

Prime Minister of Pakistan Imran Khan has constituted a National Coordination Committee (NCC) on Agriculture and we are pleased to share that Executive Director SDPI Dr. Abid Qaiyum Suleri has been appointed as a member of the National Coordination Committee on Transformation of Agriculture.

OUR RESPONSE TO COVID-19

Since the emergence of COVID-19, SDPI knowing its role as a think tank is helping government with evidence-based research, capacity building and policy advice. In case you missed what SDPI is doing on this front, visit us at [here](#).

OUR PUBLICATIONS

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE BULLETIN

SDPI was the first institute in Pakistan to opt for virtual conference titled “Sustainable Development in Times of COVID-19”. It was first ever paperless conference of SDPI having 45 sessions, of which there were 9 plenary sessions and 36 concurrent panels. During the four-day Conference, 193 speakers joined from Pakistan while another 63 came from 26 countries. Enjoy reading our bulletin [here](#).

POTENTIAL ROLE OF CHINESE AND PAKISTAN LEADERS IN RENEWABLE ENERGY TRANSITION OF PAKISTAN

As climate is changing there are more risks and Pakistan also needs to contribute to global agenda by moving away from fossil fuels. Pakistan has also recently launched its ARE Policy 2019 that identifies a 30% share of renewables by 2030 (AEDB, 2019). Hence it is apparent to analyze that the response to climate change is mutual aspiration for both China and Pakistan. This report discusses in depth the risks associated with future coal investments and how china can play an important role for Pakistan to achieve its goal in energy sector in line with agenda 2030. It is therefore imperative to focus and divert further investment from fossil fuels to renewable energy by taking a more diverse leadership role in line with the concept and vision of global energy governance, commitment to Paris agreement, and NDCs. Read in detail [here](#).

POLICY REVIEW ENERGY REQUIREMENT FOR COVID-19 VACCINE-COLD CHAIN AND LOGISTICS

Preventive measures taken by economies have limited the impact of the pandemic but still, the use of vaccines has been identified as the most critical aspect to get countries back on track, especially the low and middle-income countries. An efficient distribution and supply chain in middle-income and high-income countries may save up to 61% and 33% of subsequent deaths respectively (Peters and Hartley 2020). Hence, developing and supplying vaccines is amongst the topmost global priority. As of today, many vaccines are commercially available and have achieved

regulatory approvals. Hence, the pharmaceutical companies, manufacturers, and distributors have to face significant logistic challenges to ensure their effective transfer and storage. Enjoy reading this publication [here](#).

CULTURAL DIPLOMACY IN THE TIME OF COVID-19: UPDATING SDG-17 (PARTNERSHIP FOR GOALS)

This study focuses on concept and challenges of cultural diplomacy as a mean of sustainable development. It further discusses cultural diplomacy in connection with the SDG-17 ('partnerships for the goals'). The study also suggests how to actualize its targets. SDG-17 has 19 targets (Appendix 1). This study suggests addition of 20th target with title: "encourage effective cultural diplomacy", keeping in view the current situation of the pandemic. Read this publication [here](#).

TOWARDS RESULTS-ORIENTED NATIONAL SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION (ST&I) POLICY: BRIDGING STAKEHOLDERS' EQUITABLE INVOLVEMENT

Transforming of S&T knowledge to a product may be a one-step laboratory bench scale process but taking it to a competitive market, adds on a pilot scale production phase, the success of which define as an acceptable quality, low-cost and market demand (existing or to be developed), finally lead it to the commercial scale production for an open market. Enjoy reading this publication [here](#).

FIRST RESPONSE TO THE SBP AMENDMENT ACT 2021

This first response to the SBP Act 2021 covers three key areas. First, it highlights some fundamental inconsistencies in the present debate around the act. Second, it maintains that the evidence contradicts the argument that in the last 10 years the SBP has already asserted itself well enough, therefore, the SBP Act 2021 is not needed. Third, the paper highlights areas of improvement in the SBP Act 2021 and suggests possible amendments, including but not limited to: (i) adopting Integrated Inflation Targeting (IIT) instead of standard model of Inflation Targeting (IT), (ii) keeping all appointments to only one term to avoid any moral hazard and (iii) ensuring well-defined formal mechanisms of coordination between monetary and fiscal policies. Overall, SBP must be made independent of any political influences with strong transparency, accountability, and foresight mechanisms in place. Read more [here](#).

THE ECONOMIC DIMENSIONS OF PAKISTAN-UAE RELATIONS

DR VAQAR AHMED

The inflows from abroad remained above \$2 billion since June 2020 – a trend which could be threatened if employers including those in the UAE do not start inviting workers once again from Pakistan. Read more [here](#).

IMF PROGRAM BACK ON TRACK MEANS POLITICAL PROMISES WILL BE BROKEN

DR VAQAR AHMED

The government realized that the popular announcements they planned for budget 2021-22 will remain a distant dream. On the contrary, the finance team ended up agreeing to generate an additional PKR 700 billion in taxes; collect PKR 900 billion by increasing electricity charges by 34 percent; adding PKR 140 billion to corporate taxes by removing the exemptions allowed earlier. Read more [here](#).

PANDEMICS AND INEQUALITY

SANA MALIK

The brunt of the crisis both in its scope and severity is borne by already marginalised and vulnerable people. Therefore, post-Covid, the situation can be predicted to worsen. The recovery process should thus be equitable and the line between haves and have-nots should not be widened whilst ensuring fairness and sustainability in the post-pandemic world. Read more [here](#).

ON FREE AND FAIR ELECTION

AMJAD HUSSAIN DAWAR

Supra-constitutional meddling or choreographing the elections is a ubiquitous bar on the transparency of elections. However, in the presence of the aforementioned structural inequalities no elections can be free and fair. The present system of reserved seats and quotas for women in political parties is inadequate to enhance the free political will and agency of women. What is required is a comprehensive reforms package, ranging from dismantling of feudalism and patriarchy to behavioural change, to establish the true value and sanctity of vote. Until social, economic and gender equality is ensured in the country, free and fair elections will remain a far cry. Read more [here](#).

THE NEW NORMAL IS WAITING

ZAHRA KHALID

Time is ripe for Pakistan's digital revolution in the fight against Covid-19. It has accelerated e-commerce in Pakistan – an indication of what is happening worldwide. Pakistanis are switching to online options for banking, groceries, etc. Read [more](#).

IDENTIFYING INNOVATION IN POLICY

DR MAHMOOD A. KHWAJA


The latest national ST&I policy needs an evaluation to ensure the need for a new policy or revision/updating of the same and identifying areas/recommendations of the last policy that need to be carried forward or deleted in the new proposed policy. Read complete opinion piece [here](#).

OUR WEBINARS

Since the emergence of pandemic COVID-19, SDPI started a webinar series for awareness, capacity building and policy advice. Since March 2020, SDPI has organized more than 100 webinars. Below are some of the webinars conducted during the month of April 2021.

The poster features logos for SDPI (Accelerate Development Policy Institute), UKaid (from the British people), Adam Smith International, and SEED (خوشحال سید کوٹوالی). The main title is "REFORM OF PENSIONS: LESSONS FROM SUCCESSFUL EXAMPLES IN PAKISTAN". The date and time are "Friday, 30th APRIL 2021" and "Timings, 3:00 - 5:00 PM". A QR code is provided for registration. Social media icons for Facebook Live, Twitter, and YouTube are shown. The panelists listed are: Taimur Jhagra (Finance Minister, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa), Hamid Farooq (MD, Pak Telecom Employees Trust), Zafar Masud (President, Bank of Punjab), Wajid Rana (Former Secretary Finance), Vaqar Ahmed (Joint Executive Director, SDPI), Sheena Ali Mansoor (Joint Secretary/Board Member, EOBI), Hasaan Khawar (Team Lead, SEED), and Syed Nayyar Hussain (Director/HOD, Policy Regulation & Development Department, SECP). Social media handles for SDPI PAKISTAN, OFFICIALSDPI, and SDTVPakistan are also included.




Complete discussion of the webinar is available at our [Facebook page](#). Key deliberations by the esteemed panelists can be viewed at the [discussion tab](#) the Facebook event.







REMEMBERING WORK & LIFE OF HONORABLE IA REHMAN

A PAKISTANI PEACE AND HUMAN RIGHTS ADVOCATE

- Friday, 23th APRIL 2021
- Timings, 11:00AM - 12:30PM

  SDPI PAKISTAN
  OFFICIALSDPI
  SDTVPAKISTAN

Civil society, media, writers and friends of Honorable IA Rehman (late) paid tribute to him for his efforts for peace and human rights. Watch complete video at our [Facebook page](#).



DATE 22 APRIL 2021 | TIME 1400 PST

LIVE WEBINAR   LIVE

 t.ly/nXTb

zoom

Earth Day 2021: Climate Crisis & the Road to Glasgow



Dr. Saleemul Huq
Director ICCAD
Bangladesh



Dr. Fahad Saeed
Climate Scientist,
Climate Analytics,
Germany



Ms Ulka Kelkar
Director Climate
Program, WRI,
India



Dr. Abid O. Suleri
Executive Director
SDPI, Pakistan



Dr. Imran Khalid
Visiting Fellow,
SDPI, Pakistan



  SDPIPAKISTAN
  OFFICIALSDPI
  SDTVPAKISTAN

Complete video discussion is available at our [Facebook page](#). Key takeaways by the eminent experts can be found at our [Instagram page](#).



LOW CARBON RECOVERY IN PAKISTAN

GREEN FINANCING STRATEGIES IN POST-COVID SCENARIO

▼ Thursday, 22nd APRIL 2021

▲ Timings 11:30 - 1:00 PM



Abid Q. Suleri
Executive Director, SDPI



Mr. Zeeshan Ashfaq
Country Representative-
Pakistan, World Wind
Energy Association



Mr. Hussain Jarwar
CEO, Indus Consortium



Ms. Vardah Malik
Investment Advisor, SEED



Mr. Simon Nicholas
Energy Finance Analyst at the
Institute for Energy Economics
and Financial Analysis (IEEFA)



Ms Aisha Khan
Executive Director,
CSCCC



Dr. Sajid Amin Javed
Research Fellow, SDPI



Dr. Hina Aslam
Associate Research
Fellow, SDPI

SDPI PAKISTAN

LIVE WEBINAR

Scan to Register

www.sdpi.org

Complete discussion of the webinar is available at our [Facebook page](#). Key messages and deliberations of the panelists are available at our [Instagram page](#).



A Conversation. With Ms Teresa Daban Sanchez, IMF Country Rep in Pakistan

Completion of 2nd-5th reviews under IMF's extended fund facility (EFF) program for Pakistan



DR. Abid Qaiyum
Executive Director, SDPI



Ms. Maria Teresa Daban Sanchez
Resident Representative
of IMF in Pakistan

APR 14 11:00 AM

WEDNESDAY

LIVE WEBINAR

SDPI PAKISTAN OFFICIALSDPI SDTVPAKISTAN



WEBINAR ON Role of Institution and Teachers in Shaping Youth

Thursday 1st April, 2021
Timing 11:00AM - 12:30PM



MODERATOR
Shahid Mahmood
Head CLO-SDPI



Dr. Shahjaf Muneer
Executive Director
Development Programme, SDPI



Dr. Fakhra Hashim Khan
Dean, Centre for Teaching
Excellence and Learning Innovation, U



Prof. Dr. Pervaiz Akhrom
Vice-Chancellor, NCU/Panel Chair



Dr. Ahsan Farooq
MD Quality Assurance, HEC



Dr. Huda Bano
Fest University Lahore



Dr. Saadia Iqbal
Dean, Faculty of Arts, Design
Education & Social Sciences, U



Dr. Fakhra Hashim Khan
Director, Online Education, U

SDPI PAKISTAN OFFICIALSDPI SDTVPAKISTAN

ZOOM WEBINAR LIVE

SDPI held a special conversation with IMF country representative in Pakistan Ms Teresa Daban Sanchez. Watch complete video [here](#).

Webinar's complete video can be watched at our [Facebook page](#).



E-Cigarettes – Myths, Realities and the Policy, Way Forward in Pakistan

Thursday, 15th APRIL 2021
Timings, 11:00AM-12:00PM



PANELLISTS

SDPI PAKISTAN OFFICIALSDPI SDTVPakistan

Key takeaways of the webinar can be read at our [Twitter](#) and complete video discussion is available at our [Facebook page](#).



PRE-BUDGET SYMPOSIUM ON EXPORT COMPETITIVENESS AMID COVID-19 IN PAKISTAN

Thursday, 8th APRIL 2021
Timings, 3:00-5:00 PM



SDPI PAKISTAN OFFICIALSDPI SDTVPakistan



SCAN TO MEET US

Watch complete discussion of the webinar at our [Facebook page](#). Key takeaways by the esteemed panelists are available at our [Instagram](#).

OUR CAMPAIGN ON #NoMoreSmoking



OUR CAMPAIGN ON “NO ONE IS SAFE UNLESS EVERYONE IS SAFE”

SDPI has launched a campaign for the awareness around COVID-19. It covers, but not limited to, myths and misconceptions around COVID-19 vaccine, challenges of vaccination, life after COVID-19 etc. To know more about campaign in upcoming days watch [this space](#).

SDPI IN ELECTRONIC MEDIA

Executive Director SDPI Dr Abid Qaiyum Suleri appeared on Dawn television about [State Bank of Pakistan](#) and at Dunya News about [Economic Advisory Council \(EAC\)](#) of the Government of Pakistan. He also appeared at Pakistan Television News about [economic issues](#).

Ms Maryam Shabbir appeared at Pakistan Television World about [US Climate Change Summit](#).

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT TELEVISION (SDTV) SHOWS

SDPI's SDTV produces Vlogs, documentaries and talk shows. Please click on the images given below to watch video of your interest. Also subscribe us at our [YouTube channel](#).



پاکستان کو تہمت کے لئے کوئی ہتھیار درکار ہیں؟
انڈیا، پاکستان تہمت کا معاملہ؟
ڈاکٹر عابد سلہری کا تجزیہ

17:55

اسٹیٹ بینک ترمیمی ایکٹ 2021
بیک بنو، تجارتی پاکستان کی معاشی
تاریہ کسے اثر انداز ہو گی؟

DR. SAJJAM JAVED
Former of Fellow and Head Public
Economic Lab, SDPI

12:50

ہمارے معاشرتی بگاڑ کی
اصل وجہ کیا ہے؟
ڈاکٹر شفقت شیر کا تجزیہ

DILSHAFQAT MLUR

3:37

EXCLUSIVE SHOW WITH ZARTAJ GUL

امریکی موسمیاتی تبدیلی سربراہی اجلاس میں
پاکستان کو کیوں نظر انداز کیا گیا؟

Cutting of mangoes trees in Malita

18:09

Situation Analysis of Affected Working Population

Working Population Affected due to Lock-down	17.21 Million
SDPI's research shows that 10% Lock-down	28.8 Million
Decreases in Income	6.7 Million

DR. Asim Ahmed
Joint Executive Director, SDPI

6:40

SDPI

DR. ABID QAIYUM SULERI
Executive director, SDPI

MS. ALIYA HAMZA MALIK
Parliamentary Secretary, Textile, Commerce, Industries and Production
and Board of Investment, Government of Pakistan

PRE-BUDGET SYMPOSIUM ON EXPORT COMPETITIVENESS AMID COVID-19 IN PAKISTAN

PRE-BUDGET SYMPOSIUM ON EXPORT COMPETITIVENESS AMID COVID-19 IN PAKISTAN



SDPI IN PRINT MEDIA

[تعلیمی شعبے میں سامنے آنے والے نئے مسائل کے حل کے لیے پالیسی سطح پر کام کی ضرورت ہے، ماہرین حکومت ملک میں پین بجلی منصوبوں میں اضافہ کرنے کی خواہاں، چیئرمین نیپرا](#)

[حکومت پین بجلی منصوبوں میں اضافہ کرنے کی خواہاں، چیئرمین نیپرا](#)

[Govt eyes to increase share of green energy to 30 per cent: NEPRA chairman](#)

[Experts stress need for green energy](#)

[Experts termed innovative method vital to meet emerging challenges in education sector](#)

[Experts Termed Innovative Method Vital To Meet Emerging Challenges In Education Sector](#)

[Structural changes in tariff expected to make energy expensive](#)

[Experts call for innovation to meet emerging challenges in post-Covid-19](#)

[Academic policies be centred around post-COVID world](#)

[Pandemic has threatened education system](#)

[EXPERTS CALL FOR ENSURING EASE OF DOING BUSINESS](#)

[Tackling energy, environmental crises important to ensure national security: Speakers](#)

[Experts stress need for ease of doing business](#)

[Govt urged to improve ease of doing business](#)

[EXPERTS CALL FOR ENSURING EASE OF DOING BUSINESS](#)

[EXPERTS CALL FOR ENSURING EASE OF DOING BUSINESS](#)

[Experts Call For Ensuring Ease Of Doing Business To Improve Revenues Collection In Sindh](#)

[Experts advocate sales tax collection by provinces](#)

[Experts call for ensuring ease of doing business](#)

[صوبوں کو اختیارات سے محصولات میں اضافہ ہو گا، ماہرین](#)

[ہمیں ٹیکسوں کی وصولی کیلئے نئی سوچ اپنانے کی ضرورت ہے، ڈاکٹر وقار اکرم](#)

[Reforms to help improve tax receipts](#)

[Experts advocate sales tax collection by provinces](#)

[Webinar emphasizes strengthening export competitiveness amid COVID-19](#)

[Evidence-based policies a key to ensure export competitiveness amid covid-19: Speaker](#)

[Industrial workers get monetary support of Rs75 billion amid Covid-19: Official](#)

[Sales tax should be collected by provinces](#)

[Industrial Worker Gets Monetary Support Of Rs. 75 Billion Amid Covid-19: Aliya Hamza](#)

[برآمدات بڑھانے کے لیے صنعتوں کی مدد کی جائے، عالیہ حمزہ ملک](#)

[Industrial workers get monetary support of Rs. 75b amid Covid-19: Aliya](#)

[International bodies criticize restrictions on NGOs](#)

[IMF AGAIN ASKS GOVT TO INCREASE POWER TARIFF](#)

[Reforms programme under EFF to Pakistan is on right track: IMF's Country Representative](#)

[IMF can't dictate country's legislation, institutions, says Daban Sanchez](#)

[EFF programme open to adjustment](#)

[Pakistan urged to adjust policies](#)

[Power tariffs need to go up, says IMF](#)

[Pakistan set to achieve fiscal sustainability: IMF](#)

[Pakistan urged to adjust policies](#)

[Power tariffs need to go up, says IMF](#)

[بجلی مہنگی، ٹیکس چھوٹ محدود کرنا ہو گی، مزید قرضے مؤخر کرنے کا عندیہ، آئی ایم ایف](#)

[Pakistan set to achieve fiscal sustainability: IMF](#)

[Pakistan on track to achieve fiscal sustainability: IMF](#)

[مہنگائی برقرار رہنے کے خدشات ہیں، سٹیٹ بینک کی خودمختاری پر ڈکٹیشن نہیں دی، آئی ایم ایف](#)

[پاکستان کی مالیاتی اصلاحات کیلئے پیشرفت اہم، مہنگائی برقرار رہ سکتی ہے، آئی ایم ایف](#)

[Pakistan explores debt-for-nature scheme to accelerate its 10 billion tree tsunami](#)

[Poverty driven by climate change linked to suicide spike in Pakistani desert region](#)

[Experts Suggest Measures To Avert Health Hazards Created By Growing Use Of E-Cigarette](#)

[ای سگریٹ صحت کے مسائل بڑھانے کا باعث ہے، ماہرین](#)

[ای سگریٹ کا بڑھتا رجحان صحت کے مسائل میں اضافے کا باعث، ماہرین](#)

[ای سگریٹ کا بڑھتا رجحان نوجوانوں کی نشوونما کے لیے خطرناک ہیں، ماہرین](#)

[Over 30 countries have banned E-Cigarette](#)

[TAPPING RENEWABLE ENERGY RESOURCES TO LEAD PAKISTAN TO LOW CARBON RECOVERY: EXPERTS](#)

[EXPERTS URGE DEVELOPED COUNTRIES TO SUPPORT CLEAN AND GREEN RECOVERY FOR BETTER FUTURE](#)

[TAPPING RENEWABLE ENERGY RESOURCES TO LEAD PAKISTAN TO LOW CARBON RECOVERY: EXPERTS](#)

[Tapping Renewable Energy Resources To Lead Pakistan To Low Carbon Recovery: Experts](#)

[Renewable Energy Resources, Crucial To Achieve Environmental Targets: Experts](#)

[TAPPING RENEWABLE ENERGY RESOURCES TO LEAD PAKISTAN TO LOW CARBON RECOVERY: EXPERTS](#)

[Experts support clean, green recovery for better future](#)

[World Earth Day, Global, regional cooperation needed to meet climate change challenges](#)

[پاکستان کو ماحولیاتی تبدیلی کے چیلنجز کا سامنا ہے، ڈان مک](#)

[Ways discussed to achieve water, energy and food security](#)

[Experts on IWMI-led dialogue discuss how Pakistan can achieve water and food security](#)

[Panelists on IWMI dialogue discuss how Pakistan can achieve food, water and food security](#)

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