‘Building Forward Better’ Amidst Recovery from Pandemic

‘Pakistan has important strategic endowments and development potential’ (The World Bank n.d.). However, it has been unable to fully exploit its potential because various reasons ranging from political instability to institutional dysfunction. Grappling with myriad of challenges and setting a course for the future, Pakistan needs to re-think its governance and development models. Since the situation in the pre-pandemic era was not up to the mark, COVID-19 further deepened these scars on the state, society, and the economy.

The ‘pandemic is not only a global health crisis but also an economic and social crisis. For countries,’ like Pakistan, ‘the 2030 development agenda was already ambitious, and with the current pandemic, the agenda seems over ambitious’ until the country and its leaders change policy priorities to focus on human development as an objective of national initiatives. However, changing priorities requires ‘a new and innovative development agenda’ (Hyder 2021). To do the needful, thoughtfully curated ‘reforms in every sector seem to be the only viable solution’ (Ibid.).

This online discussion with key policymakers would offer crucial guidelines for Pakistan’s development agenda amidst COVID-19 to turn the pandemic into an opportunity.

References


Panel Organisers
Mr Moazzam Bhatti, Director Advocacy, Outreach & Campaigns, Sustainable Development Policy Institute, Islamabad, Pakistan
Email: moazzam@sdpi.org

Mr Amjad Hussain, Advocacy Officer, Sustainable Development Policy Institute, Islamabad, Pakistan
Email: amjad@sdpi.org