

Project on Resilient, Green and Transformative Development in Asian Belt and Road Countries



Green Industrialization in Pakistan: **Integrated Policy Strategies for a Sustainable Future**

17-18 Oct 2023

Serena Hotel, Islamabad

Concept Note

Introduction

United Nations Conference on Trade and Development [UNCTAD] Geneva has developed a project that aims to assist four major developing countries in Asia in their efforts to reach SDGs related to green industrialization. The project intends to assist 4 selected developing countries (Pakistan, Kazakhstan, Malaysia, and Türkiye) to achieve 2030 Agenda through: 1) effective integrated policy strategies and improved capacity at national level, including South-South peer-learning; and 2) economic cooperation and policy coordination at regional level.

Adapting to a changing climate through green industrialization is crucial for Pakistan as the country is among the top ten most climate vulnerable countries, experiencing long term weather changes and is frequently hit by heatwaves, droughts, excessive rains and floods. Additionally, Pakistan is currently experiencing significant macroeconomic instability, under a mountain of domestic and foreign debt, combined with the instability created by the Covid-19 pandemic, the Ukraine war and unprecedented rains and flood in later part of 2022, all of which have been adding to the pains of an economy beset with deep structural problems.

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Purpose and key objectives:

Under Green Industrialization Project, UNCTAD and its partner, Social Protection Resource Centre, Islamabad joined hands in 2022 to produce fresh knowledge on the binding constraints Pakistan has been facing in terms of Green Industrialization and carried out four sectoral studies on the challenges in greening being faced by Pakistan's manufacturing sector, Textiles, Agriculture and Transport in the lead up to the launching of Pakistan Project. As the financing has been one of the most challenging binding constraints, a new study has also been undertaken in addition to the sectoral studies on the past limitations faced by the country in availing quality climate finance with a view to prepare Pakistan better to benefit from the Loss & Damage Fund in the coming days.

The purpose of this event is to present the findings of the six studies to the scholarly community and policy practitioners in the presence of international experts to initiate a quality debate on the topic of Green Industrialization in Pakistan, which till date has not gained the kind of traction it should get, given its current and future role in green transformation of the Pakistan economy. This relative weakness is not only a result of the absence of holistic approaches to study different aspects of green industrialization at the macro, sectoral and sub-sectoral levels. A weak symbiosis between the climate change and environmental policies in itself is hampering the emergence of a robust nexus between the Climate Policy and the cluster of Trade, Industrial and Investment policies, which seek to make Pakistan's manufacturing sector more competitive. The launching event aims to bring together the representatives of relevant ministries, academia, business community and civil society to fill any gaps in our Studies jointly produced by UNCTAD and SPRC, on the way to develop an integrated Green Industrialization Strategy for Pakistan, giving due consideration to the regional and global approaches and practices.



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Event Program

Day I

Venue: Serena Hotel, Islamabad		Registration: 9-9.30 a.m.
Session 1: 9.30-11.30 a.m.		
Inaugural Session: Launching of UNCTAD's Pakistan Green Industrialization Project		
9.30-9.45 a.m.	Introduction to UNCTAD Pakistan Project Dr. Richard Kozul-Wright, Director, United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, Geneva, Switzerland Dr. Safdar Sohail, ED SPRC	
9.45-10 a.m.	Inaugural Address by the Chief Guest	
10-10.20 a.m.	Presentation on Binding Constraints of Green Industrialization in Pakistan by Dr. Safdar Sohail, ED SPRC	
10.20-10.40 a.m.	Mr. Abbas Raza Shah, CEO, Engineering Development Board, Ministry of Industries and Production, government of Pakistan Dr. Amanullah Khan, Chief Economist, Planning and Development Board, government of Punjab, Lahore Mr. Shaid Sattar, Secretary General, All Pakistan Textiles Mills Association, Islamabad	
10.40-11.20 a.m.	Question and Answer Session	
11.20-11.30 a.m.	Summing up by Dr. Richard Kozul-Wright, UNCTAD Geneva	
Coffee break (11.30 a.m.-12 p.m.)		

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Session 2: 12-2 p.m.

Sectorial Studies: Challenges and opportunities for a green transition in Pakistan

12-12.10 p.m.	Chair/Moderator: Dr. Gul Unal, UNCTAD Geneva
12.10- 1.10 p.m.	<p>Greening Transport Sector, Dr. Hasan Syed, LUMS, Lahore</p> <p>Discussant: Ms. Saima Saleem, Project Director, Punjab Green Development Project, Lahore</p> <p>Greening Agriculture, Dr. Ajaz Ahmad, Director Research SPRC, Islamabad</p> <p>Discussant: Mr. Rafiq Sh. Secretary, Department of Agriculture, government of Sindh, Karachi</p> <p>Greening Textiles, Mr. Abid Raza Khan, HoD Business and Economics, Punjab University, Lahore</p> <p>Discussant: Mr. Khalid Mahmood, ED, Master Textiles, Lahore</p>
1.10-1.50 p.m.	Questions & Answers
1.50-2 p.m.	Summing up by the Moderator
Lunch (2-3 p.m.)	



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Day II

Venue: Serena Hotel, Islamabad		Registration: 9-9.30 a.m.
Session 1: 10 a.m.-2 p.m.		
Benefitting better from international climate finance		
10-10.30 a.m.	Registration	
10.30 a.m.-1 p.m.	Panel Discussion and Way Forward	
10.30 a.m.-12 p.m.	<p>Speakers:</p> <p>Dr. Richard Kozul-Wright, Director UNCTAD, Geneva</p> <p>Ms. Nasheeta M. Mohsin, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Finance, government of Pakistan</p> <p>Mr. Bilal Anwar, CEO, National Disaster Risk Management Fund, government of Pakistan</p> <p>Dr. Abid Suleri, Executive Director, Sustainable Development Policy Institute, Islamabad</p> <p>Dr. Safdar Sohail, ED, SPRC, Islamabad</p>	
12-12.30 p.m.	Q&A	
12.30-12.45 p.m.	Summary of Recommendations: UNCTAD and SPRC Representatives	
12.45-1 p.m.	Concluding Remarks	
Lunch (1-2 p.m.)		