

## International Conference on Sustainable Engineering & Development

### Description

UNESCO Chair “Sustainable Urban Regions” NED University of Engineering & Technology in collaboration with Institute of Engineers Pakistan Karachi Chapters, SDGs Support Unit (a joint collon.) organized two-day International Conference on Sustainable Engineering & Development at Marriot Hotel Karachi on 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> November 2022. The conference was in line with the aims and objectives of the chair.

The sessions of the conference were multi-dimensional to address SDGs. Renowned Leaders from the respective industry brief the progress of their sectors, measures they have taken to attain the SDGs and challenges they have been facing. The Key sessions were:

- Sustainable Cities and Urban Regions (*SDG#11, Sustainable Cities & Communities*)
- Human Equality (*SDG#5, Gender Equality; SDG#10 Reduce Inequalities*)
- Sustainable Healthcare (*SDG#3, Good Health & Well Being*)
- Aquatic and Earth life Sustainability (*SDG#14, Life Below Water; SDG#15, Life on Land*)
- Education & Sustainability (*SDG#4, Quality Education*)
- Law Justice (*SDG#16, Peace Justice & Strong Institution*)
- SDG Initiatives Special Session to address Environment (*SDG#7, Affordable & Clean Energy*)
- Moderate Panel Discussion on “Towards Sustainable Built Environment & Communities”



### Summary of Highlights of Conference

- Four Keynote Speakers, One Moderated & Local Discussion; 14 Sessions; 11 Panelists; 39 Presentations were made by learned speakers
- Session titled around at different discussions of sustainable development and their overall linkage with SDGs
- The conference was also digitally live streamed, so a broad audience benefited from it

### **Key Messages**

- We missed MDGs (2015). only MDG related to environment within somehow addressed, thanks to introduction of CNG as a fuel,
- Today's, we rank 122/157 in SDG index - long way to go
- Pakistan's climate scenario is very serious.
  - Economic Growth is low and vulnerable; macro fiscal condition is impacted
  - Climate related disasters have caused enormous damages. Recent rains and floods have directly impacted 33 million people and over 16 billion dollars in direct damages to infrastructure.
  - Pakistan is a low GHG producing country - It can utilize the <sup>[1]</sup> opportunity to de-carbonize the production
  - Pakistan can integrate climate and development through an <sup>[1]</sup> appropriate action plan
- 2. Various interventions are afoot
  - Master Plans of Secondary Listed in Sindh

- Islamkot “A rural area of Sindh” - Being Transformed into An SDG Complaint Town
- Taleemi Basta - Thar Foundation



- Understanding the overall context of development environment, social change, urbanization
- Role of Professionals, Including Engineers, Architects, Planners, IT Professionals, Social Development Experts - training human resource for tomorrow's needs and challenges
- Public Health challenges have aggravated after the rain and flood disasters. one of the worst affected community is women and children.
  - Many interesting and useful interventions are already on the ground. immunization, nutrition support and rapid diagnostics are launched by various organizations they need to be updated.
  - Enormous financial outlay is needed to make Pakistan different figures are available from various studies.
  - One of those countries where re-used syringes are used in treatment
- Our aquatic life is under huge stress due to multiple challenges
  - Marine data is not appropriately recorded or acquired
  - Only 0.16% out of total marine area is declared protected
  - Need to align with UN Declaration of Ocean Science
- Gender Issues
  - Our women folk face many problems - constrained access to essential services.
  - Pakistan ranks 151 in 153 in global gender gap report.
- Law and Justice
  - Our legal framework needs an independent review for making it responsive to challenges of sustainability
  - Status of under privilege in cities is becoming intrinsically vulnerable. housing, one of the most essential human needs, is impossible to attain, given the economic, social and administrative constraints.



## Keynote Speakers

- Mr. Abedalrazq F. Khalil, Program Leader, Sustainable Development, World Bank Pakistan
- Mr. Ali Tauqeer Sheikh, Climate change and Environment Expert
- Dr. Nasir Javed, Urban Development Specialist
- Dr. Ishrat Hussain, Former Governor State Bank OF Pakistan, former Advisor to Prime Minister of Pakistan
- Barrister Murtaza Wahab, Administrator Karachi Metropolitan Corporation (Addressed By Guest of Honour)

## Conference in Pictures

### Day-1: Opening Ceremony





# Sustainable Urban Regions



## Day-2: Sessions





# Sustainable Urban Regions



## Day-2: Closing Ceremony

