



Institute for a Community  
with Shared Future  
人类命运共同体研究院



中国传媒大学  
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## International Conference Report

# “CPEC: Enhancing Community with a Shared Future for Mankind”



**Jointly organized by**

**Ministry of Planning, Development and Special Initiatives, the Embassy of the People's Republic of China, Communication University, Beijing, and the Pakistan Research Center for a Community with Shared Future on 10 July 2024 at Serena Hotel, Islamabad**



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## Table of Contents

AIM OF THE CONFERENCE.....	3
ABOUT THE CONFERENCE.....	3
CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS.....	3
TOPIC PRESENTATION & DISCUSSIONS.....	11
BRI as an Instrument of Global Civilization Initiative	
The job of Media in enhancing regional connectivity and the framework of Belt & Road Initiative”	
Building a community with a sure future for mankind and its convergence with Latin American international relations	
Promoting Cultural Diversity among nations for a Harmonious shared future for Mankind”	
“Global Security Initiatives and its Impact on World’s Geo-Political Situation”	
“Overview of Commissioned Infrastructure Projects of CPEC and their Impact on Shared Future of Mankind”	
“Key Milestones and Achievements in Phase I of CPEC under BRI”	
“Agricultural Cooperation and Food Security”	
“Impact of Shared Economic Development for building a community with shared future”	
“Expectations and Objectives for Phase-II of CPEC under the Framework of BRI”	
“President Xi Jinping’s vision for environment friendly shared community under the framework of Belt & Road Initiative”	
“CPEC Phase-II and Socio-Economic Development through Technological Advancements”	
Building the Community of Shared Future for the betterment of Mankind"	
“Interfaith Harmony and Peace for the shared future of Mankind”	
PICTURE GALLERY.....	68

## About the Conference

On 10th July 2024, the Associated Press of Pakistan (APP) created a Highlights video showcasing the International conference on "CPEC: Enhancing Community with a Shared Future," jointly organized by the Pakistan Research Center for a Community with Shared Future (PRCCSF) and the Ministry of Planning, Development & Special Initiatives in collaboration with the Embassy of the People's Republic of China to Pakistan.

## Aim of the Conference

The aim of the conference was to explore and promote the potential of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) in fostering sustainable development, economic prosperity, and enhanced cooperation between the two nations. Discussions focused on strategic partnerships, infrastructure development, trade opportunities, and people-to-people connectivity to further strengthen the bonds between China and Pakistan and create a shared future for both nations.

## Conference Highlights:

Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) promotes economic growth, trade, and connectivity among regional countries. Discussions highlighted how the BRI can facilitate regional integration and development through improved infrastructure and enhanced economic collaboration. The conference illuminated the principles of equality, mutual learning, dialogue, and inclusiveness as proposed by China, fostering meaningful discussion on the concept and promoting mutual understanding. The conference featured a series of discussions, presentations, and speeches that shed light on the strategic significance of CPEC to the potential for sustainable development and increased trade, reflecting a broad range of expert opinions and forward-looking strategies for enhancing bilateral relations.



## The Speakers included:

1. Mr. Khalid Taimur Akram, Executive Director, Pakistan Research Centre for a Community with Shared Future (PRCCSF), Islamabad



2. His Excellency Ambassador Jiang Zaidong, Embassy of the People's Republic of China to Pakistan



3. Professor Li Huailiang, Dean of the Institute for a Community with Shared Future, Communication University of China (CUC), Beijing, China







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4. Senator Sarmad Ali, Keynote Speaker and Session Chair



5. Mr. Awais Manzoor Sumra, Secretary Planning, Keynote Speaker and Session Chair



6. Mr. Muhammad Asim Khan, Head of Development Communication, Ministry of Planning, Development and Special Initiatives, Government of Pakistan



7. Dr. Hina Shahid, Head of Department of Media Studies, Foundation University, Islamabad



8. Mr. Zafar ul Hassan, Joint Chief Economist, Planning Ministry



9. Dr. David Haruna Marisho, Head of Department of Public Relations and Marketing University of St. Augustine, Tanzania & Director East African Research Center for a community with shared future



**10. Dr. Muzammil Zia, Regional Connectivity & Infrastructure Specialist, CPEC Secretariat**



**11. Dr. Liaqat Ali Shah, Executive Director, CPEC Center of Excellence**



**12. Prof. Dr. Sajid Rashid Ahmad, Dean, Faculty of Geosciences, University of the Punjab, Lahore**





**13. Ms. Maria Francesca Stainno** Latin America Research Center for a Community with Shared Future and Belt & Road Initiative, and Associate Professor at National University of La Plata, Buenos Aires, Argentina



**14. Dr. Waqas Anwar**, Member Infrastructure and Regional Connectivity, Planning Commission



**15. Prof. Dr. Anwar Ahmed**, Sector Specialist, Agriculture, Food & Nutrition, Planning Commission







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16. Prof. Dr. Zafar Nawaz Jaspal, Dean Social Sciences, Quaid-i-Azam University, Islamabad



17. Dr. Tahir Hijazi, Former Member Governance, Planning Commission



18. Prof. Dr. Muhammad Saleem Mazhar, Director General, National Language Promotion Department, Government of Pakistan



**19. Dr. Najeeb Ullah, Former Member, Science and Technology**



**20. Dr. Fouzia Hadi Ali, Director, Regional Integration Centre  
University of the Punjab, Lahore**



**21. Mufti Muhammad Naeem Rehmat Naeemi, President,  
Muttahida Ulema Council Pakistan**



**22. His Excellency Faisal Karim Kundi, Governor of Khyber  
Pakhtunkhwa Province**



## Welcome Remarks by Mr. Khalid Taimur Akram, Executive Director,

### Pakistan Research Center for a Community with Shared Future (PRCCSF), Islamabad

Mr. Khalid Taimur Akram welcomed all at the conference on “CPEC: Enhancing Community with a Shared Future for Mankind.” He introduced about his research center, the Pakistan Research Center for a Community with Shared Future (PRCCSF), which was jointly established with the Communication University of China (CUC) in Beijing in October 2020. This platform supports building shared culture and arts, enhancing people-to-people contacts through tourism and trade, fostering regional connectivity through initiatives like the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) and the Eurasian Region, and promoting research cooperation. PRCCSF calls for closer coordination between research institutes in Pakistan, China, and other regional countries to pave the way for joint ventures in multiple areas of mutual interest. We are dedicated to advancing the concept of a community with a shared future, as championed by President Xi Jinping. Our center has won the Outstanding Individual Contribution Award from CUC as the top research center globally for three consecutive years: 2021, 2022, and 2023.



In addition to our focus on enriching research on various aspects of Pakistan-China relations, PRCCSF is deeply involved in significant regional and global developments. Our platform for dialogue and exchange strives towards enhanced cooperation and synergy between the media and academic communities. The primary aim of organizing this conference is to raise awareness about the concept of community of shared future and how it is linked with CPEC. We should be steadfast in our commitment to forging a human community, working towards a shared future for all of humanity.



China has contributed its strength to building a global community of shared futures with firm conviction and solid actions. This includes promoting high-quality Belt and Road cooperation, implementing the Global Development Initiative, the Global Security Initiative, and the Global Civilization Initiative, and proposing a range of regional and bilateral initiatives aimed at building communities with shared futures. More countries and people are coming to understand that this vision serves the common interests of humanity, represents popular calls for peace, justice, and progress, and can create the greatest synergy among all nations for building a better world. Together, we can achieve remarkable milestones in our shared journey towards enhancing our community with a shared future for mankind.





**Speech by Professor Li Huailiang, Dean of the Institute for a Community with Shared Future, Communication University of China (CUC), Beijing, China**

Dear guests, ladies and gentlemen, it is a great honour for me to join you in this important UH conference to discuss the CPEC and the building of a global community of shared futures as an important pilot project of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI). The CPEC has made remarkable achievements since its launch. It has not only promoted the economic development of China and Pakistan but also made positive contributions to regional peace, stability, and prosperity. Through the CPEC, we see great potential for infrastructure connectivity. The



construction of roads, ports, and energy projects has created more favourable conditions for trade and investment, promoted industrial upgrading and transformation, and brought tangible benefits to the two peoples. However, the CPEC is much more than that; it is a vivid practice of building a global community of shared futures. In the era of globalisation, countries face many common challenges, such as climate change, public health security, and even economic development. To build a global community of shared futures, we must transcend national boundaries and work together to meet this challenge. The successful experience of the CPEC tells us that common development can only be achieved through openness, inclusiveness, and mutual benefit.

We need to strengthen policy communication, promote trade and investment liberalization, promote the free flow of capital, technology, and talent and create a more fair, transparent, and predictable business environment in order to practice the concept of building a global community of shared futures. The Communication University of China (CUC) established the Institute of Global Community of Shared Future in 2019. The academy is a strategic research platform and a unit directly under the university; its mission is to conduct theoretical research and international spread of the concept of the global community of shared future. Since its establishment, the Institute has achieved fruitful research results. As the concept of a global community of shared



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futures has been widely recognised in the international community, we have found many friends in the international academic community and established 20 international research centres in Asia, Europe, Africa, America, and Latin America. The Pakistan Research Centre of the Global Community of Shared Futures is one of the best of these 20 research centres.

Under the leadership of Mr. Khalid Pakistan Research Centre for a Community with Shared Futures (PRCCSF) has made outstanding contributions to the dissemination of the concept of the global community of shared futures in Pakistan and around the world. Pakistan Research Centre for a Community with Shared Futures (PRCCSF) has been the top-ranking centre for the last three years. I would like to take this opportunity to express my heartfelt thanks to Mr. Khalid. Academic exchange is an important part of people-to-people and cultural exchange, which can enhance mutual understanding and friendship between the two peoples. We hope that through more cooperation in academic, cultural, and educational fields, we can narrow the distance between the two countries and lay a solid public opinion foundation for the long-term development of China-Pakistan relations.

### **Key Takeaways**

- The CPEC has not only promoted the economic development of China and Pakistan but also made positive contributions to regional peace, stability, and prosperity.
- The successful experience of the CPEC tells us that common development can only be achieved through openness, inclusiveness, and mutual benefit.
- There is need to strengthen policy communication. promote trade and investment liberalization. promote the free flow of capital, technology, and talent and create a more fair, transparent, and predictable business environment in order to practice the concept of building a global community of shared futures.

**Speech by Muhammad Asim Khan, Head of Development Communication, Ministry of Planning, Development and Special Initiatives, Government of Pakistan**

**Topic: “Introduction to Conference objectives and key Highlights**

It's really an honour and privilege to address you today. Our gathering today reflects our shared vision and commitment to exploring the immense potential of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) and its role in fostering a brighter future for our communities and beyond. I'm particularly honoured to have a long association with the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC). Since its inception, I have had the privilege of witnessing the signing of its framework agreement in 2015 and serving as its



first spokesperson for the Belt and Road initiative launched by the honourable president Xi Jinping. This conference aims to achieve the following objectives: highlight the strategic significance of CPEC, discuss historical context strategic goals, and transform the impact of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) on regional and global skills. Second, review key achievements and milestones to reflect on the progress made during phase one and to analyse the significant infrastructural and energy projects that have been commissioned. Third, discuss current and future energy projects to explore the ongoing and future energy projects that are vital for sustainable economic growth and development. The fourth objective is to promote cooperation and collaboration to foster a dialogue on industrial relocation, transport infrastructure, environmental challenges, and The fifth goal is to enhance socioeconomic development and connectivity. Our conference is structured into three key sessions, each addressing critical aspects of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC). In session one, we will be discussing the strategic significance and infrastructure development of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC). This session will provide a comprehensive overview of the historical background, strategic goals, and key milestones achieved in Phase 1, and it will also



cover the significant energy project that have been installed and their impact on the region and the well-being of the people of Pakistan. In the second session, we will be discussing cooperation under the framework of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), and we will have a special focus on the cooperative framework of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC). The topics of discussion will include industrial relocation progress on transport infrastructure projects, environmental challenges and opportunities, and challenges associated with special economic zones. In the third session, we will be discussing socio-economic development and China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) phase two for regional connectivity. Our final session will explore socioeconomic development and regional connectivity under China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) Phase 2, and the key topics will include new corridor proposals for agricultural cooperation, cultural exchange, and socioeconomic challenges and opportunities for regional integration.

We expect a few key takeaways for all of the participants, like an in-depth understanding of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) framework and the achievements till now, as well as networking opportunities like engaging with experts, policymakers, and stakeholders to foster collaboration and build partnerships. Thirdly, insights into the best practices learned from case studies and discussions on successful projects and initiatives. Under the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), similarly, we will learn about how policy recommendations contribute to the development of actionable policy recommendations for successful implementation of China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) projects. Last but not least, we expect innovative solutions, like exploring innovative solutions to address the challenges and leverage opportunities presented by the CPEC.





## Key Takeaways

- We will learn about how policy recommendations contribute to the development of actionable policy recommendations for successful implementation of China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) projects.
- We expect innovative solutions, like exploring innovative solutions to address the challenges and leverage opportunities presented by the CPEC.

## Speech by Guest of Honor His Excellency Ambassador Jiang Zaidong, Embassy of the People's Republic of China to Pakistan

Minister Ahsan Iqbal, to the host of the conference, and to all the distinguished guests, for supporting China-Pakistan friendship and also your commitment to the great cause of building a community with a shared future for mankind. Today, my speech will focus on three main aspects: how does China handle state-to-state relations based on the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence, how does China build the world through the Vision of Building a Community with a Shared Future for Mankind, and how does China practice this through high-quality Belt and Road cooperation and the CPEC construction.



First, as the Chinese saying goes, be kind to your neighbor, and promote harmony among all nations. The Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence have provided a historical answer to the very important question of how to properly handle state-to-state relations. On 28th June, the Conference Marking the 70th Anniversary of the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence was held in Beijing. President Xi Jinping attended the conference and delivered an important speech. President Xi expounded on the essence of the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence and their



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relevance for our times, which was highly endorsed by all parties present. Seventy years ago, against the backdrop of national independence and liberation movements swept across the globe in the wake of the Second World War, and the scourge of hot wars and the confrontation of the Cold War, Chinese leaders put forth in full the following Five Principles, i.e. mutual respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity, mutual non-aggression, mutual non-interference in each other's internal affairs, equality and mutual benefit, and peaceful coexistence. The Five Principles have been included in a series of important international documents over the past 70 years, and have been widely recognized and observed by the international community. They have become open, inclusive, and universally applicable basic norms for international relations and fundamental principles of international law.

They have set a historic benchmark for international relations and international rule of law, served as the prime guidance for the establishment and development of relations between countries with different social systems. They have been a powerful rallying force behind the efforts of developing countries to pursue cooperation and self-strength through unity, and contributed historic wisdom to the reform and improvement of the international order. The past 70 years' extraordinary journey proved that, the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence are a common asset of the international community to be valued, inherited and further promoted.

Second, a just cause should be pursued for common good. Building a Community with a Shared Future for Mankind answered the call of the times of "what kind of world to build and how to build it". Our world today is going through accelerated transformation unseen in a century, and international situation is going through turbulence and transformation. The Ukraine crisis and the Palestinian-Israeli conflict have been dragging on. President Xi Jinping put forward the vision of Building a Community with a Shared Future for Mankind. This vision captures the reality that all countries have a shared future and intertwined interests, and sets a new model of equality and coexistence for international relations. It responds to the world's prevailing trend of peace, development, cooperation and win-win, and opens up new prospects for peace and progress. It also keeps pace with the historic trend toward multipolarity and economic globalization, and inspires new ways to achieve development and security. Precisely because this vision aligns with the shared aspirations of all nations, and charts the course for the development of world civilization, it has been widely welcomed by people around the world, and has become

a flag spearheading the trend of the times. This vision carries forward the same spirit of the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence, and is the most effective move to sustain, promote and upgrade the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence in the new circumstances. It has and will continue to move the world to a bright future of peace, security, prosperity and progress.

Since BRI was proposed, China has adhered to the principle of “planning together, building together, and benefiting together”, and has continuously advanced in the direction of high-quality development. From laying the foundation, building the structure to taking the roots, we have continuously devoted to enhancing policy, infrastructure, trade, financial and people-to-people connectivity, and building a cooperation platform of extensive participation and international consensus.

Not long ago, when met with Prime Minister Shahbaz who was paying an official visit to China, President Xi Jinping pointed out that China is ready to synergize the high-quality Belt and Road cooperation with Pakistan’s development plans, carry out cooperation in agriculture, mining, social livelihood and other areas in accordance with local conditions, and jointly develop five corridors featuring growth, livelihood-enhancing, innovation, green development and openness, with focus on building an upgraded version of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), so as to promote deeper and more substantive progress in the high-quality cooperation on CPEC and help boost Pakistan’s economic and social development. Under the strategic guidance of the leaders of the two countries, we are ready to work with Pakistan to accelerate the building of an even closer China-Pakistan community with a shared future in the new era and lead the great process of building a community with a shared future for mankind.

### **Key Takeaways**

- The vision of Building a Community with a Shared Future for Mankind captures the reality that all countries have a shared future and intertwined interests, and sets a new model of equality and coexistence for international relations.
- China is ready to synergize the high-quality Belt and Road cooperation with Pakistan’s development plans, carry out cooperation in agriculture, mining, social livelihood and other areas



- China has adhered to the principle of “planning together, building together, and benefiting together”, and has continuously advanced in the direction of high-quality development.
- We are ready to work with Pakistan to accelerate the building of an even closer China-Pakistan community with a shared future in the new era and lead the great process of building a community with a shared future for mankind.





**Speech by Dr. Hina Shahid, Head of Department of Media Studies,**

**Foundation University, Islamabad**

**Topic: “BRI as an Instrument of Global Civilization Initiative”**

BRI, upholds the principles of extensive consultation, joint contribution, and shared benefits. We all witnessed that BRI follows a Silk Road spirit featuring peace and cooperation, openness and inclusiveness, mutual learning and mutual benefit. It focuses on policy coordination, connectivity of infrastructure, unimpeded trade, financial integration, and closer people-to-people ties. It has turned ideas into actions and vision into reality, and the initiative itself into a public product widely welcomed by the international community. From high-level plans to intensive and meticulous implementation, BRI has advanced in solid steps as the world has witnessed high-quality development that bring benefits to local people, and build a global community of shared future.



If we look at the progress of last ten years, starting from the Policy coordination that is an important guarantee for this initiative, and an essential precondition for joint actions. The Belt and Road Initiative has been incorporated into important documents of international organizations including the UN Security Council Resolution 2344, calling on the international community to strengthen regional economic cooperation through the Belt and Road Initiative and other development initiatives, while for the first time enshrining the concept of "a community of shared future for mankind" more and more countries and international organizations have signed intergovernmental cooperation agreements on the Belt and Road Initiative thus ensuring coordination and cooperation.



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However, a growing deficit in peace, development, security and governance, together with intertwining conventional and non-conventional security issues such as regional conflicts, arms races, food security, terrorism, cyber-attacks, climate change, energy crises, major infectious diseases, and artificial intelligence problems, poses a grave threat to the beautiful planet on which all humans live. In the face of emerging global difficulties and challenges, human society needs new ideas, new concepts, and a more just, equitable, balanced, resilient and effective global governance system. China, as a responsible state, comes forward once again to introduce Global Civilization Initiative. Cultural connectivity, as championed by the GCI, encourages inclusive coexistence and deters aggression by promoting mutual respect and understanding. GCI has inspired a new era of unity, understanding, and peaceful coexistence on a global scale. This vision aligns with the ethos of the BRI, which has, since its inception, aimed to revive and extend the ancient Silk Road's spirit of exchange and cooperation.

The GCI, alongside the Global Development Initiative and the Global Security Initiative, has garnered international support as a significant public good provided by China to the world. These global initiatives reflect China's vision and foreign policy toward achieving development, prosperity, security, and stability worldwide, defining the path China has set to deal with others. GCI aligns with the Belt and Road Initiative's goals of extending ancient exchanges along the Silk Road into a modern framework. The ancient Silk Road served as a central hub for the exchange of civilizations, promoting trade, sharing cultures, and enhancing mutual understanding. The Belt and Road Initiative carries forward the rich legacy of the ancient Silk Road, aiming to foster collaboration and cooperation among civilizations.

The GCI's mission is transformational, aiming to reshape global connections by encouraging states to collaborate in an atmosphere of mutual respect and understanding. This effort rejects the conventional concept of a "clash of civilizations" in favor of civilizations enhancing each other via communication and trade. The GCI is founded on principles such as mutual respect, open conversation, and cooperative growth, all of which seek to build a sense of shared global progress.

Cultural exchanges play a unique and irreplaceable role in the rejuvenation of China and the building of a global community with a shared future. Chinese wisdom, passed down through millennia, advocates for the mutual prosperity of global civilizations, welcomes the flourishing

of popular cultural products, and encourages the youth to inherit and reinvent their proud traditions.

For instance, cultural exchanges between Pakistan and China have significantly strengthened people-to-people contacts between the two countries.

The cultural performances and artistic collaborations between them have provided a better understanding of each other's people and culture, fostering a sense of camaraderie and mutual respect. Let us embrace this vision and work collectively towards a world of unity, understanding, and peace.



### Key Takeaways

- The Belt and Road Initiative has significantly strengthened people-to-people ties, artistic collaborations, and cultural understanding, celebrating the richness of humanity's cultural tapestry and nurturing a sense of interconnectedness and common purpose.
- Cultural exchanges between Pakistan and China have significantly strengthened people-to-people contacts between the two countries.
- Chinese wisdom, passed down through millennia, advocates for the mutual prosperity of global civilizations, welcomes the flourishing of popular cultural products, and encourages the youth to inherit and reinvent their proud traditions.



**Speech by Mr. Zafar ul Hassan, Joint Chief Economist, Planning Ministry**

**Topic: “Key Milestones and Achievements in Phase I of CPEC under BRI”**

In the first phase, the major focus was on building infrastructure gaps, bridging the gap in the energy sector, and improving highways. In the second phase, which is more critical to bring infrastructure utilising this infrastructure energy and translate into economic growth, SEZs are critical. So far, four SEZs are almost developed, so this development phase is going on, so we have to populate into industry. Why is it critical for Pakistan to just cooperate or bring international cooperation? Pakistan is consistently facing a balance of payments problem, and because of this problem, after 2–3 years, the economic stabilisation is being undertaken with the help of the IMF, which forces us to take critical decisions regarding the cost of energy taxation. This is also affecting the investment climate, and this is making it difficult to bring industries into the SEZs once the economy stabilises. Then it will be easier for the country to operate the industrial zone, and it will also bring the economy back on track. The bringing of Chinese experts in different areas has recently been undertaken, and the first page of experts to analyse the Pakistani structural transformation is on the way. And we will give a sectoral strategy for which sector will be incorporated, and the one area that we have ignored and where a lot of work is going on is the agriculture sector.



The cooperation in the field of livestock and agriculture is leading to the rural problem, so we have to focus in the second phase on, uh, just creating jobs, and the second element, which we have ignored, was undertaken during the first phase of the socioeconomic development of the country.

Development. I think it has been ignored, but I think it is not very public, but a lot of things are happening, like 15,000 solar panels given to people who are not part of the national grade. These were just transforming lives in this area where electricity has become almost human rights. Many

people do not have access, so under the social economic umbrella, 15,000 people were given solar, and now their houses are lightened by the unit. And agriculture equipment is given to various universities that are doing research, and they're upgrading their skills.

During COVID 19, China has given under the social economic umbrella 8 billion R&B, which is utilised for various projects and is now also used for upgrading social economic development, so these are areas that are transforming lives and livelihoods. These areas need to be focused on more, and these areas are more related to the subject matter of this seminar. CPEC is working slowly under constraints; it may be a balance of payment constraint or a lower economic growth constraint, but surely the system is working. Second phase we will be thinking more about the people's decisions because in the first phase, infrastructure was focused so people's lives were not impacted, but in the second field, although the transactions might not be on that level, they will transform much faster than in the first phase, and this is critical for the people at that time as well



### **Key Takeaways**

- First phase of CPEC focused on addressing infrastructure and energy gaps in Pakistan, which were essential for laying the foundation for economic growth.
- International cooperation, particularly through CPEC, is seen as crucial in stabilizing the economy and attracting industries to SEZs, which are key to long-term growth.
- The second phase of CPEC emphasizes utilizing existing infrastructure to boost economic growth. This includes a stronger focus on agriculture and livestock, areas previously overlooked, to create jobs and address rural challenges.
- Initiatives like providing solar panels to 15,000 households and upgrading agricultural research have improved lives in rural areas.

**Speech by Dr. Muzammil Zia, Regional Connectivity & Infrastructure Specialist,**

**CPEC Secretariat**

**Topic: “Overview of Commissioned Infrastructure Projects of CPEC and their Impact on Shared Future of Mankind”**

We gather here to reflect on the achievements of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) and to chart the course of its future phase under the visionary framework of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI). Today we are in the month of July 2024. If you go back 11 years in this month, on July 5, 2013, the first MOU was signed between the two countries. On July 5th, a three-page document was signed in Beijing, and no one knew about the Belt and Road Initiative at the time, and no one knew about the CPEC or what it would look like. But with the great effort of both sides leadership in the past 11 years, through the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), a huge success has been achieved in Pakistan. 11 years before no one knows that what would what was going to happen after one decade. In one decade, through the Belt and Road Initiative, more than 1 billion dollars of investments have been made by China throughout the world in more than 3,000 projects. And out of those, Pakistan succeeded in completing more than 26 billion projects.



In Pakistan, out of which 16 projects worth 166 billion dollars of energy projects have been completed, approximately eight projects worth 6 billion dollars have been completed, which include the KKH motorway, the Orange Line train, and others. Then, around five projects in Gwadar Port as well as in the Free Zone worth 0.5 million have been completed in one decade.



For social and economic development, approximately nine projects worth 0.5 million have been completed in this time frame, so last year, to celebrate the decade of CPEC, especially the vice premium we hold the conference the decade of CPEC conference where all the dignitaries have participated and everyone shed light on the progress China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) have achieved so most of you people have a very clear idea that in the phase one what we have achieved and but now it's time for the phase two of CPEC the recent visit of prime minister of Pakistan to China the we had a like a business Forum in China where more than 20 MOUs have been signed between the Pakistani Enterprises and the Chinese Enterprises those show interest of Chinese investor to invest in Pakistan.

So the first focus in the first decade was only on the energy and infrastructure needs so today I we can easily say that we already have enough energy in our system and we have enough good connectivity of Gwadar port and road that we can we are ready to move from first phase to second phase. In the second phase, the top priority is industrialisation. Both governments have already identified nine special economic zones throughout Pakistan, and out of those nine special economic zones, four are the most prioritised, located in each province.



For example like in we have the Rashakai special economic in KPK, Allama Iqbal Industrial City zones in Punjab we have economic zone we have Dhabi special economic zone in Sindh and in baluchistan we have Bostan Industrial Zone economic zone. So these four SEZs are prioritised SEZs, and we, the current government, are really working hard to provide all the basic necessities in those SEZs to attract maximum Chinese investment as we are moving forward with five new corridors in phase two of CPEC, and those five corridors are named growth corridor green corridor, livelihood corridor, innovation corridor, and openness corridor. So these five corridors will be the guiding principles for the second phase, and for example, for the growth

corridor in the next phase, the more focus will be on the growth strategies and how to improve Pakistan's growth.

Now the government's current strategy is to improve their imports and exports towards China, and that includes the agriculture product project. In the last year, many protocols have been signed, including the cherry from this year that Pakistan made in Pakistan, growing Pakistan. Cherry is important, and we are also trying to negotiate for the fresh meat export to China, so the opportunities are big, and we all have to work really hard to achieve them all to attain the maximum out of these opportunities. To keep in view these opportunities, the CPEC ambitions and scope have been enhanced. In the beginning, we had only four areas of cooperation, but now we have 11 areas of cooperation.

These new areas include science and technology. Information technology and social economic development agriculture, international cooperation, and industry cooperation, so these new areas will provide new input to the CPEC Phase 2, and we are very hopeful that through the CPEC Phase 2, we will be able to achieve more progress in terms of country exports and their impact on the livelihood of the local people because phase one was focused more on infrastructure things and through phase one as well. Pakistan created more than 250,000 direct jobs and a much bigger number of indirect jobs in Pakistan through the first phase, but for the second phase, the number is huge if we are able to achieve those targets, especially in the industrial and special economic zones.

### **Key Takeaways**

- Over the past 11 years, the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) has achieved substantial progress, with investments exceeding \$26 billion in Pakistan alone.
- With the completion of essential energy and infrastructure projects in the first phase, CPEC is now entering its second phase. The focus is shifting towards industrialization, with nine Special Economic Zones (SEZs) identified across Pakistan.
- The scope of CPEC has expanded from four to eleven areas of cooperation in Phase Two. New areas include science and technology, information technology, social and economic development, agriculture, and international cooperation.

- The second phase of CPEC introduces five new corridors designed to guide Pakistan's sustainable development.
- The government's strategy includes enhancing exports, such as fresh agricultural products to China, which will positively impact local livelihoods and contribute to economic stability.

**Speech by Dr. David Haruna Mrisho, Head of Department of Public Relations and Marketing, University of St. Augustine, Tanzania & Director East African Research Center for a Community with Shared Future**

I wish to thank the organizers of this very beautiful event, and in a very special whereby we sit down and discuss issues pertaining to the building of a world that finds peace, harmony, and prosperity together, having discussions on how the community of a shared future is a necessity towards building a better world. My reflection and talk today centers on the Strategic significance of community of future what it matters and what it means for Africa and maybe in this very in a very specific way my country Tanzania.



When I was trying to think about why humans need a philosophy or a path towards a better world, the history of humanity came into my mind. Humans in history have witnessed not so much of a good history. Human history, for the most part, is the history of wars; it is the history of mysteries; it is a history of economic instability; we have the history of poverty; the history of social and political turmoil; nevertheless, humans in a search for the best possible arrangement that can save as a panacea for the problems of humanity.

We witnessed today civil wars in Europe we witness today. We still witness today some red means of imperialism and even more some ideas of imperial conquest, and we witness today much of the human trade of dehumanisation and a sheer exuberance of selfishness by powerful empires and Leaders in this world even when, with the collapse of the Soviet Union, we never created an International System of Justice. We never created democratic global governance,





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freedom, and equity, but rather a more dictatorial global system with the United States emerging at the so-called International Policedictating what they should do and what they should not do, such creation further divided the world, identifying some states as allies and some as partners and friends.

Today, we have hope, and we see a better future because of a new concept called the concept of building a community of a shared future. This concept has become a better gift to humanity, an alternative to altering the cause of historical global turbulence and providing a framework for the world to be a better place and for humanity to be rescued.

I, along with so many of us, thank the head of state of the People's Republic of China, President Xi Jinping, an intellectually and philosophically modern leader who fits the platonian description and prescription of leaders that can transform and change the world. He has initiated initiatives that are not only beneficial for Chinese people but to the entire human race. He introduced the concept of building a shared future back in 2013 and aimed at fostering a new type of international relations based on mutual respect, fairness, justice, and win-win cooperation. The concept emphasises the importance of building a harmonious and prosperous world through dialogue, consultation, and cooperation among nations regardless of their size, strength, or stage of development, my dear colleagues. This concept is a vision of a world where all countries can develop and prosper together, a world where there is peace, stability, and common development. The concept is based on the principles of mutual respect and equality.

Mutual benefit and peaceful existence are good, constructive paths. This is a good rationale behind building a community of mankind in which the community is open to each other. The community thinks about inclusivity—a community that is clean and beautiful with lasting peace, universal security, and shared prosperity. The strategic guide of this concept is implementing the global development initiative, the global security initiative, and the global civilisation initiative, and therefore becoming a platform for action towards which the world becomes a better place. The community of a shared future is one that allows developing countries to work together to make the pie of the global economy bigger and share it with fairness so as to make development both adequate and balanced and help people of all natures in all countries of all walks of life embark on a journey to modernisation.

The model community of a shared future provides Africa with the opportunities to navigate this traditional cycle of production to learn and share experiences with China for a prosperous continent that will fit in this great community. Africa should learn from China through some technological breakthroughs through research and development, and replication should refine Africans to fit in this community. Export growth should be consolidated for African countries through massive

industrialisation with partnership and cooperation with China. The realization of the above goals has to go with political feasibility and Readiness to transform and fit in this community with a shared future but this cannot be enhanced without considering who are there to belong for the future the Young Generation and this is the reason why the East African Research Center exist not only to discuss and share the prosperity and the beauty of such a community but to teach the Young generation why and how this philosophy is important we were established way back 2020 with other close to 18 centers globally. Our intention is turning to the young people to the students and instilling them why development is important why peace is important.

Tanzania should believe in its own capacity to develop without coping with the world. We do presentations and workshops, but we are trying to teach our students the need for dialogue, starting with workshops and conferences on religious dialogue. We teach how important it is for our people to know about gender issues, but much more importantly, we believe leadership is key to promoting and teaching our students.

Through the centre on leadership, above all, we do research pertaining to what can be better handled when we think about emulating our world together.

### **Key Takeaways**

- Building a global community of shared future focuses on mutual respect, fairness, and win-win cooperation as a solution to the divisive and anarchic global systems currently in place. This initiative, which promotes harmonious international relations through dialogue, consultation, and cooperation.
- The concept of a shared future provides Africa with the chance to break free from traditional cycles of underdevelopment.

- By learning from China's technological advancements and industrialization, African nations can achieve greater economic prosperity and modernization, ensuring that the continent plays a significant role in the global community.

**Speech by Mr. Awais Manzur Sumra, Secretary Planning, Ministry of Planning,  
Development and Special Initiatives, Government of Pakistan**

**Topic: “Expectations and Objectives for Phase-II of CPEC under the Framework of BRI”**

It is a great honour to be here today at the International Conference on CPEC, enhancing the community with a shared future for mankind. We gathered here to reflect on the achievements of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) and to charge the course for its future phases under the visionary framework of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI). The journey of the



CPEC began in 2013. Over the past decades, we have witnessed remarkable milestones that have transformed the economic landscape of Pakistan. CPEC phase one focused primarily on addressing the immediate needs of our nation by incorporating energy into the national grid, constructing vital infrastructure projects, including motorways and highways, and developing and operationalizing the strategic Gwadar port. These achievements have laid a solid foundation for the next phase of CPEC. As we move forward, both the Ministry of Planning in Pakistan and the National Development and Reform Commission of China have launched CPEC Phase 2. This new phase signifies a broader and more ambitious scope, focusing on industrial relocation, agricultural modernization, job creation, and the socioeconomic well-being of our people. Under CPEC Phase 2, five new corridors have been proposed by President Xi Jinping: the number one





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growth corridor, the number two livelihood-enhancing corridor, and the number three innovation corridor. The fourth is the green corridor, and the fifth is the opening-up and digital connectivity corridor.

We are preparing separate concept papers on these new economic corridors, which will provide a clear road map for each of these sectors. These concept papers will be consolidated for presentation at the upcoming joint coordination committee JCC meeting. This strategic approach ensures that every sector is aligned with our Union for a prosperous and interconnected Pakistan. The high-quality development and vision for CPEC Phase 2 is much broader in scope, which will not only bring advanced manufacturing technologies to Pakistan but also create numerous jobs and opportunities for our youth in agricultural modernisation are another key focus area aimed at enhancing our food security and improving the livelihoods of our farmers through the adoption of cutting-edge technologies, science, and technology.

Cooperation will play a vital role in driving innovation and fostering a knowledge-based economy. We are committed to creating a conducive environment for research and development, enabling our scientists and researchers to collaborate with their Chinese counterparts and make groundbreaking advancements. In addition, we are making rapid progress on the development of the Gwadar Port as well as the free trade zone. This will promote regional connectivity and economic integration, positioning Pakistan as a hub for trade and commerce. The potential for transporter trade with neighbouring countries like Iran, Afghanistan, and the Central Asian States is immense. We have already seen positive impacts with trade consignments destined for Afghanistan being cleared from Gwadar Port under the leadership of Pakistan. We have transformed our policy from geopolitics to geoeconomics. This region aims to create a well-connected, integrated region of shared destiny, harmony, and development. The ministry of planning, development, and special initiatives has already initiated the implementation of the 5S framework, which includes exports, energy, equity, e-Pakistan, and the environment. This framework aligns with the five New Economic Corridors under CPEC Phase 2 to advance Pakistan's prosperity in each sector under the vision of our leadership by emphasising export capabilities through enterprise development and job creation. We aim to accelerate our economic growth and uplift the living standards of our people. In conclusion, the CPEC is not just a bilateral project benefiting Pakistan and China.

It also has far-reaching positive impacts on the entire region. By promoting regional connectivity and transport trade, we are building a future where prosperity is shared, and development is inclusive. The CPEC will continue to play a role in achieving this vision and fostering a community with a shared future for mankind. I look forward to very fruitful discussions and collaborations during this conference. Long live the Park-China friendship.

### Key Takeaways

- CPEC Phase 2 signifies a broader and more ambitious scope, focusing on industrial relocation, agricultural modernization, job creation, and the socioeconomic well-being of our people.
- The high-quality development and vision for CPEC Phase 2 is much broader in scope, which will not only bring advanced manufacturing technologies to Pakistan but also create numerous jobs and opportunities for our youth in agricultural modernization
- The CPEC will continue to play a role in achieving this vision and fostering a community with a shared future for mankind. I look forward to very fruitful discussions and collaborations during this conference.



## **Speech by Dr. Liaqat Ali Shah, Executive Director, Center of Excellence for CPEC, PIDE**

### **Topic: “Building the Community of Shared Future for the betterment of Mankind”**

Shared future for humankind or for mankind, this concept was coined back in 2012 but expressed at a university in Moscow by President Xi Jinping, and later on, the diplomatic occupation concept linked Chinese characteristics with socialism. In the 19th National Party Congress of 2017, the Chinese Communist Party of China agreed unanimously that it basically provided a guiding principle for development. It's not about development in China; it's about Chinese interaction with the rest of the world.



This is the underpinning of this concept framework, or the concept of the community for humankind, so I will approach this topic from a different standpoint and explain these things, but from a different perspective. So basically, the community of shared culture with humankind was made up of the five principles of coexistence, which your Excellency talked about in detail. The first principle is the community of shared future with political sovereignty, and this concept is very important to understand, even in international organisations. We often heard the word sovereignty in every country. Basically, we think every country should respect other countries sovereignty, but the Chinese actually take on that concept and expand on it.

I think the size, strength, and wealth of every other country should be respected. You know the sovereignty of other countries and respect the dignity of that country. We speak today, there are some countries who think about you know the hegemony and you know of some Western countries especially United States we have often experienced we often observed they violated it for their own interest but Chinese think otherwise and that's why the political community is the community of shared future with political sovereignty. That's basically the guiding principle also for the Chinese diplomatic community and the rest of the world. The second principle in this



concept is that the second aspect of this concept is community of shared future with security. When we talk about security, there are two aspects: one is traditional security and the second is non-traditional security and traditional security. Normally, wars and conflicts happen, and we can't avoid them because you know there are some differences in certain networks, which basically lead to conflicts.

Ukraine Russia-Ukraine war and other in you know other part of the world, but nontraditional security is also very important. I think this is a common challenge to all humanity, and that is, you know, food security, energy security, and ecological security, which is also you, we think we talk about the climate changes.

All these securities are very important, and if we ignore one US security or we basically underestimate the importance of one security to others, I think the global governance system and the global order will not be the same. So I think we need to approach all these difficulties. you know and we should coordinate some response and act as a coherent body to tackle these challenges so that's basically what this concept entails and this concept talks about the third aspect of this principle is the community of shared future with economic interconnectedness and that's really very important.

That's basically all ground connectivity there infrastructure connectivity, trade, investment connectivity policy coordination of connectivity NBI People to People exchanges so these are the different activity all of them they are important and I think in CPEC if we speak today I think one missing link is policy coordination and the second thing is the People to People exchanges between Pakistan and China even though we there are some exchanges but I think the extent of the exchange it should be more it should be multiplied and I think once people connect with each other mean we in the government possibly in connect with China so we have a hierarchical relationship with China There will be some collaboration, so these are really important, and this aspect and this connectivity. In this very concept we are talking about today, the fourth aspect of this concept is the community of civilization.

Chinese they understand you know we heard about you modernisation mean what is modernization if a woman in Pakistan or any other country with Abaya for example you know

even though she's educated would not be considered a modern because he doesn't fit into the Western values so modernization is a tend to westernism. Every region has its own civilisation, and it should be respected as well, so instead of forcing everybody to fit into Western values, the better would be to respect their civilisation, respect their values, respect their social system, and then create harmony.

So this harmony and this President Xi Jinping idea of a shared future, I think, are the way for the world because you may have heard about, read about, or heard about the clash of civilisations where it talks about, you know, Samuel Huntington. I don't know exactly the name of the author, but I think it is Phillips Huntington. He says that in the future, conflicts would not basically be on economic, you know, resources; they would be on cultural differences, and disputes would all basically be on differences, you know, in different cultures, so for a peaceful and lasting peace in the world, harmony among civilisations is very important.

China you know the and the development of the renewable energy every form of renewable energy I think China is basically leading in bent Hydro green hydrogen solar and so many other new energy forms and why should we pollute and then reduce the emission. Now the renewable energy have made viable fossil fuel is has no future in the future and for that reason I think we should adopt and we should embrace the green development and I think Chinese basically with their wisdom and with their technology are providing all the means to the rest of the world.

If we look at the picture with five different aspects and bring it together, bring all these pieces together. I think this is a very beautiful concept to reform the global governance system to bring peace and security, enjoy lasting peace, and share the benefits of development across the board. Definitely, there will be some areas of interest, but through dialogue and discussion, we can manage it and have a future together.

### **Key Takeaways**

- The concept of a "Community of Shared Future for Mankind" serves as a guiding principle for international development and diplomacy. It emphasizes mutual respect for sovereignty, political cooperation, and the importance of non-hegemonic relations between nations, particularly in contrast to Western dominance.

- There is need for enhanced economic interconnectedness through infrastructure, trade, and policy coordination, especially within initiatives like CPEC. Additionally, it stresses the importance of respecting cultural diversity and avoiding the imposition of Western values as a universal standard of modernization. Harmony among civilizations is viewed as crucial for lasting global peace.
- China is leading the way in renewable energy technologies and urges global adoption of these practices to ensure sustainable development. Green energy is presented as the future, with fossil fuels becoming obsolete, making it imperative for nations to embrace eco-friendly growth strategies.





**Speech by Dr. Waqas Anwar, Member of Infrastructure and Regional Connectivity,  
Planning Commission**

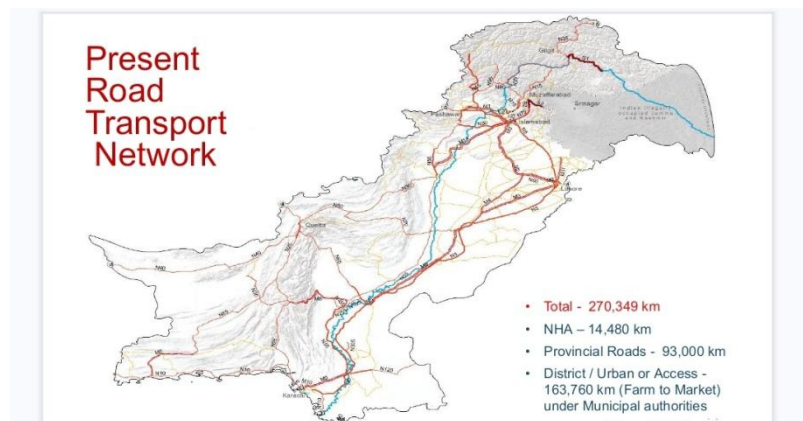
**Topic: “Transport Infrastructure as Key to Connectivity”**

The Vision 2025 National Transport Policy is our blueprint for achieving this goal, laying the foundation for a future where all regions of our country are connected, fostering trade, investment, and growth.

Our priorities under the Vision 2025 National Transport Policy are clear: we must accelerate and implement a comprehensive program of transport sector reform. This includes fast-tracking and continuing ongoing sector-specific reforms, improving the maintenance and safety of our road networks, and adopting new contracting mechanisms that prioritize safety at every step. Safety is not just an afterthought; it is integral to every phase of our transport infrastructure projects. From the design phase to execution, safety measures will be embedded to protect our citizens and ensure the long-term sustainability of our transport assets.



A critical aspect of our strategy is maximizing the utilization of our railway network. The upgrades to ML-1 and ML-2, as well as improved connections to key economic hubs, are essential for enhancing the efficiency and capacity of our railways. These upgrades will facilitate faster and more reliable transport of goods and passengers, which in turn will support economic activities across the country. Our investment in urban transport



infrastructure will also see the development of comprehensive Urban Transport Master Plans for all large cities, prioritizing public transport and making our urban centers more livable and economically vibrant.

Regional and international connectivity are central to our vision. The China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) and the Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation (CAREC) routes present unparalleled opportunities for Pakistan to integrate more deeply into the regional and global economy. By leveraging these routes, we can become a hub for trade and commerce, attracting investment and creating jobs that will uplift communities across the nation.

The National Transport Master Plan serves as the overarching framework that interfaces with several key policies, including the National Freight and Logistics Policy, the National Aviation Policy, and the National Electric Vehicle Policy, among others. This comprehensive approach ensures that all aspects of transport and logistics are aligned with our broader national development goals. For example, our Road Transport Plan is largely complete, with a focus now shifting to maintenance and service delivery. This includes trialing and rolling out a new approach to Road Asset Management, which will see the restructuring of the National Highway Authority (NHA) along commercial lines.

The introduction of a comprehensive vehicle fleet renewal program, aligned with international standards, and the promotion of electric vehicles are crucial steps in modernizing our transport sector. These initiatives not only contribute to reducing emissions but also ensure that our transport infrastructure is sustainable and resilient in the face of future challenges.

In the railway sector, comprehensive institutional reform of Pakistan Railways is underway. We are establishing a new Railway Policy Board to bring a more structured focus on services, separating policy formulation, budgetary control, regulation, and management functions. Investments in upgrading ML-1 and ML-2, as well as improving access to Karachi Port and selected dry ports, Special Economic Zones (SEZs), and other economic centers, will be vital in enhancing the efficiency of our rail network.

Our vision for multimodal transport includes the establishment of a Freight and Logistics Regulatory Authority, the development of freight villages at dry ports and SEZs, and the

prioritization of the National Single Window for trade facilitation. By 2035, we envision that 30 cities across Pakistan will have developed comprehensive urban transport master plans, with 95% of the urban population having convenient access to public transport. These investments, totaling over PKR 1,080 billion from federal public budgets, will not only improve connectivity but also significantly reduce transport emissions in our largest cities.

Our pipeline infrastructure is another key focus area. Establishing and implementing a structured network plan of new pipeline connections that link port terminals, refineries, storage depots, and other key economic sites will enhance the efficiency of our energy and industrial sectors. The construction of the Turkmenistan-Afghanistan-Pakistan-India pipeline and the development of new LNG facilities will further bolster our energy security and economic growth.

Lastly, we recognize the potential of inland waterway transport, particularly given Pakistan's extensive canal system and the Indus River. A feasibility study will be conducted to assess the viability of utilizing the Indus River for the transportation of freight, which could offer a valuable addition to our transport network. The reforms and investments outlined in our Vision 2025 National Transport Policy will not only connect our people and regions but also propel Pakistan towards greater economic prosperity and social development. Together, we can build a future where connectivity serves as the backbone of a thriving and resilient nation.

### **Key Takeaways**

- The introduction of a comprehensive vehicle fleet renewal program, aligned with international standards, and the promotion of electric vehicles are crucial steps in modernizing our transport sector.
- We are establishing a new Railway Policy Board to bring a more structured focus on services, separating policy formulation, budgetary control, regulation, and management functions.
- The reforms and investments outlined in our Vision 2025 National Transport Policy will not only connect our people and regions but also propel Pakistan towards greater economic prosperity and social development.



**Speech by Prof. Dr. Sajid Rashid Ahmad, Dean, Faculty of Geosciences, University of the Punjab, Lahore**

**Topic: “President Xi Jinping’s vision for environment friendly shared community under the framework of Belt & Road Initiative”**

Today's top topic is President Xi Jinping's Belt and Road initiative. The goal of the global development strategy, which our several speakers already told us about the CPEC, and the first phase and the second phase are now going on, our prime minister said, and now it will be started soon. But the main thing is that the vision of the presidency in 2013 is to improve regional connectivity and collaboration between Asia, Europe, and Africa. And there are



two primary initiatives of his vision: one is the Silk Road Economic Belt, and number two is the 21<sup>st</sup> century maritime Silk Road. The main thing is whether it is environment-friendly or not. Yes, it is an environment-friendly project. This is the ancient Silk Road in China.

The development of an ecological civilisation and an inclusive and peaceful community are key components of the presidency's sustainability in order to create a brighter future for everybody. This strategy seeks to accomplish this sustainable development while safeguarding the environment. Advanced social harmony strengthens international collaboration. These values, which represent a dedication to creating long-term prosperity, stability, and wellbeing for its citizens and the global community, serve as the foundation of China's domestic programme and foreign policy initiatives. So this is the region, and these are some of the policy guidelines we should pursue for the new vision of green development and a way of life and work that is green, low carbon, circular, and sustainable. Efforts should be made to strengthen the population in ecological and environmental protection and build a sound ecosystem. We will set up a big data service platform on ecological and environmental protection, and that setup means that if 150

countries set up their own data and shared that data, that is the big data service platform. We propose the establishment of an international coalition of green development on the Belt and Road Initiative, and we will provide support to related countries in adapting to climate change.

Pakistan and others will, so these are some of the principles of environmentally friendly development in BRI sustainable infrastructure green investment. We are all talking about pollution prevention and control and biodiversity conservation. Water Resource Management environmental impact assessments climate change mitigation and adaptation International standards and best practices environmental governance, community engagement, social responsibility monitoring and evaluation, and capacity building By adhering to these principles, the BRI aims to promote sustainable development, minimise environmental impacts, and create a harmonious relationship between development and the natural environment.

The Chinese approach to green infrastructure refers to the initiative that supports the creation of sustainable and resilient infrastructure development. This entails incorporating sustainable materials. Energy design incorporates green technology into the planning and execution of the project's environmental standards. maintain strict environmental standards. investment in renewable energy, endorsing investment along belt and road corridors in renewable energy sources such as hydroelectric, solar, and wind power. ecological conservation to mitigate the effects of the environment and Foster ecological resilience efforts should be made to conserve biodiversity, restore habitats, and protect the ecosystem, and then collaboration and capacity building are the major problems in Pakistan. We should focus on these things: collaboration and capacity building.



President Xi's vision is sustainability, followed by financial support and international cooperation working together to strengthen cooperation on environmental protection, the



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deployment of clean energy, and technology transfer. This is not the China-Pakistan economic corridor; this is the China-Pakistan environmental corridor, because in this way we can improve the environment of our country and also over areas like the Karot hydropower projects and the Gwadar. Here is the CPEC project, so these are the three Corridors: the Central route, the Eastern route, and the Western route. So up to now, it's 2024. As the previous speaker already mentioned, how much work has been covered now that it's phase two? So the project under CPEC infrastructure development is an industrial economic zone and telecommunications project, and the main thing is the key collaborative efforts of the government-to-government collaboration with international partner public-private partnership research institutions.

At the government level, or this CPEC level, any academia is here, and they are giving their research collaboration their research outputs because, at the University of the Punjab, we already have MOUs with 25 universities in China and are already working with them. We already have projects on mineral exploration and environmental, climate change, solar, and electrical engineering. They have the collaboration, but there is no platform where we have to give this research knowledge the same platform as community engagement, environmental organisation, and technology.

We just talk about the human being, but his vision is also about the ecosystem, the animals, and the human beings. Everything is okay, so learn and follow best practices. We already mentioned monitoring, evaluation, knowledge sharing, and capacity building. Green Technology policy alignment regulation. Community social development program, infrastructure expansion, and accomplishing the strategy goals.

In conclusion, a big commitment to global sustainable development is seen. The second thing is that China should encourage international cooperation for a cleaner, greener future by giving environmental reservation, resource conservation, and green growth the top priority. The idea is not only the problem with the environment today but also a standard of global cooperation and collaboration in sustainable development and under the BRI.



## **Key Takeaways**

- The Chinese approach to green infrastructure refers to the initiative that supports the creation of sustainable and resilient infrastructure development.
- At the government level, or this CPEC level, any academia is here, and they are giving their research collaboration their research outputs because, at the University of the Punjab, we already have MOUs with 25 universities in China and are already working with them.
- China should encourage international cooperation for a cleaner, greener future by giving environmental reservation, resource conservation, and green growth the top priority. The idea is not only the problem with the environment today but also a standard of global cooperation and collaboration in sustainable development and under the BRI.

### **Ms. Maria Francesca Stainno Latin America Research Center for a Community with Shared Future and Belt & Road Initiative, and Associate Professor at National University of La Plata, Buenos Aires, Argentina**

#### **Topic: Building a Community with a Shared Future for Mankind and its Convergence with Latin American International Relations**

I will talk about building a community with a sure future for mankind and its convergence with Latin American international relations, especially from a theoretical perspective.

We are witnessing a decline of Western theories with a corresponding rise of non-Western theories.” We also needed detachment from the positivist scientific method through methodological purism, especially in the field of social sciences, where the human being is the object of investigation, not only the subject, and the sciences cannot interpret it. We need an integrated human spirit in the social sciences, so we also need a language change. Multidimensionality and multidisciplinary are present, so this is



why I put in contact Chinese and Latin American international relations theories. Furthermore, we also need new paradigms against the so-called mainstream, so the main definition comes from the Chinese perspective and experience in international relations. I consider it a community with a shared future for mankind, and I also interpreted it from a Chinese perspective, using at least three methodological categories that are connected with the three main schools of international relations in China. That's why I interpreted the definition of community with a shared future for mankind with the key expressions of relationality, human authority, and symbiosis. With this explanation, the community refers to the set of states small and large that peacefully coexist among them: self-relationality through our common values inspired by leading countries as responsible for international order. This is the human authority perspective of respecting and helping each other. This is the school of symbiosis. The idea of linking autonomy with solidarity between Latin American countries according to a strategic perspective is in line with the Chinese description of symbiosis and human authority as well as relationality, so the school of the theory of autonomy in Latin America is very comparable with the idea of building a community with a shared future for mankind, in fact solidarity integration, where the constitution of a Latin American region implies the need for a relationality between these countries that recognises the authority of one or more leaders.

The importance of the country is not of Argentina. The Brazil axis is constitutive of the possibility of the inter-integration of the Latin American region in a symbiotic process that generates a series of alliances towards the construction of a new order that ensures international social justice, a concept that is very comparable to that of a community with a sure future for mankind. So what are the keys to strengthening this community with a shared future between

China and Latin America, of course, as seen in the cooperation approach? especially in the many human rights topics such as poverty, elevation, sustainable development, and digitalisation, with a long-

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Building a Community with a shared future for mankind and its Convergence with Latin American International Relations

term approach that is very often used in Latin America.

Unfortunately, we can't have national and subnational cooperation. According to a the construction and reconstruction of the main human right concept like development people Center approach with new meanings in line with South experience and civilizations also building an alternative and evolutionary approach to the corporation like for example with Latin America-China Dialogues Forum last week for example I was participate in the fourth China Forum on poverty and development and also we have to create our Latin American characteristics as well as white papers like good practices to adopt to have a more intensive dialogue with China under a regional perspective so some converges uh both China and Latin America belong to a global South that is merging with new voice in contemporary international relations in a science .

So some final remarks the Chinese concept of community with a sure future for kind as interpreted in the international law relations is the search for not only an alternative but also an evolutionary system of international relations capable of replace the demonic International System with new creative solutions and it can be only overcome throughout the construction of common actions with International cooperation based no longer to on an hostile vision between ctates but on a communion of intention of the peoples this is the real formal Innovation brought about by the community with a share future for mankind and that is why it means a democratization in international relations according to a common shared values and practices.

### **Key Takeaways**

- There is need for a departure from positivist scientific methods in favor of more integrated and multidimensional approaches in social sciences, especially regarding the human element in international relations.
- Latin American theories of autonomy and solidarity align with the Chinese vision of a community with a shared future for mankind, advocating for cooperative and symbiotic relationships between states.
- Latin America's integration efforts should reflect the principles of symbiosis and solidarity, mirroring the Chinese approach to international cooperation.

- The concept of a community with a shared future offers a new framework for international cooperation based on common values, shared intentions, and mutual support, aiming to replace hostile dynamics with collaborative and innovative solutions

**Speech by Dr. Tahir Hijazi, Former Member Governance, Planning Commission**

**Topic: “Socio-Economic aspects of projects in CPEC Phase-I”**

It is a privilege to address you today on the socio-economic aspects of the projects undertaken during the first phase of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC). As we reflect on the transformative impact of these projects, it is essential to recognize the immense opportunities they have brought to Pakistan, especially in terms of employment and economic growth.

Pakistan, as many of you know, is one of the most populous countries in the world, ranking among the top five globally. This youthful population is on the cusp of entering the workforce, and as they do, the demand for jobs will inevitably surge. The CPEC initiative, Pakistan’s most significant development project to date, has been instrumental in addressing this pressing need.

From its inception, CPEC has been envisioned as a catalyst for economic development and job creation in Pakistan. The Planning Commission projected that CPEC would generate 1.6 million jobs by 2030. While this ambitious target captured the imagination of many, the early phases of the project revealed a gap between the skills of job seekers and the opportunities available. However, rather than a setback, this mismatch has served as a call to action—prompting us to align our educational and vocational training programs with the needs of a rapidly evolving job market. Despite these early challenges, the impact of CPEC on employment in Pakistan has been profound. The infrastructure and energy projects completed under CPEC Phase-I have not only enhanced the

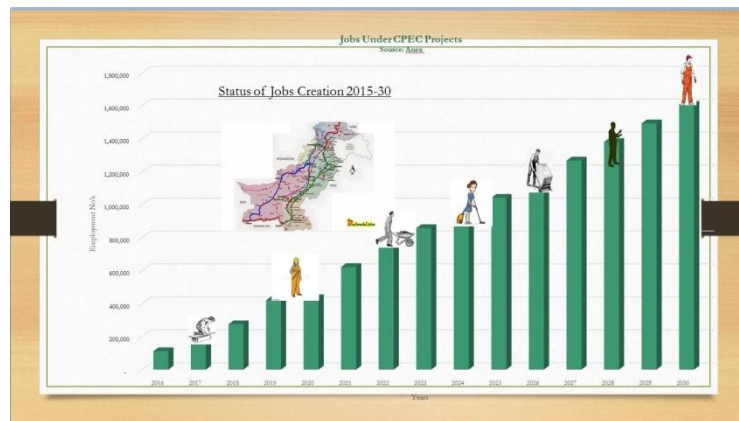




nation's physical and economic landscape but have also directly created approximately 70,000 jobs. These opportunities have been vital in reducing unemployment and have had a ripple effect throughout the economy, contributing significantly to Pakistan's Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

Moreover, CPEC's influence extends beyond the borders of Pakistan. The project has also generated employment in China, both directly and indirectly, showcasing the mutual benefits of this landmark initiative. The economic linkages forged through CPEC have strengthened the bond between our two nations, creating a framework for shared prosperity and regional stability.

It is crucial to understand that the socio-economic benefits of CPEC are not limited to job creation alone. The infrastructure improvements brought about by CPEC have had a transformative effect on Pakistan's economy. The enhanced road networks, upgraded ports, and improved energy supply have not only facilitated commerce and trade but have also provided a



solid foundation for future industrial growth. These developments have attracted investment, both domestic and foreign, creating a more dynamic and competitive economic environment. The reduction in unemployment and the subsequent economic growth have also had positive social implications. As more people find gainful employment, we see improvements in living standards, better access to education and healthcare, and overall enhanced quality of life. CPEC has, in many ways, been a driver of social progress, helping to uplift communities across the country.

Looking ahead, the lessons learned from Phase-I of CPEC will be invaluable as we move into the next phases of the project. It is imperative that we continue to focus on skills development and capacity building to ensure that the Pakistani workforce is equipped to meet the demands of a rapidly changing job market. By doing so, we can maximize the socio-economic benefits of CPEC, ensuring that the fruits of this partnership are shared widely and equitably. The socio-economic impact of CPEC Phase-I has been overwhelmingly positive. The jobs created, the

infrastructure built, and the economic growth stimulated by these projects have laid a strong foundation for Pakistan's future.

### **Key Takeaways**

- The Planning Commission projected that CPEC would generate 1.6 million jobs by 2030.
- The economic linkages forged through CPEC have strengthened the bond between our two nations, creating a framework for shared prosperity and regional stability.
- The enhanced road networks, upgraded ports, and improved energy supply have not only facilitated commerce and trade but have also provided a solid foundation for future industrial growth.

### **Speech by Prof. Dr. Muhammad Saleem Mazhar, Director General, National Language Promotion Department, Government of Pakistan**

#### **Topic: "Promoting Cultural Diversity among nations for a Harmonious shared future for Mankind"**

I am thankful that you have provided me with the opportunity to say something about this. It is an established fact that individuals, societies, and states develop understanding, become closer, and share happiness and sorrows with each other through cultural relations. Language literature Fine Arts paintings and music are the main component of culture which facilitates all types of relations and helps in developing friendships between different societies. It is only and only the culture that attracts individuals that attracts and includes all and does not allow anyone to go. It is why states establish cultural relations with other states in order to create understanding between them and serve humanity. Because of these relations, man-to-man contacts are established, and it is culture that becomes the basis of all ties, like social, economic, political, financial, and technological. Culture converts strangers into





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friends; it separates love and peace. Harmony tolerance respects differences of opinion and inspires people to follow the coexistence principle without any discrimination based on colour, caste, or creed. There is no doubt that in this era of globalisation connectivity and information flow, no individual or society can survive in isolation. The lynchpin of all developments and progress is creating understanding between societies and nations, which leads to an enlightened moderate respectful of the moral, ethical, social, and cultural values of a particular nation.

Nations and states have become the keys to success and progress for a nation. The Asian region, with its young, hardworking, and talented youth population and area, is rich in terms of its human and natural resources, capital, and intellectual analysts. Experts in international relations are unanimously of the view that the 21st century is the century of the rise of Asia. The very rapid development and progress of China are provided, proving this fact that the Asian region and China's inclusive and collaborative approach to policy formation and execution is making wonders. China's rapid progress in all fields is exemplary at the present time. China's ancient civilization Chinese have presented three very essential and valuable gifts to the world and Humanity these are invention of compass printing press and paper that have provided with the base for socioeconomic development in coming centuries at present times China is working enthusiastically for socioeconomics cultural and civilizational development of the world in order to serve humanity and create Harmony in all societies. The belt and Road initiative (BRI) and China Pakistan economic corridor (CPEC) is Corridor of peace and prosperity for all China's Visionary leadership has reached to this golden principle and conclusion and aim and objective that the only way of progress is in Sharing resources supporting helping supporting and helping each other to contribute towards a vibrant tolerant Society therefore they have presented concept of community with shared future.

It is appreciable that for the last 35 years China has not fired a single bullet from its s to any state; it is separating peace, harmony, and prosperity at Globe. China has very clearly explained several times that it respects and regards all cultures and has no intention to interfere in any culture or tradition related to any nation or society. Pakistan and China are time tested friends of all times their sincere friendship is an example for the whole world in the era of BRI and CPEC.



There is need of time to strengthen cultural literary and academic relations between both the nations to achieve this cultural artists academicians researchers and students exchange programs may be started universities of both the country should start joint teaching programs and initiate joint research projects to address the problems and issues being faced by the regional countries particularly Pakistan and China hope this cultural cooperation and academic collaboration will be helpful for the development of the region which will not only be a win-win situation for both the country but will but will serve Humanity

### Key Takeaways

- The very rapid development and progress of China are provided, proving this fact that the Asian region and China's inclusive and collaborative approach to policy formation and execution is making wonders.
- Pakistan and China are time tested friends of all times their sincere friendship is an example for the whole world in the era of BRI and CPEC.
- China is working enthusiastically for socioeconomics cultural and civilizational development of the world in order to serve humanity and create Harmony in all societies





## Keynote Speech by Senator Sarmad Ali

### Topic: “The job of Media in enhancing regional connectivity and the framework of Belt & Road Initiative”

It is an honour for me to be here today and to talk about the role of media in the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), which is based on five connectivities: policy coordination, infrastructure connectivity, interconnected trade, financial integration, and connectivity. However, the most important is the people to people connectivity, it is not possible to bring people together unless we create another connectivity within this connectivity, which is media-to-media connectivity, and linkages are actually the bedrock of people-to-people connectivity and the success of BRI and global initiatives.



In today's world, where the flow of information has no boundaries, media plays a very important role in shaping perceptions for fostering understanding and building cultures. It is imperative that the media and the BRI partner countries join hands in countering negativity in media. Whoever gets whatever share controls the minds of the people and controls the minds of the media, has the ability to shape this real state through shaping our beliefs and forming new truths and perceptions, thus becoming reality, perceptions are actually our reality. Whatever we may say, whatever we may believe in, but whatever we see, whatever we perceive, unfortunately, in our world becomes reality.

It is not what is truth or what is false; it is our perception of whatever we see around us that makes us believe in it, and we believe we can turn it into reality while the global media has joined forces against the BRI and, of course, CPEC being part of the BRI and often call it the new form of colonialism. We should come together on one platform to not just counter their tactics but also highlight the true image and spirit of BRI and its plans, milestones, achievements, and way Forward. We talk about G2G connectivity, we talk about B2B connectivity, we talk

about g2b connectivity, but I think there's another connectivity that we forget about when we talk about connectivity, and that is M2M connectivity, or media-to-media connectivity, in today's world of fake news and disinformation.

It becomes imperative to have similar points of view from around the world get to one point and may their presence be felt. We live in a world that is dominated by CNN and the BBC of the World. Whatever they tell us becomes reality, whatever they tell us becomes truth, and we do not give our point of view; we do not give our version of truth out there that is also somewhere out there, but we do not push it; we do not talk about it. And the BBC of the World is using the power of media to change the image of PR. They're using it because they share perceptions, they share perceptions of the world constantly by hand.

Pakistan is one of the most important, having 7–8% of the BRI, which is one of the most important corridors of the Belt and Road Network, why can't we do something to bring media outlets to Pakistan and organise the media summit of BRI countries and try to use the power of the media of these countries to counter whatever is being built around BRI and is being talked about in the West? The power of the media force lies in its ability to transform perceptions into realities into convictions. Such cooperation will help inform, entertain, educate, and influence the people of these countries. So let us use the power of media to foster understanding, promote transparency, and counter misinformation in these countries to enable them to realise the full potential of this infrastructural and transformative initiative. Otherwise, this will get lost; otherwise, we will remain in debating what CPEC is doing for Pakistan and what BRI is doing for other countries. There is a constant debate going on, and we keep hearing people questioning whether we should have been part of CPEC or not, or whether CPEC should have been started or not.

But where are those alternatives going? That is something that we need to sit down and ponder, whether it is whether it is even whether there is even a need to question, um, what is happening in CPEC, and this can only be done if media gets together. If media in Pakistan gets together with media in China with media in other parts of BRI, this can only happen when we bring them all together. In today's world, it is more true than it was 10 years ago, 15 years ago,

or 20 years ago. Today, perception makes us what we are. Today, perception makes the world see us for who we are.

## Key Takeaways

- In today's world, where the flow of information has no boundaries, media plays a very important role in shaping perceptions for fostering understanding and building cultures.
- We talk about G2G connectivity, we talk about B2B connectivity, we talk about g2b connectivity, but I think there's another connectivity that we forget about when we talk about connectivity, and that is M2M connectivity, or media-to-media connectivity.
- It is imperative that the media and the BRI partner countries join hands in countering negativity in media. We should come together on one platform to not just counter their tactics but also highlight the true image and spirit of BRI and its plans, milestones, achievements, and way Forward.





**Speech by Prof. Dr Zafar Nawaz Jaspal, Dean Social Sciences, Quaid-i-Azam University, Islamabad**

**Topic: “Global Security Initiatives and its Impact on World’s Geo-Political Situation”**

When we look at the transformation in global politics, we find that there's been a big transition taking place. Western unipolarity is giving way to multipolarity, and President Xi and President Putin are very determined in these global dynamics. So when we look at these American and Chinese strategic contests, we find that they are very much influencing global politics. Recent developments indicate that Beijing is determined to prevent washing political military arrangements to check China's.



And in this context, the American Chinese have come up with their global strategic vision, or what we call their global security initiative. I'm going to address two questions: first, what is the Global Security Initiative and how do we look at it?; and second, how has the has the Global Security Initiative received and responded to by the International Community? Having said this, the vision and efforts for global development, peace, and security through diplomacy and economic cooperation are enshrined in three international initiatives. 2022 Global Security Initiative, or prior to that, 2021 Global Development Initiative, and then follow up last year, 2023 Global Civilisation Initiative. All these initiatives are very much, you can say, overdue, but the Global Security Initiative makes a lot of difference. What is the primary concept of this global security initiative? It advocates the concept of indivisible security and that no single nation's security should come at the expense of others. This concept of invisible security we had already seen when there was a sinking accord between the Russians and the Americans in 1975 during the Cold War, and trustingly, when we trace the Global Security Initiative Evolution or a background, we find that the Chinese have been working on it. For instance, in 1997, they came



up with the concept of the new security concept, later referred to as universal security and increasingly as invisible and cooperative security, which was promoted to the centrality of the United Nations and the United Nations Charter, emphasising the multipolarity of multi-security architectures, cooperation dialogue, and giving a way against collective security. It advocates six different ways precisely when we look at it, but the most important emphasis of this global security initiative is that to emphasise and work according to the United Nations Charter, it's very interesting, just as what the liberalist economic world or liberal democratic world after 1945 articulated.

Now President Xi is articulating through his Global Security. In this context, when he was emphasising the Cyber Security United Nations Charter, at the same time it was bridging a gap between traditional and non-traditional security and advocating to address through consensus new emerging challenges or existing challenges like terrorism, climate change, cyber security, and biosecurity. I think it's a big thing when we talk about biosecurity in modern times. He wants a nuclear war that cannot be won and must never be fought; therefore, there's a need to have a Global Security Initiative (GSI) that opposes the Cold War mentality of unilateralism and blocks confrontation and hegemony.

In this context, when we look at this dialogue, we find that after the initiative, we have seen the Chinese do good work when there was a report engineered by the Chinese in March 2023 between Saudi Arabia and Iran. In this Global Security Initiative (GSI), they have also recommended in 2022 and again when it was republicized Concept in 2023 two-state solution even of a Palestine crisis even prior to the start of the Gaza war in October, so by this way we can find that they also recommended Russian and Ukrainian settlement through the dialogue anyway. Now my second part is global development and how the world is moving and where we adjust it. I think this era of soft power or too much using

It has disturbed the Western Nations because they interpreted GSI as a challenge to the Western-led global governance system and an alternative to us. The International World Order Global Security Initiative is a component of a larger push to establish a post-Western multiple world and set global agendas that reflect the interests and values of Like other great powers, China pursues the national interest, but as a rising superpower, it also seeks to establish its global leadership. It

delegitimizes a collective and highly material security approach, so unlike the United States security order, the Global Security Initiative links security with development and emphasises non-traditional security issues. But what is the outcome of this conflict?

President Xi Jinping announced the Global Security Initiative, so when I look at these things, what is my understanding of them? China's Global Security Initiative seems benign for the nation's diplomatic, economic, and civilizational progress because it cultivates a network of friendly international and regional relationships, second only to the Cold War mentality. Regional global hegemonies' and power politics threaten world peace and prosperity; therefore, the Global Security Initiative is a remarkable work against the militaristic policies of the United States and Allies.

GSI emphasised partnership for alliances and advocates that the disputes could be resolved through dialogue instead of use of force, for therefore it's in the best interest of the nations, including Pakistan, which is very much advocating neutrality in international politics. My final point here is that it is equally important to prevent the escalation of conflict at five nuclear flash points. So GSI is good to prevent conflict at the first nuclear flash point, which we call Kashmir. It's good to prevent the second Korean peninsula and the and the third Ukrainian peninsula. European flash point fourth Taiwan and fifth Gaza War My final submission is that the Global Security Initiative (GSI) also supports United Nations Security Council Resolution 1540, which demands the use of UN legislation domestic laws for the prevention of chemical, biological, nuclear, and logical terrorism within the state or preventing these kinds of weapons from falling into the hands of non-state actors. Finally, I can say the Global Security Initiative (GSI) is a good way to address traditional and non-traditional security challenges in global politics.

### **Key Takeaways**

- The ongoing shift in global politics from Western unipolarity to a multipolar world. This transition is largely driven by strategic contests between the United States, China, and Russia, with China's Global Security Initiative (GSI) emerging as a key framework for shaping the new global order.

- The Global Security Initiative advocates for "indivisible security," where the security of any country is linked to the security of others in the region. This principle opposes the notion that one nation's security can come at the expense of another, promoting a cooperative approach to global security issues.
- The Global Security Initiative is seen as an alternative to the Western-led global governance system. It links security with development, addressing both traditional and non-traditional security challenges such as terrorism, climate change, and cybersecurity.
- The importance of the GSI in preventing the escalation of conflicts, particularly at nuclear flashpoints like Kashmir, the Korean Peninsula, Ukraine, Taiwan, and Gaza. The initiative advocates for resolving disputes through dialogue rather than force, and it supports the implementation of international resolutions like UN Security Council Resolution 1540 to prevent the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction.

**Speech by Prof. Dr. Anwar Ahmed, Sector Specialist, Planning Commission**

**Topic: “Agricultural Cooperation and Food Security”**

Pakistan has 225 million people, with 60% of the of the population below the age of 30, and it is a blessing that we can do much with this 60% population. It is also very important because it has tremendous potential for global investors and companies, has the largest irrigated land, is the centre of China, India, and the Middle East, where we have several opportunities, and is the home of Asian civilisation and some of the highest and most beautiful ranges as well.



Pakistan is a blessed country, and if we see that in every livestock sector, Pakistan's GDP is 1/5th, which is generated from agriculture and livestock. We are 12th in buffalo, third in goats, fourth in cotton production, and fifth in sugarcane production. We are ninth in wheat and sheet.

It is a great opportunity for Pakistan to harvest the potential of CPEC. The livestock sector in the national economy is also contributing a lot because we have a wide population of livestock in pottery. We can attract private sector investment of 1.05 per trillion in pottery and similar levels in the daily and lead sectors. There is opportunity for over 2 million people for employment as well as mechanics for primary resources for investment, but having such potential here is the growth pattern, and we are having a declining trend in agriculture as regards the GDP and crops of the sector. So why are we declining? Here are some challenges: we have low productivity in agriculture, a high import bill, low profitability and competitiveness, and low diversification. We have only five major props. degraded land resources and natural resources, as well as declining in the rural sector in terms of trade and equity implications. We have poor technology adoption, but we have opportunities in the form of modern technology for Grand Revolution 2.0, which is the prime minister initiative that just started this year. Our institutional reforms are not opening, and the current government has started some Prime Minister initiatives regarding food security, which are generated by the IPC integrated food security phase classification, in which we are falling on a medium food in a city or country.

It is the global perspective of the current food system and what are the future challenges that our population is expanding and we need much food for them as well. We need to prevent agriculture from expanding because of the potential we are harvesting is not sufficient uh the hidden potential which is much more higher than the actual potential of our uh agriculture growth so in this context following friends are shaping our future food system then there is climate change we are evolving consumption preferences and in nutrition and health rapid technological change and innovation as well as localised development and strong stakeholder engagement and demographic changes. these are the driving forces which are achieving our food security here is the Nexus of Agriculture, Energy, and Water, which is a catastrophe for Pakistan and we are being behind in achieving this. We need food, we need water, and we need energy to run to achieve the intended objectives.

This is another social dilemma that poses major challenges to food and security in Pakistan. Rising population urbanisation is diversifying diet patterns. increased food demand as well as rising food prices purchasing power-falling water tables Low irrigation efficiency increases soil erosion, as well as climate change depleting water reserves, is also a big challenge. Limited



land availability, food losses, and food-based products are the major challenges and inefficient diversification of foods. Now, what is an option for us? That is, the technological development in the world. We are seeing innovations in food packaging technology, new methods of food production such as 3D printing, as well as the application of automation, artificial intelligence, big data, and blockchain technology.

These are the recent options for us, so smart irrigation is the innovative technology, which we can use to save our irrigation water. Drone technology is also coming to agriculture, and we are using drones to spray our fields in urban agriculture. We also have a new trend that if we utilise urban agriculture, we can harvest our house-level vegetables and fruits, and uh, there are new sources of foods coming. For example, edible insect cell-based food production technology as well as the production of SE, or macro-forming of shellfish protein, is also entering our food chain, and insects are amazing as well as altering meat. In spite of alternate meat, we are using the vegetables, and our food scientists are changing those vegetables into the shape of meat that tastes just like meat, and it is a new development. For example, we have the economic zones; if we develop them and link them with the villages, we have a great potential for trade as well as export tourism opportunities. organic farming management and the adoption of water-saving techniques marketing of crops, employment opportunities promotion of rice exports every Logistics cotton processing units productivity of the livestock sector tobacco value chain palm oil production portal, industry development, and range lands.

The new initiatives, which can be developed through CPEC, give us a bright future now that this government is a sector special in the Planning Commission of Pakistan. I have gone through all these projects that we are doing for our food security. For example, just the prime minister of Pakistan started a solarization of agriculture project in Pakistan, whose total cost is 377 billion rupees. All the provinces that have participated agreed on this project, and its authorisation has been done. It will be started in the next month with another project, Green Revolution 2.0.

It is a prime minister initiative that proposes intervention for Green Revolution 2.0. It is a \$5 million project and it will supply machinery demand; it will give demonstrations to farmers for it will raise nursery kitchen gardening; capacity building and linkage will be developed; and

livestock will be given to social mobilisation and establishment of endowment funds through PRC. The Pakistan Agriculture Research Council will be developed for research in agriculture.

Its total cost is 5 billion rupees. The cluster development programme, which is also a prime minister initiative, and in which the concept of food cluster agriculture cluster was studied in the Planning Commission, in which the clusters were identified as mango Citrus Apple, apricot, tomato, potato, onion, garlic, and different districts of all the provinces of Pakistan have been identified in which these interventions will be delivered, and technological interventions are processing capacity building, research, and development in agriculture. These are the new PSDP projects on food security; a unit of research and development has been introduced in the ministry; establishment of the Pakistan animal identification and crossability system; national program on animal disease surveillance; national agriculture productivity; management professionals; national multi-sectoral nutrition program; establishment of Pak-Korean nutrition More than 137 billion hectares of livestock have been approved for the province of CPEC. Export initiatives should be taken, as well as skill development, and CPEC should be utilised for R&D development as well as export development. The 5D framework has a significant potential to achieve these objectives of shared future.

### **Key Takeaways**

- Pakistan, with its vast irrigated lands and significant livestock sector, holds tremendous potential for agricultural growth and investment. Despite being a leading producer of various crops like cotton and sugarcane, Pakistan's agriculture sector is currently underperforming due to challenges such as low productivity, poor technology adoption, and declining profitability.
- Technological advancements such as smart irrigation, drone technology, automation, artificial intelligence, and new methods of food production (e.g., 3D printing and cell-based foods) are seen as key to overcoming Pakistan's agricultural challenges. These innovations offer opportunities to improve productivity, reduce resource use, and introduce sustainable agricultural practices.
- The government has launched several initiatives to bolster food security and agricultural development. Projects like the Green Revolution 2.0, solarization of agriculture, and various

cluster development programs aim to enhance productivity, promote sustainable practices, and develop export-oriented agriculture.

- The China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) is a critical framework for driving investment, research, and development in the agricultural sector.

**Speech by Dr. Fouzia Hadi Ali, Director, Regional Integration Centre, University of the Punjab, Lahore**

**Topic: “Impact of Shared Economic Development for building a community with shared future”**

My discussion and my speech rest on where we are. Rightly said, TV is very below it when it comes to different indexes, and one of the grave things that you can see is in the Sustainable Development Index. Pakistan is also in the 2024 Index Report on Number 137. So the thing is, when it comes to Pakistan and the opportunities lying between in terms of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor and the kind of aspect that we are deficient upon,.



People would agree that we have to conduct a gap analysis to see what we're good at, what we're doing, what we have to learn, and what we have to fill in that gap. May we offer something we're good at and something we have to learn from others, especially from the projects that are going on, and the biggest if you can see the foreign direct investment comes from China?

So the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) advocates a little bit more. I know that you must have your own perspective. We stand at a crossroads of history, Our world is more interconnected than ever before, we face challenge the threat to divide us to an end complex one principle shine brightly a beacon of hope and progress is shared economic development. This

principle is not just an economic strategy but a vision for building a community with a shared future. Building a community with a shared future is often associated with cooperative and inclusive development strategies that aim to create mutual benefits for all participants. When it comes to shared economic development, this concept emphasises collaboration, interdependence, and equitable growth.

The first thing that we have to look into is the pooling of resources by sharing resources. Knowledge and technologies Communities can achieve more significant economic growth. Imagine the power of combining our innovation and expertise to create more efficient production systems, springing local industries, and making us more comparatively marketable. In 2020, global GDP will grow by just 3.5 percent because of the pandemic. But we have seen a lot of surge in the IT-based industry during the same pandemic because lots of physical businesses switched over to a more online system, and there were certain opportunities from the uncertainties that existed. Then again, one of the aspects relates to the shared economic development allowance for risk diversification.

Economic shocks in one area can be mitigated by the stability and growth in another. Leading to overall economic silence. Think of it as a safety net, a show assuring that one part of a community faces challenges and others can provide support for strong stability. This is essential for building resilient infrastructure and fostering innovation, as highlighted in the inclusive Innovation Infrastructure SDG 9.

Over the past decades, one of the aspects relates to the reduction of inequality. If you just look at our region through Central Asia, Pakistan, and most of the countries around us, if you just look at the population, half of the population is male and female, but when it





comes to the participation of women in economic activity, it's negligible. So that means that where the economy has a lot of female participation, their economic growth could even be amplified. So that's something that we have to contemplate and think about.

Then, this can also reduce income and opportunity dispersion within communities. So Than We Can Talk About As It Was Mentioned About Higher Education Also That a Higher Education is an important and pivotal Aspect Relating to Bringing Innovation So the Problem Arises Before It Comes To Pakistan Instead of actually comparing innovation with the US and UK, of course we are very, very far behind, and I think it will take as long as Another year may be two and the summer may be gone, and we're still striving towards them, but the thing we can do is what I suggest, and I have been suggesting a number of times.

Our industries are far behind in terms of the skill level that is required, if you just look at the biggest exporting areas. For instance, we are exporting a lot of sports products, but when you just go and look into the industries, they are not up to the mark of the international standards, which means

We can invite different trainers from different countries, especially China, and we can actually start working together with the academics, and they can provide the platform. There is an extra expense for the government to cover. Because it can be a win-win situation where trainers could use the platform at the university level, youth are already there, and you just need to make a connection with them.

Social cohesion and trust are, of course, two of the biggest challenges, as Doctor Jaspal said about the security aspect. You know the biggest challenge is that we are far behind; we are providing security facilities; and we are our biggest investors who are providing us with FDI. You've seen a number of things that have happened and that have made us quiet, but certain insecurities among the Chinese counterparts have prevented us from continuing with the project as well. So one of the important aspects is conflict reduction, and that can be done only if we are more connected. The more economic activity we can do with regional countries, the better we could be, and everybody would know that we are economically connected with each other. If there is a conflict, it will be harmful for everybody.

The instance was a talk about the environment: that we have to adopt green technology conservation efforts and policies because, as you know, when it comes to climate issues, we are facing a lot of smog, a lot of global warming issues are turning up, and we're witnessing more floods and a lot of other things. That's where we have to collaborate with the regional countries to address this. This is the basic underlying reason behind facing true climate issues. So one of the aspects has already been discussed: cultural exchange and understanding. Of course, innovation and creativity can be spread if diverse people from diverse institutions and regions combine together and actually develop a global citizenship where we learn from each other, their work ethic, and how people learn to work together.

The vision of the honourable President of China also offers this global development initiative (SDI), also related to the sustainable development initiative, and that's where I think that by promoting inclusive growth, prosperity, social cohesion, understanding, and strengthening political-economic ties.

### **Key Takeaways**

- Shared economic development is not just an economic strategy but a vision for creating a community with a shared future. This approach emphasizes collaboration, interdependence, and equitable growth, allowing communities to pool resources, knowledge, and technologies to achieve more significant economic progress and resilience.
- Opportunities lie in leveraging initiatives like the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) to fill gaps in skills, technology, and infrastructure, potentially transforming the country's economic landscape.
- Pakistan's industries need to elevate their standards to meet international levels, which can be achieved through collaborations with foreign trainers and academics. This would enhance the skill levels required in key exporting sectors, ultimately boosting the country's global competitiveness.
- Additionally, addressing environmental challenges like climate change and smog requires collaboration with neighboring countries to adopt green technologies and conservation efforts, ensuring sustainable development for all.

## Speech by Dr. Najeeb Ullah, Former Member, Science and Technology

### Topic on: "CPEC Phase-II and Socio-Economic Development through Technological Advancements"

The neo-classical growth model is very important, and according to the neo-classical growth model, there are three components: K and L. A means the knowledge part; A means the higher education; a means the hidden part, which you might not see; it's not the infrastructure. According to this model, if you invest in knowledge, there will be growth. The second part is the k, which means the FBI, the foreign direct investment, and the capital. If there is capital, there will be growth.



Then the third and last one is the L skill labour. If you have three components: education, quality higher education, the hidden part, capital, and the skill labour, we can expect growth, and if one of the parts is missing, forget about innovation, forget about economic growth. That's his statement, not my statement.

Moving on to MIT, one of the best universities in the world, they say the innovation ecosystem has five components rather than three, and these five components are the universities, then the government, then the private corporate sector. These were called the emerging Tri triple helix model, and now they have added two more. One is the capital landscape; it's very important, but partiality is completely missing in Pakistan, and then along with this one is the mindset of the entrepreneurs. If you have these five components, there will be a knowledge-based economy, there will be an economy, and there will be economic growth. So I would like to talk about these five components today, and now let me tell you where we stand in innovation. We are in the 88th position in the world. Innovation is not one component.

Innovation is one of the five components, and these are all cross-linked to get about innovation and economic growth. According to the GII, these are called the innovation inputs. What are

these five? The first one is the institution. These institutions are the political environment, the stability; these are the regulatory environment; and these are the business environment. If these are there, things will grow; the second one is called human capital and research education.

As I mentioned, the tertiary education is the higher education, and along with this one, it's covered with the R&D model. The next one is the infrastructure, the ICT, and then the fourth one is the market sophistication, the capital, the investment, and then the last one is the business sophistication, the knowledge work. As I mentioned, that's basically the skill label, and then basically there are two outputs now. 5.5 in the region, I'm talking about India, 4%.

So that's why you always see that there should be 4% for education, but that's the recommendation that rather than the 2% it should be 4% see the missing links now that's the government part that's not me that's not universities the second one this one the gross expenditure of the R&D is very important see now this is only 164 and again when I was at the it was very alarming 64% nothing so what we say what we recommend that it should be at least 1% the leading in the world my example Israel is 6% was 6% already and we just 1 6% see that's these the figures next.

and they have done very well, I mean relatively well, so they have actually awarded some of the grants. That's a good point, but then see that the IC, as I mentioned, is one of the very important parameters. We are gradually at one of three positions out of 132; they're at the bottom, so we have to rectify the ICT infrastructure, the investment, the internet speed, the internet access, and then basically what we see is actually the Venture Capital Fund. Nowadays, people don't believe in the banking system. I will share with you what the new landscapes are for the venture capitalism and the private equity fund. It's nothing, 81% of the GDP, and then basically, it's the knowledge employment. We are at the one2 position in the technical employment, which means we don't need engineers because we don't have the technical, uh, private corporate sector.

So that's why basically that's very alarming unless and until we see in all dimensions things will be missing because if you are producing engineers and if there is no technical need for the corporate tech enterprises this is where we are to so it should be two-way traffic now talking about the outputs and in the output I think we are at the 43 position that's the huge index because of the higher education since 2002 they've invested a lot and I think that's one of the good



position we are rank at 43 position but what is the impact of this Edge index what is the impact of this research.

It's very important to know that there are basically these four levels: one is the concept level of the product, the second is the development, then the pre-commercialization and early commercialisation, and then the scale. the big companies 1 billion and you need different levels of investment in this in Pakistan.

I can say this in comparison to the UK and America then the Venture Capital fund I have Venture Capital is almost zero and then we don't have the big investment in private Equity funds and we don't have the loans for Innovation as it is in New America so we have only one part the small part of the ground and that's we always talking about the concept nothing is coming out unless and until we transfer the capital landscape and that should be at the Strategic level of the country or the province we will not move but that's the first harsh reality we have to change it let me tell you the figures in UK it's 24 29.4 billion pounds the private equity and Adventure Capital funds and then so on and see the Red Zone in Pakistan it's only \$74 million so no comparison at all.

### **Key Takeaways**

- According to the neo-classical growth model, economic growth hinges on three key components: knowledge (education and innovation), capital (foreign direct investment), and skilled labor. These elements must be present for sustained economic development, innovation, and technological advancement.
- There is the for a comprehensive innovation ecosystem, which includes universities, government support, private sector involvement, capital availability, and an entrepreneurial mindset.
- Pakistan faces significant challenges in its technological and innovation sectors, including inadequate investment in research and development (R&D), poor ICT infrastructure, and a lack of venture capital.
- For Pakistan to achieve significant socio-economic development through technological advancements, there must be a strategic focus on transforming the capital landscape

## Speech by Mufti Muhammad Naeem Rehmat Naeemi, President, Muttahida Ulema Council Pakistan

### Topic: "Interfaith Harmony and Peace for the shared future of Mankind"

During his speech, Mufti Muhammad Naeem Rehmat Naeemi focused on the theme of "Interfaith Harmony and Peace for the shared future of Mankind," highlighting the importance of promoting unity, understanding, and cooperation among different religious communities for the betterment of society and the world at large. His speech emphasized the significance of mutual respect, tolerance, and dialogue in fostering interfaith harmony and peaceful coexistence, particularly in the context of initiatives such as the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) that aim to enhance connectivity and collaboration between nations.



Pakistan is making significant progress, and we will continue to do so, InshaAllah. Our esteemed ulema have emphasized that interfaith harmony is a key blessing, especially in the context of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC). We have worked across the six provinces of Pakistan, recognizing that a nation is built upon two pillars: the country and its religion. As Pakistanis, we are a unified nation, embracing both our identity and our faith. We are Muslims, and alongside us, Christians, Jews, Hindus, and Sikhs are our brothers. Together, we represent the beautiful diversity of Pakistan. If there is peace in our land, our roads will flourish, and prosperity will be visible everywhere.

It is the responsibility of our ulema to spread the message of mutual coexistence. When a person earns a degree, they also take on the duty to protect the wealth, lives, and respect of all people, regardless of their background. We must strive to bring all communities together. Interfaith harmony is essential for the success of CPEC, as it unites people from all walks of life. Our partnership with China is a testament to our brotherhood, and we must fulfill our responsibilities as humans and as Muslims.

From our institute, 375 individuals have completed training and earned commissions in the army. We are prepared to contribute and support the growth and development of Pakistan. Together, we will build a brighter future for our nation.

### Key Takeaways

- Interfaith harmony is essential for societal peace and national prosperity. The mutual respect, tolerance, and dialogue among different religious communities are crucial for fostering unity and peaceful coexistence.
- It is responsibility of religious scholars (ulema) to promote messages of coexistence and harmony. Ulema must guide their communities to protect the rights and respect of people from all backgrounds, ensuring a peaceful and inclusive society.
- Unity and cooperation among diverse communities are vital for the flourishing of China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) projects and the overall development of the nation.
- The importance of collective efforts including those of trained individuals from religious institutions, in supporting Pakistan's development and securing a prosperous future for all citizens.



## Speech by Chief Guest His Excellency Faisal Karim Kundi,

### Governor of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Province

During his speech, Governor Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, H.E Faisal Karim Kundi described CPEC as a game changer that will revolutionize the industrial sector and create new growth opportunities. He acknowledged the pivotal role of President Asif Ali Zardari in CPEC's inception and highlighted the project's potential to transform the lives of millions through technological collaboration with China. Governor Kundi



reaffirmed the time-tested friendship between China and Pakistan and expressed optimism about CPEC's positive impact on the regional economy.

Today, I am honored to speak about the transformative project that is an instrumental initiative in the Pakistani socioeconomic landscape, and I would like to share these achievements and impacts. It is profound to gather at the International Conference on CPEC: Enhancing Community with a Shared Future for Mankind. Before you note, just to highlight the achievements of the Pakistan-China Economic Corridor to reform, our enduring duty is to create a transformative framework to harness Pakistan's demographic and natural resources.

Balance the regional socioeconomic development and prosperity of our regions. Improving people lives, focusing on poverty reduction, education, and healthcare promotes domestic peace and stability, fostering a secure environment for investment. This ambitious project aims to boost regional connectivity, develop transnational logistics and infrastructure, and increase trade with South Asia, Central Asia, and beyond.



It also encompasses people-to-people exchanges, economic cooperation, and technology transfer to strengthen our strategic partnership. Strengthening the Pakistan-China relationship, the bond is a historic, time-tested friendship. Today, the China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) is a testament to an enduring partnership, highlighting our shared aspirations for a prosperous future. CPEC symbolizes our shared vision for a bright future. One that is built on the principles of mutual respect, trust, and cooperation. Through CPEC, we are not only connecting our economies but also people, cultures, and histories. We are creating a shared future that is promoted on the principles of equality, justice, and sustainability.

The China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) has achieved numerous milestones, contributing to sustainable Pakistani socioeconomic growth. Some key achievements in infrastructure development include the construction of modern highways, motorways, and ports, which enhance connectivity and emphasize trade. The development of power plants and energy production addresses the country's energy needs. Industrial expansion, which is the development of special economic zones (SEZs), attracts investment and promotes industrial growth.



CPEC has played a vital role in strengthening the Pakistan economy, improving the lives of its citizens, and enhancing its global standing. We appreciate China's support and look forward to continuing cooperation for mutual benefits. I'd like to take this opportunity to express my sincere gratitude to the Chinese government and people for their unwavering support and cooperation. We have achieved remarkable milestones, and we look forward to continuing our cooperation.

## Key Takeaways

- The China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) has achieved numerous milestones, contributing to sustainable Pakistani socioeconomic growth.
- CPEC has played a vital role in strengthening the Pakistan economy, improving the lives of its citizens, and enhancing its global standing.
- CPEC symbolizes our shared vision for a bright future. One that is built on the principles of mutual respect, trust, and cooperation. Through CPEC, we are not only connecting our economies but also people, cultures, and histories.





## Picture Gallery





