

**Annual Report  
1995-96**

# CONTENTS

	<b>Page</b>
<b>SDPI Mandate</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>SDPI Board of Governors</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Foreword</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Role of SDPI</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Year 1995-96 in Review</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Research Programme</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Policy Advice</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>Advocacy</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Outreach</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>Capacity Building</b>	<b>19</b>

## THE SDPI MANDATE

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1. To serve as a source of expertise and advisory services for the government, private sector, and non-government initiatives in support of the implementation of national conservation strategies of Pakistan.
2. To catalyse the transition towards sustainable and just development, which seeks to meet the needs of the present generation without jeopardising the needs of future generations.
3. To conduct policy oriented research from a broad multi-disciplinary and interdisciplinary perspective on sustainable development, with special emphasis on the following areas:
  - a. Pakistani development experience and policies;
  - b. causes of emerging social problems;
  - c. social, legal, organisational and institutional aspects of development;
  - d. the analytical foundations of positions adopted by Pakistan and
  - e. other developing countries in international fora and negotiations.
4. To provide policy advice under its auspices or through its faculty, with or without the payment of fees as appropriate, on matters relating to the objectives of the Institute.
5. To propagate, promote and co-ordinate, nationally and internationally, the inclusion of sustainable development issues in environmental policies, programmes and projects.
6. To induce and assist in the promulgation and implementation of national and provincial laws, policies, rules and regulations on environmental matters.
7. To participate in the activities of IUCN and other national and international agencies for the promotion and development of environmental awareness.
8. To bring together perspectives of academic scholars, policy-makers, social activists, community leaders and NGOs in the analysis of social issues.
9. To contribute to the effort to strengthen the social and physical infrastructure for research in the country, including the construction and dissemination of databases and research indexes, the improvement of library systems, and the introduction of library networks and inter-library loan systems.
10. To serve as a centre for promoting co-operative endeavour and interaction between Pakistani scholars and institutions as well as between Pakistani and foreign scholars and institutions.

11. To initiate, establish and participate in collaborative activities with other researchers and institutions in and outside Pakistan.
  12. To maintain close contacts with other institutions having similar objectives.
  13. To seek the cooperation and assistance of professional bodies, scientific and business communities in promoting environmental awareness.
  14. To establish, subsidise, promote and cooperate with any association, institute or fund, which the Institute may consider appropriate to further any of its objectives.
  15. To disseminate research findings through appropriate media on the issues and opportunities in sustainable development.
  16. To publish journals, reports, pamphlets, books, etc., and to prepare and exhibit video films in furtherance of the objectives of the Institute.
  17. To sponsor and organise seminars, lectures, conferences, etc. on subjects of theoretical or practical relevance for sustainable development and policy formulation.
  18. To publish annually, or as often as feasible within the overall resource constraint, a "Citizens' Report on Environment and Development."
  19. To prepare and publish periodically a report on the status of environment of Pakistan.
  20. To provide information and education to the public on environmental matters, and to assist in the development of curricula in respect of environmental education.
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## BOARD OF GOVERNORS

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Mr V.A. Jafarey  
Chairman of the SDPI  
Board of Governors  
Advisor to the Prime Minister  
Finance and Economic Affairs

Ms Aban Marker Kabraji  
Country Representative,  
IUCN, Pakistan

Mr Imtiaz Ahmad Sahibzada  
Secretary Cabinet Division  
Government of Pakistan

Dr G.M. Khattak  
Senior Advisor  
IUCN/SPCS Unit

Mr Abdur Rahim Mahsud  
Nippon Geikin Incorporated

Dr Arshad Zaman  
Economist

Syed Babar Ali  
Advisor Packages Ltd.

Mr Hameed Haroon  
Pakistan Herald Publications (Pvt) Ltd.

Dr Amir Mohammad  
President ASIANICS  
Agro-Development International (Pvt) Ltd.

Ms Asma Jahangir  
Chairperson Human Rights  
Commission of Pakistan

Mr Javed Jabbar  
President Baanhn Beli

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## FOREWORD

The re-organising and re-structuring of the SDPI which was started in 1994-95 to raise its level of capability and proficiency, was continued in 1995-96 by streamlining some of the core units such as policy advice. Under the new system, the parameters of policy advice have been expanded and redefined for increased utility. This will make it possible for the advice provided also being made available in a condensed format in policy briefs to policy makers and private and voluntary organisations.

Policy briefs have already been prepared under the new procedure, on several of the National Conservation Strategy core areas on the basis of research carried out and are in a stage of internal and external refereeing. The new process is in conformity with SDPI's primary role of undertaking research in all its meanings in a field that is germane to its conceptual objective, and disseminating the information to the public. The policy briefs will be one way of encapsulating the vast corpus of knowledge into easily digestible information.

The period under review also saw expansion in other fields, particularly research, with the accent being placed on pest management, health and gender issues. But several ambitious proposals which have been prepared in these areas await implementation subject to availability of funds. Financial constraints have affected even some of the ongoing projects, leading to a possible loss of the work already done.

In other sectors, such as advocacy, SDPI maintained its level of activity. The Ghazi Barotha Hydropower Project, which has come in for strong criticism for the threat it poses to the environment, was the subject of a seminar. The executing authority of the project, WAPDA acceded to most of the objections raised by SDPI, but certain key areas still need to be resolved.

In the outreach field, the weekly seminars have assumed the shape of a public forum for encouraging debate on important topics and other issues that are pertinent to state and society. In the information and communication section, a seminar on "Human Resource Development in Telecommunications" deliberated on the problem of the dramatic progress in the telecommunications field due to scientific advancement and the resultant technological obsolescence of engineers (see Box No. 5).

## THE ROLE OF SDPI

### Background

The Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI) was founded in August 1992 on the recommendations of Pakistan's National Conservation Strategy (NCS). It is an independent, non-profit institution dedicated to policy research on sustainable development and specifically to implementation of the NCS.

The NCS recommended that a policy research organisation be established in the non-government sector to institutionalise the informal practice of co-operation between the government departments and independent experts, which was developed during the preparation of the NCS. It was also expected to attract a broader cross-section of Pakistani experts into the task of analysing sustainability issues, and in general to strengthen the move towards greater professionalism and social relevance in Pakistan's research community.

### SDPI Objectives

SDPI's strategy for implementation of the NCS lists two major objectives: in the long run to catalyse the transition towards sustainable development in Pakistan; and in the medium run to assist in the achievement of targets set out in the 14 core programme areas of the NCS and the 3 cross-cutting areas in the NCS Plan of Action, 1993-98. Thus SDPI's contribution to the implementation of the NCS will take two distinct forms: i) the provision of advice, whether on an *ad hoc* basis or through research projects; ii) the creation of systems that build capacity in the wider stake-holder community.

The medium-run objective of achieving the targets set out in the NCS will be met by providing supporting analysis in the areas outlined in the NCS and the Plan of Action. The longer run goal of catalysing the transition to sustainable development will require the creation of capacity to assist and motivate researchers to analyse sustainability issues; mobilisation of key individuals and institutions in the effort; and establishment of institutional linkages that would facilitate a co-operative effort.

In addition to its role in executing the NCS, the NCS process envisaged SDPI taking a broader view of sustainable development (including issues of poverty eradication, social justice and governance). This was necessary in order to revise and improve ideas continuously, and to undertake research, advice and advocacy for creating broad social support for conservation in the country.

## YEAR 1995-96 IN REVIEW

The working year 1995-96 at SDPI was marked by extending the range of **research** specific to the core areas detailed in the National Conservation Strategy (NCS) and breaking new ground in several fields. At the same time the Institute expanded its work in **capacity building, policy advice** and **outreach** programmes to make available its resources of information and expertise to the public and specific interest groups. With the SDPI's basic objective being policy research on sustainable development, much of its work in research and other spheres fell within the parameters of sustainability. The following report of the year's activities provides an idea of all that was achieved and the shortfall in the Institute's plans as well as the targets for the future.

### Box No. 1 Publications 1995-96

- ⇒ *The Poverty of Security*, Zia Mian
- ⇒ *The International Waste Trade and its Policy Implications for Pakistan*, Bina Nazar
- ⇒ *Language Planning and Politics in Pakistan*, Tariq Rahman
- ⇒ *Handing Over Water Supply Schemes to Communities in Northern Punjab*, Shahrukh Rafi Khan
- ⇒ *Structural Adjustment, Labour and the Poor in Pakistan*, Shahrukh Rafi Khan and Safiya Aftab
- ⇒ *Women and Local Government*, Saba Gul Khattak
- ⇒ *Nature, Power, People: Citizens' Report on Sustainable Development*
- ⇒ *Rethinking Security, Rethinking Development*, Ed. Nauman Naqvi
- ⇒ Annual report on Sustainable Development Policy Institute, 1994-95

### Programme Development and Reporting

The Programme Development and Reporting division continued to monitor research, advocacy and policy advice initiatives undertaken by the research staff; prepared bi-annual and annual reports for the Pakistan Environmental Programme; prepared the SDPI Annual Report, 1994-95; and participated in learning the electronic monitoring system – Performance Indicator Tracking System (PITS).

## RESEARCH PROGRAMME

Given the many challenges being faced by humans in the areas of environment and economic under-development, research is an important tool for addressing and resolving problems. It helps in extending the scope of knowledge of humans, creating awareness and initiating debate for finding workable solutions. Research represents the first step that is taken in dealing with any problem area.

For purposes of reporting, the research undertaken at SDPI – at both the project and programme level – is categorised under core NCS areas. This will make it easier for the readers to establish the link between SDPI research and the NCS.

### Box No. 2 NCS Core Areas

1. *Maintaining soils in croplands*
2. *Increasing irrigation efficiency*
3. *Protecting watershed*
4. *Supporting forestry and plantation*
5. *Restoring range lands and improving livestock*
6. *Protecting waterbodies and sustaining fisheries*
7. *Conserving biodiversity*
8. *Increasing energy efficiency*
9. *Developing and deploying renewables*
10. *Preventing and abating pollution*
11. *Managing urban wastes*
12. *Supporting institutions for common resources*
13. *Integrating population and environment programmes*
14. *Preserving cultural heritage*

#### **Maintaining Soils in Croplands**

Research in the agricultural field has focused on pest control. A proposal on *Development and Application of Integrated Pest Management in Vegetables* was submitted for funding, while the first draft of the monograph *Cotton Whitefly and Leafcurl Virus* has been completed. Work on studies on *Efficacy of Synthetic Chemicals* and *Neem Extracts Against Cotton Pest* is underway, while another paper that is under preparation deals with *Environmental Examination of the Pesticide Industry*. The book on *Neem* has been translated into Urdu and the revised draft of the study on *Sustainable Cotton Production* has been submitted. The papers on *Conservation Tillage Wheat Technology* and *Green Revolution: Case Study of Pakistan* were finalised.

#### **Increasing Irrigation Efficiency**

The papers from the On-Farm Management Conference have been edited and compiled as a book entitled *Conservation of Natural Resource Base: On-Farm Water Management*.

### **Supporting Forestry and Plantation**

The first meeting of the Forestry Policy Dialogue, a collaborative effort of SDPI, IUCN and Sungi, was held at SDPI in July 1995. The theme was Integrated Watershed Management in Tarbela and Mangla Basins. The speakers examined the degradation of watershed areas with reference to the prevailing property rights regime, and institutional arrangements for forest management. The second in the series of forestry dialogues will also focus on institutional reform for effective management of forest resources.

A paper on *Forestry Policy Reform* is under preparation. It will examine past forestry policies and their impact with a focus on the failure of institutional arrangements and systems of governance.

### **Conserving Biodiversity**

A proposal on *Impact of Industrial Effluent on Soil, Groundwater and Biodiversity in Hattar Industrial Area* is being developed in collaboration with the Soil Testing and Soil Fertility Institute, Government of Punjab. An intern from the Gomal University is undertaking preliminary research to assess the impact of the industrial effluent on biodiversity in Hattar. Another proposal on *Enrichment of Biodiversity in Sugarcane Growing Areas of D.I. Khan* has been developed in collaboration with the Gomal University and submitted for funding.

### **Preventing and Abating Pollution**

Phase I of the project Technology Transfer for Sustainable Industrial Development which was initiated in early 1994 by the SDPI with support from the Swiss Federal Office for Foreign Economic Affairs (FOFEA), was completed and work commenced on Phase II in May 1996. The study focuses on six industrial sectors. The **objectives** of the first phase were: 1) establish a network between business, government and research organisations; 2) develop a quantitative basis for examination of environmental issues and their solutions in selected industries; 3) identify issues and barriers in environmental upgrade of industry (e.g. technical, financial and institutional barriers); 4) develop strategies for technology transfer which are workable under local conditions; 5) develop a programme for testing the suggested strategies in the second phase of the project.

The following constraints to the adoption of clean technology were identified: lack of financial and personnel resources, and technical capacity of the federal and provincial Environmental Protection Agencies (EPAs) to enforce regulation; limited capacity of financial institutions to assess environmental aspects of proposed projects that require financing; lack of technical, institutional, economic and financial support to the industrial sector to enable it to switch over to cleaner technology; and lack of public awareness and public pressure to motivate industry to make the transition to a cleaner production regime.

The final report of Phase I activities highlighted the importance of creating an enabling frame-work for a successful programme of technology transfer. This would involve: strengthening the technical, financial and institutional capacity of the EPAs

to enforce compliance; strengthening technical capacity of banks and DFIs to assess the environmental soundness of projects; setting up training, information and advisory services to assist industry to plan and implement environmental measures; establishing special credit lines for financing environmental projects; and mandatory self-reporting of discharge levels by the industry. The Phase I report also recommends de-criminalisation of actions against transgressors of the National Environmental Quality Standards (NEQS). Instead of a system of penalties and imprisonment, a tax or fine on polluters, corresponding to the effluent load of the discharge is prescribed in keeping with the **polluter pays principle**. The proposal has been accepted in principle by both the government and industry. Currently modalities of implementation are being finalised.

The Institute is hiring personnel for Phase II of the project. A strategy document on cleaner production in the pulp and paper industry has been prepared.

### **Managing Urban Waste**

Work continued on the two projects of SDPI which deal with municipal management, with the first phase of one of the programmes being completed.

Phase I of the *Urban Environmental Management in Intermediate Cities: Case Study of Mingora* was completed and the final report has been submitted. The project which is being supported by the Institute of Development Studies, University of Geneva, deals with issues in urban environmental management of intermediate cities with Mingora as a case study. The project commenced in March 1994. Phase I involved collection of data and other subjective information regarding various aspects of Mingora, that is physical planning, economy, employment, municipal finance, delivery of services, governance, etc. A particular effort in this regard was a household sample survey covering one per cent of the houses in Mingora. In October 1995 a one-day seminar was organised at which the preliminary results of the research were presented to the stake-holders and their views sought on drafting an urban plan for the city. The final report was sent to the Institute of Development Studies, University of Geneva.

The second phase of the project is due to begin in the next quarter. Phase II will provide support to the urban planning support unit in Mingora, and will address the issue of women and environmental health. The proposal on *Women and Environmental Health: the Case in Mingora* has been prepared. It is designed to investigate the causal relationship between the environment, within and outside the home and female health.

The Municipal Conservation Strategy (MCS), another project in hand aims at assessing the extent and possible structure of an Islamabad conservation strategy, and studying ways of promoting collective action by residents, government agencies and interest groups. A two-day workshop involving all groups concerned with the social, economic, ecological and cultural sustainability of Islamabad was held on April 8 and 9, 1996 to initiate a consultative process to draft the proposed MCS. Currently work is underway on the proposal which will be completed by end June.

### **Supporting Institutions for Common Resources**

Supporting institutions for common resources is one of the priority areas of the NCS, and mainly relates to collective rather than individual decision-making among people, segments and societies. SDPI's work in this area involves a research project on community management of drinking water schemes, a research programme in governance which examines how institutional structures for governance affect management of resources and decision-making and recourse to justice. A programme in macro-economic policy and structural adjustment which studies the prevalent macro-economic climate and its implications for growth, development and ultimately sustainable development (described on page 12) is part of the programme.

A project on community management of drinking water supply schemes, sponsored by the Multi-donor Support Unit (MSU) is nearing completion. It is designed to determine the procedure and mechanism that will ensure an irreversible and sustainable transfer of water schemes to local communities in four districts of Northern Punjab. The final report of *Community Management of Water Supply Schemes to Communities in Northern Punjab: A Case for Collective Action* has been submitted to the MSU, and a policy brief based on the report has also been prepared and submitted for refereeing.

Surveys were conducted in villages in the Ghazi Barotha area to assess the degree of local participation in decision-making and stewardship of resources. The research was undertaken as part of a study on local autonomy and participation in decision-making. Data are being analysed, and the report will be prepared later.

A project proposal on *Sustainable Livelihoods and People's Everyday Economics* was prepared and funded by the Society for International Development (SID). The project examines the existing political, social and economic situation of the country, the policies and processes perpetuating these trends, and their impact on social and environmental crisis.

### **Integrating Population and Environment Programmes**

In this core area, population is taken in its much broader sense, covering not only its numerical aspect and growth rate, but also the humans who constitute it, their quality of life and development. Taken as a whole, population in its aggregate nature is intrinsically intertwined with the environment because the requirements and activities of the people influence the environment with an equal and opposite reaction. SDPI's research is focused not only at creating greater understanding among the people of the population-environment linkage but also on issues of human development – encompassing health, gender and education programmes – and its impact on resource use and management.

The emphasis of the **health** programme was on issues relating to children and women. Two papers have been written on *Determinants of Child Mortality* and *Determinants of Child Morbidity and its Co-ordinates*. The papers are being finalised for publication. A survey on 'Determinants of Spring Allergy in Islamabad' was chalked out and conducted in 6 villages near Islamabad. The data are currently being analysed. The survey will test the hypothesis that increased allergic reaction is a function of increased pollution.

The proposal on *Industrial Pollution and Health* has been developed. In the first phase the project will consider the impact of industrial pollution in Hattar industrial estate on human health. *Women and Agriculture: Health and Sustainable Agro-ecological System* and *Family Planning Programme: An Alternative Approach*, are the themes of two proposals that have been developed. The former focuses on women cotton pickers who are exposed to dangerous levels of toxic compounds. The latter seeks to implement the existing family planning programme using innovative and alternative operational strategies and methodologies in selected district(s).

**Gender** was another programme that involved considerable activity with several projects underway and others in the pipeline. A paper on *Relationship Between Women's Movement and the State: A Historical and Theoretical Exploration* was presented at the symposium on **Women in Pakistan and Germany** organised by the Goethe Institut, Lahore, October 5–7, 1995. The paper traces the history of women's movement in Pakistan and asserts the fact that the movement has been acting in complicity with the state in Pakistan. The only exception has been the Zia-ul-Haq period when there was an open conflict between the movement and the state.

Work is also underway on the project on Afghan Refugee Women which will assess the impact of the Afghan war on refugee women in terms of issues of identity and of gender relations. It will also investigate their access to and conflicts over resources, dispute resolution and formal legal systems/questions of rights.

A project on Gender Sensitivity Training for Government School Teachers has been developed. The project will use schools as an entry point to break gender biases in communities. This will be achieved by conducting specialised workshops for government funded and run primary and secondary schools to provide school teachers the skills to effectively address discrimination against school going girls stemming from cultural practices. The proposal has been submitted to AusAid for funding.

Under the research programme on **education**, the following papers were written:

- *Past Performance and Administered Tests as University Admissions Criteria in Pakistan;*
- *Decomposing the Regional Gap in the Cognitive Skills in Rural Pakistan;*
- *Public Schooling Expenditures in Rural Pakistan: Efficiently Targeting Girls and a Lagging Region.*

### **Preserving Cultural Heritage**

The funding for Phase I of the *Naqsh-e-Kohan* project has been approved by the National Fund for Conservation of Heritage. It was expected that work on the project would begin in early June as the final selection for project co-ordinator has been delayed.

### **Governance**

Governance is a cross-cutting and generally an underlying theme in most SDPI research and policy work. Specific work on governance includes the following: Two research reports on *District Administration and Police* and *Dispensation of Justice in Pakistan*. A paper on *Good Governance: Can it be a Reality?* was presented at the **Green Economics** conference organised by the SDPI and the Heinrich Böll Foundation in Islamabad.

### **Box No. 3**

#### **Green Economics Conference**

Sustainability emerged as a viable solution for development by the developing countries without impairing the environment and exhausting their resources in the **Green Economics** Conference organised by SDPI in collaboration with the Heinrich Böll Foundation in September 1995, at Islamabad. Mr V.A. Jafarey, Advisor to the Prime Minister on Finance and Economic Affairs inaugurated the conference with the hope for seeing complete harmonisation of economic, environmental and social policies. The conference brought together economists, specialists and environmentalists mainly from Asian countries, particularly the South Asian region, who touched on a wide range of issues specific to environment, economy and development. The accent was on sustainability as a panacea for resolving the problem of development faced by the developing countries in their frantic effort to join the league of economically developed states by putting their environment to great risk and depleting their resources. Sustainability in this context merely meant planning in the long term rather than the short run while keeping in view the environment and limitation of non-renewable resources.

The conference was held in parallel sessions – ‘Policy Conference’ and ‘Sectoral Conference’ –, with the issues raised in the sessions being later integrated in a joint session. The conference concluded with the roundtable recommendations which dwelt on emerging issues. These included topics like policy making process/enabling environment, institutional development, pollution tax, pesticides, local control over natural resources and National Council for Sustainable Development. The target audience included all stake-holders, i.e., government, media, NGOs, local bodies representatives, academics, researchers.

#### **Macro-Economic Policy and Structural Adjustment**

Under this programme, a monograph, *Just Development*, edited by Tariq Banuri, Shahrukh Rafi Khan and Moazzam Mahmood has been submitted to the Oxford University Press. Another monograph on structural adjustment is being written by Shahrukh Rafi Khan. Papers on ‘Comparative Privatisation Experience in Pakistan: Employee Ownership and Private Ownership’; ‘Women and Structural Adjustment in Pakistan’; ‘Structural Adjustment: Debt, Aid and Growth in Pakistan’ and ‘Trade Liberalisation and the Environment: A View from the South’ have been completed. The last mentioned paper was presented at the **Green Economics** conference. Finally a multi-author volume on *Pakistan Economy: The First Fifty Years*, commissioned by the Oxford University Press is also being edited by Shahrukh Rafi Khan.

## POLICY ADVICE

During 1995-96, advice rendered to the Federal and provincial governments and private sector covered a vast number of issues, projects and developments, both national and international. The assistance provided was either in the form of advice, briefs or comments on the subject desired.

- advice to the PEPC on introducing a tax on polluters, and developing modalities for the collection, management and use of the charge;
- advice to the PEPC on reducing vehicular emissions by the introduction of clean fuels;
- comments on the proposal made by the Environment Section, Planning Division on Community Based Solid Waste Management;
- advice to the Government of NWFP on establishing the Sarhad University of Management Sciences (SUMS) modelled on the LUMS;
- brief for the Pakistan delegation for the 4th meeting of CSD in New York in May 1996;
- brief on Trade and Environment sent to the Ministry of Environment, Urban Affairs, Forestry and Wildlife to prepare for the UNCTAD meeting in Geneva in March 1996;
- advice provided to the Government of Pakistan on human resource development in the telecommunications industry;
- advice to the Government of NWFP for establishing information highways;
- comments provided to Ministry of Environment, Urban Affairs, Forestry and Wildlife on the National Report to Habitat II;
- advice provided to the PEPC on developing a monitoring programme for the afforestation campaign to be undertaken by the government;
- proposal prepared on the establishment of a science city in Faisalabad for the Pakistan Academy of Sciences;
- advice to the NWFP government on rural health policy reforms;
- advice to the Population Division to improve the monitoring wing of the Population Planning Programme;
- advice to the NWFP government on formulating a province-wide health insurance policy;
- comments provided on the draft Environmental Protection Act;
- input provided to the Ministry of Environment for a mass awareness campaign on polluted drinking water;
- brief on the impact of G-7 policies on southern countries provided to the government;
- material on the UN ESCAP 1995 State of the Environment Report provided to the Ministry of Environment, Urban Affairs, Forestry and Wildlife;
- paper on SAP goal assessment sent to the Ministry of Local Government;
- review of PC-1 of the project on Improvement of Crop Production System;

- input to the Ministry of Environment, Urban Affairs, Forestry and Wildlife for the Country Report for the Commission of Sustainable Development, 1995;
- advice to the PEPC on introducing a system of incentives and penalties for industrial compliance with the NEQS;
- brief on issues pertaining to the nexus between population growth and environmental degradation for the Chairperson, PEPC and delegates attending the conference on Population and Environment Issues in Tehran in December 1995;
- brief on sustainable development for the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting at New Zealand between November 10-13, 1995;
- brief for the delegation attending the ESCAP Ministerial Conference on Environment and Development held at Bangkok, November 22-25, 1995.

The advice rendered to the private sector consisted of:

- advice to the Shams Lakha Committee for Implementation of NEQS, on modalities for collection, management and use of the proposed pollution charge;
- advice to All Pakistan Textile Mills Association (APTMA) and All Pakistan Textile Processors Mills Association (APTPMA) on making the transition to cleaner production methods;
- advice to members of Sarhad Chamber of Commerce and Industry to make the transition to cleaner production methods;
- advice to fruit growers in the Haripur area on integrated pest management techniques.

Since January the procedure for producing policy briefs on a regular basis has been streamlined. In addition to providing advice in response to requests, researchers will present their findings in condensed form in policy briefs which will be disseminated to policy-makers, private and voluntary organisations. Policy briefs on industrial pollution, integrated pest management, sustainable cotton production and its trade and environment, structural adjustment, community water supply, women and structural adjustment, rural health policy reform, and population have been written. Currently, they are undergoing the process of internal and external refereeing.

## ADVOCACY

The likely impact of the proposed Ghazi Barotha hydropower project on the environment remained a major issue on the advocacy agenda of SDPI. The Institute agitated the implications of withdrawal of water at Ghazi on three points which could be detrimental to the environment and the quality of water. It sought assurances from the WAPDA on several demands with the Authority acceding to most of them. (See Box No. 4 for details.)

The **advocacy** unit was also engaged in gathering background information to run a campaign against the injudicious use of pesticides. A tool kit on pesticides was developed for NGOs. It contains a sample letter to editors, a letter to elected representatives, and background information on pesticide use. Steps are being taken for circulation of the tool-kit among the NGOs.

SDPI continues to provide expert comment in the Supreme Court case 15-K/1992 filed by Ms Shehla Zia against WAPDA over the proposed construction of a grid station in a designated green belt adjacent to a residential area. Comprehensive comments were sent on WAPDA's report on the environmental impact of the proposed grid station.

SDPI is collaborating with Sungi Development Foundation, Dharti Dost Sangat and SCOPE to examine the re-settlement and environmental issues arising out of the proposed Chotiari dam.

Support has been extended for the establishment of a national chapter of Transparency International. The Institute prepared the background document for the establishment of the organisation including its memorandum of association and rules and regulations of business.

The employees housing scheme initiated by QAU and the housing scheme for MNAs have both been strongly opposed by SDPI. A public meeting was organised in April to publicise the QAU employees housing schemes and highlight the reasons for the concern of organisations and individuals opposed to the sale. The proponents of the sale were also invited to present their point of view at the meeting; however, they chose not to participate. Currently a strategy is being devised to address both the housing schemes. A parallel campaign is underway to re-open the issue of building residential houses in the protected area of Banigala. Newspaper articles have been written to re-open the debate.

A meeting was held in January 1996 to condemn the attack on Asma Jahangir's life. A petition was also circulated against the growing intolerance within the country.

SDPI has been an active member of CORIN and ADN in opposing the NGO Bill.

**Box No. 4**  
**Ghazi Barotha Hydro-power Project**

The advocacy campaign against the impact of the proposed Ghazi Barotha Hydropower project on the environment gained momentum. SDPI, WAPDA and the World Bank have held extensive discussions about the environmental impact of water withdrawal at Ghazi. The diversion of water has three major implications for the environment. First, during the dry season the reduced flow of water in the main channel will lead to the accumulation of waste in the river bed with detrimental implications for the quality of water. Second, it is not clear whether the proposed minimum water level of 4 cumecs in the dry season will be sufficient for the sustainability of the flora, fauna and the riverain eco-system. Third, once the water recedes, islands and aits in the river bed, hitherto inaccessible, will be vulnerable to settlement and unsustainable use patterns. In response to the SDPI campaign, WAPDA invited SDPI to suggest ways of dealing with these problems.

At a seminar organised by the Environmental Protection Agency of the NWFP, SDPI sought the following assurances from WAPDA before it proceeds with the project. First, an independent environmental impact assessment of the proposed project be conducted. Second, WAPDA set up waste treatment facilities in the area. Third, an environmental monitoring group be constituted to monitor the quality of water, and the impact of water withdrawal on the riverain eco-system. Fourth, the project design be flexible enough to accommodate a release of up to 150 cumecs during the dry season, and that WAPDA conduct a sensitivity analysis to assess the impact of release of 100-150 cumecs of water on the power generation capacity of Ghazi-Barotha. Fifth, the islands and aits which will be exposed due to the diversion of water should be declared protected areas. WAPDA has acceded to most of these demands: an environmental monitoring group is being constituted; an independent consultant, acceptable to all parties, will be engaged to conduct an EIA; and waste water treatment facilities will be set up. Following the acceptance of terms set out by SDPI and partners, the Institute has provided input in developing the Terms of Reference for the supplemental study to assess the environmental impact of reduced water flows due to the project.

## OUTREACH

One of SDPI's important objectives is to generate people's awareness in the host of issues that concern them and the society. This is managed through the two most effective means: the spoken and written word. The **outreach** programme which involves publications, information and communications, seminars, papers and print media acts as a link between the Institute and the population. The vast volume of knowledge that is produced and the effort at improving the status of the environment, advocating public-interest causes or providing other such useful services are thus made accessible to the public through a variety of media available to the SDPI.

### **Publications**

During the period under review, 23 papers in the *Policy Papers Series* were edited and published, two research reports and four working papers were finalised and four issues of the *SDPI News & Research Bulletin* were published. Two books, *Nature Power People: Citizens' Report on Sustainable Development* and an anthology of papers from the Third Annual South Asian NGO Summit entitled *Rethinking Security, Rethinking Development* were published.

### **Information and Communication**

This division performs two distinct functions: 1) it facilitates the work of researchers (both internal and external) through the use of library and information systems, and by access to databases developed at SDPI; and 2) it promotes mass awareness of environmental issues through advocacy campaigns developed by the communications and advocacy wing of the division.

The Study Group on Information and Communication organised a seminar on "Human Resource Development in Telecommunications" (see Box No. 5) and held a meeting to deliberate on the Data Network Operation and difficulties being faced by the private operators. It also discussed the performance of Pakistan Telecommunications Company Limited delineating the present status of information and telecommunications in Pakistan, and requirements for the future. The importance of Internet for Pakistan was also discussed.

Over the period the library acquired several new books and subscribed to more journals and magazines. Currently, the services are being modified to make the library more user friendly and increase the membership. The library database has been converted to Library Automation Management Programme (LAMP) and the office staff trained to use the new database. A seminar was also arranged on co-ordination for inter-library loan. The target of contributing to the Union Database of Journals could not be met because of the excessive backlog of cataloguing and classification that had to be dealt with. The Institute has also obtained additional software – MapMaker and Click Book – to enhance the quality of SDPI publications.

The index on current economic and development news, the *Development Monitor* is available on e-mail to 56 external users. The scope of the database has been expanded to include security issues. The abstracts of documents provide key statistics on

development issues. The Development Database was updated, refined, and presented to representatives of donor agencies, librarians, academics, and members of the Federal Bureau of Statistics. Three hundred hard copies of abstracts have also been compiled for publication.

#### **Box No. 5**

##### **Human Resource Development in Telecommunications**

The explosion in scientific knowledge and irresistible growth in the application of scientific knowledge in telecommunications have produced technological obsolescence in engineers. What is needed in the country is a new image of education, life long education in which the learning process is continuous and unbroken. In familiar terms this is "Continuous Education". The country would need technicians, engineers and managers who would see the country through the twenty-first century.

This was the theme of the seminar organised by SDPI's Study Group on Information and Communication. Ms Shahnaz Wazir Ali, Special Assistant to the Prime Minister for the Social Sector chaired the seminar, which was addressed by experts, engineers and bureaucrats.

#### **Reaching out**

One of the easiest and most effective ways of reaching out to the public is by using the mass media. SDPI staff contribute regularly to publications. A list of articles contributed by SDPI staff is shown in Box No 6.

The weekly Sunday Seminar Series is yet another effective way of reaching out to the public at large. Details of the seminars held during July 1995-June 1996 can be seen in Box No 7.

In addition, SDPI now provides a service of monthly selection of newspaper and periodical clippings on environmental issues compiled as *Pakistan Environmental Digest*.

## CAPACITY BUILDING

An important mission for the Institute is to create capacity within the country in terms of research infra-structure, intellectual curiosity and institutional linkages. All communities e.g. the government, private sector, students, labour, academics and researchers, non-governmental institutions, civic and political organisations, and the public at large, are equal stake-holders in the process of sustainable development. Reaching out to stake-holder communities is an important aspect of catalysing the transition to sustainable development.

### Capacity Building in Voluntary Organisations

- In April, SDPI in collaboration with the Goethe Institut, organised a three day conference on the Informal Sector. The objective was to lend prominence to the contribution, richness and variety of the hitherto invisible informal sector, and highlight its importance in catering to the needs of a large section of the population.
- SDPI undertook editing and compilation of the NGO country report to Habitat II entitled *Slums, Security, Shelter*.
- Dr Shahrukh Rafi Khan delivered a talk on Pakistan's economy, and Dr Saba Khattak spoke on women's status in Pakistan to volunteers of Voluntary Service Organisation.

### Capacity Building in Government

- SDPI assisted the Ministry of Youth Affairs with the organisation and preparation of a three-day Youth Conference on Environment and Development.
- SDPI advised the Pakistan delegation to the Muslim Women Parliamentarians' Conference held in Islamabad in August 1995 on women's issues in Pakistan. Help was also extended in drafting resolutions presented at the conference.
- SDPI organised a four-day participatory training workshop for the municipal officials of the Rawalpindi, Islamabad, Sialkot and Gujranwala municipalities. The participants were sensitised to the interaction between development, population, environment and education in developing strategies for sustainable development.

### Capacity Building in Academia

- Dr Jennifer Bennett lectured at the QAU on Population and Environment.
- The library committee organised a seminar on Inter-Library Loans.
- Dr Shahrukh Rafi Khan provided IIMI with input on community water supply schemes.
- Dr Inayatullah Chaudhry acted as external examiner for MSc students at the Gomal University, D.I. Khan. He was also an external referee for articles submitted for publication in Gomal University Research Journal.
- Dr Saba Khattak is a member of the Curriculum Committee of the Centre for Women's Studies, QAU, and has provided extensive help in

curriculum development. She is also member, Curriculum Committee for Women's Studies courses at the University Grants Commission.

#### **Capacity Building in the Private Sector**

- Dr Inayatullah provided information on mushroom culture to Ayub Farms, and information about using *neem* based insecticides for cotton pest control to cotton growers in the Vehari region.
- Information on waste treatment technologies and names of vendors of technology provided to various private sector organisations.
- Three meetings of the Study Group on Information and Communications were organised on the following topics: 'Options for Information Highways for the NWFP'; 'Satellites and their Future Role in Communications in Pakistan'; 'Pakistan's Quest to be on the Internet Interactively' and 'Private Data Network Operations'. The group also organised, in collaboration with Inter Active Communications (Ltd), a one day seminar on Human Resource Development in Telecommunications for PTC employees.
- Dr Shahrukh Rafi Khan, Senior Fellow, Macropolicy and Structural Adjustment programme, presented a talk on The Social Action Plan: Need and Goal Assessment at the Pakistan Manpower Institute.

**Box No. 6**  
**Newspaper Contributions**

- “Security of Information”, Brig (R) Mohammad Yasin, *The Muslim*, June 27, 1995 and *The Nation*, July 16, 1995
- “A Participatory Approach to Development”, Shahrukh Rafi Khan, *The News*, July 21, 1995
- “Respect for Judiciary”, Brig (R) Mohammad Yasin, *The Nation*, July 24, 1995
- “Getting Green Without Bureaucracy”, Saba Gul Khattak, *The News*, July 1995
- “Comparative Privatisation Experience: Employee vs Private Ownership”, Shahrukh Rafi Khan, *The News*, July 21, 1995
- “Protecting the Environment: Draft Act 1995 Needs Revision”, Brig (R) Mohammad Yasin, *The Nation*, August 6, 1995
- “Should the Government Reduce Tariffs Faster?”, Shahrukh Rafi Khan, *The News*, August 18, 1995
- “Security and the State”, Saba Gul Khattak, *The News*, August 1, 1995
- “Chaos on the Electronic Superhighway”, Brig (R) Mohammad Yasin, *The Nation*, September 5, 1995
- “Growing Indifference to our Environment”, Brig (R) Mohammad Yasin, *The Nation*, November 1, 1995
- “Electro-magnetic Fields and Health Risks”, Brig (R) Mohammad Yasin, *The Nation*, December 6, 1995
- “Leadership in Management”, Brig (R) Mohammad Yasin, *Journal of IEEEEP*, Vol. xxxiii, July-December, 1995
- “Assessing Public Sector University Admissions Policy”, Shahrukh Rafi Khan, *The News on Friday*, January 20, 1996
- “Reverse Degeneration”, Brig (R) Mohammad Yasin, *The Muslim*, February 2, 1996
- “Aid, Debt and GDP”, Shahrukh Rafi Khan, *The News*, March 15, 1996
- “Human Resource Development in Telecommunications”, Brig (R) Mohammad Yasin, *The Nation*, May 14, 1996 and *The Muslim*, May 12, 1996.
- “Is Human Exposure to Electromagnetic Fields Harmful?”, Brig (R) Mohammad Yasin, *The Qasid*, May 1996
- “Rural Women Define Pollution”, by Masooma Qazilbash, *The News*, May 25, 1996
- “Towards Women's Empowerment”, Saba Gul Khattak, *The News*, June 7, 1996

**Box No. 7**  
**Weekly Seminar Series**

<b>SPEAKERS</b>	<b>SEMINAR TOPIC</b>
<b>Adil Hayat</b>	Pollution Control Systems: Case Studies in Pakistan
<b>Age Aleem Akhter</b>	Management Planning System for Protected Areas
<b>Akhter Ali Awan</b>	Role of Economists in National Energy Policy Making
<b>Anushe Hussain</b>	Activities of Sahil
<b>Anwar Khurshid</b>	IS9000: Standard for Quality Assurance
<b>Arif Sultan</b>	Role and Impact of IMF on Pakistan's Economy
<b>Asir Ajmal</b>	City of God: The Concept of City in Religion and Culture
<b>Ayesha Jalal</b>	The Muslim Individual and the Community of Islam in South Asia, 1850s to 1920s
<b>Chaudhry Inayatullah</b>	Pesticides and Integrated Pest Management
<b>Dominic Moghul</b>	Activities of Christian Study Centre
<b>Dushka Saiyid</b>	Changing Role of Punjabi Women at the End of the 19th Century
<b>Ehsan Akhter</b>	Soil Degradation in Pakistan
<b>Eric Winker</b>	Arrogance of Cultural Interpretation of the Islamic Text
<b>Gilbert Etienne</b>	Agriculture in China and South Asia: Some Comparative Views
<b>Hameed Ahmed Khan</b>	Indoor Radio Active Pollution
<b>Hassan Askari</b>	Proposals to Address the Needs of Small Businesses
<b>Inayatullah</b>	Rise of Muhajir and Sindhi Nationalism in Pakistan
<b>Indu Mitha</b>	Trends and Trendsetters: 50 Years of Dance in Pakistan
<b>Ishrat Hussain</b>	Governance and Economic Development: Case Study of Pakistan
<b>Jennifer Bennett</b>	Child Morbidity and Health Seeking Behaviour in Mothers
<b>Jonathan Lee</b>	Bokhara, Afghanistan and the Battle for Balkh 1731-1901
<b>Kaiser Bengali</b>	Imperatives of Urban Planning: Case Study of Mingora

<b>Kaiser Bengali</b>	Rise of Muhajir and Sindhi Nationalism: An Alternative View
<b>Kamran Ahmed</b>	Activities of Human Rights Commission of Pakistan
<b>M.H.Q. Jahangir</b>	Regeneration of Granular Activated Carbon for Industrial Waste Water Treatment
<b>M Azam Khan</b>	Energy Inputs and Crop Production in D I Khan
<b>Michael Semple</b>	Activities of Oxfam
<b>Muhammad Ahmed</b>	Borrowers' Loan Default and 'Sick' Units: A Vacuous Connection?
<b>Nadeem Afzal</b>	Waste Water Treatment
<b>Nasir Islam</b>	Governance and Democratic Institutions in Pakistan
<b>Nauman bin Muhammad</b>	Dawn of the Information
<b>Nazir Ahmed</b>	Collection of Historical Records
<b>Omar Asghar Khan</b>	Resettlement Issues in Ghazi Barotha
<b>Pascale Micheau</b>	Social Organisation and Water Management in a Punjabi Village
<b>Rafique Ahmed</b>	Sarhad Provincial Conservation Strategy
<b>Rasul Baksh Rais</b>	Nuclear Politics: Ambitions, Consensus and Constraints
<b>Romeo Herbert</b>	Introduction to Naya Janam
<b>Saba Khattak</b>	Shrinking Public Spaces: Women, Cold War and Pakistan's Afghan Policy
<b>Sabina Alkire</b>	Incorporating Cultural Values in Economic Policymaking
<b>Saima Niaz</b>	Activities of Pakistan Foundation for Fighting Blindness
<b>Sathananthan</b>	Ethnicity, State and Social Conflict
<b>Sarwar Bari</b>	Activities of Pattan
<b>Shahrukh R Khan</b>	Social Action Plan: Needs and Goal Assessment
<b>Shakil Akhter</b>	Arrested Media Discourse and the Immobility Syndrome
<b>Sharmila Sen</b>	Fictions of Partition
<b>Tariq Banuri</b>	Knowledge Systems
<b>Terence Sigamony</b>	The Christian Study Centre
<b>Umar Ahmed</b>	Water Pollution: Causes and Effects
<b>Zafar Iqbal Bhatti</b>	A Compatible Technology for Industrial Water Pollution Control in Pakistan