

## Post Workshop Report

### “Using Scientific Evidence for Maximizing Benefits of China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC)”

Tuesday, 05<sup>th</sup> November 2019

#### Background:

The Asia chapter of INGSA organized a one-day workshop jointly with NUST and National Academy of Young Scientists (NAYS) for the first time in Pakistan to undertake discourse on utilizing science for maximizing benefits of CPEC which is one of the most important development initiatives in Pakistan’s history.

#### Objectives of the Workshop:

1. Introduce INGSA and INGSA-Asia.
2. Create awareness on the importance of using scientific evidence in policy formulation through case studies.
3. Discuss CPEC related potential effects on climate change, social integration and economy.

#### Speakers:

Video Messages from Sir Peter Gluckman (INGSA Chair) and  
Prof Abhi Veerakumarasivam (INGSA Asia Chair)

Dr. Hammad M. Cheema (INGSA Asia Steering Committee Member)

Dr. Altamash Janjua (Deputy Secretary, Institutional Reforms Cell, Prime Minister’s Office)

Dr. Ashfaque Hassan (Member Economic Advisory Committee to Prime Minister)

Shakeel Ahmad Ramay (Senior Political Economist, Executive Director Zalmi Foundation)

Dr. Salma Siddiqui (Head of Behavioral Sciences Dept, S3H, NUST)

Dr. Iffat Batool Naqvi (Assistant Professor MUET & INGSA Research Associate 2019)

Dr. Irfan Khan (Professor Environmental Governance & Climate Change, IIUI)

#### Brief Report:

The first grassroots INGSA workshop in Pakistan was held at National University of Sciences and Technology (NUST), Islamabad on 5<sup>th</sup> November 2019. The workshop was attended by 35 participants representing govt sector, NGO, universities and industry. The event was graced by NUST Pro-Rector (Academics) as chief guest who recognized the science-policy interface as a complex one, one that requires understandings of both cultures, and that is

critical because there is no single issue affecting social, environmental or economic wellbeing where science cannot play an important role in informing policy development, application and evaluation. Dr. Hammad M. Cheema, the INGSA Asia Steering Committee member, then gave the participants an introduction to INGSA, its Asia chapter activities as well as his views on the roles of scientists as broker instead of an advocate. This was followed by video messages by Sir Peter Gluckman and Dr. Abhi Veerakumarasivam who appreciated the efforts by the local organizers for holding the first INGSA activity in Pakistan. An INGSA case-study was then discussed by the participants that provided insight into the complex nature of decision making by the policy makers.

The program included a series of six talks by eminent speakers starting with an overview of China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) by Dr. Ashfaq Hasan Khan who is a member of economic advisory council for the government of Pakistan. He emphasized the importance of CPEC and at the same time hinted at the room for improvement for coordination between various stakeholders. The next speaker, Dr. Altamash Janjua, provided interesting insights on the use of data for informed decision making in resource constrained public sector departments. Dr. Salma Siddiqui, a behavioral scientist by profession, shared her firsthand experience of visiting far flung southern areas of the country that as per government claims will be uplifted through CPEC but is currently lagging behind considerably. The next speaker, Dr. Iffat Batool Naqvi, an INGSA Research Associate, shared her on-going research on the first industrial cluster of Sindh province and reiterated the importance of considering her findings in future allocation of government resources based on the geographical mapping of various industries. The last speaker covered the environmental impact assessment of CPEC and shared the expected greenhouse gas emission contributions of various earmarked CPEC projects. He emphasized on the establishment of regulatory mechanisms to keep the environmental impacts under check during the execution of various CPEC initiatives in the next 10-15 years.

The workshop provided an excellent networking opportunity among the participants and was appreciated by all. Certificates were provided to participants whereas Shields were awarded to the worthy speakers. The organizers are thankful to INGSA for financial support and guidance for making this event possible.

Time	Activity and Speaker
0845-0915	Registrations
0915-0925	Welcome Remarks by Chief Guest
0925-0935	INGSA & INGSA Asia Introduction (Dr. Hammad M. Cheema)
0935-0940	Video message from Sir Peter Gluckman (INGSA Chair) Video message from Dr. Abhi Veerakumarasivam (INGSA Asia Chair)
0940 - 1040	<i>Title: Use of Scientific Evidence for Policy Formulation: Case Study and Role Play</i> Moderator: Dr. Hammad M. Cheema
1040 - 1100	Tea break
1100 - 1140	<i>Title: Overview and Opportunities of CPEC</i> Speaker: Dr. Ashfaque Hasan Khan (Member Economic Advisory Council Government of Pakistan, Principal & Dean, S3H-NUST)
1140 - 1220	<i>Title: Measure to Manage: Quantified Performance Management in Public Sector of Pakistan</i> Speaker: Dr. Altamash Janjua (Deputy Secretary, Institutional Reforms Cell, Prime Minister's Office)
1220 - 1300	<i>Title: Importance of Using Science in CPEC Economic Planning and Execution</i> Shakeel Ahmad Ramay (Senior Political Economist, Executive Director Zalmi Foundation)
1300 - 1415	Lunch and prayer break
1415 - 1445	<i>Title: Role of Social Science in Cultural Aspects related to CPEC</i> Speaker Dr. Salma Siddiqui (Head of Behavioral Science Dept, NUST)
1445 - 1510	<i>Title: First Industrial Cluster Policy of Pakistan: Evidence Based Proposal</i> Speaker: Dr. Iffat Batool Naqvi (Assistant Professor MUET & INGSA Research Associate 2019)
1510 - 1550	<i>Title: Environmental Impact of CPEC, can Science help?</i> Speaker: Dr. Irfan Khan (Professor Environmental Governance & Climate Change, International Islamic University)
1600 – 1630	Shields and certificate distribution
1630 onwards	Tea and networking