



# STATISTICAL & RESEARCH CELL

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

# NEWSLETTER

Volume VI - Issue I  
July - December 2022



GOVERNMENT OF GILGIT BALTISTAN  
PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

## Inside Newsletter

Monitoring And  
Evaluation  
(M&E)

China Pakistan  
Economic  
Corridor (CPEC)

Sustainable  
Development  
Goals (SDGs)  
Support Unit

Scaling up  
Nutrition (SUN)  
Unit

UNICEF  
Pakistan  
Annual Review

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## **NEWLETTER EDITORIAL BOARD**

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STATISTICAL ASSISTANT



# Message Additional Chief Secretary (Dev.) Gilgit-Baltistan



Gilgit Baltistan started new development year with enthusiasm and resilience in the face of numerous challenges including natural disasters. We have completed first half of the financial year while trying to expedite the ongoing endeavors and to initiate and approve new projects. I would like to appreciate coordinated and cohesive efforts of all user, executing departments, administrative machinery and especially team P&DD for maintaining its matchless and unprecedented rapid pace of project approval process from the last financial/development year.

Despite numerous challenges like financial crunch, meager annual development allocations, capacity issues and natural disasters, GoGB still tried and managed to prepare a balanced development program, more focusing on traditional priority sectors i.e. social sector, physical infrastructure development, energy etc. besides, new innovative initiatives have also been taken in sectors likes of IT, Vocational & Technical Education, social welfare, Mines & Minerals etc. Projects have also been initiated for alternate energy sources e.g. Solar to mitigate the severe power crisis, especially in winters. Moreover, measure have been taken for energy conservation/saving through smart energy meters and installation of Aerial Bunched Cables (ABC).

Besides, investing from our own resources GoGB also hunted handsome foreign

investment/aid on energy sector from EU. EU is also willing to finance Technical & Vocational Training in GB. Another important project with financial assistance of AFD/EU for rural development is under active approval stage.

GoGB has also initiated a collaborative and coherent efforts to make Gilgit Baltistan "Plastic Free Province" through a comprehensive and sustainable strategy, namely, "Green Business Development Initiative".

GB, like rest of the country, badly hit by floods, especially flash floods, which caused havoc to our development structures and assets which eventually put our already limited development grant under immense pressure. However, GoGB still managed to coup with the massive challenge with the help of Federal Government. I must appreciate the resilience of the local communities and the society in general in facing such disasters with brave hearts.

We understand that the development of Gilgit Baltistan will not happen overnight, but we are committed to making progress in these areas and more. Our work is far from over. I am confident that, working together, we can build a brighter future for Gilgit Baltistan. We have the resources, the talent, and the determination to make this happen. I urge all citizens to join us in this effort, and to play their part in building a better, more prosperous region for all of us.

Aziz Ahmed Jamali





**SAY NO TO  
PLASTIC BAG**

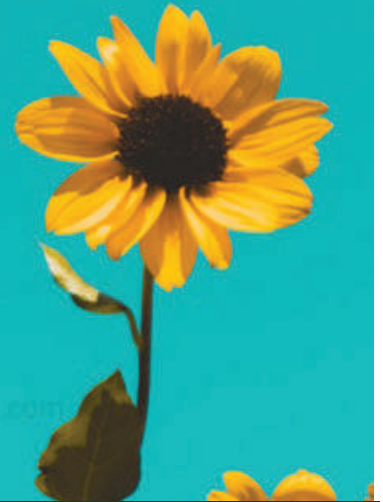
ضلع گلگت کی حدود میں پلاسٹک کا استعمال ممنوع ہے

محکمہ تحفظ ماحولیات گلگت بلتستان سے  
پلاسٹک بیگز کے خاتمے اور ماحول دوست  
کاروبار کو فروغ دینے کیلئے ایک ترقیاتی  
پروجیکٹ شروع کیا ہے اور صوبائی حکومت  
گلگت بلتستان کے وژن کے مطابق  
گرین بزنس / ماحول دوست کاروبار  
کیلئے بغیر منافع کے قرضہ جات کی فراہمی  
کا آغاز کیا ہے۔



# Farewell

## Message To Employee



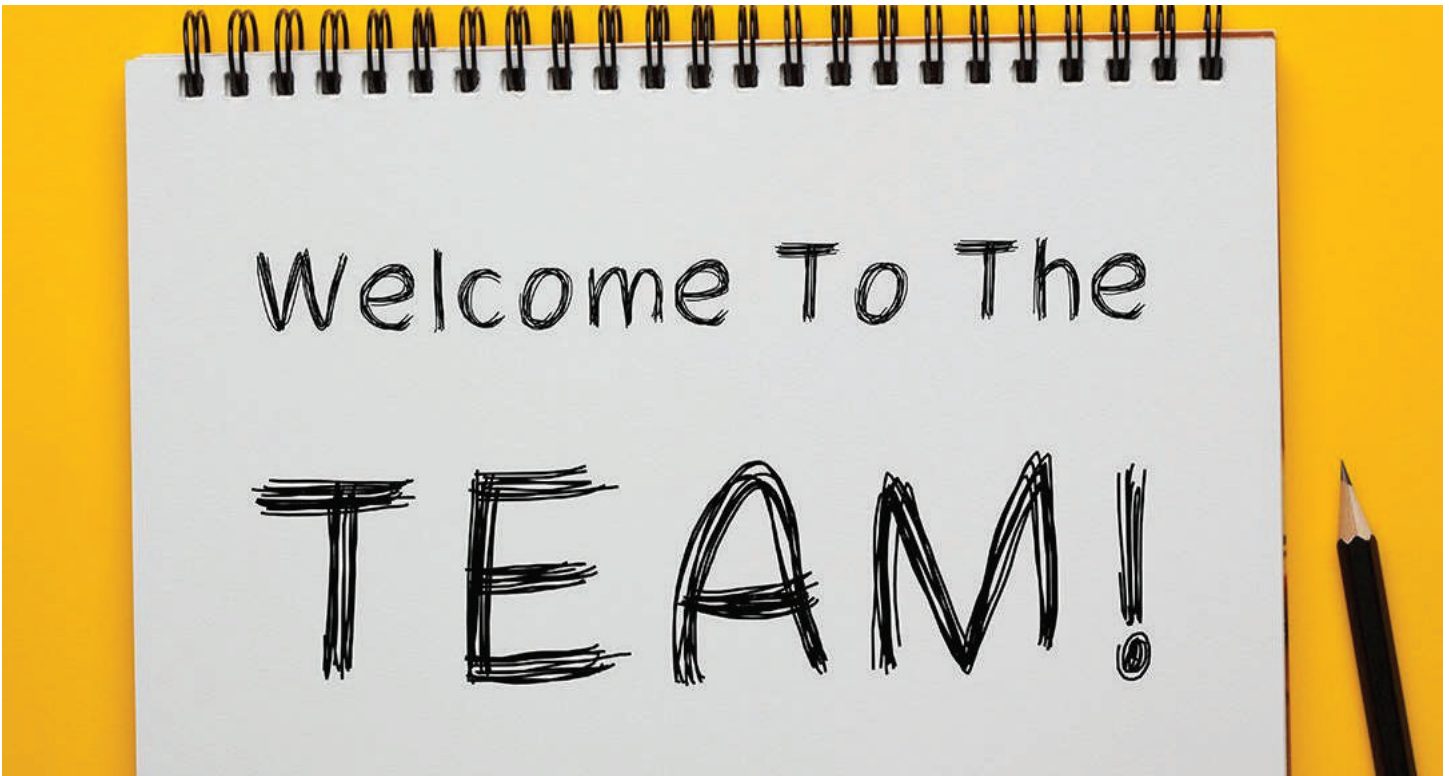
## **Farewell, and Acknowledging those who have made difference in core values of P&DD GB**

It is with a heavy heart to say bid farewell to our colleagues Mr. Sajjad Haider, Chief Economist and Mr. Israr Ahmed, Chief Foreign Aid who have served almost three decades in Planning & Development Department of Gilgit Baltistan. Their contribution to the department has been immeasurable, and expertise, hard work, and dedication have been a source of inspiration to us. Both Officers throughout their tenure have been an instrumental figure and worked tirelessly in diverse areas in P&DD, GB. Their unwavering commitment to excellence has left a long lasting impact, and

will continue to be felt in the years to come. They have proven as true leaders, mentors, and friends within the department and across GB and we will always remember the positive influence they have had on our lives. P&DD family express deepest gratitude for all that they have contributed to the department and the community at large We wish you a happy and fulfilling retirement, filled with joy, love, and cherished memories. You will be greatly missed, and we will always remember the positive impact you have had on our lives.

# Goodbye,

P&DD family wish you all the best in your future endeavors.



## Departmental Promotions

P&DD family extend their best wishes on the promotion of the following officers



**Ms. Samina Hayat**

Assistant Chief (BS-18) to Deputy Chief (BS-19)



**Mr. Israr Jan**

UDC 14 to Assistant (BS-16)

## Saying Welcome

We are pleased to welcome the officers /consultants to Planning and Development Department Gilgit-Baltistan.



**Dr. Idrees Ahmed**

Assistant Chief P&DD



**Syed Zahid Hussain**

Coordination Expert (GLOF)



**Mr. Manzoor Hussain**

Reporting Expert (GLOF)



**Mr. Saeed Ahmed**

Finance Expert (GLOF)



# Status of ADP (July - December)

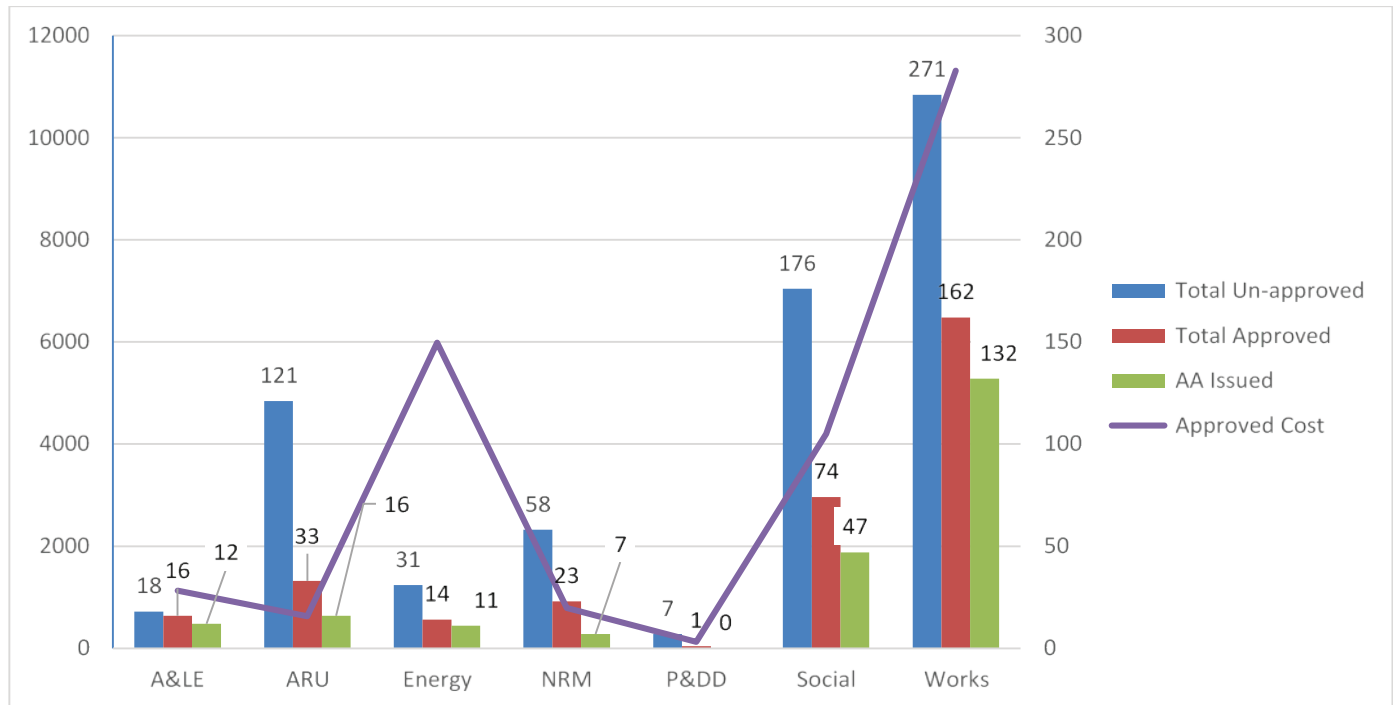
## Approval Status

Total Un Approved 682

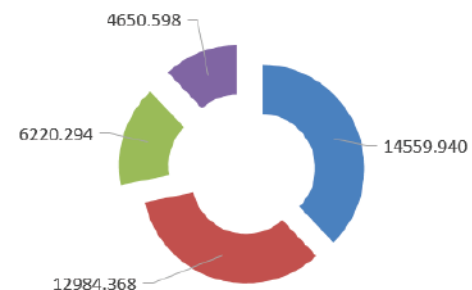
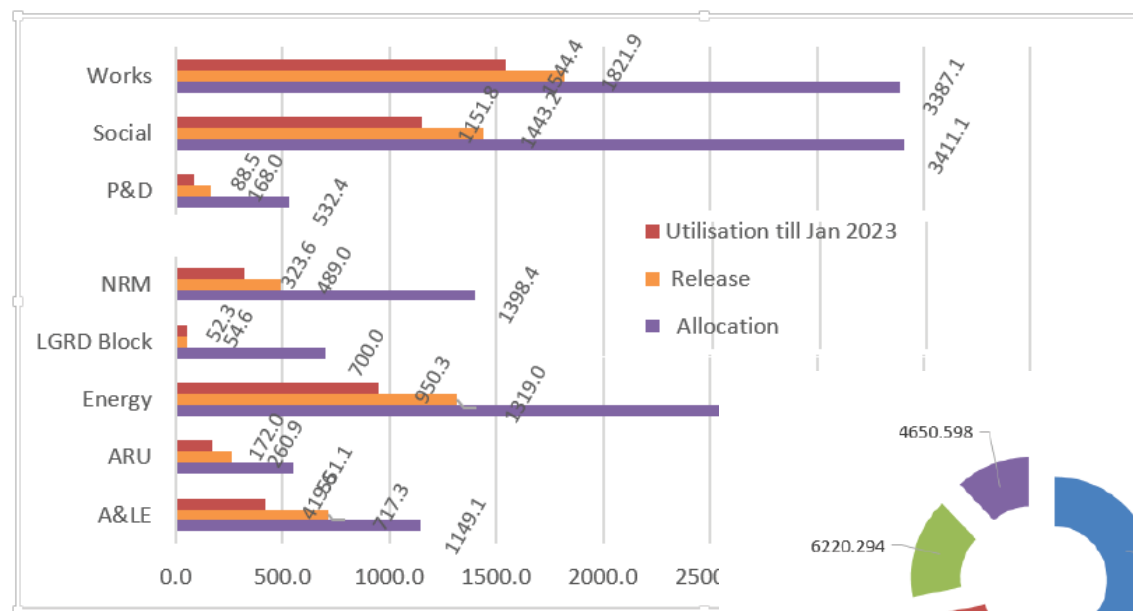
Total Approved 323

AA Issued 225

Approved Cost 24179.09



## Releases and Utilizations:



Figures in millions

■ Appr. Cost ■ Allocation ■ Release ■ Utilisation 24-01-2023



# STATISTICAL & RESEARCH CELL

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

## Research Study To Find Underlying Factors For Out of School Children In Diamer And High Prevalence of Child Labour In District Shigar

GBCLS was the first ever Child Labour Survey in Gilgit Baltistan region on socio economic indicators which was of vital importance and will assist policy makers in evidence based policy formulation and data driven planning. The GBCLS survey findings showed that District Diamer had highest number of out of school children despite of low engagement in economic activities, whereas district Shigar had highest engagement in economic activities with moderate number of out of school children. These results raised valid questions which required proper answers based on scientific evidence.

With financial support of UNICEF Pakistan, Statistical Cell P&DD GB launched its first ever research study in collaboration with a consultant firm GBPI to understand the underlying factors of Out of School Children in Diamer, High prevalence of Child Labour in Shigar. Research Methodology comprised of unique combination of qualitative and quantitative statistical tools.

Field work has been completed. A total 23 Field staff including 5 females along with 3 senior consultants were deployed by GBPI for conducting quantitative part of the research

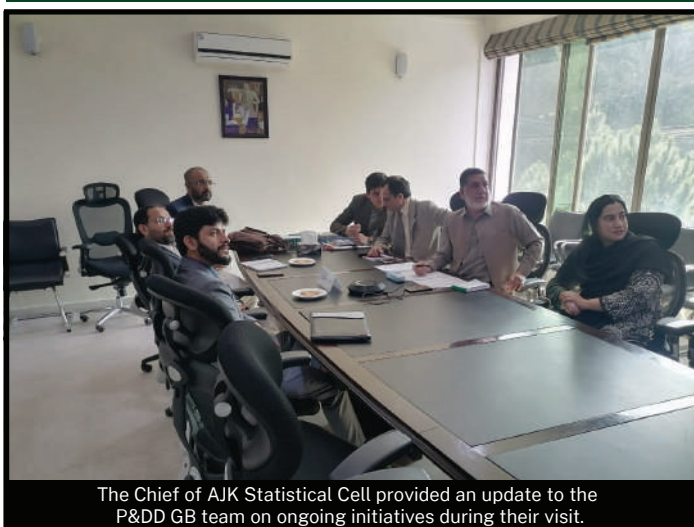
study. A total of 815 Households were visited with CAPI based questionnaire. Along with Qualitative part of the research including 16 Focus Group Discussions, 22 Semi Structure Interviews, 4 Cause and Effect analysis, 2 District level Consultation and 100 Child Activity Mapping in District Diamer and District Shigar.

Gilgit Baltistan Policy Institute will furnish the first draft report of the said research study by mid-February 2023. Which will be further evaluated for feedback and once finalized it will be considered for policy recommendations for required actions to be implemented.



Field work in progress to identify underlying factors of Child Labour at District Shigar

## Exposure Visit of SRC Staff to BOS-KPK and Statistical Cell AJK



The Chief of AJK Statistical Cell provided an update to the P&DD GB team on ongoing initiatives during their visit.



The Director of BOS KP shared the latest developments with the P&DD GB team during their visit.

Statistical & Research Cell P&DD GB team soon after induction visited Bureau of Statistics of KPK and Statistical Research Cell AJK. Exposure visit intended to learn and to flourish the data driven planning approach for development and build the data ecosystem of Govt setup in Gilgit Baltistan. Which will not only help all line departments in reporting on their development indicators, it will also improve Data Oriented Planning.

Govt of AJK couldn't raise Bureau of Statistics on the analogy of other provinces and just establish a Statistical Cell under P&DD AJK. The Cell since establishment have done some commendable efforts to accumulate the development indicators data and have successfully implemented a protocol of correspondence with all line departments to publish development statistics book every year. Along with the Annual Development Statistics book, Statistical Cell at AJK has been doing different surveys and studies with technical and financial support of UNICEF and other I-NGOs activities include like Regional Accounts, Poverty & Income Distribution, MICS, CLS, SDGs. Statistical Cell is also conducting a study on GDP Estimates through night light study which will further help in

gauging the financials of the region which will further improve sustainable planning and development.

Bureau of Statistics KP is regularly publishing development statistics such as KP Development statistics, KP in figures, District profiles, District Development brief, GDP estimates, economic review of KP and Economic indicators of KP from last couple of decades. BOS has been carrying out variety of surveys ranging from Citizen Perception Survey to Nationwide surveys such as MICS, Child Labour.

Apart from these activities BOS is working on Strengthening /Restructuring

- Strengthening – Sustainable Energy and Economic Development Programme (SEED)
  - o KP Data Portal (website)
  - o Support to Regional GDP – GDP Estimates through night light study
  - o Support to Regional GDP – Development of Base Year
  - o Establishing synergies with ONS-UK



## Capacity Building Sessions at Planning & Development Department

Statistical & Research Cell in collaboration with SDGs Support Unit in Planning and Development Department is conducting weekly sessions on data computation and analysis, aim of the sessions is to have a knowledge sharing platform. Activities such as ADP evaluation and use of survey data such as Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey and Gilgit Baltistan Child Labour Survey for computations and for gap analysis.



SRC Team conducting session on Advance Excel at Conference Hall P&DD GB

## Gilgit Baltistan Development Statistics, Biannual Newsletter and Gilgit-Baltistan at a Glance

Statistical & Research Cell team is working rigorously for the compilation and publication of first ever Gilgit Baltistan Development Statistical Book. Since only few departments i.e. Health and Education has Management Information System (MIS) that help to compile and reproduce the data for planning and making data oriented short term plans. Statistical & Research team completed meetings with all line departments and have helped them in formulating data matrix, along with notifying a focal person from each department to work closely with SRC team to assist in accumulation of the data. Gilgit Baltistan development Statistics is in compilation phase, it is to be noted that collation of institutional data with key indicators will flourish a guiding principle for allocation of resources and building short and long term plans.

Statistical & Research Team is planning to develop a Data Portal and comprehensive Dashboard on compiled data including all key indicators. To ensure that all relevant data is available on a click of button.

Statistical & Research Cell team is publishing

Bi-Annual Newsletter covering all developmental activities, analysis of Annual Development Plan, newly added projects, project status along with status of funds (allocation, releases and utilizations).

GB at Glance is another initiative of SRC team in a form of booklet that provides development statistics summary. Including the SDGs level indicators tracking.



SCAN ME

**Newsletter 2022**



SCAN ME

**GB at a Glance**





Expected start date of the training:

**Apr 1, 2023**

Training Duration: 6 months

# High Impact Skills Development Program for GB Youth in Data Science, Artificial Intelligence, and Blockchain



Information Technology Department, GB in collaboration with National University of Sciences and Technology (NUST), Islamabad is pleased to announce the commencement of High Impact Skills Development Program for the youth of Gilgit-Baltistan.

## TRAINING GOALS:

- » Development of highly skilled **workforce in GB** area in Data Science, AI, and Blockchain
- » Increased **chances of getting high paid jobs** or freelancing opportunities in emerging technologies
- » Transforming GB into an **innovation hub of the region** as per vision of CM GB

## WHO SHOULD ATTEND THIS TRAINING PROGRAM:

- » Young professionals
- » Fresh graduates
- » Teachers of the local universities
- » Students with relevant background and experience





## UNICEF Pakistan Annual Review

The UNICEF Pakistan Country Office conducted its 2022 Annual Review in Islamabad to evaluate its activities and successes in the preceding year. GoGB was represented by P&DD GB, Social Welfare Department and LG&RD Department. The review focused on programs aimed at enhancing the well-being of children and mothers, including health, nutrition, education, and child protection. The review also shed light on the obstacles encountered in implementing these programs and the solutions adopted to overcome them. The objective of the review was to assess UNICEF's work plan in Pakistan, inform stakeholders of its impact, and outline future plans and areas for improvement.

Key achievements included the completion of the Gilgit Baltistan Child Labor Survey, a pilot project for birth registration in Gilgit and Diamer, and the Scaling up Nutrition program to improve child and maternal nutrition. The

Gilgit-Baltistan Prohibition of Corporal Punishment against Children Act 2015 and the Gilgit-Baltistan Prohibition of Employment of Children Act 2019 were also discussed. The Government of Gilgit Baltistan's contributions were acknowledged, including the creation of a Child Labor Inspectorate, rehabilitation centers for child labor, programs for street children and their families, a child protection commission, and nutrition programs for malnourished students.

The review pinpointed areas for improvement, such as capacity building for government personnel, financial constraints, low awareness, and coordination issues. The importance of robust coordination mechanisms, the fortification of the Statistical & Research Cell, and bi-annual reviews with UNICEF as learning opportunities were also emphasized.





# Monitoring And Evaluation (M&E)



# Social Sector (Education & Health)

A team of social section Planning and Development Department paid visit to four districts of Baltistan Region w.e.f 25th July to 2nd August 2022, for monitoring of deleted/completed schemes (19 Schemes) pertaining to the Social Sector (Education, Health & Social Sector).

## Bottlenecks/Issues

- Lack of coordination between District Administration,
- Changes in structural design and finishing work have been made without getting approval from the competent forum (s).
- Scope deviations resulted in time and cost overrun.
- Delay in acquisition of land and site selection
- Delays in tendering/ awarding and technical sanctioning
- Despite financial closure schemes still under execution.



Deputy Chief Social Sector on Monitoring Visits



Deputy Chief Foreign Aid inspecting Field works and identifying/resolving bottlenecks

# Works Sector (PPH & TNC)

A team comprising Works section officers, visited Baltistan Region and Astore District for physical verification of development completed schemes (30 Schemes) during financial year 2021-22. The team was also joined by Mr. Muhammad Naseem Deputy Chief Baltistan Division in Skardu.

## Bottlenecks/Issues

- Delay in release of 15% access permissible limit.
- Non-payment of land compensation
- Online release transfer issue resulted in delay
- Poor road work plan and unavailability of road maintenance staff.



Deputy Chief (Skd region) along with works team physical verification of ADP schemes





# China – Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC)

## The Meeting of 11th Joint Cooperation Committee (JCC) of China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC).

The meeting of 11th Joint Cooperation Committee (JCC) of China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) was held in Islamabad on 27th October 2022.

The meeting was co-chaired by Federal Minister for Planning Development & Special Initiatives, Professor Ahsan Iqbal & Vice Chairman National Development & Reform Commission (NDRC), China Mr. Lin Nianxiu. The Minister highlighted three basic objectives in the 11th JCC which includes the revival of CPEC, which has been revived since the government came into power in April this year. The inclusion of new projects which will increase the CPEC's portfolio and third was Business to Business cooperation, which was earlier based on Government to Government. During the meeting, the conveners of the Joint Working Groups JWG's on Energy, Transport Infrastructure, Gwadar, Socio-Economic

Development, Security, Long-Term Planning of CPEC, Industrial Cooperation, International Cooperation, Science & Technology, and Agriculture Cooperation made a presentation highlighting the progress on their specific areas and the future plans of actions.

The government of Pakistan has made a number of new proposals, on which agreements are expected to be completed shortly which includes:

- Post Disaster Reconstruction
- Global Development Initiatives
- Strengthening of Digital Investment in Economy
- 1+5 arrangements for SEZs
- Agreement between Geological Survey Intuitions of the two countries.
- Cooperation to develop export potential of Pakistan



## The 3rd Meeting of Joint Working Group On Planning And CPEC Long Term Plan (LTP)

The 3rd meeting of Joint Working Group on Planning and CPEC long term Plan (LTP) was held on 24th October, 2022 at Pak-Secretariat, Islamabad.

Recommendations on the key cooperation areas (Agriculture & livestock, cross border tourism) have been submitted to CPEC Authority for consideration.

## 7th Meeting of Energy Planning Experts Panel (EPEP) of CPEC

The 7th meeting of energy planning experts panel (EPEP) of CPEC was held on 18th October, 2022 at, Islamabad.

Projects, Phander 80 MW and KIU 100 MW, were recommended for inclusion in the CPEC list in accordance with the guiding principles.



Federal Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives Prof. Ahsan Iqbal Chairing the CPEC 11th JCC.

## Meeting On The Chinese Assistance Of RMB 300 Million For Flood Rehabilitation And Reconstruction

Considering the vulnerabilities and challenges being faced in GB and to facilitate displaced population owing to monsoon floods, list of projects amounting to RS 1659 million has been forwarded to CPEC authority for Chinese assistance.



Post Flood rehab meeting attended by Focal persons P&DD



Chief Economist Mr. Sajjad Hyder and Deputy Chief NRM Mr. Ali Jabbar attending the CPEC 11th JCC.



### Sustainable Development Goals



## Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Support Unit:

### SDG Prioritization Framework

The Planning & Development Department, GB with technical assistance of Federal Government & UNDP is in process of developing a SDG framework for Gilgit-Baltistan. In this regards, the P&DD Department, SDG Unit in collaboration with District Administration held ten district level consultations with representatives of CSOs, media, academia, and heads of line departments to identify priority SDGs for GB. Based on these consultations, a comprehensive SDG prioritization framework will be developed. Once approved by the GB government, this framework will be a guiding document for the government and other stakeholders including international development partner organizations working in the region.



Stakeholder Consultation at District Level for SDGs Prioritization Framework

### GB Innovation Challenge Cup

SDGs Unit is collaborating with UNDP Innovation Accelerator Lab to conduct GB Innovation Challenge cup which will include grants and training for a selected number of social entrepreneurs. While building the capacity through effective and positive engagement, support to build networks, training and mentoring, the initiative seeks to boost the confidence and buy-in of the community in the development process. Ultimately, the experience of designing, budgeting, implementing and monitoring a community-based project which has visible impact in their surroundings will help enhance their sense of ownership. The will be bi-staged, with grants and training provided to social entrepreneurs for Ideation and Scale-up Stage culminating in a multi stakeholders.



Consultative workshop on GB Innovation Challenges





Gender Mainstreaming Policies workshop under the supervision of ACS (Dev.), Focal Person (SDGs and high level Stakeholders).

## Gender Mainstreaming in Policies and Plans

A two-day training session on gender mainstreaming was organized for senior policy makers, planners, and practitioners in Gilgit to build institutional capacity to streamline gender in development policy, planning, and programming to accelerate SDGs agenda



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P&DD GB



SDGs Unit





## Scaling up Nutrition (SUN) Unit

The addition of the ECD portfolio in the year 2022 helped build trust among stakeholders. SUN Unit P & DD GB, with the financial support from UNICEF has invested PKR 36.8 million over the last four years. The cost of nutrition tracking for ADP 2022-23 allocation is PKR 652.532 million.

The Pakistan De worming Initiative supported by WHO has launched free school meals in primary schools and a de worming initiative in all schools of GB. Department of Education and Academia of Baltistan University is collaborating with NGO Rupani Foundation on capacity building of ECD teachers and pilot projects in public sector schools of GB. University of Baltistan in GB is launching ECD certificate and diploma courses to strengthen the local human resource pool of ECD teachers in the region.

SUN GB submitted inputs for Federal nutrition action plans and accomplished public sector financial tracking of nutrition-sensitive ADPs. It also focused on strengthening food regulatory authorities and developing an Early Childhood Development (ECD) Policy Framework and plan

of action, and formulated and notified institutional structure and terms of reference for ECD governance system such as members of provincial technical working groups (TWGs), Steering Committee, and district level TWGs.

SUN GB executed all budgeted activities as per annual work plan 2022, including SUN GB progress review meeting, launch of ECD initiative in GB, sensitization session for strengthening ECD support process, food and nutrition security improvement measures in disaster, and the role of parliamentarians in nutrition promotion. Recommendations were shared with stakeholders for implementation. SUN unit GB also remained engaged in academic and coordination activities for on-job self-capacity building through various regional, national and international forums.



Chief Foreign Aid, DC Social Sector attending Consultative meeting with ECO TWG



ACS (Dev.) Chaired Nutrition Steering Committee meeting along with director Health and EPA Team

# Accelerating Development in Gilgit-Baltistan through Public Private Partnership (PPP)

GB investment conference 2022. 26 MoUs were signed with the international investors. Based on the MoU, the size of the investment companies working in Tourism and Minerals, and Industries sector have processed their investment proposals, which are under process to be culminated into agreements and finally execution.

In December 2022, a delegation from GB Government visited D3A, Islamabad, P3A Punjab and KPK to have an insight into the structure, function and process of the concerned authorities. The delegation has submitted their recommendations to strengthen the PPP unit, GB, besides replication of best practice of the counter



DC Foreign Aid, DC NRM/ DC A&LE attended meeting to strengthen PPP unit.



DC A&LE and other Development Partners

## Opening Events

PPP Board meeting to approve the EOT/ Bid Evaluation report of Minerals and Industries Department, for investment of a private party in Minerals Economic Zone.





# Public Sector Development Programme

To bring Gilgit-Baltistan at par with other developed areas of the country, a holistic roadmap/ long-term perspective plan was approved by the Prime Minister of Pakistan in March, 2021. The package included PSDP, NON PSDP and Public Private Partnership (PPP) programs in potential sectors such as Transport & Communication, Hydropower, Tourism, Health, Education and Skills Development with a particular focus on Information & Technology.

To ensure implementation on GB Development Plan, Prime Minister, in his capacity as Chairman, the National Economic Council (NEC) has approved inter-governmental fiscal transfer mechanism of direct releases to Government of Gilgit-Baltistan.

In pursuance of this decision, projects are now reflected separately under the caption "Provincial /Special Areas" instead of KA&GB. Further, the responsibility of execution of all

PSDP projects has been granted to Government of Gilgit-Baltistan. GoGB is now actively involved at all stages of execution of PSDP projects through respective PMUs. P&D Department, GB serves as secretariat for over-all coordination, oversight/ M&E and creation of AWP and management of PMES/ IPAS of PSDP projects. A PSDP Steering Committee under the Chairmanship of the Chief Secretary, GB provides strategic guidance, oversight in addition to resolving the bottleneck during the execution. Government of GB has established a mechanism for hiring and performance appraisal of PMU staff so as to improve governance and accountability. The Line departments have also established technical cells with dedicated staff to expedite the implementation process of PSDP projects.

After devolution, tangible progress has been made in a short span of time and several projects have completed design review stages and bidding process is underway.



Secretary Social welfare and DC PSDP Attending CDWP meeting for social welfare PSDP project



# European Union Support

## Energy Plus, Energy For Climate Resilience In GB

A meeting with European union delegation to Pakistan was held on 27th November 2022, European union agreed to finance €30 million in energy sector of Gilgit Baltistan and Chitral. The grant will focus on promoting green economic growth by increasing clean energy supply and uptake through an intergrade

approach aiming at reducing pressure on natural resources, enhancing biodiversity and contributing to climate change adaptation and mitigation. The grant will help in increased hydropower generation capacity and optimized electricity transmission and distribution in Gilgit Baltistan.

## Sustainable Economic Development Through Demand-driven Technical And Vocational Education And Training (TVET IV).

European Union has offered grant worth €40 million for the project “EU support for sustainable economic development through demand-driven Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET IV). The overall objective of this action is to develop human capital to meet the private sector needs. specific objectives are following:

1. Increased supply of adequately skilled labour in demand including in green skills in the agribusiness, water & energy sub-sectors and including women/girls, persons with disabilities, returnees and members of the refugee communities.
2. A more effective national TVET governance system exists.
3. Improved access to skills and employment opportunities for returning and prospective migrants in the context of improved migration management.
4. Increased availability of skilled female labour force in digital skills and High-Tech professions.

The Action has a budget of 45M EUR to be disbursed over an estimated four and a half year (54 months period under a project based and indirect management approach. The principal stakeholders and implementing partners are the National Vocational Training Commission (NAVTTTC) and the newly established National Accreditation Council (NAC) at the federal level and Technical Education and Vocational training Authorities (TEVTA's) at provincial levels. A joint steering/governance structure for TVET will be formed to ensure appropriate coordination among the ongoing projects funded by EU and other MS (Germany and Italy) who are also part of the TEI. The Secretary P&DD will Chair the provincial level project implementation committee.



**Funded by European Union**

# Floods in Gilgit-Baltistan 2022

The floods 2022 have devastatingly hit the economy of Pakistan. Social infrastructure in Sindh province completely damaged, whereas, in rest of the provinces, the damages have been assessed in different scales and magnitude.

Gilgit Baltistan lies at origin of the floods being principal watershed area of Indus River. The total flood rehabilitation cost as estimated in GB is around 6 billion rupees including the emergency restoration work to the tune of Rs. 1 Billion.

Planning and Development Department, soon after the flood devastation conducted exhaustive post flood need assessment exercises and detailed meetings with all the line departments for compilation of data. Moreover, P&DD also conducted zoom meeting with the concerned authorities at P&D Division Islamabad and also with the notified representatives of the international donor agencies for finalization of data and compilation of report, by the donors.

Based on the post flood need assessment exercises, the departments have prepared PC-Is, which will be submitted to P&DD for approval from the competent forums, before

submission to the Federal Government, it there is any formal commitments of funding by donor agencies.

The total cost of flood rehabilitation works as worked out by the departments of GB is as Follows.

S #	Department	Cost (Rs. Million)
1.	Works	784.328
2.	Water & Power Department	1,466.833
3.	LG&RD	838.913
4.	Agriculture	1,073.357
5.	Education	84.153
6.	Health	65.815
7.	Water Management	330.23
8.	GBDMA	1,659.00
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>6,306.29</b>



Glacial Lake Outburst Flood in Immit Valley, Ghizer District in Gilgit -Baltistan



Floods in Ghizer



Flood affecties in open air





# Glacier Lake Outburst Flood (GLOF-II), GB

The Glacial Lakes Outburst Floods (GLOF)-II project is implemented in 16 most vulnerable GLOF prone valleys in all 10 districts of GB. The projects funded by Green Climate Fund (GCF) through UNDP Pakistan which is implemented by Ministry of Climate Change (MoCC) through P&DD-GB. The P&DD GB implements the project through its Line Departments. (GBDMA, Water Management & Irrigation, Forest/Wildlife & Environment Protection Agency and Academia (KIU & UoB).



GLOF team, engaged with Rescue 1122 for community training (Mock drill) for emergency rescue

40 schemes of Improvement and Repair of Irrigation Structures (IRIS) and Water Conservation System for Efficient Irrigation (WCSEA) are completed. Drawing, designs and BOQs of 41 schemes have been submitted to UNDP for approval.

Work on 06 community-based disaster risk management centers is in progress.



Mock drill of communities on GLOF affected areas

260 HA slopes are stabilized through various Bio-Engineering techniques.

02 forest Field Monitoring Huts, 01 in Basho of



As glacier melt surges, efforts to cut flood risk drag.

Mitigation Infrastructures (SSMI) and work on 15 structures is going on and completion is about 75% to 95%. 10 awareness raising sessions, 01 in each district have been completed covering total 398 participants.

19 Mock Drills have been completed in 09 Districts with 793 participants. 01 provincial level stakeholders' workshop having 50 participants has been conducted.

Monsoon and Winter Contingency Plan has been developed and implemented by the relevant departments during 2022.



District Skardu and 01 in Phander of District Ghizer have been renovated under conservation activity.

To support indigenous best practices, KIU has completed the trial and experiment of Avalanche Harvesting at village Adrak, Immit Ishkoman, Glacier Grafting at village Bubur Dist. Ghizer and formation of Ice Stupa at village Hyderabad Hunza. While UoB has completed the experiment of Avalanche Harvesting at village Gayul Hussainabad Skardu, Glacier Grafting at village Siksa Dist. Ganche and formation of Ice Stupas at 03 village, namely; Machulo in Dist. Ganche, Kowardo in Skardu and Sinkermo Longma in Kharmang.

During the year P&DD has hired services of 03 experts while 20 required consultants are also engaged by the executing department.

GB faced devastating floods 2022, resultantly, a considerable number of schemes under GLOF-II were partly or fully damaged, includes 13 schemes from irrigation infrastructure and 18 schemes of small-scale infrastructure in 04 valleys were damaged.

The GLOF-II project organized an exposure visit to KP from 12th December 2022 to 19th December 2022, in which 24 community members and 2 P&DD officials participated. The visit aimed to enable vulnerable communities to prioritize and plan measures to minimize potential losses from GLOFs. The community team was gender-balanced, and nominations were collected from each valley to ensure equal representation. The visit facilitated experience sharing and learning from each other, included visits to GLOF sites, and provided an understanding of project activities and interventions through community engagement.



A group photo of 24 community members and 2 Planning & Development Department officials during community reciprocal visit to KPK.



## Economic Transformation Initiative (ETI) GB

**Economic Infrastructure-** As of end of Nov 2022, against the total targets of 50,000 acres to be brought under irrigation and construction of 400Kms of Farm to Market Roads (FMR), the Programme has been able to achieve 42,617 of acres through implementation of 78 Irrigation and Land Development Schemes (ILD) and completed 71 schemes covering over 384Kms of length cumulatively benefitting over 42,000 households. Of these total 78 ILD schemes, 74 have been completed while 04 schemes are yet to be completed. Programme has also completed the construction of reinforced cement concrete (RCC) bridges of total span of 191 Meter against total target of 220 meter.

**Support Services for Value Chain Development** consists of five sub-components. Under component of Value Chain Fund and Value Chain Technical Assistance, 40,900 farmers have been organized under 162 formally registered legal entities called the Village Agriculture Cooperative (VAC). Business plans have been developed for all VACs and are under implementation. Overall the component benefitted over 45,000 farmers including 30% women.

The social mobilization units (In-house and Partner) supported the Programme in mobilization and organization of farmers into formal and informal groups to execute infrastructure and value chain activities of the Programme. The units also facilitated Programme in land distribution, development, and conflict resolution. However, later Mid Term, the mobilization around Value Chain interventions was carried out by Value Chain Technical Assistance team as per agreed

deliverables. Under Agri Extension, almost all the key targets have been achieved including construction of seven seed stores with a capacity of 50mt, establishment of private nurseries (13), introduction of 24 germplasm, soil survey sampling and training and trainings over 3000 farmers in production and post-harvest.

Under subcomponent Land Titling, the Programme has achieved a historic milestone whereby Land Titling Policy has been approved by Provincial Cabinet and the legal land titles are being issued to beneficiary households. In accordance with the landmark decision of GB Cabinet, handing over of FMR constructed under ETI has been completed for future operations and maintenance.



Community members are cultivating newly available land with the support of ETI for agriculture.





# Opinion

**Mr. Sajjad Hyder**  
**Ex-Chief Economist,**  
**Planning & Development Department**

## Development Planning in Gilgit Baltistan – Missing Links

### Historical background:

Development economics was born immediately after the Second World War with the birth of the Breton Woods international financial system to facilitate development and eradicate poverty in the countries that were emerging out of colonialism. The Planning commission Pakistan was formally established in 1953 with the Harvard Advisory Group (HAG) officially became its coach soon after. Based on their methodology, the country introduced formal 5-year planning in 1955 which with periodic interregnums continues until today. In Gilgit Baltistan, development planning starts with the inception of 2nd Five Year plan by establishing a Planning Cell in 1971.

It is pertinent to mention that most of the project cycle management components in

GB have fallen into misuse, while, others have developed serious defects. Following are the major gaps, in my observation over last 30 years with the department:

### REASONS OF INEFFICIENCY IN DEVELOPMENT PLANNING IN GILGIT BALTISTAN:

As indicated earlier, Public Investment Management in Gilgit Baltistan starts from 2nd five-year plan. This system served to address needs of this region in early stages as the Planning & Development Department was an empowered organization headed by a development commissioner in BS-20. Over the time, the system developed several problems due to degradation of the organization in view of successive administrative changes. Presently, Gilgit Baltistan's PIM system

{development planning} is mere shadow of the concept given by the Harvard Advisory Group, meaning, in capacity, influence and effectiveness.

To understand the sources of inefficiency, it is necessary to review all the stages in the public investment process to identifying gaps and weak points in the processes and procedures.

**Guidance and Screening:** Identification and screening components of PIM are badly compromised due to atrophy of economic planning in Gilgit Baltistan. Two broad factors were mainly responsible for the waning performance of the PIM system in GB:

1) Rigidities of the PIM system: The structure of the economy changed from a public sector led to a private sector led economy. This structural change called for



a different role of the planning system, in general, and particularly, the role of P&DD. This required different skills and competencies than what are available with the department.

2) Dominance of crisis management over economic management: As projects started to slow down due to economic policy and planning adopted in firefighting mode. Longer term planning as well as public investment became casualties of the crisis mode which has preoccupied the GB Government for the last several years.

### **A sharp decline in the capacity of the PIM system in GB:**

With no medium-term plan or strategy available to define the sectoral and sub-sectoral priorities of the government, the project identification process became largely ad-hoc, with identified projects reflecting more the priorities of political representatives than those established through a well thought out plan. The void left by abandonment of the planning process is largely filled by an ad hoc and wish lists of various stakeholders. Ironically, the Planning Commission manual provides ample guidance for identification, appraisal, and implementation of various programs / projects but of no

use in planning process.

### **Project Preparation and Appraisal:**

In the beginning, the quality of project preparation and appraisal was quite satisfactory. However,

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To understand the sources of inefficiency, it is necessary to review all the stages in the public investment process, identifying gaps and weakness.

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over time, these functions weakened, mainly due to following reasons:

With mounting fiscal difficulties, the line departments faced an increasing squeeze on their operational (recurrent) budget. Inclusion a project in ADP therefore became a mode of getting additional fiscal resources for departments to meet operational needs left unmet by inadequate recurrent budget, which is becoming a regular feather for inclusion of such projects. This forced

them to cut corners on project preparation and pull all strings and levers to get project approved. {Roughly, only 3 percent of development expenditure goes to create or acquire physical assets, whereas 31 percent is spent on operation expenditure}.

Politically motivated interventions due to absence of coherent sectoral development plans and strategies in the development process affected the quality of project preparation comply with absense of ex-ante or ex-post independent reviews of the preparation and appraisals process even for important projects.

### **Project Selection and Budgeting:**

Once a project is included in ADP in principle, administrative and political wheels start moving to get the project approved, irrespective of whether funds for the project are available or not, and it is technically viable or otherwise. This leads to a number of projects making into the ADP with insufficient (at time a “token “allocation). This allocation is usually not even enough to pay for the salaries of the project staff. Moreover, this also leads to thin spreading of resources across other projects. As such, many projects get under-financed, which cause

implementation delays, and a large throw-forward. A large throw-forward leaves little room for the incoming new government to implement its development agenda with full vigor. This has created a number of implementation issues undermining the efficiency of public investment.

**Project Implementation:** Project Implementation has been a weak area in GB. For ADP projects, shortcomings in project identification, preparation, appraisal, and approval processes make implementation very difficult. In addition, projects are usually managed by staff taken from regular cadres of government, with limited project management skills. At times project management is assigned as an “additional responsibility” along with the person’s normal work. Moreover, procedures governing project financing, procurement and contracting are overly cumbersome. Hence, implementation delays and the consequent cost escalations are a norm rather than an exception for ADP.

**Public Procurements:** Weak procurement practices remain one of the major reasons for inefficiencies in public expenditure, including public investments as procurement is a highly technical subject. In addition,

the volume of public procurements is huge, both in size and number. There are not enough skilled procurement specialists within the GB Government to manage all these procurements. Moreover, weak accountability and defective bidding and

investment.

### **Monitoring & Evaluation:**

Despite being a function mandated to both the line departments and the P&DD, project monitoring requires considerable improvements. To date, most of monitoring that is undertaken relates to inputs and compliance with procedures and processes, output and impact monitoring continues to be considered as outside the purview and mandate.

### **Project Completion and Service Delivery:**

Although procedures for completing a project and soliciting operational resources are well laid out, yet they are hardly ever followed. Project completion report (PC-IV) is filed only in cases where the project requires recurrent expenditure allocation to be operational. Following are the reasons for inadequate allocation of operational budget to a newly completed project’s) Weak estimates of operational resources: While preparing the PC-I, the line departments understate the recurrent expenditure implications of the project. This is done to improve the chances of getting the project approved and included in the development budget. The finance authority takes these estimates very seriously when

“ Project Implementation has been a weak area in GB. For ADP projects, shortcomings in project identification, preparation, appraisal, and approval processes make implementation very difficult. In addition, projects are usually managed by staff taken from regular cadres of government, with limited project management skills. ”

contract documents have given rise to poor contracting procedures and practices which directly undermine the efficiency of public expenditure in general, and particularly public



making operational allocation after completion of the project. ii) Implementation delays not only lead to escalation in project cost, but also in recurrent expenditure required to make the project operational. iii) Inadequacy of R&M allocations lead to deterioration in quality of service delivered by the projects, reducing value for money under projects.

### **Missing Links in Functioning of Planning & Development Department:**

P&DD GB has thus become a project approval body where most of the projects are not identified based on technical considerations or as part of a shared approach to maximizing growth and welfare. These developments adversely impacted the value for money under development. At all stages of the project, P&DD is supposed to keep track of performance. However, this tracking is now not happening to maximize project performance. At the project initiation, the PC1 form requires a full cost-benefit and economic analysis of the project to be presented to the approving bodies, after scrutiny by the sections.

When the project is complete the sponsoring agency must send a completion report, the

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PC4. Seldom is this report completed and hence there is little evaluation of the work done and its proper costing. After 5 years of the completion of the project, an evaluation report, PC-V, reports on the performance of the project comparing it to the stated expectations set out in the PC-I. Once again, these reports are seldom if ever completed. Altogether, role of P&DD is to approve projects and maintaining expenditure management afterwards.

### **Too Many Projects, Too Little Return**

#### **1) Projects are approved without due diligence.**

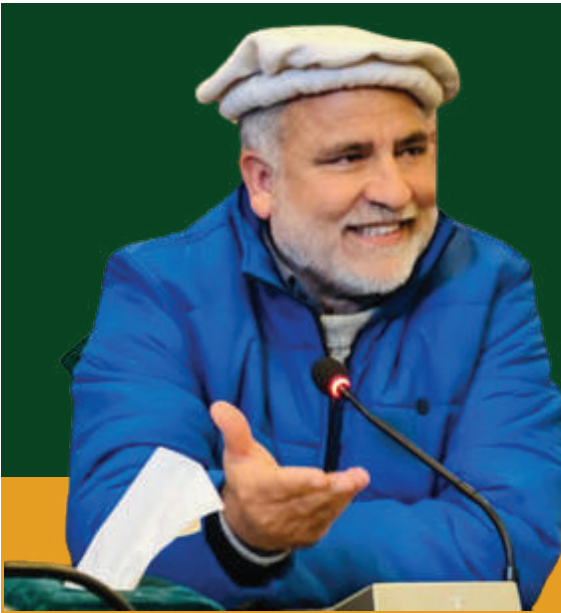
Feasibilities, cost-benefit analysis, spatial determination, and several other details are often subject to political or other considerations. Approvals are unnecessarily pushed, compromising standard of appraisals.

#### **2) Projects frequently have large cost overruns.**

Using a selection of ADP projects overruns are frequent and quite large. This is a combination of poor project management, infrequent delays leading to cost escalation as well as poor initial preparation.

#### **3) Excessive focus on brick and mortar.**

The bulk of the investment is in hard infrastructure such and link roads are the biggest components. Even in the social sectors and other sectors, departments are interested in brick and mortar and even the approval process favors that.



# Opinion

**Mr. Israr Ahmed**  
**Ex-Chief Foreign Aid,**  
**Planning & Development Department**

**Future of Planning & Development Department and way forward.**

The Department of Planning and Development (P&DD) is essential for the social and economic growth of Gilgit-Baltistan. P&DD has a promising future; however, it is essential that the P&DD carefully and firmly take into account the following primary tasks in order to achieve economic and social goals.

It is imperative that efforts are made to develop the resources of the area in order to enhance the well-being of the population, while ensuring adequate socio-economic standards and provision of social services. In this regard, all development projects should be executed in accordance with the guidelines of Town-planning, in order to achieve the objective of well-planned development.

All development projects should be incorporated into

the Annual Development Plan (ADP) solely on the basis of social need, without succumbing to any political pressure. After the formulation of the ADP, thorough examination and evaluation must be conducted to ensure that the projects are completed within the approved scope, cost and stipulated time period.

The current monitoring system is inadequate and not operating effectively, despite the presence of a Chief Monitoring Officer. Effective monitoring will guarantee the achievement of standard quality work and timely completion of development projects.

Regular monitoring will allow for the collection of feedback on the progress made towards achieving the goals and objectives of the project.

Given that the development budget allocated by the Federal Government is insufficient to meet the socio-economic needs of Gilgit-Baltistan, it is essential to enhance the Foreign Aid section and Public Private Partnership unit with proper staffing.

The Foreign Aid section and Public Private Partnership unit have been established within the P&DD department; however, both sections have not yet been adequately staffed. The provinces of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Punjab, and Sindh have achieved remarkable success in these areas, evidenced by the completion and ongoing progress of mega projects in the communication and infrastructure sectors.

The officers of the P&DD department possess a high level of professional



capability, however, it is important that they continue to develop their skills and focus on their areas of expertise to contribute to the prosperity of Gilgit-Baltistan and the transformation of the P&DD department into a socially responsible and nation-building institution.

### WAY FORWARD:

These areas should be considered as tools for moving forward.

The process of formulating

the Annual Development Plan (ADP) should be based solely on the socio-economic needs of Gilgit-Baltistan and in accordance with the departmental priorities.

All development activities should be carried out in accordance with the recommendations of Town-planning.

The examination and evaluation of projects at the approval stage must be improved.

Greater attention and effort should be directed towards monitoring of development projects in order to obtain accurate feedback for timely decision-making.

The Foreign Aid section and Public Private Partnership unit should be reinforced with adequate staffing in order to achieve the desired results.



During the farewell event of the Chief Foreign Aid, senior officials from P&DD appeared to be bidding farewell with a mix of emotions.





Islamabad: ACS Development Gilgit-Baltistan, Resident Representative UNDP Pakistan, Mr Maurizio Gallo and others joined for signing ceremony of the Project "Glaciers and Students" at EvK2CNR Office, Islamabad. The project is funded by Italian Agency for Development Cooperation.



Islamabad: ACS Development Gilgit-Baltistan, Resident Representative UNDP Pakistan, Mr Maurizio Gallo and others joined for signing ceremony of the Project "Glaciers and Students" at EvK2CNR Office, Islamabad. The project is funded by Italian Agency for Development Cooperation.



GB DWP forum was convened by ACS Dev: where 11 projects were considered relating Excise, Law and Power departments. 10 projects costing Rs 2427 million were approved /recommended whereas one project was referred for inquiry by CMIT GB.



Gilgit. The 8th meeting of Gilgit-Baltistan Departmental Development Working Party (GB-DDWP) was held under the Chairmanship ACS (Dev.) GB on 23rd November, 2022. Total 27 Development Schemes were discussed and 20 Schemes Cost Amounting to Rs. 3275.443 Million got approved.



Gilgit: Head of UN Volunteers Pakistan Mr. Wasim Ashraf presents SDGs souvenir to Additional Chief Secretary (Dev.) Gilgit-Baltistan.



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GB Minister for P&D and ACS (Dev.) GB visit the under construction project "140 meter RCC bridge over Indus river at Bunji. The project was approved at a revised cost of RS. 273.830 million by enhancing the length/span of bridge. The project will be completed by February, 2023.



Minister Planning and Development Department Mr Fateh Ullah Khan visiting RHQ Shaheed Safi Ur Rehman Hospital





IT team P&DD briefing Minister Planning & Development Mr. Fateh Ullah Khan on newly developed ADP Automation Dashboard.



SDG unit GB and Statistical Research Cell P&DD held a meeting with EMIS team at Education Department to collate institutional data for 'GB Development Statistics (GBDS) Report' formulation and publication.



Minister Planning and Development Mr. Fateh Ullah Khan attending SUN unit session on school meal program initiative.



Minister Planning & Development Mr. Fateh Ullah Khan visiting Juglot Hospital along with Secretary Works and Secretary Health



A cogent meeting with section heads of Forest Department for GBDS template formulation and data collection.



Minister Planning & Development Mr. Fateh Ullah Khan, Senior Minister Ubaid Ullah Baig visiting flood hit area of bubur District Ghizer.



Deputy Chief/Focal person SRC P&DD GB and CEO, Gilgit Baltistan Policy Institute (GBPI) signed the contract agreement. Both agreed to work together to dig out the reasons behind child labour and OOSC in district Diamer and shigar.





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