



**SUSTAINABLE  
DEVELOPMENT**

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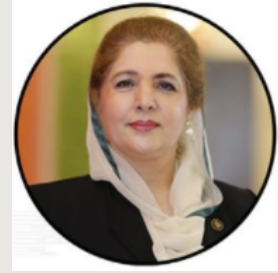
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## Message from the CEO

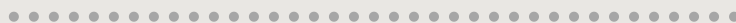
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We at HRDN believe sustainable development is the only way forward to ensuring a future in which we have not completely degraded the environment. HRDN continuously works towards achieving sustainable development goals. Pakistan is struggling to meet the SDGs by 2030, and it is our responsibility to bring the attention of the development sector to this crucial issue. All our projects are aimed at getting one step closer to achieving the SDGs.

This quarter we carried out plant drives, conducted seminars on Sustainable Development Goals, and reanalyzed our role in philanthropy and charity.

I am grateful for the people who have supported us during the pandemic and it has been my honor to serve as the CEO of HRDN and discuss these pivotal issues that are pertinent for our development. Through the joint efforts and support from our network, we aim to uplift this society economically, socially, and politically.



## From the Editor

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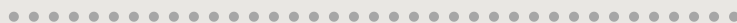


This issue of Illume brings your focus to sustainable development. What is sustainable development? It is the development that meets the needs of today without compromising our ability to meet our needs in the future. HRDN has been an advocate of climate change and the importance of environmental conservation. This issue not only brings your focus to sustainable development but also the UN's Sustainable Development Goals, which we have to meet by the year 2030. Looking at the development in Pakistan, we are far behind in achieving those goals.

Pakistan ranks high on the poverty index, as well as one of the countries with the highest gender inequality. Inequality is an indicator of injustice, poverty, and overall lack of development. We must address it at every institutional and systemic level and actively work to changing the dynamics at play here.

HRDN being an advocate of SDGs, its efforts to achieving these goals are worth praising. HRDN previously conducted workshops with the Lincoln Corner on the Sustainable Development Goals and will continue its efforts to work, educate, empower and raise awareness for this cause.

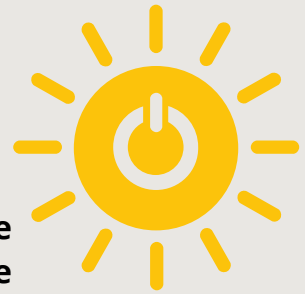
This quarter features seminars on SDGs, on Charity Commission of each province, and plantation drives.







# Quotes



**Sustainable development is the pathway to the future we want for all. It offers a framework to generate economic growth, achieve social justice, exercise environmental stewardship and strengthen governance.**

**-Ban Ki-moon**



**Sustainable development requires human ingenuity. People are the most important resource.**

**-Dan Shechtman**

**Gender equality is more than a goal in itself. It is a precondition for meeting the challenge of reducing poverty, promoting sustainable development and building good governance.**

**-Kofi Annan**



**A safe and nutritionally adequate diet is a basic individual right and an essential condition for sustainable development, especially in developing countries.**

**-Gro Harlem Brundtland**

**It's widely recognized that there is no peace without development and no development without peace; it is also true that there is no peace and sustainable development without respect for human rights.**

**-Antonio Guterres**



**Humanitarian response, sustainable development, and sustaining peace are three sides of the same triangle.**

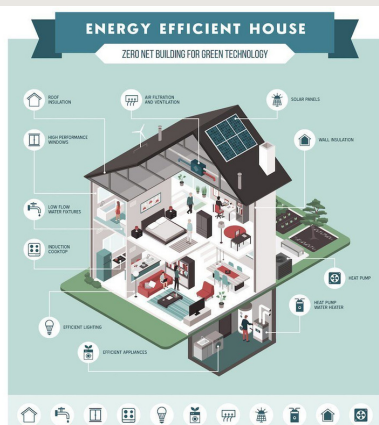
**-Antonio Guterres**

# IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

This pandemic has proven to be alarming public health and economic crisis. Poor infrastructure of our institutions was highlighted during this time. The crisis has thrust the existent inequalities into the limelight for us to take notice of. Poverty exists because of inequality. Covid-19 has had a grave economic impact. Unemployment has increased considerably with firms laying off their employees because of lockdowns and their inability to pay their

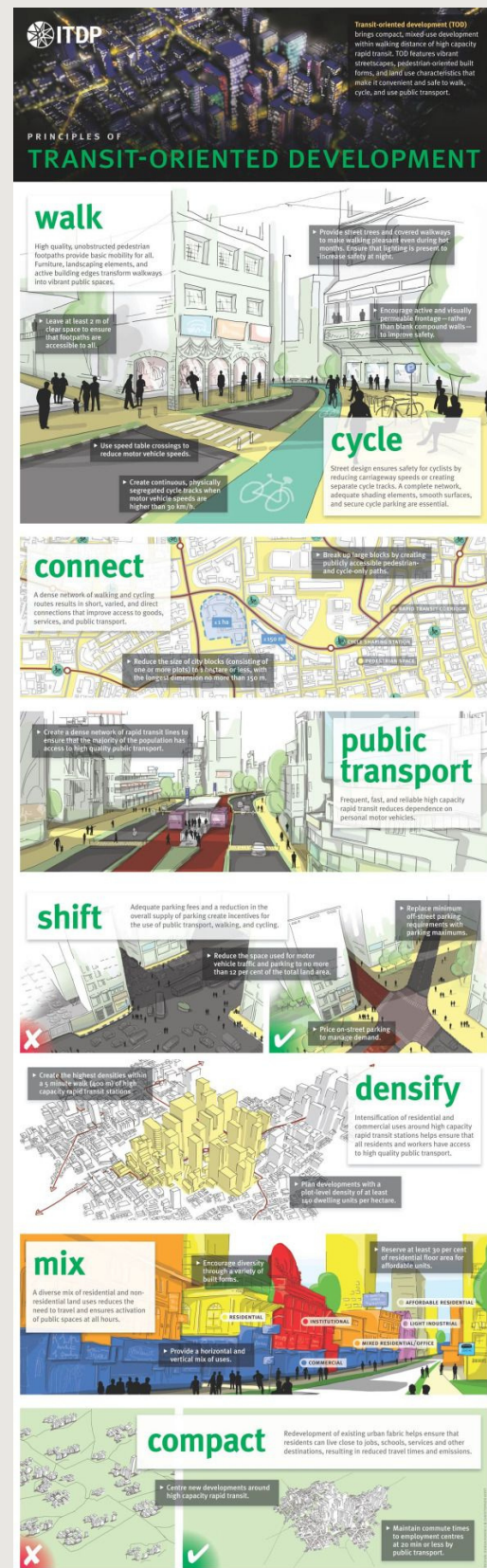
salaries. With a lot of businesses suffering, Covid-19 has also presented a lot of opportunities for development in other sectors such as digital avenues. Countless people realized they can run an organization online and have the capability of earning and working remotely. This changes the dynamics of the traditional workplace practices we have all known. The issue, however, is the lack of policies. It has been a year since our lives drastically changed and we must make the shift in time.

Formulation of policies, however, requires a thorough understanding of the problem. The current scenario is dynamic and evolving and we must equip ourselves to be reverent in this regard. However, with the advancement in data analytics, we can maneuver it to formulate policies for sustainable development. The current environment has brought a lot of issues to the forefront. It was initially noticed after lockdown that global emissions decreased as people were not using transport. They were in their homes, having no other option but to spend wisely. However, it was short-lived as people consumed within the capitalistic environment reverted back to their habits. But it taught us a few lessons.



Vehicles have an overbearing impact on the environment. For development, a good transport system is critical but for sustainable development, we not only need an efficient transportation system but must also invest in technology that has fewer emissions. We need policies to incentivize our public to use public transport and opt for carpooling.

Furthermore, we are using more electricity than we require. Most of our energy needs are met from non-renewable resources and we need a timely shift towards renewable energy resources. Covid-19 has highlighted that the world is warming up and the permafrost is melting. We need to reassess our commitment to sustainable development and move from theory to action as this pandemic, according to scientists is only the beginning. As the permafrost continues to melt, a lot of diseases that have long been frozen will resurface. Anthrax has already been discovered in a region. All this data dictates a shift towards sustainable development.



# SDG 1 – Poverty;

## Seminar with S.M. Kemal

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SDG 1 focuses on the elimination of poverty. The goal of sustainable development should be to improve and uplift the poor. Poverty exists, not because of a lack of resources, but mostly because of social inequality. Most of our development is centered around urban areas, such as Punjab continues to be the most developed while the rest are deprived of the same luxuries. Their lower standing is because of divided and unjust priorities. HRDN in collaboration with Beyond Paradigm held a seminar on SDG 1 – Poverty with S.M. Kemal as the guest speaker.

According to Mr. Kemal, the ultimate goal of UN SDGs is to eradicate poverty. Realistically, Mr. Kemal says, it is difficult to completely bring poverty to zero however, the aim is to uplift most people from extreme poverty. Here, it is pertinent to note that the definition of poverty varies and extreme poverty is described as not having the surety of a single meal in a day, having no clothes, no shelter. Essentially it is the lack of all necessities.

Poverty is connected to the second goal of zero hunger and through it to the third goal of good health and wellbeing. Poverty creates food insecurity which results in malnutrition. This deprives the individual of good health and the ability to improve their lives by working. Thus, it takes away the opportunity of jobs, of earning, and of

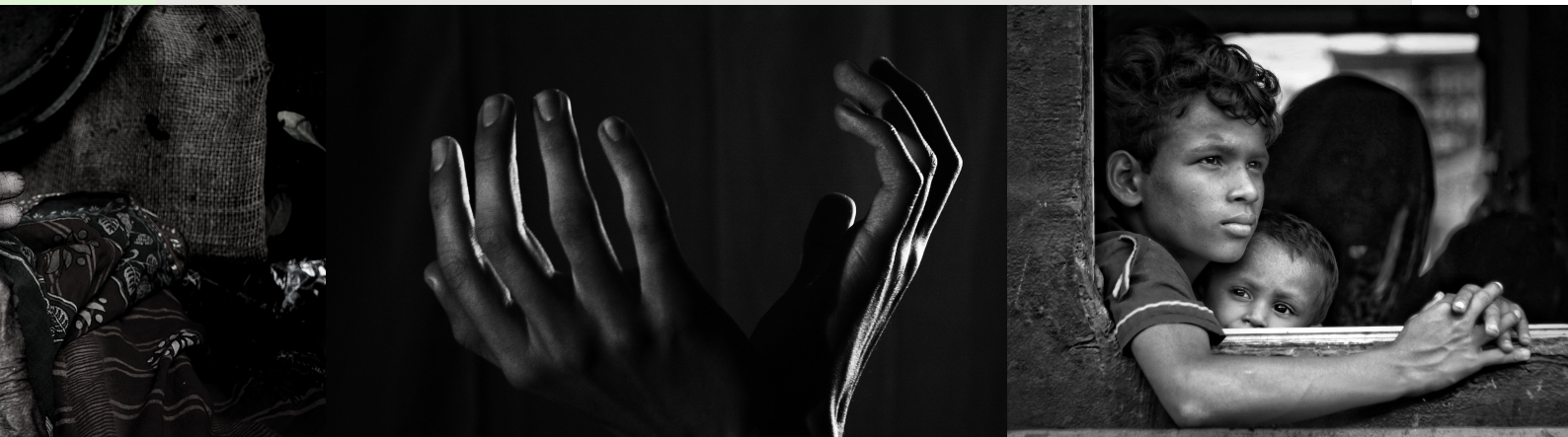


**S.M. Kemal** is an economist and an SDG guru. A graduate of Quaid-Azam University and University of Warwick UK, he has served as an economic policy advisor at SDG Support Unit, Ministry of Planning, Development and Reform. He has worked with the Pakistan Institute of Development Economics. He has experience in international underground economy, and is an expert in issues of SDGs. Presently, Mr. Kemal is working as Chief of Public Investment Authorizations, which takes care of the public investment in government.



improving one's living standard, leaving them at a lower welfare level. The reasons for food insecurity are numerous including agricultural crop yield, food price anomalies, whether we have export subsidies, producer-supply estimates are wrong because of the availability and unavailability of genetically modified crops.

Poverty is also linked to quality education. Most public schools in Pakistan impart an extremely poor standard of education. These children are then unable to compete with those who could afford better education standards creating a cycle of inequality and poverty. Uplifting people from poverty demands affordable quality education.



Furthermore, according to Mr. Kemal, gender inequality prevalent in Pakistan exasperates poverty when women are continuously oppressed and treated as second-class citizens, they are prevented from contributing to the economy. Mr. Kemal expressed how if men and women both worked, it will lessen the poverty in the country and improve our economy. He further pointed how poverty is connected to all other goals it is directly related to clean water and sanitation and clean energy goals as well. Water can be connected to anything. Having access to clean drinking water and water for sanitation is a basic human right. However, many are deprived of this right, most of the power, highlighting the inequality that exists in every sector. Thus, all goals are the determinants of poverty.

It is pertinent here to define poverty. There are too many dimensions to the definition of poverty. It is regarded as being unable to meet necessary needs and requirements. There is food poverty and non-food poverty such as deprivation from quality education, good health services, justice, clean water, electricity, clothes, and shelter, etc. But it is also seen as relative, whether you get to eat three meals a day of subsidized quality, two meals a day, or only one meal a day. The ambiguity in the definitions of poverty provides to the no or poor policies to eradicate it.

There are three types of poverty; absolute poverty, relative poverty, and extreme poverty. Now you may ask how do we measure poverty. There are three methods; food energy intake, cost of basic needs method, and multidimensional poverty index.

- Food energy intake is measured based on calorie intake through which we determine the poverty level.
- The Basic Need Method is supported by the World Bank and calculated by the Planning Commission. This method incorporates education expenditure and health expenditure into the food energy method.
- The Multidimensional Poverty Index is supported by the UNDP and is calculated by the Planning Commission. We consider three components i.e. living standard, health, and education. Quality is prioritized rather than expenditure and all the indicators of poverty are included to measure the quality.

Furthermore, Mr. Kemal explained how we measure extreme poverty across the Purchasing Power Parity. It reflects that the number of people living in poverty is staggeringly high. While the government is taking certain measures to alleviate poverty with social protection programs like Ehsaas program, Kafalat program, Benazir Bhutto Income Support Program.

Coming towards the causes of poverty, we must analyze it from every aspect to find sustainable solutions. Mr. Kemal mentioned bad infrastructure to be one of the causes. Bad infrastructure paves a road for an economic burden that the poor usually bear. Floods, droughts, lack of electricity, poor transportation systems all further the poor from upgrading their living standards. Through bad governance and poor infrastructure, our cities become prone to disasters such as flooding. Mr. Kemal mentioned how our policies are poverty-prone. It is a system that sustains poverty rather than abolishing it. Slums exist because of poor city planning, unaffordable housing, and inequality. These poor neighborhoods lack basic facilities such as water and sanitation, electricity, gas, etc. It breeds sickness, illiteracy, and thus, poverty.

Mr. Kemal, an SDG guru goes on to elaborate on the targets of the first goal. These include eradicating extreme poverty, reducing poverty by 50%, implementing nationally appropriate social protection systems, equal rights to ownership, basic services, technology, and economic resources, building resilience to environmental, political, and social disasters, mobilizing resources to end poverty and establishing poverty eradication policy framework at all levels.





# Energy Generation and Sustainable Development

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## ***Do the energy power projects in Pakistan align with our policies on sustainable development; A Case Study of Thar-Engro Coal Power Project***

The energy sector is a pivotal element for development and economic prosperity and thus, for sustainable development, we must reanalyse our direction in the energy sector and whether it aligns with the principles of sustainable development or not. Currently, Pakistan relies on non-renewable resources such as oil, coal, and gas to meet its energy needs. We still struggle to generate the energy required for economic development even though we have an ample supply of renewable energy sources such as solar and wind power. To meet the SDGs by 2030 we need to shift to renewable resources. However, despite continuous promises and policies by governments we are still heavily investing in non-renewable energy resources.

The Thar-Engro Coal Power Project is one such example. Thar is home to the 7th largest coal reserves in the world. This project is a joint venture (public-private partnership) between the Sindh Government, CPEC, and Engro.

The project will be completed in three phases. The first phase will produce 660 MW electricity, phase II involves expanding the mine to extract 13.5 million tons of coal and phase III will be a further expansion to yield 19.5 million tons of coal to produce 3600 MW of energy. It is claimed by the supporters and shareholders of the project that the completion of this project will help Pakistan meet all its energy needs and open the road for economic development.

A project of this magnitude in an area like Thar which is underdeveloped and impoverished paves the way for a lot of development opportunities. However, considering sustainable development, exploiting the coal mine for power generation has a catastrophic impact on the environment. It is a non-renewable energy resource and while the entire world is



shifting to renewable resources including China, it is peculiar why China is investing billions in a coal power project in Pakistan.

The project also has a grave social impact. It has displaced many from their ancestral homes with little compensation. Although, the responsible people deny the allegations claiming that displaced people were compensated. In addition, the government has the power under the Land Acquisition Act 1894 to declare any particular land that is required for a public purpose or that of a company, as defined therein, provided that the stipulated conditions are met. However, in this case, the conditions were that these people would be compensated with homes and jobs. Research has shown very few people got what was promised.

The debate here is doing the pros outweigh the cons in this project. It might be able to bring economic stability and help meet our energy needs but it goes against the principles of sustainable development. Does Pakistan prioritize its economic wellbeing in the short term to destroy the environment in the long term or should it adopt policies parallel to the ideology of sustainable development but give up the opportunity to reap the benefits from its rich mineral resources?



Photo from Geo

# Orientation to Charity Commissions

HRDN held webinars on the orientation to Charity Commissions in collaboration with Beyond Paradigm. We were successful in holding a successful session with all of provinces which included Mr. Muhammad Ahsan, Secretary Social Welfare, Industry and Labor from Azad Jammu and Kashmir, Mr. Abubakar Ahmed Madani, Additional Secretary Social Welfare Department from Sindh, Mr. Syed Muhammad Nauman, Director General Baluchistan Charities Registration and Regulation Authority and Mr. Abdul Rauf Baloch, Secretary Social Welfare Department from Baluchistan.



**Orientation to Charity Commission Azad Jammu and Kashmir**

Friday - JANUARY 22nd - 2021 @ 3:00 PM

**SPIRIT OF PARTNERSHIP**

**MUHAMMAD AHSAN**  
SECRETARY  
Social Welfare, Industry & Labour

**ROBEELA BANGASH**  
CEO  
Human Resource Development Network

**LIVE ON zoom**

**f LIVE**

**Beyond Paradigm**

**Live - Webinar**  
Webinar facilitated by: [www.beyondparadigm.com](http://www.beyondparadigm.com)



**Orientation to Charity Commission Sindh**

Friday - JANUARY 1st - 2021 @ 3:00 PM

**SPIRIT OF PARTNERSHIP**

**ABU BAKAR AHMED MADANI**  
ADDITIONAL SECRETARY  
Social Welfare Department  
Sindh

**ROBEELA BANGASH**  
CEO  
Human Resource Development Network

**LIVE ON zoom**

**f LIVE**

**Beyond Paradigm**

**Live - Webinar**  
Webinar facilitated by: [www.beyondparadigm.com](http://www.beyondparadigm.com)



**Orientation to Charity Commission Balochistan**

Wednesday - JANUARY 13th - 2021 @ 3:00 PM

**SPIRIT OF PARTNERSHIP**

**SYED MUHAMMAD NAUMAN**  
DIRECTOR GENERAL  
Balochistan Charities Registration & Regulation Authority

**ABDUL RAUF BALOCH**  
SECRETARY  
Social Welfare Department  
Balochistan

**ROBEELA BANGASH**  
CEO  
Human Resource Development Network

**LIVE ON zoom**

**f LIVE**

**Beyond Paradigm**

**Live - Webinar**  
Webinar facilitated by: [www.beyondparadigm.com](http://www.beyondparadigm.com)




### Orientation to Charity Commission Khyber Pakhtunkhwa

Friday - JANUARY 29th - 2021 @ 3:00 PM

**SPIRIT OF PARTNERSHIP**





**MR. MANZOOR AHMAD**  
SECRETARY  
Social Welfare, Special Education & Women Empowerment Department




**ROBEELA BANGASH**  
CEO  
Human Resource Development Network

Live - Webinar  
Webinar facilitated by: [www.beyondparadigm.com](http://www.beyondparadigm.com)




### Orientation to Charity Commission Punjab

Thursday - MARCH 18th - 2021 @ 3:00 PM

**SPIRIT OF PARTNERSHIP**








**MUNAWAR MALIK**  
DIRECTOR  
Punjab Charity Commission

**M. IMRAN KHAN**  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR  
Punjab Charity Commission

**ROBEELA BANGASH**  
CEO  
Human Resource Development Network



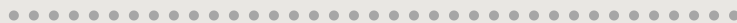
Live - Webinar  
Webinar facilitated by: [www.beyondparadigm.com](http://www.beyondparadigm.com)

Furthermore, from Punjab we had Mr. Munawar Malik, Director Punjab Charity Commission and Mr. M. Imran Khan, Deputy Director Punjab Charity Commission and from Khyber Pakhtunkhwa we had Mr. Manzoor Ahmed, Secretary Social Welfare, Special Education and Women Empowerment Department.



# Upcoming Quarter

- **Webinars on Mental Health during Covid;** The pandemic has considerably effected people's mental health and increased stress and anxiety among the masses. HRDN believes it is pertinent to address this and mental health, just like physical health should not be ignored.
- **Webinar on Nutrition and Health** in collaboration with Beyond Paradigm. The following quarter we will be focusing on women's health and conducting various webinars to enlighten several aspects related to it.
- **Exclusive message from the renowned Dr. Ali Muhammad Mir** on women's health and family planning
- Furthering initiatives on **WASH and Menstrual Hygiene Management**
- **Plantation Drives**





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