



School of Governance
and Society



International Conference on Governance, Sustainability and Resilience in a Post-Covid Period (23-25 January 2023)

The School of Governance and Society (SGS), at the University of Management and Technology (UMT), organized a three-day International Hybrid Conference on Governance, Sustainability, and Resilience in the Post-Covid Period (ICGSR, 2023) from 23 - 25 January 2023. The conference was organized from the Sustainable Water Resources Initiative Platform (SWRI), created by Dr. Seemi Waheed in 2022 for carrying out research, organizing talks, discussions, conferences to name a few. The Second International Conference on Governance, Sustainability and Resilience in Post-Covid Period was organized from the same platform. This conference aimed to bring diverse stakeholders and share thoughts for understanding the new normal challenges. We are thankful to our knowledge partners for their indelible support. The knowledge partners included College of Earth, and Environment Studies (CEES), University of the Punjab, HEC, UNICEF and SWRI. We look forward to work collaboratively with our partners and liaise with industry and key stakeholders in this area. The conference was attended by the field experts both at national and international level. Renowned, national and international scholars, practitioners, and experts spoke as panelists and keynote speakers. The themes of ICGSR included, Climate change and adaptation, Urban planning, water, and sanitation, food security, Interdisciplinarity in climate change, Rethinking water management and technology in changing climate, Technology adaptability and sustainability, Resilience and communities, Collaborative Governance and Collective action in society.

Inaugural opening day 1: The conference was opened by Mr. Kamran Naeem, National UNICEF Chief on Climate Change and WASH. The chair Dr. Aisha Azhar presented overview of the conference, welcomed and thanked guest speakers, paper presenters, conference partners and attendees of conference. This was followed by the presentation of conference convener Dr. Seemi Waheed who gave the detail of conference themes and summary of main keynote talks and panel discussions. The inaugural keynote speaker, Prof. Dr. Saleemul Huq (OBE) Director of the International Centre for Climate Change and Development (ICCCAD), Bangladesh, and top ten 'Nature' scientist, spoke on loss and damage and creation of Loss and Damage Fund in COP 27. Prof. Dr. Meghna Sabharwal, Head of the Department, University of Texas, Dallas, Prof. Dr. Sajid Rasheed, Principal College of Earth, Environment Studies (CEES), University of the Punjab, Rector UMT Dr. Asif Raza also contributed to the session.



Inaugural keynote speaker Prof. Dr. Saleemul Huq (OBE) Director of the International Centre for Climate Change and Development (ICCCAD), Bangladesh

Day 2: Professor Dr. Edella Schlagar, Director, School of Government and Public Policy, University of Arizona was keynote speaker on day 2. She spoke on, ‘**Adaptive Water Management for a Non-Analog World**’, This was followed by panel discussion on ‘**Integrating climate adaptation in the planning process (Land use, water, and food security)**’. Dr. Hassan Abbas, Founding Chairman, ZiZAK Private Limited, moderated the discussion. The panelists included, Dr. Abid Bodla, Member Climate Change, Punjab Planning and Development Department, Dr. Yusuf Zafar, Former Chairman Pakistan Agriculture Research Council, Ms. Simi Kamal, CEO and Founding Director of Hissar Foundation. In a track on ‘**Sustainable New Normal Through Public Value Co-Creation for the Users, Citizens and Society**’ Dr. Shabana Naveed, Associate Professor, Faculty of Management Sciences, UCP, moderated discussion on the papers in the session. A workshop was organized on **Youth-led Adaptation with the support of RESCUE 1122**. It was organized by Ms. Deeba, Head of Training Rescue 1122. This was followed by two parallel paper presentation sessions on ‘**Rethinking Technology, Adaptation and Climate Change** and ‘**Resilience and Sustainability**’.



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Dr Edella Schlagar Director, School of Government and Public Policy



Dr. Daanish Mustafa, Professor King's College, UK

Day 3. The panel discussion on ‘Interdisciplinarity in dealing with shocks and pandemics’ was moderated by Mr. Sohail Ahmad, Former Federal Secretary, and Dr. Seemi Waheed. The panelists included, Dr. Faisal Sultan, CEO Shaukat Khanum Memorial Trust, and Dr. Rizwan Naseer, Director General, Punjab Emergency Services (Rescue 1122). The panel discussion on **‘Collaborative Governance and Collective Action in Society’** was moderated by Dr. Aisha Azhar. The panelists included Mr. Abid Saeed CEO PRSP, Dr. Arfa Zehra Sayyeda, Professor of History FCCU. Dr. Daanish Mustafa, Professor King’s College, UK, spoke on **‘Decolonizing Water: Viewing 2022 Pakistan floods in the colonial present’**.



From L to R: Dr. Aisha Azhar, Director SGS, Dr. Seemi Waheed, Dr. Faisal Sultan, CEO Shaukat Khanum Memorial Trust, and Dr. Rizwan Naseer, Director General, Punjab Emergency Services (Rescue 1122), Prof. Rahat ul Ain and Dr Ahmad Ali Gul



From L to R: Dr. Aisha Azhar, Director SGS, Mr. Abid Saeed CEO PRSP, Dr. Arfa Zehra Sayyeda, Professor of History FCCU, Prof. Rahat ul Ain and Dr. Seemi Waheed



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From L to R: Dr. Yusuf Zafar, Former Chairman Pakistan Agriculture Research Council, Dr. Hassan Abbas, Founding Chairman, ZiZAK Private Limited, Dr. Abid Bodla, Member Climate Change, Punjab Planning and Development Department.

Mr. Saad Khan, Managing Director at Pakoswiss Technologies (pvt) Ltd, spoke on ‘Rethinking water management and technology in changing climate’. Dr. Saba Siddiki, Associate Professor, Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs, joined us as keynote speakers. She spoke on ‘**Adaptive Policy Design and Implementation in a Post-Covid Period**’.

For detailed information do visit our website <https://swri.umt.edu.pk/ICGSR-2023.html> and get hands-on intellectual experience.



Concluding the conference