About SDPI

SDPI was founded in August 1992 on the recommendation of the Pakistan National Conservation Strategy (NCS), also called Pakistan’s Agenda 21. The NCS placed Pakistan’s socio-economic development within the context of a national environmental plan. This highly acclaimed document, approved by the Federal Cabinet in March 1992, outlined the need for an independent non-profit organization to serve as a source of expertise for policy analysis and development, policy intervention, and policy and program advisory services. SDPI is registered under the Societies Registration Act, XXI of 1860.

Mission
To catalyse the transition towards sustainable development, defined as the enhancement of peace, social justice and well-being, within and across generations.

Vision
To be a center of excellence on sustainable development policy research, capacity development and advocacy in Pakistan.

About Newsletter

To keep abreast of emerging issues at the national/international and local level, the SDPI brings out a Bi-Monthly E-Newsletter for “China Study Centre - SDPI”

It carries reference information’s to the news items/comments/Op-Eds appearing in leading National/International daily newspapers.

Newspapers Covered:

| • Dawn       | • The News       | • The Express Tribune |
|             |                  |                      |
| • The Nation | • Business Recorder | • Daily Times   |
| • Pakistan Observer | • Pakistan Today      | • Urdu Point |
| • China Daily  |                       |                      |


Editor Note:

Launched in August 2018, China Study Centre is a broader initiative of Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI) to bridge the research-policy gap on the issues of global relevance such as trade, technologies, climate change, tourism, business, finance and Pakistan-China relations. The Centre strives to foster research, knowledge and expertise on China, profoundly relevant to our engagement with China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC).

With a large network of universities, government bodies, business and civil society organizations, the Centre aims to promote collaborations, capacity building and technology transfer based on lessons learnt and experiences of China, attributed to their scientific knowledge and policy instruments. This requires a deep insight into Chinese history, culture, and socio-economic contexts. Such an approach is essential to catalyze the active engagement with China to address the economic and development challenges towards achieving sustainable development.

Subjects Covered

- Pak-China Foreign Relations
- CPEC
- Regional integration under China’s Belt & Road (B&R)
- Business, innovation & entrepreneurship
- Trade and Tourism
- Energy and Environment
- Social development
- Capacity building, learning and development
- Economic growth & governance
- Research and development
- History, language and culture
- Open Knowledge repository
- SDPI’s events, visits, publications
### Belt and Road Initiative (BRI)

**CPEC development strengthens building of China-Pakistan community with shared future**  
Source: Zhao Shiren, *The Express Tribune, Islamabad*, 2024-01-15  
LAHORE: In the Central Conference on China’s Foreign Affairs held in Beijing on December 27-28, 2023, President Xi Jinping delivered a keynote speech in which he systematically reviewed the historic achievements and valuable experience of major-country diplomacy with Chinese characteristics in the new era, gave a profound exposition on the international environment and historical mission of... more >>

**BRI in 2024**  
Source: Yasir Habib Khan, *The Nation, Islamabad*, 2024-01-06  
Belt and road Initiative (BRI), famed as engine of modern development on international landscape, will shift global growth into high gear in 2024 showing robust muscles of resilience and sustainability in everchanging geoeconomics, geo strategic and geopolitical environment. China is expected to continue to green-align its overseas BRI projects, with a broader and more transformative focus on e..... more >>

### China & America trade conflict

**Sino-US rivalry**  
Source: Inam Ul Haque, *The Express Tribune, Islamabad*, 2024-01-11  
It was in 2003 when Fareed Zakaria, the eminent Indian American analyst better known for his CNN programme ‘Fareed Zakaria GPS’, wrote “The Arrogant Empire” in the March 23 issue ofNewsweek magazine. It was just before the US invasion of Iraq to remove Saddam Hussein. In the grim mood of the times, America was virtually alone, launching war in relative isolation with many al..... more >>

**Xinjiang-related lies will eventually shatter in front of facts and truth**  
Recently, the US issued an annual human rights report related to Xinjiang, once again accusing China of implementing “forced labor” against the Uyghur population in Xinjiang and sanctioned China’s two officials and three companies. This move distorts facts, fabricates something out of nothing and violates the international law and the basic norms of international relations. The m..... more >>

**Tensions working their way into the American ties with India**  
Source: Shahid Javed Burki, *The Express Tribune, Islamabad*, 2024-01-01  
Going back to last week’s article titled ‘The story of other India’, I will today examine why Washington may be distancing itself a little from India. The operative phrase in the previous sentence is ‘a little’, since the main reason for Washington pulling New Delhi into its orbit, remains in place. The United States is building its relations with India to counter the..... more >>

**A corporation-led China-US truce to benefit all**  
Source: Azhar Azam, *The Express Tribune, Islamabad*, 2024-01-12  
Unveiling her 2024 strategy, US Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen said America didn’t seek to “decouple” from China because it would be “damaging” to both economies with negative global repercussions, stressing that the two economies had an obligation to drive collective action for the benefit of the people and global economies. Washington appears to realise that an im..... more >>
US hegemony and strategic maneuvering in Indo-Pacific
Source: Shazia Anwer Cheema, The Express Tribune, Islamabad, 2024-01-13
Having played a role in letting the conflicts in Ukraine and Palestine — that overshadowed the international affairs in 2023 — continue, the US now appears ready to facilitate another conflict in another part of the world. The US’s material and ideational investment in the Indo-Pacific is indicating an organic outcome of the war, of course under the same old tried and tested pret. more >>

China’s growth spurs hope
Source: Nasir Jamal, Dawn, Islamabad, 2024-01-08
China seems to have successfully spurred a ‘modest’ post-pandemic economic recovery amid a myriad of problems, ranging from slump in the real estate sector, stagnant domestic demand, mounting local government debt, deflation, oversupply in some sectors (due to lower exports), soaring youth unemployment and dwindling foreign investment. That China has defied predictions of economic g. more >>

Chinese company exports 160 high-end electric buses to Pakistan
Source: App, Daily Times, 2024-01-07
A Chinese company handed over 160 high-end pure electric buses to Pakistan at a ceremony held in Suzhou Industrial Park, China. The officials from Pakistan, including General Manager Suzhou Higer, Qiu Yuanhong, Deputy General Manager Xie Jianghong, Customer Service Director Jiang Haifeng, and General Manager of Overseas Sales, attended the ceremony. The value of the order exceeds RMB 150 million. more >>

Xinjiang’s Uyghur region progressing rapidly
Source: Khawar Abbas Sandhu, The Nation, Islamabad, 2024-01-14
LAHORE - Western media continued to spread propaganda as Xinjiang’s Muslims took the lead in development. During visit to China in December 2023, we reached Kashgar to explore Xinjiang. Beautiful roads from airport to hotel, flowing and orderly traffic, high-rise buildings, a glimpse of local culture and cleanliness got a lot of attention. The faces of the Kashi people were telling. more >>

Khunjerab Pass opens for 14-day trade window
Source: Jamil Nagri, Dawn, Islamabad, 2024-01-03
GILGIT: The Pakistan-China border at Khunjerab Pass opened temporarily on Tuesday for 14 days for trade activities. According to a letter sent by the embassy of China to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Pakistan, the Chinese side has agreed to facilitate the opening of the China-Pakistan Khunjerab Pass from Jan 2 to Jan 16, 2024. It said, during this period, only transportation vehicles, drive. more >>
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Pakistan exports heat-treated beef to China</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Source:</strong> Salman Siddiqui, <em>The Express Tribune, Islamabad</em>, 2024-01-02</td>
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<tr>
<td>KARACHI: Pakistan has emerged as the first South Asian nation that has exported heat-treated beef to the world’s largest meat importer, China, beating regional competitors in delivering quality food at the best price. In a notification to the Pakistan Stock Exchange (PSX) on Monday, The Organic Meat Company Limited (TOMCL) reported “TOMCL (a Pakistan-based firm) now stands as the fir..... more &gt;&gt;</td>
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<th>Chinese traders urged to invest in various sectors</th>
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<td><strong>Source:</strong> Naveed Butt, <em>Business Recorder, Islamabad</em>, 2024-01-03</td>
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<tr>
<td>ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives Muhammad Sami Saeed urged a delegation of the Chinese Chamber of Commerce to invest in the sectors of agriculture, IT and telecom, mines and minerals and energy. ‘One-window operation for foreign investors, ensuring security and comfort in our industrial zones, is our government’s utmost priority. We enc..... more &gt;&gt;</td>
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<th>High-profile Chinese business delegation meets planning minister</th>
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<td><strong>Source:</strong> APP, <em>The Nation, Islamabad</em>, 2024-01-03</td>
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<td>ISLAMABAD-A high-profile business delegation of China, led by the Chairman of Chang Chinag Chamber of Commerce Li Ting, met with Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives Muhammad Sami Saeed on Tuesday. During the meeting, the two sides discussed potential collaboration opportunities between Pakistan and China in various sectors, fostering business expansion and exploring new inve..... more &gt;&gt;</td>
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<th>First heat treated meat consignment exported to China</th>
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<td><strong>Source:</strong> Press Release, <em>The Nation, Islamabad</em>, 2024-01-03</td>
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<td>KARACHI-The first consignment of heat treated meat has been exported from Pakistan to China. The protocol of beef export to China was signed in June 2023, accordingly, TDAP along with relevant agencies had started the process of registering prospect exporters, which led to successful delivery of the inaugural consignment of heat-treated meat by The Organic Meat Company Limited to the People’..... more &gt;&gt;</td>
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<th>Traders ride Chinese county’s boom Initiatives like CPEC make it very easy for local traders to do business</th>
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<td><strong>Source:</strong> APP, <em>The Express Tribune, Islamabad</em>, 2024-01-04</td>
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<td>BEIJING: More Pakistani traders are settling in the Tashikurgan Tajik autonomous county of Kashgar in China’s Xinjiang Uygur autonomous region to tap the business potential. As the county is close to their homes, they said it was easy to commute and interact with the local community. A booming tourism is benefitting their businesses. Pakistani jeweller Murad Shah said his gemstone store i..... more &gt;&gt;</td>
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<th>Trade Peaks</th>
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<td><strong>Source:</strong> Editorial, <em>The Nation, Islamabad</em>, 2024-01-04</td>
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<td>The temporary opening of the Pakistan-China border at Khunjerab Pass for trade activities marks a significant and positive development, providing a 14-day window for transportation vehicles, drivers, and cargo to pass between the two countries. This move is crucial for fostering economic ties and facilitating cross-border trade. This temporary opening aligns with the commitment made after the me..... more &gt;&gt;</td>
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<th>Pakistan’s copper export to China crosses $1 billion mark in 2023</th>
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<td><strong>Source:</strong> APP, <em>The Nation, Islamabad</em>, 2024-01-05</td>
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<td>BEIJING-Copper and articles thereof have seen an increase in export to China from Pakistan in recent years and in the first eleven months of 2023 increased by 9%, crossed one billion dollars mark, sources said. Ghulam Qadir, Commercial Counsellor at the Pakistan Embassy in Beijing, told China Economic Net (CEN) that the Pakistani government is keen to boost copper and associated product exports to..... more &gt;&gt;</td>
</tr>
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160 high-end electric buses delivered by China
Source: China Economic Net, The Express Tribune, Islamabad, 2024-01-07
SUZHOU: In a landmark move, Suzhou Higer recently held the delivery ceremony for 160 high-end pure electric buses exported to Pakistan, marking the first substantial introduction of pure electric buses in the country. The order, valued at over RMB 150 million, signifies a pivotal step towards green and sustainable public transportation in Pakistan. Dignitaries, including Rana, Director General o..... more >>

China hands over 160 electric buses to Pakistan
Source: News Desk, The Nation, Islamabad, 2024-01-07
LAHORE - China has handed over one hundred and sixty electric buses to Pakistan at a ceremony held in Suzhou Industrial Park, China. According to a report of China Economic Net, the batch of these electric buses has the advantages of zero emissions, low operating costs, and low noise pollution, which will greatly improve the efficiency of public transportation operations a..... more >>

Sesame export to China registers 117.85pc increase
Source: APP, Business Recorder, Islamabad, 2024-01-08
BEIJING: Pakistan registered a remarkable surge of 117.85 percent in Sesame seed export to China last year as sesame seeds amounting to $250 million was shipped to China from January to November 2023. This unprecedented growth has positioned Pakistan as a major player in the global Sesame seed market, with Chinese consumers increasingly embracing the quality and flavour of Pakistani sesame, a..... more >>

Chinese investors invited for investment in different sectors, JVs
Source: APP, The Nation, Islamabad, 2024-01-09
ISLAMABAD - The Federation Pakistan Chamber of Commerce and Industry (FPCCI) has invited Chinese investors from different sectors of the economy for investment and joint ventures in local businesses. It is the right time for Chinese investors to earn lucrative returns on their investments in Pakistan and FPCCI assures to connect the Chinese investors with the right partners in Pakistan for join..... more >>

New China-Pakistan cargo route launched to facilitate air transport
Source: APP, Business Recorder, Islamabad, 2024-01-15
BEIJING: A new air cargo route was launched linking Ezhou Huahu Airport in central China’s Hubei Province with Lahore, said SF Airlines, China’s largest air cargo carrier in fleet size. The Ezhou-Lahore cargo route is the first international air cargo route launched by SF Airlines this year, departing from Ezhou Huahu Airport, China’s first cargo-focused airport. The Ezhou-Lahore route is planned to operate three times a week, providing over 300 tons of air transport capacity from Ezhou to Lahore every week. Pakistan A..... more >>

Pak-China cargo route launched to facilitate air transport
A new China-Pakistan cargo air route has been launched to facilitate air transport. China’s largest air cargo carrier SF Airlines said the new route is linking Ezhou Huahu Airport in central China’s Hubei Province with Lahore. The Ezhou-Lahore route is planned to operate three times a week, providing over 300 tons of air transport capacity from Ezhou to Lahore every week. Pakistan A..... more >>

China-Pakistan cargo route opens for streamlined air transport
Source: App, Daily Times, 2024-01-15
A new air cargo route was launched linking Ezhou Huahu Airport in central China’s Hubei Province with Lahore, said SF Airlines, China’s largest air cargo carrier in fleet size. The Ezhou-Lahore cargo route is the first international air cargo route launched by SF Airlines this year, departing from Ezhou Huahu Airport, China’s first cargo-focused airport. The Ezhou-Lahore route i..... more >>
Mega road network project; Chinese investment dependent on political stability
Source: Tahir Amin, Business Recorder, Islamabad, 2024-01-05
ISLAMABAD: Chinese companies are interested in investing in mega road network project depending on political stability in the country after the general elections. This was revealed by senior officials of the National Highways Authority (NHA) while briefing the Senate Standing Committee on Communications, presided over by Senator Prince Ahmed Umer Ahmedzai, here on Thursday. After the ref..... more >>

$600m loan linked to IPP debt
Source: Shahbaz Rana, The Express Tribune, Islamabad, 2024-01-10
ISLAMABAD: Two Chinese commercial banks have linked their $600 million loans with the prior settlement of the debt that Pakistan owes to the Chinese power plants—a condition that Islamabad has refused to accept because of its implications on the budget and setting a wrong precedent. Government sources told The Express Tribune that the prospects of securing the $600 million Chinese commerci..... more >>

Regional Integration under B&R +CPEC

CPEC projects propel Gwadar uplift
Source: Behram Baloch, Dawn, Islamabad, 2024-01-01
GWADAR: Pakistan's ambassador to Beijing, Khalil Hashmi, has said that efforts are underway for the timely completion of development projects initiated under the CPEC, with the support of Chinese government. He made these remarks while speaking to reporters during his visit to the port city of Gwadar on Sunday. “Many projects have been completed in Gwadar under the CPEC initiative. T..... more >>

Flawed Model of Development
Source: Aamir Yaqoob, Daily Times, 2024-01-02
The federation of Pakistan has hitherto adopted a faulty model of development for Gwadar. What the state bureaucracies fail to understand is the inability of infrastructure-led development without participation of the local population to achieve the intended outcomes. This is evident from a purely marginal impact the construction of a deep seaport and related road infrastructure in Gwadar could ca..... more >>

36 projects under CPEC completed so far, Senate told
Source: Agencies, Daily Times, 2024-01-02
Caretaker Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives Muhammad Sami Saeed on Monday said that 36 projects with a cumulative value of 24 billion dollars have been successfully completed under the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC). Additionally, 22 projects with a total investment of five billion dollars are currently under construction, he said while concluding a debate on mot..... more >>

CPEC strengthens building of Pak-China community with a shared future
In the Central Conference on China's Foreign Affairs held in Beijing on December 27-28, 2023, President Xi Jinping delivered a keynote speech in which he systematically reviewed the historic achievements and valuable experience of major-country diplomacy with Chinese characteristics in the new era, gave a profound exposition on the international environment and historical mission of China'..... more >>

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experience of major-country diplomacy with Chinese characteristics in the new era, gave a profound exposition on the international environment and historical mission of... more >>

Idea of establishment of ‘industrial’ park on PSM land under CPEC hailed
Source: Recorder Report, Business Recorder, Islamabad, 2024-01-01
KARACHI: Pasban Democratic Party PDP Chairman Altaf Shakoor here Sunday said that the best option is to revive the Pakistan Steel Mills (PSM); otherwise, its vast land should be used to establish proposed industrial park. He said that it is learnt that the federal government is seeking the cooperation of Sindh government to set up an industrial park on 1500 acres of the PSM under the China-Pa... more >>

Claim, counter-claims, and ECC
Source: Editorial, Business Recorder, Islamabad, 2024-01-06
It’s a bit rich of Pakistani authorities to try to penalise Chinese power plants set up under CPEC (China Pakistan Economic Corridor) for Islamabad’s own failure — inadequate forex reserves for purchase of fuel for those plants in this case. Naturally, when there was no coal (for coal-based power plants), those plants were unable to produce any power. Yet the government still sla... more >>
SDPI’s Engagement

Climate change and Faith: A special Conversation

‘Intersection between climate crisis, faith can solve ecological crisis’
Islamabad: After many decades, faith and its interlinkages with climate and environmental crisis have become a central discussion as humanity seeks answers to the contemporary challenges said Dr Adil Najam, President of WWF. Dr Najam said this in a special conversation with Dr Abid Qaiyum Suleri, Executive Director, SDPI, organised by SDPI here Friday. During the conversation, the resurging inte....  more >>

Dr. Adil Najam calls for exploring the linkage between climate crisis & faith
Source: SABAH, SABAH News, 2024-01-13
ISLAMABAD, Jan 13 (SABAH): Dr. Adil Najam, President of World Wildlife Fund, has said the global community needs large-scale behavioural change to resolve the current climate challenges and explore the potential role of faith and values in this connection, irrespective of the fact if someone is religious or not. Dr. Adil Najam was speaking at a special conversation on ‘Climate Change and Fa.....  more >>

Dr Adil Najam for holistic approach to cope with environmental challenges
Source: APP, Associated Press of Pakistan, 2024-01-13
ISLAMABAD, Jan 12 (APP):WWF President Dr Adil Najam on Friday said that after many decades, faith and its interlinkages with climate and environmental crisis had become a central discussion as “humanity seeks answers to the contemporary challenges”. Dr Adil Najam said this in a special conversation with SDPI Executive Director, organized by the Sustainable Development Policy Institu.....  more >>

Dr Adil Najam For Holistic Approach To Cope With Environmental Challenges
Source: APP, UrduPoint, 2024-01-13
ISLAMABAD, (APP - UrduPoint / Pakistan Point News - 12th Jan, 2024) WWF President Dr Adil Najam on Friday said that after many decades, faith and its interrelationship with climate and environmental crisis had become a central discussion as “humanity seeks answers to the contemporary challenges”. Dr Adil Najam said this in a special conversation with SDPI Executive Director, organized by th.....  more >>

Dr. Adil Najam for a holistic approach to tackle environmental challenges Pi News
Source: Mhuammad, Pi News, 2024-01-13
ISLAMABAD, (Urdu Point / Pakistan Point News – 12th Jan, 2024) WWF President Dr. Adil Najam on Friday, after many decades, brought faith and its interrelationship with climate and environmental crisis to the mainstream discussion. said that it has become because “humanity is looking for answers to modern problems.” Dr. Adil Najam said this in a special interview with the Execu.....  more >>

Expert Calls For Exploring The Linkage Between Climate Crisis And Faith
Source: TCL, The CatchLine, 2024-01-13
ISLAMABAD: Dr Adil Najam, President of World Wildlife Fund, has said the global community needs large-scale behavioural change to resolve the current climate challenges and explore the potential role of faith and values in this connection, irrespective of the fact if someone is religious or not. He was speaking at a special conversation on ‘Climate Change and Faith’ organized by Sustai.....  more >>
### Panel Discussion on ‘Socially and environmentally compliant construction industry in Pakistan’

**Monitoring of environmental laws stressed**  
This was the crux of a panel discussion on ‘Socially and environmentally compliant construction industry in Pakistan’ organised by Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI) in collaboration with NED and SC here yesterday. Geir Thomas Tonstol, Country Director of International Labor Organisation, Pakistan, said that the construction sector transforms source materials into capital.....  
[more >>](#)

**Panel stresses protection of labour rights**  
Source: Our Correspondent, *The Express Tribune, Islamabad*, 2024-01-04  
ISLAMABAD: Robust monitoring of environmental regulations and protection of labour rights is crucial for fostering a fair and sustainable evolution within the construction industry. This was the crux of a panel discussion titled ‘Socially and Environmentally Compliant Construction Industry in Pakistan’, at the Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI) in collaboration with NED.....  
[more >>](#)

### 26th SDC 2023

**Monitoring of environmental regulations, protection of labour rights stressed**  
Source: Staff Reporter, *Dawn, Islamabad*, 2024-01-03  
ISLAMABAD: A panel discussion held at the Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI) stressed the need for robust monitoring of environmental regulations and protection of labour rights for a just and sustainable transition in the construction industry. This panel discussion titled “Socially and Environmentally Compliant Construction Industry in Pakistan” was held at SDPI where G.....  
[more >>](#)

**Environmental laws, labour rights’ oversight imperative for just transition in construction sector: Speakers**  
Source: APP, *The Nation, Islamabad*, 2024-01-03  
ISLAMABAD-Robust monitoring of environmental regulations as well as protection of labor rights is crucial for a just and sustainable transition in the construction industry. This was the crux of a panel discussion titled: “Socially and Environmentally Compliant Construction Industry in Pakistan,” at the Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI) in collaboration with NED and SC......  
[more >>](#)

**Balancing construction: Enviro Laws vs Labor Rights**  
Source: News Desk, *Daily Times*, 2024-01-03  
Robust monitoring of environmental regulations and protection of labor rights are crucial for a just and sustainable transition in the construction industry. This was the crux of a panel discussion titled “Socially and Environmentally Compliant Construction Industry in Pakistan” at the Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI) in collaboration with NED and SC. Geir Thomas Tonsto.....  
[more >>](#)

**Environmental Laws, Labour Rights’ Oversight Imperative For Just Transition In Construction Sector**  
Source: APP, *Urdu Point*, 2024-01-02  
ISLAMABAD, (APP – Urdu Point / Pakistan Point News - 2nd Jan, 2024) Robust monitoring of environmental regulations as well as protection of labor rights is crucial for a just and sustainable transition in the construction industry. This was the crux of a panel discussion titled: “Socially and Environmentally Compliant Construction Industry in Pakistan”, at the Sustainable Development Policy .....  
[more >>](#)
Environmental laws, labour rights’ oversight imperative for just transition in construction sector: Experts
Source: SABAH, SABAH News, 2024-01-02
ISLAMABAD, Jan 02 (SABAH): Robust monitoring of environmental regulations as well as protection of labor rights is crucial for a just and sustainable transition in the construction industry. This was the crux of a panel discussion titled: “Socially and Environmentally Compliant Construction Industry in Pakistan”, at the Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI) in collaboration with NED and SC. Geir Tho..... more >>

Environmental laws, labour rights’ oversight imperative for just transition in construction sector
Source: Web Desk, LEAD Pakistan, 2024-01-02
Robust monitoring of environmental regulations as well as protection of labor rights is crucial for a just and sustainable transition in the construction industry. This was the crux of a panel discussion titled: “Socially and Environmentally Compliant Construction Industry in Pakistan”, at the Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI) in collaboration with NED and SC. Geir Tho..... more >>

Environmental laws, labour rights’ oversight imperative for just transition in construction sector
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Panel stresses protection of labour rights
Source: Our Correspondent, The Express Tribune, Islamabad, 2024-01-03
ISLAMABAD: Robust monitoring of environmental regulations and protection of labour rights is crucial for fostering a fair and sustainable evolution within the construction industry. This was the crux of a panel discussion titled ‘Socially and Environmentally Compliant Construction Industry in Pakistan’, at the Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI) in collaboration with NED..... more >>

Empowering local governance
Source: Abdullah Khalid, Dawn, Islamabad, 2024-01-15
As the promise of elections looms, manifestos take centre stage, promising reform and progress. In our volatile context, empowering local governments is a crucial, yet often overlooked pathway towards a more responsive and resilient democracy. Despite constitutional provisions for devolution, Pakistan’s local governance system remains hobbled by a plethora of challenges. Over-centralis..... more >>

COP28: a critical analysis: Part - I
Nearly all Pakistani comments on the outcome of COP28 have been overwhelmingly laudatory. This write-up aims to balance the assessment by pointing out the glaring equity deficit and lack of means of implementation which imperil the efficacy of the agreed measures. Part 1 of this article describes the major COP28 takeaways concerning the Loss and Damage Fund and the content of the ‘UAE Conse..... more >>

New year, old vows
Source: Arooj Waheed Dar, Dawn, Islamabad, 2024-01-01
With elections on the horizon, there has been an upsurge in political activity, marked by relentless campaigning through power shows and big speeches. Out of curiosity, we decided to analyse the content of some of the speeches
to understand what is being promised this time round. For what they’re worth, the speeches are rife with promises, making abundant references to legacy yet notably m... more >>

**COP28: a critical analysis**  
COP28, held late last year, included a global climate action summit attended by 154 heads of state and government, heads of UN agencies, major regional networks, business organizations, and civil society leaders, who all reiterated their support for efforts to tackle the climate conundrum. COP28 president Sultan Ahmed Al Jaber speaks during the Transforming Food Systems in the Face of Climate C... more >>

**“Pakistan’s economic tightrope in 2023”**  
Source: Dr Abid Qaiyum Suleri, *The News, International*, 2024-01-03  
The writer heads the Sustainable Development Policy Institute. He tweets/posts @abidsuleri Pakistan stared down the abyss in 2023, and the abyss stared right back at it. While its chances of a financial default were all but realized, the country only ended up groping in the dark to find a way out of that situation. This landed it in an unenviable group of debt-affected countries. Like others in ..... more >>

**Remembering Sartaj Aziz**  
Pakistan has lost one of its most outstanding sons and indefatigable soldiers; the nation just a few days back said goodbye to one of the last surviving soldiers of the Pakistan Movement, who devoted his seven decades-long engagement in national affairs to promote Pakistan’s economic development, national security and diplomacy, and democratic governance. He worked tirelessly and selflessly..... more >>

**Women in the workforce**  
The basic pillar of any nation’s survival and for its pulse to breathe is a stable and thriving economy. A robust economy can help any nation progress and stabilize itself to stand on its own. However, not every country has a sustainable and stable economy and many countries still find it hard to have access to the basic resources of living. One way to increase any country’s economic..... more >>

**Climate justice**  
Held in Dubai, the COP 28 has put the issue of climate justice on the backburner, by using the world ‘transition,’ rather than a phasing out of the fossil fuels. Global warming has resulted from the incessant use of fossil fuels since the industrial revolution. It also resulted in the dominance of the West over..... more >>

**Climate justice and gender equality**  
Climate change, a looming threat for all, demonstrates a stark disparity in its impact across genders. Globally, women find themselves particularly vulnerable to the multifaceted challenges posed by climate change, encompassing health, education, economic opportunities and various climate-related adversities. The repercussions of climate crises dispr..... more >>

**Realistically speaking**  
One may argue that Pakistan’s challenges are mutually nonexclusive and interrelated. It is not easy to address any single issue or challenge in isolation. While acknowledging the interconnected nature of Pakistan’s challenges, the
Pakistan’s elections: Old economics, same politics?
Source: Dr Vaqar Ahmed, Arab News, 2024-01-07
A different kind of thick, unsettling smog hangs heavy in the air – the uncertainty surrounding the upcoming February 2024 general elections in Pakistan. This uncertain milieu, however, is having a chilling effect far beyond the political realm, casting a long shadow on the country’s fragile economic recovery. Pakistan stands at a moment of reckoning. Markets are nervous, unsure if t..... more >>

Equitable and green CPEC
Source: Dr Khalid Waleed, The News, International, 2024-01-08
The China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) is a transformative project which will be potentially reshaping the landscape of Pakistan and the contours of its future. CPEC, a cornerstone of Beijing’s ambitious Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), is not just a series of infrastructure projects, but it is a catalyst for a fundamental shift in the region’s economic dynamics. This venture has ..... more >>

A burgeoning loss
The World Health Organisation requires parties to the Framework Convention on Tobacco Control to impose progressively high taxes on tobacco products to discourage its use. While most high-income countries have implemented these measures, two decades after its adoption, many low- and middle-income countries including Pakistan continue to struggle in hi..... more >>

Tackling the electricity challenge
Pakistan is once again facing a shortfall of electricity in winter. Last year, there was a nationwide electricity blackout on account of similar issues. It then becomes essential to discuss in detail the various conundrums and need for integrated planning in the power sector. The country’s power infrastructure is primarily structured along the south-north, with major power lines connecting ..... more >>

China’s reopening border reflection of Pakistan’s good economy, experts say
Source: Staff Reporter, Pakistan Today, 2024-01-15
ISLAMABAD: China’s reopening its border reflection of Pakistan’s good economy. Looking back on the past year, one of the good things for Pakistan’s economy was that China reopened its border, which is good not only for Pakistan’s economy, but also for the global economy. This was stated by Dr. Abid Qaiyum Suleri, executive director of Sustainable Development Policy..... more >>

DEVELOPMENT: BREAKING THE CYCLE OF POVERTY
Source: Suneela Ahmed, Dawn, Islamabad, 2024-01-07
We talk about sustainable development as academics and planners without accepting the ground reality that 58.7 million people in Pakistan dwell below the poverty line. That’s according to the Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI) in Islamabad. Poverty is considered to be non-compatible with sustainable development, as the poor have limited resources and, in order to survive, may..... more >>
The Plastic Quagmire
Source: Mian Muhammad Khalid Rehman, The Nation, Islamabad, 2024-01-09
Pakistan finds itself in a race against time as it grapples with a mounting plastic crisis that threatens its delicate ecosystem. The exponential growth of plastic consumption, coupled with inadequate waste management practices, has propelled the country towards an impending ecological disaster. According to recent data, Pakistan produces approximately 20 million tons of plastic waste annually, more >

SDPI's Related News

Cigarette industry; Influence on policymaking caused Rs567bn revenue loss in last 7 years
Source: Recorder Report, Business Recorder, Islamabad, 2024-01-04
ISLAMABAD: The influence of cigarette industry on policymaking has not only impacted nation’s financial well-being and public health, but also caused a staggering Rs 567 billion revenue loss during the last seven years. The alarming loss of revenue was unearthed through a comprehensive study delving into the dynamics of the cigarette sector and scrutinizing Federal Board of Revenue (FBR, more >>

Study stresses smoking’s impact on public health
Source: Our Correspondent, The Express Tribune, Islamabad, 2024-01-08
ISLAMABAD: The pervasive influence of Pakistan’s cigarette industry on policymaking has exacted a toll on both the nation’s financial well-being and public health but also caused a staggering Rs567 billion loss in revenue over the last decade. The alarming loss of revenue was unearthed through a comprehensive study delving into the dynamics of the cigarette sector and scrutinising Federal Board of Revenue (FBR, more >>

IMF board approves $700 million disbursement for Pakistan— finance ministry
Source: Khurshid Ahmed, Arab News, 2024-01-11
KARACHI: The International Monetary Fund’s (IMF) Executive Board on Thursday approved the first review of a $3 billion short-term financing package for Pakistan, paving the way for the release of a second tranche of $700 million for the South Asian country, the finance ministry confirmed. The board approved a much-needed, 9-month Stand-By Arrangement (SBA) for the country last year in Jul, more >>

Cigarette industry: SDPI says revenue collection targets missed since 2017
Source: Recorder Report, Business Recorder, Islamabad, 2024-01-12
ISLAMABAD: A new study conducted by Pakistani think tank Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI) revealed that the cigarette industry missed revenue collection targets since 2017 following the three-tier excise duty structure introduced by the multinational cigarette companies. A study on tobacco taxation in Pakistan by the Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI) revealed that the, more >>

Government falls short on cigarette tax targets: SDPI
Source: Agencies, Daily Times, 2024-01-13
The government has been unable to meet any tax collection targets from the cigarette industry over the past seven years, according to a recent study conducted by the Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI). According to the SDPI study, the FBR has missed the targets since 2017 after introducing the third tier. Then, the government decided to introduce the third tier under the influence o, more >>
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<td>Govt fails to meet tax target from cigarette industry: study</td>
<td>Our Correspondent, The News, International</td>
<td>2024-01-13</td>
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<td>Islamabad: A Pakistani think tank's recent study unveiled that government failed to meet any tax collection targets from the cigarette industry over the past seven years. According to the study conducted by Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI), the FBR missed the targets since 2017 after introduction of third-tier. The decision to introduce the third tier was taken by the then g.... more &gt;&gt;</td>
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| Govt fails to collect required tax from cigarette industry                    | Agencies, The Nation, Islamabad                                        | 2024-01-14 |
| ISILAMABAD - A Pakistani think tank's recent study unveiled that government failed to meet any tax collection targets from the cigarette industry over the past seven years. According to the study conducted by Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI), the FBR missed the targets since 2017 after introduction of third-tier. The decision to introduce the third tier was taken by t.... more >> |

| Govt fails to meet cigarette tax targets since 2017                          | Web Desk, HUM News                                                    | 2024-01-13 |
| WEB DESK: In a recent study, the Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI), a prominent Pakistani think tank, revealed that the government has consistently fallen short of tax collection targets from the cigarette industry over the past seven years. The study pointed out that the Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) has consistently missed its targets since the introduction of the third tier in 2.... more >> |

| ‘Poor tax collection from cigarette industry incurred Rs567bn loss’         | Staff Reporter, Dawn, Islamabad                                       | 2024-01-15 |
| ISLAMABAD: Pakistan has lost Rs567 billion potential revenue in the last seven years due to loopholes in policies of tax collection from the cigarette industry. The World Health Organisation (WHO) emphasises the need to safeguard tobacco tax policies from vested interests of cigarette companies for effective development, implementation and enforcement of public health initiatives. However, it did..... more >> |

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| Islamabad: A Pakistani think tank's recent study unveiled that government failed to meet any tax collection targets from the cigarette industry over the past seven years. According to the study conducted by Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI), the FBR missed the targets since 2017 after introduction of third-tier. The decision to introduce the third tier was taken by the then gover..... more >> |

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| ISLAMABAD, Jan 10 (APP): While the outcome of COP28 is being criticized, there is no good or bad COP for climate; what is important is applying the Win-Win mindset which is crucial for effective climate change negotiations, said Dr Abid Qaiyum Suleri, Executive Director, SDPI. He was speaking at seminar titled “SDPI's Response To COP28:From Consensus To Realization” organized b..... more >> |

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Win-Win Mindset Crucial For Effective Climate Change Negotiations
Source: APP, Urdu Point, 2024-01-10
ISLAMABAD, (APP – Urdu Point / Pakistan Point News - 10th Jan, 2024) While the outcome of COP28 is being criticized, there is no good or bad COP for climate; what is important is applying the Win-Win mindset which is crucial for effective climate change negotiations, said Dr Abid Qaiyum Suleri, Executive Director, SDPI. He was speaking at seminar titled “SDPI's Response To COP28: From Consensus To Realization”. more >>

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Win-Win mindset crucial for effective climate change negotiations
Source: Adnan Arif, The Public Purview, 2024-01-10
ISLAMABAD: While the outcome of COP28 is being criticized, there is no good or bad COP for climate; what is important is applying the Win-Win mindset which is crucial for effective climate change negotiations, said Dr Abid Qaiyum Suleri, Executive Director, SDPI. He was speaking at seminar titled “SDPI's Response To COP28: From Consensus To Realization” organized by SDPI here. more >>

CII advocates stringent laws to curb child abuse
Source: Kalbe Ali, Dawn, Islamabad, 2024-01-12
ISLAMABAD: Council of Islamic Ideology (CII) Chairman Qibla Ayaz has stressed the need for legislation entailing strict punishment in cases of child abuse and kidnapping, as speakers highlighted the multi-dimensional nature of the issue. Speaking at a seminar titled “Addressing the plight of missing children and the corresponding legal framework in Pakistan”, the CII chief said that p. more >>

CII chairman for imposing strict punishments for child abusers, abductors
Source: APP, Associated Press of Pakistan, 2024-01-11
ISLAMABAD, Jan 11 (APP): Council of Islamic Ideology (CII) Chairman Dr Qibla Ayaz on Thursday stressed the need for legislation imposing strict punishments for child abusers and abductors to send a strong message to the criminals and curb such crimes. He was speaking at a seminar on “Addressing the plight of missing children and the corresponding legal framework in Pakistan”, organized. more >>
CII Chairman For Imposing Strict Punishments For Child Abusers, Abductors
Source: APP, Urdu Point, 2024-01-11
Council of Islamic Ideology (CII) Chairman Dr Qibla Ayaz on Thursday stressed the need for legislation imposing strict punishments for child abusers and abductors to send a strong message to the criminals and curb such crimes.

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CII Chairman Dr. Qibla Ayaz for imposing strict punishments in abduction & child abuse cases
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Win-Win Mindset Crucial For Effective Climate Change Negotiations
Source: TCL, The CatchLine, 2024-01-11
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Chairman CII Calls For Strict Laws Against Child Abduction – Collective Efforts Urged For Child Safety
Source: TCL, The CatchLine, 2024-01-11
ISLAMABAD: Dr Qibla Ayaz, the Chairman of Council of Islamic Ideology (CII), has stressed the need for legislation imposing strict punishments in cases of child abuse and abductions to send strong message to the criminals and curb such crimes. He was speaking at a seminar titled “Addressing the plight of missing children and the corresponding legal framework in Pakistan”, organized b.....

Call for legislation to punish child abductors, abusers
Source: Our Correspondent, The Express Tribune, Islamabad, 2024-01-13
ISLAMABAD: Council of Islamic Ideology (CII) Chairman has stressed the need for legislation to impose strict punishments in cases of child abuse and abductions to send strong message to the criminals and curb such crimes. He was speaking at a seminar titled “Addressing the plight of missing children and the corresponding legal framework in Pakistan”, organised by Sustainable Developm.....

CII advocates stringent laws to curb child abuse
Source: Syeda Khadija Zainab, MinuteMirror, 2024-01-14
In a seminar addressing the distressing issue of missing children and the legal framework in Pakistan, Council of Islamic Ideology (CII) Chairman Qibla Ayaz emphasized the urgent need for legislation with strict punishments in cases of child abuse and kidnapping. The seminar, titled “Addressing the plight of missing children and the corresponding legal framework in Pakistan,” brought t.....

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Source: Our Correspondent, The Express Tribune, Islamabad, 2024-01-14
ISLAMABAD: While there is a lot of talk and criticism about COP28, SDPI Executive Director, Dr Abid Qaiyum Suleri has said that there is no good or bad COP for climate; what is important is applying the Win-Win mindset which is crucial for effective climate change negotiations. He was speaking at seminar titled “SDPI's Response To COP28: From Consensus To Realisation” organised.....
Webinar News

JETP a good solution for Pakistan to move away from coal, Experts
Source: Fatima Javed, Gwadar Pro, 2024-01-12
ISLAMABAD, Jan. 12, (Gwadar Pro)-"Just Energy Transition Partnerships (JETPs) could be a good solution for Pakistan to move away from coal and can help with investments in renewables," said Dr. Daniele Malerba, Senior Researcher at the German Institute of Development & Sustainability. During a webinar on "Scoping the feasibility of early retirement of coal power plants under C..... more >>

Innovative solutions a must for early retirement of coal powered plants under CPEC: Experts
Source: SABA H, SABA H News, 2024-01-14
ISLAMABAD (January 14, 2024): Experts at a webinar stressed the need for exploring innovative financing mechanisms in the context of Pakistan’s energy sector to facilitate the early retirement of coal power plants under China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC). The webinar titled, ‘Scoping the Feasibility of Early Retirement of Coal Power Plants under CPEC,’ was organized by the Su..... more >>

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Source: TCL, The CatchLine, 2024-01-15
Islamabad: The experts at a webinar on potential of agricultural food systems and lessening climate impacts on have underscored the need to enhance extensive flow of information to the stakeholders including media and manage the data governance for the advanced studies lying on the shelves to revolutionize the agrifood systems. This was the gist of the Monday series webinar of the Sustainable De..... more >>

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Source: Ali Jabir, Associated Press of Pakistan, 2024-01-15
ISLAMABAD, Jan 15 (APP): The experts at a webinar on the potential of agricultural food systems and lessening climate impacts have underscored the need to enhance the extensive flow of information to the stakeholders including media and manage the data governance for the advanced studies lying on the shelves to revolutionize the agrifood systems. This was the gist of the Monday series webinar of..... more >>