



Pakistan Society of Development Economists

Silver Jubilee Annual General Meeting and Conference

25 Years of Policy Debate

“Investing in People”

March 16-18, 2010, Islamabad

Call for Papers

The past development strategies of Pakistan have not delivered high sustainable economic growth; rather have only led to boom-bust cycles. The high growth periods in the past have been triggered by conducive international developments and increase in foreign assistance. Once these flows slowed down, so did the momentum of economic growth. This is because the growth has not been supported by an increase in investment and exports. Progress in human and social indicators has been disappointing. Poverty levels remain high, job opportunities that meet the citizen's aspirations lacking, and stark income inequalities have appeared in the recent years. Socio-economic tensions have been heightened on account of increasing disparities among the provinces. Within the provinces, significant areas feel deprived of the gains that should have accrued to them from economic growth. This situation demands a fundamental change in the development paradigm- common people must be at the centre of the development process and have ownership in the economic development of the country. This change requires more investment in people, leading to high sustainable growth, reduction in poverty, improvement in income distribution and harmony among regions and provinces.

Call for Abstracts/Papers

The PSDE invites abstracts for its 25th AGM and Conference, based on the above theme (sub-themes). The abstracts should be submitted to the PSDE Secretariat, on the prescribed form, with complete contact information, latest by September 12, 2009. The last date for the receipt of completed papers is October 30, 2009. If the paper is not received by the due date it will not be included in the review process by the Technical committee. Authors of selected papers would be notified by November 30, 2009. A maximum of two submissions are permissible per author.

Paper once accepted will be the property of the PSDE, and will be published in the proceedings volume of the Pakistan Development Review (PDR). However, a substantially revised version of the paper could be subsequently submitted for publication elsewhere with due acknowledgement given to the PSDE.

Contact us

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Sub-Themes

Ensuring Effective Delivery and Quality in Basic Education and Health Services

State of basic education; Formal/Informal education; public versus private schooling system; Madrasa reforms; Emphasising girls' education; Basic health services; Mother and child health care; Public versus private health care services; Vertical and horizontal health services; Epidemiological transition

Overcoming Regional Disparities

Distribution of resources among provinces/urban and rural; Poverty and income distribution; Decentralization and its impact at the local level to manage the existing disparities

Making the Pakistani Firm Internationally Competitive

Textile and the WTO; Trade and monetary policy; Trade and cities; Issues related to Export commodities, value addition and compliance; Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in manufacturing and services sector; Identifying absolute and comparative advantages; Skill development and industrial capacity

Increasing Productivity and Profitability in Agriculture

Mechanization in agriculture sector; Using modern farming techniques; Role of research and extension in agricultural growth; Food Security; Animal husbandry; Overcoming wheat and sugar crisis; Agriculture and the WTO; Water resource management

Higher Education and Technology: Developing a Knowledge Driven Economy

Higher education and its role in development; public versus private investment in higher education; Role of IT in economic growth; developing linkages between higher education and industry; Innovation and Development