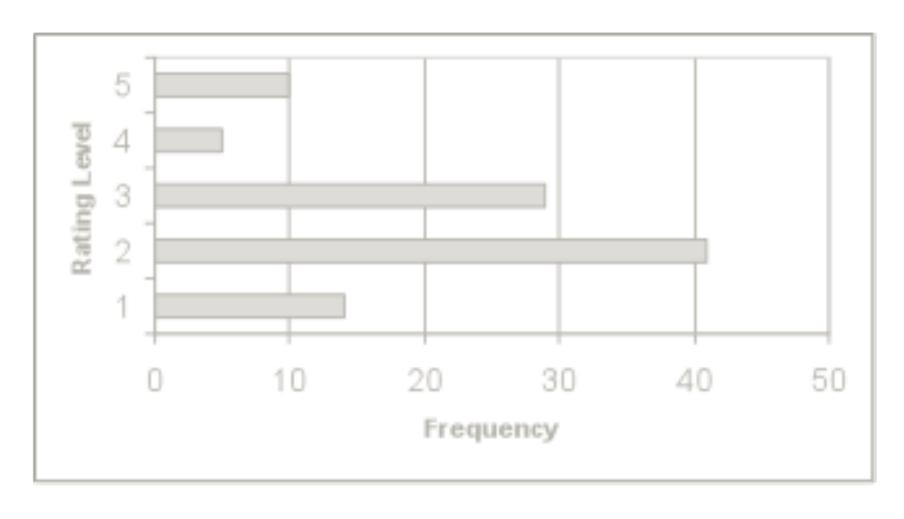


Telecommunication Infrastructure Index 2008 of BLOSSOMS Partner's Countries

| Country  | Internet<br>Index | PC<br>Index | Cellular<br>Index | Telephone<br>Lines<br>Index | Broadband<br>Index | Infrastructur<br>e Index |
|----------|-------------------|-------------|-------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------|
| USA      | 0.778             | 0.844       | 0.509             | 0.593                       | 0.609              | 0.6663                   |
| Jordon   | 0.154             | 0.069       | 0.489             | 0.109                       | 0.026              | 0.1693                   |
| Pakistan | 0.086             | 0.006       | 0.143             | 0.034                       | 0.001              | 0.0540                   |

Source: From e-Government to Connected Governance, in 2008 UNDESA: United Nations e-Government Survey

## Resource Barrier for Home Users



# **Proposed Implementation**

- It should be the part of entry test of higher education like engineering, medical, IT, Computer Science etc.
- Students already be evaluated as per their curriculum by education boards while BLOSSOMS topics will add more knowledge and will improve their concepts
- Usually brilliant students appears in entry tests, so they can easily understand these topics

# **Proposed Implementation**

- Students and faculty has enough time to cover these BLOSSOMS topics in the spare time slot (after final exams and before joining the higher education)
- A local portal should be developed to guide the faculty about the adoption of BLOSSOMS topic in existing curricula and academic calendar.

# Thank You