Small Town Sustainability Workshop

Resource Generation

Shrines

Streets and Sanitation

Sanitation for the Poor

Drinking Water for the Poor

Dark Katcha Streets

BUILD BETTER WORLD
PAKISTAN
ESTD-1948

THE INSTITUTION OF ENGINEERS, PAKISTAN

I.E.P BUILDING, 97 B D-1, GROUND FLOOR, LIBERTY ROUND ABOUT, GULBERG-III, LAHORE
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UNESCO Sustainable Development Goals

• President of the World Federation of Engineering Organizations, has expressed that the engineers need to 'initiate reformative development'.

• For this purpose, the engineers need to engage themselves in the interdisciplinary, inter-sector and international collaboration, that is needed to invest and strengthen the capacity of engineering innovations across the world, especially in developing countries, to help mankind and the planet shape a sustainable future.

• UNESCO's Report 'Engineering for Healthy Planet' a framework for compliance to the UN 17 Sustainable Development Goals, is a step forward to transform the world in this perspective. The United Nations in 50 years of its inception in 1995 has changed its directions from supporting various governments, now to supporting civil society directly.

UNESCO Sustainable Development Goals in assistance of underprivileged habitat;
UNESCO's effort of reformative development 2020
Align your Town to
the 17 Sustainable Development Goals:

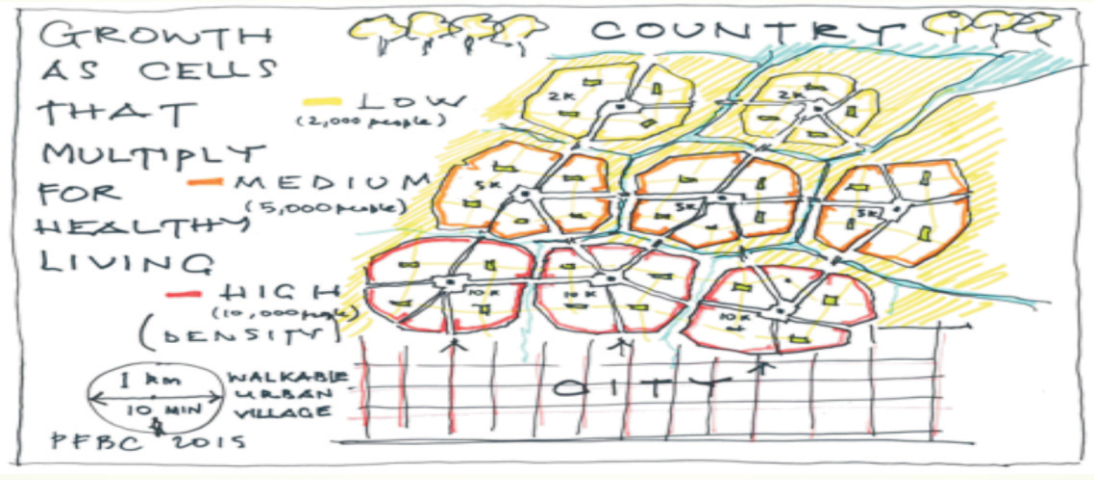
01. No poverty
02. Zero hunger
03. Good health wellbeing
04. Quality education
05. Gender equality
06. Clean water and sanitation
07. Affordable clean energy
08. Decent work & economic growth
09. Industry innovation & infrastructure
10. Reduced inequality
11. Sustainable cities & communities
12. Responsible consumption and production
13. Climate action
14. Life below water
15. Life on land
16. Peace justice & strong institutions
17. Partnerships for SDGs.

Each SDG has specific defined targets. The total targets are 169.

IEP SMALL TOWN SUSTAINABILITY WORKSHOP

Engr. Dr. Javed Yunas Uppal
President, IEP
Addressing the Workshop

Many of us have roots in small towns. We might have arisen from there, have left them, but have wishes, and interests in their development and wellbeing. The small town administration and land owners around are struggling against diminishing resources, deteriorating environmental conditions, insufficient public amenities and loss of intelligent youth for better prospects in larger cities. It appears, the small towns are no longer sustainable. But this trend can now be turned around, with new techniques of digital world, stakeholders team building, system thinking approach and planners and engineers' software inputs.



Recently, Guidelines, on the Sustainable Development Goals have been developed by UNESCO serving this purpose. The Commonwealth Association of Planners, Architects, and Local Government, and UN-Habitat have developed a Toolkit, consolidating a simple and streamlined methodology that shapes sustainable growth despite the scale and pace of the trend. Vensim is a system thinking software, available now, which can model wellbeing of impoverished communities. There is a systematic knowledge of the subject today, acquiring which, the young professionals can, not only come to rescue the small towns, but can also find a means of employment for themselves. The town administration, influentials, and the landlords of the area can acquire this knowhow for better organizing these programs.

In this respect, the Institution of Engineers Pakistan has taken a lead, and has held a three weeks, free online video conference CPD Workshop on Zoom, from Monday, May 10to May 28, 2021.

There were over 150 engineers, architects, planners and government officials, belonging to many spread out small towns from Gilgit Baltistan, Azad Jammu and Kashmir, Punjab, South Punjab, Sindh, Baluchistan and also large metropolitan areas, who undertook the workshop.

The topics covered were:

1. Today's digital world bringing connectivity to remote small towns;
2. Diverting resources back to small towns, and building stakeholders together;
3. UNESCO Sustainable Development Goals in assistance of underprivileged habitat;
4. Commonwealth Planners and Architects' toolkit for sustainable urban growth; and
5. Vensim System Thinking software on wellbeing of impoverished communities.

The participants picked up specific projects, products or services of their choosing and against each topic, they will work at home to make preparatory reports, that would help them to establish themselves as organizers, technology providers, and community developers, innovators and entrepreneurs as their real time careers.

The foreign resource persons who delivered their inputs were:

1. Dr Liang Ying, Chinese Mechanical Engineering Society, Beijing, with their experiences on the New Silk Road, connectivity to remote area over three continents.
2. Mr Rowan Palmer, Lead Sustainable Infrastructure Team, Economic and Trade Policy Unit, UN Environment Program, Switzerland, with their UNESCO Sustainable Development Goals, Guidelines.
3. Prof William Kelly, Chair, Asian Civil Engineering Coordinating Council, Washington DC, with Vensim System Thinking Modelling Approach.
4. Arch Ben Bolgar, Senior Director, Prince's Foundation, Commonwealth Association, London, with their Toolkit developed for Rapid Urban Development.

Prof William E. Kelly, Ph.D., P.E., retired as Director of External Affairs at the American Society for Engineering Education (ASEE). Before joining ASEE, he was a Professor of Civil Engineering at the Catholic University of America and also served as Dean of the School of Engineering from 1996-2001. He is a past member of the ASCE Committee on Sustainability (CoS) and has taught sustainability at Catholic University and George Mason University. He is a co-editor of the 2017 ASCE book "Engineering for Sustainable Communities: Principles and Practices." He chairs the ASCE Planning Committee on Global Sustainability and the Asian Civil Engineering Coordination Council (ACECC) Committee on Sustainable Infrastructure, both focused on achieving the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. He is also a member of the WFEO UN Relations Committee (WURC). In 2020 he was recognized by ASCE for his work on sustainability and the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

Professor Kelly's remarks about this Workshop are:

"Very impressed by what you are doing and hoping we can encourage similar programs in other ACECC countries., William Kelly Chair ACECC TC 14"

Arch Ben Bolgar is the Senior Design Director for the Prince's Foundation for Building Community where he is responsible for communication, research, urban and architectural projects as well as education.

Ben has led over 50 collaborative planning and design frameworks for projects ranging in scale from a new city in Gabon to Alder Hey Children's Hospital in Liverpool. The current portfolio of around 40 projects consists of city expansions, new towns, brownfield remediation, town centre regeneration, heritage, ecclesiastical, healthcare and ecological projects. Ben is currently overseeing the urban and architectural outputs for four new mixed use developments in the UK consisting of around 20,000 dwellings in total.

Ben teaches at Oxford and Trinity Saint David Universities, and has taught or lectured at Notre Dame, Yale, Cambridge and Robert Gordon Universities.

Ben is a member of the Royal Institute of British Architects, the Royal Incorporation of Architects in Scotland, the Architecture Club, a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts and board member of Coed Darcy Ltd, the Form Based Codes Institute and Stroma Consulting.

Alice Preston-Jones, Commonwealth Projects Coordinator, Sustainable Cities, CAP, CAA, CLGF and Princes Foundation, is based in London, England, and has 8 jobs listed on their profile. Princes Foundation in collaboration with the Commonwealth Association and the Institution of Civil Engineers United Kingdom, have developed a Toolkit for Rapid Urban Development which is especially suited for small town re-generation and new growth.

Rowan Palmer, is Programme Management Officer, United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), Resources and Markets Branch in UN Headquarters, Geneva, Switzerland, where he leads the Sustainable Infrastructure Partnership and coordinates UNEP's implementation of UNEA Resolution 4/5 on sustainable infrastructure. Prior to joining UNEP Rowan worked as an environmental manager for large-scale transportation infrastructure projects in his home province of British Columbia, Canada. Rowan holds a Bachelor's degree in International Development and Environment Studies from McGill University in Montreal and a Master's degree in International Relations from Instituto de Empresa in Madrid.

May 27, 2021
Workshop on Small Town Sustainability

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Dr Akter and Dr Islam,

Attached is the program that Dr Uppal IEP (cc'd) delivered in Pakistan. He would be happy to assist you and the IEB in planning and delivering a similar program tailored to Bangladesh.

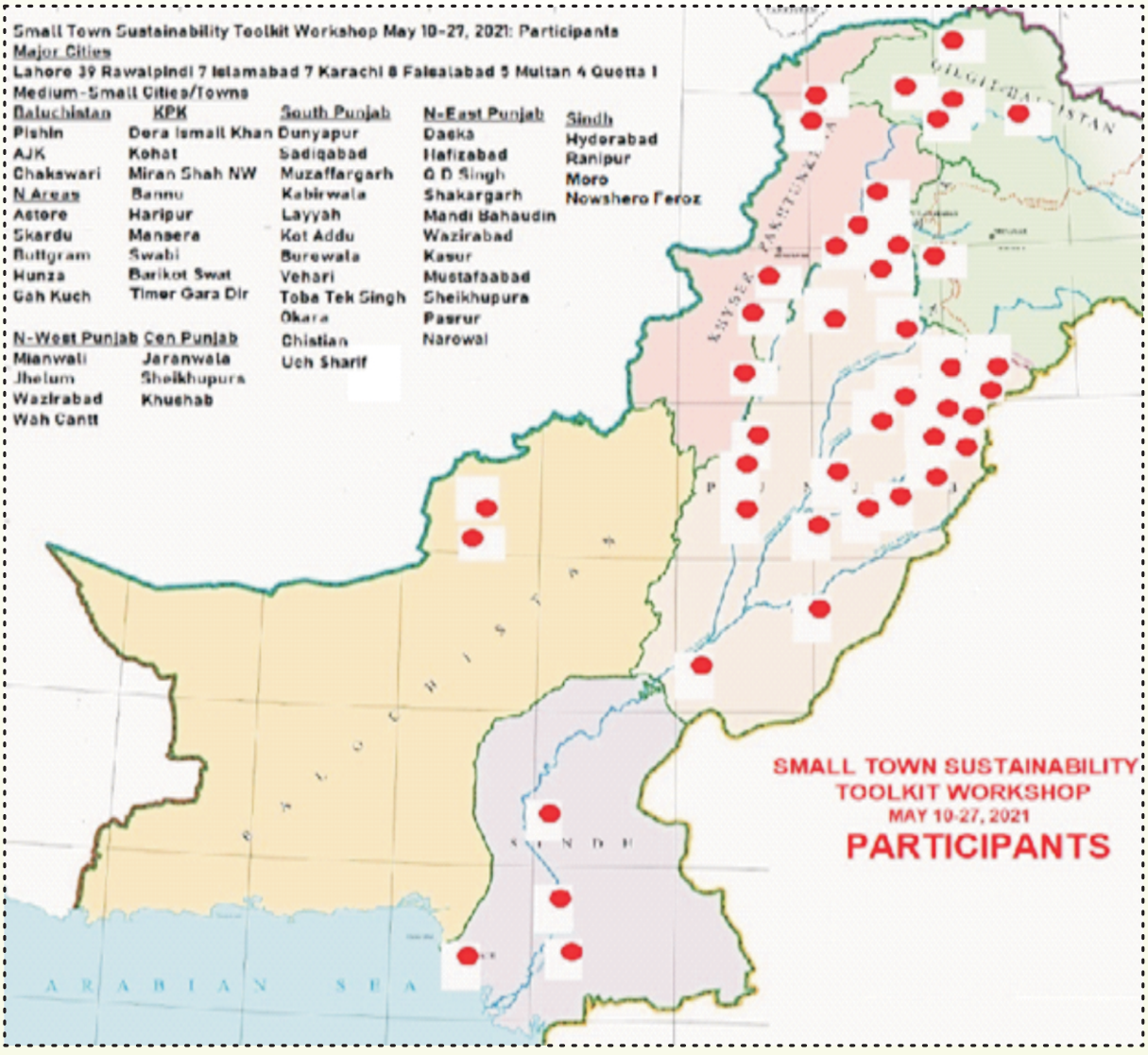
I would of course be happy to assist in any ways I can. As you know, the UN is putting an increasing stress on the role of local governments in achieving the UN SDGs and this is an excellent example of what can be done and how the engineering community can contribute.

Thanks for your support of TC 14,

Bill Kelly
Chair ASCE Planning Committee on
Global Sustainability and the Asian Civil Engineering Coordination Council (ACECC)
Committee on Sustainable Infrastructure, Washington, DC

Dr Liang Ying is Director Dept. of International Affairs, Chinese Mechanical Engineering Society, Beijing China from where he conducts the Innovation Design Forum, for the New Silk Road ensuring connectivity to diversified human habitation, rural and urban, spread over 3 continents, 49 countries, and different ethnicity, economic and technological levels. China has rich experience of mobilizing 1.2b population largely small towns rural dwellors.

The participants of the Workshop belonged to all spread out parts of Pakistan, from Northern Areas, Azad Jammu and Kashmir, KPK, Punjab, Baluchistan and Sindh, including from large metropolitan cities. This spread is described on the Map below.



Theme: What are we talking about

16% population lives in 12 metropolitan areas of more than 500,000 each

24% population lives in 99 cities of more than 100,000 each

60% population lives in towns:

Large towns > 50,000 but <100,000

Intermediate towns > 25,000 but < 50,000

Small Towns > 25,00 but < 25,000

- 60% of gross domestic product GDP is generated in towns, but is poorly rewarded and the bounties are shifted to 12 metropolitan areas and 99 cities, where government collects 95% revenue.
- If the living and working conditions are improved in towns, value additions to their produce is done within the towns, the GDP can multiply, the towns will be sustainable, and population will have better earning opportunities.

Theme: Small Towns are No Longer Sustainable

Small towns are struggling against:

'diminishing resources', 'deteriorating environmental conditions', 'insufficient public amenities' and 'loss of intelligent youth for better prospects in larger cities'.

This trend can now be turned around. Today's World is a Digital World

- New techniques of digital world, online platforms, mobile apps and video conferencing
- Management systems for stakeholders team building,
- Professional software such as system thinking approach.

Young Professionals

The young professionals can, not only come to rescue the small towns, but can also find a means of employment for themselves.

Systematic 'How-To' is Available Today

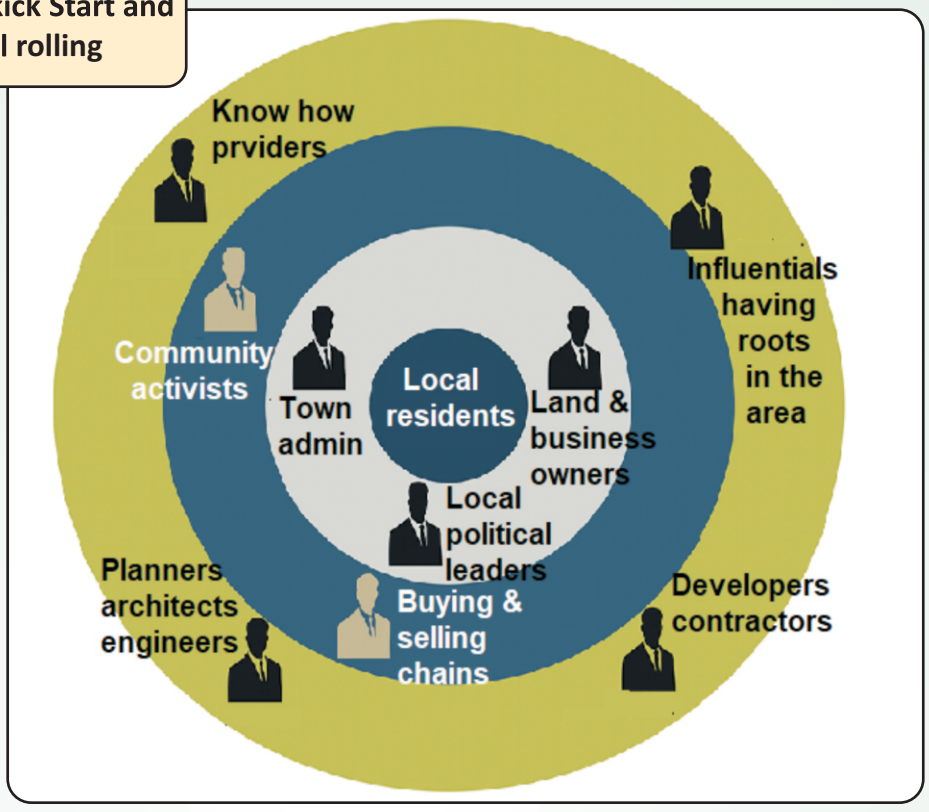
- There is a systematic knowledge of the subject today, that was before:
- Guidelines, on the Sustainable Development Goals have been developed by UNESCO serving this purpose.
- Prince's Foundation have developed a Toolkit, streamlined methodology that shapes sustainable growth.
- Vensim is a system thinking software, available now, which can model wellbeing of impoverished communities.

Stakeholders to Work as a Team

The town administration, land and business owners of the area, influentials who belong to the area, buying and selling chains, local residents, community activists, planners, architects and engineers are all internal and external stakeholders who can work together as a team.

Stakeholders

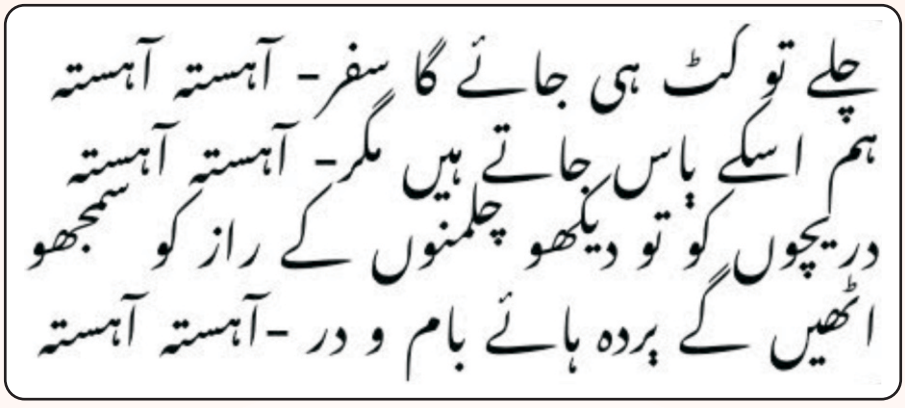
Anyone can kick Start and Set the wheel rolling



Connectivity in Today's Digital World

What is new in today's digital world; Remote areas are no more remote

- Online money transactions
- Online buying and selling
- Online education, health, legal aid and e-government
- Online professional platforms for planning and engineering services
- Communication networks widely operated
- Producer – consumer culture integration
- Urban – rural linkage
- Moneyed class – worker class win-win



Let us march towards the struggling people of the small towns. If we start now, we will be with them, and understand their woes, slowly and slowly. We will see clearly what goes behind the shabby doors and hanging rugs. Slowly, we will learn, what can be done to improve their living.

Assignment

In the assignment, the participants pondered on a town of their own choosing. If they were in a large city, they could choose a small locality in their city.

They started with, collecting data physically or from net, mobile, or email, and interview people answering a structured questionnaire:

1) A walk through the area, themselves or ask someone to do it for you. Needed was a physical map of the area; and duly completed templates that appear below;
2) Identifying resources and stakeholders,
3) Growth potentials and impediments; and
4) Available digital instruments and their use, existing occupations & uplift.

The participants developed proposals as to how to improve the town to bring sustainability to it. In each session, we discussed progress how they were building their cases up. At the end session, selected ones made 5 to 10 minute presentations. Credits to the submitted assignments were mentioned in the certificates that were awarded to the participants.

Template: Questionnaire-1

Resources				**Stakeholders**			
What does the town produce?				**What public officials are there who can be approached to join participatory improvement effort?**			
Minerals Gems	Wheat Rice Cotton Vegetables	Milk Meat Goats Poultry	Garments Leather Gds Shoes Cutlery Handicrafts	MPA/MNA	Local admin	Teaching institutions	Councilors
What does the town brings in?				**What private influential are there who can be approached to join a participatory improvement effort?**			
Household Goods	Cosmetics Medicines	Cars M-Cycles	Food	Land Owners	Business owners	Peers Mullahs NGOs	Renowned People With roots
This questionnaire duly filled with an attached walk through map of the town should be submitted by email before the next Session.							

Template: Questionnaire-2

Growth Potentials				**Impediments**			
What existing renewals can you possibly make to accommodate?				**What hazards do you see in implementing the plans**			
Better dwelling multistory units	Transport corridors & peds	Parks green & market areas	Water sanitary & wastes	Landscape constraint	Traffic re-routing	Land acquisition	Resistance from people
What new adjacent town areas do you propose where better environment can be offered?				**What public and official difficulties do you foresee?**			
Residential Housing & apartments	Industrial Commerce	Parks Sports	Town center	Peoples ownership titles	Admin resistance	Political resistance	Capital procurement
This questionnaire duly filled with an attached map of the town showing proposed plans should be submitted by before the next Session							

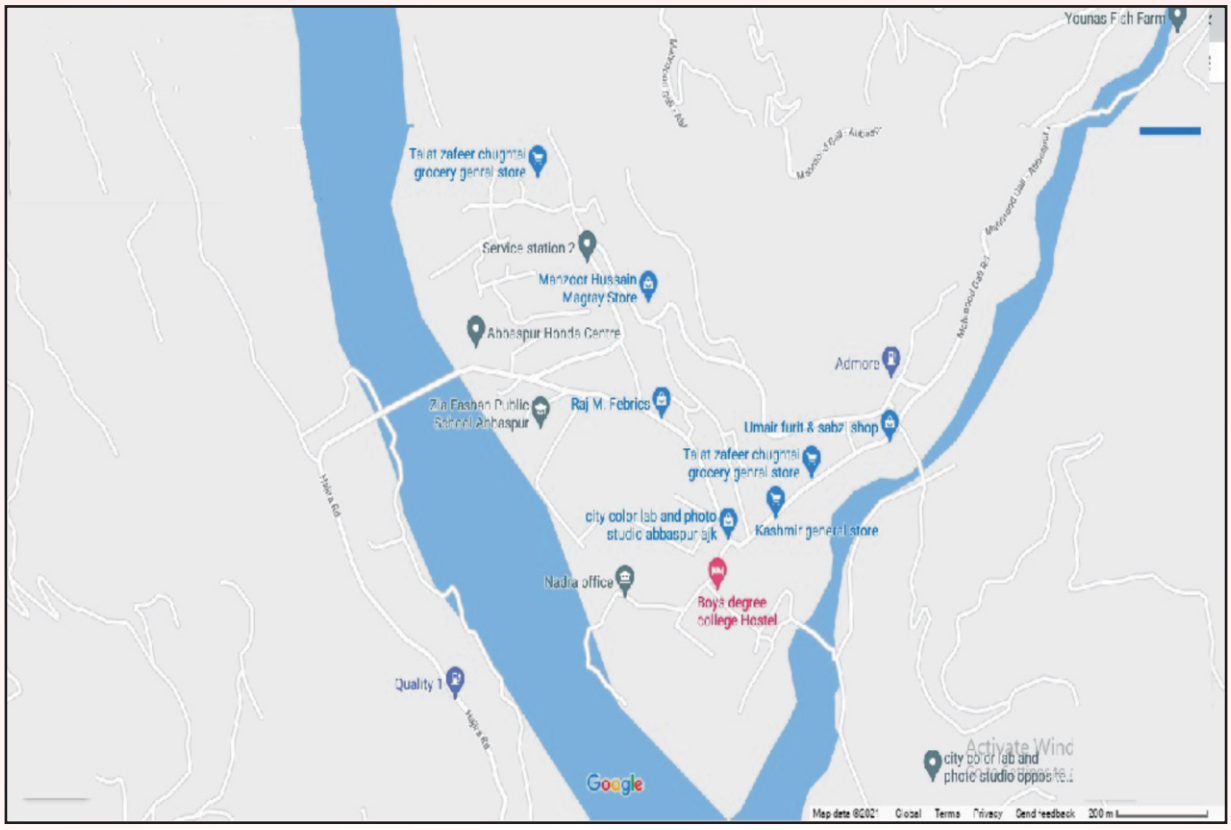
Template: Questionnaire-3

Assistance from Digital Instruments				Upgrading Occupations			
What existing digital instrument are available?				**What are existing occupations of the work force?**			
Urban rural linkages	Buying & selling	Engage ment of prof services	Conferencing on education & training	Unskilled Skilled workers farm factory market	Gardeners Guards Drivers Office assistants	Shop keepers Agent Domestic servants	Nurses Teachers Managers
How do you propose to utilize the digital linkage for meeting objectives?				**What technical and vocational training courses will you recommend for better economic cycle?**			
Community goals & vision	Data collection & analysis	Planning & design	Implementation	Computer Cable net Mobile repair	Farming Vetinary	Commerce Finance Legal	Engineering Architects Planners
This questionnaire duly filled with an attached map of the town showing proposal plans should be submitted by email before the next Session.							

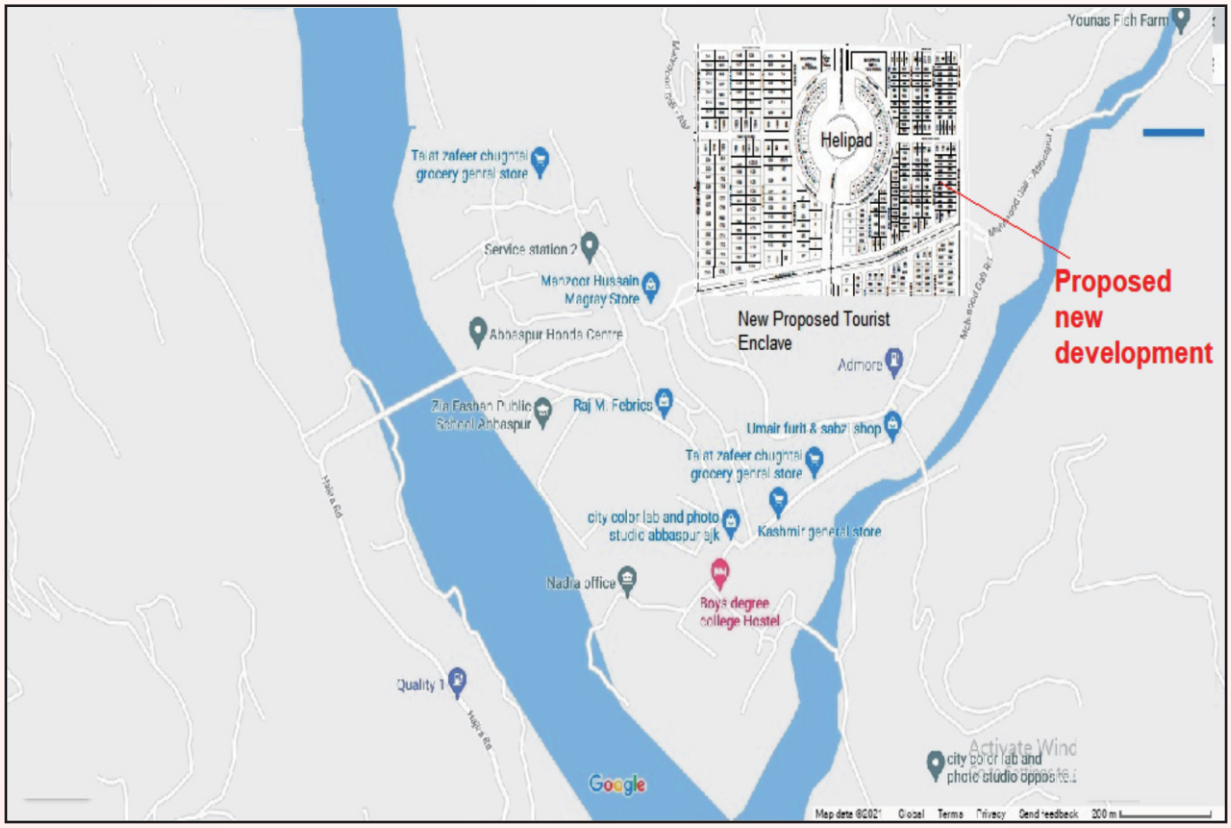
Abbaspur Town (Azad Kashmir)

- Abbaspur, a picturesque paradise, is a town in Azad Jammu and Kashmir, near LOC, 25km from Poonch with a population of 100,000.
- It is situated at the confluence of Tatan Di Rangur Nullah and its tributary. The nullah flows into Poonch River.
- 3,044m high Ganga mountains in landscape on the left is the most beautiful range in Kashmir.
- Famous Gulmarg in occupied Kashmir is on the right. The town produces red beans, handicrafts, hand stitched Kashmiri garments, and fish.
- Cow and goat breeding is a prominent means of occupation.
- A number of people have emigrated to countries like UK and send foreign exchange goods and invest in property locally. They can be tapped.
- A number of people originated from the area have gone in Army and Government, or run transport business. They can be tapped.
- The scenic surroundings are a cash point. A new tourist enclave can be planned there with a helipad, hotels, and display centers of world famous Kashmiri hand knitted shawls.
- The proposed development will immensely raise income levels of the land owners, business owners, value addition to the produce, and ultimately the government revenue.

Abbaspur Existing Street Map



Abbaspur Proposed New Development



Vehari

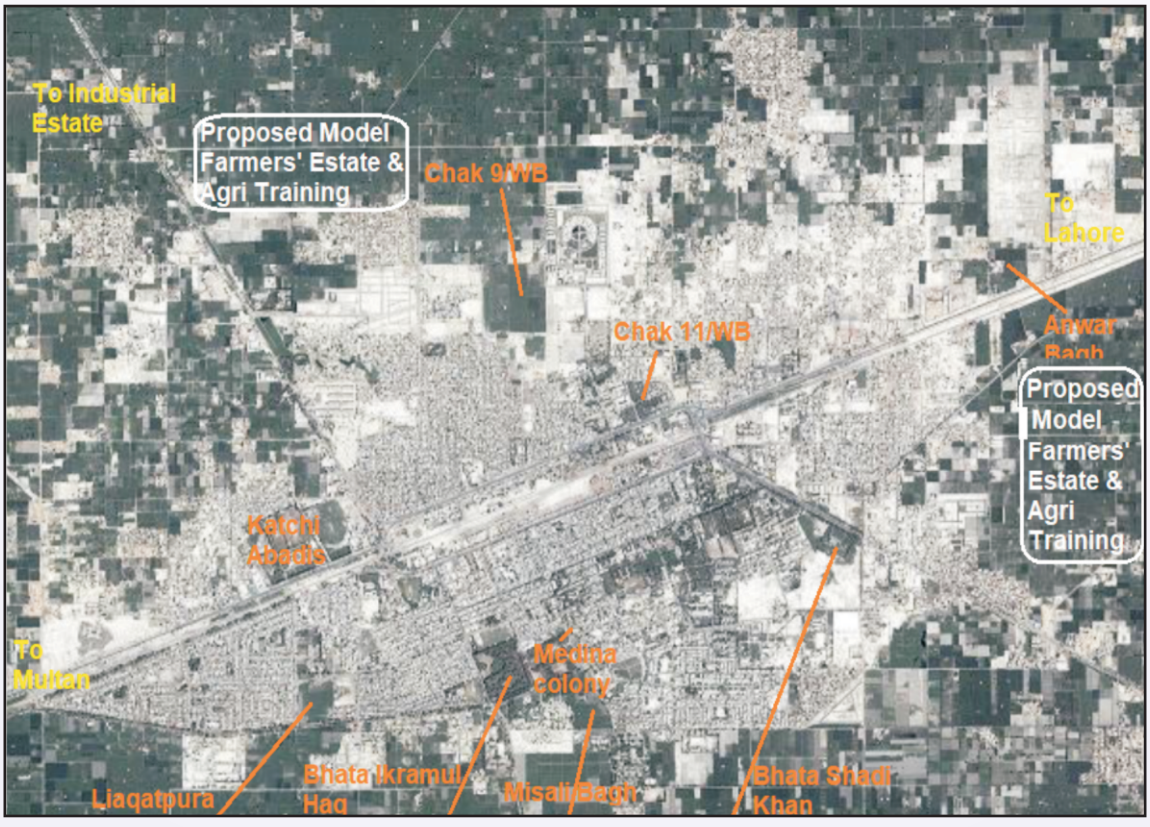
- Vehari, once known to be the city of cotton, with a population of about 150,000 is on 27th position among 35 districts of Punjab on human development scale. People are suffering from unemployment because of failing cotton processing factories and cottonseed oil manufacturing plants.
- Shortage of water in river Sutlej, affecting the feeding Luddan-Vehari canal. Overuse of pesticides, specially endosulfan, is posing serious environmental and health risks.
- A number of Katchi abadis, without adequate municipal amenities, are sprawling. Municipal administration is not being able to cope because of lack of revenue.

Sustainability Program for Vehari

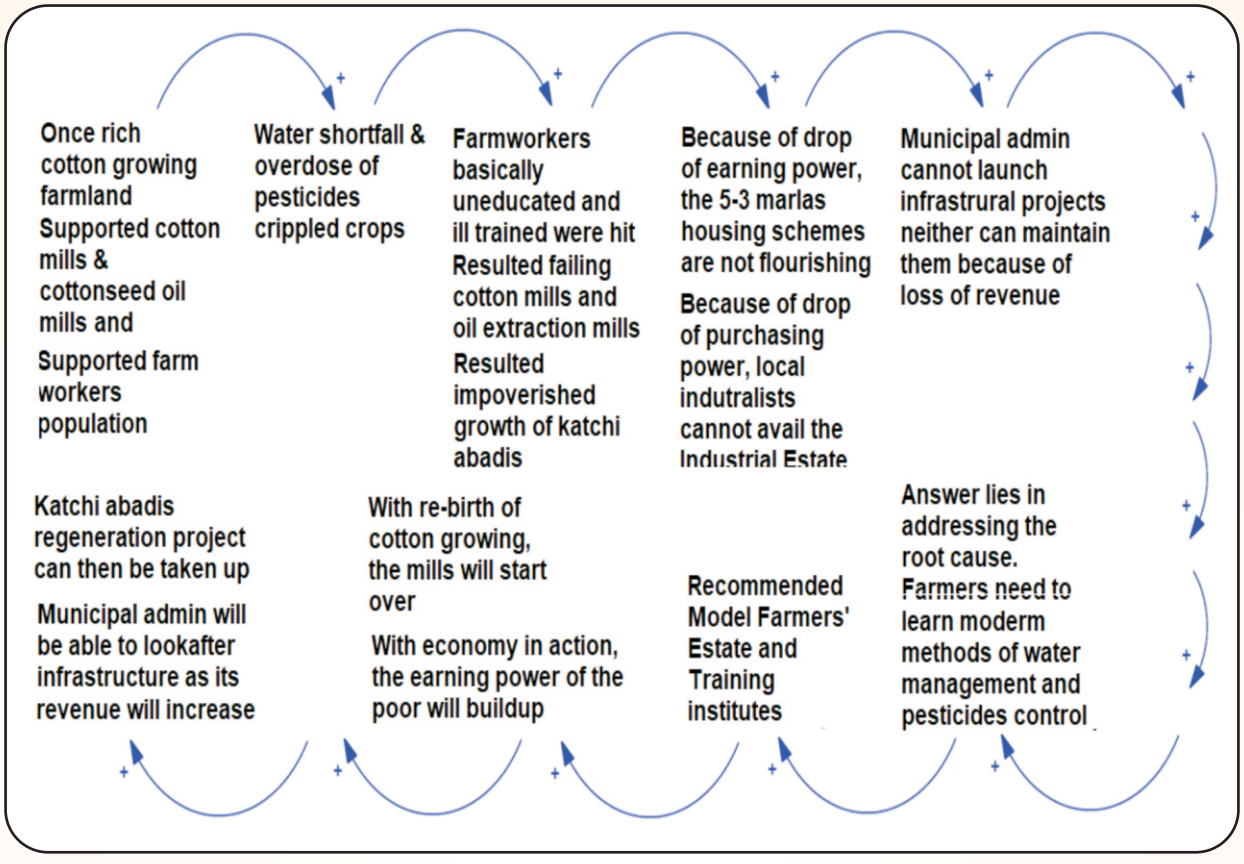
- The city is growing though, with 5-3 marla housing along north-east and south-west extensions, under the pressures of population growth. An Industrial Estate 6km away at Kutch Khu road is not helping the local land and business owners. So far it has attracted the pharmaceutical and food processing external investors, the market price running less than the originally announced.
- The answer lies in addressing the root cause. The farmers need to be educated in efficient water use, pesticides use and mechanized farming practices.
- A number of 'model farming estates' with farmers' technical training, are recommended. Once cotton is back on track, the cotton and cotton seed oil mills will be strengthened, the industrial estate will gain ground, the employment level will rise, and any very much needed katchi abadis urban regeneration schemes will be feasible.

Vehari City: Aerial View

Vehari City: Model Farmers' Estate & Katchi Abadis



Vehari City: Causal Loop – Small Town Wellbeing



Old and New Irrigation System

Ichhra (Lahore)

- Ichhra is a 2.56 sqm commercial and residential area, situated right next to the city center, along Ferozpur Road arterial corridor of Lahore.
- The hustling bustling Bazar is Lahore's 2nd class market for traditional dresses, handicrafts and furniture, with about 1800 individual ground floor shops along streets.
- In galis, behind it, and at upper floors, live 50,000 middle income people in 8,000 households, in suffocated depleted conditions.
- Numerous cottage industrial units and warehouses, supporting the Bazar, are housed within the area.

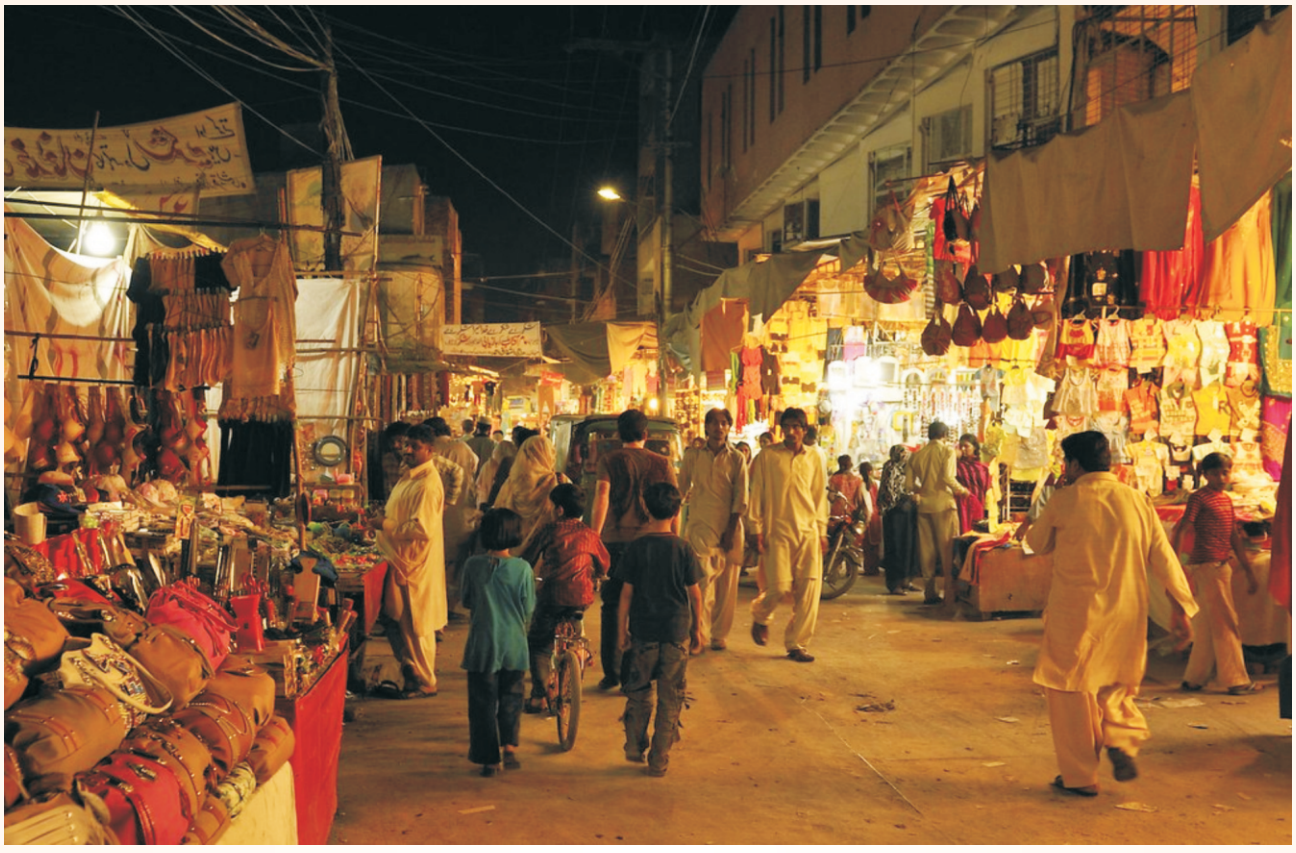
Ichhra Lahore Urban Renewal Case Study

- The Bazar is great attraction to the posh customers, but the business is hampered by lack of access and parking lots, due to which the value of the shops, both rental and purchase prices drops down, as you go interior.
- The value will jump manifolds, if drive through and parking is provided.
- The value of mostly ground plus one residential units will also multiply, if congestion is eased by moving vertically up into multi storied apartments, following the Chinese urban re-generation examples of the eighties.
- An urban regeneration project will be a classic case of win-win of all the stakeholders, shop keepers, residents, and small businesses.

Ferozpur Road: The Arterial Corridor of Lahore

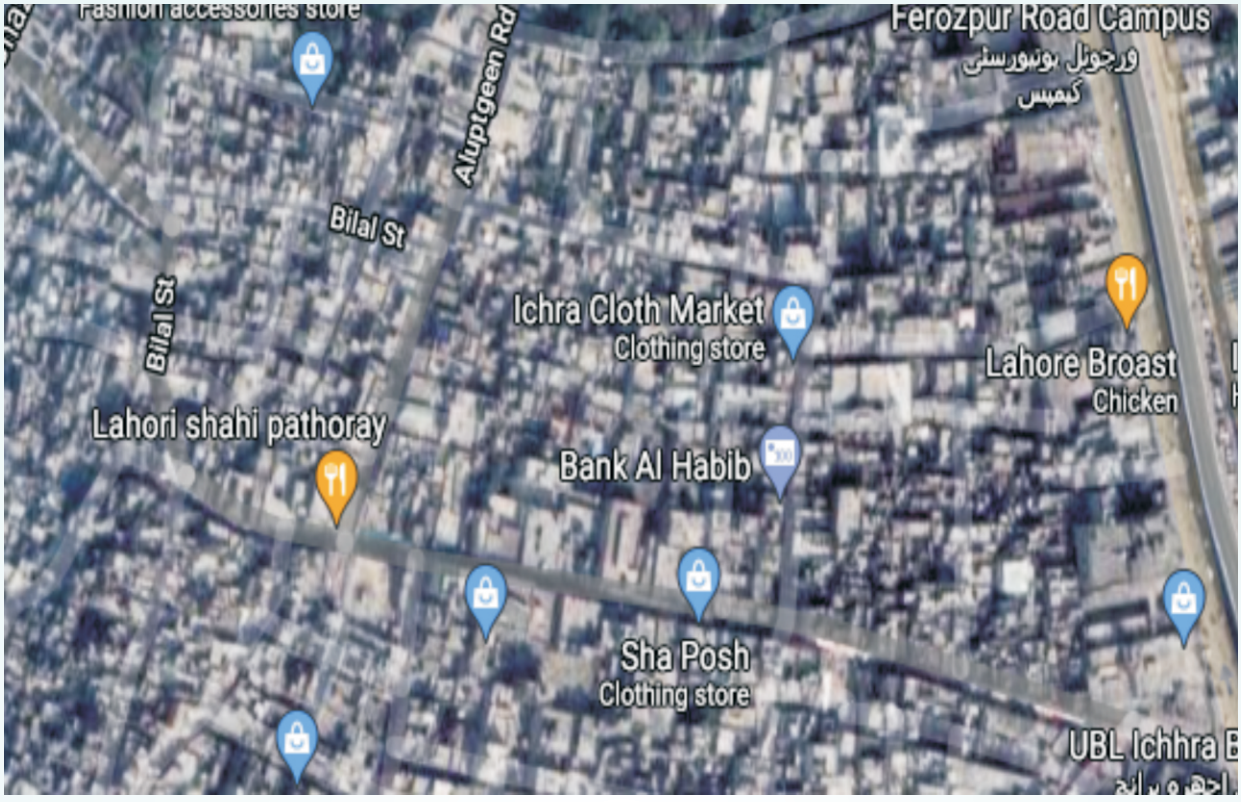
Entrance to Ichhra Bazar

Ichhra Bazar

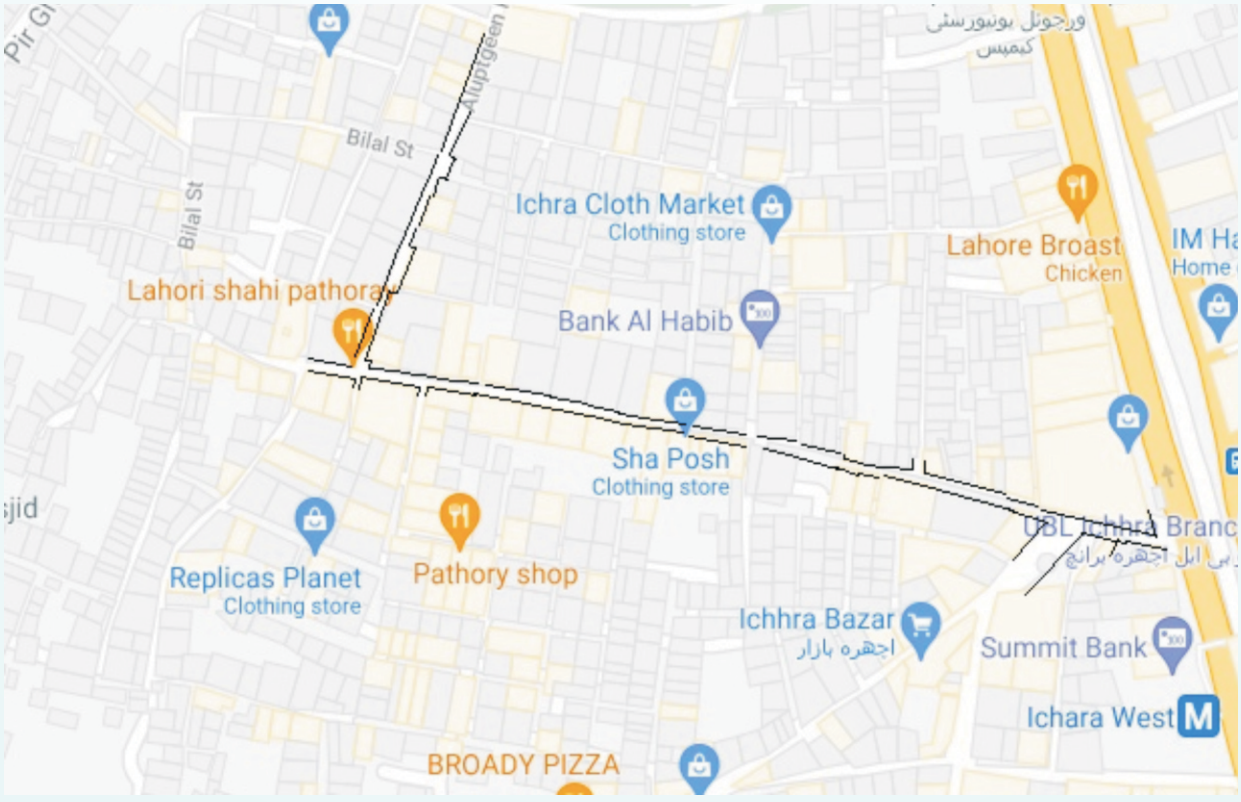


Ichhra Locality: Aerial View

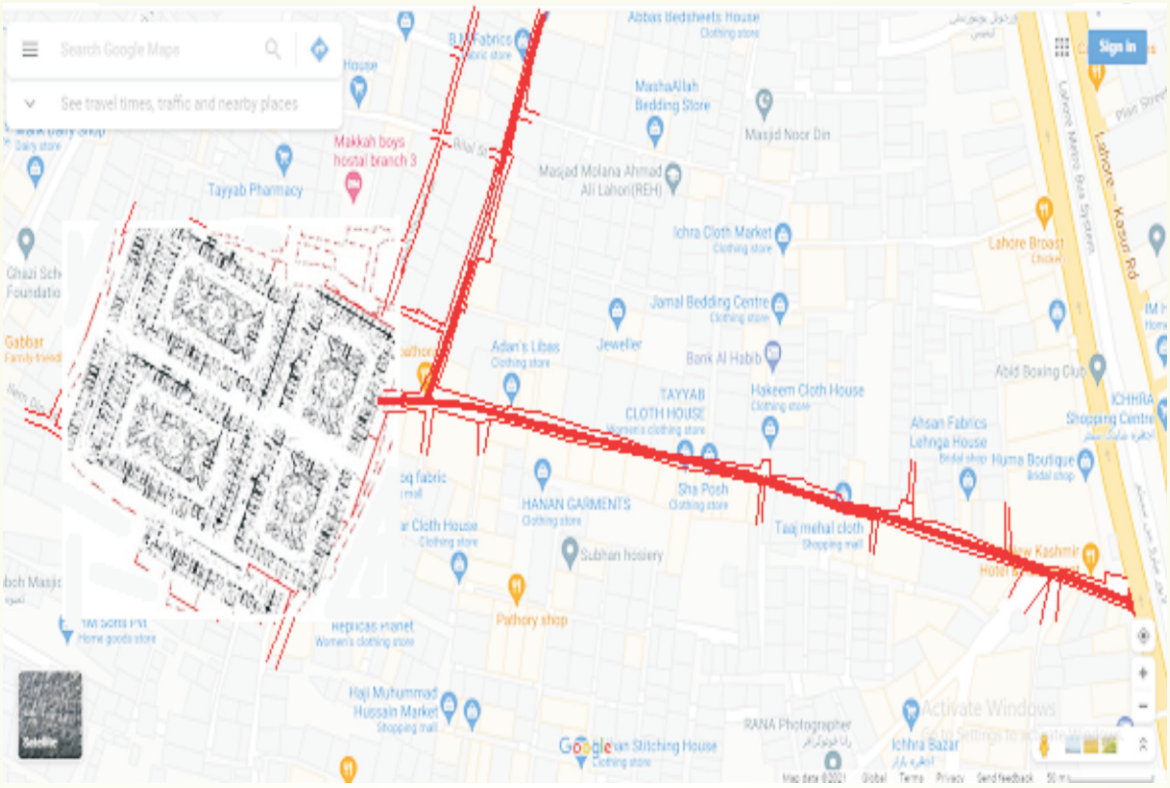
Ichhra Bazar Google View



Ichhra Bazaar Existing Street Plan

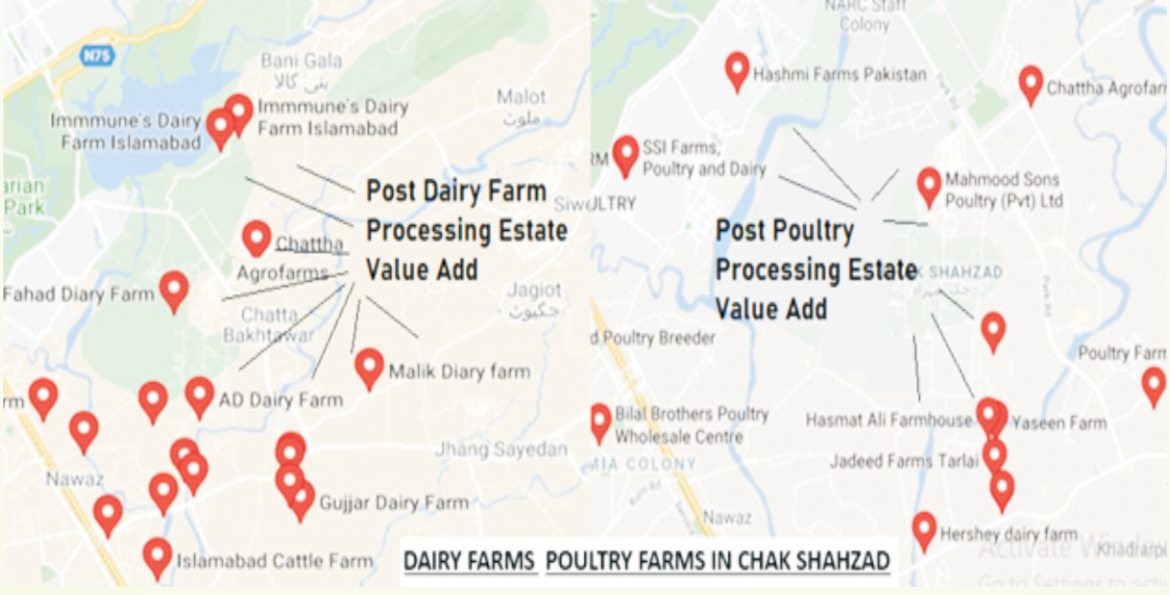


Proposed Parking cum Multipurpose Complex



Chak Shahzad (Islamabad)

Shehzil Tariq has worked on a plan for sustainability of Chak Shahzad outskirts of Islamabad, wrt generation and draining of poultry and dairy resources, growth potentials, likely impediments, capacity building skills required, and potentials of digital participation, working with identified stakeholders team. Map of Chak Shahzad.



Sikandarabad (Matiari)

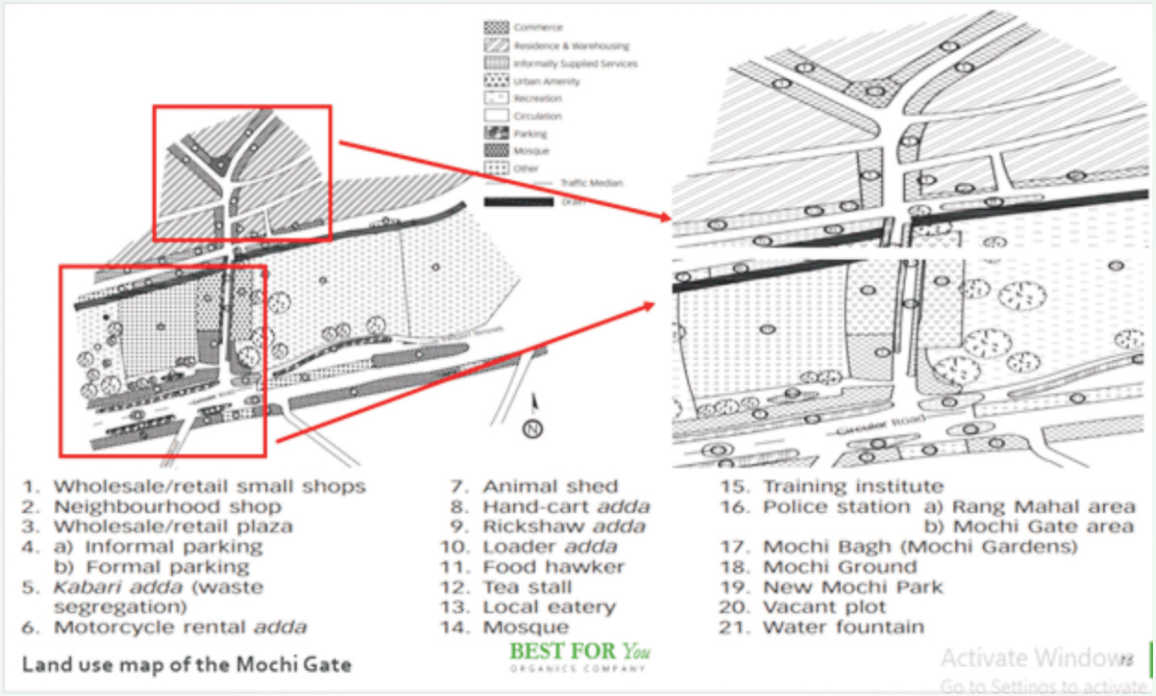
Abdul Sattar Jamali is a professional registered civil engineer, Project Manager / Owner at ASJ Construction and Property Management, Hyderabad, who has prepared a proposal for sustainability of Sikander Abad, a small town of 20,000 on left bank of Rohri canal, in district Matiari, with resources of fish farms and woods, requiring cold storages, and timber processing.

Naushera (Khushab)

Mah Noor is a student of 3rd year Architectural Engineering at UET, Lahore. Who has prepared a plan for the sustainability of Naushera, district Khushab It takes the form of relieving residents from poor environmental conditions supported by capacity building activity generating income.

Mochi Gate (Lahore)

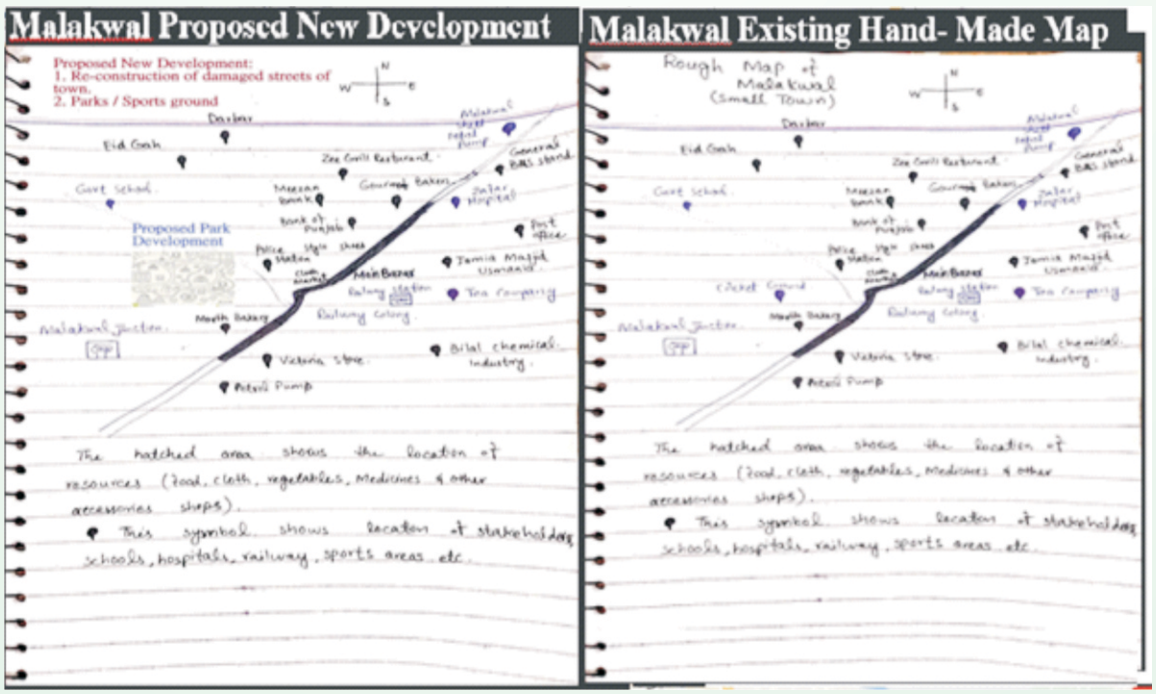
Rafia Asif is a student of 4th semester of architectural engineering and design at UET Lahore. She has worked a plan for the sustainability of inner walled city of Lahore, specifically Mochi Gate. It involves vacating congested areas, raising high rise, rehabilitating the displaced residents in new environmentally sound dwelling, and selling surplus areas to recover the cost. This kind of re-generation was successfully practiced in Beijing China.



Land use map of the Mochi Gate

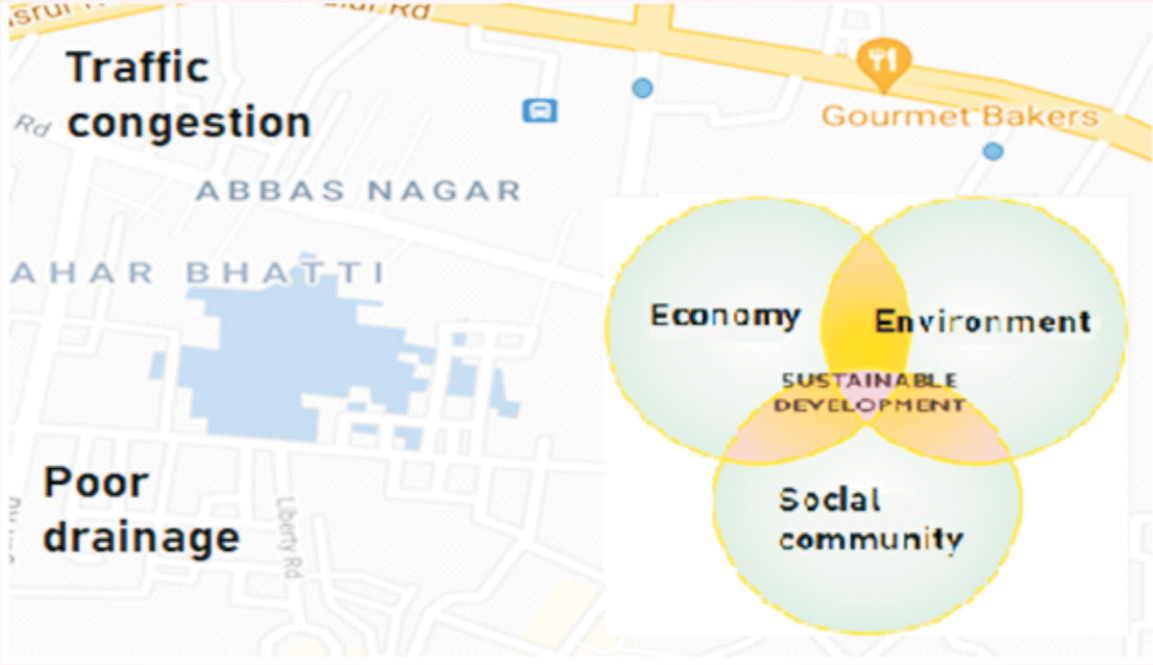
Malakwal (Mandi Bahaudin)

Rimsha Imtiyaz is an Architectural Engineer from Green Town Malakwal District Mandi Bahaudin. It is a re-settlement proposition.



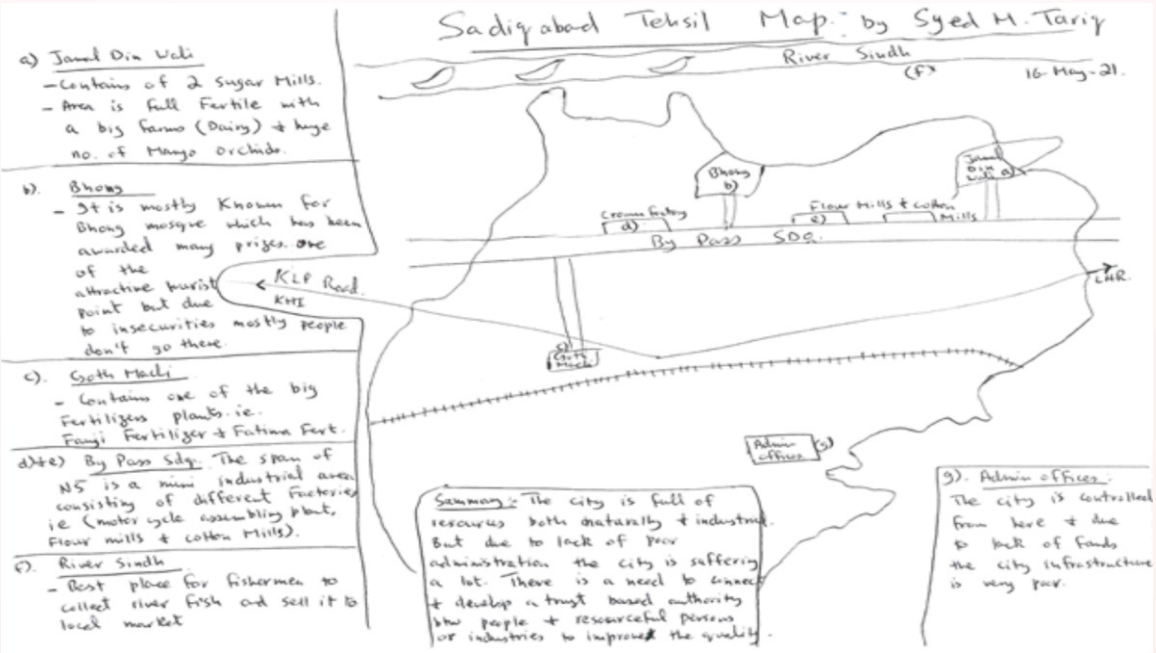
Abbas Nagar (Narowal)

Ayesha Asma Shakeel is a registered telecommunication engineer, Lecturer (SSUET), Karachi, Sindh. She has prepared a workable plan for sustainability of Abbas Nagar in Narowal. The city suffers from traffic congestion and poor drainage. The proposal revolves around building of economy, building of social community, that enables environmental uplift.



Sadiqabad (Rahim Yar Khan)

Syed Muhammad Tariq is an established engineer with MS Engineering Management from Coventry UK, and a business professional. He runs Innovators Inn (Pvt)Ltd, and has plan for sustainability of Sadiqabad. His model bases on a check on generation and draining of resources, digital connection among people, small packaging industry, high tech occupations, tax free industrial clusters, and better healthcare for common man. A walk through handmade map is shown here.



Burj Atari (Lahore)

Arooj Masood has worked on a plan for sustainability of Burj Atari. According to her, Burj Atari is a feeding town serving mega metropolitan city of Lahore. Burj Atari sells cheaper products to Lahore, where value addition is done, and the same are sold at premium. Local value addition is proposed to enhance the income level. Increase in income level will enable environmental uplift.

Mapping of Town

Burj Attari is a town located only 14 km from Lahore at Lahore Jaranwala Road, Pakistan

Gawala Colony (Sahiwal)

Hamna Abid Khan has worked on a plan for sustainability of dairy locality in Sahiwal. She proposes a resettlement of gawala colony away from town, to relieve the residents of environmental hazards.

GOVERNMENT DECIDES TO 'URBANISE' 154 SMALL TOWNS, CITIES ACROSS PUNJAB

Master plans under Rs.500m project being proposed in upcoming budget - By Khalid Hasnain

LAHORE: The government has decided to prepare master plans of 154 urban local governments/cities of Punjab in a bid, as per its claims, to control increasing migration of the people from small towns to big cities.

The five major cities — Lahore, Gujranwala, Faisalabad, Rawalpindi and Multan—have not been included in the list as they already have master plans for their land use and zoning for residential, commercial, agriculture and industrial activities, Dawn has learnt.

"We have no plans for most of the cities (154 of the 159) as no one paid heed to the issue that finally caused horizontal growth there. Though the metropolises of Lahore, Gujranwala, Faisalabad, Multan and Rawalpindi have master plans already, the realtors launched several housing projects in residential approved/unapproved areas/localities without need. Resultantly, the land cost increased but the newly developed housing schemes/projects are yet to attract settlement of the people," said Umme Laila, the focal person for the Rs500m project, titled "Preparation of Master Plans for 149 Urban Local Governments/Cities of Punjab", envisioned and planned by the local government and community development department to be launched during the next fiscal year (2021-22) starting from July 1 under the annual development programme (ADP).

Master plans under Rs500m project being proposed in upcoming budget

The cities, which will have master plans for the first time are Kahuta, Kotli Sattian, Gujjar Khan, Murree, Kalar Syedan, Taxila, Attock, Hazro, Hasan Abdal, Fateh Jang, Pindi Gheb, Jand, Jhelum, Dina, Sohawa, Pind Dadan Khan, Chakwal, Talagang, Choa Saiden Shah, Kallar Kahar, Lawa in Rawalpindi division; Sargodha, Sillanwali, Sahiwal (Chita), Shahpur Saddar, Bhera, Kot Momin, Bhalwal, Bhakkar, Darya Khan, Kalor Kot, Mankera, Kushab, Quaidabad, Noorpur, Noshehra, Joharabad, Mianwali, Essakhel and Piplan in Sargodha division; Chak Jhumra, Khurarianwala, Jaranwala, Tandlianwala, Samundri, Sadhar, Dijkot, Chiniot, Lalian, Bhawana, Chenab Nagar, Jhang, Shorkot, Ahmadpur Sial, Athara Hazari, Toba Tek Singh, Gojra, Kamalia and Pir Mahal in Faisalabad division; Kamoki, Wazirabad, Qila Deedar Singh, Ghakkar Mandi, Noshehra Virkan, Hafizabad, Pindi Bhattian, Gujrat, Kharian, Sara-i-Alamgir, Jalalpur Jattan, Kunjah, Mangowal, Lalamusa, Dinga, Mandi Bahaduddin, Phalia, Malakwal, Sialkot, Daska, Sambrial, Pasroor, Narowal, Shakargarh and Zafarwal in Gujranwala division; Kasur, Chunian, Pattoki, Kot Radha Kishan, Phoolnagar, Alahbad, Mustafabad, Nankana Sahib, Shah Kot, Sangla Hill, Sheikhupura, Muridke, Ferozwala, Farooqabad, Sharaqpur and Safdarabad in Lahore division; Sahiwal, Chichawatni, Pakpattan, Arifwala, Okara, Deepalpur, Hujra Shah Muqeem, Haveli Lakha and Renala Khurd in Sahiwal division; Shujabad, Jalalpur Peerwala, Lodhran, Duniapur, Kahror Pacca, Khanewal, Kabirwala, Mian Channu, Jahanian, Burewala, Vehari and Mailsi in Multan division; DG Khan, Taunsa, Kot Chatha, Layyah, Chowk Azam, Karor Lal Eesan, Chobara, Muzaffargarh, Kot Addu, Sanawan, Chowk Sarwar Shaheed, Jatoi, Alipur, Gujrat, Rajanpur, Rojhan, Jampur and Fazilpur in DG Khan division and Bahawlpur, Uch Sharif, Ahmadpur East, Yazman, Hasilpur, Khairpur Tamiawali, Bahawlnagar, Chishtian, Haroonabad, Fort Abbas, Minchanabad, Rahim Yar Khan, Sadiqabad, Khanpur and Liaqatpur in Bahawalpur division.

According to the minutes of a recent meeting of the project management unit (PMU), presided over by the local government department secretary, the participants emphasized launching the project for the preparation of master plans for 154 urban local governments other than metropolitan cities where the local governments were legally bound to prepare a master plan for their area under the law.

The participants stressed ensuring the process of master plan preparation as a transparent exercise with the parallel continuous input of officers posted in the respective local governments. These plans would be presented to the respective district planning and design committees for deliberation and notification as mandated in the Land Use Rules 2020, they said.

They decided unanimously to submit a concept note and PC-1 of the project to the planning and development department for including it in the ADP schemes and allocation of funds besides notifying the PMU constituted in this regard.

It was unanimously agreed that master plans of 154 towns/cities would be prepared through consultancy by registered town planning firms by Pakistan Council of Architects and Town Planners (PCATP) within a period of one year. The follow-up, monitoring and implementation of plans will be ensured in year 3 by the PMU.

The participants also agreed to constitute a steering committee besides appointing an urban specialists/planner as the head of the PMU.

"The government wants to promote vertical growth and control horizontal one, protect green areas and unbridled increasing land cost, make site development zones for residential, commercial, industrial and agriculture activities, high-rise structures, low-cost apartment projects amid generation of economic activities. It will be possible only when we make master plans of the aforementioned cities. In this way, we can control migration of the people from small to big cities," Ms Laila explained.

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Next Event

2021 Silk Road Innovation System Design Forum on Webinar Xi'an, China, October 19, 2021,13:30-16:50 (Beijing Time)

Key note speakers

Prof. Tam Lap Mou,
Professor University of Macau

Ir. Ong Ching Loon,
President, Institution of Engineers, Malaysia (IEM)

Dr. Javed Yunas Uppal,
President, Institution of Engineers, Pakistan (IEP)

Date' Seri Douglas Foo,
President, Singapore Manufacturing Federation (SMF)

Prof. Wael R. Abdulmajeed,
Chair Activities Committee
Iraqi Engineers Union (IEU)

Prof. Dorel Banabic,
President Activities Committee,
Romanian Academy of Technical Sciences

The New Silk Road to Afro Eurasian countries, provides connectivity specially to the down trodden people who never had a chance of their wellbeing before. The direct outbound foreign investments that China is able to dish out from the surplus capital it has recently gained. An arm of the Silk Road is China Pakistan Economic Corridor, which embodies uplift of energy, infrastructure, and the special economic zones that are planned to establish. The technological and social impacts, if managed properly, offer opportunities for a peaceful world, that have never been targeted before, and that come right in compliance with the Sustainable Development Goals of the United Nations. A well-designed innovative participative system, is required to include;

- all stakeholders network on both provider and recipient sides;
- consumer culture integration;
- producer-consumer integration;
- insolvency management for participant countries;
- urban-rural linkage model as pursued in China;
- digital participation platforms;
- collaborative decision platform; and
- wellbeing of downside recipient communities.

Moderator: Prof. Gu Peihua
Member Canadian Academy of Engineering
Professor Tianjin University, Member of CMES Executive Council

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