

**SDPI**  
Sustainable Development Policy Institute

## What's new in policy discourse

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

October 2014

### Understanding Think Tank - University Relationships in South Asia

SDPI attempted to explore and theorize the complex and dynamic relationship between two supplier groups of policy research in South Asia, i.e. think tanks and universities. South Asia in general and the sampled three countries (India, Pakistan, and Bangladesh) in particular have seen a marked increase in the number of universities and think tanks assuming more proactive and visible roles in policy-related research. The sampled countries also present a variety of research knowledge environments. It is, however, unclear as to how the various institutions of policy research interact with each other, and what are the factors behind these relationships. The study attempted to identify the case in each of the countries, which demonstrate differences in patterns of relationship between think tanks and universities, and the role and forms of external support to these institutions in shaping these patterns.

[Details](#)

### Exploring Trade among South and Central Asia

The Economic Growth Unit at SDPI is engaged in exploring trade potential among South Asian countries. Through various studies conducted last month and earlier, it attempted to map trade consignments in South Asia with research partners in India and Afghanistan. It also analyzed the potential to scale up efforts for South & Central Asia economic corridors and the emerging economic scenario in Afghanistan.

[Details](#)

[Details](#)

### Migration from the Margins: Mobility, Vulnerability and Inevitability in Mid-Western Nepal and North-Western Pakistan

Experts at SDPI carried out a study on post-conflict livelihood recovery in Nepal and Pakistan with a focus on the role of international labour migration. It contributes to the research of the Secure Livelihoods Research Consortium (SLRC), which is concerned with, amongst other things, developing better understanding of the processes of livelihood, basic services and social protection recovery following a conflict or crisis.

**Authors:** *Jessia Hagen-Zanker, Richard Mallett, Anita Ghimire, Qasim Ali Shah, Bishnu Upreti and Haider Abbas*

[Detail of Report](#)



## EVENTS

### Seminar

“World Food Day 2014 Feeding the World, Caring for the Earth”

16<sup>th</sup> October, 2014



**Speakers:** Dr Abid Qaiyum Suleri, Prof. Dr Abdul Saboor, Mr Saleem Sadiq, Mr Nasar Hayat, Mr Krishna Pehari, Shakeel Ramay

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

“Democracy-Development and Role of Youth Followed by SDPI's Report Launch”

20<sup>th</sup> October, 2014



**Speakers:** Dr Abid Qaiyum Suleri, Prof. Ahsan Iqbal, Dr Mukhtar Ahmed, Shakeel Ramay

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

### Consultation Meeting

“Trading with Neighbors: Prospects and Challenges”

23<sup>rd</sup> October, 2014



**Chief Guests:** Khurram Dastagir Khan, Federal Minister for Commerce, and Mohammad Zubair, Minister of State for Privatization

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

### Lecture

“Emerging New Dimensions of Peace and Conflict; Afghanistan, Pakistan and India”

24<sup>th</sup> October, 2014



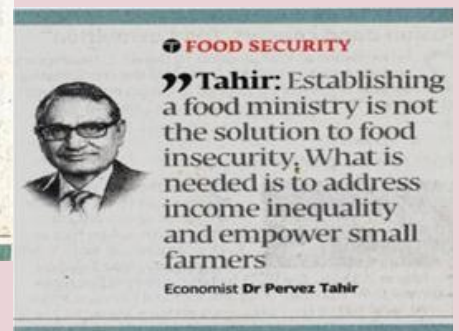
**Speakers:** Prof. Yunus Samad, Dr Abid Qaiyum Suleri, Ahmad Salim, Mome Saleem

“Peace and Conflict Situation in Pakistan & Religious Intolerance and Role of Youth”

28<sup>th</sup> October, 2014



**Speakers:** Dr Aliya H. Khan, Mr Ahmad Salim, Mr Rasheed Khalid, Ms Mome Saleem



# 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](http://www.sdpi.tv)

## Coffee Table

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

### Civil-Military Relations, Democracy & Islamabad Sit-ins



**Guest:** Zahid Hussain Senior Journalist

### Role of Minorities in Nation Building and their Rights



**Guest:** Naila J Dayal, Chairperson Christian Progressive Movement

### World Food Day 2014 Feeding the World, Caring for the Earth



**Guest:** Nasar Hayat, Assistant Representative FAO

## Current State of Pakistan Economy



**Guest:** Sakib Sherani, Economist

## Elections in Ukraine



**Guest:** Akram Zaki, former Secretary-General, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

## News & Views

It is recently started programme hosted by Dr Abid Suleri. The major issues debated in this programme included.

## Role of Youth in Democracy



Dr Abid Suleri, Executive Director, SDPI, and Tahir Dhindsa

# SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE (SDC)

Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI) is holding its 17<sup>th</sup> 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 17<sup>th</sup> 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.

[Event Detail](#)

## LIST OF PANELS

### ENVIORNMENT

1. SANDEE-SDPI Roundtable on Environmental Regulations and Compliance  
*Panel Organiser: Waseem Gul*
2. CAARIA Roundtable conference  
*Panel Organiser: Dr Abid Qaiyum Suleri*
3. Sustainable Human Capital  
*Panel Organiser: Dr Abid Qaiyum Suleri*
4. Bringing Resilience to Semi-Arid Economies against Climate Change  
*Panel Organiser: Dr Abid Qaiyum Suleri*
5. The Impact of Climate Change on Mangrove Ecosystems in South Asia  
*Panel Organiser: Kashif Salik*
6. Use of Chemicals in South Asia: Environmental Health Threats and Challenges  
*Panel Organiser: Dr Mahmood A.Khwaja*

### ENERGY

1. Sustainable Energy for All (SE4ALL)  
*Panel Organiser: Dr Vaqar Ahmed*
2. Water-Energy-Food Security Nexus in South Asia  
*Panel Organisers: Anam A. Khan and Bipul Chatterjee*

## FOOD SECURITY

1. Food security  
*Panel Organisers: Shakeel Ramay and World Food Programme*
2. Water and Food Security in South Asia in the Era of Climate Change  
*Panel Organisers: Babar Shahbaz and Prakash Tiwari*

## FUTURE POLICY AND STRATEGIC STUDIES

1. Post 2014 Afghanistan and its Implications  
*Panel Organiser: Shakeel Ramay*
2. Changing Dynamics of Global Power Structure and its Relevance for the Region  
*Panel Organiser: Shakeel Ramay*
3. Panel Discussion and Book Launch: Pathways to Power: The Domestic Politics of South Asia  
*Panel Organiser: Anita Weiss*
4. Literatures of Resistance and Hope: South-South Dialogues  
*Panel Organiser: Ahmad Salim*

## GOVERNANCE

1. Role of Donors in Sustainable Development in a Changing South Asia  
*Panel Organiser: Abid Qaiyum Suleri*
2. Towards Inclusive and Sustainable Development Reforms  
*Panel Organiser: Huma Dad Khan*

## LIVELIHOOD

1. Post Conflict Reconstruction of Livelihoods in Afghanistan, Nepal, India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka  
*Panel Organisers: Qasim Shah and Haider Abbas*

## GENDER

1. Women in the Peace Process -- Determining Direction  
*Panel Organiser: Mome Saleem*
2. Documentary Showcase on Women Empowerment  
*Panel Organisers: SDC Unit*

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

1. Competition Policy and Sustainable Development  
*Panel Organisers: Anam A. Khan and Bipul Chatterjee*
2. Planning in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century  
*Panel Organizers: Muhammad Adnan and Dr Vaqar Ahmad*
3. Emerging Dimensions in Central and South Asian Trade  
*Panel Organizers: Muhammad Adnan and Dr Vaqar Ahmad*
4. Promoting Women's Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) in South Asia Regional Trade  
*Panel Organiser: Fayyaz Yasin*
5. State of Trade and Transport Facilitation in South Asia  
*Panel Organiser: Muhammad Hamza Abbas*

### **SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT**

1. Alif Ailaan – Education Panel  
*Panel Organisers: Asif Saeed Memon and Hamza Abbass*
2. Role of Social Sciences Subjects in Sustainable Development  
*Panel Organiser: Ahmad Salim*
3. Future of Religious Minorities in South Asia  
*Panel Organizers: Ahmad Salim & Humaira Ishfaq*
4. Modern Trends in Capacity Building and Learning Strategies  
*Panel Organiser: Shahid Minhas*

**PATHWAYS to Sustainable Development**

## SDPI ARTICLES

### Five lessons from the floods 2014

Dr. Abid Qaiyum Suleri  
The News on Sunday  
Sunday, 5<sup>th</sup> October 2014

### Piling up Foreign debt burden mounting at rapid pace

Junaid Zahid  
The Express Tribune  
Monday, 6<sup>th</sup> October 2014

### Standardization helps reduce trade deficit

Engr. Jabbar  
Pakistan Observer  
Thursday, 16<sup>th</sup> October 2014

### The national challenge of internal displacement

Akseeb Jawed  
The Frontier Post Peshawar  
Sunday, 19<sup>th</sup> October 2014

### Preparing for a challenge

Muhammad Adnan  
The News on Sunday  
Sunday, 19<sup>th</sup> October 2014

### Alarm bells

Dr Abid Qaiyum Suleri  
The News on Sunday  
Sunday, 26<sup>th</sup> October 2014

### Dealing with food insecurity

Dr Abid Qaiyum Suleri  
The Express Tribune  
Monday, 27<sup>th</sup> October 2014

## BROWN BAG RESEARCH MEETING (BBRM)

### Floods in Pakistan (BBRM- 33/ 2014)

Dr. Fahad Saeed  
Friday, 3rd Oct 2014

## SDPI IN MEDIA

### Contributions of minorities to nation-building recalled

Monthly Economic affair  
Monday, 6<sup>th</sup> October 2014

### World Food Day: Call for empowering farmers, improving food access

The Express Tribune  
Friday, 17<sup>th</sup> October 2014

### Conspiracy to de-stabilize govt. affects foreign investment: Ahsan Iqbal

APP Pakistan  
Monday, 20<sup>th</sup> Oct 2014

### China to invest \$45bn in four years

Dawn  
Tuesday, 21<sup>st</sup> October 2014

### Minister slams conspiracy against government

Business Recorder  
Tuesday, 21<sup>st</sup> October 2014

### Knowledge economy: Youth's role in development stressed

The Express Tribune  
Wednesday, 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2014

### Pakistan to continue trade with India

Dawn  
Saturday, 25<sup>th</sup> October 2014

### Call to improve trade linkages with neighbors

The Nation  
Monday, 26<sup>th</sup> October 2014

### Will continue to trade with India despite border tensions: Pakistan

The Economic Times  
Monday, 27<sup>th</sup> October 2014

## CAPACITY BUILDING

In the month of October, the following training was conducted by SDPI's Center for Capacity Building (CCB);

### Tax Planning and Filing Income Tax Return

**Trainers:** Muhammad Shaban and Ijalal Ashraf  
29<sup>th</sup>, October, 2014

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

## ATTRIBUTE

### Land reforms and literacy

Business Recorder  
Friday, 3rd Oct 2014

### Trade: Vanguard of change

Majyd Aziz  
The News  
Monday, 13th Oct 2014

### Wretched of the earth

Syed Rashid Munir  
Daily Times  
Tuesday, 14th Oct 2014

### Taxation: One of Pakistan's weakest links

Farahnaz Zahidi  
The Express Tribune  
Thursday, 23rd Oct 2014

## UPCOMING

## BROWN BAG RESEARCH MEETING (BBRM)

BBRMs to be conducted in November, 2014

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

Zareen Khan

### Pak India trade perception survey (BBRM- 35/ 2014)

Sohaib

## CAPACITY BUILDING

Training to be conducted in November, 2014

### Building High Performance Culture at Workplace

**Trainers:** Brig. (Rtd.) Mohammad Yasin, Shahid Minhas and Muhammad Asif

### Leadership Skills for Women

**Trainers:** Brig. (Rtd.) Mohammad Yasin, Shahid Minhas and Muhammad Asif

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



## POLICY RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS

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

- ❖ International Monetary Fund (IMF) has selected SDPI as CSO Fellow Organization on the basis of relevance of its work in Pakistan and Fund's interest in engaging with SDPI. This is a great achievement and SDPI is the first Civil Society Organization from Pakistan, which has got this status.
- ❖ Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI) and University of Gujrat (UOG) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for launching joint researches as well as joint trainings on Public Policy and Sustainable Development.

### Contact for additional information:

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