



**ABOUT SDPI**



The Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI) is an independent, public interest think tank that provides policy advice to public, private, voluntary organizations, formal and informal communities/groups and individuals based on policy-oriented research and advocacy.

### **BRIEF HISTORY**

SDPI was founded in August 1992 on the recommendation of the Pakistan National Conservation Strategy (NCS), also called *Pakistan's Agenda 21*. The NCS outlined the need for an independent non-profit organization to serve as a source of expertise for policy analysis and development, policy intervention, and policy program advisory services.

Hence, the SDPI was established to undertake policy research in the field of sustainable development, outside the government and formal academic structure, with financial support from the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA). A committee of government officials, academics, intellectuals, NGOs and journalists formulated the by-laws of SDPI and identified the first Board of Governors (BoG). The SDPI BoG (Annex 1) is an independent governing body that determines not only financial and managerial policies, but also supports the Institute's research priorities. SDPI is registered under the Societies Registration Act XXI of 1860.

For the past 14 years, despite changes within Pakistan at the state level, as well as post-September 11, 2001 events at the global level, SDPI continues to produce quality policy research and advocate for democratic, peaceful governance and pro-people initiatives based on gender equity and equality.

#### **Mission**

*To catalyze the transition towards sustainable development defined as the enhancement of peace, social justice and well being, within and across generations.*

#### **Vision**

*Be the center of excellence on sustainable development policy research, training and advocacy in Pakistan.*



### Mandate

To

conduct policy oriented research, policy advice, and advocacy from a broad multi-disciplinary perspective.

promote the implementation of policies, programs, laws and regulations on sustainable development.

strengthen civil society through collaboration with other organizations and activist networks and facilitate civil society-government interaction.

disseminate research findings and public education through the media, conferences, seminars, lectures, trainings and publications.

contribute to building national research capacity and infrastructure.

contribute towards improving global governance in collaboration with regional and international civil society networks.

### GOALS

The following goals reflect the main axes of our work - the means through which we effect change:

- catalyze the transition towards sustainable and just development in Pakistan.
- serve as a source of expertise and advisory services for the government, private sector, and non-governmental initiatives supporting the implementation of a sustainable development agenda in Pakistan.
- provide policy advice on matters relating to the vision of the Institute.
- contribute to strengthening the social and physical infrastructure for research in Pakistan.
- initiate, establish and participate in collaborative advocacy and other activities with like-minded organizations in and outside the country.

### APPROACH

SDPI produces knowledge-knowledge that can enhance the capacity of the government and civil society to make informed policy decisions and to engage with each other on issues of public interest. The Institute acts as both a generator of original research on sustainable development issues and as an information resource for concerned individuals and institutions.

SDPI's role is thus two-fold:

1. Advisory role fulfilled through research, policy advice and advocacy.
2. Enabling role realized through providing other individuals and organizations with resource material to undertake sustainable development agenda and activities.