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Knowledge Briefs

1 Batala Engineering Company (BECO): A Tragic Story of Plummet from the Apex



Author: Anjeela Khurram, Saba Anwar

March, 2024

<https://tinyurl.com/26j6vuyh>

2 What Do We Know About The Online Freelancing Market In Pakistan



Author: Ahmed Waqar Qasim, Azwar Muhammad Aslam

March, 2024

<https://tinyurl.com/5b2w38fy>

3 Towards Sustainable Range Resource Management In Pakistan



Author: Shujaat Farooq, Durr-e-Nayab, Saddam Hussein, Nabila Kunwal

March, 2024

<https://tinyurl.com/4423z4mn>

4 Forest's Indirect Services For Watersheds: The Case Of Mangla Dam



Author: Shujaat Farooq, Durr-e-Nayab, Saddam Hussein, Nabila Kunwal

March, 2024

<https://tinyurl.com/2c49z4pa>

5 Forest Based Tourism Services In Pakistan

Author: Shujaat Farooq, Durr-e-Nayab, Saddam Hussein,
Nabila Kunwal

March, 2024

<https://tinyurl.com/yn724emk>



6 Wood Demand And Supply In Pakistan

Author: Shujaat Farooq, Durr-e-Nayab, Saddam Hussein,
Nabila Kunwal

March, 2024

<https://tinyurl.com/3wwp9f7c>



7 Forestry's Economic Contribution Is Beyond Just Wood

Author: Shujaat Farooq, Durr-e-Nayab, Saddam Hussein,
Nabila Kunwal

March, 2024

<https://tinyurl.com/5n94fr3s>



Research Reports

1 GORs Everywhere: University Land For Public Housing

Author: Nadeem Ul Haque, Muhammad Jehangir Khan,
Iram Nadeem

March, 2024

<https://tinyurl.com/2p9j3x8k>

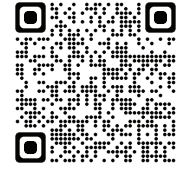


2 The Economic and Environmental Cost of Election 2024

Muhammad Faisal Ali

March, 2024

<https://tinyurl.com/6tcaazr2>



Webinars & Seminars

<https://tinyurl.com/3xay49zf>

1



Events / Activities



1

Every Child Reading: What Pakistan can learn from East Asia

Event Date: Friday, March 1st, 2024

02:00 PM to 4:00 PM PKT

Venue: PHD Seminar Room, PIDE



2

UCP Visit to PIDE

University Of Central Punjab Students Visited the Pakistan Institute of Development Economics with their Faculty members. Dr. Shujaat PIDE's Dean joined, shared insights on PIDE's research, achievements, and academic excellence.

Event Date: **Monday, March 04, 2024**



3

PIDE Green Youth Movement (GYM) Showcased at Eco Tourism Event

PIDE Green Youth Movement (GYM) club was selected out of all the Universities across Pakistan to showcase our activities under the theme of Eco Tourism.

Mahnoor sajjad our M.Phil. student presented our activities from last year and what we aim to do in 2024. Event was organized by HEC and British Council

Event Date: **Monday, March 04, 2024**



4

Entrepreneurship As A Viable Career Option

Event Date: **Wednesday, March 06, 2024**

10:30 AM - 1:00 PM PKT

Venue: **JCR Hall, PIDE**



5

Risk Capital: Basics On PE/VC, Ecosystem Development & Global Best Practice In The Role Of Public Sector

Event Date: Friday, March 15, 2024

11:30 AM - 12:30 PM PKT

Venue: A.R Kemal Hall, PIDE



6

PIDE ORIC LOGO has been prepared with the cooperation of the Media Team.

Book Launch

1 Monetary Policy: Crafting a Path for Pakistan's Economic Stability

Author: Abdul Jalil, Hafsa Hina

March, 2024

<https://tinyurl.com/3crppa6t>



2 Reinventing Cities as Catalyst for growth: A Collection of Work at PIDE

Author: Nadeem Ul Haque, Lubna Hasan

March, 2024

<https://tinyurl.com/ywtbca47>



Successful PhD Thesis Defense

Successfully Defended

Student Name:

Saman Tariq

PIDE2021FMPHILDS16

Title:

Feminized Professions and the Pink Ghetto - a case of School teaching in Islamabad.

Supervisor Co- Supervisor Names:

Dr. Mariam Mohsin

External/Internal Examiners

Dr. Saadia Abid

Dr. Fahd Zulfiqar

Date/Time

20/03/2024 - 12:00 PM



The thesis titled "Feminized Professions and the Pink Ghetto- A Case of School Teaching in Pakistan"

A student of @ Pidepk defended her M.Phil. Development Studies thesis Titled "Feminized Professions and the Pink Ghetto- A Case of School Teaching in Pakistan"

The findings and the research examined the Gender Dynamics of the Private School Teaching sector in Islamabad and discovered that women dominate the private school teaching profession in Pakistan, while males retain higher administrative posts, resulting in a gendered division of labour. Female teachers experience lower pay and limited professional advancement, and societal perceptions of caregiving roles as feminine contribute to the perception of education as a "pink ghetto". Addressing these discrepancies necessitates governmental actions for the Private school sector, that promote standardized compensation structures, and career possibilities

RESEARCH FOR SOCIAL TRANSFORMATION AND ADVANCEMENT COMPETITIVE GRANTS PROGRAMME FOR POLICY-ORIENTED RESEARCH

Pakistan Institute of Development Economics, Islamabad

The Research for Social Transformation and Advancement (RASTA) Competitive Grants Programme for Policy-Oriented Research is the largest economics and public policy research grants programme in Pakistan – establishing an extensive knowledge network – producing high-quality, evidence-based policy research. Initiated in July 2020 for 36 months (July 2020 to June 2025) against the total cost of Rs. 1,756 million, its network includes +65 local universities, +12 foreign institutes, & around +3,200 researchers, academics, practitioners, & professionals.

The objectives of the RASTA program are to: (a) Reduce the research-policy gap by stimulating economic and social science research and debate across Pakistan; (b) Build a network to stimulate internally defined and produced policy-relevant research; (c) Provide a knowledge-sharing platform where different actors can present and share evidence-based research to inform decision-making in the government; (d) Revisit the future policy agenda in line with the evidence produced in this program; and (e) Build capacity and improve policymaking and implementation by involving and engaging local universities, think tanks, policymakers, practitioners, and other stakeholders. The programme is guided by the following 27 members Research Advisory Committee (RAC), chaired by the Vice-Chancellor, PIDE Islamabad.



The RASTA programme has two broad streams through which it is building research networks, funding research projects, and informing public policy in Pakistan: the Competitive Grants Programme (CGP) and the Demand-Driven Research (DDR). Under CGP, research proposals are invited on specific themes/topics decided by the Research Advisory Committee, followed by a rigorous three-stage double-blind review process and announcement of awards. DDR programme is a pro-active evidence-based research approach to inform governments' policy-making processes. The final output of CGP & DDR projects is in the form of books, research reports, journal articles and working papers and policy briefs. The final output of CGP & DDR projects is published in the form of books, reports, journal articles, working papers & policy briefs which are disseminated nationwide through events. Impact of the project include: capacity building of local researchers, networking, & provision of research for informed policy.

RASTA CGP ROUND 6.0.

REVIEW PROCESS

In response to the CGP 6.0 Call for Research Proposals, we received 318 applications from all parts of the country and from foreign institutes. Keeping in view a large number of applications, transparency, and providing equal opportunity to all, the Research Advisory Committee (RAC) decided to get all applications reviewed in two stages: (1) A detailed (double-blind) review in Stage 1: Each proposal to be reviewed by three reviewers during Stage 1; and (2) presentations of the shortlisted applicants in the Review Workshop (Stage 2). This will be followed by the CGP 6.0 Award Discussion Meeting of the RAC.

CGP 6.0 STAGE 1. DETAILED REVIEW

In Stage 1 of CGP 6.0, each application was thoroughly reviewed (double-blind review) by the 27-member Research Advisory Committee (RAC) and 23-member RASTA Review Panel (RRP). As a result of this, 77 (24%) research proposals were shortlisted for the Stage 2 Review Workshop.

CGP 6.0 STAGE 2 REVIEW WORKSHOP

In the next stage, 77 shortlisted applicants presented their research proposals to the RAC in the six-day CGP 6.0 Review Workshop in two phases:

- Phase I from Friday 8th March to Sunday 10th March 2024
- Phase II from Friday 15th March to Sunday 17th March 2024

RASTA CGP 6.0 REVIEW WORKSHOP			
Final Schedule			
<i>Phase I. Friday 08th March – Sunday 10th March 2024</i>			
<i>Phase II. Friday 15th March – Sunday 17th March 2024</i>			
	DAY / DATE	TIME	PRESENTATIONS
Phase I	Friday 08 th March 2024	1000 - 1520 Hrs PST	13 Presentations
	Saturday 09 th March 2024	1000 - 1520 Hrs PST	13 Presentations
	Sunday 10 th March 2024	1000 - 1520 Hrs PST	13 Presentations
Phase II	Friday 15 th March 2024	1000 - 1520 Hrs PST	13 Presentations
	Saturday 16 th March 2024	1000 - 1520 Hrs PST	13 Presentations
	Sunday 17 th March 2024	1000 - 1500 Hrs PST	12 Presentations

CGP 6.0 AWARD DECISION MEETINGS

The Review Workshop was followed by the Award Decision Meetings of the RAC in which the following 26 (34%) research projects were selected for CGP 6.0 Awards.

RASTA CGP 6.0 AWARDS SUMMARY

ID	Project Title (CGP Topic)	PI Details	Award Details	Mentor(s)
06-008	Agenda of Tax Reform	HAFIZ A PASHA <i>Beaconhouse National University, Lahore (T1)</i>	Duration 06 months PKR 2,000,000/-	Nadeem UI Haque
06-043	Effect of Firm's Big Data Analytics Capability on Competitive Advantage: Mediating Effect of Business Model Innovation and Moderating Effect of Environmental Uncertainty	CHAUDRY BILAL AHMAD KHAN <i>Institute of Space Technology, Islamabad (T1)</i>	Duration 06 months PKR 2,600,000/-	Murtaza Haider & Zahid Asghar
06-057	A Dynamic CGE-Sludge Framework for Pakistan	MUHAMMAD ZESHAN <i>PIDE, Islamabad (T1)</i>	Duration 06 months PKR 500,000/-	David Orden & Ahmed Waqar Qasim
06-064	A Study on Implications of Gender Gap in Digital Financial Literacy and Financial Inclusion for Women Entrepreneurs in Punjab, Pakistan	TAHIRA SADAF <i>University of Agriculture, Faisalabad (T1)</i>	Duration 06 months PKR 2,000,000/-	Omer Siddique & Izza Aftab
06-080	The Effects of a Tax -Financed Government Spending	SYED ZAHID ALI <i>Lahore University of Management Sciences, Lahore (T1)</i>	Duration 06 months PKR 800,000/-	Ather Maqsood & Mehmood Khalid
06-081	Impact of the Land Record Management Information System (LRMIS) on Land Related Corruption in Government Administration and Management Departments: A Quasi-Natural Experiment in Punjab, Pakistan	SAQIB HUSSAIN <i>KDI School of Public Policy and Management, South Korea (T1)</i>	Duration 06 months PKR 3,000,000/-	Murtaza Haider & M Amanullah
06-092	Comprehensive Baseline Assessment and Sustainable Pathways for Solid Waste Management: Integrating Perspectives, Practices, and Environmental Impact	SHOIB MUHAMMAD <i>University of Wah, Rawalpindi (T1)</i>	Duration 06 months PKR 2,500,000/-	Junaid A Memon & Amina Qureshi
06-121	Tech Index Pakistan: A Statistical Approach to Understanding the Relationship between Technology, Competition, and Growth	MUHAMMAD HARIS HANIF <i>Government College University, Lahore (T1)</i>	Duration 06 months PKR 589,160/-	Izza Aftab & Rabeeh Ayaz
06-124	Will Broadening of the Tax Base Broaden Tax Revenue Base? A Case Study of Pakistan	ZEHRA FAROOQ <i>Tulane University, USA (T1)</i>	Duration 06 months PKR 2,500,000/-	Zafar ul Hassan & Ahmed Jamal Pirzada
06-136	Evaluation of Balochistan's Katchhi Canal Project	IRFAN ALI <i>Balochistan University of Engineering and Technology, Khuzdar (T3)</i>	Duration 06 months PKR 3,000,000/-	Hafeez Jamali & A Salam Lodhi
06-156	Single Sub-National Revenue Collecting Authority: A Case of Baluchistan	NOOR-UL-HAQ BALOCH <i>Balochistan Revenue Authority, Quetta (T3)</i>	Duration 06 months PKR 2,200,000/-	Naeem uz Zafar & Amar
06-160	Digitization and Automation of Administrative Procedures; Building Solution to Address Sludge in Setting-up Businesses	YASIR ZADA KHAN <i>PIDE, Islamabad (T1)</i>	Duration 06 months PKR 600,000/-	Omer Siddique & A Waqar Qasim

06-194	Exploring the Avenues of Adoption of Agricultural UAVs by the Small -to- Large Landholdings Farmers	SHOAIB RASHID SALEEM <i>PMAS-Arid Agriculture University, Rawalpindi (T1)</i>	Duration 06 months PKR 2,600,000/-	David Orden & Junaid A Memon
06-195	Unlocking synergies through public value co-creation: A Holistic Examination of Public-Private Partnerships in Punjab's Educational Landscape	SHABANA NAVEED <i>University of Central Punjab, Lahore (T1)</i>	Duration 06 months PKR 3,000,000/-	Rafullah Kakar & M Amanullah
06-200	Central Bank Digital Currency, Financial Competition and Growth: Identifying Challenges, Opportunities and Applications	ABDUL RASHID <i>International Islamic University, Islamabad (T1)</i>	Duration 06 months PKR 2,200,000/-	Ather Maqsood & Omer Siddique
06-210	Female Voting Preferences in District Buner, Pakistan	HASSAN SHAH <i>University of Buner, Buner (T2)</i>	Duration 06 months PKR 1,500,000/-	Durre Nayab & Sultan Mehmood
06-226	Micro-Credentials for Gig Economy: Implications for Higher Education Sector in Pakistan	MEHFOOZ ULLAH <i>Karakorum International University (KIU), Gilgit (T3)</i>	Duration 06 months PKR 2,200,000/-	Zahid Asghar & Zain ul Abdin
06-231	Unveiling the Trajectory: How the 18th Amendment Reshaped Functional Spending Multipliers in Pakistan	IFFAT ARA <i>Independent Researcher, Karachi (T1)</i>	Duration 06 months PKR 2,400,000/-	Zafar ul Hassan & Naeem uz Zafar
06-245	Empowering Sustainable Aquaculture Enterprises: Unveiling the Potential of Biofloc Technology in Investments, Compliance, and Growth Strategies	AIMA IRAM BATOOL <i>University of Sargodha, Sargodha (T1)</i>	Duration 06 months PKR 2,500,000/-	Zafar ul Hassan & A Salam Lodhi
06-250	Impact Assessment of TDAP Women Development Program on Technology Adaption in Female Entrepreneurs	MISBAH TANVEER CHOUDHRY <i>LUMS, Lahore (T1)</i>	Duration 06 months PKR 3,000,000/-	M Amanullah & Amina Qureshi
06-252	Dissecting the Effect of Internal R&D, Imported Input Variety and External Technology Acquisition on Export Competitiveness of Pharmaceuticals in Pakistan	ABDUL RAUF <i>National Defense University, Islamabad (T1)</i>	Duration 06 months PKR 3,200,000/-	A Waqar Qasim & Shahid Mehmood
06-253	Redefining Urban Spaces: Harnessing the Potential of Public-Private Partnership for Sustainable City Regeneration	SHOAIB KHALID <i>GC University, Faisalabad (T1)</i>	Duration 06 months PKR 3,000,000/-	Nadeem UI Haque & Zahid Asghar
06-265	An In-Depth Analysis of Job Satisfaction Among Women Transitioning from Traditional Employment to Online Jobs	SUMAIRA YASMIN <i>PIDE, Islamabad (T1)</i>	Duration 06 months PKR 1,200,000/-	Durre Nayab & Izza Aftab
06-269	Democracy on Trial: A Study of the 2024 Elections in Pakistan	MOHAMMAD WASEEM <i>Lahore University of Management Sciences, Lahore (T1)</i>	Duration 06 months PKR 2,500,000/-	Durre Nayab & Sultan Mehmood
06-280	Evaluating the comprehensive socio-economic Impact of the HMDC Dual Carriageway on Regional Development through PPP initiatives	HIRA HUSSAIN <i>Independent Researcher, Hyderabad (T2)</i>	Duration 06 months PKR 2,600,000/-	Zafar ul Hassan & Naeem uz Zafar
06-293	Low Crime Conviction and Capacity Challenges of Police in Punjab: A Mixed Method Study and Intervention	SYED IMRAN HAIDER <i>Allama Iqbal Open University, Islamabad (T1)</i>	Duration 06 months PKR 3,400,000/-	Hafeez Jamali & Khalid Chauhan

RASTA DDR STUDIES

During this month, the RASTA management funded the following 02 new studies under its Demand-driven Research (DDR) stream.

DDR ID #	Title of Study	Duration (months)	Approved Budget
DDR-031	Immoveable Property Rights Law Reforms	04	Rs. 3,000,000 /-
DDR-032	Urban Regeneration for Cities in Pakistan: Case of Federal Capital Area, Karachi	04	Rs. 3,000,000 /-
DDR-033	Urban Regeneration Proposal for Punjab Civil Secretariat & Adjoining Areas in Lahore	04	Rs. 3,000,000 /-

In addition to this, final reports of 02 funded research projects (under RASTA DDR) have been designed and sent for printing:

- Agricultural Commodity Markets in Pakistan: Analysis of Issues by Samir Ahmed and Mansoor Ali
- An Evaluation of Comparative Advantage of Domestically Produced Edible Oil Crops: Challenges and Opportunities by Abedullah and Farah Naz

LOCAL RESEARCH LOCAL SOLUTIONS (LRLS) VOLUMES IIV – X

During the month March 2024, 04 book volumes have been designed and sent for printing. The volumes are the compilation of final products of 12 RASTA CGP Round 2.0 awarded research projects and 01 RASTA CGP Round 2.0 awarded research project. The following are the contents of the 04 volumes.

LRLS Volume IIV: GROWTH & TAXATION

1. Estimating the Distributional Burden of General Sales Tax in Pakistan by Ifaat Ara
2. City Development Product: Data Architecture for Sustainable Economic Development in Pakistan by Mohammad Ahmad
3. An Evaluation of Different Tax Reform Proposals by Muhammad Nadeem Sarwar
4. Revisiting Urban Immovable Property Valuation: An Appraisal of Spatial Heterogeneities in Punjab Using Big Data by Shoab Khalid and Fariha Zameer

LRLS Volume IIIV: FARM PRODUCTIVITY & FOOD PRICES

1. Household Market Participation, Access, and Farm Productivity in AJK: Evidence from Farm Household Data by Khush Bukhat Zahid
2. The Impact of Major Public Policies on Cotton Production in Pakistan by Irfan Ahmed Baig, Sami Ullah, Shoab Nasir, and Wakeel Ur Rehman
3. Dynamics of Food Prices in Major Cities of Pakistan by Nigar Zehra and Fouzia Sohail

LRLS Volume XI: PUBLIC SERVICE DELIVERY

1. Decentralisation's Effects on Health: Theory and Evidence from Balochistan, Pakistan by Manzoor Ahmed and Abdul Qayyum
2. Education Delivery in Post-Devolution Balochistan: A Political Economy Perspective by Rafiullah Kakar, Muhammad Saleem and Bilal Sarwar
3. Measuring Accessibility Benefits of Public Transport: Evidence from the Lahore Orange Line Metro Train (OLMT) by Alvina Sabah Idrees and Saimar Sarwar

LRLS Volume X: SUGAR INDUSTRY, WATER COOPERATION & FINANCIAL INCLUSION

1. The Ongoing Crisis in the Sugar Industry: The Implications of Legislation and the Need for Deregulation by Ahsan J. Pirzada, Barrister Naima Shahid, and Roha Tahir Ghauri
2. Enhancing Transboundary Water Cooperation through Economic Valuation of Biodiversity & Ecosystem Services in the Kabul River Basin by Hameed Jamali, Shakeel Hayat and Muhammad Rafiq
3. Firms Financial Inclusion and Export Performance: Evidence from Manufacturing Sector Firms in Pakistan by Fareeha Adil and Rabia Nazir