

## **Finding the Way Forward in Post-Covid-19 Pakistan with the Doing Good Index**

The Centre for Asian Philanthropy and Society's (CAPS) second edition of its 'Doing Good Index' (DGI2020) reveals the vital role of the social sector, and how Asian countries help or hinder it. In partnership with the Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI) and the Pakistan Centre for Philanthropy (PCP), the study identifies opportunities for Pakistan's government to do more for society, as well as how private/corporate donations must play their part in meeting people's needs.

As the world struggles to cope with the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, one thing has become clear: there is no going back to the way things were. Faced with stagnating or contracting economies, governments in Asia are finding it difficult to keep pace with the growing needs of their people. In this context, the social sector has become even more critical in the provision of vital social services. Yet funding for the sector, particularly from foreign donors, continues to decline in many Asian economies, including Pakistan. Policies, programmes, laws and regulations that support immediate societal needs and encourage charitable giving are more critical than ever before.

The 'Doing Good Index 2020' is a study of the context in which private capital meets society's needs. It provides a roadmap of the policies and practices that will incentivize giving and foster a thriving and effective social sector. The index can help philanthropists, policymakers, researchers, Social Delivery Organizations (SDOs) and engaged citizens understand what levers can best increase philanthropic giving in their countries. It also spotlights how to improve accountability and transparency to address the trust deficit faced by the social sector that can hold potential donors back. 'The research surveyed 2,189 SDOS and interviewed 145 country experts across 18 Asian economies' (CAPS 2020). This collaborative panel by SDPI and CAPS will share highlights of the DGI2020 findings for Pakistan and discuss recent challenges and opportunities.

### **Reference**

CAPS 2020, 'Doing Good Index 2020', Centre for Asian Philanthropy and Society, Hong Kong, <<https://caps.org/our-research/doing-good-index-2020/>>.

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