

PRESS RELEASE

AGAH announces Pakistan 2029, State of Future Index Report

‘The Future of Possibilities’ Edition covers impact of local, regional and global developments in the next 10 years

Islamabad, PK – 30th December 2019: The second edition of Pakistan State of Future Index “The Future of Possibilities” launched - the current edition explored potential developments that would impact the country’s outlook in the coming years. The index included two new variables; internal and external debt. The 32 variables in the 2029 edition covers: population, CO2 emissions (kt), alternative and nuclear energy (% of total energy use), food production index, forest area (% of land area), freedom level, GDP per capita (constant 2010 US\$), GDP per unit of energy use (constant 2011 PPP \$ per kg of oil eq), intentional homicides (per 100,000 people), mortality rate (infant; per 1000 live births), individuals using the internet (% of population), CPIA (transparency, accountability, and corruption 1=low to 6=high), life expectancy at birth (total; years), youth literacy rate (population; 15-24 years, both sexes %), refugee population by country or territory of origin, people killed or injured in terrorist attacks, physicians (per 1000 people), population growth (annual %), improved water source (% of population with access), poverty headcount ratio at \$1.90 a day (2011 PPP; % of population), malaria (confirmed with microscopy), research and development expenditure (% of GDP), tertiary education (universities), proportion of seats held by women in national parliaments (%), total debt service (% of GNI), unemployment, (total % of total labor force - national estimate), imports (millions US \$), exports (millions US \$), federal taxes (total; millions PKR), inflation (consumer prices; annual %), internal debt (million US \$), external debt (million US \$).

*In 2017, AGAH launched the first edition of Pakistan State of Future Index; this effort was to establish futures thinking in matters of public policy, the updated version covers the impact of local, regional and global developments across 32 variables - this aspect of the study helps us give a sensible mechanism to the overall policy discourse in the country. As we stressed tested these developments, our findings lead us to believe that despite much of the upheaval **the country still continues to emerge as improving**;* said Purush Chaudhary Founder and President AGAH and Founder Foresight Lab. The Trend Impact Analysis incorporates 50 potential developments. AGAH in collaboration with Strategic Vision Institute held a brainstorming session in July 2019 to identify plausible future development that would have an impact on the wellbeing of the people of Pakistan. The participations from the session highlighted more than 150 developments that could have an impact on the country’s future condition; this session was followed-up in interactions with multiple stakeholders, which included the academia, civil bureaucracy, national security analysts, intelligence community, economists, scientists, scholars, entrepreneurs, political leadership, students. Mazia Mashkoor a Data Analyst explained that by “*Including the impact of some of the potential developments in the extrapolated values of the variables selected can produce a range of outcomes (i.e. lower, median and upper quartiles: LQ, MQ and UQ); this is essentially the strength of the TIA method*”.

Pakistan State of Future Index was incorporated in to Chapter 2 of the Millennium Project’s major publication State of Future 19.0; which brings together an extraordinary set of data, information, intelligence and collective wisdom to the decision-makers, opinion leaders, researchers, and analysts. The State of the Future improves readers’ global foresight. More than 60 Millennium Project Nodes participate in improving collective intelligence system on the future of the world. Jerome C. Glenn, CEO, The Millennium Project said, “*The Pakistan State of the Future Index and its Trend Impact Analysis is a systematic way to think ahead to build a better future for all*”. The State of Future Index and Trend Impact Analysis was developed by AGAH’s partner institute the Millennium Project as an effort to measure the changing state of the future. The index shows whether the conditions, globally and nationally, promise to get better or worse.

Earlier this year AGAH trained more than 200 academics on Realtime Delphi (RTD). The RTD approach in an online group facilitation technique, which is an iterative multistage process, designed to transform opinion into group consensus. AGAH with a team of local experts developed the platform for the knowledge community in Pakistan.

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The Millennium Project

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About AGAHI

AGAHI is a not for profit organization established in Islamabad in 2011 under the Society Registration Act 1860. Its primary function is to create non-paid communication strategies, content intelligence structures, development collaterals and tools for diverse sectors and organizations. AGAHI encourages and advises individuals and institutions in pursuing and supporting initiatives to improve the state of development in Pakistan. It works on developmental frameworks facilitating information and knowledge sharing platforms on understanding challenges in global perspective. Its research work mainly focuses on national and international security, ICT, competitiveness, human capital development, and governance. AGAHI in association with several leading national and international partners focuses on creating shared spaces for interactive learning, collaborative thinking, and knowledge sharing. AGAHI is at the forefront of devising foresight research and future scenarios work in Pakistan. AGAHI works with highly motivated and qualified professionals who have substantial experience in learning and leadership development.

AGAHI works closely with various partnering institutes and think tanks. These include Karachi University, Beaconhouse National University (BNU), Institute of Management Sciences (IMS) Peshawar, National University of Modern Languages (NUML), COMSATS Institute of Technology, Quaid-i-Azam University (QAU), Allama Iqbal Open University (AIQU), Women University of Azad Jammu & Kashmir, International Islamic University Islamabad (IIUI), Institute of Business Administration (IBA), Karachi, Dadabhoy Institute of Higher Education (DIHE), Institute of Policy Studies (IPS), Strategic Visions Institute (SVI), Pakistan Institute for Conflict and Security Studies (PICSS), China Study Center, Karakoram International University, Balochistan University of Information Technology, Engineering and Management Sciences (BUIITEMS), University of Balochistan (UoB), Khwaja Fareed University of Engineering & Information Technology, Rahim Yar Khan, IGNITE, National Technology Fund, Center for Global and Strategic Studies (CGSS), to create knowledge partners towards the inception of the region's first lab.

About AGAHI's Foresight Lab

The ecosystem of the new connected world does not have a separate space for nonprofit or public platforms, fenced off from commercial space. Today, the Government, Private Sector, Academia, Media and the Civil Society are required to be not only strategic but also human-centric, well-coordinated and prompt in service delivery. The Objective of the Lab is to create and foster an ecology of Foresight perspectives in Pakistan and enable decision-makers to opt for appropriate policy choices and establish strategic narrative in support. The Purpose of the Lab is to apply data-driven foresight research methods and techniques that pivots on improving the wellbeing of the people of Pakistan.

About Millennium Project

The Millennium Project connects futurists around the world to improve global foresight. It was founded in 1996 after a three-year feasibility study with the United Nations University, Smithsonian Institution, Futures Group International, and the American Council for the UNU. It is now an independent non-profit global participatory futures research think tank of futurists, scholars, business planners and policy makers who work for international organizations, governments, corporations, NGOs, and universities. The Millennium Project manages a coherent and cumulative process that collects and assesses judgements from over 3,500 people since the beginning of the project, selected by its 50 Nodes around the world. The work is distilled in the annual "State of the Future", "Future Research Methodology" series, special studies, and integrated into its Global Futures Intelligence System.

More information available at: <http://www.agahi.org.pk/foresightlab/>