CDPR NEWSLETTER

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TRADE



Source: Pakistan Bureau of Statistics, External Trade Statistics



Source: Pakistan Bureau of Statistics, External Trade Statistics

Quantum Index of Manufacturing 140 120 100 80 60 40 20 0 APT-2A May 24 141-24 1417-24 Oct.2A AUS:24 Sep:24 404.2

Source: Pakistan Bureau of Statistics, External Trade Statistics

BALANCE OF PAYMENTS

Imports (Monthly in Million USD)

Balance of Trade (Monthly in Million USD) 0

-500

-1,000

-1,500

-2,000

-2,500

-3,000

-3,500

-4,000



Source: State Bank of Pakistan, Statistical Bulletin & Pakistan Bureau of Statistics

5.1 6 6.1 6.2 6.3

Forex Reserves (Month-End Levels in Million USD)



Source: State Bank of Pakistan, Foreign Exchange Reserves

Workers' Remittances (Monthly in Million USD)



Source: State Bank of Pakistan, Annual Report

Balance of Payments (Monthly in Million USD)



Source: State Bank of Pakistan, Annual Report

Roshan Digital Account (Monthly)



Source: State Bank of Pakistan, Key Statistics on Roshan Digital Account

PRICES

15

10

5

0

-5

-10

-15

-20

-25

</84-2







Source: State Bank of Pakistan, Monthly Average Exchange Rates

20kg Wheat Flour Bag

Source: Pakistan Bureau of Statistics, Monthly Review on Price Indices

Onions (1kg)



Source: Pakistan Bureau of Statistics, Monthly Review on Price Indices

YoY% change in Prices



Source: Pakistan Bureau of Statistics, Monthly Review on Price Indices



Source: Pakistan Bureau of Statistics, Monthly Review on Price Indices



ENERGY



Source: Pakistan Bureau of Statistics, Monthly Review on Price Indices

YoY% Change in prices

Electricity generation by type GWh (yearly)



80

60

40

20

0

-20

-40

-60

APT-25

21/25

Potatoes (1kg)

Tomatoes (1kg)



Source: Pakistan Bureau of Statistics, Monthly Review on Price Indices





Source: Pakistan Bureau of Statistics, Trends in Electricity Generation

160000 140000 120000 100000 80000 60000 40000 20000 0 2006-07 2007.08 2008.09 2009-10 2011.12 2015-16 2017-18 2018-19 2014-15 2016-17 2019:20 2020-21 2010-11 2012:13 2013 Wind Bagasse Nuclear Thermal Solar Hydel

Source: Pakistan Bureau of Statistics, Trends in Electricity Generation

IR QUAL



Source: Air Quality Index (AQI)



Average Monthly PM2.5

Source: Air Quality Index (AQI)



Insights for Change

Exit Strategy from the IMF Programme

It is often argued that it is in Pakistan's best interest to exit from the IMF programme. The programme results in loss of autonomous decision making for Pakistan, constrains it from setting its own policy priorities, and perpetuates the setting of short-term performance criteria and structural benchmarks for the country. This article outlines an exit strategy that Pakistan can adopt to leave the IMF programme and prescribes targeted policy actions which should be taken over the course of the next three years.

The author, Dr. Ishrat Hussain, is an Economist and Former Governor, State Bank of Pakistan.





POLICY Analysis



Vulnerable Markets: Impact of Extreme Flooding on Agriculture Supply Networks in Punjab, Pakistan

This month's policy analysis section features a working paper by the International Growth Centre (IGC) that analyzes the impact of the 2022 floods on agricultural supply networks in Punjab, Pakistan. By unlocking highfrequency agriculture supply chain data on quantities and merging it with remote-sensing data from Feb-Dec 2022, it assesses disruptions in movement of agricultural commodities between supply regions and the consumption districts.

The principal investigators are Dr. Sher Afghan Asad (Visiting Assistant Professor, Iowa State University), Dr. Farah Said (Assistant Professor, LUMS) and Omar Hayat Gondal (PhD Candidate, Washington University in St. Louis). This study contributes to the economics literature by offering new policy-relevant insights on the response of agricultural networks to natural disasters in the context of developing countries.

Using an event study design, they find the statistically significant pre-event anticipatory effects that increase supply by 35% followed by reduction of up to 34% on the overall quantities compared to the baseline in the aftermath of the floods and document the heterogeneity over crop types and district sizes. The findings suggested that vegetables show the highest susceptibility to such shocks, whereas the trajectory of grains is suggestive of state interventions. They estimated optimal road networks and show that flooding of roads does not significantly disrupt the supply lines.



READ MORE

CDPR and IGC's podcast series called 'Let's Talk Development' is about understanding Pakistan's crucial economic and development problems. We engage experts in exploring critical development issues and trends in Pakistan.

Sri Lanka's Economic Recovery: Lessons for Pakistan

Sri Lanka suffered a great economic crisis 2019 onwards, however in the late 2024, its economy demonstrated significant signs of recovery. In this episode, Dr. Shantayanan Devarajan and Dr. Ijaz Nabi talk about Sri Lanka's economic crisis, comparing it to Pakistan's situation, and exploring potential solutions. They discussed the stabilization measures, structural reforms, debt restructuring, and the role of the IMF in supporting developing economies.





LAHORE POLICY EXCHANGE

INNOVATIVE POLICY SOLUTIONS TO BOOST NON-TRADITIONAL EXPORTS





Lecturer, LUMS







Alı Hasanaın Associate Professor, LUMS



The Consortium for Development Policy Research (CDPR) and the International Growth Centre (IGC) hosted a session of the Lahore Policy Exchange on "Innovative Policy Solutions to Boost Non-Traditional Exports" on Friday, 2nd May 2025. This session highlighted policy ideas and practical tools to unlock the potential of non-traditional exports—from creative industries to technology and agri-value chains.





UMAIR JAVED TOPIC Security and Insecurity

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FELLOWS' ARTICLES



RIAZ RIAZUDDIN

US-China Trade Game READ MORE

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Let's Talk Development (4)

4.1 The Unbalanced Scale: Gender, Work and Productivity

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- Faisal Bari 6.1 TVET market is tough
- 6.2 **Umair Javed**
- The Roots of Crisis
 - **Nazish Afraz** Trump Tariffs: A Wake-up Call for Strategic Realignment



In Pakistan, policy decisions and public discourse are often uniformed by available research. The Consortium for Development Policy Research (CDPR) bridges this gap by communicating cutting-edge, evidence-based research on development issues in Pakistan to an audience of policymakers, students, the media and the wider public. With support from the International Growth Centre (IGC), CDPR disseminates policy briefs, hosts events, engages with the media and produces digital content to make topics in development research such as economic growth, energy, education, health and governance intelligible to both decision makers&thepublic.