

NATIONAL PARLIAMENTARY TASKFORCE ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



WORKSHOP ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS FOR MEMBERS OF LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF GILGIT- BALTISTAN

Report of Proceedings - January 10-12, 2018



Pakistan Institute for Parliamentary Services
Dedicated to Parliamentary Excellence

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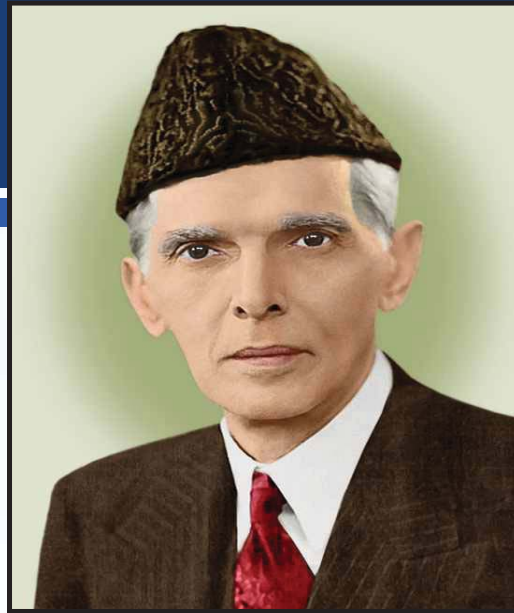
AKRSP

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You will no doubt agree with me that the first duty of a government is to maintain law and order, so that the life, property, and religious beliefs of its subjects are fully protected by the state.

...if we want to make this great State of Pakistan happy and prosperous we should wholly and solely concentrate on the well-being of the people, and especially of the masses and the poor.

(Presidential Address to the Constituent Assembly of Pakistan on 11th August, 1947)

Preface

In September 2015, 193 Member States of the United Nations met at their Headquarters in New York and decided that they must take transformative steps to ensure that the world is on a sustainable path. They agreed to implement a global agenda with inclusive approach of customized challenges and their solutions, which prioritized the people, the planet, promoted peace, prosperity and encouraged partnerships.

The 2013 Agenda includes 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) that enlist 169 indicators targeting a diverse range of issues confronting our planet and its people today. These goals are unique in various ways; they are universal, integrated and inclusive and inspire partnerships.

The world has now entered a new developmental phase. What was once deemed as economic growth has now emerged as a multidimensional concept. Development now addresses all: social, political, environmental as well as economic issues. In the same vein, the SDGs challenge the party states to aspire to greatness. They propel innovation and inclusivity and also create a space for creating indigenous means of implementation and achieving the set targets.

The elected Parliament is the citadel of aspirations and rights of the people in any country. Understanding the urgency of the matter, the Parliament of Pakistan was the first in the world to set up a Parliamentary Taskforce for the SDGs as an affirmative response to steer the initiative in guiding and scrutinizing government's endeavours to localize the concept and transform the SDGs into national vision, policies, action plan and implementation. The SDGs Secretariat at the National Assembly of Pakistan is solely dedicated to the monitoring and evaluation of these national efforts to implement the SDGs.

The Pakistan Institute for Parliamentary Services (PIPS), which is country's exclusive seat of parliamentary learning for Members of Parliament and four provincial assemblies of Balochistan, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Punjab and Sindh as well as legislative assemblies of Azad Jammu and Kashmir and Gilgit Baltistan, serves as the Secretariat to support national and provincial SDGs parliamentary taskforces. PIPS has continually engaged itself in providing research, legislative and capacity building opportunities to the Honourable Parliamentarians in the pursuance of these Goals. This workshop is one of the many efforts which have been taken by PIPS in this regard.

We are pleased to present the proceedings of the Seminar for a happy reading. The Institute recognizes the support of its partners Agha Khan Rural Support Programme and the European Union in holding this Seminar on SDGs for Members of Gilgit Baltistan Assembly on Jan., 10-12, 2018.

Zafarullah Khan
Executive Director



MESSAGE BY THE CONVENER, PARLIAMENTARY TASKFORCE ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

Dear Distinguished Participants and Readers,

I am pleased to learn the holding of the Workshop on Sustainable Development Goals for Members of Gilgit Baltistan Legislative Assembly through joint efforts of the Parliamentary Taskforce on SDGs and the Pakistan Institute for Parliamentary Services (PIPS). There is little gainsaying the fact that there can be no meaningful democracy without an all-inclusive development model for the people. A comprehensive addressing of the human development needs of the masses on urgent basis must be the top priority of people's representatives and the legislatures.



It's my pleasure to note that the workshop has been organized by PIPS on request of the Members of GBLA led by their SDGs taskforce Convener, Hon Fida Muhammad Nashad, Speaker, GBLA, that shows their confidence that parliamentary lead vis-à-vis the SDGs promises a new hope to structurally synchronize people's aspirations and periodically scrutinize the country's development agenda from the prism of our social contract as well as global commitments. This approach has been totally missing in the past. For this we need improved communication vectors among various pillars of the state, especially the Legislature and the Executive.

The multi-party composition of the SDGs Parliamentary Taskforce by design may yield long cherished cross-party consensus on our development agenda. The Parliament being repository of peoples' political will, enjoys unique proximity with the citizens. The citizens can have a say to define and drive the country's development agenda through their elected representatives. The elected Assembly is also best poised and is an ideal platform to effectively engage all relevant stakeholders to evolve an inclusive and coherent development paradigm.

Thus realization of the SDGs is important for restoring citizens' trust and assigning substantive meanings to our democracy that delivers. This is simultaneously a challenging and an opportune moment that must be grasped to bring people out of the quagmire of prolonged under-development. The Parliament has taken the lead the citizens must proactively engage with it. Our better future is a tangible possibility.

I hope that this workshop will help evolve the emergence of a parliamentary agenda for all the MLAs from different constituencies of Gilgit Baltistan, focusing on establishing effective mechanisms of legislation, oversight and representation for the speedy attainment of these Goals by Gilgit Baltistan. I congratulate my team at the SDGs Taskforce Secretariat and the PIPS team for such an absorbing and well adding workshop for the MLAs from GBLA.

I wish the distinguished participants and readers of the workshop report all the best and pray for their success in this national cause. Best Wishes,

Ms. Marriyum Aurangzeb,
Federal Minister for Information, Broadcasting and National Heritage,
Chairperson Parliamentary SDGs Taskforce



List of Acronyms

AKRSP	Aga Khan Rural Support Programme
GB	Gilgit Baltistan
GBLA	Gilgit Baltistan Legislative Assembly
GLOF	Glacial Lake Outburst Floods
KKH	Karakoram Highway
KPK	Khyber Pakhtunkhwa
MDGs	Millennium development Goals
MICS	Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey
P&DD	Planning and Development Department
PBS	Pakistan Bureau of Statistics
PIPS	Pakistan Institute for Parliamentary Services
PSLM	Pakistan Social and Living Standards Measurement
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SDPI	Sustainable Development Policy Institute
UN	United Nations
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme



Table of Contents

Executive Summary.....	xi
Day 1: January 10, 2017.....	03
Inaugural Session.....	03
Mr. Zafarullah Khan, Executive Director, Pakistan Institute for Parliamentary Services.....	03
Mr. Fida Muhammad Nashad, Honourable Speaker Gilgit- Baltistan Legislative Assembly.....	04
Mr. Akhtar Ali, Program Manager Institutional Development, the Aga Khan Rural Support Programme.....	05
Session 1 SDGs: Defining the Concept - Role of Parliament in SDGs and Challenges in the Context of Gilgit- Baltistan.....	09
Session 2 Address on Health, WASH, and Education:.....	18
Mr. Kamran Naeem, UNICEF - WASH Specialist.....	18
Ms. Sadaf Zulfiqar, UNICEF.....	20
Dr. Khawaja Aftab Ahmed, UNICEF, Health Specialist.....	22
Day 2: January 11, 2018.....	27
Session 1 Dr. Abid Qaiyum Suleri, Executive Director, Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI).....	27
Mr. Ali Tauqeer Sheikh, CEO, LEAD Pakistan.....	30
Honourable Malik Muhammad Uzair Khan, Member National Assembly, Chairperson Standing Committee on Climate Change.....	32
Session 2: Dr. Seemin Ashtaq, Director Communications, Population Council.....	34
Mr. Altaf Hussain, Gilgit Baltistan Policy Institute.....	35
Mr. Ali Jabbar, Planning and Development Department, Gilgit Baltistan.....	36
Mr. Iqbal Hassan, Minister for Information, Planning and Development, Gilgit Baltistan.....	37
Day 3: January 12, 2018.....	37
ACTION PLAN EXERCISE.....	38
List of Participants.....	45
Photo Gallery.....	46
Group Photo.....	49



Executive Summary

Workshop on Sustainable Development Goals for Members of Legislative Assembly of Gilgit-Baltistan, January 10- 12, 2018

The Parliamentary Taskforce on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in the National Assembly and the Pakistan Institute for Parliamentary Services (PIPS) held a three-day workshop on Sustainable Development Goals for the Honourable Members of the Gilgit-Baltistan Legislative Assembly (GBLA) from January 10- 12, 2018 in collaboration with the Aga Khan Rural Support Programme (AKRSP), and the European Union (EU).. A fifteen-member delegation from GBLA headed by the Honourable Speaker of the GBLA, Mr. Fida Muhammad Nashad, participated in the workshop.

The purpose of the Workshop was to familiarize the Honourable MLAs with the SDGs in the context of Gilgit-Baltistan. It also provided a platform to the Honourable MLAs to interact with various experts and to share their specific concerns regarding the SDGs especially in light of the recent developments within their Province with respect to CPEC.

The first day of the workshop comprised of three sessions. The first session titled, "SDGs: Defining the Concept- Role of Parliament in SDGs and Challenges in context of Gilgit Baltistan," was conducted by Director Research and I.T PIPS, Mr. Muhammad Rashid Mafzool Zaka and Coordinator, SDGs Secretariat National Assembly of Pakistan, Ms. Sabrish Kausar. The session was followed by a Group Activity session in which the participants were divided in groups and asked to localize one SDG within the context of Gilgit- Baltistan highlighting its ground realities, stakeholders and way forward. The third session was conducted by Mr. Kamran, a representative from UNICEF Pakistan. He spoke on health, WASH, Education and Monitoring and Evaluation.

The first session of the second day of the workshop titled, "SDGs and Economic Development," was conducted by Mr. Abid Suleri, Executive Director Sustainable Development Policy Institute in which he linked the SDGs to social and economic life. The second session was facilitated by Mr. Ali Tanqueer from LEAD Pakistan who spoke with urgency on Climate Change and its various threats. The third session saw the speech by the Honourable Member National Assembly of Pakistan and Chairperson Standing Committee on Climate Change, Malik Muhammad Uzair Khan. He spoke on Climate Change as a human security issue and the role of the Parliament in this regard. The final session of the day was a panel discussion between members of the GBLA and a presentation by Ms. Semin Ashfaq, Director, Population Council of Pakistan.

The final day of the workshop commenced at the SDGs Secretariat National Assembly of Pakistan. The members engaged in an Action Plan Exercise in which they gave their feedback regarding the previous two days and highlighted which goals were most significant to the specific context of Gilgit- Baltistan and demanded the most attention. The delegation then attended the Session of the National Assembly and received an Honourable mention by the Honourable Speaker of the National Assembly of Pakistan, Sardar Ayaz Sadiq.

Following, the Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting and the Chairperson Parliamentary Taskforce on SDGs, Honourable Ms. Marriyum Aurangzeb addressed the participants of the workshop and appreciated their continuous efforts with regards to the National Development Agenda and the SDGs. The workshop concluded with a round of appreciation and certificate awarding ceremony as well as final vote of thank Hon. Fida Muhammad Nashad, Speaker, GBLA Assembly.



DAY ONE



Workshop on Sustainable Development Goals for Members of Legislative Assembly of Gilgit- Baltistan

Day 1: January 10, 2017

Inaugural Session

The workshop began with introductory remarks by Senior Research Officer PIPS, Ms. Tehseen Khalid. She welcomed the honourable members from the Gilgit-Baltistan Legislative Assembly on behalf of the Pakistan Institute for Parliamentary Services and the Aga Khan Rural Support Programme (AKRSP). This was followed by the recitation of verses from the Holy Quran and a round of introductions by the participants as well as the facilitators.

Mr. Zafarullah Khan, Executive Director, Pakistan Institute for Parliamentary Services

The workshop was then formally initiated with the welcome remarks of the Executive Director PIPS, Mr. Zafarullah Khan. He welcomed the Honourable Speaker GBLA, Mr. Fida Muhammad Nashad and the honourable delegation. He expressed his utmost appreciation to the fact that both the Parliamentarians (the brain) as well as the members of the Executive, i.e. those individuals who have to implement, such as the Minister for Planning and Development, have gathered for the sake of sustainable development. The individuals from Gilgit- Baltistan have always manifested an unmatched and impressive zeal towards learning and continue to participate in various workshops conducted by PIPS. He thanked AKRSP, the team at PIPS and the SDGs Secretariat at the Federal Parliament for facilitating this process.



The Pakistan Institute for Parliamentary Services has continuously maintained the SDGs as a topic of discussion. Previously, it had also conducted a roundtable which was attended by the representatives from all the provinces. The Honourable Speaker and members from GB were the first to submit their feedback and complete the assigned tasks from that roundtable which is a reflection of their sheer commitment towards development. Mr. Zafarullah Khan highlighted that indeed the Sustainable Development Goals are a global agenda; such global waves are a wakeup call for those who are not actively working towards the betterment of the world. Globally, development is an unequal phenomenon. There are some settlements where happiness flows while other settlements where life is torturous also exist. Global agenda of such kind is a pledge and a commitment to mobilize the global leaders, allocate resources and to upgrade the lives of the masses. He expressed that we must move forward with motivation; as the elected representatives of the masses have a direct relationship with this global agenda to bring equality.

He pointed out that the Parliament is the brain; its task is that of thinking and composing solutions for the problems at hand. It can instruct and speed up the process of development. When it comes to Gilgit- Baltistan, its commitment towards the indicators of education and social development are exemplary. However, there is no upper benchmark in this measurement and we need to keep moving from good to better. He expressed his utmost thanks to those experts and facilitators who have agreed to share their knowledge and expertise with the participants of the workshop. He reminded the delegation that Pakistan's Parliament was the first in the world to personify this commitment and gave it a solid manifestation by establishing a SDGs Secretariat with multiparty membership. He added that if we all perform our due roles we will reach our development targets as a whole. He wished the participants a good and productive three days and concluded his remarks.



Mr. Fida Muhammad Nashad, Honourable Speaker Gilgit- Baltistan Legislative Assembly

This was followed by brief remarks by the Honourable Speaker GBLA, Mr. Fida Muhammad Nashad. He thanked Executive Director PIPS, Mr. Zafarullah Khan for his kind words and especially thanked the team at PIPS as well as Mr. Akhtar Ali, Program Manager at AKRSP and the European Union for organizing the workshop and facilitating the delegation from GB. He stressed that the workshop will indeed be very productive and the participants will learn and grow from the great ideas and brainstorming sessions. He specially thanked the Executive Director PIPS



and the entire team for facilitating the members from GBLA on a frequent basis. He stated that whenever the members visit PIPS they are provided with the opportunity to listen to some great speakers, engage with experts, gain insight and knowledge on various issues and grow from the experience as a whole. Due to this, there has been an increase in our performance in carrying out the responsibilities that have been placed as elected representatives of the masses.

The seventeen aspects that have been identified by the Sustainable Development Goals are highly significant. He said that even if we achieved fifty percent of the said goals, the living standards of the people residing in our respective areas, will enhance manifold. Since we live in a mountainous region, the difficult terrain and harsh climate of the area makes various day to day tasks very difficult for our people. Despite that, we have witnessed an unsurpassed spirit in not only the people but also the leaders and the members of the GBLA to decrease the problems within the area. He stated that this level of motivation is always enhanced when the members visit PIPS. Mr. Speaker highlighted that from the 17 SDGs, the most significant is Goal 6 which ensures the availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all. He highlighted that without the provision of clean and improved drinking water, the health of the people will remain compromised and without a healthy population, none of the other goals can be achieved. He pointed out that despite the abundance of lakes, streams and springs in Gilgit- Baltistan, a survey done by the Environment Protection Agency revealed that clean water is still lacking in Gilgit- Baltistan. Due to the terrain, there are many areas in GB where people use and drink the water which they obtain from open pools which leads to various health issues.

He also highlighted the importance of Goal 4 which seeks to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all. Mr. Speaker stressed that it is education which has separated humans from animals and have provided humans with a standard of living. He informed the participants that previously when the SDGs Taskforce was formed it had merely 5 members. But after the consultation of Honourable Ms. Marriyum Aurangzeb, the number of members has been increased to ten. Now all 10 districts of Gilgit- Baltistan are represented in the SDGs Taskforce and gender equality has also been taken into consideration. He stressed that the purpose of this workshop is to gain better understanding of the goals in the context of Gilgit- Baltistan; what are the challenges and opportunities for Gilgit- Baltistan. Finally, he thanked the organizers and wished to have a productive and beneficial workshop.

Mr. Akhtar Ali, Program Manager Institutional Development, the Aga Khan Rural Support Programme

The third speaker of the inaugural session was Mr. Akhtar Ali, Program Manager Institutional Development, the Aga Khan Rural Support Programme. He began by thanking the Honourable Speaker GBLA, Mr. Fida Muhammad Nashad for his unwavering support to the initiatives of AKRSP and for bringing the AKRSP team closer to the SDGs agenda. He pointed out that the commitment of Government has towards the SDGs is truly commendable. He thanked the entire team of PIPS for bringing experts closer



to the legislators. He also thanked the European Union for its financial assistance in conducting this workshop under the Deepening Participatory Governance project.

He then began his presentation which was a brief overview of what AKRSP is, how it is functioning and what has it done so far towards the attainment of the SDGs. Mr. Ali informed the attendees that AKRSP works in 11 districts – the ten districts of Gilgit- Baltistan and one district of Province Khyber Pakhtunkhwa i.e. Chitral. He told that GB's development indicators today are good. However ten years ago, prior to the launch of AKRSP, the area was amidst a spatial poverty trap characterized by poor human, physical, and natural endowments. AKRSP was launched 11 years ago to primarily fulfill two purposes: firstly, to help double the per capita incomes of the local people and secondly to create a model for development which is replicable in nature. The Programme functions on the premise that people have the potential and will to change their lives but they lack three ingredients - organization, skills, and capital. One factor which has massively contributed to the development of this area is the construction of the Karakorum Highway. After the construction of the KKH, the area was linked to the world; it was linked to information and new avenues for businesses and economic growth opened up.

Mr. Ali highlighted the key achievements of AKRSP till date:

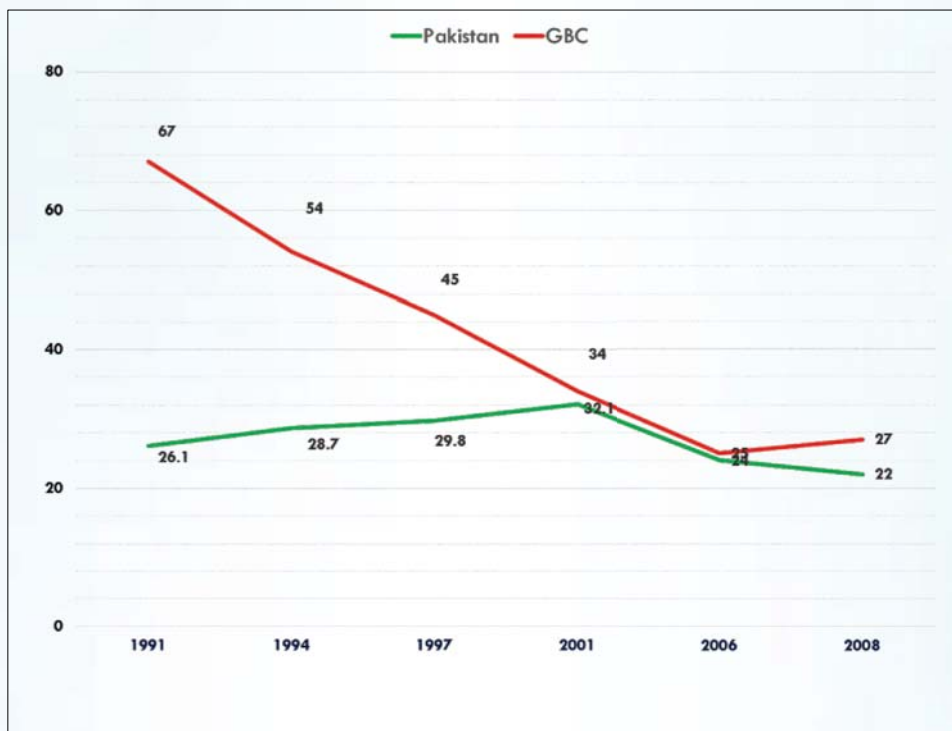
- 5000 Village and Women Organizations, representing majority of households in their constituencies (recently more than 60% of these V/WO have formed 77 LSOs).
- More than 70,000 men and women trained in a wide range of organizational and productive skills.
- 3,978 community infrastructure projects, benefiting 298,035 households.
- 28 million forest and fruit trees planted.
- Mobilized PKR 500.53 million in VO/WO savings and disbursed loans worth PKR 1,822 million.

The Programme focuses its work on a few aspects which are areas of its key interventions within the local communities. These include the following:

- Social organization
- Natural Resource Management
- Community Physical Infrastructure
- Human Resource Development
- Women's Development
- Enterprise Promotion
- Credit and Savings

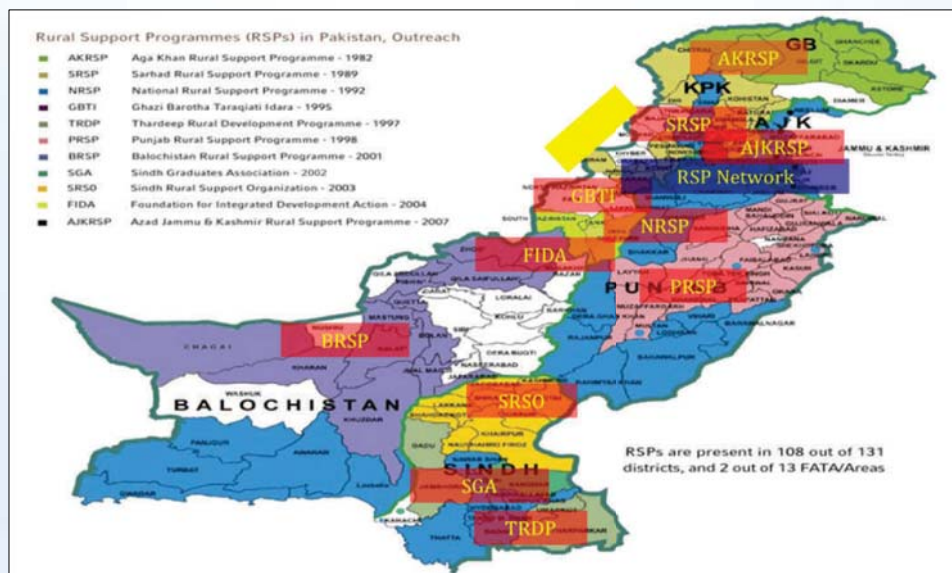


The basic purpose for the establishment of AKRSP was to lower poverty levels by enhancing the per capita incomes of the local communities. The following diagram illustrates the poverty levels of GB in comparison to the country's overall poverty level.



The red line indicates the poverty headcount index of GB while the green line indicates the national one. Since 1991, the poverty headcount index of GB has gone down considerably.

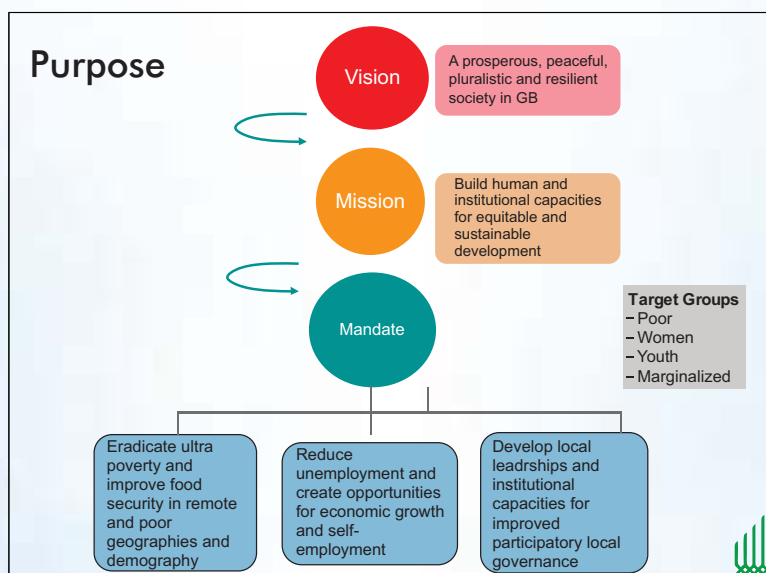
The second purpose for launching this Programme was to establish a replicable development model. Presently, there are 13 Rural Support Programmes functioning in the country the details of which are depicted in the following illustration:



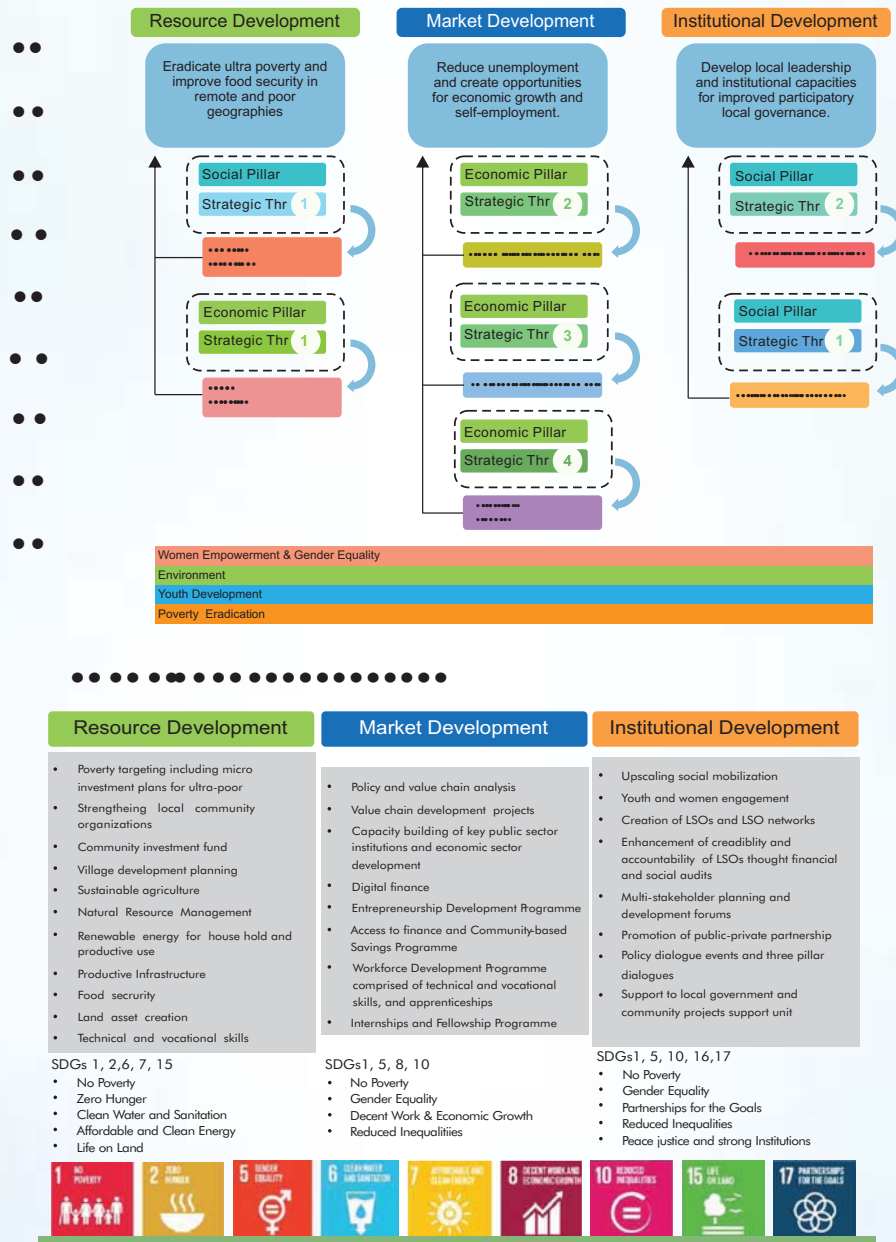
Currently, the focus of AKRSP is on civil society development, economic development and youth development. For the purpose of civil society development AKRSP is collaborating and working with various civil society organizations, focusing on institutional development, improving local governance and social development which includes gender mainstreaming and social protection. The focus areas within economic development include: productive uses of natural resources, productive physical infrastructure and market and entrepreneurship development. Finally, Youth development focuses on enhancing youth employability and youth participation as leaders.

Within these focus areas, AKRSP has achieved the following milestones:

1. Enhancing Employability And Leadership For Youth (EELY):
 - Outreach of Employability and employment: 24,600 youth;
 - Outreach of Leadership and Institutional Development: 29,400 youth,
 - Indirect Beneficiaries: 126,000 youth of GBC.
2. Agriculture Value Chain: Sadpara Development Project:
 - Provide efficient irrigation to more than 15,000 acres of land benefiting 12,000 households in Skardu
 - Create over 5,220 jobs in Skardu
 - Enhancing productivity of High-Value Horticulture and Dairy Products by training 700 producers/farmers (greenhouses and model orchards)
3. Renewable Energy:
 - More than 700 Micro hydel Projects established and managed by community
 - 55 Micro-Hydro Projects (MHPs) in Peripheral Villages and Off-Grid Areas of Chitral (Govt of KP Funding) in progress
 - Establishing of community based power Utility companies in GBC
 - CDM certified Hydro projects.
4. Gems And Jewelry Project:
 - 1500 youth are provided in cutting, polishing and jewelry making
 - 2000 young people trained in safe artisan mining
 - 16 gems cutting and polishing training and service centers Across GBC.
 - 21 new enterprise supported in Gems sector in GBC.
 - 18 Gems related exhibition organized and participated



The following illustrations depict the key focus areas of AKRSP and align them with the Sustainable Development Goals:



Mr. Ali concluded his presentation by stating the way forward for the Programme. AKRSP seeing its role in;

- Further strengthen the tradition of community driven development by investing in civil society organizations
- Further strengthen the relationship with state institutions (political and line department).
- Taking more a facilitative role in building the capacities
- Work together with government and other players for an integrated approach to accelerate social and economic growth
- Joint Resource mobilization for policies and partnerships in key sector developments contributing to SDGs (Renewable Energy, Tourism, Work Force Development, Gems, entrepreneurship and Poverty and Food security).

Session 1

SDGs: Defining the Concept - Role of Parliament in SDGs and Challenges in the Context of Gilgit- Baltistan

The first session of the day titled "Defining the Concept - Role of Parliament in SDGs and Challenges in the Context of Gilgit- Baltistan," was conducted by the Director Research and I.T PIPS, Mr. Muhammad Rashid Mafzool Zaka and Coordinator SDGs Secretariat National Assembly, Ms. Sahrish Kausar. The session revolved around understanding the concept of SDGs, what has been done regarding the SDGs on a national level and what targets GB can set for itself in this regard.

Mr. Zaka began the presentation by stating that we need to understand why the SDGs are significant for Pakistan, what are the SDGs and what is the role that is being played by the Parliamentary Taskforce for the achievement of these goals. He stressed that the Parliamentary Taskforce is in fact a model, which can be replicated throughout the country as a best practice which will create greater synergy in all the provinces regarding the SDGs. While explaining the importance of the SDGs, Mr. Zaka



pointed out that as believers of democracy, parliament and the constitution, we must address the SDGs from 4 angles:

1. Firstly, we need to recognize sustainable development in the imperative perspective of welfare state envisioned and promised by the forefathers of Pakistan, which that was then translated into the chapter on fundamental rights and principles of policies as stated in the country's constitution. He reiterated that if we recall vision of our founding fathers from Allama Dr Muhammad Iqbal's concept of spiritual happy democracy to the Pakistan Resolution passed in March 1940 that ensures protection of socio economic, cultural and religious beliefs of all citizens to Quaid e Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah's inaugural address on 11th August, 1947 to the first Constituent Assembly, the welfare of the masses especially the poor remained their first priority. The focus is the well being of masses not only of present but more importantly utilizing resources such as fossil fuels, water and consumable sources of energy in a way that optimum new sources are available to next generations in the future.
2. Secondly, we are part of a Global Village. The United Nations SDGs gives us access to a lot of global data, which reveals the actual ground realities of the people; their plight, their challenges, their opportunities are all made visible through this data.
3. Thirdly, being public representatives, the role of the Parliament is imperative, especially the two key roles of law making and oversight are of utmost significance viz a viz advocating affirmative action to meet SDGs targets by 2030. While introducing new laws and reforms in system and society the Parliament can ensure that the government, institutions and people comply with principles of sustainable development for all basic amenities such as water, clean air, natural foliage and forest. At the same time it has the authority to oversight the Executive to see where laws are not implemented or policies are not adhered to.



4. Fourthly, he highlighted the role of the Government in translating the SDGs concept to reality and secure well-being of present and future generations. From the information the government receives in shape of global situation/ data and case studies as how different countries are responding their resources and plans to implement SDGs, the Government then accordingly draw customized policies, plans, allocate resources, train human resource among its functionaries and ensure their implementation in Pakistan.

Mr Zaka reiterated that the Sustainable Development Goals have attracted so much attention and importance worldwide due to their *People Centric* nature and the urgency of situation for state actors to act now for a happier prosperous future of our societies. He then listed 5 characteristics, as defined by the United Nations, on the basis of which a peaceful and prosperous state is built:

1. Legitimate (inclusive) politics: He emphasized that only democratically elected chosen representatives can ensure people-friendly state initiatives as well as unity and integrity of countries.

2. People's security; (He stressed that state institutions must not forget that they have to fulfill the trust to deliver the broader contemporary definition of security to all members of society that includes (protection of life, beliefs, culture, property as well as access to basic rights such as food, shelter, health and education) for every one without any discrimination.

3. Access to justice;

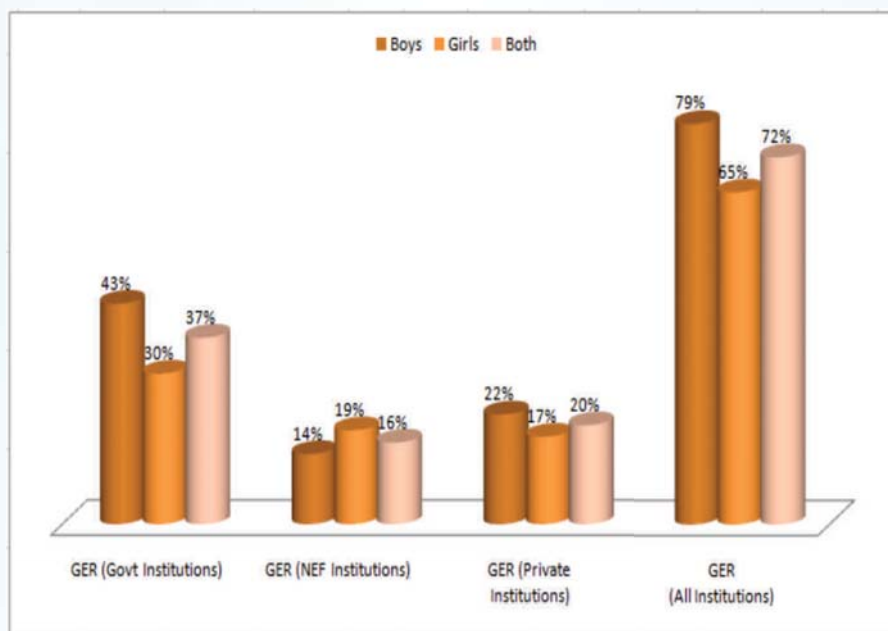
4. Employment generation and livelihoods support;

5. Accountable revenue management and service delivery.

For any state to develop, prosper and achieve its long term development goals, it must work along these characteristics as already recognised by the United Nations. Ms Zaka said that as highlighted earlier, data plays a significant role in understanding the ground realities of the area under study. He then shared a few statistics describing the challenges of GB and in turn highlighting why the SDGs are important for GB:

- i. 78% of water tested from towns in GB - low to very high risk for health - only 22% comply with WHO standards; Reports Gilgit-Baltistan Environmental Protection Agency (GB-EPA); contamination levels double in summer as people graze animals in the catchment areas.
- ii. Absence of effective sewage systems and effluent treatment plants means that waste empties directly into surface water bodies for drinking
- iii. only 40% of people having access to piped water in urban areas
- iv. Besides Biafo, Baltoro and Batura glaciers as water sources, acute shortage in winters
- v. Cultivable Land: 1%, Avg Cultivable Landholding: 7% (JICA 2007)
- vi. Education – Schools: Public sector: 51%, private: 20% and BECS 29%.
- vii. Poverty in GB:
 - Poor: 35%
 - Non Poor: 64%
 - Severity of Poverty: 16%
 - Poverty Gap Ratio (PGR): 36%

General Enrolment Ration (Schools 5-9 Years):



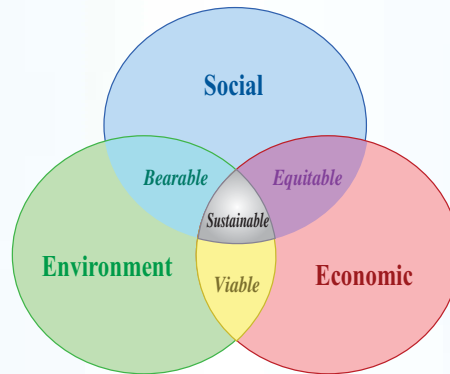
The status of education in GB is better when compared to other provinces and the community schools in the area are making a huge contribution in enhancing these numbers.

Ms. Sahrish Kausar explained the concept of sustainable development to the attendees as the "development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs," and "to make the world a better place for everyone without destroying the possibilities for the next generations."

She then explained various aspects of the SDGs beginning with the **Five Steps of Transition Timeline towards SDGs:**



1. UN Conference on Sustainable Development: Rio 2012
2. Intergovernmental Committee report of Experts on Sustainable Development Financing- August 2014
3. UN General Assembly Open Working Group report on Sustainable Development Goals- December 2014
4. Intergovernmental Negotiations on the Post 2015 Development Agenda (IGN) began in January 2015 and ended in August 2015. - In Pakistan, this was led by Mr. Ahsan Iqbal – Honourable Federal Minister for Planning and Development
5. Adopted by World Leaders in September 2015.



Sustainable Development Goals



- The United Nations held world summit in 2012 to steer the path of sustainable development in the world after Millennium Development Goals.
- SDGs were adopted globally in September 2015 by 193 countries after 3 years of participatory process.
- Comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centered set of universal and transformative goals and targets for their implementation by 2030
- 17 Goals and 169 Targets and 244 Indicators.
- Concise, global and universally applicable to all developing and developed countries.
- 244 indicators related to five Ps i.e. People, Prosperity, Peace and Partnership.

Principles of SDGs:

1. **“Universal”** - apply to all countries - domestic policies of one country have impact on others
2. **“Integrate all 3 dimensions of sustainability”** -Economic development, Social progress and Environmental protection
3. **“Leave No One Behind”** - most vulnerable and hardest to reach

4. **“Participation of All”** - International/ National/ Provincial/ Local dialogue, Civil Society, Private Sector, Academia and Government

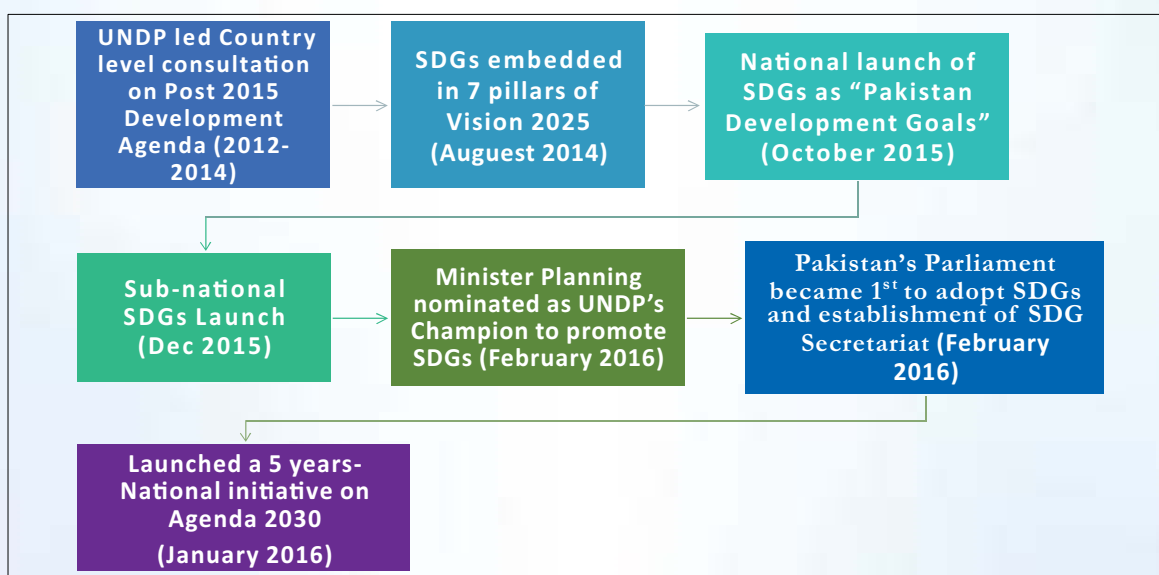
Ms. Sahrish then shed some light on Pakistan's Lead on SDGs. She then listed the steps which have been taken towards the achievement of these Goals:

1. Planning Commission and Reform Ministry
2. Vision 2025-National Agenda Integration with the SDGs
3. PM's Special Funds of SDGs at the constituency level
4. Greater Awareness of SDGs vs. MDGs
5. Provincial Integration - Provincial SDGs taskforces have been established
6. Bottom Up approach has been employed
7. Data Capacity has been enhanced for greater representation, analysis and comparison
8. Multi-Dimensional Poverty Index at the District level has been calculated

Way forward:

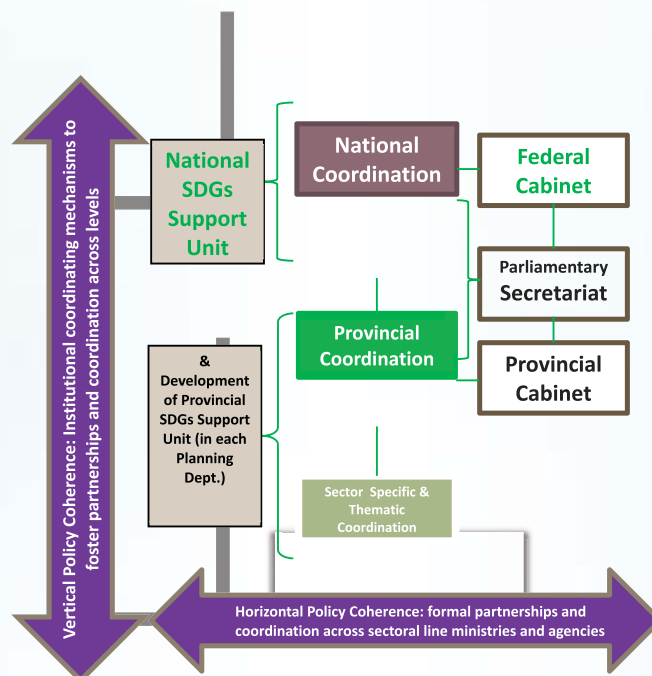
1. Economic policies and development framework is aligned to SDGs framework
2. SDGs demands disaggregation of data by sex, age and other salient socio-economic characteristics, including income/wealth, location, class, ethnicity, age, disability status
3. Decentralized Governance Structure in Pakistan- where provinces are empowered to plan and executive- implementation of SDGs, especially those related to social sectors, fall under the preview of sub-nationals.
4. This calls for localization and ownership of SDGs at the lowest administrative tier as key to SDGs achievement.

She apprised members about milestones which have been achieved in this regard by Pakistan:

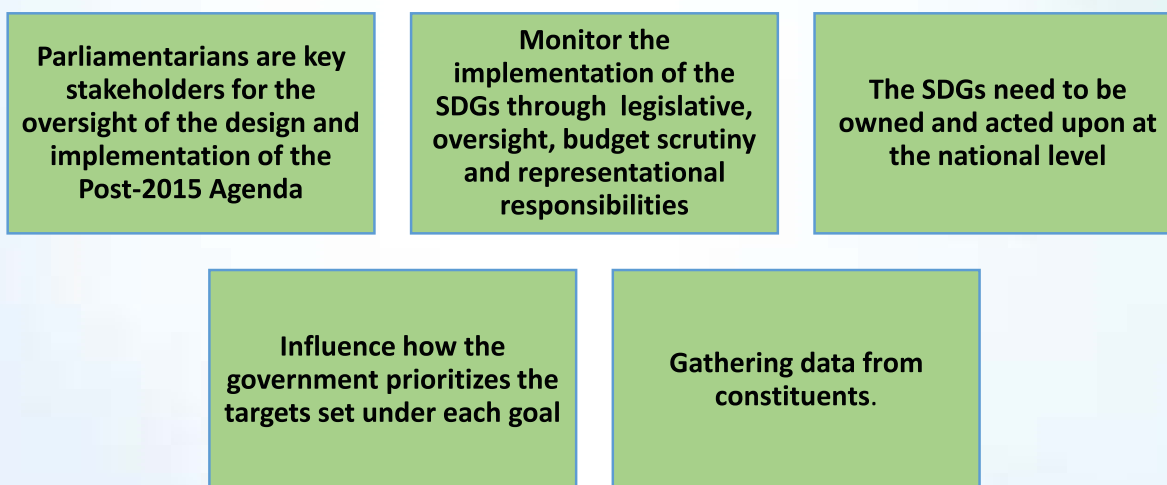


She also discussed the Institutional Coordination Mechanism:





She told that the role of the Parliamentarians in this context cannot be emphasized enough. The following diagram briefly explains the role of the Parliamentarians in the process of achieving the SDGs:



Keeping the significance of the Parliament and the Parliamentarians in mind, she mentioned the key milestones that have been achieved by the Parliament for the SDGs are:

Parliament became active when in 2008 first annual report on MDGs was laid in National Assembly.

In 2010, a special committee on MDGs was set up in National Assembly which submitted its report in 2012.

In 2013 taskforce on MDGs was established in National Assembly while similar taskforces were convened in provincial assemblies in 2014.

In 2014, National conference on MDG held at Pakistan Institute for Parliamentary Services under the supervision of Honourable MNA, Maryam Aurangzeb and Guidance of Speaker National Assembly Honourable Sardar Ayaz Sadiq.

In 2015, provincial taskforces developed their strategic plans. National Assembly taskforce adopted new name “SDGs taskforce” in 2015.

In February 2016 first of its kind state-of-the art Secretariat on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in any parliament of the world.

In February 2016 National Parliamentarians conference on Malnutrition was organized.

Partnership with UNICEF Pakistan for Technical Assistance and State of the Art Secretariat.

Partnership with Lead Pakistan.

Regular Taskforce meetings

2-Day Knowledge sharing National conference on SDGs in November 2017

DevWatch Magazine

GROUP ACTIVITY: The third and final segment was a group activity - localizing the SDGs in the context of **Gilgit Baltistan**. Mr Muhammad Rashid Mafzool Zaka, Director Research and IT, PIPS, and Ms Schrish Kausar, Coordinator, SDGs taskforce, conducted an absorbing activity with the MPs. *The Honourable Parliamentarians were divided into three groups and based on the SDGs targets they had selected, they had to highlight the ground realities, the stakeholders and way forward, international partners and the role of MLAs and the Assembly. The participants then presented their findings to the rest of the delegation.* The collective findings of the three groups are presented in the following tables:

APPLYING SDGs TO GILGIT- BALTISTAN

Group Activity Day 1

Group 1: Goal 6: Access to safe water and sanitation and sound management of freshwater ecosystems are essential to human health and to environmental sustainability and economic prosperity.



SDG Target Relevant to GB	What is on ground situation	Stakeholders and Way Forward	International Partners	Role of MLAs and Assembly
6.1: By 2030, achieve universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all	90% of the population does not have access to improved drinking water.	Planning and Developing Department, GBPWD/ WASA, NGOs (AKRSP, WASEP), GBLA, Standing Committee on Works.		Legislation on provision of safe drinking water and oversight. Awareness in the concerned constituencies.
6.6: By 2020, protect and restore water-related ecosystems, including mountains, forests, wetlands, rivers, aquifers and lakes	No policy to protect the eco-systems	P&DD, Tourism, EPA, local NGOs, GBLA, Standing Committee on Forests, Ministries of Climate Change and Water Resources	IUCN, WWF	Legislation to protect the Eco-systems and oversight. Awareness in the concerned constituencies.

Group 2: Goal 4: Ensure inclusive and quality education for all and promote lifelong learning.

SDG Target Relevant to GB	What is on ground situation	Stakeholders and Way Forward	International Partners	Role of MLAs and Assembly
4.2: By 2030, ensure that all girls and boys have access to quality early childhood development, care and pre-primary education so that they are ready for primary education	Hardly 1% provision of access to quality early childhood development. Lack of service providers and awareness. Lack of Government Policy on Early Childhood Development (ECP).	Government, Relevant Private Institutes, Community, NGOs.	Partnership and sensitization.	Effective Policies. Allocation of Budget for ECD. Oversight.
4.4: By 2030, substantially increase the number of youth and adults who have relevant skills, including technical and vocational skills, for employment, decent jobs and entrepreneurship.	1 to 2% existing rate of population accessing TVET skills. Lack of certified trainings institutions.	Government, private sector, NGOs, Community/ Youth and Adults.	Development of partnerships with international community.	Youth and Adult skills development policy. Allocation of budget. Oversight of programmes on skills development.

Group 3: Goal 1: End poverty in all its forms everywhere.

SDG Target Relevant to GB	What is on ground situation	Stakeholders and Way Forward	International Partners	Role of MLAs and Assembly
<p>1.4: By 2030, ensure that all men and women, in particular the poor and the vulnerable, have equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to basic services, ownership and control over land and other forms of property, inheritance, natural resources, appropriate new technology and financial services, including microfinance.</p> <p>1.B: Create sound policy frameworks at the national, regional and international levels, based on pro-poor and gender-sensitive development strategies, to support accelerated investment in poverty eradication actions.</p>	<p>People of GB not having equal rights to economic services, ownership over land and property, natural resources.</p> <p>The people of GB have ownership of only 1% of the land i.e. the cultivable lands except the people of Diamer district.</p> <p>They do not have ownership on natural resources like forest, water, minerals, lakes and mountains.</p> <p>Only people of Diamer have ownership over forests.</p> <p>We lack new technology, financial services and microfinance.</p>	<p>AKRSP, Marafie Foundation, CAI, GoP and communities.</p> <p>Awareness to general public and skills development for particular business.</p> <p>Consultations and ideas sharing.</p> <p>Policy/ law making to provide ownership to the community/ people over the land and natural resources.</p> <p>Approaching federal government for provision of appropriate financial resources/ services and new technological support.</p> <p>Engaging/ convincing the national and international partners to play their role in order to achieve set goals.</p> <p>Need to develop community based economic model.</p>	<p>IFAD, US-AID, UNDP, UNICEF and EU.</p>	<p>Law making for economic development of people.</p> <p>Public motivation.</p> <p>Identification of grass root level KPIs related to SDGs.</p>

Session 2:

Address on Health, WASH, and Education:

The second session of the day was conducted by UNICEF. The team from UNICEF consisted of Mr. Kamran Naeem, Ms. Sadaf Zulfiqar and Dr. Khawaja Aftab Ahmed.

Mr. Kamran Naeem, UNICEF - WASH Specialist

WASH Specialist, Mr. Kamran Naeem began the session, speaking particularly on issues of water and sanitation. He talked about WASH statistics of GB and relationship of WASH with SDG's and MDG's. He was glad to inform that UNICEF has been able to conduct joint sector review with parliamentarians and stakeholders of four provinces of Pakistan, this exercise is planned to be conducted next year in GB and AJK.



He discussed the overall statistics of Pakistan. He said that Pakistan is still a rural dominant country, although urbanization is occurring at a rapid pace but rural population is 67% according to the recent census. 88% of the population has access to limited service of water, 64% of the population has access to basic services of sanitation. There are nearly 25million open defecators in Pakistan. In India there are almost 900 million open defecators. Open defecation in Pakistan is because of poor access to sanitation or the areas are poorly developed. In South Asia, highest open defecation is observed in India. On the contrary, the situation in Pakistan is quite better but still needs improvement. All the old civilizations that once settled in Pakistan such as Indus valley civilization which was considered to be most advanced and others that were present even before them; they all had proper sanitation systems.

He informed that within first 2 years of a child, all the essential brain tissues are formed that are related to logic, reasoning, cogitative and motor skills. So if they develop stunted growth during this period it affects their height, nourishment and intellect.

He stressed that sewerage system should be made efficient to prevent the development and dispersal of infectious diseases. He discussed the open defecation and disparity profile of Pakistan. According to studies, poorest regions of Pakistan have least access to sanitation facilities. In FATA the percentage of open defecation is recorded to be 60%. He suggested installing a modified and decentralized sanitation system in rural areas instead of providing a centralized sanitation system considered to be most advanced and others that were present even before them; they all had proper sanitation systems.

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He said that it is very important that we manage human excreta to avoid any sort of human contact. The simplest solution to this issue can be the use of dry pit latrine where water is not used.

He pointed out that urban areas also have the problem of poor sanitation mainly because of slums. He informed that Peshawar is the reservoir of polio. Karachi Gadap Town is also a known reservoir of polio virus, and similarly Quetta is also a reservoir of polio. Polio virus disperses through human excreta. Poor water supply systems also contribute in the development of infectious disease such as diarrhea. He said that stunting is also a serious issue in Pakistan therefore the political leaders must take immediate actions to eradicate it.

He discussed the findings of MICS (2016-2017) about the status of improved drinking water sources and sanitation facilities in households of Gilgit Baltistan. The lowest wealth quantile has 30% access to improved drinking water whereas the highest wealth quantile has almost 98% access to improved drinking water. According to the study 73% of the residents of GB have access to improved drinking water and sanitation. Disparities do exist between the rural and urban areas of Gilgit Baltistan but overall the status of urban areas is better than rural areas. He also stated that in GB 23.3% of diarrheal diseases are observed due to poor WASH services and 46.2% of stunted growth is observed. Open defecation is only 10% in GB and 3.2% of treated water is available. Overall there is 50% safe disposal of child's faeces in GB which is a huge number. Generally, children faeces are more contaminated than adult faeces. He said that SDG's are an aspiration and they have to be domesticated. KPK, Balochistan and Sindh are aspiring to have 70% of safely managed water and Punjab is committed to achieve 100% safely managed water. Sanitation targets are being set to 50% by all of the provinces.

He also compared SDG's and MICS indicators and stated that MICS6 includes those indicators which fall under 11 different goals of SDG's which are Goal 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,10,16, and 17. Later he discussed the composition of MICS6 Questionnaires. He further added that MICS6 also focuses upon identifying marginalized population.

He emphasized that in order to effectively achieve goal 6 of SDG's we must enhance international cooperation, ensure capacity development and allow local participation. He said that as compared to MDG's, SDG's are universal as they leave no one behind. SDG's are ambitious as resources are to be made accessible, available and safe for all. He stressed that all these goals are interrelated and interdependent. He discussed the global conceptual framework for sector wide work which is being adopted at national level. He said that SDG 6 will only be achieved when the government, civil societies, international organizations and public will jointly work to achieve four collaborative behaviors which are; to enhance government leadership of sector planning process, building sustainable water and sanitation sector financing strategies, strengthening country systems and using one information and mutual accountability platform.

Ms. Sadaf Zulfiqar, UNICEF

The next facilitator, Ms. Sadaf Zulfiqar, spoke on the Education Sector specially focusing on the out of school children in Pakistan. The facilitator discussed key information gaps in out-of-school children of GB using data from a household survey conducted in 2015 in collaboration with OOSCI's conceptual and methodological framework of 'Five Dimensions of Exclusion' (5DE) that covered 5 target groups. She explained that Dimensions 1, 2 and 3 cover children who do not participate in formal schooling at three age groups: pre-



primary, primary and lower secondary school age whereas Dimensions 4 and 5 cover those children who do attend primary or lower secondary school, respectively but are at risk of dropping out. She highlighted that Overall 22.6 million children between the ages 5-16 are out of school and among them, 12.1 million are girls. The primary net enrollment rate of the country is 72% in which 69% are males and 59% are females. She also discussed Pakistan's education statistics of 2012-2013. According to which, 28% of the girls never attended school; 7% did not complete primary school; 11% did not transit to lower secondary; 8% did not complete lower secondary and 4% did not transit to upper secondary. Statistics of boys showed that 17% never entered school; 7% did not complete primary school; 7% did not transit to lower secondary; 4% did not complete lower secondary and 4% did not transit to upper secondary. She also mentioned that 70% of the boys and 63% of the females completed primary whereas 37% of the boys and 35% of the girls completed lower secondary. 27% of the rural population never attended school whereas in urban areas, the figure is of 12%. She also compared the educational level between richest quintile and the poorest quintile. The data showed that 56% of the poorest quintile never entered school whereas among richest quintile, only 4% never entered school.

She stressed that if the current educational trend continues then it will take at least 50 years for all rural girls to complete primary education and at least 70 years for all poorest girls to complete lower secondary education.

She also discussed the educational status of Gilgit- Baltistan in which she mentioned that the percentage of out of school children in lower secondary is 12.4%, in primary it is 30.6% and in pre-primary it is 66%. The percentage of children not attending school or only attending primary education is higher than those acquiring secondary or higher education. In 2015, the School participation by age and gender in GB was recorded to be higher for males as compared to females. She argued that rural children are more likely to drop out than urban children in every primary school grade with dropout rates being highest at lower secondary level.

She also presented the analysis of over aged children in which 74% children (aged 6-10) were attending pre-primary school, 31.4 % children (aged 11-12 years) were still attending primary school, and dropout rate of 17.4 % at the time of primary completion and 13.6% at the time of lower secondary completion.

She also discussed Key Issues and Bottlenecks in education sector of Pakistan in which she highlighted that there are at least 22.5 Million out of School Children with over 50 % being girls.

The second issue discussed by the facilitator was of dropout children. She mentioned that highest dropout level of 30% was observed at primary due to low quality of education. Learning outcomes and competencies at primary level for compulsory subjects (English, Urdu and Math) are below average owing to lack of skilled teachers, limited school level facilities and a conducive learning environment.

The third issue was related to Limited institutional, organizational, Dept. and human resource capacities for policy making, planning & monitoring for ensuring inclusive education.

Fourth issue was related to Public Sector Education Financing. The facilitator said that Education Budget vis-a-vis NPA targets and commitments, Sector plans and District plans remains low but there has been Political commitment to incrementally increase education budget from 2% to 4%.

Fifth issue highlighted by the facilitator was related to Socio Cultural Norms and Values as Opportunities for girls shrink when they touch puberty. Issues of *purdah*, mobility, opportunity cost for sending girls to school and early marriages are common concerns for communities.

She gave certain recommendations to deal with educational problems in the country. She said that it is important to ensure that children complete a full course of education up to 16 years of age, to Bring excluded children into education, ensure school infrastructure is sufficient and suitable to GB's need, child labor and economic marginalization must be addressed, create an enabling policy environment and to improve data collection and evidence based policy making processes.

In the end she explained UNICEF's key areas of focus in education sector which were high level advocacy, dialogue, sector planning and donor coordination for a quality education system at all levels focusing on OOSC, equity, gender and DRR. Alternative forms of provision (Distance/Accelerated Learning modalities, home schools, etc.) and to promote remedial/catch up learning for the excluded, mainly for girls increased access beyond primary education (10 years) as per article 25A on the Right to Free and Compulsory Education (5-16 age groups), Early Childhood Development and strengthening of early learning opportunities, Institutional strengthening and system building of Education Departments post 18th Amendment, greater focus on out-of-school girls and boys (track and conduct surveys on those who are out of school and design programs for re-entry).

She also provided Measures to increase Girl's Secondary Education in which she said that making school affordable helps in reducing the direct and indirect costs of education (e.g. eliminate fees, CCTs and UCTs),. She explained that Making school accessible reduces the time and distance to school (e.g. build more schools, community based schools, flexible school schedules), schools must be made more responsive to girls' needs (e.g. eliminate SRGBV, codes of conduct, removing gender stereotypes in curriculum/ learning material/ training for teachers, menstrual hygiene management). It is important to ensure that girls' are learning (e.g. teacher hiring and deployment practices, teacher training, learning materials, more female teachers, Focusing Hard and Soft skills/Leadership skill/Socio-emotional skills. Alternate Learning Pathways must be adopted (not to leave behind those girls who have dropped out or never had the chance to continue education). Ways to connect secondary education to jobs, new focus and UNICEF to work other partner: ILO, WB etc. Increase community engagement (e.g. inclusive school-based committees, real power and real information in the hands of parents, engage mothers and fathers) lastly Gender responsive sector plans and equitable financing must be ensured.

Dr. Khawaja Aftab Ahmed, UNICEF, Health Specialist

The final speaker of the session was Dr. Khawaja Aftab Ahmed, a health specialist. He talked about the status of goal 3 of SDGs particularly in Gilgit Baltistan. He said that MDG's were not effectively achieved by Pakistan because of a disconnection between the department level and top level therefore we won't be able to achieve SDGs without building this connection. Unless political leadership owns these goals, they will not be effectively achieved. Such as the polio eradication which could not be achieved in the last 20 years, will now be a successful story in near future due to political leadership.



He said that all goals of SDGs are interconnected, they cannot be considered independently. He said that according to the study of ministry of climate change, by 2030 50% of population will migrate to urban cities which are already overcrowded. Urban slum survey of Karachi revealed that 60 million population lives in urban slums. Union councils have all the health facilities but urban slums do not have any health facility. So when there will be no clean water available and no sanitation provided then infectious diseases will emerge and spread. So this is the reason why we haven't been able to get rid of lethal infectious diseases. If we improve health and cure diseases, the overall mortality rate will decrease and we will be able to achieve SDG's. He said that according to WHO good health is not merely the absence of disease rather it is the complete state of physical, mental and social well-being. All these three states contribute towards SDG's.

While discussing the health status of Gilgit Baltistan, he said that there is no issue of capacity or resources in GB but still we are not moving ahead in terms of health indicators particularly of immunization. According to PDHS (2012-2013) only 47% of children were fully immunized. Study of MICS (2016-17) revealed that only 39 % of Children in GB are fully immunized. So we there has been a decline in fully immunization children. If we look at the resources more vaccinators have been provided, government's commitment has increased, funds have increased but coverage is still low. He said that the last confirmed polio case in GB was observed in 2012 and when our coverage dropped, vaccination status reduced and immunity reduced, polio virus again emerged and then the last confirmed case was observed in 2017 in Diamer District. All over the world, only 2 countries have not yet eradicated polio, these are Pakistan and Afghanistan. There are total 8 confirmed cases in Pakistan and 1 is from GB. Polio eradication program in Pakistan is being led by the government of Pakistan itself. The campaign to eradicate polio in Pakistan started in 1994, in 1998 house to house campaign was carried out. Progress report of last 4 years shows that due to political commitment, prime minister's task force and provincial taskforce development, the progress of these 4 years is much better than the progress achieved in the previous 10 years. He also said that small pox has also been completely eradicated from Pakistan, so it is not fitting to say that Pakistan has not been able to make any remarkable achievement in health sector.

He mentioned that there are only 50,000 children in GB who need vaccination, so here we need the support of our parliamentarians. The standing committee on health and all the 33 members of GB legislative Assembly must take the initiative to determine why immunization coverage is low and where the support is needed. We need to see that how we can vaccinate the people of GB in winter season and in their migration season. We do not have record of those children who need vaccination which is the

biggest drawback. So we need to ask this in our assembly that how can we access those children and why haven't we done it yet. In Punjab, Sindh and Balochistan when a vaccinator goes to house, he records the data online through mobile phone so the data is directly stored into the server. The data is observed and monitored directly but in GB this system is not yet applied in GB though there are funds and technical support available to do so. Hence if this question is asked in the assembly that how the vaccinators are approaching their targets and what better way is there to do so, then within 6 months this advanced method will be launched in GB. So this will bring a dramatic change in immunization.

He said that the immunization coverage of Diamer as observed through latest studies is comparatively very low. One cause of it can be the seasonal migration. So if we want to achieve 80% coverage then according to statistics 2-3 children are to be vaccinated by the vaccinator per day. In Diamer almost 3-4 children are to be vaccinated by each vaccinator per day and 2-7 children per vaccinator per day at district level. But the problem lies with our system; we need strong institutions and cohesion within departments to achieve this goal. Governance improvement will bring change as we do have resources and funds, so we need effective management and supportive supervision, equitable distribution of health workforce/ vaccinators in every district and valleys and measures to convince refusals to vaccination by care givers.

Lastly he gave suggestions that how the parliamentarians can support to revert the current health situation at GB. He said that this issue must be dealt at all three levels; Parliamentarians level Administrative/Departmental level and at Community level in a systematic manner.

DAY TWO



Day 2: January 11, 2018

The second day of the workshop began at the Pakistan Institute for Parliamentary Services. Senior Research Officer PIPS, Ms. Tehseen Khalid, gave the introductory remarks in which she briefly summarized the previous day's sessions.

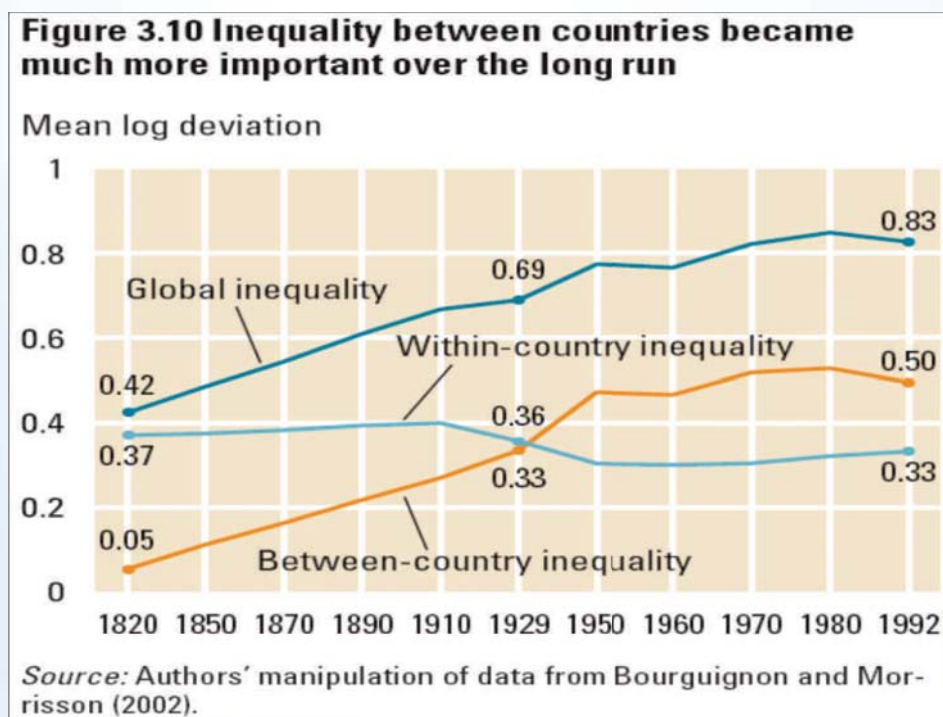
Session 1

Dr. Abid Qaiyum Suleri, Executive Director, Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI)

The first speaker of the day, Dr. Abid Qaiyum Suleri, spoke on the Sustainable Development Goals and Social and Economic Development. He began by explaining the origins of the journey of sustainable development. The year 1992 is marked with great importance, as it is in this year that the United Nations decided to work towards a more sustainable approach towards development which included the aspects of the environment. Pakistan was also represented in the conference, United Nations Conference on Environment and Development 1992, by then Prime Minister, Mr. Nawaz Sharif.



He then moved on to explain that before the genesis of sustainable development in 1992, while within country inequality was reducing, the levels of global inequality and between country inequalities were on the rise. Hence a stark difference between the developed, developing and under- developed countries was increasing. The following diagram illustrates this:

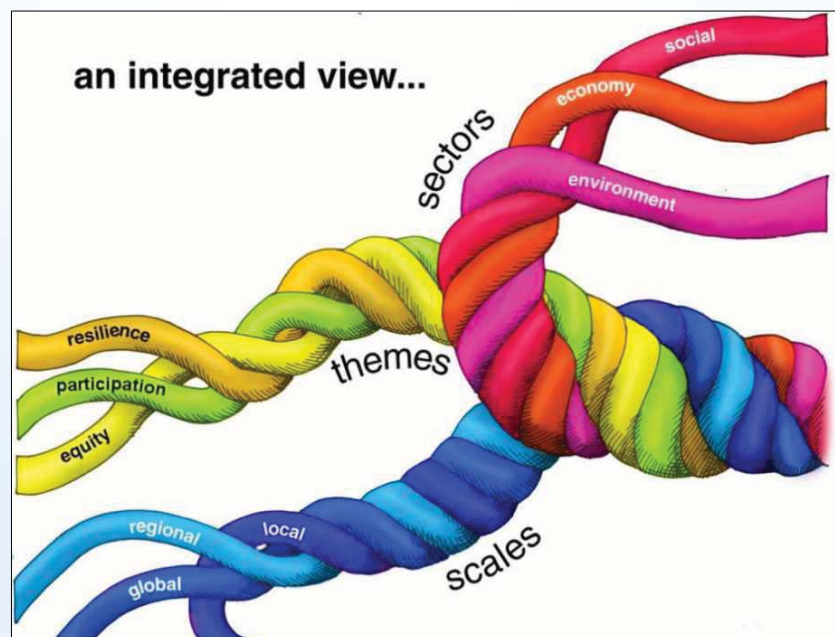


He then explained that there are two basic ways to achieve development. The first type is Welfare-Maintaining; this is usually the case with most European States or any other developed economy that have achieved a certain level of development and wish to maintain that level. Hence a 2% GDP per Capita per year is an adequate level of increase for them. Whereas for a struggling economy, a 6 to 8% GDP per capita per year increase is required to reach a steady level in their economy, and that too for at least a generation. The second type is called the Phase Shift type growth. In the context of Pakistan, growth has been unsteady; Pakistan faced a 10 year boom then a 10 year recession. Hence development and growth has not been sustainable. Growth has no set limits in terms of population or resource use beyond which lies ecological disaster. The accumulation of knowledge and the development of technology can enhance the carrying capacity of the resource base. But ultimate limits there are, and sustainability requires that long before these are reached, the world must ensure equitable access to the constrained resource and reorient technological efforts to relieve the pressure.

It is understood that we need resources for development, but we need to use them in such a way that it does not create negative repercussions for our future generations. For example, the case of natural gas in Pakistan; the abundance of natural gas led us to use it carelessly and without any check and balance. Similarly, today we are told that if we continue using water with the same amount of carelessness, then in the next 20 to 25 years we will face severe water scarcity. Given the results of the latest census and the population growth of our country, we are left with two options; one is to use all the resources today and second is to save them for the future.

He stress that GB has all the water resources for our country. However if we are unable to protect them, as well as the forests, then we are in actuality putting the entire Pakistan at risk.

There is no end to development. No matter how rich or how poor a country will still continue to strive for development. Hence there is a constant race between growth and catastrophe which has resulted in the current growth patterns and we cannot survive in the long run if we continue on these patterns. He explained that peace, security, democracy and human rights are all inter-linked with development. Peace is not just a product of social justice. It also entails economic justice i.e. when the gap between the rich and the poor decreases and there are equal opportunities for all.



Sustainable Development is a bridge that impacts and connects all factors that impact human lives. More so, it builds resilience in all these aspects. In the same vein, the Sustainable Development Goals addresses all these aspects; from economy, society, industry, to sustainable consumption, environment and biodiversity. In the Millennium Development Goals, the poorer states were depending and expecting the richer states to help them. However, for the SDGs each state is responsible for itself.

He then explained what is new and different about the SDG:

- First, and most important, these Goals apply to every nation and every sector. Cities, businesses, schools, organizations, all are challenged to act. This is called Universality.
- Second, it is recognized that the Goals are all inter-connected, in a system. We cannot aim to achieve just one Goal. We must achieve them all. This is called Integration.
- And finally, it is widely recognized that achieving these Goals involves making very big, fundamental changes in how we live on Earth. This is called Transformation.

All seventeen goals are important in themselves and all seventeen are connected. On 19th February, 2016, National Assembly of Pakistan passed a unanimous Resolution adopting the SDGs Agenda as its own national development agenda. Accordingly, all goals will be implemented on a local level to bring about change.

According to Dr. Suleri, we are collectively facing the 7F Crisis. This includes a crisis of: Fuel, Food, Fiscal, Frontiers, Fertility, Functional democracy and Fragility of climate. To combat this, the SDGs need to be implemented with an integrated view of environmental, social and economic development, including effective governance and coordination mechanisms across policies and government ministries.

With reference to GB, he stressed that the goals addressing environment and biodiversity are the most important. GB as a region faces the brunt of severe environmental degradation being caused by the entire country. Carbon emissions in the city contribute to the melting glaciers in the North resulting in extreme negative environmental impacts. He quoted the Attabad Lake incident as one such extreme environmental change. Furthermore, he also stressed that Pakistan needs to focus on building an inclusive society where people feel secure at all levels: local, national and international. Lack of inclusivity as well as security will lead to racism, sectarianism and societal chaos.

He concluded his presentation with a few recommendations and a way forward:

- All ministries need to meet regularly and discuss how to achieve these goals;
- Refrain from institutional silos and explore commonalities in development planning and coordination;
- The Foreign Office, Ministry of Climate Change and Ministry of Planning, Development and Reforms need to align their development agendas;
- Acknowledge the scarcity of resources (water, land, energy) and the need for a holistic approach to their use;
- Conduct integrated environmental, economic and social assessments of sector policies and plans;
- Address equity and gender gaps; strengthen advocacy and the effective participation of target groups through inclusive programming.



Mr. Ali Tauqeer Sheikh, CEO, LEAD Pakistan

The second speaker of the day, Mr. Ali Tauqeer Sheikh, spoke on Climate Change – Implications and way forward for Pakistan. He began by stating the fact that GB is being confronted by melting glaciers; that is a reality. Except a 1% case of a glacier expanding, the remaining 99% glaciers are melting. As a result you can either celebrate that the melting glaciers can be replaced with crops or with homes for people; or you can be worried that this is an indicator that in the next three to four decades the water from your glaciers will finish. In Pakistan, 60 to 70% of the water is coming from the melting glaciers. This is an alarming statistic as it indicates that without the glaciers there will be no civilization. This might not impact us right now, but our future generations will face a big challenge i.e. how they will manage to provide water and agriculture to such a large population.

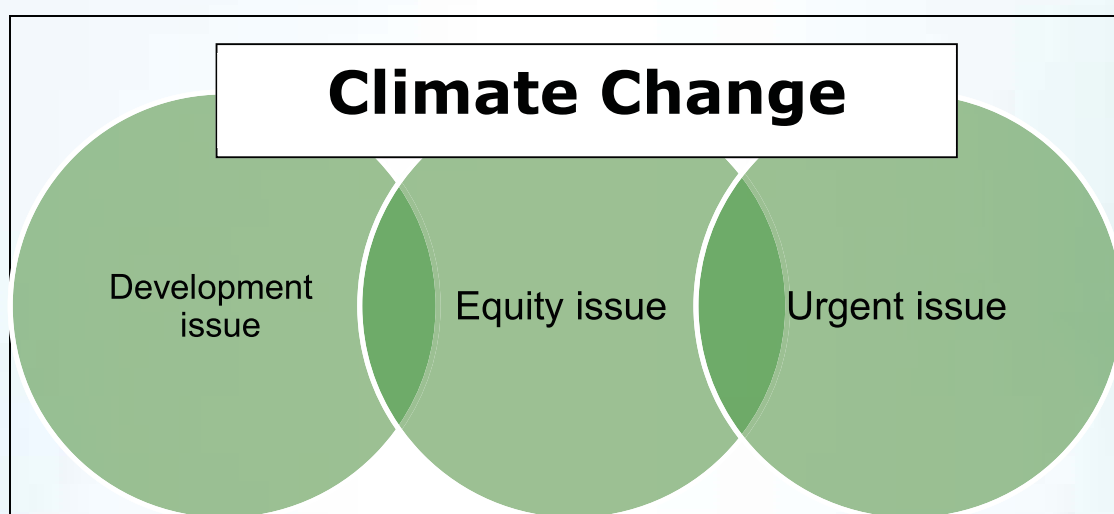


He then explained that the technology required to study these climatic changes and their impacts on our lives is very advanced when compared to the economic backwardness of the region. He pointed out that currently Pakistan lacks the resources to study this phenomenon in detail. Such climatic changes can be studied by creating an interface with the military sensitivities and technologies; for example, melting glaciers can be studied through drones and satellites. The modeling and software management required to study these impacts are a rarity in Pakistan along with the individuals who can perform this task. He urged the GBLA to make a long commitment to install such computers, invest in such technology and scientists who can perform this task. This all falls under capacity building.

He then introduced the concept of GLOFs (Glacial Lake Outburst Flood). Glaciers melt into a liquid form, i.e. water. Melted water has a higher temperature and moves along making a path for itself eventually causing floods. Such floods further cause the glaciers and snow to melt. Due to this, scientists have noticed a trend of internal migration occurring in the Northern Areas. Another climatic impact related to GLOFs is that of flash floods; due to the force of gravity the water gushes down with immense speed causing catastrophic floods. When flash flooding begins from the top, Sindh gets a notice period of 21 days and Punjab gets a notice of 7-8 days. If the governance system is strong, it is easy to save people. The velocity and magnitude of flash floods is so immense that villages can be destroyed overnight. Hence the preparation, technology, capacity of government departments and early warning systems of a different nature are required.

He then moved on to explain that climate change specifically the changes in temperature will lead to a new cropping patterns and the ability to grow new crops. Simultaneously, this will also lead to the outbreaks of new kinds of diseases and health challenges. He pointed out that there is a massive need to mitigate the risks related to CPEC. The massive influx of transport in the region will lead to greater emissions which will cause the glaciers to melt. This is an unchallengeable science for which we can take remediable precautionary steps. For example you can replace trucks by installing a state of the art railway system; you can improve your environmental standard by using high quality fuel and engines; you can install monitoring units to calculate by how much the emission level is increasing etc.

He stated that due to the increasing temperatures we face a few short term benefits but will be confronted by catastrophic long term challenges. For example, melting glaciers in the short term will give us more water but in the long run we are running out of our future water supply at a great speed. Increased temperatures in the short run is giving us the ability to grow a new variety of crops for example, a greater yield of wheat is now grown in the Northern Areas, but in the long run the area will be unable to grow any crops at all. So it is of utmost importance to keep an eye and study the changing temperatures. On the basis of the results you should decide what you can do. In the last 20 years, each coming year has been hotter than the past one; more in GB than anywhere else. According to the Pakistan Meteorological Department, the country's highest temperature increase has taken place in GB by 1.8%. This is due to the direct hit of sunshine. Globally, scientists want to lock the average temperature change on 1.5 to 2%. Mr. Tauqeer pointed out that since you are already at 1.8%, when the world averages at 2%, GB will be touching 6-8% according to the projection. As a result of which you will not be able to cultivate and grow crops on your current pattern; crops that are being cultivated downstream will then be grown in GB. Invest in the short run to minimize the destruction in the long run.



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Climate change is not just a development issue. It is also an equity issue. The lower class will face brunt of these changes the most. Every disaster occurring as a result of the climatic changes will impact the poorest of the poor the most. In the remaining 82 years of this century, the two most major challenges confronting the world are: firstly, poverty and secondly, climate change. Furthermore, the population of the poor is increasing which means a greater number of people will be victimized by the impacts of climate change. It is all interlinked. As legislators, he urged the participants to take equity to the heart of the issue. He stressed that we cannot win one battle without winning the other; both these issues coincide.

Lastly, he pointed out that it is not an issue of the future. The examples stated above are being witnessed in the GB region today as we speak. He stressed that it is an urgent issue of today; this fiscal year, this budget and it is this generation. He also marked GB as the hotspot or ground zero of Climate Change in Pakistan.

He concluded with a way forward presented in the diagram below:



Honourable Malik Muhammad Uzair Khan, Member National Assembly, Chairperson Standing Committee on Climate Change

The third speaker of the first session was the Chairperson Standing Committee on Climate Change, Honourable Malik Muhammad Uzair Khan. He began by welcoming the Honourable Speaker GBLA, Mr. Fida Nashad and his delegation to PIPS. He thanked the previous speaker, Mr. Ali Tauqeer, for his insightful presentation; he stated that the entire context of the scientific nature and the urgency of Climate Change have been very well set by the previous facilitator.



He mentioned that it was his first tenure in the National Assembly and climate change has been one of the issues he considered most important. Climate change is indeed not an issue of the future; it is an issue of Pakistan's present.

We are all being impacted by the effects of climate change in our daily lives; people in GB experience it the most. Even people in Lahore with the case of smog, and all other parts of Pakistan are experiencing the impacts of climate change. Previously climate change was viewed as an environmental issue. Now it has progressed and emerged as a development issue. More than that, it is now a human security issue. It is very important that we overcome the negative impacts of climate change in order to ensure human security.

He informed the participants that he became the Chairman of the Standing Committee on Climate Change three months ago and the committee is making efforts to enhance the importance of climate change and making it a mainstream development subject.

He then spoke about the role parliamentarians can play in moving forward toward combating climate change. The first positive development is that Pakistan does have a climate change ministry; it has become a separate subject from environment. Our first job as parliamentarians and politicians is to make this a mainstream issue of national priority. This is the first step we can take towards achieving a greater budget for the issue. He pointed out that in the coming elections, the legislators can advocate within their parties to add a separate section for climate change and the environment in the party manifestos. Post 18th Amendment, various areas are still in their teething phase when it comes to coordination, and climate change is one of those areas. There is a need to improve the coordination between the federal and the provincial ministries on climate change because one ministry cannot work on climate change in isolation; it is a very vast topic. Even our national policies need to be integrated in a global agenda.

The National Assembly of Pakistan passed a Climate Change Act in 2017 under which two to three institutions were to be formed which would work towards mitigating the impacts of climate change. One of those was the Climate Change Council which will be headed by the Prime Minister. After the establishment of these institutions firstly, climate change will receive its due importance. Secondly, the Climate Change Council will have representatives from not just the federal, provincial and legislative assemblies but also the civil society and academia which will result in better coordination.

He then introduced the Green Pakistan Programme; a programme launched by the Prime Minister. In GB the Green Pakistan Programme has been implemented for over 900 canals and Rs. 700 Million have been allotted towards it out of which Rs. 200 Million have been disbursed. He urged the parliamentarians to follow up on the Green Pakistan Programme in their region.

GLOF is also a serious issue in the Northern Areas. Pakistan's first project in this regard is taking place through Green Climate Fund, an international organization. This project is addressing two key areas: strengthening early warning systems and better management of climate related funds. They are working with the local communities. He urged the members of the GBLA to perform their oversight functions and look into the management of the project.

He then stressed on the fact that there needs to be enhanced coordination between the center and the provinces. For this purpose it is imperative that all provinces establish separate standing committees on climate change. He suggested that the committees can regularly meet in follow up meetings or workshops of such nature in order to collaborate and coordinate.

Session 2:

The next session was a panel discussion the participants of which were: Mr. Altaf Hussain, Mr. Iqbal Hassan, Mr. Ali Jabbar and Dr. Seemin Ashfaq. All participants gave short presentations on their respective topics.

Dr. Seemin Ashtaq, Director Communications, Population Council

The first presentation of the evening was presented by Ms. Seemin Ashfaq. She gave a brief presentation on Population challenge of Pakistan and possible policy options to overcome those challenges.

At the start of the presentation, Ms. Seemin Ashfaq mentioned that 12 out of 17 SDGs are related to population and they all one way or another relate to the indicators of population dynamics (Population Growth Rate, Fertility and Mortality, Age Structure of Population, Spatial Distribution of Population, Migration and Urbanization). She mentioned that the population of Pakistan has increased more than six fold since Independence and there has been spurt of growth after 1980 which has made Pakistan the Sixth most populous country in the world. Pakistan has the highest population growth rate among all the Muslim countries. Analysis of the total fertility rate among Muslim countries showed that Pakistan's fertility rate is high and declining more slowly; this can be considered as one reason behind increasing population growth rate of Pakistan. Ms. Seemin Ashfaq also shared a case study of Pakistan and Bangladesh in which she explained why the population of Pakistan exceeded after 1971 separation. She said that Bangladesh spends \$3.20 per capita on family planning and has cross party political support whereas Pakistan spends less than \$1.50 per capita on family planning and has inconsistent political support. She said that people of Pakistan do want to use family planning but they are unable to and the total unmet need exceeds up to 20%. She also said that demand for children has changed in Pakistan. In 1990's couple wanted to have 5 children but now that number has reduced to 3. Total percentage of unwanted fertility is 0.9%, with 0.8% in Urban and 1.1% in Rural which means that on average married couple in Pakistan is having 1 unwanted Birth.



She said that the population of GB has increased from 883,799 to 1,499,901 since the last census of 1998. She mentioned that in Gilgit Baltistan, the highest use of contraceptives is seen in Ghizer, than in Hunza, followed by Gilgit, Nagar, Skardu, Shigar, Ghanche, Kharmang, Astore and the lowest rate is observed in Diamer. Over all the 38% of the population of GB uses contraceptives. She said that the unmet need for family planning in GB by division according to MICS 2016-17, is 23.8%. The unmet need of Gilgit is 18.8%, of Baltistan it is 25.4% and of Diamer district it is 30%.

Ms. Seemin Ashfaq mentioned that out of 9 million pregnancies per year, Four million unwanted pregnancies could be avoided through more extensive and efficient use of family planning. It is extremely important to tackle the situation of unwanted pregnancies because unwanted fertility and unintended births results in high infant and maternal mortality specifically in Pakistan where Infant Mortality Rate in year 2012-2013 was recorded to be 74 and Maternal Mortality Rate was found to be 276. Pakistan has the highest rate of infant and maternal mortality followed by Bangladesh and India.

This rate of maternal mortality is equivalent to three airplanes crash every month (Filled with mothers). She also said that Prevalence of malnutrition in Pakistan is very high. In terms of education, the absolute number of children (both boys and girls) in school is rising but progress is eaten up by population numbers. She said that female participation in the labor force has improved in Pakistan but it remains far below male participation mainly because females are mostly busy in raising children. Prevalence of malnutrition (moderate and severe) in children under 5 years of age in GB has also been determined by MICS – Gilgit-Baltistan, 2016-17. According to this data 46.2% of stunting, 3.8% wasting and 19.4% underweight prevalence is recorded in GB.

She emphasized that Pakistan will have a dramatic doubling of its working-age labor force in the next 40 years and working age population will double from 100 to 200 million by 2050. At this rate at least 60 million more jobs will be required. Rate of unemployment in Pakistan increased upto 5.9% in year 2014-2015, which was 5.6% in 2009-2010. She said that growing population will demand more water which would result in water scarcity as the per capita water availability will fall below 1000m³. Similarly increasing population will put pressure on the existing natural resources which would lead to resource depletion and energy crises. She also mentioned that uncontrolled population growth would also lead to food insecurity. According to National economic projections based on alternative demographic scenarios (2010- 2050), Faster fertility decline will lead to greater per capita GDP growth.

Lastly she mentioned some of the policy options and strategic directions that are required to overcome this issue of overpopulation. She said that there is a need to heighten political support, change the narrative and recast the programmatic focus to put youth and men in the front as 7 out of 10 men now want no more additional children. She said that we need to expand access to services through new approaches, broaden the arguments and build coalitions and partnerships, convince political and bureaucratic leadership for the cause, insist on fertility decline, enact legislation to ensure compulsory availability of reproductive health services at all health outlets and provide oversight and accountability mechanisms at the highest level of leadership, PM, CMs and Parliamentarians to ensure that constituents are receiving the services they require, and health and well-being indicators are improving.

Mr. Altaf Hussain, Gilgit Baltistan Policy Institute

The first speaker of the second session was Mr. Altaf Hussain from the GB Policy Institute. He spoke on the institutional arrangements in GB for the implementation of SDG's. He first explained the development of SDG's and why they are important. He mentioned that Pakistan launched and internalized SDGs as “Pakistan Development Goals”. He clarified the concept of sustainable development, saying that it is the development that meets the need of the present generation without compromising the ability of the future generation to meet their needs.

It ensures social, economic and ecological development. He said that there is an increasing recognition of the importance of engaging lawmakers in efforts to advance the environmentally-sensitive, sustainable and inclusive development in participatory democracies and transparent governance systems. He said that Goal 16 of the Agenda 2030 is enhancing parliamentarians role by offering dedicated targets 16.6 (develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels) and 16.7 (ensure responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decisions making at all levels).



He also explained the role of Legislation and Annual Budget in achieving the targets of SDG's. He believed that in order to enhance institutional effectiveness, there is a dire need to establish SDGs Cell in GBLA Secretariat which actively interacts with citizens and nation building departments. Secondly, it is important to establish district multi-stakeholder discussion forums to discuss SDG related district level issues along with planning and implementation of related projects. Thirdly SDG's support unit must be established in P&D that ensures coordination, planning and monitoring of SDG's, development of baseline for priority SDGs goals and Collaboration with donors, civil society organizations and corporate sector.

Mr. Ali Jabbar, Planning and Development Department, Gilgit Baltistan

The third speaker of the session was Mr. Ali Jabbar. He gave a briefing on SDGs in GB. He first explained the development of SDG's unit in P&DD, GB. He said that Pakistan is signatory of Post Development Agenda 2015 called as SDGs which comprise of 17 broad and crosscutting goals and 169 associated targets/ indicators. UNDP in collaboration with Planning Commission of Pakistan at Federal level had undertaken initiative to "Mainstreaming Acceleration and Policy Initiative for SDGs". He said that Government



of GB is very much conscious of, and accords highest priority to, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). A dedicated focal person for SDGs has also been nominated. The GB Govt. has established SDG support unit in P&DD GB through a development project at a cost of Rs. 30.000 million on 17th March 2017, which will start more effective functioning after technical and HR support from Federal SDGs unit and UNDP. He informed that GB Government, P&DD has already requested UNDP through Planning Commission on 18th August 2017, for provision of technical staff. He explained that basic aim of the project is to align plans, policies and resource allocation to the 2030 agenda, strengthening monitoring, reporting and evaluation capacities etc. GB Govt. has also initiated a SDGs Programme with Rs. 2710.000 Pillion in ADP 2017-18 in addition to existing development framework.

He said that GB Government recently completed MICS survey which provided baseline for 121 indicators including 25 SDGs indicators, which will be helpful for evidence based planning. He also requested the Federal Government to provide Human Resource for effective functioning of SDG's Unit in GB.

He also mentioned the sectors that were covered by GB MICS, 2016-2017. There are total 121 indicators, which include almost 25 SDGs Indicators.

Lastly he explained the challenges being faced by GB in the implementation of SDG's. He said that GB is facing hardships due to, non-representation of GB in PBS, non-existence of provincial bureau of statistics non-availability of Baseline data and non-accessibility to PSLM.

Mr. Iqbal Hassan, Minister for Information, Planning and Development, Gilgit Baltistan

The final speaker of the day was Mr. Iqbal Hassan. He began by thanking PIPS and appreciating their efforts. He pointed out that awareness is the prerequisite to achieving any goal; whether they are the MDGs or the SDGs. Therefore it is highly significant that the Parliamentarians are aware of all the international treaties that are being signed by the State. Then only we can work towards achieving these goals.



He thanked PIPS for conducting the workshop. The workshop resulted in various concepts being revived in the minds of the parliamentarians. Furthermore, the knowledge that the parliamentarians have gained here will be reflected in the coming budget. The Planning and Development Department's work has been highly appreciated in the GB this year. It was the first time that the entire budget that was allocated to the ministry was utilized and changes were made visible. He stressed that the parliamentarians are what essential influence the government. He appreciated the efforts made by AKRSP towards making the parliamentarians more engaged with the community. It is a result of these efforts and the encouragement of the Honourable Speaker GBLA that the performance of the parliamentarians in GB has enhanced over the years, setting up a model example. They are able to better perceive all issues and better pursue there solutions. AKRSP has played a great role in enhancing the social mobility of the parliamentarians and increasing the IQ level regarding social development. Today as parliamentarians, this sensitization is helping us tremendously.

He pointed out that the gaps between the parliamentarians and the social actions needs to be bridged further in order to achieve the SDGs. While all 17 goals are important, when looked at from GB's context, climate change and population are the ones that stand out the most. Climate change may seem like natural phenomenon but it is a result of us disrupting nature. This will also result is a destruction of the food chain. As a nation our focus has remained of infrastructure and more material development. However, climate change has never received its due importance; it is now time to change that.

He concluded by stating that better coordination between all sectors is required to achieve the SDGs. Furthermore, he also promised the support of GB in any SDG or development related activities in the future.

Day 3: January 12, 2018

The third day of the workshop began at the SDGS Taskforce Secretariat at the National Assembly of Pakistan. The first session of the day was an Action Plan exercise conducted by director Research and IT at PIPS, Mr. Muhammad Rashid Mafzool Zaka. In this exercise each participants was asked to pick one SDG which they considered the most important and what can be done in that regard by three major stakeholders: Government of GB, Parliament of GB and the Federal Government. The findings of this Action plan exercise have been compiled in the table below:



ACTION PLAN EXERCISE

SR. #	PARTICIPANT	QUESTION 1: WHICH TWO SDGs REQUIRE THE MOST ATTENTION IN GB?	QUESTION 2: WHAT CAN BE DONE BY THE THREE MAJOR STAKEHOLDERS (GOVERNMENT OF GB, PARLIAMENT OF GB AND THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT) IN THIS REGARD?
1	Honourable Fida Muhammad Nashad	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Goal 3: Health and Wellbeing. "Health is Wealth." 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establishment of a village level FAP and establishment of UC Level "A" Dispensaries. Establishment of THQ Hospitals required. Improvement of facilities at DHQ Hospitals. Establishment of water purification plants within all water supply projects. All units should be well equipped and well-staffed. The Provincial Government should create an appropriation in its next budget and allocate a reasonable amount for SDGs Activities of administration as well. Allocation of funds out of the Prime Minister's SDGs Fund to GB. The Federal Government should provide opportunities for capacity building to the MLAs in order to meet/ achieve the SDGs. They may be facilitated to share ideas and experiences of the MNAs, MPAs as well as members of international assemblies.

2	Rani Atiqa, MLA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Goal 7: Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all. • Goal 6: Ensure available and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Energy sector is on war footing. • Innovative and sustainable ideas should be introduced and implemented. • Federal Government should help to make it possible. • Foreign investors should be invited and promoted. • Without energy no industry whatsoever is possible. • Provincial Planning Department needs to be strengthened. • Water and Sanitation again on war footing. • Special Funds should be allocated both by Provincial and Federal Governments. • It will cater to the health problem as well. • Water related diseases can be eliminated. • Technical Support advised from the Federal Government.
3	Imran Nadeem, MLA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Goal 6: Ensure available and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all. • Provide safe water and maintain the ecosystem • Protect the cultivable lands from degradation and erosion. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gb Government should give more priorities to these projects in their Annual Development Plan. • GBLA must make legislations and play their role of oversight. • MLAs should enhance public awareness as well as arrange funds. • Federal Government can help through their ministries such as Climate Change, manage water resources priorities, funds and technical support.
4	-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Goal 9: Build resilient infrastructure. • GB needs infrastructural development. The roads of all districts and the only highway are in a very poor condition. • Far flung areas and villages are yet to be connected to the market areas. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Government of Pakistan in the Federal PSDP should reflect a big scheme for this purpose. • The Government of GB and GBLA should make efforts and policies for the people of GB. • The Honourable members should take interest to bring bills and pass them.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The energy sector development also needs the infrastructural development (roads and bridges) to carry out heavy machines and equipment. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Federal Planning Commission to support the GB Government to enhance capacity. As a member of GBLA, I suggest the GB Government to make serious efforts to be the fifth Provincial Assembly of Pakistan.
5	Iqbal Hassan, MLA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Goal 3: Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages. Goal 13: Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Climate Change: different stakeholders like the Government on Federal Level should be approached for the sensitization of the harmful effects of melting glaciers, soil erosion and deforestation in GB to maintain biodiversity. Health: GB faces an acute shortage of health facilities at all levels. The MICS Survey which has been carried out recently, shows an alarming situation. Federal institutions in the health sector may be asked for their intervention in GB. GB Government should increase their budget to ensure health facilities at all levels. International donors should be approached.
6	Rizwan Ali, MLA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Goal 3: Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages. Goal 6: Ensure available and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all. These two goals are very important for GB including Goal 13 (Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts) in the context of CPEC development issues. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Efforts to ensure implementation of the SDGs with particular focus on Goal 3, 6 and 13. Providing required resources to the GB Government and the public. Policy making, technical input and financial allocation by the Federal Government as well as planning with the community.

7	Farman Ali, MLA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Goal 6: Clean water and health are very essential. In many areas of Gilgit Baltistan safe drinking water is not available, especially in Astore clean drinking water and sanitation facilities. • Goal 3: Health sector needs due attention because health is wealth. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Healthy life should be ensured and prosperity of every individual regardless of their age must be promoted. • Federal Government should provide funds and technical support. • If adequate funds are provided then along with development, numerous issues can also be resolved. • Therefore if federal government provides adequate funds to Gilgit Baltistan then it would greatly influence the life of the people.
8	Haider Khan, MLA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Goal 4: Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all. • Goal 6: Ensure available and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is very important to make Education inclusive and accessible for all. The elite class is creating segregation in the society on the basis of their resources and they have control over the higher posts in all state institutions. They consider the right to standard and high quality education rests with the elite class only. This class difference can prove to be dangerous for the future of the society. Education should be made accessible for everyone, on the basis of equality. • If health and wellbeing of the society is not ensured then it results in loss of national resources and creates hurdles in the completion of development goals. Therefore provision of clean portable water for the society is one of the most crucial elements to be provided in GB.

9	-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Goal 13: Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It has become crucial that we combat climate change because glaciers are receding rapidly. Therefore we must make effort to protect our glaciers and prevent them from melting. We must develop and build disaster resilient structures through mutual collaboration and long term planning. If timely actions are not taken then GB might face catastrophic outcomes therefore government must provide funds to GB Disaster Management Authority so that they can protect erosion prone areas.
10	Akhtar Ali	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Goal 1: End Poverty in all its forms everywhere. Goal 17: Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> AKRSP can contribute in terms of providing access to the communities and build the capacities of the people's institution to forge partnerships with the elected and administrative tiers of the Government of GB. GBLA should draft legislations to accommodate the communities and their institutions to be partners in the development process as key stakeholders and involve them in the real development planning. The Federal Government should allocate special budget and formulate policies for community involvement.
11	Altat Hussain	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Goal 15: Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of natural resource: "Life on Land." 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Planning and Development Department GB should develop and baseline for SDGs. GBLA should prepare a priority based budget for 2018-19 in the context of SDGs priorities. The Federal Government should establish a department of statistics and include GB in the PSLM Surveys on a regular basis.

12	Ali Jabbar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Goal 3: Health is the core for extending all other goals. • Goal 6: Water and Sanitation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of Baseline Data/ Information. • Collection of Secondary Data/ Information. • Establishment of Provincial Bureau of Statistics. • Representation of GB in Provincial Bureau of Statistics. • Accessibility to the Pakistan Social and Living Standards Measurements (PSLM). • Conducting baseline surveys like Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS).
13	Ashiq Hussain	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The most important Goal in the context of GB is Goal 6: Ensure availability and Sustainable Management of Water and Sanitation for all. • As MICS Survey reveals the whole population is using contaminated water which needs to be addressed on war footing basis. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As parliamentarians, the members can play their role by using the oversight tool and keep their eye on the concerned departments and make them accountable. • We may get assistance from stakeholders like AKRSP and NGOs. • The Federal Government can play their role by inviting the participants in the relevant forums. • NA SDGs Secretariat should visit every district of GB. • Prime Minister's SDGs Fund needs to be distributed with the consensus of SDGs Taskforce.
14	Tabarak Hussain	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Goal 4: Ensure inclusive education for all. This goal should be prioritized in GB. • Goal 17: Strengthen partnerships among stakeholders. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GBLA Secretariat staff should assist MLAs to identify the educational priorities in their concerned constituency. • GBLA needs assistance from NA- SDGs Secretariat to establish a SDGs Taskforce Unit in GBLA Secretariat to align policies designed by NA-SDG Secretariat and GBLA-SDGs Taskforce. • GBLA Secretariat has a lack of Research and Publication Unit. We need support from NA Secretariat to establish a Research Department in GBLA Secretariat.

This activity was followed by a visit to the National Assembly Session. Honourable Speaker of GBLA along with his delegation attended the National Assembly Session on January 12, 2018. They were seated in the Speakers' Gallery and received an Honourable Speaker National Assembly, Sardar Ayaz Sadiq. After a brief tour of the National Assembly, the participants gathered back at the SDGs Secretariat for the concluding ceremony.

The concluding address of the conference was delivered by Honourable State Minister, Information and Broadcasting, Ms. Marriyum Aurungzeb, who is also the Chairperson for National Parliamentary Task Force on SDGs. She began her address by thanking all the participants for coming, and appreciated the Honourable Members of the Gilgit-Baltistan Legislative Assembly for always showing keen interest and participating in the development agenda. She mentioned that when the world shifted from the MDGs to the



SDGs, keeping in mind the oversight role of the Parliament, the Parliament of Pakistan thought to establish a Parliamentary Taskforce on SDGs. She stated that Pakistan is the first country to have a dedicated Secretariat for SDGs in its National Assembly. The SDGs Taskforce was initially started with 12 members who have now increased to 45. Since most subjects were province based, the Honourable Speaker of the National Assembly, Sardar Ayaz Sadiq, guided the Speakers of Provincial Assemblies and consequently, the Provincial Taskforces on SDGs were also formed. Talking about the achievements and future prospects of SDGs Taskforce, Ms. Marriyum mentioned the idea of DevWatch, soon to be launched as a national journal with regular updates on the SDGs situation in Pakistan.

She explained that the purpose of this conference is to enhance the inclusion of Gilgit-Baltistan in the effort towards the accomplishment of Sustainable Development Goals and to establish a structure for the implementation of the SDGs in Gilgit-Baltistan. In the light of the recent census, she said that the need of the hour is to look at the problems of a growing population from a development perspective. She mentioned that the primary way in which we can equip the taskforces from a provincial level is by providing them recent and accurate data and advised the members to ensure efficient data collection on SDGs statistics in Gilgit-Baltistan, as without reliable data no informed legislation can be made. Another key element she highlighted was that of Knowledge Sharing; how success stories from one province can be replicated within another.

Ms. Aurungzeb concluded her address with a vote of thanks to the Honourable Speaker GBLA, Mr. Fida Muhammad Nashad for his untiring efforts and participation in the drive towards achieving development goals in the Northern areas of Pakistan. At the end, Ms. Marriyum Aurungzeb awarded certificates to all participating members of GBLA and appreciated their presence and participation in SDGs agenda.

List of Participants

Sr. No.	Name	Designation
1.	Mr. Fida Mohammad Nashad	Speaker, GBLA
2.	Ms. Rani Atiqa Ghazanfar	Chairperson, Standing Committee
3.	Mr. Haider Khan	Minster Excise and Taxation
4.	Mr. Iqbal Hassan	Minister Planning and Development
5.	Mr. Fida Khan Fida	Minister Tourism GB
6.	Mr. Rizwan Ali	Member Legislative Assembly
7.	Mr. Tabarak Hussain	Focal Person, SDG's GBLA
8.	Mr. Ali Jabbar	Assistant Chief Planning, P&DD, GBLA
9.	Mr. Ghulam Hussain	Parliamentary Secretary, P&DD, GBLA
10.	Mr. Ghulam Rasool	Deputy Chief Planning Department
11.	Mr. Imran Nadeem	Member Legislative Assembly
12.	Mr. Altaf Hussain	ED, GBPI
13.	Mr. Farman Ali	Minister LG&RD, GB
14.	Mr. Ashiq Hussain	DS, GBLA
15.	Ms. Kulsoom Zahra	YPA, GBLA

Glimpses of Workshop on Sustainable Development Goals for Members of Gilgit Baltistan Legislative Assembly







Group Photo



PIPS Publications

1.	Youth Guide	2010
2.	Drafting and Assessing Legislation	2012
3.	Advanced Legislative Research	2013
4.	Parliamentary Research	2013
5.	Parliamentarian's Handbook (1st Edition)	2013
6.	Parliamentary Values and Best Practices	2013
7.	Functions and Effectiveness of Parliamentary Committees	2013
8.	Parliamentary Oversight Questions	2013
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