Acknowledgement
The compilation of this report would not have been possible without the input and guidance from colleagues at the institute.

Edited and Compiled by: Saleem Khilji & Ms Sadia Bokhari
Designed by: Ghulam Ahmad
Photography by: Umair Mehmood
Like all other years, 2018 too remained eventful for Pakistan. Despite different speculations, we had general elections and a peaceful transition of power. The crux of the maiden speech of Prime Minister Imran Khan was his government’s resolve to work for Sustainable Development Goals. Without naming the SDGs, he talked of poverty, malnutrition, hunger, education, health, gender equality, drinking water, climate change, and peaceful coexistence in the region. The social sector development agenda of the new government is very close to SDPI’s work and we would continue to support it in evidence-based policy making. The annual report in hand, with a detail of our research studies conducted in 2018, is the proof of our expertise in all areas that the Premier mentioned in his maiden speech.

Another priority area of the new government is “economic stabilization”. SDPI has been given a slot in Prime Minister’s Economic Advisory Council (EAC). You would find in the annual report that we continued to work on macro and micro-economic stability of Pakistan and came out with very concrete recommendations. Our presence in EAC would help us pass on most of those recommendations to policy makers.

SDPI has been providing policy and research support to successive governments of Pakistan for a transition towards sustainable development. While we commend policy makers for their right initiatives towards sustainable development, we are the first one - not only to point out but also to come up with alternative solutions - when the government policies go off-track. Sticking to our traditions, we remained a part of solution with complete intellectual honesty and academic freedom with the previous government and we would remain a part of solution with the present government too.

After research generation, the second pillar of SDPI is its dissemination. Though policy space is shrinking in Pakistan for intellectually honest and independent voices, SDPI kept on conducting advocacy on issues of public interest. The list of policy outreach events, and the number of opinion pieces (details given in this report) SDPI contributed to mainstream media vouch for our resolve to bridge the research-policy gap.

SDPI always tried to play its role in creating a cadre of sustainable development practitioners and theorists so that there is an ample expertise in public and private sector to continue the transition towards sustainable development. The list of SDPI “learning and development” initiatives is provided in this report. I am pleased to share that for second continuous year, SDPI organized some of its trainings in Bangkok where we had participants from South Asian partner organizations.

Finally, I am also pleased to write that SDPI continues to share the global ranking of top 100 think tanks in more than a dozen categories. In 2018, we were declared as one of the best global think tanks by University of Pennsylvania, USA’s “Global Go to Think Tank Ranking”. The consistent performance would not have been possible without the guidance of SDPI’s Board of Governors and without the efforts of SDPI team. I offer my gratitude to all of them for turning another year into success.

Going forward, despite funding constraints that is haunting most of the independent think tanks in Pakistan, we need to sharpen our research and policy analysis lenses. The biggest challenge for many in the think tank world is to have direct access to the decision makers at the highest level. SDPI has the access, now the challenge for us is to contribute to evidence-based policy making in an effective manner. For that to happen, we need your guidance, support and help. Please go through our annual report and give your feedback as to how we can improve our performance in the months and years to come.

(Dr Abid Qaiyum Suleri)
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Section 1
INTRODUCTION
About SDPI

Founded 26 years ago (August 1992) on the recommendation of Pakistan National Conservation Strategy (NCS), also called Pakistan’s Agenda 21, SDPI was registered under Societies Registration Act XXI of 1860. The NCS outlined the need for an independent policy think tank to serve as a source of expertise for policy formulation, policy analysis, policy intervention, and policy programme advisory services.

SDPI strives for bridging research-policy gap through effective policy outreach and capacity building.

**MISSION**

To catalyze the transition towards sustainable development defined as the enhancement of peace, social justice and wellbeing within and across generations

**VISION**

To be the center of excellence on sustainable development policy research, capacity building and advocacy in Pakistan

To deliver on its vision and mission, SDPI has a broader range of partners in the country and abroad (see annexure 5)
SDPI at a Glance
Board of Governors

Mr Shafqat Kakakhel
(Chairperson)
Former Ambassador
Former UN Assistant Secretary General, UNEP

Prof. Ahsan Iqbal
Member
Member of National Assembly
Former Federal Minister for Interior

Syed Naveed Qamar
Member
Member of National Assembly
Former Federal Minister for Finance

Ms Roshan Khursheed Bharucha
Member
Chairperson, SOS Village, Quetta
Former Senator
Former Federal Minister

Mr Shamim Ahmad Khan
Member
Director, Packages Limited
Former Federal Secretary

Mr Adil Khattak
Member
Chief Executive Officer,
Attock Refinery Limited

Prof. Dr Samina Amin Qadir
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Vice-Chancellor
Fatima Jinnah Women University,
Rawalpindi

Ms Aisha Khan
Member
Chief Executive Officer,
Mountain & Glacier Protection Organization

Engineer M. Abdul Jabbar
Member
Chief Executive, Qaim Automotive Manufacturing Limited

Dr Abid Qaiyum Suleri
Ex-Officio Member
Executive Director,
Sustainable Development Policy Institute
Member, Economic Advisory Council
Mapping SDPI’s Research Work
Glimpses of SDPI’s Flagship Event
SDPI staff with Senator Mushahid Hussain Syed pose for a group photo on the conclusion of 20th Sustainable Development Conference 2017 in Islamabad.
A dinner get-together
SDPI in Global Go To Think Tank Index

The Global Go To Think Tank Index categorizes the world think tanks in various categories. The index is The Think Tank and Civil Societies Program of the Lauder Institute at the University of Pennsylvania conducted every year.

Over 7800 think tanks the world over catalogued in various categories and ranks in 2017 wherein Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI) clinched impressive positions as shown in the table below.

2016 RANKING

The 2016 annual GGTTI report ranked 6,846 think tanks of the world wherein SDPI was ranked in 14 categories.

- 103rd position in the top think tanks worldwide (non-US) category
- 15th position in the top think tanks in Southeast Asia and the Pacific category
- 65th position in the top Environment Policy Think Tanks
- 99th position in the top 100 social policy think tank
- 63rd position in the special category called best advocacy campaign
- 61st position in the best institutional collaboration involving two or more think tanks*
- 42nd position in the best trans-disciplinary research think tanks
- 83rd position in the Best Use of Social Media and Networks
- 43rd position in the think tanks to watch in 2017 category
- 75th in the think tanks with the best external relations/public engagement program
- 60th position in the best use of media (print or electronic) category
- 55th position in the best independent think tanks
- 43rd in the best quality assurance and integrity policies and procedures
Key Achievements in 2018

National Economic Advisory Council

In 2018, SDPI Executive Director Dr Abid Qaiyum Suleri was appointed the Member of National Economic Advisory Council (EAC), Government of Pakistan, Earlier, he had been appointed the EAC member by the previous government in 2014.

Environmental Barometer 2018

SDPI in collaboration with Heinrich Boll Stiftung conducted Environmental Barometer 2018, a survey first of its kind, to capture the voters’ preferences on major issues concerning Pakistan, and who would they like to vote for to resolve those issues. The findings of this survey were carried out in a special issue of monthly Herald.

Mercury Free Dentistry

In recognition to its research work on Mercury free dentistry, the Government of Pakistan restricted the use of mercury amalgam for children and women.

MoUs with Govt Organizations and Universities

SDPI during 2018 signed a number of Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) with government organizations including NACTA, SDGs Secretariat of the National Assembly, ABAD, University of Malakand, Thammasat University, Beaconhouse National University, Bangkok (Thailand), etc.

Research Work

In 2018, SDPI conducted research work on at least seven themes, i.e. Climate Change, Economy and Trade, Governance, Sustainable Development Goals, Social Development, Resilient Development and produced at least 50 publications including books, research papers, working papers, policy briefs, policy reviews and bulletins on the basis of this research.

Op-Eds & Articles Contribution

SDPI knowledge sharing remained excellent during the year. SDPI produced at least 130 newspaper write-ups including Op-Eds and newspaper articles.

SDPI in Global Ranking

In 2017 Global Go To Think Tank Index, SDPI was among top 100 think tanks in various categories, i.e. 67th in Environment policy think tank, 53rd in best independent think tank, 62nd in best use of media, etc.
Section 2
POLICY RESEARCH
Life on earth is under threat due to climate change. The natural resources are continuously being depleted due to population growth, urbanization, air and water pollution, improper waste management, and biodiversity losses. Moreover, research shows that anthropogenic activities have significantly harmed our climate due to global warming. Floods, droughts, melting of glacial lakes and changing rain patterns are some of the phenomena manifested due to climate change. Pakistan has been listed among the most vulnerable countries which are being severely impacted due to changing pattern of climate extremes. Environmental protection and how to save humanity from the negative effects of climate change continue to be an integral part of SDPI’s agenda. SDPI studies, and mega research projects aim to further explore how development pathways can be strengthened in terms of enhanced resilience in the face of a changing climate scenario.

Pathways to Resilience in Semi-Arid Economies

IDI& DFID

Pathways to Resilience in Semi-arid Economies (PRISE), is a multi-country research study that is part of a bigger programme “Collaborative Adaptation Research Initiative in Africa and Asia (CARIAA). The main objective of CARIAA is to fortify vulnerable populations and their livelihoods from adverse effects of climate change. It has four participating consortia, namely (PRISE, Hi-AWARE, Adaptation at Scale in Semi-Arid Regions (ASSAR), and Deltas, Vulnerability and Climate Change: Migration as an Adaptation (DECCMA).

Initiated in semi-arid lands in Pakistan, Tajikistan, Senegal, Kenya, Burkin Faso and Tanzania in Feb. 2014, PRISE was a five-year multi-country research project that concluded in November 2018. The main objective of the programme was to generate new knowledge as to how economic development in semi-arid regions can be made more equitable and resilient to climate change. PRISE aimed to strengthen the commitment of decision-makers in local and national governments, businesses and trade bodies to rapid, inclusive and resilient development in these regions. It did so by deepening their understanding of the threats and opportunities that semi-arid economies face in relation to climate change.

Building on the PRISE project’s demand-led approach, extensive consultations between the research team and key stakeholders in Year 1 & 2 of the project led to the emergence of seven research areas, to form the foundation of PRISE’s research focus for Years 3 and 4. SDPI worked on three key thematic areas as given below.

1. Migration future in Asia & Africa: climate change & climate-resilient economic development in semi-arid regions

This study aimed to examine the potential linkages between climate change and variability on internal migration patterns, and economy. “Climate change accelerates migration from rural semi-arid lands to urban centers and other rural areas to enhance people’s adaptive potential and introduce them to new economic opportunities” was the hypothesis of the study. We kept in mind that migration may also prove to be a maladaptive option, if it results in economic and social deprivation in out-migrating regions while leaving behind a residual population of chronically poor and vulnerable women, elderly people and others unable to work or participate in productive activities. Therefore, economic development potential and resilience of semi-arid lands will then depend on the net result of such impacts in the long run.

Findings: The study has unearthed some very interesting findings related to the linkages between climate change impact on rural livelihoods and how migration helps to improve resilience against these impacts. The study was phased out in three steps:

- An understanding of the potential of migration as a resilience enhancing strategy
- An understanding of climate vulnerabilities in rural semi-arid areas
- A synthesis of the findings and proposing policy suggestions for ensuring safe and planned migration

In the first phase, field data was used to develop a comparative Livelihood Resilience Index for migrant and non-migrant households to assess the differences in their levels of resilience. Resilience was defined in terms of adaptive, anticipatory and absorptive capacities, with context specific indicators developed for the three capacities.

Results show that for all indicators, the livelihood index score for migrants was higher than that of non-migrants; and for most indicators, the difference was statistically significant. The results indicate that migrants are generally more resilient to external shocks whether climatic or non-climatic. Comparatively higher levels of income, lower dependency ratios, more diversified sources of income, and higher employment rates define the adaptive capacities of migrant households. Scores for absorptive capacities indicate that migrant households have better access to financial resources, have more diversified household assets, and enjoy a generally higher standard of living as compared to non-migrant households. These
factors better equip migrant households to cope with adverse situations. Furthermore, higher anticipatory capacity of scores of migrant households shows that they are better at learning new skills, have a stronger social network, and have more access to information.

The study also unveiled the climatic vulnerabilities of rural agricultural livelihood. The study examined how rural livelihoods were impacted due to climate change and to what extent migration can help adapt to those vulnerabilities. The study found that among the three semi-arid study sites, D.G Khan is the most vulnerable district to climate change impacts followed by Mardan and Faisalabad. Lack of adaptive capacity was found to be the major determinant of a household’s vulnerability, rather than the degree of exposure or sensitivity to environmental/climatic changes. The level of education of the household head, access to information sources and strength of social networks determine the adaptive capacity of farming households.

The most common methods of adapting agricultural livelihoods in semi-arid Pakistan to climate impacts include intensifying the use of agricultural inputs such as pesticides and fertilizers, and use of different crop varieties. In addition to increasing farm inputs and diversifying crop varieties, rural households also consider diversifying their livelihood through temporary or permanent migration of either the whole or part of the family. This highlights the importance of migration as an adaptation strategy to climate change employed by farming families in particular.

Synthesizing the lessons learned in both phases, the project has proposed a development agenda that strengthens rural households’ resilience through rural development and introduction of alternative economic opportunities, including safe and planned migration for those who choose to migrate. Some of the recommendations include:

- Improve access to irrigation water to strengthen rural livelihoods;
- Raise awareness and enhance participatory capacity building;
- Encourage and support women’s role in non-farm activities to reduce the dependency of families of emigrants;
- Extend, improve and subsidize agricultural extension services to farmers;
- Develop and integrate policies to facilitate planned migration;
- Improve management of migration flows and data;
- Enhance Public Private Partnerships (PPPs) to absorb rural unskilled labour in cities;
- Implement labor laws and minimum wage rates.

**Outreach**

The findings of this research have been presented and disseminated at various national, regional and international platforms. It has not only helped in sharing new knowledge with the world but also helped develop new platforms and networks with like-minded organizations. To date, the project has produced two working papers, one policy brief, one published in an international journal, several blog posts, opinion editorials and numerous presentations. Two chapters are in the process of being published by Springer and Routledge publications. Some of the major engagements were:

a) International Conference on Poverty and Social Inequalities in Pakistan: Inclusive Growth Perspective (Sargodha, Pakistan) 24th-25th May 2017
b) Regional Consultation on Climate Induced Migration – Climate Action Network South Asia (Nagarkot, Nepal) 11-13th June 2017.
c) Showcasing Research on Migration Trends in Pakistan (Islamabad, Pakistan) – International Organisation for Migration, 30th August 2017. Participants included Australian High Commission, the British High Commission, DFID and the UN agencies.
d) Impacts World 2017, Potsdam, October 2017.
e) Sustainable Development Conferences, December 2015, 2016 and 2017
f) GCISC Conference of International Science Policy Conference on Climate Change (SP3C) in Islamabad, December 2017
g) 11th Community Based Adaptation Conference in Kampala, Uganda 2017

**Focal Persons:** Kashif Salik & Ayesha Qaisrani

**2. Harnessing opportunities for climate-resilient economic development in semi-arid lands: adaptation options in key sectors**

This study aimed to identify climate change impacts and adaptation options in selected sectors with potential for economic transformation and diversification in the semi-arid lands of PRISE countries as identified by stakeholders. The major objective of the study were to explore business opportunities, development of new niche markets, resilience of value-chains, role of partnerships in building resilient economies in semi-arid areas and access to climate finance mechanisms. Two overarching questions of this project were:
3. Water governance in semi-arid lands: political and economic insights for the management of variability and extremes in a changing climate

Under PRISE project, this study explored the political economy of water governance in the country particularly in terms of managing flood risks. In this context, the research aimed to address three important areas:

- What role do political-economy considerations play in determining water governance responses to flood risks (in Jhang and DG Khan)?
- To what extent do equity and Annual Report 2018_AQ-3 justice concerns inform disaster risk management/ policymaking (in Jhang and DG Khan)?
- To what extent do insights from past floods inform policy and planning for climate resilient economy?

During the past year, the project team tried to build upon the field work conducted in Dera Ghazi Khan and Jhang districts in 2016-17 to assess flood risk decision-making processes at the local level institutions and small businesses. In this context, the initial findings were shared with key stakeholders at federal and provincial capitals. A working paper is in the pipeline to address the research questions and the findings. According to some of the initial findings, not highlighted in earlier research studies, adequate warning had been given to the communities, but even then they were hesitant to move to relief camps/ higher ground due to apprehensions relating to purdah (restriction on women mobility) and presumed lack of safety of the families. Such trepidations led the community members to stay in their residences until the last moments, when either they were removed forcibly by the police or left on their own as the flood waters reach their premises. Furthermore, earlier studies did not focus on multiple aspects of flooding impacting communities in D. G. Khan and Jhang. For example, a number of in-depth KIIs and FDGs with communities along riverine flood plains as well as those in the path of the hill torrents, were conducted in Dera Ghazi Khan. Additionally, a small business survey in both districts was the first of its kind. This was unique in terms of highlighting the impact of natural disasters on the local/ regional economy. Furthermore, work is underway to produce a working paper and a policy brief.

Political economy of flood risk management in Pakistan

The working paper aimed to assess the political economy of institutions involved in flood management in Pakistan. The institutional vulnerabilities, gaps, policies and past practices had been critically assessed. A plethora of institutions at federal, provincial and district levels are involved with flood management. Flooding dynamics also differ in terms of riverine and flash floods. The assessment involves institutes at federal, provincial and district levels to better understand issues
pertain to coordination, jurisdictions and policy gaps. Impacts and effects of legal developments such as the 18th amendment on federal and provincial institutions coordination had also been recorded. Pertaining to flood management, government responses prior and after the floods had been listed along with their approaches. Policies, structural measures and recovery mechanisms of institutes had been assessed. The primary mechanism of flood management in Pakistan is through embankment blowing to divert floodwaters from public infrastructure sites and cities to agricultural land. The country continues to be constantly ravaged by floods, but still people choose to live along flood plains. The alternative is missing. In spite of early warnings, the citizens show hesitancy in moving owing largely to emotional attachment to houses, purdah (veil) and absence of proper camps. Political influence and allegiances play a role when it comes to relief and assistance or monetary compensation from the government. The role of political class and large landholders in embankment breaching was also present.

**Floods Impact on small businesses and patterns of response and recovery**

Small businesses are an important component of rural economy. Floods not only damage standing crops but also small businesses giving rise to inequality and poverty. In DG Khan and Jhang, small business were also affected from floods in preceding years. Prior to floods, the businesses also received early warnings. The response was negative on the part of businessmen because no alternative was offered by the government and neither the business owners are aware of such movement in the face of floods. Likely channels of impact on businesses are loss & damages to physical equipment & infrastructure, loss of services & utilities, loss of stock, loss of & disruptions to labour availability, market organization and recovery. Losses and damages from floods are significant for small businesses. Recovery and restarting businesses in the aftermath depend upon monetary assistance. Around 70% of those receiving assistance from the authorities took three to six months to recover, implying that state assistance was focused on larger, capital intensive businesses.

Following are the key objectives.

- To establish an evidence base on the impact of climate change on key factors conditioning the economic growth of semi-arid lands, and conversely, how these factors condition vulnerability to climate change
  
  (In case of both standing crops and small businesses in semi-arid lands, the economy is severely hit by floods. Our finding in the above-mentioned working paper and policy brief highlight that small businesses and agriculture is the main source of livelihood in semi-arid lands. The economic growth of semi-arid lands is jeopardized in the face of floods. Whereas changing climate will bring in frequent and intense floods thus posing a risk for the economic future of semi-arid lands in Pakistan)

- To develop an evidence base on the risks posed to economic growth in semi-arid lands by extreme climate events, particularly droughts and floods

(Floods have been a phenomenon in Pakistan since its inception. But the recurring floods from 2010 to 2016 pose a significant threat to economic growth in semi-arid lands. Floods of 2010 alone cost Pakistan a staggering $10 billion. Floods devastate standing crops and in case of breaching the inundation is widespread which consequently destroys crops at a larger scale. Similarly, small businesses also face significant damages and economic costs.)

- To identifying investment, policy and planning measures for inclusive climate-resilient development and growth in semi-arid lands.

Recommendations and suggestions from the working paper and policy brief identify crop insurance as a must. Investment from farmers which results in their crop insurance in case of disasters is essential to cover their loss and input costs. The need for early warning systems and radars for timely and accurate analysis of impending floods are vital for climate resilient development. Furthermore, land use plans and flood plains management is necessary. Unplanned development and upgrading of existing barrages and embankments must be ensured.

- To leverage existing initiatives and networks in a stakeholder engagement process that co-creates knowledge, builds credibility with research users and promotes the uptake of results.

(Our work and findings are continuously discussed in meetings with relevant officials from flood management institutions. For instance, we relay our finding and assessments to Chairman Federal Flood Commission for further understanding of the subject and uptake of our findings to policy level. Similarly, we are engaged with Global Change Impact Studies Centre, a research wing of the Climate Change Ministry in Pakistan. Moreover, we are actively engage with HI AWARE to co create knowledge and collectively promote uptake of results.)

**Focal Persons:** Dr Imran Saqib Khalid & Ahmed Awais Khaver

**Strategy for research-policy engagement and RIU across PRISE and HI-AWARE consortia**

To synergize common themes of migration and water governance an opportunity was envisaged under Opportunities and Synergies Fund. A short description is as follows:

As part of the Collaborative Adaptation Research Initiative in Africa and Asia (CARIAA) programme, both the PRISE and HI-AWARE (Research on Glacier and Snowpack Dependent River Basins for Improving Livelihoods)
conducted extensive research on adaptation options for rural farmers in the semi-arid plains and the UIB respectively. While the geographic areas and thematic focus differed for both the consortia, an opportunity was envisaged under CARIAA’s Opportunities and Synergies Fund (OSF) to synergise findings from the two consortia based on common themes of migration and water governance.

The two consortia differed in their methodological approach and study sites however, they explored the potential of migration as an adaptation strategy and its contribution to building the resilience of rural households. In this context, as part of the Opportunities and Synergies Fund (OSF) project, researchers from both the consortia synthesized the key findings from their respective studies to deepen the understanding of the climate-migration interlink for the case of Pakistan and draw out generalized, but actionable policy recommendations.

In addition to migration as a common theme, both consortia looked at water governance albeit through different perspectives. Climate change is making water availability extremely uncertain in Pakistan, which is already categorized as a water deficient country. The issue of water insecurity not only appeared as a result of its shortage, but also as a consequence of poor management and governance of existing water resources. Water governance challenges include managing climate extremes, changing precipitation patterns, flood, drought and increasing water demands. Despite being an issue, this also paves way for an opportunity to bring about structural reforms to improve water management in the country in the context of mountainous river basins and semi-arid plains. Currently in Pakistan, water governance frameworks either do not exist or assessments of water governance frameworks are not generally linked to verifiable indicators or metrics of success.

An important outcome of this research is a working paper and a policy brief on both these themes that will be published soon. By consolidating lessons learned related to migration in the two geographical locales, it has been successful in presenting a comprehensive picture on the drivers, processes and outcomes of migration. Identifying these elements has provided the team, the opportunity to carve out actionable policy recommendations, later conveyed to the policy makers and stakeholders through formal and informal meet-ups. Similarly, by merging a political economy analysis of institutions involved in Pakistan’s water management sector with a perspective on local agricultural water management methods provided the team with an opportunity to understand the implications of poor water management on food-water-energy security nexus. This is important for the development of adaptation approaches, assessment of policies and plans that are effective and beneficial for national to local level decision makers as well as vulnerable communities and their livelihoods.

**Focal Person:** Dr Imran Saqib Khalid

**Migration in climate hotspots in South Asia: diversity in patterns and approaches**

All four CARIAA-funded consortia (HI-AWARE, ASSAR, DECCMA, and PRISE were operational in Bangladesh, India, Nepal and Pakistan. The study conducted by all the consortia concluded that migration is a common threat across the consortia and the ecosystems. To portray a regional picture of climate change adaptation and migration, all consortium partners developed a synthesis study by using the data collected by the consortia partners.

The study is based on cross-sectional household surveys covering 9427 households across four study areas (river basins, deltas, semi-arid plateau and semi-arid plains) in Bangladesh, India, Nepal and Pakistan. The survey data was supplemented by qualitative research methods. The study revealed migration as an important household livelihood diversification strategy in response to environmental changes. “Households send out one or more members, often young men, for labour migration in order to improve their overall livelihood situation. Most of these migrations are internal and migrants often work in the informal economy. Remittances sent by migrants help the household income, thereby safeguarding against effects of environmental changes and other external stressors, albeit in a limited capacity. Thus, although at present, migration is associated with response strategy, it has the potential to develop as an adaptation strategy.
Responses to climate change are gender-specific. Little emphasis has been placed on understanding how and why men and women employ different adaptive strategies in order to secure their livelihoods in the face of climate change.

SDPI, as a member of PRISE programme, contributed to address the following objectives under this research project.

- To understand how gender differences act as barriers/enablers to different types of adaptation and how adaptation exhibits gender differences and how these differ or are similar according to the context

- To develop a typology of gender/social contexts that contributed to adaptation responses/pathways across multiple risk contexts

- To understand the typology of risk factors and conditionality that lead to different gender and social equity adaptation outcomes

As part of this project, the team has participated in a three-day workshop aimed at learning the Qualitative Comparative Analysis technique. Several case studies have been submitted for the meta-synthesis of four consortia. These studies and the meta-synthesis analysis will be published in a reputable international journal. The team has also participated in an international panel discussion during the Adaptation Futures 2018 conference in Cape Town, South Africa.

Focal person: Ayesha Qaisrani

Green Parliamentarians’ Caucus

The motivation to form Green Parliamentarians Caucus has come after the realization that Pakistan needs a platform to engage all the stakeholders not only to address domestic issues related to climate change but also to fulfil international commitments with regard to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the Paris Climate Agreement. Parliament is one of the primary institutions that can define a vision and leadership strategies at various social, economic and environmental levels. However, parliamentarians in Pakistan seldom have a support mechanism to keep them up to date with the current environmental challenges.

SDPI engaged a select group of parliamentarians on specific and select topics related to environment and climate change. These topics were chosen based on the priorities set forth by the parliamentarians during the initial meetings as well as the evidence-based issues that have come up through SDPI’s research in the context of climate change.

The objectives of this caucus are as follows:

- To sensitize parliamentarians across political parties on issues of environment, climate change and sustainable development in the context of Pakistan
- To provide parliamentarians with a platform to hold dialogues on the issues of environment and climate change in the context of Pakistan
- To engage parliamentarians on discussions around Pakistan’s national and international commitment towards climate action and prepare them for a well-informed discussion around Conference of Parties 23

The then Minister of Climate Change, Mr Mushahidullah Khan, was briefed about the initiative and he extended his full support to SDPI for furthering the initiative. Another noteworthy achievement was that the Chairperson of National Assembly’s Standing Committee on Climate Change, Malik Muhammad Uzair Khan, took the ownership of the caucus and assumed one of the driving forces behind the success of the caucus activities. Ms Romina Khurshid Alam, the then parliamentary secretary for climate change,
also proved to be the major force behind the formation of the caucus. Many of the caucus members have got re-elected to parliament. The caucus is actively contributing for an informal legislatory overlook on climate change issues. The launch of the Caucus and the planned activities were very timely, as the Standing Committee of Climate change in the National Assembly had just had its first meeting and the government was preparing for the UNFCCC’s Conference of Parties (CoP)23. Thus, sensitizing the parliamentarians and informing them about Pakistan’s national and international commitments for climate action were aptly timed as it ensured informed participation of relevant parliamentarians at such international events e.g. Mr. Malik Muhammad Uzair Khan joined the official delegation of Pakistan at CoP23. He also requested SDPI team to provide him with research support for his interventions at the conference.

Focal Person: Maryam Shabbir & Ayesha Qaisrani

Benefit Sharing in Hydropower Projects in Upper Indus (G-B)
ICIMOD

The growth potential of many low and middle income countries has been constrained by a lack of infrastructure and the inability to meet rising energy demands. The urgent need to meet such demands coupled with the rapid increase in atmospheric concentrations of greenhouse gases has led to exploration of energy sources beyond those based upon fossil fuels.

In the context of Pakistan, hydropower has emerged as an economically viable and sustainable energy option. In addition to energy generation, the multitude of benefits that are provided by hydropower dams such as flood control and irrigation, which significantly contribute to poverty alleviation and broader goals of sustainable development, has led to its increased support from country governments as well as donor agencies. Despite these wider benefits, adverse social and environmental impacts, particularly at the local level are common with hydropower projects. To address such concerns, it is important for national and local governments to develop policies and regulations that facilitate/promote more equitable benefit sharing mechanisms with the affected parties as well as the wider community. The study is also being conducted in India and Nepal.

In the past, hydropower projects have primarily focused upon national/regional economic priorities while paying little attention to the adverse impacts caused to affected populations as well as surrounding environments. This has resulted in an inequitable distribution of hydropower related costs and benefits where the key beneficiaries of hydropower projects are generally located in distant areas and are unaffected by project induced negative externalities. Communities that live in close proximity and are directly dependent upon the river system sustain most of the negative impacts while receiving the least amount of benefits. Over the years government policies have evolved to support a more equitable reconciliation of rights and priorities of the parties involved in the production of energy and those that are negatively affected from this process.

Pakistan faces severe energy crisis. Besides, it lacks wider infrastructure such as roads, bridges and communication links. Micro and small-scale hydropower plants can reap benefits which can address these issues. With increasing impacts of climate change, clean energy has become imperative. The project aims to explore the following questions:

• What are being shared as “benefits” in research sites where hydropower projects have been developed?
• How are these “benefits” being shared in terms of spatial as well as temporal dimensions?
• Given the study sites’ dependence on water for food security as well as energy needs, what are the various dimensions of hydropower-irrigation trade-offs?

In order to explore these questions our team visited four districts in Gilgit-Baltistan namely Gilgit, Hunza, Skardu and Astore to identify what benefits are shared and how. The team conducted focused group discussions and key informant interviews from local communities affected by hydropower plants and the relevant government departments and officials. The findings suggest that the idea of benefit sharing is not a component of hydropower plants. In fact, the repercussions and concerns are far more than the actual benefit which in Gilgit-Baltistan’s case is only electricity. The issues surrounding land acquisition...
have surfaced across the ten study sites. In some instances, the irrigation water has been channeled away from the communities and diverted to the plant. Electricity is also a commodity to be sought in some study sites and load-shedding hours are significant. The role of the communities is minimal both prior and after construction of the hydropower plants.

Our recommendation is that while hydropower projects can play an important role in meeting Pakistan’s energy requirements, these benefits should be shared with local communities too. It would, in turn, generate a consensus on building more hydropower plants, leading to a win-win situation.

Focal Persons: Dr Imran S. Khalid & Ahmed Awais Khaver

Supporting Small Farmers to Adapt to El-Nino Changes in Agriculture Sector

The End Line study aims to train small farmers on new farming methods, and adopt new agriculture technologies to save their cost and time, El-Nino and adverse climate change impact, market information for agriculture produce and access to these markets, greenhouse gas emissions, access to funds/loans for purchase of livestock, besides the use of new seed varieties, mechanization in farming, early disaster warning systems, efficient use of fertilizers, and diversification of methods for livelihoods.

The End Line Survey activities (FDGs and KIIs) were conducted in four Union Councils (Kak, Chitori, Kheerao, and Doulatpur) of Mirpur Khas district, Sindh to support small farmers to adapt to changes of El-Nino agriculture sector.

A sample size of 104 was used for this survey. In order to achieve the target sample, the tasks were split into two areas; the first area comprised training of enumerators, data entry, data cleansing and the data analysis, and the second area comprised conducting the FGDs and KIIs along with an analysis of the qualitative aspects of the survey. In total, 5 KIIs and 4 FGDs were conducted in a format as given below:

- Two representatives from Village Organization (VOs)
- One progressive farmer
- One Union Council (UC) Chairman and one elected representative of Village/Union Council
- One social organizer/project team leader

End Line survey results

Trainings on kitchen gardening, harvesting, modern agriculture techniques, and soil management were imparted as a follow-up to the project interventions. Local small farmers are now aware about the impacts of climate change of which they had little or no idea. They themselves felt a big change after applying the project interventions. A local small farmer sensitized them about the benefits of soil sampling, testing and now it becomes a common practice in the project areas.

The farmers were told about the capsule method, as how it would save them from spending hefty amounts on pesticides.

They learned about land leveling through laser technique. It would help them save water up to 50% and now they are able to utilize 100% of their land for agriculture and fruits. They also witnessed a lot of benefits by using this technology in Onion sowing.

As an outcome of the soil testing exercise, the farmers have access to fresh green vegetables at their homes, since
they are now aware of the different types of vitamins the soil contains as well as its nutrient requirements.

Through the exercise of tree plantations, farmers were made aware of a cheap way to produce oxygen while keeping the environment safe and clean. Tree plantation and land leveling through laser techniques were not common practice before the project interventions. It reduced the expenses on land preparation as acknowledged by them.

Focal Persons: Shehryar Toru & Syed Mohsin Kazmi

Water Stewardship Initiative
Nestle, Pakistan

Pakistan’s water resources are getting stressed. Competing sector such as agriculture, industry and human use are raising the demand bar higher and higher. The role of industry in efficient and sustainable production as well as consumption cannot be overstated.

The study emphasizes the industrial sector to work towards Sustainable Development Goals in their respective areas of operations. In this regard, Nestlé Pakistan and SDPI have identified and prioritized opportunities and challenges for sustainable water management, presenting water stewardship as an effective mean to address this challenge. This partnership, in particular, acts as a knowledge dissemination platform on the responsible use of water particularly in agriculture and industry. SDPI and Nestlé Pakistan have co-hosted roundtable events on the theme of Water Stewardship and additionally, both parties have worked on a policy brief presenting Water Stewardship as an effective solution to dealing with the water challenge.

Focal Person: Dr Imran S. Khalid

Climate Risks & Food Security
WFP & Ministry of Climate Change

Emphasizes the need for revising agro-ecological zones, and climate smart agriculture, the study identifies climate vulnerability hotspots. Food security is of significant concern in Pakistan. In spite of significant national food production, the study suggests that approximately half of the population faces food insecurity at the household level.

Climate change is already beginning to have an impact on food security particularly in terms of production, access, utilization and stability. It is in this context, a study titled ‘Climate Risk and Food Security Analysis’ in Pakistan, was conducted which was jointly commissioned by Ministry of Climate Change and the World Food Programme (WFP).

A report in this regard was published which was launched by the then Federal Minister for Climate Change Senator Mushahidullah Khan at a press briefing.

Following recommendations have been proposed.
- Introduction of climate smart agriculture (CSA) practices across the country
- Linking social safety nets, disaster risk management measures and climate change adaptation with sustainable development goals to build resilience against disasters
- Adaptation of weather index-based insurance, an effective mechanism to help the farming community manage climate risks
- Development of a seasonal calendar to provide information on livelihood patterns, cropping schedules, likely hazards and seasons so as to allow for better preparedness and risk reduction efforts with regard to food-related emergencies
- Revision of agro-ecological zones across Pakistan in the light of inputs from stakeholder consultations Punjab and Sindh governments have already begun to take steps in this direction.

Focal Person: Dr Imran S. Khalid
The Second National Communication is the Pakistan country report to be submitted to UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). All the member countries of UNFCCC have to submit their reports as part of the environment protection agenda. These reports provide information on the Greenhouse Gas (GHG) inventory, vulnerability assessment and adaptation besides an overview of the national circumstances within which the challenges of climate change are being addressed. Pakistan will submit its Second National Communication in the start of next year. The government considers the process of preparation of this communication as an opportunity to enhance Pakistan's capability in identifying constraints, gaps, and capacity needs to fulfil its obligations under the UNFCCC.

SDPI was engaged to draft the chapter on Education, Public Awareness, Trainings and Knowledge Sharing regarding climate change. Both secondary and primary information was utilized by reaching out to the institutions concerned. Final draft of the chapter has been submitted to the ministry.

Focal Person: Irfan Chatha

Environment Barometer 2108

Environment Barometer 2018 is the Pakistan's first-ever survey that cited high temperature, water scarcity and air pollution as top three environmental challenges. This perception survey analyzes the country’s environmental vulnerability against 10 indicators based on Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) parameters.

Besides, the study assesses the people’s perception about environmental impact on their daily lives. To find out ‘if environment is a determinant for people to vote?’, a questionnaire consisting of 10 closed-ended questions was developed. About 91% of the respondents said that high temperature is an issue followed by 87% who were of the view that water shortage is one of the key environmental issues. Only 13% of the respondents voted for environment keeping it as a determinant. The survey concludes: ‘Environment is a key issue but is not a priority’.

Henrich Böll Stiftung

This study, which is based on the survey data, recommends that to take all stakeholders should be taken on board to achieve the goal of sustainable development. The main objectives of the study are:

- To analyze data on the state of environment in Pakistan through secondary sources/desk review (forest cover, water scarcity, disasters, pollution, energy, mass transit, etc.)
- To analyze the impact of respective governments’ policies and decisions around environment during the last five years
- To provide an unbiased and independent opinion poll, and analysis about the performance of political parties regarding environment-related issues and response of both federal and provincial governments against the selected indicators (i.e. climate change, air pollution (smog), water, land, energy, forests, waste management, and fisheries).

Manual on Climate Change

SDPI with the support of Global Change Impact Study Centre (GCISC) has prepared “Technical Manual on Climate Change, Education and Awareness” so that the citizenry from different walks of life can understand the causes and hazards of climate change.

The need to sensitize the general public regarding global warming and climate change was being felt seriously that led to the production of this manual.

According to the manual, motivation for voluntary mitigation is mostly dependent on perceived susceptibility to threats and severity of climate change or climate variability impacts, whereas adaptation is largely dependent on the availability of information related to climate change. Strategic action is required both from individuals and the private/public sector to prevent harmful corollaries from climate change to individuals and society at large. There is a pressing need to address issues related to adaptation, vulnerability, and coping in developing nations as these have most of the world’s urban population, high-risk urban sites, and the largest deficiencies in adaptive capacity.

To address these issues, it is essential to create awareness regarding climate change in general public especially the youth.

Focal Person: Shakeel Ramay
To tackle the environmental issues as shown in the table below, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa took the lead. Under the KP government led by Pakistan Tehreek-i-Insaf, trees were planted on 350,000 hectares of land under a project titled: Billion Tree Tsunami Afforestation Project (BTTAP). It is followed by the Punjab, i.e. 28%, as Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) introduced mass transit transport system, which reduces air pollution. However, all provinces and federal capital’s respondents were not very much satisfied with the government’s efforts as average is below 50%. Less effort was made to conserve water and improve air quality.

Q: Do you think respective previous governments tried to curb these issues?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Percentage Response in Yes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pakistan</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Punjab</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Khyber Pukhtunkhwa</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sindh</td>
<td>26%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balochistan</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Islamabad</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Q: Please express how much you agree or disagree on the following statements?

‘Companies causing pollution should be fined even if it puts some jobs at risk.’

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strongly disagree</th>
<th>Disagree</th>
<th>Undecided</th>
<th>Agree</th>
<th>Strongly agree</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
‘Power stations and factories should switch to cleaner processes even if consumer bills and prices have to go up.’

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Strongly disagree</th>
<th>Disagree</th>
<th>Undecided</th>
<th>Agree</th>
<th>Strongly agree</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>30%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

‘Government should do more to promote and encourage a better environment even if our taxes have to go up slightly.’

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Strongly disagree</th>
<th>Disagree</th>
<th>Undecided</th>
<th>Agree</th>
<th>Strongly agree</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>20%</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

‘Police should stop and check vehicles emission more frequently even if it causes traffic delay.’

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Strongly disagree</th>
<th>Disagree</th>
<th>Undecided</th>
<th>Agree</th>
<th>Strongly agree</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>14%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

‘Improving the environment is the responsibility of every citizen.’

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Strongly disagree</th>
<th>Disagree</th>
<th>Undecided</th>
<th>Agree</th>
<th>Strongly agree</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>49%</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

‘Recycling programmes should be put in place and promoted across the city.’

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Strongly disagree</th>
<th>Disagree</th>
<th>Undecided</th>
<th>Agree</th>
<th>Strongly agree</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>51%</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

‘Water wastage should be discouraged through innovation and management.’

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Strongly disagree</th>
<th>Disagree</th>
<th>Undecided</th>
<th>Agree</th>
<th>Strongly agree</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Q: If environment is a determinant for respondents to vote?

Surprisingly, after getting such a positive response on environmental issues from across the country, the response to this last question was very much disappointing, as only 13% of the respondents consider environment as an issue to vote for. The highest percentage was in KP where 23% thought so. In rest of the country, the response in yes was less than 20%. In Islamabad, which is considered the most developed and cognizant area of Pakistan, only 16 per cent said yes. A lot needs to be done to make environment a top priority.

<table>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sindh</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balochistan</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Islamabad</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The above trends indicate that awareness among masses on environmental issues is growing and they do feel the impact of changing climate. In this regard, they account for the duty bearers and plan to consider environment as an area as determinant to vote in 2018 general election. Since the results in this survey are based on the structured questions, it might be concluded that the level of cognizance of the society is increasing day-by-day with the people becoming vulnerable to climate change and natural hazards. There is a need to give priority to the protection of environment and as opined by the survey respondents, the political parties should give categorical commitments in this regard. The crux of the answers from respondents is that the dream of a clean Pakistan can be materialized if the future governments take appropriate policy action followed by adequate resources and make people aware of their rights in a clean and green environment.

**Focal Person:** Junaid Zahid
ECONOMY AND TRADE

Over the past years, the global economy has experienced significant growth in investment, trade and industrial production. This has resulted in a renewal in terms of the strengthening of businesses and has led to enhanced consumer confidence. Projects like ‘One Belt, One Road’ are being initiated to open trade and investment opportunities at regional and global level, but pressure on small economies is still increasing. SDPI is working on economy and trade issues to generate evidence for an inclusive and sustainable growth.

Regional Investments & Value Chains in South Asia

World Bank

The study on ‘Regional Investments & Value Chains in South Asia: A Survey of Investor and Potential Investors’ highlights the motivations, constraints, and solution to the problems behind intra-regional Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) and participation in global and regional value chains in the South Asian region while conducting a survey of both the actual and potential investors in Afghanistan and Pakistan.

This study identifies:
• Opportunities and challenges emerging from the evolving political economy of investment cooperating in the region.
• Possibilities of strengthening investment ties among the SAARC member countries in a way that augments regional commitments like South Asia Free Trade Agreement (SAFTA) and Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO).
• Potentials of SAARC member countries in the provision of greater investment facilitation for other members in the region.

Field teams have collected data through quantitative methods in Karachi, Peshawar and Kabul by interviewing investors in South Asia and outside as well as those who are not investing.

The recommendations of this study will be submitted to Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Commerce, State Bank of Pakistan, and Board of Investment. Different activities conducted so far under this project are:
• Construction of data prior to the survey
• Pre-survey training
• Seminar on ‘Policies to Boost Competitiveness: The Case of Apparel Sector’
• Survey conducted in Afghanistan and Pakistan
• Theoretical alignment of questions to identify the linkages between different components of value chain

Success Story: To promote this idea and concept, voice was raised through print media that created an impact on policy level. State Bank of Pakistan initiated a survey across Pakistan to identify direct and potential investors both local and multi-national.

Global Value Chain Analysis of Pakistan

Duke University

The study carries out a global value chain analysis of three sectors in Pakistan, i.e. textiles & apparel, offshore services and medical instruments, and identification of potential economic and social upgrading opportunities to support the country’s economic growth and inclusive goals over the next two decades.

Supported by the World Bank Group (WBG), the research team from Duke University’s Global Value Chain Centre (DU-GVCC) in collaboration with SDPI is analyzing Pakistan’s participation in various global industries.

The key elements of this study include benchmarking the performance of Pakistani firms versus lead firms and industry best practice, identification of constraints to productivity, and formulation of feasible and practical policy recommendations to drive industrial growth in the three sectors.

The team has visited Islamabad, Lahore, Faisalabad, Sialkot and Karachi and interviewed several stakeholders from business associations, government, and academia. The report is expected to be launched in December this year.

Focal Person: Engr. Ahad Nazir, Project Coordinator
Developing Inclusive and Creative Economies

British Council

The study aims to formulate a policy to create an enabling environment around Social and Creative Enterprises (SCEs) in Developing Inclusive and Creative Economies (DICE). DICE is an ambitious programme that has several components in which SDPI has been taken on board to lead the policy components focusing on Social and Creative Enterprises (SCEs) development.

In this regard, a three-tier structure focusing initially on regulatory environment for SCEs, backed up by policy and legislation is under consideration.

The study aims to:
- Revisit and re-align the literature available on policy landscape of Social and Creative Enterprises
- Propose legislation on policy reforms for the development of SCEs in Pakistan
- Propose inclusion of SCEs development in national and sub-national plans and strategies
- Build the capacity of policy-makers and implementation authorities on SCEs
- Provide support the Centre for Social Entrepreneurship, Planning Commission of Pakistan

The activities include consultation with all the stakeholders in the private sector, federal & provincial governments, and political representatives.

Focal Person: Engr. Ahad Nazir, Project Coordinator

Post-Elections Economic Analysis and Public-Private Dialogue Campaign

CIPE

The study mainly comprises post-election economic analysis besides creating a provincial network of think tanks, private sector associations, academia and entrepreneurs for the sustainability of the Private Public Dialogue (PPD).

The dialogues at federal and provincial level will be held to ensure a continuation of the activity and impact from the last three years.

Major activities for this year are:
- Report on economic agenda of the new government that assesses the number of SDPI related recommendations adopted
- Preparation of province-wise presentations/modules and media kits for the participants of PPDs
- Focus Group Discussions with the private sector in each province and Islamabad to discuss the PPD model and its effectiveness in order to encourage them to participate.
- Establishment of the network comprising local think tanks, business associations, academia, and entrepreneurs.
- Quarterly progress review and briefing of the network of think tanks
- PPDs comprising political representatives, private sector leaders, network, media, academia and entrepreneurs in Islamabad and all provincial capitals
- Documented independent briefings with the members of committees concerned in the Senate and the National Assembly

The study is the part of campaign launched by SDPI in collaboration with Centre for International Private Enterprise (CIPE) this year wherein previous consultations were followed by iterating the Public-Private Dialogue (PPD) model.

Focal Person: Engr. Ahad Nazir, Project Coordinator

Pakistan Quarterly Trade Bulletin

UNDP

Improving Pakistan’s global trade performance ought to be a lead priority and concern for all those monitoring Pakistan on the development crossroads. Pakistan Regional Economic Integration
Activity (PREIA) collaborates with SDPI to leverage the trade data issued by the Government of Pakistan and produce a quarterly analysis around Pakistan’s performance in that fiscal quarter against the same quarter in the previous year.

The Quarterly Trade Bulletin will analyze overtime the risks, indicate policy direction and validate achievements to put Pakistan on the road to sustainable development.

Focal Person: Syed Ali Wasif Naqvi, Project Associate

Garment Exporters in Pakistan
World Bank Group & FBR

The study explores Pakistan’s trade policy and the access that is provided to exporters to imported inputs. Experience to-date suggests that exporters can’t timely access imports that hinders and distorts Pakistan’s export performance particularly in the textile and Readymade Garments (RMG) sectors.

SDPI conducts a thorough diagnosis of the issue to develop a set of recommendations designed to improve exporters’ access to imported inputs.

Key objectives of the study are:
- To examine the structure and growth of Pakistan’s RMG exports;
- To examine three primary Customs schemes designed to give exporters timely access to imported inputs at world prices, namely: a) Duty Drawback; b) DTRE; and c) Manufacture in Bond.
- To conduct a survey of the following groups to ascertain the performance of the schemes as perceived by both users and potential users:
  a) Exporters, both direct and indirect, who use any of the three schemes; and
  b) Exporters, both direct and indirect, who do not use, but potentially could use, any of the three schemes.
- To validate the results of the survey through Focus Group Discussions

Focal Person: Engr. Ahad Nazir, Project Coordinator

Engagement with the Private Sector on Export Competitiveness
World Bank Group

Under the ‘Engagement with Private Sector on Export Competitiveness’ programme, SDPI facilitated the Ministry of Commerce in the formulation of the upcoming Strategic Trade Policy Framework (STPF).

The study aims to inform the private sector about the World Bank’s engagement on trade through Pakistan Trade and Investment Policy Program (PTIPP) as well as the key findings of the diagnostics prepared by the WBG on trade. The main objectives of the study are to identify:
- Constraints being faced by existing exporters, disaggregated by small, medium and large enterprises
- Key issues/challenges inhibiting potential exporters, especially SMEs, from engaging in trade.
- Key regulatory/policy/infrastructural/knowledge gaps preventing exporters from engaging in trade with South and Central Asian economies

The findings of the study were shared with the Ministry of Commerce to incorporate them in the trade-related policies, including STPF and the Tariff Policy. Both the documents have taken major recommendations from the study.

Focal Person: Engr. Ahad Nazir, Project Coordinator
This study provides contextual insights into the mostly quantitative findings on the links between service delivery and perceptions of government in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

Considering the unique experience of transitioning from military control to elected government during the period of panel surveys conducted in 2013 and 2015, the study focuses on how state power was exerted during these periods, whether legitimacy was a feature of power relations or whether service delivery mattered or not in the negotiations of that legitimacy.

This study aims to elucidate the way that state power is exerted in Swat Valley/Dir Valley and to understand the role of service delivery in securing political support for the state. In gaining this understanding, we can move towards examining the degree to which the Pakistani state needs legitimacy from the broader political community to exert its power in Swat Valley and Lower Dir and how service delivery might play a role in the construction of legitimacy.

The research activities would involve the following:
1. Research design planning
2. Review of secondary data for political economy analysis
3. Interrogation of panel survey
4. Field research – primary data collection for political economy analysis
5. Field research – primary data to identify justification of power rules
6. Field research – discourse analysis to identify justification of power rules
7. Analysis of data
8. Draft case study, meeting with team members to discuss findings
9. Production of working paper
10. Dissemination of findings in Pakistan and the UK

Focal Person: Dr. Shehryar Toru

Secure Livelihood Research Consortium
SLRC-II

ODI

Theme I: Peace and debt: household borrowing as livelihood strategy during and after conflict
Credit can serve both as a mechanism of resilience and exploitation. The study focuses the poorest segment of society, as to how they can access credit for their sustainability. The locale of the study is Swabi and Swat districts of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. The lives of the poor are characterized by a high level of uncertainty and instability that results in strategic preparation for the future being constantly postponed for immediate survival. Conflict, disturbing public and market entitlements add to these uncertainties. It also creates reverse entitlements leading to inequitable access to credit/borrowing through multiple channels. The study tries to address the following questions.
- In what ways do people affected by conflict access and use credit?
- What are the consequences of indebtedness on the lives of poor rural people during and after conflict?
- What policies and policy instruments can enable equitable access to credit and reduce the risks associated with borrowing in conflict-affected settings?
Quantitative analysis, using three rounds of PSLM data, has been conducted and first draft of a working paper is ready for publication.

Focal Person: Dr Sajid Amin

Theme III: Constructing state legitimacy in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa
State legitimacy is conceived as citizens’ acceptance of authority through the application of normative rules and laws. The central question in navigating legitimacy concerns is why people obey and adopt conformist behaviour and what kind of social and political arrangements enable and solicit conformist behaviour?

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Focal Person: Dr Shehryar Toru
Measuring Institutional Performance through Governance Index

UNDP

Better Governance Index (BGI) has been conceptualized as a process driven mechanism for measuring, benchmarking, reporting and comparing the performance of selected federal government institutions that have a public interface and provide services to citizens such as National Database Registration Authority (NADRA), Capital Development Authority (CDA) and National Highways & Motorways Police (NH&MP).

The study attempts to measure the performance of public sector institutions with reference to performance index framework developed by external consultants.

1. BGI Ranking (Outcome)

On the basis of the measurement criteria and the results derived from the survey conducted, the ranking of institutional performance is given below:

**Ranking of Demand Side**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>Average Score</th>
<th>Ranking</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>National Highway &amp; Motorway Police</td>
<td>2.860</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Database &amp; Registration Authority (NADRA)</td>
<td>3.249</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capital Development Authority (CDA)</td>
<td>1.053</td>
<td>3</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

The above table shows the total scores and ranking of each institution on the basis of the selected measurement areas of Demand Side BGI. In this regard, NADRA scored the highest, i.e. 3.249, and ranked 1st, for having good quality of governance, being least corrupted and no deprivation and discrimination of its service beneficiaries. NADRA is followed up by NHMP scoring 2.860. However, CDA accounted for least average score i.e. 1.053, because its service users felt internally deprived of getting their required services, corruption rate is high, and there is lack of availability of criteria for Customer Service Feedback.

**Ranking of Supply Side**

The table above demonstrates the recorded scores and the ranking of the three institutions, based on the selected measurement areas, according to which CDA leads by scoring 0.880, for having full budgets available for all the three years (Fiscal Year 2011-14) in English only, for updated policies, strategies and plans, and for budget execution, if not up-to the mark but at least, 65-80% and execution of priority programs less than 50%. This is followed by NHMP scoring 0.845 and NADRA is at third position with 0.358 average score. Moreover, it is interesting to note that all the three institutions performed very poorly on accountability and responsiveness, which confirms the intuitive analysis that Pakistan’s public-sector institutions are unaccountable to the public and stakeholders and unresponsive to their needs.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>Average Score</th>
<th>Ranking</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>National Highway &amp; Motorway Police</td>
<td>0.04576</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Database &amp; Registration Authority (NADRA)</td>
<td>0.04619</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capital Development Authority (CDA)</td>
<td>0.02232</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Combining all the scores of demand side and supply side together, it is evident from the above table that NADRA is top-ranked, having average score of 0.04619, followed by NHMP which ranked second, having scored 0.04576. However, CDA accounted for the least average score which caused its third position in the ranking table.

**Focal Persons:** Dr Shehryar Toru & Mohsin Kazmi

Review of Dispute Resolution Councils in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa

UNDP

Alternate Dispute Resolution (ADR) is a recent concept to resolve domestic disputes without litigation in a just way at local level by a select body of people having good repute. The two common forms of ADR are arbitration and mediation however, the method of negotiation is mostly attempted first to resolve a dispute.

This study aims to understand the rule of law programme under which ADR component of the subject was highlighted. It evaluates the performance of Dispute Resolution Councils (DRCs) in nine districts of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. This evaluation includes review of the cases resolved by DRCs for compliance with ADR standards, constitution, national and provincial laws.

Based on this information, this study aims to conduct evaluation and review of cases resolved by the district DRCs during 1st January 2016 to 30th August 2017 in the target districts, including Chitral, Upper Dir, Lower Dir, Swat, Buner, Shangla, D.I. Khan, Kohat, and Bannu. The evaluation includes views, opinions of DRC users and accessing justice through ADRs with special focus.

1https://sdpi.org/media/media_details3180-article-2018.html
on women. Women were interviewed both as users and service provider at each of the targeted DRCs.

Upon successful completion of the project, a set of recommendations will be put up before the Government of Pakistan, Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Law and Justice Departments both at federal and provincial level to improve the Strengthening Rule of Law Programme.

Different activities performed under this project included:

- Surveys conducted in 09 districts (Bannu, Kohat, D.I. Khan, Chitral, Swat, Buner, Upper Dir, Lower Dir, Swat, and Shangla).
- Focus Group Discussions and Key Informant Interviews were conducted in select districts.
- Research paper titled "Effectiveness of Dispute Resolution Councils (DRCs) in Alternate Dispute Resolution (ADR): A Study of Selected Districts of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa" was presented at the 8th Judicial Conference organized by Law and Justice Commission of Pakistan.

**Success Story:** Policy Recommendations presented at the 8th Judicial Conference were incorporated in the final declaration of the conference.

**Focal Person:** Ms Rabia Manzoor, Senior Research Associate
All the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and their associated targets can only be achieved by integrating local factors into actions and prioritizing local governments. However, adopting localization would be a huge task as it would involve dealing with thousands of ethnic, religious and political groups.

Localization of Economic Cluster SDGs in Punjab

The idea of localization has gradually evolved from implementation at local and sub-national level to the idea of having enough ability of local and sub-national governments to promote integrated, inclusive and sustainable development.

The overall objective of the SDGs Cluster Groups exercise is to assist the Punjab SDGs Advisory Council in the development and implementation of the 2030 Agenda/SDG framework for the Punjab which includes ensuring alignment of the province’s development strategies, plans and policies, and providing recommendation in the process of developing the province’s next growth or sustainable development strategy and other key planning documents.

This study intends to help Punjab Government in localizing SDGs. The exercise entails a set of assessments of existing data gaps, identifying priority SDGs and suggesting a way forward. Doing so, a baseline assessment to help monitor the progress over time will be provided.

Data Gap Analysis: This part of the study focuses on identifying data gaps within the economic cluster.

Stock Takings: In this part, government strategies, policies and development plans related to economic cluster have been reviewed. The exercise helps read the current situation in the Punjab with respect to SDGs localization and responsiveness. Findings from this section of analysis will help rethink SDG’s priorities and align the existing policies to global agenda. The analysis is based on desk review.

SDG Prioritization: Owing to the general character of the SDG’s and the vast number of development issues they cover, there is a crucial need for countries to prioritize which areas are important in the national/provincial context. In this exercise, framework for prioritization is proposed based on Revealed Prioritization of Supply Side namely Government’s Development Agenda And Localized Development needs.

Methodology for PC-1 and ADP alignment to SDGs

Under this project, the Punjab Budget 2017-18 is under review with respect to Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The study analyzes the allocations reserved for the ongoing and new schemes for the year 2017-18.

A methodology is being developed on how to map and align financial flows allocated to these development schemes with the integrated and cross-cutting targets of SDGs, where multiple goals and targets can be aligned with one scheme without running into an issue of double counting the financial alignment of resources.

• To propose methodology to align PC-1 with SDGs Agenda
• To identify how financial allocation in Pakistan been aligned to the SDGs.

Consultation meetings with federal and provincial representative departments are going on.

SDGs Framework for Balochistan

This study aims to formulate framework for Sustainable Development Goals in Balochistan. It will take into consideration the data gap analysis, key informant interviews, focus group discussions and literature.

With the help of these functions prioritization of SDGs will be done which will further lead to formulation of implementation framework. Implementation framework will revolve around: 1) Alignment; 2) Governance and Strategic Management; 3) Policy Planning; 4) Budgeting; and 5) Outreach.

Data Gap Analysis: This part of the study focuses on identifying data gaps within economic cluster. We also identify lead department and reporting agency for each indicator and based on the data gap analysis, provide recommendations on SDGs indicators, where data is not available.

Stock Takings: In this part, we review government strategies, policies and development plans related to the economic cluster. Findings from this section of analysis will help rethink SDGs priorities and align the existing policies to global agenda. The analysis is based on desk review.

SDG Prioritization: Owing to the general character of the SDG’s and the vast number of development issues they cover, there is a crucial need for countries to prioritize which areas are important in the national/provincial context. In this exercise, framework for prioritization is proposed based on Revealed Prioritization of Supply Side namely Government’s Development Agenda And Localized Development needs.

Focal Person: Dr Sajid Amin

Focal Person: Sajid Amin

Focal Person: Dr Vaqar Ahmed
In a society, skilled human capital paves the way for social development. Health and education facilities, social safety nets, and service delivery mechanisms ensure good governance. SDPI is working on social development issues that are integral to the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as well as Vision 2025 of Pakistan. In doing so, SDPI has been contributing to a nationwide plan to build social cohesion amongst the regional, ethnic and religious strata.

Gender Analysis of Education Budget and Budgeting Process

Plan Int'l

Women are mostly ignored in budget making processes at all levels whether it is education, health or household livelihoods. Gender budgeting is a way for governments and non-governmental organizations to promote gender equality using administrative and fiscal remedy.

This study provides a gender analysis of public sector budgets in the education sector.

In this study an in-depth analysis of pre-primary to secondary level education budgetary allocations and spending at federal and provincial (Punjab and Sindh) level for the period of 2016-18 has been conducted through gender lens. We also analyze the budget making processes in Islamabad, Punjab and Sindh provinces with the aim to provide recommendations for gender-responsive allocation and spending. This study broadly analyzes the budget making processes at the Ministry of Federal Education and Professional Training, and provincial departments of education in the Punjab and Sindh to see the outcome of gender responsive budgeting and allocation of gender-based funds. Besides, the study covers the following objectives:

- Gender-wise analysis of education statistics in federal capital, Punjab and Sindh
- Gender-wise analysis of education sector budgets at pre-primary and secondary level

The key activities that has been completed so far are as follows:

- Desk Review and Data Extraction
- Budget Data Analysis
- Key Informant Interviews (KIs)
- Stakeholder Consultations

Focal Person: Rabia Manzoor

Skill Development in Pakistan: Issues, Challenges and Way Forward

Asian Development Bank

The study aims to provide strategic guidelines for skill enhancement and development in Pakistan. In order to recognize gaps between demand and supply of skills, the paper compares current and future supply of skills with the present and future demand of skills. Evidence suggests that Pakistan is facing skill shortage and two types of skills mismatch, i.e. i) People have right qualifications, i.e. degrees, diplomas, or certificates but employers find them useless as they lack effective skills, and , ii) There is a shortage of supply of young, educated and trained people at certain levels for particular jobs. Bifurcation between formal education and technical and vocational trainings remain the lead cause behind skills mismatch. The study aims to:

- Provide an assessment of the current employment structure of the economy
- Give an overview of the education system, particularly tertiary education and Technical and Vocational Education & Training (TVET)
- Discuss labour issues, including but not limited to youth unemployment and gender inequality in the labour market
- Analyze the country’s skills profile vis-à-vis skills demanded by the market
- Identify factors contributing to skills mismatch,
- Provide projections of skills demand in the short, medium and long-term;
- Discuss international experiences/best practices in human resource development
- and in addressing the problems of skills mismatch,
- Present policy recommendations concerning human resource development and skills mismatch.

The analysis entails a series of sub-analysis covering factors responsible for skill mismatch through delving into demand and supply of skills with particular focus on middle level skills. A gender analysis of skill mismatch is also provided. The method involves combination of desk review of skill development strategy of Pakistan,
exploratory data analysis and in-depth interviews with stakeholders. Given the fact that skill development is now a provincial subject, desk review is extended to provincial skill development strategies.

Focal Person: Dr Sajid Amin

Assessing Socio-Economic Impact of Afghan Refugees

UNHCR

After nearly four decades of displacement, Afghan refugees continue to constitute one of the world’s largest protracted refugee populations. Whilst many Afghan refugees have migrated to different countries, Pakistan still hosts the majority of those who were displaced in the aftermath Soviet forces invasion in Afghanistan in 1979. According to UNHCR, Pakistan continues to host 1.4 million registered Afghan refugees, 58% of whom live in Peshawar, in addition to an estimated over one million Afghan migrants. By pursuing a policy of co-existence, state institutions have catered for the education, health and employment generation of Afghan refugees in different sectors.

The study attempts to shed light on the policy of hosting and socio-economic impact of Afghan refugees in various regions of Pakistan including Peshawar, Balochistan and Punjab. The study also aims to reflect on the prospects for lasting solutions for Afghan refugees, with focus on voluntary repatriation and sustainable reintegration in Afghanistan as the preferred solution.

Scope of study

As the baseline survey is in its initial phase, the following dimensions would be explored.

- A short brief on Afghan refugee influx in Pakistan by focusing on factors contributing to leaving their country of origin, what actions has Pakistan taken to support the refugees across provinces and how has the international community supported/responded to the influx.
- An assessment of the socio-economic impact would be documented by examining economic contribution in formal and informal sectors, voluntary and paid work, employment trends in manufacturing sectors and social and cultural domains.
- What economic opportunities/facilities/support would they like should they want to go back to their country of origin?

This baseline study will be based on mixed (Quantitative and Qualitative) methods. For quantitative information, face to face interviews of selected community (primary sampling units) of Afghan refugees will be conducted by using structured quantitative questionnaire. Qualitative information will be collected through focus group discussions (FGDs), Key Informant Interviews (KIIs) and life histories.

Focal Person: Dr Shehryar Toru
Resilient Development Programme (RDP) aims to look at resilient development through the lens of people centric governance of Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR), Climate Change Adaptation (CCA), Urban Development and to undertake initiatives to achieve Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). RDP involves programmatic activities, research, capacity building, policy influencing, networking, policy outreach, communications and campaigns. In addition to some new initiatives such as DRR and resilience work and Urbanization, the programme supplements and supports SDPI’s existing work on climate change, SDGs and other rights-based initiatives in terms of looking at them through the prism of people centric governance and participation across genders.

Corporate Social Responsibility for Building Tolerant Communities

According to Global Terrorism Index (2016), Pakistan is ranked 4th (score of 8.6) among the countries that are badly affected by terrorism, as a consequence of which it has lost 2.8% of its GDP, which is much higher than the budgetary allocations for health and education, thus marring resilience of the people. Violent extremism is one of the byproducts of terrorism. It severely affects the businesses financially and emotionally in the wake of growing insecurities, including extortions and kidnapping for ransom.

Pakistan’s corporate sector in general is not obligated to spend out of its profit as part of its Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) for the uplift of communities, however, petroleum sector allocates 1% out of its profit. The use of CSR funds by corporate sector in Pakistan is quite similar to the practice of the development sector focusing more on service delivery to the communities though some development sector organizations also do policy advocacy work with the rights-based approach.

In Pakistan, CSR is in its development phase whereas in the modern and industrialized society and global businesses, CSR has graduated to a different level, i.e. Social Impact Investments, the CSR+. Global Businesses are known for contributing towards societal development to build resilience of communities against the impact of conflicts and violent extremism. Therefore, keeping in view Pakistan’s situation amid threats of terrorism, businesses here should also start investing in peace-building processes with a view to ‘winning hearts and minds’ and building tolerant communities. It is the right time for private sector to start investing in peace building initiatives to promote interfaith harmony to ensure an environment of peace for a greater, collaborated and sustainable impact on the communities. At first phase, SDPI had undertaken a project ‘CSR for winning hearts and minds’ in which senior management and CSR staff were trained on how the companies out of their CSR funds can contribute to efforts promoting peace building to bring people closer to each other. Now moving on to phase-II, SDPI plans to undertake a project on ‘CSR for building tolerant communities’ with a view to take private sector related to agriculture and the relevant communities on board to achieve the goal of working towards building tolerant and resilient communities.

Focal Person: Dr Shafqat Munir
Initial Environmental Examination of the CPEC Northern Route Road Construction Activities-II

In continuation of SDPI earlier study, this study focuses on the CPEC Northern route in Gilgit-Baltistan section (454 Kms). Sazin (Diamer) passes through Diamer, Gilgit, Nagar, Hunza and exits at Khunjerab (Hunza).

Initial examination was carried out to identify the environmental segments of these four districts at high risk of degradation due to road construction processes, equipment and material used in the road construction.

According to the research findings, air and water resources could be at most risk. The construction activities might add a substantial amount of dust, particulate-matter and emissions to the beautiful environment around Gilgit-Baltistan CPEC route and might also cause pollution of water resources in the area due to releases of the eroded soil, heavy metals and organic pollutants, resulting in some detrimental impact on land, biodiversity and ecology. The population residing in some parts of these districts may also suffer due to elevated noise levels, resulting from the road construction activities. Based on these initial findings, the study recommends some possible control measures towards direly needed mitigation of these environmental impacts (for details: SDPI Research & News Bulletin, Vol. 25, No. 3, September 2018 (www.sdpi.org)

Focal Person: Dr Mahmood A. Khwaja, Senior Advisor

Skin Whitening Creams Use in Pakistan

Follow up to SDPI’s earlier research on mercury dental amalgam use in Pakistan, a study on mercury containing Skin Whitening Creams (SWCs) was carried out. Chemical analyses for mercury contents in 79 different SWC brands, purchased from the local markets at some main cities of Pakistan (Peshawar, Haripur, Islamabad/Rawalpindi, Lahore & Karachi) has been conducted. The analytical data indicates mercury content in the studied SWCs far above the permissible
limit (one part per million). Earlier, 52 dermatologists interviewed to share their views with respect to the use of SWCs. According to most of them, the continued use of mercury containing SWCs not only causes several skin diseases but also makes skin ugly looking. A joint report of Ministry of Climate Change and SDPI is in the process of publication. Previous studies/reports are accessible at www.sdpi.org.

### Impact of Mercury Use in Artisan Small Scale Gold Mining in Northern Pakistan

Among others, Gilgit and Chitral are two main known areas for Artisan Small Scale Gold Mining (ASGM) activity (at over 150 sites) in Northern Pakistan, carried out along the banks of Indus, Hunza and Gilgit rivers. Under Minamata Initial Assessment (MIA) project, executed by Ministry of Climate Change with the technical support of SDPI in July 2017, a monitoring team visited three AGM mining sites (Sikanderabad, Chalt village, Danyor and Nomal village). During the field work, miners were interviewed and 50 samples of sediments/water were collected along Hunza and Gilgit rivers. Chemical analyses of the collected samples have been conducted. Publication of the report is in the pipeline.

**Success Story:** Pakistan restricts the use of mercury dental amalgam for children in the country.

A meeting of the Senate Standing Committee on National Health Services, Regulations & Coordination (NHS, R&C) to restrict mercury dental amalgam use for children in the country was attended by SDPI that has conducted several studies on mercury issues (dental amalgam mercury, skin whitening creams, ASGM & others) was invited for presentation and discussion to members of the Committee. Follow up to the meeting, through an advisory note F.No.2-1/2018-Director (Inst) issued on September 27, 2018, Ministry of NHSR&C has directed all the health departments in four provinces, GB & AJ&K to restrict the mercury dental amalgam fillings for children as well as pregnant and breastfeeding women.

**Focal Person:** Dr Mahmood A. Khwaja, Senior Advisor

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Local and imported brands of SWCs available in market.

![Local and imported brands of SWCs available in market.](image)

Mercury research team discusses chemical analysis of skin whitening creams.

![Mercury research team discusses chemical analysis of skin whitening creams.](image)
Section 3

RESEARCH-POLICY GAP
Pre-Budget Economic Analysis Campaign

SDPI in collaboration with Centre for International Private Enterprise (CIPE) conducted a number of public-private consultations during the last two years. This resulted in the formulation of a draft economic agenda for the general elections 2018. This year, in order to fully support the vision of economic reforms, a four-tier consultation model is being introduced where public office holders, private sector leaders, academia, and political representatives and being engaged.

The aim of these consultations is to chiefly work towards economic reforms that can result in:
- Reduction of cost of doing business in Pakistan.
- Improving Pakistan's ranking in ease of doing business index.

The main deliverables included in the project were:
- Holding Parliamentary Committee briefing sessions for economic and finance focused Senate and National Assembly Committee members;
- Disseminating the economic manifesto and tax harmonization model to Parliamentary Committee members and other key elected officials;
- Identifying political party representatives and private sector stakeholders at the provincial and national level to participate in roundtable discussions;
- Holding one roundtable discussion with political party representatives and private sector stakeholders in each provincial capital and one roundtable discussion in Islamabad, totaling five roundtable discussions;
- Holding one briefing session for media representatives in each provincial capital and Islamabad following each roundtable discussion, totaling five media briefing sessions

OUTCOME/IMPACT

1. The biggest outcome is the development of a trust between the government officials and the private sector.
2. Another outcome is consensus of political parties with the benchmark being the draft economic agenda document circulated by SDPI.
3. The State Bank of Pakistan vide its EPD Circular Letter # 3 dated 14th June 2018 revised the terms and conditions for the direct dispatch of shipping documents for exporters, which will certainly help optimize the ease of doing business with regard to exporters.
4. The State Bank has introduced a new monitoring mechanism for the Long Term Financing Facility (LTFF) and has included required exports in the criteria. This will help enhance the export sector financing in the country.
5. Discussion on economy is usually the least priority of the electronic and print media, but due to the media engagement and advocacy of
the programme run by SDPI, main stream news channels produced talk shows on economy.

6. The Punjab government has initiated and reported progress towards the implementation of several proposals put forth by CIPE-SDPI research collaboration during the last three years, including working on revisiting the tax base, reduction in FED and micro-credit provision to small farmers.

7. The government of Pakistan presented the federal budget for the year 2018-19 on 27th April 2018. The recommendations put forth by CIPE-SDPI during the last two years were taken up by the government.

8. For the elections 2018, the manifestoes have taken several points from the draft economic manifesto document prepared by CIPE-SDPI.

9. The 11-point agenda put forth by PTI Chairman Mr. Imran Khan during his address in Lahore had three points on economy which were taken from the draft economic agenda document shared with PTI in March this year and acknowledged by Senator Shibli Faraz.

Focal Person: Engr. Ahad Nazir, Project Coordinator

SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

Pre-Election Advocacy for Addressing Citizen Centric Health Demands

Palladium

Citizen Centric Healthcare Reforms (CCHR) is a programme that focuses on easier access to services, patient centric outcomes, and efficient use of taxpayers’ money for health service delivery. The programme aims ‘to revitalize the health care delivery system through citizen centric reforms.’ Social reforms are always on the agenda of political parties, but they are supply centric. The main idea behind Citizen Centric Reforms (CCR) is the incorporation of citizens’ demands in the social (health) policy design.

A pre-election media campaign on health was launched before General Election 2018 with the purpose to raise awareness among general public on issues related to malnutrition, child and mother health and to build pressure on the political parties to focus on health issues in their election campaigns. For an effective implementation of the health campaign, a liaison with the electronic and print media was made to ensure a day-to-day coverage of the campaign.

Key Findings

- Citizens centric approach is largely missing from health sector reforms.
- There exists no health policy whereas the existing strategies are expiring.
- There is an insufficient allocation of health budget.
- Health departments lack consistent and appropriate data.

Dynamics of Health Governance and Role of Politicians

A series of engagements and lobby meetings were arranged with the politicians from different political parties both at the federal and the provincial level on issues around health, especially of children and women. Politicians were briefed on the research findings of the programme so as to understand the issue with more clarity. The lobby meetings were meant to influence the political agenda and prioritize health issues during and after general elections 2018. The draft of citizen health manifestoes were presented to political representatives as well as influencers in different meetings.
Herald – Survey Findings

Success stories

- Two leading political parties have given written commitments to discuss and prioritize the proposed changes in their manifestoes drafting committee meetings.
- SDPI gave a presentation of its health analysis to senators on the request of Leader of the Opposition in Senate Ms Sherry Rehman.
- PTI Chairman Imran Khan tweeted the findings of SDPI perception survey to his eight million followers.

Focal Person: Dr Abid Qaiyum Suleri
INTERFAITH HARMONY

Charting Pathways for Pluralism

Interfaith harmony and pluralism foster religious, cultural, and social integrity and help develop a diverse society wherein people of different beliefs and thoughts can live together. In a society that embraces pluralism, differences are not seen as threatening.

A three-day international Citizens Roundtable: Charting Pathways for Pluralism was conducted from May 2 to 4 in Islamabad, Pakistan. The aim of this roundtable was to assemble well-informed and open-minded leaders and actors from different backgrounds, including religious scholars, academics, politicians, parliamentarians, academia, and civil society actors to share their experiences of what works, what doesn’t, and why. The roundtable offered avenues for a renewed commitment to the concept of pluralism besides providing a space to rethink in Pakistan’s perspective. A strong emphasis was on the notion of pluralistic leadership and the role leaders (present and future) play in promoting interfaith harmony and religious tolerance in the society.

What has been achieved?
The citizen’s roundtable contributed in conveying to the world that Pakistan is open to such engagements for promoting and working towards building a congenial environment for pluralism.

Focal Person: Saleem Khilji
CLIMATE CHANGE

REDD+ Awareness Raising and Outreach

The overall aim of the REDD+ Awareness Raising Outreach Campaign is to promote REDD+ messages and knowledge in the society through application of standard norms and processes. SDPI is assisting the Ministry of Climate Change in preparing, designing, launching and implementing a powerful awareness raising campaign related to REDD+ interventions in the country. Through the launch of this REDD+ Awareness raising campaign, SDPI is taking all the stakeholders on board, i.e. from grass roots to technocrats to develop a critical mass through a vibrant engagement with media, religious scholars, parliamentarians, all line departments and community leaders. Social and traditional media (both print and electronic) was extensively used during this campaign.

Main objectives of the campaign are to:

• Launch an awareness campaign to create an enabling environment for the effective implementation of REDD+ Readiness Activities in Pakistan.
• Devise a strategic communication plan to engage all the stakeholders, including policy makers, technocrats, central and local authorities, local communities, religious and political leaders, general public, NGOs, and academia.
• Produce a short documentary on Pakistan’s status and commitment to reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradation.
• Organize seminars on REDD+ and relevant mobilization activities to create awareness among women and marginalized segments of the society.

REDD+ Study Tours and Training Workshops for Media Practitioners

Pakistan has a long list of endeavours to bring the emerging trends in mitigating climate change particularly in forestry sector such as REDD+. However, despite having its presence and little recognition, there is a need to overcome the information and capacity gaps in making REDD+ operational in Pakistan. In order to address this gap, SDPI assisted the Government of Pakistan in preparing, designing, launching and implementing a powerful awareness raising campaign related to REDD+ interventions in the country.

During REDD+ awareness raising series, SDPI organized several training workshops and arranged study tours in different parts of the country for journalists working on environmental issues. Participants of study tours and training workshops were introduced with the concept and significance of REDD+ and provided research support for their story writings.

REDD+ Media Awards

In recognition of Media Professionals’ dedicated works on REDD+ (Reduce Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation, and Foster Conservation, Sustainable Management of Forests, and Enhancement of Forest Carbon Stocks), Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI) in collaboration with REDD+ National Office, Ministry of Climate Change announced REDD+ Media Awards, 2017 in the following categories:

• Print Media Products disseminating REDD+ information for awareness
• Electronic Media Products on REDD+ information for awareness
• Social Media Content on REDD+ information for awareness
• Photographs exhibiting state of forestry in REDD+ context

REDD+ Media Awards Winners:

• Ms Shakeela Jaleel for her special supplement on REDD+.
• Ms Memoona Arif for her dedicated reporting in the REDD+ as a tool to address climate change.
• Ms Omaima Malik for her special NEWS package on Mangroves cutting telecast by GEO News TV.
• Mr Adnan Khatri for his article on ‘Mangrove, Riverine and Agro-Forests Diminishing’ published in The Nation.

Focal Person: Shafqat Munir
Consultative Forum with MPs on Climate Change, Forestry and Economic Reforms

During the Consultative Forum on Climate Change and Forestry, the members of parliament were briefed on the overall state of climate change in Pakistan with special focus on National REDD+ Strategy and Implementation Framework developed by the National REDD+ Office, Ministry of Climate Change, Government of Pakistan. They were also briefed on the international commitments and future plans for the legal framework and contribution of legislators regarding the National REDD+ Strategy. During the deliberations, the opinion of legislators was also sought on key issues and challenges faced by National REDD+ Strategy for its implementation in the national scenario.

Economic Reforms were also discussed at the Consultative Forum. The members of parliament and experts brainstorm the current challenges to inclusive growth, social justice and economic sustainability in the country. Interactive exchange of ideas may help prioritize key reforms that can unleash the potential of women, youth, minorities and marginalized groups. The discussion also focused on how an economic framework (e.g. Charter of Economy) can help the medium to long-term policy formulation process at national and sub-national level.

‘Parliamentary Forum on Economic Reforms’, SDPI’s lead consortia, briefed the parliamentarians on economic challenges and a way forward. SDPI ensured that it will provide relevant data and help build a consensus among different political parties on issues related to the economy. Members of National Assembly from Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI), Pakistan People’s Party (PPP), Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PMLN), Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam (JUI-F) and Muttahida Majlis-e-Amal (MMA) participated in the session.

The Forum aims to:

- Brainstorm the current challenges to inclusive growth, social justice and economic sustainability in Pakistan;
- Initiate a debate among parliamentarians on how could Pakistan’s socio-economy landscape look like in the short, medium and long-term?
- Allow interactive exchange of ideas to help prioritization of key reforms which can unleash the potential of women, youth, minorities and marginalized groups;
- Define how an economic framework (e.g. Charter of Economy) can help the medium to long-term policy formulation process at national and sub-national level;
- Provide pre-budget recommendations for the Federal and Provincial Budgets of 2019-20 as well as recommendations for energy, trade and tariff policies.
- Discuss ways through which greater focus can be achieved in the overall portfolio of public sector development programme.

Focal Person: Moazzam Bhatti
Section 4

POLICY ADVOCACY, CAMPAIGNS, AND OUTREACH
TWENTIETH SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE

Afghanistan, China, Ethiopia, Finland (Via Skype), France, Germany, India, Italy, Nepal, Pakistan, Thailand (via Skype), The Philippines, Sri Lanka, Switzerland, UK, and the USA participated in the three-day 20th Sustainable Development Conference, a flagship event of SDPI.

Seventy Years of Development: The Way Forward

The Twentieth Sustainable Development Conference (SDC) titled ‘Seventy Years of Development: The Way Forward’ from 5th to 7th December 2017 organized by the Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI) will be remembered within and by the development sector of Pakistan and the region for some time as one of the largest congregations of biggest, best and brightest minds coming together in 40 panels, roundtables and podium discussions, many of which were concurrent including four plenary sessions.

Twentieth SDC during the 25th year of SDPI examined 70 years of development in Pakistan and the region with participation from around the world. A total of 269 panelists representing the following 16 countries became part of this mega event: Afghanistan, China, Ethiopia, Finland (Via Skype), France, Germany, India, Italy, Nepal, Pakistan, Thailand (via Skype), The Philippines, Sri Lanka, Switzerland, UK, and the USA. An audience of over 3,000 attended the three-day flagship event of SDPI.

Distinguished speakers included Pakistani politicians and policy-makers such as Mr Sartaj Aziz, Dr Miftah Ismail, Syed Khurshid Shah, Ms Marvi Memon, Ms Shahnaz Wazir Ali, Dr Naﬁsa Shah as well as Federal Ministers, including Khawaja Muhammad Asif, Prof. Ahsan Iqbal, Ms Maryam Aurangzeb, Mr Awais Ahmad Khan Leghari; and, Senators, including Mr Mushahid Hussain, Mr Shibli Faraz, Rana Muhammad Afzal, Mr Usman Saifullah, Mr Noman Wazir and Dr Naﬁsa Shah amongst others.

The Opening Plenary provided a launching pad for the following five publications:
1. SDPI’s Journal of Development Policy, Research and Practice
2. SDC Anthology: “Sustainable Development: Envisaging the Future Together”
3. SDPI’s Annual Report 2017
4. Pakistan’s Agenda for Economic Reforms
5. Policy Briefs on Sustainable Development

Panellists also included prominent members of the business community such as Syed Yawar Ali, Hammad Siddqui, Mir Salman Ali, Mr Wang Ziahi; and diplomats such as High Commissioner Threttali Parameswaran Pillai Sreenivasan (India) and Ambassador Shafqat Kakakhel (Pakistan). The panels also heard reflections from seasoned academics like Dr Ishrat Husain, Dr Sania Nishtar, Dr Muhammad Bilal, Dr Ashfaque Hussain, Dr Nadeem ul Haque, Dr Pervaiz Amir; and dignitaries from international organizations like the World Bank, ADB, UNCTAD, UNESCAP, UN-CEDAW, CUTS-India, SAWTEE, Chinese Ministry of Finance, RIS-India, FES such as Dr Enrique Blanco and Dr Robert Beyer, Ms Farzana Noshab, Dr Daniel Poon, Dr Shamshad Akhtar, Ms Bandana Rana, Mr Udal Singh Mehta, Dr Paras Khare, Ms Jia Jinghang, Mr Sachin Chaturvedi, Dr Rolf Paasch, respectively; and veteran human rights activists like Mr I.A. Rahman, Mr Afrasiab Khattak, Ms Khawar Mumtaz, Mr Karamat Ali, and Mr Shoab Sultan Khan. Speakers also included artists like Mr Jamal Shah and Ms Sheema Kermani to name a few. This year’s overarching theme was explored under three streams:

Stream 1: Pakistan turned seventy in 2017. There is a lot to learn from seventy years of developmental experiences on what worked, what did not work and what may work for countries like Pakistan to attain sustainable development goals in future. The conference congregated key stakeholders, national and international, to reflect on peace and development promises made and what has been achieved so far and to take a futuristic approach and suggest a ‘way forward’ for development, highlighting collective efforts and commitment that feeds to the peace conscience and renews the zeal for persistent effort. The inaugural Plenary, therefore, focused on Pakistan’s centenary and what needs to be done so that ‘no one is left behind’ in Pakistan by 2047.

Stream 2: Given SDPI turned 25, the conference touched upon the role of think tanks (TTs) towards sustainable development. The speakers from like-minded organizations around the world not only shared the role of TTs in bridging policy research gaps but also their role in getting those policies implemented. Along with sharing success stories of sustaining independent policy research organizations in challenging times, speakers also shared the stories of impact created by TTs in sustainable development. The conference was an opportunity to discuss the role of thinking community, and what they have contributed; and, based on past experience share the future agenda. Plenary 2 focused on the need for regional and global realignment in Pakistan’s foreign policy and regional connectivity.

Stream 3: This included the general sessions, project specific sessions, and sessions with development partners and international donors. Sessions looked at socio-economic development, SDGs, social justice, women empowerment, minority rights, climate change,
Sustainable Development Policy Institute

Annual Report 2018

REDD+, information technology, energy, etc. SDC Plenary 3 took forward the sub-themes and role of media in highlighting issues on environment, economics and social justice. The evening plenary honoured journalistic efforts made in 2017 with Media Awards in three categories, i.e. print, electronic and photo journalism. H.U. Beg plenary lectures at the concluding session were delivered by Dr. Shamshad Akhtar and Mr Mushahid Hussain Syed.

Acknowledgements

SDPI’s Twentieth Sustainable Development Conference (SDC) 2017 partners:

1. The World Bank
2. UN Women
3. World Food Programme (WFP), Pakistan
4. United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
5. United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP)
6. Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES), Pakistan
7. The Asia Foundation (TAF)
8. Overseas Development Institute (ODI), UK
9. Centre of Excellence for China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CoE CPEC)
10. International Development Research Centre (IDRC)
11. Center for International Private Enterprise (CIPE)
12. International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)
13. Ministry of Climate Change (MoCC)
14. Heinrich Böll Stiftung (hbs)
15. Climate Action Network South Asia (Cansa)
16. Aurat Foundation (AF)
17. Nestlé Pakistan
18. South Asia Partnership Pakistan (SAP-PK)
19. GIZ Pakistan
20. Commission on Science and Technology for Sustainable Development in the South (COMSATS), Pakistan
21. National Rural Support Programme (NRSP)

Networking Activity: SDC Unit organized a dinner in February 2018 to acknowledge the SDC donors and partners for making SDC 2017 a success; and, also to celebrate SDPI’s Global TTI Ranking 2017. The overarching theme for the SDC 2018 and its dates were announced at the occasion.

SDC keynote plenary sessions and selected panels were broadcast live on SDPI’s web-based TV (www.sdpi.tv) for wider dissemination. A special SDPI SDC APP was also created which audience members could download and which provided minute by minute details of every panel, including Facebook and Twitter updates which made the Conference one of the Top Ten Trending news on Google in Pakistan.
SDC Anthology: One of the conference outcomes is a peer-reviewed Conference anthology based on papers presented at the occasion launched at the succeeding Conference. Keeping up with this tradition, the conference showcased launch of the SDC 2016 anthology titled ‘Sustainable Development: Envisaging the Future Together’ jointly published by SDPI and Sang-e-Meel Publications.

This anthology coincided with Pakistan’s 70-year independence celebrations and SDPI’s 25 years as a research and advocacy organisation. The book is a canvas, not just of ideas about where Pakistan needs to go in the next decade to realise the United Nations ‘great’ sustainability agenda under the Sustainable Development Goals, it is also an honest assessment of serious challenges the nation faces such as religious and gender discrimination, climate change and debt restructuring. But Pakistan is not alone.

If anything, the volume also tells the story of other neighbouring countries, like Afghanistan and Sri Lanka, which are battling their own demons of conflict, envisaging their people’s determination towards the shared dream of a peaceful, inclusive and well-governed civilization.

The authors help deepen our reflection on how ‘policy’ can be linked with ‘practice’, how to grapple with the foreboding reality of climate change in a country and region which has witnessed far too many weather-related calamities in the recent past and of late, and review the role of monetary institutions and regional blocs. They ponder the architecture of peace in countries hit by war and internal strife, and take stock of how this region treats its minorities.

Journal of Development Policy, Research and Practice

This trans-disciplinary scholarly annual journal aims to provide a diverse array of research and working papers, policy briefs, and argumentative essays on a wide range of issues pertaining to sustainable development.

About the journal: The very first volume of SDPI’s annual journal titled “Journal of Development Policy, Research and Practice” was launched at the Twentieth Sustainable Development Conference. This trans-disciplinary scholarly annual journal aims to provide a diverse array of research and working papers, policy briefs, and argumentative
essays on a wide range of issues pertaining to sustainable development. From sustainable livelihoods to social sector development, from inclusive economic growth to institutional governance, from energy economics to climate change, from food in/security, water and human security to education, from sustainable industrial growth to resilient development, from religious tolerance to peace and gender equity, there is something insightful for professionals, students, and readers from varied backgrounds. The journal can be accessed at https://www.sdpi.org/journal/index.php

### Upcoming conference

**20th Sustainable Development Conference (SDC)**

**Title: Corridors of Knowledge for Peace and Development**

**4 – 7 December 2018**

**Islamabad, Pakistan**

The Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI) is pleased to announce its Twenty-first Sustainable Development Conference (SDC). The overarching theme of this year's Conference is "Corridors of Knowledge for Peace and Development". The Eleventh South Asia Economic Summit (SAES XI), which is being hosted by SDPI in Islamabad this year, will also coincide with the SDC. The joint mega-events will be held from 4 – 7 December 2018 in Islamabad, Pakistan.

**OVERARCHING THEME OF THE SDC:**

The Twenty-first SDC will not only discuss the economic corridor, but also other corridors of connectivity and knowledge that can steer us towards peace and development. Looking at the emerging global trends, countries are embarking on following more inward-looking policies, led by the United States with its 'America First' rhetoric and the UK's decision to leave the European Union. Such a direction is raising concerns about how increasing nationalist policies will impact the future of various multilateral trade agreements, global solidarity, social policy, trade and development.

While a few regional organizations and processes may have stalled, the road to development must go on. This growing trend should not be allowed to impact research and development efforts and learning from each other's best practices. In fact, new collaborative partnerships need to be established on knowledge sharing and building bridges, while simultaneously strengthening old ones.

**Focal Person:** Uzma T. Haroon
ADVOCACY AND CAMPAIGNS

Policy advocacy is considered the backbone of a think tank to showcase its research activities. Advocacy and Campaigns Unit, a paramount component of SDPI's core activities after research, serves as a platform for dialogue and policy discourse among civil society, academia, government, policy makers, and private sector. The primary objective of the unit is to create awareness, develop consensus and suggest policy options on sustainable development issues under study at SDPI. It engages stakeholders and fosters partnerships for policy influence. For this purpose, thematic programmes are regularly held at the institute. During the period between Nov 1, 2017 to Oct 30 2018, a total of 53 different events were organized or provided support by the advocacy & outreach unit (Annexure 2). Below is the brief summary of the activities:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total number of advocacy tools</th>
<th>53</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Category</td>
<td>No of events</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday Seminars</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conferences</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Distinguished Lectures/Talks</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Launch of Reports/Books</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MoUs signing</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>References to pay tributes</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consultations &amp; Roundtables</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Campaigns</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Policy Symposiums</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Political Barometer/Survey</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Press Conference</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CPEC Study Centre Launch</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Details of major advocacy and outreach activities are as under:

**Implications of New Law on the Diplomatic Front of Pak-US Relations (Seminar)**

**Speakers:**
- Senator Farhatullah Babar; PPP
- Ex-Senator Afrasiab Khattak; ANP
- MNA Shahabuddin Khan; PML-N
- Zahid Hussain; Senior Analyst
- Ajmal Wazir; PM-Q
- Justice (retd) Ajmal Mian
- Saleem Safi; Senior Journalist
- Shakeel Ramay, Director, Research Uptake, SDPI

Speakers said that the cooperation between Pakistan and America for a stable Afghanistan and peace in the region was imperative. Therefore, an effective and meaningful engagement on the diplomatic front must be revived and beefed up so that the forces with destructive agenda could be averted from deriving benefit from this vacuum to cause further unrest and instability in the region. They stressed the need for restructuring civilian input to deal with the present diplomatic crisis. They said Pakistan was being maligned unfairly as the US is silent over state terrorism of India on innocent Kashmiri people.

**FATA Reforms: The Current Trends and Way Forward (Roundtable)**

**Speakers:**
- Senator Farhatullah Babar; PPP
- Ex-Senator Afrasiab Khattak; ANP
- MNA Shahabuddin Khan; PML-N
- Zahid Hussain; Senior Analyst
- Ajmal Wazir; PM-Q
- Justice (retd) Ajmal Mian
- Saleem Safi; Senior Journalist
- Shakeel Ramay, Director, Research Uptake, SDPI

Speakers said that the passage of a bill in the National Assembly, extending the jurisdiction of Supreme Court of Pakistan and Peshawar High Court to FATA, is a historic moment, however, there are two major ambiguities in the bill – the first is the central government’s jurisdiction to enact the bill through notification and second is the government’s liberty to implement the law where and when required. They stressed the need to amend or repeal Article 247 of the Constitution to implement the Bill. If the government does not do this then the passage of Bill from the National Assembly will be of no use, they said.
Paying Tributes to Munnu Bhai (Reference)

Speakers:
- Kishwar Naheed Renowned poetess
- Ahmed Salim Senior Advisor, SDPI
- Hamid Mir Senior Journalist
- Prof. Jalil Aali
- Fareeda Hafeez Veteran journalist
- Dr Abid Q Suleri SDPI Executive Director
- Dr Humaira Ishfaq SDPI Research Fellow

Glowing tributes were paid to late Muneer Ahmed Qureshi commonly known as Munnu Bhai at a reference. “Munnu Bhai’s writings, plays, columns and poetry reflect the true face of the society, speakers said, adding that he valiantly continued his struggle for human rights, and stood against dictatorship and tyranny with courage and determination. They said his love for humanity demands of us to continue his mission and struggle.

Global Go to Think Tank Index 2017 (Report Launch)

Speakers:
- Dr Abid Qaiyum Suleri, SDPI Executive Director
- Dr Masoom Yasin Zai, Ex-Rector, International Islamic University
- Mr Shafqat KakaKhel, Chairman, SDPI Board of Governors
- Dr Shafqat Munir, SDPI Research Fellow

Speakers said SDPI has strengthened its position in ranking among global and regional think tanks according to the 11th edition of University of Pennsylvania Global Go To Think Tank Index (GGTTI) released across the world. (Details shown on Page --)

They said SDPI's top ranking is a matter of pride for all Pakistanis and credit for these rankings goes to the dedicated team of experts, board of governors and staff of the SDPI. They said it is a recognition of Pakistan and not just SDPI and this achievement would help build soft image of Pakistan in the global community.

Europe Ki Diary (Book Launch)

Speakers:
- Barristor Naseem Ahmed Bajwa, Author
- Dr Inamul Haq Javed, Chairman, National Book Foundation
- Dr Qasim Boghio, Chairman, Academy of Letters
- Dr Tahir Jamil University Quaid-i-Azam

- Mr. Khurshed Nadeem Senior Columnist

Speakers appreciated the author's skill and ability to reflect upon the true picture of the socio-politico-economic landscape of Europe in the book. Speakers said that although, several books have been written on this subject but none had ever informed the readers of the actual contents of the European history. They said the author owes independent thoughts without which sustainable development especially the global development agenda cannot be achieved.

In Memory of Asma Jehangir (Reference)

Speakers:
- Sartaj Aziz, Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission
- Senator Farhatullah Babar, PPP Prominent poetess
- Kishwar Naheed, Asma Sherazi, Senior Journalist
- Ex-Senator Afrasiab Khattak
- Arif Chaudhry Advocate, Quaid-i-Azam University
- Tahira Abdullah, Dr Abid Q. Suleri, Mr. Khursheed Nadeem Senior Columnist

Speakers said Asma Jahangir was the symbol of hope and resistance against dictatorship, oppression, and tyranny. “She was larger than life, and contributed a lot to uphold the rule of Law. Her sudden departure left us all in a state of oblivion. Her dream of equality and her stance for human rights was above any political party line. Though she might have died physically, she will remain alive forever.”
Disparities in Police Systems In Provinces And The Federal Capital (Seminar)

Speakers:
- Prof. Ahsan Iqbal, Federal Minister for Interior
- Dr Abid Q. Suleri, SDPI Executive Director
- Gen. (retd) Moinuddin Haider
- Dr Shoaib Suddle
- Majid Bashir
- Javed Sikandar
- Humaira Masiuddin
- Ex-Amb. Shafqat Kakakhel
- MNA Shazia Sohail Meer
- MNA Naeema Kishwar
- Dr Kaleem Imam
- Dr Sultan Azam Temuri
- Dr Mujeeb-ur-Rehman

Speakers said one of the biggest challenges, Pakistan is faced with for the last 70 years, is the lack of a stable political system and discontinuity in policies, which led to non-implementation of reforms, especially in the police department, which is highly politicized.

They said Pakistan has witnessed around 28 different police reform initiatives, but none yielded its fruits due to lack of ownership at all levels. They said that the Police Order 2002, promulgated on 14 August 2002 replaced the Police Act 1861 but it is not extended to the Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT), Gilgit-Baltistan and Azad Jammu and Kashmir.

Human Rights Violations in Kashmir – Time To Act Now (Seminar)

Speakers:
- Lt-Gen. (retd) Nasser Janjuha, Prime Minister's National Security Advisor (NSA)
- Ms Romina Khurshheed Alam, Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Climate Change
- Ms Farzana Yaqoob, Former Minister AJ&K
- Mr Shafqat Kakakhel, Chairperson, SDPI Board of Governors
- Dr Abid Qaiyum Suleri, SDPI Executive Director

Speakers said the hearts of Pakistanis throbbed with their Kashmiri brethren, whose voice for their right to self-determination cannot be suppressed. They stressed the need for collaborative efforts to highlight the human rights violations in the disputed valley. They said Kashmir dispute should be resolved as per the resolutions of the UN and Kashmiris must be taken on board in an effort to resolve the issue.

High-Level Pre-Budget Symposium

Speakers:
- Mr Sartaj Aziz, Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission
- Dr Miftah Ismail, Adviser to Prime Minister on Finance, Revenue and Economic Affairs
- Dr Abid Qaiyum Suleri, SDPI Executive Director, SDPI
- Dr Vaqar Ahmed, SDPI Joint Executive Director
- Mehnaz Akbar Aziz, Director, Children's Global Network
- Mr Abdul Qadir, Senior Advisor, FES

Speakers said privatization should be the top agenda of all political parties. To sustain growth trajectory, Pakistan may require more investments in basic infrastructure development.

Stressing the for depoliticizing Pakistan's economy, they said political parties should come up with alternative budget proposals and evolve a political consensus on major economic issues.

They said economic growth and job creation prospects can be improved by focusing on services sector exports, low-
Speakers said Pakistan’s current economic outlook is not very much promising as economy is facing serious pressures on the fiscal, monetary and trade accounts facets. They said serious structural reforms at all level are requisite to prevent Pakistan’s economic crisis. To ease pressures attributed to current account deficit, the government needs to focus on curtailing non-essential imports, promoting competitiveness of exporting enterprises, attracting foreign direct investment, and encouraging greater remittance inflows, they added. The symposium was held in collaboration with Beaconhouse National University.

**Launch of China Study Centre at SDPI**

Speakers:
- Dr Shamshad Akhtar Caretaker Finance Minister
- H.E. Mr Yao Jing Ambassador of the People’s Republic of China
- Haroon Sharif Former Regional Advisor Economic Corporation (South Asia) World Bank
- Dr. Abid Qaiyum Suleri Executive Director of SDPI

Sustainable Development Policy Institute’s (SDPI) in collaboration with Chinese Embassy launched China Study Center at SDPI. Speakers said inappropriate planning, lack of capacity and consolidated information at one platform generate controversies around China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC). They said Pakistan should take maximum advantage from one-time opportunity of CPEC, which could open up more corridors of cooperation in the region and the world. They hoped the Center will produce high quality research for informed policy making. Pakistan can benefit from CPEC in terms of connecting with the rest of the world. They said, adding that in the second phase of CPEC, Pakistan needs to examine the opportunities and prioritize its development goals.

**Focal Person:** Moazzam Bhatti

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cost housing, incentivizing capital stuck in undocumented economy to become part of formal economy, investing in electricity, water and sanitation, and enhancement of export potential of agro-based industry.

**Five Years of China-Pakistan Economic Corridor - A Story of Success and Opportunities (Seminar)**

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**Speakers:**
- Prof. Ahsan Iqbal, Federal Minister for Interior, and Planning, Development & Reforms
- Mr Yao Jing, Chinese Ambassador to Pakistan
- Mr Shoaib Siddique Secretary for Planning, Development & Reforms
- Dr Abid Suleri SDPI Executive Director
- Dr Vaqar Ahmed SDPI Joint Executive Director
- Mr Shakeel Ramay SDPI Director, Research Uptake and Business Development

Speakers said China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) is one of the biggest success stories that we have had in our whole history and it has become the biggest global brand of Pakistan. They said innovation, technology and competitiveness are now the new pillars of the economy to achieve growth and prosperity. They said political volatility, capacity, coordination, institutional trust, knowledge gaps, financing and flexibility in our policies are major challenges that may hinder the progress of CPEC.

**National Symposium on the State of Economy**

**Speakers:**
- Sartaj Aziz Former Federal Minister & Deputy Chairman of Planning Commission
- Dr Hafeez A. Pasha Former Finance Minister and Professor at National University
- Shahid H. Kardar Vice-Chancellor- BNU - Balance of Payment Issues
- Dr. Abid Q. Suleri Executive Director SDPI
- Dr Vaqar Ahmed Joint Executive Director, SDPI
Established in 2011, Sustainable Development Television (SDTV) is a web-based television and production house, owned by Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI). SDTV provides quality video production facilities to government, non-government, international development agencies and corporate sector organizations. For more than seven years, SDTV is constantly producing short video packages, documentaries and talk shows on issues around sustainable development (Annexure ...). In a short span of time, SDTV has developed its internal core production facility, which includes a voice over room, sound proof studio, lighting system, cameras, sound mixers, switchers and other essential production equipment. SDTV also provides live streaming and broadcasting services to its valued customers for greater outreach and advocacy. SDTV reflects SDPI’s drive to operate as a dynamic organization that is innovative and futuristic in its approach. Through its web TV, SDPI reaches out to wider groups of public and private sector professionals.

Details of SDTV’s Activities:

SDTV engages in different activities with regards to policy advocacy and outreach. Following are the brief details of activities:

- Current Affairs Programme
- Video Packages
- Live Streaming of Conferences & Events
- Live Streaming of Conferences & Events on Commercial Basis
- Documentaries
- Other Related Activities

Current Affairs Programmes

SDTV produces and airs regularly a number of current affairs programmes which are also live streamed and archived on the web page at “www.sdpi.tv”. These programmes are designed to raise awareness, generate discussion and increase public knowledge. An evidence and fact-based analysis in these programmes on socio-economic and political issues seeks policy makers’ attention on development agendas. An introductory note on the programmes is as under.

News and Views

News and Views is a short format current affair programme that showcases critical socio-
political and economic development issues. The programme is designed to take quick responses and suggestions from experts on recurrent policy issues. The programme is aimed to provide quick policy advice with brief analysis on issues of public interest. The programme format is one on one with focus on a single policy matter. A number of programmes has been produced and aired. (Annexure 6)

**Hum Aur Hamara Mahol**

Hum Aur Hamara Mahol is a 15-minutes weekly talk show aired every Wednesday at 11am PST. It is live streamed at sdpi.tv/live.php and later on uploaded on YouTube @ SDPI Pakistan. The idea is to educate people on the issues of climate change, water shortage, plantation, dams, waste management and other related issues with reference to environment. A number of programmes has been produced and aired (Annexure --)

**District Watch**

District watch is a pre-election scenario programme which was produced to explore development scenario at district level. In this programme, vulnerable districts were selected and threadbare evidence-based discussion was originated to explore health, education and infrastructure development situation in each district. Authentic data was used to analyze the situation in the backdrop of current political parameters. (Annexure --)

**Follow Up**

Follow-Up is a long duration programmes which discusses socio-economic and political developments in the country. Usually one or two gusts are invited to these programmes. A number of programmes have been produced and aired during the year. (Annexure --)

**Coffee Table**

Coffee Table was a talk show that chiefly showcased political economy issues besides other aspects of development. The programme format was mostly one plus one, but sometimes it would change as per requirement of the topic. Archives of these programmes are available at SDPI web tv (www.sdpi.tv).

**20th Sustainable Development Conference**

SDTV team in collaboration with IT and Web unit live streamed and fully recorded three day long SDPI’s 20th SDC. There were around 30 different panels including opening, closing and dinner plenary. Every concurrent session was live streamed. SDTV team also interviewed the panelists of selected (around 22 panels) sessions for short video packages which were produced later on.

**Focal Person:** Saleem Khilji
Sustainable Development Policy Institute uses social media very actively. Instagram, YouTube, Facebook, LinkedIn and Twitter are the platforms with huge following. On Facebook we have more than 17,000 followers, Twitter more than 11000 followers and quite a large audience at other platforms as well. Followers include researchers, policy makers, think tanks, private sector, authors, students, teachers, technology and business community. More than 500K impressions we earned on average on twitter. To engage more we have our android and IOS application to keep audience updated with our events, publications and annual sustainable development conference updates.

Focal Person: Maryam Shabbir
Nasir Khan Management Information System (NK-MIS) Web unit is one of the core units of SDPI which plays a paramount role in the Institute’s communication and outreach strategy. It showcases all its research work and outreach related activities. Besides, it deals with designs, development, management, and maintenance of website and web applications.

It also facilitates live-streaming during different events to help enhance the institute’s outreach via social media.

**Focal Person:** Saeed ur Rasheed & Manzoor Ahmad
CLD International Training Programme

Centre for Learning and Development has achieved a unique status of transforming institutional leadership by launching its International capacity building and learning programme in 2017. This multi-dimensional learning methodologies, based upon effective assimilation techniques act as the part and parcel of SDPI’s learning and development programmes. CLD has achieved another milestone by launching International training programme in collaboration with International Development Research Centre (IDRC), a premier government supported Canadian Institute in 2017 to build the capacities of IDRC supported South Asian Think Tanks in the Asia and Pacific Region. Under the International learning and development programme, known as The Opportunity Fund, SDPI – Centre for Learning and Development conducted three workshops for the South Asian think tanks at Bangkok, Thailand. The titles of the conducted trainings are reflected as under:


CLD is one of the leading capacity development centres in Pakistan that has so far conducted more than 725 trainings, trained more than 13,400 professionals, out of which 40 per cent are female. CLD has the edge of engaging multi-sectoral participants as well as trainers to build the knowledge base of the Country to generate a greater sustainable impact among communities with durable solutions.

Since its inception to-date, CLD has conducted more than 750 training workshops, trained more than 11,800 professionals in various categories from more than 575 development organizations, academia, research institutions, industry and corporate sector. More than 700 organizations, including UN, UNESCO, UNODC, UNDP, UNICEF and other international agencies like DFID, FHI360, USAID, AUSAID, GIZ, and various INGOs, have been part of SDPI Centre for Learning and Development. The centre is famous for its research and activity based participatory learning methodologies. It engages the best international resource persons and trainers available in the market to yield high quality results.

To maintain its credible position in the market, an annual survey is also conducted to identify the market needs and to design future training workshops as per the demand of valuable organizations and clients. The prime focus of the Centre is to engage the development, academic and research organizations and for the purpose, Centre also provides a number of full and partial scholarships to students, and talented individuals; however, some women and transgender scholarships are also provided to engage all segments of the society.

SDPI’s Learning Environment and Training Methodologies

| In-House Workshops | 11 |
| National Workshops | 09 |
| International Workshop | 01 |
| Total: | 21 |

SDPI’s Center for Learning and Development conducted a selective range of training workshops to provide a conducive learning environment with interactive learning techniques. The trainers’ selection criteria is very rigorous and challenging. The courses are conducted in an environment that is exciting for the enhancement of one’s professional skills. The Centre also conducts exclusive workshops and retreats for the development and corporate organizations by identifying their needs. Number of trainings conducted during the year 2018 is as follow:
**In-house and National Trainings**

SDPI believes in Continuing Professional Development (CPD) to enhance the knowledge and skills of its research and administrative staff and for the purpose, it allocates funds for its employees. For the year 2017-18, CLD conducted 11 trainings and sessions for its staff. Along with the internal programmes, CLD focuses on its sustainability and conducted 09 national workshops. These workshops were attended by various professionals representing academia, think tanks, civil society and public sector organizations.

**International Workshop**

Under the IDRC’s opportunity fund, CLD conducted two International workshops in July and November 2017. The third workshop on ‘Strategic Campaigns for Influencing Policy Agenda’ was conducted from 13 – 15 March 2018 at Bangkok, Thailand. The workshop was attended by 12 think tanks working on policy research and gaps analysis in the South Asian countries, including Bangladesh, India, Pakistan, Nepal, and Sri Lanka. The major focus of the workshop was to develop strategic campaigns for research and development issues. As majority of the think tanks and development organizations that participated in the workshop are working on the policy gaps analysis and developing strategies to address these issues.

**External Linkages and Cooperation Programme**

The Center for Learning and Development (CLD), in addition to its primary mandate to build capacities, is also engaged in building cooperation among national and international research institutions and organizations for more collaborations and mutual gains. For this purpose, CLD is engaged in facilitating various units and Centers within SDPI to sign Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) with research, development and academic institutions and organizations for mutual gains.

**Focal Person:** Shahid Minhas
Section 5
RESEARCH COORDINATION
RESEARCH COORDINATION

Research Coordination Unit keeps a depository of information on all research-related activities going on at SDPI. This institutional knowledge helps the RCU team for branding and profiling of the institute among the policy and donor communities. Additionally, RCU provides different platforms to the research staff for presenting and discussing new research-based ideas/outputs. Three such platforms for this purpose are: Retreats (annual), Policy Research and Advocacy Meeting (biannual) and Brown Bag Research Meetings (monthly). RCU also monitors the progress of research projects to ensure that the deliverables are completed within the contractually agreed timelines.

Planning Meeting 2018

A planning meeting of the research and advocacy staff was held early this year. Major objectives of the meeting were as follows.

• To review the collective annual performance of the institute through a qualitative and financial lens
• To develop an understanding about the near-term financial position of the institute
• To deliberate upon policy research and outreach priorities of the institute

The meeting started with Deputy Executive Director’s presentation summarizing 2017 activities, plans, challenges and successes. He highlighted the relevance of knowledge for projects currently in progress at SDPI and what needs to be done internally and externally to maintain and improve SDPI activities and outreach. The meeting decided to retain and build partnerships with various existing and potential donors by capitalizing on existing rapport; prepare quality proposal for new funding that matches with donor priorities as identified in their Country Strategy Papers; and enhance the capacity of different units for their sustainability.

The session was focused on the various recommendations coming out of Policy, Advocacy and Research Meetings. In this session, Researchers were requested to identify factors that can help enhance research quality, coordination and delivery within the stipulated time. One such recommendation that emerged from PRAM in the group discussion was to form clusters. The house agreed to form four clusters (economy, social, climate change, and emerging issues) of research staff; then a moderator was identified for each group who, with the support from other colleagues, identified preferred thematic areas for research keeping in view the national priorities and needs. Then he accordingly developed a cluster’s work plan for the year 2018. Potential donors and their strategies were also discussed.
Brown Bag Research Meetings

Brown Bag Research Meetings (BBRMs) serve as a platform to promote internal knowledge sharing and brainstorming. It also provides the researchers an opportunity to share novel ideas with their peers to receive valuable feedback. During the period of October 2017 – October 2018, the following BBRMs were conducted.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BBRM</th>
<th>Presenter</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>71st</td>
<td>Dr. Imran Khalid</td>
<td>Health Perils of Lead Paint and relevant laws on it’s implementation</td>
<td>31-Oct-17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>72nd</td>
<td>Dr. Abid Qaiyum Suleri</td>
<td>REDD+ Payments for Eco System Services (PES)</td>
<td>6-Jan-18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>73rd</td>
<td>Dr. Shafqat Munir</td>
<td>Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) for winning hearts and minds</td>
<td>15-Feb-18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>74th</td>
<td>Dr. Abid Qaiyum Suleri</td>
<td>Divergence in Police Systems in Provinces and the Federal Capital</td>
<td>22-Feb-18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>75th</td>
<td>Dr. Vaqar Ahmed</td>
<td>Beyond CPEC: An Agenda for Competitiveness and Structural Reforms in Pakistan</td>
<td>2-March-18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>76th</td>
<td>Mr. Shakeel Ahmed Ramay</td>
<td>Political Economy of CPEC</td>
<td>9-March-18</td>
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<tr>
<td>77th</td>
<td>Shujaat Ahmed</td>
<td>Reviewing Dispute Resolution Councils in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP):</td>
<td>30-March-18</td>
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<tr>
<td>78th</td>
<td>Maryam Shabbir Abbasi</td>
<td>Urban Forestry: the need of the hour</td>
<td>24-April-18</td>
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<tr>
<td>79th</td>
<td>Dr. Abid Qaiyum Suleri</td>
<td>Violation of Human Rights in Kashmir</td>
<td>10-May-18</td>
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<tr>
<td>80th</td>
<td>Dr. Vaqar Ahmed</td>
<td>Pakistan’s standing in the global trade war</td>
<td>25-June-18</td>
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<td>81st</td>
<td>Dr. Abid Qaiyum Suleri</td>
<td>Role of local governments in tackling climate change challenges</td>
<td>9-July-18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>82nd</td>
<td>Dr. Vaqar Ahmed</td>
<td>Role of Western Engagements in Pakistan</td>
<td>26-July-18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oc83rd</td>
<td>Dr. Ahmed J. Pirzada</td>
<td>How to escape the Balance of Payments (BoP) Crises</td>
<td>14-Sept-18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>84th</td>
<td>Dr Farhan Zahid</td>
<td>Choosing the Path of Islamist Extremism: Case Studies from Pakistan</td>
<td>19-Sept-18</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Policy Research and Advocacy Meeting

Policy Research and Advocacy Meeting (PRAM) is a forum that is attended by all the research and advocacy staff to have collective understanding and updates of research and advocacy activities going on at SDPI. This year one PRAM was held in January 2017. Research and advocacy staff shared activities performed during 2017 as well as activities planned for the first half of 2018. Researchers’ activities mainly included research projects, publications, targeted meetings with donors and policy makers as well as proposal writing.

Advocacy staff shares the progress viz. media coverage of SDPI’s research outputs and the advocacy events like the Monday seminars and report launches.

Memorandums of Understanding

This year the following important MoUs were signed to cement research collaborations with the following institutions.

1. SDGs Secretariat, National Assembly of Pakistan

The MoU outlines the following areas of collaboration:

- SDPI to provide evidence based research for legislations as and when required by the members of the SDGs Secretariat from available research and resources.
- SDPI to assist SDG secretariat in developing a data portal in the form of scorecards and fact sheets on
selected priority areas
• SDPI to provide technical assistance to the Standing Committees concerned in research and agenda inclusion of SDGs priority areas
• SDPI to assist SDGs Secretariat in media outreach, ICT paraphernalia, including DevWatch, SDGs Specific Meets and Engagements, etc.

2. University of Malakand

The MoU serves the following purposes:
• Development of joint research proposals, activities and publications by sharing published and other research resources.
• Joint organization and participation in seminars, conferences, workshops, academic and professional meetings.
• Holding of national and international training courses, study tours, joint leadership and capacity building events at both institutions.
• Research partnerships, report writing, peer review and joint policy dialogues.

3. National Counter Terrorism Authority

The MoU serves the following purpose:
• Research including the development of joint research proposals, activities and publications.
• Develop a sustainable quality assurance/monitoring and evaluation framework for areas of research under the mandate of NACTA.
• Outreach and networking with stakeholders.
• Any other programmes, projects and activities mutually agreed upon by the Parties.
• Provide technical assistance to NACTA in areas
having the capacity to conduct research as and when needed.

- NACTA and SDPI shall organize joint events to raise awareness of masses and relevant stakeholders

4. Agency for Barani Areas Development (ABAD)

The specific objectives of this MoU are:

- To promote collaboration between SDPI and ABAD and develop long term relationship between the two institutions in order to promote joint research and enhance knowledge for the purposes of socio-economic development of the barani areas on a sustainable basis.
- To coordinate and organize seminars/workshops/panel discussions and other such activities on different themes of rural economy, with particular focus on water related issues as a means of promoting social development.
- To maintain a regular and reasonable contact and engage in discussions, events and conferences regarding research in areas pertaining to this MoU.
- To share communication expertise, equipment and studio facilities for communication and outreach material.

5. Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation Institute

The arrangement has the following purpose:

- Provide mentorship and learning opportunities to young professionals interested in research partnerships, report writing, peer review and joint policy dialogues benefitting the parties;
- Development of joint research proposals, activities and publications by sharing of data and other research resources, wherever possible;
- Provide internship opportunities to young professionals;
- Development of virtual institutional linkages via websites.

6. Epiphany

The MoU serves the following purposes:

- Research including the development of joint research proposals, activities and publications;
- Sharing of data and other research resources;
- Capacity building including training courses, study tours and joint leadership events;
- Any other programmes, projects and activities as may be mutually agreed upon by the Parties.

7. Beaconhouse National University

The MoU serves the following purposes:

- Research including the development of joint research proposals, activities and publications;
- Seminars, conferences, workshops and meetings;
- Develop a sustainable quality assurance/monitoring and evaluation framework and indices for the Justice sector;
- Strategic and knowledge partnership towards hosting Sustainable EXPO and Annual Sustainable Development Conference;
- Outreach and networking with stakeholders.

Focal Person: Qasim Shah
Section 6

PUBLICATIONS & RESOURCE CENTRE
“Research not published is research not done” is the SDPI motto. We have dedicated publication units, both in Urdu and English. Similarly, there are separate editorial boards for Urdu and English publications. See Annexure 3 for the details of publications.
English Publication Unit

Keeping up with new tracks and trails in sustainable development the world over, the English Publication Unit, is responsible for documenting and disseminating the institute’s research publications while holding the policy research and policy advocacy together besides maintaining their quality. It also acts as a tool of outreach and advocacy with stakeholders. All the publications, including Monographs, Research Papers, Working Papers and Policy Briefs are peer reviewed by a panel of scholars and academics, as well as screened through Higher Education Commission’s plagiarism software. After a thorough technical review, all these publications undergo a rigorous editing process. The board also provides guidelines to authors and referees in connection with the research publications.

In addition, the unit is also responsible for an editorial review of the institute’s other publications including annual reports, project publications, policy documents, etc.

Focal Person: Saleem Khilji, Senior Editor (Research Publications)

Urdu Publication Unit

Revived in 2011, Urdu Publication Unit is now engaged in translating books, articles, project questionnaire and research papers published in International journals. Moreover, it also publishes Urdu periodicals, including newsletter and Urdu journal in the names of “Dharti” (Land), and “Paidar Taraqee” (Sustainable Development) respectively. Urdu publications are meant for wider awareness raising and dissemination of research at the grass roots level. The unit also undertakes translation work from other organizations and individuals as well.

Focal Person: Ahmad Salim, Senior Advisor

Ahmed Salim Resource Centre

Ahmad Salim Resource Centre (ASRC) serves as an information base for the multi-disciplinary research at the institute for general public, students, academia and the research scholars in the country and abroad. The Center with 34,000 quality books, journals/Magazines and other documents is one of the biggest conduits of information in the entire development sector of Pakistan.

In addition, digital files as well as online resources in the areas of development, environment, economic growth, education, gender, social sector, agriculture and current hot topics like CPEC are available. Also, there is an exclusive section for government data publications.

The library facilitates the local, regional and international journals and periodicals to subscribe/purchase to its publications. It receives more than 100 serials, including journals, periodicals, newsletters and weekly newspapers. Additional resources are available through Inter-Library Loan Programme and Publication Exchange Programme.

ASRC strives to provide information and knowledge to facilitate research and development on sustainable development issues in Pakistan. Over the years it has grown by evolving into an effective coherent mechanism of acquisition, processing, organization, creation and dissemination of information.

It undertakes the following tasks:

- Select and acquire appropriate resource/research information;
- Organize electronically the research information for easy access and use;
- Advise and assist people in searching through relevant databases;
- Disseminates information through publications books, research papers, policy papers such as periodicals/E-newsletters, etc.
- Network with libraries and information/documentation centers.

SDPI Executive Director presents SDPI publications to State Minister at a function.
E-Library

To facilitate the academia and development sector, SDPI knowledge bank is also online. Therefore, now, the library can be accessed for downloading and retrieving research publications on different themes from across the world through subscription and registration.

Networking

In order to enhance access to information, the ASRC knowledge bank regularly networks with national and regional thematically coherent organizations. The ASRC’s “Publication Exchange Program” has a fraternity of 30 organizations. Under this programme, SDPI publications are exchanged with books and other materials, published by the partner organizations. The ASRC also has a formal Inter-Library Loan arrangement with Pakistani libraries in Islamabad, Karachi, and Lahore.

Besides, ASRC facilitates access to various databases (e.g. IDRC online database, HEC Digital Library database, E-Library Punjab, World Bank, etc.) and online journals, enabling the researchers to consult and compare their work with that of contemporary researchers of their relevant fields.

Focal Person: Ali Aamer, Associate Coordinator

Selected articles by SDPI research staff published in national dailies

Dr Abid Qaiyum Suleri
The writer heads Sustainable Development Policy Institute and tweets at @abidsuleri

The economic way forward
April 8, 2018
The News on Sunday
A critical review of the PML-N’s last four years’ economic performance against the benchmarks of 2013 when it came into power

A shared future under CPEC
January 28, 2018
Pakistan, China, and the rest of the world under CPEC — this is the model to go forward
The News on Sunday

Dr Vaqar Ahmed
Dr Vaqar Ahmed is Joint Executive Director at SDPI, Twitter: @vaqarahmed

Digital dangers
Cyber attacks have wrung alarm bells on modern economy and digital banking
The News on Sunday, Nov 11, 2018

Can academic diaspora help Pakistan?
The News on Sunday, June 3, 2018
As Pakistan completes ten years of continued democracy, it is important to recognize the services of Pakistan’s professionals abroad
Don't buy panic on rupee fall
Pakistani rupee plunged because it was overvalued artificially, not supported by fundamentals of economy
https://dailytimes.com.pk/308704/dont-buy-panic-on-rupee-fall/

Building more dams in Pakistan, is akin to adding water to a leaky bucket, you will never get your fill

The terms corruption and accountability, in fact, mask our understanding of the problems of governance

Democracy, extremism and identity politics
The World War-II ended with a remarkable invention in the governance system of the world. and other forms of governance.

Lack of access to financial services is a direct barrier to many important services that underwrite development and social inclusion.

The media industry helps portray society as it is. It does so while producing economic benefits, including employment.

Apart from their research activities, SDPI researchers contribute their articles and Op-Eds to different newspapers and magazines (See Annexure 4).
Section 7
RESEARCH SUPPORT
Nasir Khan- MIS IT Unit

The Nasir Khan Management Information System (NK-MIS) Information Technology unit provides smooth IT services to the SDPI team, including field staff.

The unit also provides technical support within the office and during the outdoor events. It is responsible for holding the system and network security. It has improved the server room management through power backup, cooling system, and cable management in the racks.

To control this sensitive equipment, POE switches have been configured at the data center. For office security, the IP cameras have been installed at different locations of the building, which are connected with POE switches and managed by IT department.

Door access control devices are placed at different locations inside the office building to control the unauthorized access to the office, it is centrally managed by the IT department.

Data Center is very important and sensitive place in SDPI building where all the important data of the organization is placed.

For the fast and reliable communication, gigabit LAN with Cisco switches is functional, so that high speed of IT services can reach to the users without any delay. The LAN infrastructure is reliable because it is connected to the uninterruptable power supply.

Administration & Procurement Unit

Administration & Procurement Unit is entrusted with the task of day-to-day administration as well as resource planning. The smooth running of operations with efficiency is the prime objective and mission of the unit. It provides logistics for annual conferences and international events from alpha to omega. The unit is also responsible for providing a conducive environment to the staff not only in the office but also in the field. Provision of logistics to its staff within an organization is the basic responsibility of the unit.

Besides, the unit ensures value for money by making purchases through best practices by planning and afterwards implementing various projects. The unit facilitates the research and other staff regarding procurement within and outside the country. Procurement is guided by a Procurement Committee at the institute in decision-making so as to keep the process clean and transparent.”
Finance Unit

Finance, in any organization, has its unique presence significance. It is said to be the backbone of any organization as it helps the organization provide a continuous stream of cash flows which are necessary for organizational operations. At SDPI, Finance Unit is responsible for ensuring financial sustainability of the organization by putting in place efficient strategies in alignment with the mission and vision of the organization. Moreover, safeguarding of assets and compliance with applicable laws and regulations is also an important part of the financial management. The unit undertakes the following tasks:

- Budget Making
- Resource Planning
- Variance Analysis
- Financial Accounting
- Statutory Reporting
- Donor specific Reporting
- External Reporting
- Internal Financial Management Reporting

Internal Audit and Compliance Unit

Internal Audit and Compliance Unit is entrusted with internal audit of the organization along with planning and conducting operational, financial and compliance audits and reviews creating synergies among the units. It also covers the strategic, operational, financial and compliance risks to evaluate the effectiveness of internal controls and ensure compliance with legal laws and requirements. Others include ensuring in place the internal control and continuous monitoring of them for efficiencies and effectiveness. It performs functional reporting to the Board of Governors’ Finance and Audit Committee and administrative reporting to the Executive Director. It gives value added evidence-based recommendations to senior management using Computer-Assisted Audit Techniques (CAATs).

Human Resources Unit

Human Resources (HR) Unit supports SDPI in achieving its mission by delivering high-quality HR services in the fields of strategic planning, recruitment, workplace safety, management-employee relations, compensation and benefits, compliance, career development and training opportunities. The unit facilitates the staff by providing them congenial and friendly workable environment.

The unit plays a vital role in managing people and the workplace culture and environment mainly focusing to keep SDPI strong, successful, and functional through sound policies and actions for handling personal matters. Throughout the year, the unit develops, implements and supports programmes and processes that add value to the Institute and its employees, leading to improved employee welfare, empowerment, growth and retention within limited resources. SDPI has established policy and procedures for all areas of human resources management. Supervisors in consultation with their staff make annual workplans for their annual performance evaluations. SDPI awards performance-based renewal contracts to its staff. The staff is provided with various facilities, including health and life insurance, provident fund, and gratuity.

This year too, HR Unit along with HR functions carried out activities related to Organizational Development. As organizational development is the ongoing attempt to improve overall SDPI’s productivity and efficiency, this year also department was able to solve problems within the organization. Elements of organizational development which the unit was able to achieve included capacity building of staff through trainings and providing opportunities for improvement in their qualification, career progression path through mentorship programme, happy hour, structured orientation plan, and better health and safety plan for employees.

In 2018, as many as 13 new researchers joined SDPI. Eight core/support employees were recruited and services of six staff members were regularized. In the projects, 127 short-term consultants / field staff were hired, seven visiting fellows / researchers were affiliated, six internships were awarded and five volunteers were taken onboard. Contracts of the all staff members were renewed and six employees were promoted.

SDPI staff members attended different training workshops throughout the year. SDPI researchers were invited to 40 international workshops and conferences where they presented country specific and regional research studies/papers.
At SDPI, the junior and senior staff believe to work as a family without any social and gender discrimination. It creates a congenial environment at workplace. A number of recreational programmes are organized to energize the staff and create a sense of ownership among them. These programmes include ‘Happy Hours’, Annual Dinner, Excursion Tours, etc. A pictorial view of such gatherings is given below:
**FAREWELL**

![Image of a farewell ceremony with people holding an award]

**TREE PLANTATION**

![Image of people planting a tree]

Sustainable Development Policy Institute

Annual Report 2018
LAHORE TOUR

PICNIC
Section 9
ANNEXURES
ANNEXURE 1

Staff Members as of November 2018
### Annexure 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No</th>
<th>Title(s) with details of speakers</th>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td><strong>Right to Information - A Step Forward For Better Governance</strong>&lt;br&gt;Speakers:  • Senator Farhatullah Babar; People’s Party Parliamentarians (PPP)  • Mr Zafarullah Khan; Executive Director, Pakistan Institute of Parliamentary Services (PIPS)  • Mr M. Ziauddin; Former Editor, Dawn, and Veteran Journalist</td>
<td>Monday Seminar</td>
<td>09-10-17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td><strong>World Food Day: Change the Future of Migration</strong>&lt;br&gt;Speakers:  • Dr Abid Qaiyum Suleri, Executive Director, SDPI  • Mina Dowlatchahi, Representative of Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) in Pakistan  • Ms Romina Khursheed Alam, PML-N MNA  • Dr Muhammad Azeem Khan, Director-General, National Agriculture Research Council (NARC)  • Syed Muhammad Nasir Ali Shah, Managing-Director, Pakistan Oil Seed Development</td>
<td>Monday Seminar</td>
<td>16-10-17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td><strong>Poverty Reduction in China and Lessons for Pakistan</strong>&lt;br&gt;Speaker:  • H.E. Mr Lijian Zhao, Deputy Chief of Mission, People’s Republic of China</td>
<td>Lecture</td>
<td>30-10-17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td><strong>Health Hazards of Lead Paint and Implementation on Relevant Laws</strong>&lt;br&gt;Speakers:  • Dr Mahmood A. Khwaja, Senior Advisor on Chemicals and Sustainable Industrial Development, SDPI  • Dr Imran Khalid, Research Fellow, SDPI  • Ms Farzana Shah, Director-General, Pakistan Environmental Protection Agency (PEPA)  • Dr Sofia Khalid, Professor at Fatima Jinnah Women University (FJW), Rawalpindi</td>
<td>Seminar</td>
<td>31-10-17</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td><strong>Dina Jinnah, The End of Quaid’s Legacy</strong>&lt;br&gt;Speakers:  • Dr Riaz Ahmad, Senior researcher and academician  • Mr Ahmad Salim, Writer and senior Advisor at SDPI  • Dr Abid Qaiyum Suleri, Executive Director, SDPI  • Dr Ehtasham Anwar, researcher and writer  • Dr. Humaira Ishfaq, researcher and academician  • Javed Chaudhry, renowned TV anchor and columnist</td>
<td>Seminar</td>
<td>29-11-17</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td><strong>The Role of Civil Society Organizations in EU Trade Agreements</strong>&lt;br&gt;Speaker:  • Prof. Dr J. Orbie, Director, Centre for EU Studies</td>
<td>Lecture</td>
<td>11-12-17</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td><strong>Launch of Tax Revenues Directory</strong>&lt;br&gt;Speakers:  • Dr Abid Qaiyum Suleri, Executive Director, SDPI  • Shoaib Nizami, Journalist</td>
<td>Seminar</td>
<td>22-12-17</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td><strong>Turning Diversity into Pluralism-Challenges and Way Forward</strong>&lt;br&gt;Speakers:  • Ahmad Salim, Writer and Senior Advisor at SDPI  • Naeem Ahmad Mirza, Head of Aurat Foundation</td>
<td>Monday Seminar</td>
<td>01-01-18</td>
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<tr>
<td>Page</td>
<td>Title</td>
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Dr. Amineh A. Hoti, Researcher and Educationist  
Shafqat Aziz, Head of Advocacy, SDPI |
Ex-senator Afrasiab Khattak, ANP  
Shahabuddin Khan, PPP, MNA  
Zahid Hussain, Senior Analyst  
Ajmal Wazir, PMLQ  
Justice (retd) Ajmal Mian  
Saleem Safi, Senior Journalist  
Shakeel Ahmed Ramay, Director Research Uptake, SPDI |
| 11   | Paying Tribute to Munnu Bhai | Reference 29-01-18 | | Kishwar Naheed, Renowned Poetess  
Ahmed Salim, Writer and Senior Advisor at SDPI  
Hamid Mir, Senior Journalist and Anchor Person  
Prof. Jalil Aali  
Fareeda Hafeez, Veteran Journalist  
Dr Abid Q Suleri, Executive Director, SDPI  
Dr Humaira Ashfaq, Research Fellow, SDPI |
| 12   | Global Go To Think Tank Index Report 2017 | Report Launch 31-01-18 | | Dr Abid Qaiyum Suleri, Executive Director, SDPI  
Dr Masoom Yasin Zai, Ex-Rector, International Islamic University  
Mr Shafqat Kakakhel, Ex-Ambassdoe and Chairman, BoG, SDPI  
Dr Shafqat Munir, Research Fellow and Director Resilient Development Programme, SDPI |
| 13   | REDD+ Payments for Ecosystem Services (PES) | Seminar 06-02-18 | | Ms Romina Khursheed Alam, Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Climate Change  
Syed Mehmood Nasir, Inspector General, Forests Department  
Mr Jorn Laxen, International Expert on PESS, Finland  
Mr Anwar Ali, Forest Mensuration Officer, Pakistan Forest Institute, Peshawar  
Dr Abid Qaiyum Suleri, Executive Director, SDPI |
Ayesha Bilal, Chief Operating Officer, PRIME Institute.  
Ahad Nazir, Project Coordinator, SDPI.  
Vaqar Ahmed, Deputy Executive Director, SDPI. |
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<th>No.</th>
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<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Europe Ki Diary</td>
<td>12-02-18</td>
<td>Book Launch</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Speakers:</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Dr Inamul Haq Javed, Chairman of National Book Foundation</td>
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<td>• Dr Qasim Boghio, Chairman, Academy of Letters</td>
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<td>• Dr Tahir Jamil, Quaid-i-Azam University</td>
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<td>• Mr Khursheed Nadeem, Senior Columnist</td>
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<td>16</td>
<td>Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) For Winning Hearts And Minds</td>
<td>13-02-18</td>
<td>Special Press Conference</td>
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<td>Speaker:</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Dr Shafqat Munir, Research Fellow and Director, Resilient Development Programme, SDPI</td>
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<td>17</td>
<td>Reference in Memory of Asma Jehangir</td>
<td>19-02-18</td>
<td>Reference</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Speakers:</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Sartaj Aziz, Deputy Chairman of Planning Commission</td>
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<td>• Senator Farhatullah Babar, PPP</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Kishwar Naheed, Renowned Poetess</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Asma Sherazi, Journalist and Senior Anchor Person</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Ex-Senator Afrasiab Khatak, ANP</td>
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<td>• Arif Chaudhry advocate, President, Islamabad High Court Bar Association</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Tahira Abdullah, Civil Society Activist</td>
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<td>• Dr Abid Q Suleri, Executive Director, SDPI</td>
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<td>18</td>
<td>Disparities in Police System in Provinces and the Federal Capital</td>
<td>22-02-18</td>
<td>Seminar</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Ahsan Iqbal, Federal Minister for Interior.</td>
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<td>• Dr. Abid Q. Suley, Executive Director, SDPI</td>
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<td>• Gen Moinuddin Haider, Ex-Governor Sindh</td>
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<td>• Dr Shoaib Suddle, Ex-DG of Intelligence Bureau</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Former judge Majid Bashir advocate</td>
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<td>• Javed Sikandar, Chief Governance Section, Planning Commission</td>
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<td>• Humaira Masuudin advocate</td>
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<td>• Shafqat Kakakhel Former Ambassador and Chairman BOG, SDPI</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Shazia Sohail Meer, PML-N MNA,</td>
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<td>• Naeema Kishwar, JUI-F MNA,</td>
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<td>• Dr Kalim Imam, Inspector General, Motorway Police</td>
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<td>• Dr Sultan Azam Temuri, Inspector General, Islamabad Capital Territory</td>
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<td>• Dr Majeeb-ur-Rehman</td>
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<td>19</td>
<td>61st Meeting of SDPI’s study Group on Information Technology and Telecommunications</td>
<td>28-02-18</td>
<td>RoundTable</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Abdul Samad; Member, Compliance &amp; Enforcement, PTA</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Ammar Jaffri; President, Pakistan Information Security Association</td>
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<td>• Mian Javed; Former Chairman, PTA, PTCL and PEMRA</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Dr Abid Qaiyum Suleri, Executive Director, SDPI</td>
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<td>• Brig (retd) Mohammad Yasin, Senior Advisor, SDPI</td>
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<td>20</td>
<td>Financial Action Task Force: Way Forward for Pakistan</td>
<td>05-03-18</td>
<td>Monday Seminar</td>
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<td>Speakers:</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Dr Waqar Masood; Former Finance Secretary</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Senator Syed Shiblue Faraz; PTI</td>
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<td>• Dr Abid Qaiyum Suleri; Executive Director, SDPI</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Mr Haroon Sharif; Regional Advisor for South Asia, World Bank</td>
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<td>21</td>
<td>Public-Private Policy Symposium for achieving export competitiveness in Pakistan</td>
<td>07-03-18</td>
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<td>22</td>
<td>Recognizing Struggle of Women Leadership on International Women’s Day</td>
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<td><strong>Speakers:</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Enrique Blanco Armas, World Bank’s Lead Country Economist</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Dr. Vaqar Ahmad, Joint Executive Director of SDPI</td>
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<td>23</td>
<td>United States’ South Asian Policy: Challenges for Pakistan</td>
<td>Monday Seminar</td>
<td>19-03-18</td>
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<td><strong>Speakers:</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Mishal Malik; Chairperson, Peace and Culture Organization, AJK</td>
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<td>• Kishwar Naheed, Poetess</td>
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<td>• Senator Sassui Palejo, PPP</td>
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<td>• Dr Humaira Ishfaq, International Islamic University, Islamabad</td>
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<td>• Senator Sherry Rehman, PPP</td>
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<td>Possible Economic Agenda for Elections 2018</td>
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<td><strong>Speakers:</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Mr Abdul Basit; President, Islamabad Policy Research Institute.</td>
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<td>• Major-General (retd) Hafiz Masroor Ahmed; Vice-President, Centre for Global and Strategic Studies</td>
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<td>• Mr Imtiaz Gul, Executive Director, CRSS</td>
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<td>• Dr Shireen Mazari; Member of National Assembly, PTI</td>
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<td>• Mr Shakeel Ramay; Director, Research Uptake and Business Development, SDPI</td>
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<td>Urban Forestry is Need of the Hour to Make Cities Sustainable/Liveable</td>
<td>Seminar</td>
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<td>• Syed Mahmood Nasir; Inspector-General, Forest Department</td>
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<td>• Dr Abid Qaiyum Suleri; Executive Director, SDPI</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Ms Romina Khurshid; Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Climate Change, Pakistan</td>
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<td>• Prof. Dr Sarwat N. Mirza; Vice-Chancellor, Arid Agriculture University, Rawalpindi</td>
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<td>• Syed Zeeshan Ali Naqvi; Deputy Mayor, Islamabad</td>
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<td>• Mr Shafique Akbar; Managing Director, Graana Group of Companies</td>
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<td>• Dr Asghar Naeem; Head of Department, NUST</td>
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<td>• Dr Faizul Bari; Representative of FAO</td>
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<td>• Mr. Muhammad Qasim; Representative of REDD+</td>
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<td>26</td>
<td>State of the Economy and Future Priorities</td>
<td>Policy Symposium</td>
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<td><strong>Speakers:</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Dr Hafiz A. Pasha; former Federal Minister for Finance Dr Vaqar Ahmed, Joint Executive Director, SDPI</td>
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<td>27</td>
<td>New Politico-Economic Geography of South Asia</td>
<td>Monday Seminar</td>
<td>02-04-18</td>
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<td><strong>Speakers:</strong></td>
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<td>• Mr Haroon Sharif; Former Regional Economic Advisor, World Bank</td>
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<td>• H.E Mr. Jononov Sherali, Ambassador of Tajikistan to Pakistan</td>
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<td>• Zahid Hussain; Senior Analyst</td>
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<td>• Shafqat Munir; Director Policy, Campaigns and Communications</td>
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<td>Human Rights Violations in Kashmir - Time To Act Now</td>
<td>Monday Seminar</td>
<td>09-04-18</td>
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<td><strong>Speakers:</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Ms Romina Khursheed Alam, Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Climate Change</td>
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<td>29</td>
<td>High-Level Pre-Budget Symposium</td>
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<td>30</td>
<td>Political Economy of Budget Making Process</td>
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<td>Where Does Pakistan Stand in Global Trade War?</td>
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<td>32</td>
<td>Five Years of China-Pakistan Economic Corridor - A Story of Success And Opportunities</td>
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<td>33</td>
<td>Post Budget (2018-19) Overview and Analysis</td>
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<td>34</td>
<td>Peace a Dividend for Development and Stability In Afghanistan</td>
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<td>35</td>
<td>Post-Brexit Trade Relations in European Union: Implications for Pakistan</td>
<td>11-05-18</td>
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**High-Level Pre-Budget Symposium**

**Speakers:**
- Mr. Sartaj Aziz; Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission of Pakistan
- Dr. Miftah Ismail; Adviser to Prime Minister on Finance, Revenue and Economic Affairs
- Dr. Abid Qaiyum Suleri; Executive Director, SDPI
- Dr. Vaqar Ahmed; Joint Executive Director, SDPI
- Mr. Abdul Qadir; Senior Advisor, FES

**Political Economy of Budget Making Process**

**Speakers:**
- Asad Umar; PTI
- Shakeel Ramay, Director, Research Uptake and Business Development, SDPI

**Where Does Pakistan Stand in Global Trade War?**

**Speakers:**
- Ms. Robina Ather; Member, National Tariff Commission
- Mr. Muhammad Iqbal; Chief (International Taxes), Federal Board of Revenue
- Mr. Ahmad Qadir; Director-General, Competition Commission of Pakistan
- Dr. Usman Mustafa; Pakistan Institute of Development Economics

**Five Years of China-Pakistan Economic Corridor - A Story of Success And Opportunities**

**Speakers:**
- Prof. Ahsan Iqbal; Federal Minister for Interior, and Planning, Development & Reforms
- H.E. Mr. Yao Jing, Chinese Ambassador to Pakistan
- Mr. Shoaib Siddique; Secretary Planning, Development & Reforms
- Dr. Abid Qaiyum Suleri, Executive Director, SDPI
- Dr. Vaqar Ahmed, Joint Executive Director, SDPI
- Shakeel Ahmad Ramay, Director Research Uptake and Business Development, SDPI

**Post Budget (2018-19) Overview and Analysis**

**Speakers:**
- Dr. Abid Qaiyum Suleri; Executive Director, SDPI
- Dr. Vaqar Ahmed; Joint Executive Director, SDPI
- Dr. Pervaiz Tahir; Former Chief Economist Pakistan
- Ilyas Ahmed Bilour; Ex-Senator, ANP
- Syed Asad Mashadi; President, Rawalpindi Chamber of Commerce and Industry

**Peace a Dividend for Development and Stability In Afghanistan**

**Speakers:**
- Lt.-Gen. (retd) Naseer Khan Janjua; Advisor, National Security Division
- Mr. Imtiaz Gul; Executive Director, CRSS
- Dr. Abid Qaiyum Suleri; Executive Director, SDPI
- Rustam Shah Mohmand; Former Ambassador

**Post-Brexit Trade Relations in European Union: Implications for Pakistan**

**Speakers:**
- Ms. Farzana Yaqoob; Former Minister for Social Welfare & Women’s Development, AJK
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<th>No.</th>
<th>Event Title</th>
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| 36  | Pakistan's First Women Health & Hygiene Conference | Speakers:  
- Ms Maryam Aurangzeb; Federal Minister for Information and Broadcasting  
- Ms Romina Khursheed Alam; Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Climate Change  
- Ms Shaza Khwaja; Member of National Assembly, Pakistan  
- Dr Abid Qaiyum Suleri; Executive Director, SDPI  
- Ziad Khan; Director, Peace University |
| 37  | MoU Signing Ceremony between SDPI and NACTA (National Counter Terrorism Authority Pakistan (NACTA)) | MoU |
| 38  | MoU Signing Ceremony Between ABAD (Agency for Barani Areas Development) and SDPI | MoU |
| 39  | The Role of Local Governments in Tackling Climate Change Challenges Seminar | Speakers:  
- Ms Romina Khursheed Alam; MNA, PML-N  
- Mr Zeeshan Naqvi; Deputy Mayor, Islamabad  
- Dr Abid Qaiyum Suleri, Executive Director, SDPI  
- Mr Irfan Tariq; Director-General (Environment), Ministry of Climate Change  
- Dr Mehmood Khawja; Senior Advisor – Chemicals and Sustainable Industrial Development, SDPI  
- Dr Pervaiz Amir, Climate Change Expert |
| 40  | Iftar Dinner in Honor of Dr Shamshad Akhtar Khan, Caretaker Finance Minister | Iftar Dinner |
| 41  | Western Engagements in Afghanistan | Monday Seminar  
Speaker:  
- Mr David Vestenskov; Royal Danish Defense College  
- Dr Salma Malik, Quaid-i-Azam University  
- Dr Talat Farooq; University of Birmingham  
- Dr Vaqar Ahmed, Joint Executive Director, SDPI |
| 42  | Dynamics of Health Governance: Role of Politicians and Media Professionals Roundtable in Lahore | |
| 43  | Pakistan Environment and Political Barometer | Survey/Barometer Launch |
| 44  | Post-Election Political Developments Seminar | Speakers:  
- Zahid Hussain, Senior Analyst  
- M. Ziauddin, Journalist and Senior Analyst  
- Dr Abid Qaiyum Suleri, Executive Director, SDPI |
| 45  | Environment and Climate Change Vision of PTI Lecture | Speaker:  
- Malik Amin Aslam, Advisor to PM on Climate Change |
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<td><strong>China Study Center at SDPI</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>Speakers:</strong>&lt;br&gt;• Dr Shamshad Akhtar; Caretaker Finance Minister&lt;br&gt;• H.E. Mr Yao Jing; Ambassador of the People’s Republic of China&lt;br&gt;• Mr Haroon Sharif; Former Regional Advisor, Economic Corporation (South Asia) World Bank&lt;br&gt;• Dr Abid Qaiyum Suleri, Executive Director, SDPI</td>
<td>Launching Ceremony 2-08-18</td>
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<td><strong>Pakistan’s 71 Years of Independence: Envisaging Future</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>Speaker:</strong>&lt;br&gt;• Prof. Fateh Muhammad Malik, Former Rector, IIUI</td>
<td>Lecture 13-08-18</td>
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<td><strong>The Institutional and Urban Design of Gwadar City</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>Speaker:</strong>&lt;br&gt;• Mr Naveed Iftekhar; Advisor, Ministry of Finance&lt;br&gt;• Dr Nadia Farooq; Economic Expert&lt;br&gt;• Dr. Adam Saud; Bahria University, Islamabad&lt;br&gt;• Mr Amer Zafar Durrani, CEO Secure Global</td>
<td>Monday Seminar 15-08-18</td>
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<td>49</td>
<td><strong>Youth Driven Climate Action</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>Speakers:</strong>&lt;br&gt;• Dr. Abid Qaiyum Suleri, Executive Director, SDPI&lt;br&gt;• Mr Shakeel Ramay, Director, China Study Centre, SDPI&lt;br&gt;• Dr Pervaiz Amir, Climate Change Expert&lt;br&gt;• Mome Saleem; Heinrich Boll Stiftung&lt;br&gt;• Mr Anif Goheer; Global Change Impact Studies Centre&lt;br&gt;• Mr Yasir Dil Nawaz, Ex-President, PYCN&lt;br&gt;• Ms Saima Shafique; Coordinator, WASH</td>
<td>Seminar 28-08-18</td>
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<td>50</td>
<td><strong>Parliament Society Nexus (Seminar)</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>Speakers:</strong>&lt;br&gt;• Former Senator Afrasiab Khattak (ANP)&lt;br&gt;• Ms. Romina Khursheed Alam, MNA, (PMLN)&lt;br&gt;• Dr. Abid Qaiyum Suleri, Executive Director, SDPI&lt;br&gt;• Mr. Harris Khalique, civil society leader, Pakistan</td>
<td>Monday Seminar 10-09-18</td>
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<td>51</td>
<td><strong>National Symposium on State of the Economy</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>Speakers:</strong>&lt;br&gt;• Dr Vaqar Ahmed; Joint Executive Director, SDPI&lt;br&gt;• Dr Abid Qaiyum Suleri; Executive Director, SDPI&lt;br&gt;• Mr Shahid H. Kardar; Vice-Chancellor, Beaconhouse National University&lt;br&gt;• Dr Hafeez A. Pasha; Former Finance Minister&lt;br&gt;• Sartaj Aziz; Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission</td>
<td>Policy Symposium 13-09-18</td>
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<td><strong>Amendments in Finance Bill 2018-19</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>Speakers:</strong>&lt;br&gt;• Dr Vaqar Ahmed; Joint Executive Director, SDPI&lt;br&gt;• Senator Farhatullah Babar; People’s Party Parliamentarian (PPP-P)&lt;br&gt;• Senator Nouman Wazir Khattak; Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI)&lt;br&gt;• Senator Dr Mustaqim Malik; Pakistan Muslim League Nawaz&lt;br&gt;• Syed Touqeer Bukhari; President Rawalpindi Islamabad Tax Bar Association (RITBA)&lt;br&gt;• Dr Shumail Daud Arain; Former President Rawalpindi Chamber of Commerce &amp; Industry (RCCI)&lt;br&gt;• Shaban Khalid; Former President, Islamabad Chamber of Commerce &amp; Industry (ICCI)</td>
<td>Seminar Monday 24-09-18</td>
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### Research Publications

#### Nov 2017 – Oct 2018

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<tr>
<td><strong>Annual Report</strong></td>
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<td>Annual Report 2017</td>
<td>Saleem Khilji</td>
<td>05/12/2017</td>
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<td><strong>Book</strong></td>
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<td>Pakistan’s Agenda for Economic Reforms</td>
<td>Dr. Vaqar Ahmed</td>
<td>05/12/2017</td>
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<td><strong>Contributed Chapter Series</strong></td>
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<td>Unpacking Climate Impacts and Vulnerabilities of Cotton Farmers in Pakistan: A Case Study of Two Semi-arid Districts</td>
<td>Samavia Batool and Dr. Fahad Saeed</td>
<td>8/14/2018</td>
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<td>Dynamics of unidimensional and multidimensional inequality in Pakistan: Evidence from regional and provincial level study</td>
<td>Muhammad Waqas Khalid, Junaid Zahid, Muhammad Ahad, Aadil Hameed Shah, Fakhir Ashfaq</td>
<td>8/8/2018</td>
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<td>Towards a climate resilient cotton value chain in Pakistan: Understanding key risks, vulnerabilities and adaptive capacities</td>
<td>Samavia Batool, Fahad Saeed</td>
<td>7/16/2018</td>
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<td>Health Services Trade between India and Pakistan</td>
<td>Rabia Manzoor, Dr. Shehryar Khan Toru and Dr. Vaqar Ahmed</td>
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<td>Chapter 4: Sustaining Agricultural Production in Pakistan: Obstacles and Prospects</td>
<td>Rabia Manzoor, Abbas Maken and Richard Culas</td>
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<td>IRTI Policy Paper Series: The Interlinkage between Social Exclusion and Financial Inclusion: Evidence from Pakistan</td>
<td>Nasim Shah Shirazi, Dr. Sajid Amin Javed, Dawood Ashraf</td>
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<td>The Impediments in promoting trading activities in Pakistan</td>
<td>Asif Javed &amp; Syed Shujaat Ahmad</td>
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<td><strong>Policy Briefs</strong></td>
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<td>Track-II diplomacy - Building disaster resilience in Pakistan and India (PB-65)</td>
<td>Dr Shafqat Munir Ahmad</td>
<td>10/12/2018</td>
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<td>Groundwater Management: Pathways for Cooperation in South Asia (PB-64)</td>
<td>Imran Saqib Khalid and Ayesha Qaisrani</td>
<td>10/9/2018</td>
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<td>Pakistan Environment Barometer 2018 Environment an issue not a priority (PB-63)</td>
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<td>Deforestation to Reforestation REDD+ in Pakistan (PB-62)</td>
<td>Junaid Zahid</td>
<td>7/5/2018</td>
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SDPI PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS

NATIONAL

1. Global Change Impact Studies Centre (GCISC), Islamabad
2. Centre of Excellence for CPEC
3. Social Policy and Development Centre (SPDC), Karachi
4. The Chemical Society of Pakistan (CSP), Islamabad
5. The Asia Foundation (TAF), Pakistan
6. Nestlé, Pakistan
7. OXFAM, Pakistan
8. Rockefeller Foundation
9. National Rural Support Programme (NRSP)
10. Rural Support Programme Network (RSPN)
11. Pakistan Centre for Philanthropy (PCP)
12. Rawalpindi Chamber of Commerce and Industry (RCCI)
13. Aurat Foundation
14. Heinrich Böll Stiftung (hbs), Pakistan
15. Lahore Chamber of Commerce and Industry (LCCI)
16. Defence Export Promotion Organization (DEPO)
17. EPPIPHANY
18. Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation (CAREC) Institute
19. Agency for Barani Areas Development (ABAD)
20. China Study Center
21. Palladium, Pakistan
22. Pakistan Dental Association (PDA) Council
23. Pakistan Medical and Dental Council (PMDC)
24. Minamata Initial Assessment, Pakistan (MIA)
25. Women Chamber of Commerce and Industry - Lahore division
26. CONCERN Worldwide Pakistan
27. Rutgers, Pakistan
28. Center for Communication Programs Pakistan
29. Khatoon Karobar Network
31. Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP)
32. LEAD, Pakistan
33. National Agriculture Research Center (NARC)
34. British Council, Pakistan
35. Pakistan Poverty Alleviation Fund (PPAF)
36. Saferworld, Pakistan
37. KARANDAAZ
38. Civil Society Human and Institutional Development Program (CHIP)

Ministries/Government Department/Committees

1. Ministry of Climate Change (MoCC), Islamabad
2. Ministry of Commerce (MoC), Islamabad
3. Ministry of Finance
4. Ministry of National Food Security and Research (MNFSR), Islamabad
5. Ministry of Planning, Development & Reforms, Islamabad
6. National Economic Advisory Council (NEPRA), Islamabad
7. National Economic Advisory Council (NEAC)
8. Board of Investment (BoI)
9. Planning Commission of Pakistan
10. Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA)
11. Ministry of Interior (MoI)
12. SDGs Secretariat, National Assembly of Pakistan
13. National Counter Terrorism Authority Pakistan (NACTA)
14. Higher Education Commission (HEC), Pakistan
15. National Logistics Cell (NLC)

SOUTH ASIA

Bangladesh

1. Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD), Dhaka
2. South Asian Network on Economic Modelling

India

1. CUTS Institute for Regulation and Competition (CIRC)
2. Centre for the Study of Developing Societies (CSDS), Delhi
3. National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER), Delhi
4. Centre for Policy Research (CPR), Delhi
5. International Center for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD)

Nepal

1. South Asia Watch on Trade, Economics and Environment (SAWTEE), Kathmandu
2. Institute for Social and Environment Transition (ISET), Kathmandu
3. International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD)
4. South Asian Network for Development and Environmental Economics (SANDEE)

INTERNATIONAL

Belgium

1. Zero Mercury Working Group (ZMWG), Belgium
2. Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation (CAREC)
3. Climate Action Network South Asia (CANS, Urmq)
4. International Development Research Centre (IDRC), Canada
5. International POPs Elimination Network (IPEN), Canada
6. Global Affairs Canada, Government of Canada
Annexure 6

SDTV PROGRAMMES

News and Views

Topic: Sharp Rise in Dollar Rate: Causes and Impact
Guest: Dr. Sajid Amin Javed, Senior Economist & Research Fellow, SDPI

Topic: Economic fallouts of widening trade deficit and policy implications
Guest: Dr. Sajid Amin Javed, Senior Economist & Research Fellow, SDPI

Topic: Hike in Petroleum Prices: Causes and Impacts
Guest: Dr Abid Qaiyum Suleri, Executive Director, SDPI

Topic: Pakistan’s name on FATF grey list: Implications and way forward
Guest: Dr Abid Qaiyum Suleri, Executive Director, SDPI

Topic: Mounting circular debt: Implications and Solutions
Guest: Dr Vaqar Ahmed, Joint Executive Director, SDPI

Topic: Tax Amnesty Scheme 2018 and Economy
Guest: Dr Vaqar Ahmed, Joint Executive Director, SDPI

Topic: Growing Water Crisis: Challenges and Solutions
Guest: Mr. Shakeel Ahmad Ramay, Expert on water-related issues

Topic: Election 2018 Security situation at NA-60 /PP-11
Dr Abid spoke to security officials and voters

Topic: SDPI-Herald’s Pre-Election Survey
Dr Abid presenting the findings of the survey and analyzing political scenario

Topic: Election 2018: An analysis of Imran Khan Victory Speech
Analyst: Dr Abid Qaiyum Suleri, Executive Director, SDPI

Topic: 2018 Election Results and Possibility of PTI Government
Analyst: Dr Abid Qaiyum Suleri, Executive Director, SDPI

Topic: Pakistan and the IMF: Options for the economic bailout
Guest: Dr Vaqar Ahmed, Joint Executive Director, SDPI

Guest: Dr Vaqar Ahmed, Joint Executive Director, SDPI

Topic: Mini Budget 2018-19 and its impact
Guest: Dr Abid Q Suleri, Executive Director, SDPI

Mini Budget 2018-19 and its impact
Guest: Ms. Romina Khurshid Alam, MNA, Pakistan Muslim League-N

Hum aur Hamara Mahool

Title: Special talk on Climate Change Issues
Guest: Malik Amin Aslam, Prime Minister’s Advisor on Climate Change

Title: Plastic Bags: A Threat to the Environment
Guest: Ms. Romina Khurshid Alam, PML-N MNA

Title: Plant for Pakistan (billion tree tsunami)
Guest: Ms. Mome Saleem, Senior Programme Manager, hbs

Title: Why 10 BTTAP was needed?
Guest: Dr Imtiaz Ahmed Qamar, NARC
**Title: Program: World Ozone Day (WOD)**
Guest: Dr Mehmood A Khwaja, Senior Advisor Chemical and Sustainable Industrial Development, SDPI

**Follow Up**

**Title: Political Parties & Manifesto**
Guest: Khalid Ranjha, PML-Q leader

**Title: Trade in the government of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI)**
Guest: Senator Shibli Faraz, PTI

**Title: Renewable Energy Landscape in Pakistan**
**Host: Mome Saleem**
Guest: M. Zeeshan Ishfaq, Country Representative, World Wind Energy Association

**District Watch**

**Mardan district**
Guests: Raja Taimur Hassan (Researcher), Mussarrat Sai (Journalist) and Waseem Ahmed (Journalist)

**Thatta district**
Guests: Ghamz e Ali Sial (Researcher), Razzaq Bhatti (Journalist)

**Tharparkar district**
Guest: Kapil Dave (Human Rights Activist), Maryam Shabbir (Researcher)

**Pakpattan district**
Guests: Shahzad Anwar Farooqi (Journalist), Rabia Manzoor (Researcher)

**Gwadar district**
Guests: Shakeel Ahmed Ramay (Researcher), Ahad Nazir (Researcher)

**Muzaffargarh district**
Guests: Dr Shaqfat Munir (Researcher) and Azhar Jatoi (Journalist)

**Manshera district**
Guest: Yasir Nazir (Journalist), Talal Akhtar (Researcher)

**Sialkot district**
Guest: Dr Abid Q Suleri, Aoun Sahi (Senior Journalist)

**Sargodha district**
Guests: Ahad Nazir (Researcher) and Mohsan Ali Kazmi, Analyst

**Coffee Table**

**Pakistan Competitiveness and Global Economies**
Guest: Amir Jahangir, CEO Mishal Pakistan, the Country Partner Institute of the Global Competitiveness and Benchmarking

**Network of the World Economic Forum**

**Pakistan, Climate Change and Political Response (Part 3)**
Guest: Uzair Khan, MNA, PML-N

**Pakistan Water Sector: Challenges and Opportunities**
Guest: Dr M Ashraf, Chairman of PCRWR

**Pakistan Debt Burden: A Rational Analysis**
Guest: Ali Salman, CEO and Founder of PRIME Institute