



SOCIAL POLICY AND DEVELOPMENT CENTRE

**Managing Director's
Annual Report
2018-19
(July 2018-June 2019)**

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SOCIAL POLICY AND DEVELOPMENT CENTRE

Managing Director's

ANNUAL REPORT: 2018-2019

This report covers the period from July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019 and provides an account of research and other activities undertaken during this period. During the reporting period, focus of the program activities remained on contract research projects, outreach and soliciting new contracts.

Research publications during the reporting period, covered a variety of areas including tobacco taxation, violence against women and girls and population. Altogether, three research reports, two policy briefs and one journal article was published. Moreover, four public events were organized which included a roundtable on the Population Census 2017, a seminar on Public Private Partnership for Better Service Delivery in Government Schools of Sindh, a capacity building workshop on Costs of Violence against Women and final dissemination event of the project on Socio-economic Cost of Violence against Women and Girls.

Study on Tobacco Taxation in Pakistan

First Cycle: SPDC joined international research partnership on tobacco tax policies led by the University of Illinois, USA. The project, started in February 2018, aims to analyze the macroeconomic impacts of tobacco use in the country. After completion of research work, a research report and two policy briefs were prepared. A presentation on the research findings was made in the PIDE conference on December 14, 2018. Other activities carried out during the reporting period included: project partners meeting held in Islamabad (July 4, 2018); project partners meeting and presentation at the Asia Pacific Conference on Tobacco or Health (September 9-12, 2018, Bali, Indonesia) and project partners meeting held in Dubai (October 22-23, 2018).

The research outputs produced include:

- Research Report – Macroeconomic Impact of Tobacco Use in Pakistan
- Policy Brief – Role of Tobacco in Pakistan's Economy: An Untold Reality
- Policy Brief – Tobacco Control in Pakistan: The Impact of Tax Reduction Policy

Second Cycle: After completion of the first cycle in December 2018, second cycle of the project started in January 2019. The current two-year cycle of the project (January 2019 to December 2020) include two research studies. Study #1 will quantify the under-reporting of cigarette production and quantum of tax evasion in Pakistan, while Study #2 will estimate the direct impact of tobacco taxation on government revenues, household tobacco consumption, employment and investment in the tobacco industry.

The following activities were undertaken during the reporting period:

- Research Protocol (methodology) for Study #1 was completed by SPDC team and was approved by UIC.
- Secondary data collection and compilation for Study #1 was completed.
- SPDC team, consisting of Muhammad Asif Iqbal and Wasim Saleem, participated in the Second Annual UIC Asia Think Tank Partners Meeting held in Dalat, Vietnam, June 18-21, 2019. Apart from the UIC team led by Prof. Frank J. Chaloupka, Director of Health Policy Center, UIC, 8 partner organizations from Bangladesh, Vietnam, Indonesia and Pakistan, participated in the meeting. In addition to individual meeting with UIC team on progress of work, SPDC made presentations in the following sessions:
 - a) Macroeconomic Impacts (Input Output) Analysis (work of the previous year)
 - b) Illicit Trade in Tobacco (on-going study)
 - c) Case Study: Policy Goals and High Quality Research in Pakistan (PIDE and SPDC)

The last session was solely devoted to achievements of research work conducted by PIDE and SPDC. Work of SPDC and PIDE, research and policy advocacy, was discussed as a case study of how high quality research followed by effective dissemination can contribute to evidence-based policy making. Both SPDC and PIDE had adopted a strategy of keeping persistent contact with the relevant advocacy organizations and providing them the necessary evidence for policy advocacy. Importance of this work has also been highlighted by UIC through its website news.

A journal article (Title: Macroeconomic Impacts of Cigarette Consumption in Pakistan) based on the work conducted in first cycle of UIC project was prepared. The draft,

initially reviewed by Dr. Frank Chaloupka, was submitted to an international peer-reviewed journal *Tobacco Control*. Comments of the reviewers are awaited.



Tobacconomics team with the Asia Think Tank Partners: SPDC, PIDE, Ark Foundation (Bangladesh), CISDI (Indonesia), DEPOCEN (Vietnam), IPPM (Vietnam), PRAKARSA (Indonesia) and Tax Center (Indonesia) – Dalat, Vietnam 2019

Economic and Social Costs of Violence Against Women and Girls in Pakistan

SPDC is a partner of National University of Ireland, Galway for conducting the study *Economic and Social Costs of Violence against Women and Girls* in Pakistan. It is a three-year multi-country project undertaken in Ghana, Pakistan and South Sudan. The project is in its concluding phase.

The activities carried out during the reporting period included: submission of the revised draft of Country Report and final Summary Report; meeting of the National Advisory Committee (July 14, 2018); preparation of manuscript for journal article, presentation of three papers at the International Conference organized by the Punjab Commission on Status of Women in Lahore (November 28-19, 2018), publication of Country Report and Summary Report, holding capacity building workshop and Final Dissemination event.

SPDC team made the following three presentations at an International Policy Conference on The Social Economy of Gender organized by the Punjab Commission of the Status of Women on November 28, 2019 in Lahore:

1. National Economy and Violence Against Women in Pakistan: Estimating the Tangible Costs – presented by Ms. Naveed Aamir
2. Violence against Women and Cost to Businesses: a Business Case to Prevent Violence against Women in Pakistan – presented by Mr. Adeel Ali
3. Measuring the Unmeasurable: Intangible Cost of Violence Against Women in Pakistan – presented by Mr. Muhammad Asif Iqbal



SPDC's session at the conference on Social Economy of Gender – November 28, 2019, Lahore

A Capacity Building Workshop on *Costs of Violence against Women* was organized by SPDC on June 15, 2019 at Hotel Marriott Islamabad. Purpose of the workshop was to 'demystify' costs and deepen understanding of how to use cost evidence in policy advocacy. The participants mainly included academia and civil society organizations.

Final dissemination event of the project was held on the same day (June 15, 2019) in Islamabad. Summary report was launched in the event, which was attended by representatives from government, academia and civil society sector. Presentations on the finding were made by SPDC team, while the speakers included Ms. Shahnaz Wazir Ali, Dr Nata Duvvury (Project Lead, NUI Galway), Dr. Yamin Zaidi (Director, Center of Gender and Policy Studies) and others.

A new aspect studied for the first time through this research in Pakistan is the impact of violence against women on businesses. The study found that violence both within and outside of the home affects the bottom line of businesses. Violence affects the productivity of all male and female employees. One in seven female employees reported productivity loss as a result of violence, equal to 17 days work each on average in the past year. One out of every 30 male employees reported productivity loss equal to 20 days of work on average in the past year due to perpetrating violence against their partners.



Launch of report on economic and social costs of VAWG – June 15, 2019, Islamabad

Engaging Think Tanks to Facilitate Punjab Planning & Development Department on SDGs Localization

Under this UNDP project, SPDC provided technical support to the Social Cluster Groups constituted by the Government of Punjab. During the reporting period, SPDC team worked on recommendation for implementation of SDGs targets in Punjab. Specifically, the task included highlighting key SDGs dimensions of targets which are currently missing in existing development plans and strategies, identifying key current interventions and programmes related to each SDG target and proposing key areas of interventions and policy reforms. The project has been concluded.

USAID - Sindh Capacity Development Project

The project concluded in August 2018. Major activities during the reporting period included finalization of three video documentaries on project's interventions, final

review of research on *Early Grade Reading Innovations for Quality Education* and communication support to Program Management and Implementation Unit (PMIU) established by the Government of Sindh to oversee the implementation of Sindh Basic Education Program (SBEP).

Annual Review of Social Development in Pakistan

The forthcoming Annual Review deals with the framework of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in the context of regional inequality and institutional mechanisms for implementation of SDGs. Background research work on the SDGs was undertaken and draft report is being prepared.

IDRC - Think Tank Initiative

The IDRC-TTI project concluded in March 2019. As per the contractual requirement, Final Technical Report of the project (Phase-II) was submitted to IDRC. Covering a 5-year period (2015-2019), the report summarized the progress towards milestones and synthesized the results. The report was approved by IDRC and final payment was released.

Proposals for Contract Research

- A concept note on holding *Interactive Dialogues for Countering Violent Extremism* was initially submitted to DAI-Pakistan in March 2019. The project is to be funded by USAID through DAI. After a series of meetings/communication with DAI, a one-year proposal was submitted in May 2019. After receiving comments from USAID, revised proposal was submitted in mid-June 2019. DAI has submitted the proposal to USAID and final response is expected by the end of July 2019. Total project budget is Rs 11.0 million.
- A proposal on Macroeconomic Impacts of Tobacco Taxation in Pakistan was submitted to the University of Illinois, USA for the second cycle of current project. The proposal has been accepted. It is a two-year project, starting in January 2019, with a total budget of \$175,000.
- In response to a call for proposals from ILO Pakistan, a proposal for Research Study on Mapping of Pakistan's Tanning and Leather Industries was submitted in

September 2018. Proposed budget for the 5-month project is Rs 6.7 million. Response is awaited.

- Government of Sindh (GoS) has handed-over 14 government schools to the Citizens Foundation (TCF) under Public Private Partnership. The Concession Agreement between GoS and TCF requires appointment of an organization as Independent Expert for progress monitoring and quality assurance. In this regard, a detailed meeting was held with TCF and a proposal was submitted to TCF. Budgeted cost for the first year is Rs 10.3 million. SPDC has been shortlisted by TCF but the final decision will be made by GoS. Response is awaited.

Dissemination, Outreach and Networking

- The final exchange event of IDRC's Think tank Initiative was held in Bangkok from November 12-14, 2018, which was attended by over 200 think tank representatives, policymakers, donors, researchers, and other stakeholders. Dr. Khalida Ghaus spoke on the 'Economic and Social Costs of VAWG in Pakistan' and also on the 'Protection against Harassment at Workplace'. Mr. Muhammad Asif Iqbal also made a presentation as a panelist in a session on Economic Growth and Decent Jobs.



Exchange event of IDRC's Think tank Initiative –November 12-14, 2018, Bangkok

- Following the publication of research report on Population Census 2017, SPDC organized a roundtable on 'The Census 2017: Implications for Development Planning', which was held in Karachi on Wednesday, October 31, 2018. The event was attended by representatives from political parties, government, academia and civil society.



Roundtable on The Census 2017: Implications for Development Planning –October 31, 2018, Karachi

- A panel discussion on Pakistan’s Population Prerogative was held at Adab Festival Pakistan on February 3, 2019 at Governor’s House Karachi. The discussion was based on SPDC’s research report entitled ‘The 2017 Census of Pakistan: Analyses of Results’. The panelists included Dr. Mehtab S. Karim, Mr. Javed Jabbar and Mr. Muhammad Asif Iqbal. The session was moderated by Dr. Yasmin Kazi. The results of the 2017 Census and its implications for social and economic development were discussed in the session.



Panel discussion on Pakistan’s Population Prerogative, February 3, 2019, Karachi

Presentations by SPDC Staff

Dr. Khalida Ghaus

- Key Note Speaker on ‘Constitutional Provisions on Freedom of Faith and Minority Rights’ at a workshop on Engaging on Freedom of Faith and Interfaith Harmony in Pakistan organized by Pak Institute for Peace Studies (PIPS), Islamabad.

- 'Paigam-e-Pakistan as base for National Narrative to Counter Violence, Extremism and Terrorism', seminar organized by Islamic Research Institute (IRI) and International Islamic University (IIU), Islamabad.
- Spoke on 'Protection against Harassment of Women at the Workplace' as a Chief Guest at a seminar organized by Ziauddin University, Karachi.
- Spoke on 'Protection Against Harassment of Women at Workplace' at the seminar on Awareness Regarding Protection Against Harassment of Women at Workplace organized by the Provincial Ombudsman (Mohtasib), Sindh, Karachi.
- Bangladesh ki Takhleeq: Fasane aor Haqaiq, seminar organized by Readers Club and PACC, Karachi, July 14, 2018, Karachi

Other Staff Members

- Mr. Muhammad Asif Iqbal presented preliminary findings of research study on 'Macroeconomic Impacts of Tobacco Use in Pakistan' at the Asia Pacific Conference on Tobacco or Health held in Bali, Indonesia from September 9-12, 2018.
- Mr. Muhammad Asif Iqbal presented on 'Measuring the Un-measurable: Intangible Cost of Violence against Women in Pakistan' at the conference on The Social Economy of Gender: Addressing Challenges, Seeking Solutions, organized by the Punjab Commission on Status of Women on November 28-19, 2018, Lahore.
- Ms. Naveed Aamir presented on 'National Economy and Violence against Women and Girls in Pakistan: Estimating the Tangible Costs' in the conference on The Social Economy of Gender: Addressing Challenges, Seeking Solutions, organized by the Punjab Commission on Status of Women on November 28-19, 2018, Lahore.
- Mr. Adeel Ali presented on 'A Business Case to Prevent Violence Against Women in Pakistan' in the conference on The Social Economy of Gender: Addressing Challenges, Seeking Solutions, organized by the Punjab Commission on Status of Women on November 28-19, 2018, Lahore.

Meetings – Managing Director

- Meeting on Women Protection Unit, Karachi, Sindh by Lawyer for Human Rights and Legal Aid at Marriot Hotel, Karachi, November 6, 2018.
- Southern Vice via Skype meeting with Dr. Debapriya and Ms. Andrea , Sub-Committee meeting on Host Organization, November 8, 2018.
- Annual General Meeting (AGM) of Board of Governors of Pakistan Institute of International Affairs (PIIA), Karachi, September 29, 2018
- Project Management Committee (PMC) meeting of USAID project entitled Sindh Basic Education program (SBEP), August 2, 2018, Karachi.

Staff Strength

Research Staff	5
Consultant (Full time/Regular)	1
Amin/account staff	3
Total	9

Publications

Research Reports

The 2017 Census of Pakistan: Analyses of Results – Volume 1

Dr. Mehtab S. Karim

The study analyzes the provisional results of the 2017 Census of Pakistan in relation to other demographic indicators such as fertility trends, inter-provincial migration, urbanisation and others.

Macroeconomic Impacts of Tobacco Use in Pakistan

Dr. Khalida Ghaus, Muhammad Asif Iqbal, Muhammad Sabir et al

The main objective of this research is to analyze the macroeconomic impacts of tobacco use in Pakistan. The study estimates the changes in output, income and employment resulting from changes in tobacco use and quantifies the impact of such changes on other economic sectors. It also reviews the existing tax structure, tax rates and tax administration mechanisms with regard to tobacco taxation in Pakistan and proposes policy recommendations on tax structure and administration reforms.

Economic and Social Costs of Violence against Women and Girls in Pakistan: Country Technical Report

Violence against women and girls (VAWG) is widely recognised as a violation of human rights and a challenge to public health. VAWG also has economic and social costs that have not been adequately recognised. These costs not only impact individual women and their families but ripple through society and the economy at large. The threat VAWG poses to the social fabric of the country and its impacts on economic development have not been adequately investigated, analysed or quantified in Pakistan.

The scope of the study was to estimate the social and economic costs of VAWG, and particularly capture the direct and indirect tangible costs as well as the direct intangible costs of the impact of VAWG on individual well-being and social cohesion. The research was undertaken by the National University of Ireland, Galway in collaboration with Social Policy and Development Centre (SPDC), Ipsos MORI, and the International Center for Research on Women (ICRW).

Economic and Social Costs of Violence against Women and Girls in Pakistan: Summary Report

This report summarises the key findings of the What Works to Prevent Violence: Economic and Social Costs project relating to Pakistan. It provides an overview of the social and economic costs of violence against women and girls (VAWG) to individuals and households, businesses and communities, and the national economy and society.

Policy Briefs

Tobacco Control in Pakistan: The Impact of Tax Reduction Policy

Muhammad Asif Iqbal

This policy brief is based on a research study entitled Macroeconomic Impacts of Tobacco Use in Pakistan. It highlights the potential revenue loss to the government due to recent change in the tobacco tax policy.

Role of Tobacco in Pakistan's Economy: An Untold Reality

Muhammad Sabir and Muhammad Asif Iqbal

This policy brief is also based on a research study entitled Macroeconomic Impacts of Tobacco Use in Pakistan. It identifies the economic linkage of cigarette industry and ripple effects of change in tobacco use on other sectors of the economy.

SPDC in Press

1. A case against multi-tier tobacco tax regime

Business Recorder, December 17, 2018

2. Scale of tax loss in tobacco

Business Recorder, December 18, 2018

3. Higher tax urged for tobacco industry

The News, March 22, 2019

4. Experts demand higher tobacco taxes

Business Recorder, March 22, 2019

5. Rich tributes paid to SA Qureshi
The News, April 18, 2019
6. Report on violence against females launched
The News, June 22, 2019