

SDPI
Sustainable Development Policy Institute

What's new in policy discourse

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT POLICY INSTITUTE (SDPI), E- RESEARCH NEWSLETTER (ERN)
November 2014

Planning for Floods: Now or Never

SDPI attempted to explore the complex and dynamic situation of floods in recent years when Pakistan received unprecedented rainfall resulting in a large number of deaths and loss of thousands of acres of arable land in different areas. To this series of flooding, the year 2014 was no exception, when a heavy cloudburst occurred once again over Kashmir region and caused huge devastation on both sides of the Line of Control (LoC). This time the death toll has risen to 500 both in India and Pakistan whereas the number of affected people was in millions. However, the response to this was not as robust. SDPI, considering this policy gap, attempted to recommend policy options to the government.

Authors: Dr Fahad Saeed, Dr Abid Qaiyum Suleri and Kashif Majeed Salik

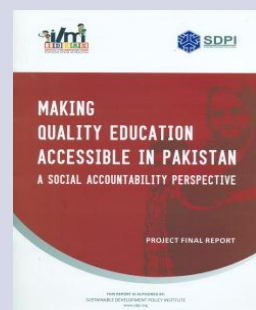
[Details](#)



Making Quality Education Accessible in Pakistan: A Social Accountability Perspective

The study aims to improve the state of education through the concept of social accountability. The idea of social accountability is associated with demand side accountability, i.e. local communities holding state officers accountable for their actions and decisions. It is a good tool to improve educational outcome. Social accountability is useful in reducing principle-agents' problems in public sector organizations.

[Details](#)

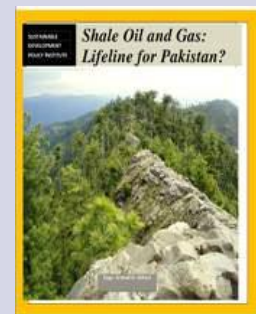


Shale Gas Viability and Prospects for Pakistan

Pakistan is currently faced with a grave energy crisis, which has threatened the country's economic and national security. Under the weight of these challenges, the government seeks a reliable energy supply at an affordable price. Historically, poor energy governance and an unhealthy dependence on imported oil to meet the demand exacerbated the crisis. In this scenario, alternate energy resources must be explored, and Shale Gas may be the solution.

Authors: Engr. Arshad H Abbasi, Fareeha Mehmood and Maha Kamal

[Details](#)



EVENTS

Seminar

“Ukrainian Elections: What’s next for the Kyiv-Moscow Crisis?”

10th November, 2014



Speakers: Ambassador (retd) Shafqat Kakakhel, Major-General (retd) Ahmad Nawaz Saleem Mela, Ukrainian Ambassador H.E. Volodymyr Lakomov, Andriy Romanenko, Wasim Khokhar, Dr Tariq Fazal Chaudhry, Ms Mome Saleem

[News](#) | [Event detail](#)

“Making Quality Education Accessible in Pakistan; a Social Accountability Perspective”

14th November, 2014



Speakers: Ms Romina Khurshid Alam, Moazzam Sharif Bhatti, Dr Abid Q Suleri, Dr Shehryar Toru, Asif Saeed Memon and Muhammad Sohaib

[News](#) | [Event detail](#)

“An Evening with Shoaib Sultan Khan”

24th November, 2014



Speakers: Dr Shams ul Mulk, Dr Abid Q. Suleri, Dr Rashid Bajwa, Ms Shahida Jafary, Ambassador (retd) .Shafqat Kakakhel, Ms Kishwar Naheed, Mr Mohsin Shahnawaz Ranjha, Mr Daniyal Aziz, Senator Saeed Ghani, Ms Khawar Mumtaz, Mr Shoaib Sultan Khan and Dr Humaira Ashfaq.

[News](#) | [Event detail](#)

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT TELEVISION (SDTV)

SDTV is a web television launched to increase SDPI's policy research outreach in the country and abroad. Its flagship programmes include *Coffee Table*, and "News & Views". These can be viewed through the website: www.sdpi.tv

Coffee Table

During the month of November 2014, a number of issues were discussed in this talk show hosted by Tahir Dhindsa. The detail of talk shows is as under:

Privatization



Guest: Muhammad Zubair, Minister of State for Privatization / Chairman, Privatization Commission

Pakistan, Afghanistan and the US: a Regional Perspective



Guest: Air Vice Marshal Shehzad Chaudhary

New Regional Realities After The Troop Withdrawal from Afghanistan



Guest: Dr Rasul Baksh Raees, Director-General, Institute of Strategic Studies, Islamabad.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE (SDC)

Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI) is holding its 17th Sustainable Development Conference (SDC) titled “Pathways to Sustainable Development” in Islamabad from December 9 to 11.

Building on from where we left off last year, we need to see the role of emerging leadership. At the 17th SDC, we would see what the changing and developing political scenario will bring to the region. Leadership change in China (March 2013), Pakistan (May 2013), Iran (December 2013), Bangladesh (January 2014), India (May 2014), and Afghanistan would prove to be significant in shaping the pathways to sustainable development in this region. What posture does this new leadership adopt, and how will it affect development outcomes in the region, has to be predicted. We also need to review how the developed world would be engaging with the new governments and how this would in turn shape development in South Asia.

Within the above overarching theme, a number of panels have been proposed. Find below the detail of the conference agenda and panels.

[Event Detail](#)

		9:00am – 11:30am	12noon – 2:00pm	3.00pm – 5.00pm
Tuesday 9 December 2014	Opening Plenary: Welcome Address Introduction	Concurrent Session A-1 Food Security in Pakistan: Issues and Way Forward	Concurrent Session A-5 Food Security: International Experiences and Cooperation	
	Keynote Speech Plenary Title: The Future of SDGs in South Asia in the Context of Changed Political Leadership	Concurrent Session A-2 Planning in the 21st Century	Concurrent Session A-6 Bringing Resilience to Semi-Arid Economies against Climate Change – Country Situation Assessment	
	Remarks by the Chief Guest	Concurrent Session A-3 The Impact of Climate Change on Mangrove Ecosystems in South Asia	Concurrent Session A-7 Towards Inclusive and Sustainable Growth Reforms	
	Remarks by the Guest of Honour	Concurrent Session A-4 Policies, Regulation and Environmental Compliance in Textile Industries in South Asia	Concurrent Session A-8 Future of Religious Minorities: South Asian Perspective	
	Launch of SDPI publications: SDC Anthology <i>Creating Momentum:</i>			

	<p><i>Today is Tomorrow</i></p> <p>Annual Report: 2013-2014</p> <p><i>Pathways to Sustainable Development Amid "6F" Crisis in Pakistan</i></p>		
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Dinner Plenary 07:00pm

Welcome Address:

Dr. Abid Q. Suleri, Executive Director, Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI), Islamabad, Pakistan

Keynote Speaker:

Dr. Ishrat Husain, Director, Institute of Business Administration, Karachi, Pakistan

Plenary Title:

Pathways to Sustainable Development

Address by the Chief Guest

Mr Ishaq Dar, Federal Minister for Finance, Government of Pakistan

Presentation of Souvenir and Launch of SDPI Publications:

SDC Anthology: *Creating Momentum: Today is Tomorrow*

Annual Report 2013 - 2014

Pathways to Sustainable Development Amid "6F" Crisis in Pakistan

Dinner 09:30pm

	9:30am - 11:30am	12noon - 2:00pm	3:00pm - 5:00pm
Wednesday 10 December 2014			
	<p>Concurrent Session B-1 Food Security Session: Integrated Phase Classification (IPC) and Food Security Monitoring</p>	<p>Concurrent Session B-5 Women in the Peace Process - - Determining Direction</p>	<p>Concurrent Session B-9 Role of Afghanistan in Regional Stability</p>

	Concurrent Session B-2 Case Studies in Sustainable Development Technologies and Practices	Concurrent Session B-6 Use of Chemicals in South Asia: Environmental Health Threats and Challenges	Concurrent Session B-10 Governance, Security and Justice in South Asia (For IDRC Fellows)
	Concurrent Session B-3 Data Revolution: Bringing Data and Evidence to bear upon Pakistan's Education Policy Making	Concurrent Session B-7 Managing Waters Beyond Borders	Concurrent Session B-11 Post Conflict Reconstruction of Livelihoods in Conflict Affected Countries of South Asia
	Concurrent Session B-4 Sustainable Energy for All (SE4ALL)	Concurrent Session B-8 Roundtable Discussion: Development Partnerships for Sustainable Development in a Changing South Asia	Concurrent Session B-12 Impact of Climate Change on Human Capital and Security
	9:30am - 11:30am	12noon - 2:00pm	3:00pm - 5:30pm
Thursday 11 December 2014	Concurrent Session C-1 Future Climate Scenarios: Implications for Hotspot Regions	Concurrent Session C-5: Promoting Women's Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) in South Asia Regional Trade	Closing Plenary: H.U. Beg Memorial Plenary Pathways to Inclusive and Sustainable Development: Making the Journey Possible Summary of the Proceedings Remarks by Chief Guest Remarks by Guests of Honour
	Concurrent Session C-2 Competition Policy and Sustainable Development	Concurrent Session C-6 Role of Social Sciences in Sustainable Development - South Asian Perspective	SDPI Lifetime Achievement Award Vote of Thanks

	Concurrent Session C-3 Materializing SDGs: Challenges and Opportunities	Concurrent Session C-7 Regional Economic Cooperation and Connectivity in South Asia	
	Concurrent Session C-4: Panel Discussion and Book Launch: <i>Pathways to Power: The Domestic Politics of South Asia</i>	Concurrent Session C-8 Water and Food Security in South Asia in the Era of Climate Change	

PATHWAYS to Sustainable Development

SDPI ARTICLES

Plan for Thar

Dr Abid Qaiyum Suleri
The News on Sunday
Sunday, 23rd Nov 2014

The 'Women factor' in food insecurity

Elishma Noel Khokhar
Pakistan Today
Sunday, 16th Nov 2014

Fighting inequalities

Raja Taimur Hassan
The Express Tribune
Saturday, 15th Nov 2014

Tourism has fallen from great peaks

Junaid Zahid
The Express Tribune
Monday, 3rd Nov 2014

ATTRIBUTES

Without Policy

Salman Siddiqui
The News
Monday, 24th Nov 2014

BROWN BAG RESEARCH MEETING (BBRM)

NTBs; India and Pakistan trade (BBRM- 35/ 2014)

Muhammad Sohaib
Friday, 21st Nov 2014

Role of China in the global power structure (BBRM- 34/ 2014)

Zareen Khan
Friday, 7th Nov 2014

SDPI IN PRESS

Glowing tributes paid to Shoaib Sultan Khan

The News
Thursday, 27th Nov 2014

Tributes paid to an 'icon of community mobilization'

Pakistan Observer
Wednesday, 26th Nov 2014

An Evening with Shoaib Sultan Khan

Daily Dunya
Wednesday, 26th Nov 2014

Living legend: Colleagues, friends pay tribute to Shoaib Sultan Khan

The Express Tribune
Monday, 24th Nov 2014

Seminar: 'Govt working on a bill to provide free books, uniforms to children'

The Express Tribune
Sunday, 16th Nov 2014

Law to provide free uniforms, stationery to students soon

Dawn
Saturday, 15th Nov 2014

New law to ensure free books, uniforms in Pakistan school

Zee News
Saturday, 15th Nov 2014

New law to ensure free books, uniforms in Pakistan school

Business Standard
Saturday, 15th Nov 2014

Give equal status to minorities, says scholar

The Express Tribune
Sunday, 2nd Nov 2014

Religious diversity in Pakistan a blessing, says scholar

The News
Saturday, 1st Nov 2014

CAPACITY BUILDING

In the months of November, the following trainings were conducted by SDPI's Center for Capacity Building (CCB);

Interpersonal Communication Skills - Save the Children

Trainers: Brigadier (retired) Muhammad Yasin , Shahid Minhas and Asif Mehmood
25th, November, 2014

Writing Skills for Rapporteurs

Trainers: Shafqat Munir, Dr Vaqar Ahmed, Saleem Khilji, and Tahir Dindsa
14th, November, 2014

Building High Performance Culture at Workplace

Trainers: Brig. (retired) Muhammad Yasin , Shahid Minhas and Asif Mehmood
11th, November, 2014

[Details](#) | [Register to attend](#)

UPCOMING

BROWN BAG RESEARCH MEETING (BBRM)

Impact of climate change on agricultural land values: an application of Ricardian model in Punjab, Pakistan (BBRM- 36/ 2014)

Syed Aqrar Hussain

POLICY RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS

As a policy research think tank, SDPI has to its credit many achievements. Some of them accomplished during the month of November are as under:

- Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI) and Center for International Peace and Stability (CIPS), National University of Sciences and Technology (NUST) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to launch joint initiatives in research, advocacy and capacity building.
- In **recognition of its work on Mercury Free Dentistry, SDPI was awarded shield** for excellence in research by World Alliance for Mercury Free Dentistry (WAMFD). Dr Mahmood A. Khwaja, SDPI's Senior Adviser, received the award.
- SDPI's senior researcher Mome Saleem **was elected one of the four members of "Advisory Council" of the Global Diplomacy Lab (GDL)**, a global platform hosted by the Federal Foreign Office, Germany, to work in line with the changing diplomacy in the 21st Century.



Dr. Mahmood A. Khwaja was awarded shield for "Excellence in Research" by "World Alliance for Mercury Free Dentistry (WAMFD)", Washington at an event during United Nation's Environmental Programme (UNEP), meeting in November 2014.

Contact for additional information:

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