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SANEI

focus

ADDRESSING THE NEEDS OF DIVERSE ECONOMIC RESEARCH AND PLANTING THE SEEDS FOR A SECURE FUTURE IN SOUTH ASIAN REGION

Multidisciplinary and Intermediation Research (MIR) Seminar

SANEI-GDN organized a seminar on Multidisciplinary and Intermediation Research Initiative (MIR). This seminar was held on March 31, 2007 at Punjab University, Economics Department, New Campus, and Lahore. Professor TN Srinivasan chaired the seminar. Three studies from different South Asian researchers were presented at the Seminar.

Dr. Pushpa Raj Rajkarnikar from Nepal presented his study on “Institutions Building for Controlling Corruption: A Case Study on the Effectiveness of Commission for the Investigation of Abuse of Authority (CIAA) and National Vigilance Center (NIC) in Nepal”.

Dr. A.K. Enamul Haque presented his study on “Impact of Arsenic Contamination in Ground Water on Poverty and Choice of Mitigation Technology for Rural Communities of Bangladesh”.

Dr. K.S. James from India presented his research study on the topic “Demographic Transition and Economic Development in Kerala: The Role of Emigration.”

Steering Committee Meeting

SANEI steering committee meeting was held on March 30 – 31, 2007 in Lahore. All the steering committee members attended the meeting. The meeting was chaired by the chairman SANEI, Professor T. N. Srinivasan. The annual report was presented by Dr. Nadeem Ul Haque, the Secretary (Coordinator) SANEI.

The committee discussed and advised affirmative steps to make SANEI more visible in the region.



New SANEI Executives

Dr. Ishrat Hussain has joined SANEI as the chairman.

Dr. Rajiv Kumar, the Director and Chief Executive of Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations (ICRIER), joined as the steering committee member in place of Dr. Arvind Virmani.

Mr Basudev Dahal, the executive director of Institute of Integrated Development Studies, also joined as the steering committee member after Dr. Dwarika Nath Dhungel's retirement.

Dr. Nimal Gunatilleke, the Executive Governor, Marga Institute has joined as the steering committee member.

Professor TN Srinivasan is now the chairman, Research Advisory Panel.

Dr. M. Ali Khan, Abram Hutzler Professor of Political Economy in John Hopkins University joined SANEI as the Research Advisory Panel member.

Professor Kalyankrishnan (Shivi) Sivaramkrishnan, Professor of Anthropology in Yale University, joined the Research Advisory panel.

New SANEI Member

Mahboobul Haque Human Development Centre, Islamabad, Pakistan joined SANEI as a member institute.

Ninth Call for Proposals

The ninth call for proposal was sent out in May with thematic focus on **“South Asian Agriculture –Post Doha”**. The call was advertised in all the prominent newspapers of the member countries and emails were sent to a large number of researchers of the five countries of the region. The total number of proposals received is 54. Out of these, 12 proposals were from Nepal, 22 from India, 10 from Pakistan, 7 from Sri Lanka and 1 from Bangladesh. The evaluation of the proposals is in progress both by the RAP members and the PIDE Staff.

Eighth Annual Conference

SANEI eighth annual conference is scheduled to be held in Kathmandu, Nepal on August 31 – September 1, 2007. Asian Development Bank is partially funding the conference. Institute of Integrated Studies (IIDS), one of the SANEI member institute in Nepal, is taking care of all the logistic arrangements. The invited lecture and a panel discussion on this year theme

“South Asian Agriculture – Post Doha” is a part of the schedule.

GDNet South Asian Regional Window

After intensive planning and training, SANEI has launched the South Asian regional window in partnership with GDNet. The window provides a rich data base of South Asian researchers and the institutes to the international researchers, policy makers, international agencies and donors around the world.

At the same time provides an opportunity to the local researchers to promote their research at the international level by posting their articles on the window.

The window also contains updated information about conferences, jobs, calls for papers and funding opportunities in the region. The South Asia region window covers the following countries: Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Burma, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka. It provides a link between the regional focus of SANEI and the global focus of GDNet. The website of South Asia Regional Window is <http://www.gdnet.org/middle.php>

The regional window is updated on two weekly basis

with latest events, jobs, funding and opportunities. New organizations and Research papers are regularly added on daily basis.

SANEI Phase VIII Call for Proposals

SANEI VIII call for proposal witnessed an outstanding response in the number of proposal received on the themes of

- **Financial Sector Reform**
- **Higher Education**

The proposal was widely advertised among member of institutes and South Asian scholars in five countries of the region. 42 proposals were received. Out of these, 15 proposals were from Nepal, 14 from Pakistan, 9 from India, 2 from Sri Lanka, 1 from Bangladesh. On the basis of research advisory panel's evaluation, the chairman approved 12 proposals for funding under SANEI VIII.

The first draft of the studies, approved under SANEI VIII round, have been uploaded on the website. The reports will be reviewed by the relevant RAP member in the eighth annual conference in Kathmandu, Nepal. The research teams will edit the reports in the light of the comments received at the conference.



APPROVED PROJECTS FOR SANEI VIII

No.	Subject	Discipline	Institutes	Country	Name of the Principal Researcher(s)
1.	Foreign Direct Investment in Financial Services: Impact on Nepalese Economy.	Economics	Centre for Economic Development & Administration (CEDA)	Nepal	Ramesh C.Chitrakar KrishnaPant
2.	Development of Financial Institutions in Nepal.	Economics	Centre for Economic Development & Administration (CEDA)	Nepal	Bharat Prasad Devkota Santosh Kumar Upadhyaya Mahendra Raj Joshi
3.	Financing the Higher Education in Nepal	Economics	Centre for Economic Development & Administration (CEDA)	Nepal	Dr. Durga Lal Shrestha Mr. Tirtha Bahadur Manandhar Krishna Man Pradhan
4.	A Comparative Study of Graduates (in 2002 and 2003) and Job Markets from Public and Private universities/colleges in Nepal.	Economics	National Institute of Social Sciences	Nepal	Ammar Lamichhane
5.	Financial Sector Reform and Public Ownership of Financial Institutions	Economics	Project Research & Management Associates Pvt. Ltd.	Nepal	Ram B Pant Dileep K Adhikary
6.	Assets as Liability?: NPAs in the Commercial Banks of Indian and Bangladesh Compared	Economics	Institute for Social and Economic Change.	India	Meenakashi Rajeev
7.	Privatization and Internationalization of Higher Education in the Countries of South Asia: An Empirical Analysis.	Economics	Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations (ICRIER)	India	Pawan Agarwal Furgan Qamar
8.	Household Financing of Higher Education: An Analysis of Household Investments, Access, Participation and Equity in Indian Higher Education	Economics	Center for Human Resource Development Institute for Social and Economic Change (IHRDISEC)	India	A.S. Seetharamu Raghavendra P.S.
			Society for the Promotion of Education, Awareness and Culture (SPEAC)	India	

Upcoming Events

2007 Calendar



31st Aug to 1st Sep, 2007
SANEI eighth annual conference is scheduled to be held in Kathmandu, Nepal

6th Sep, 2007
SANEI Invited lecture by Professor M. Ali Khan in Islamabad, Pakistan

APPROVED PROJECTS FOR SANEI VIII (continued)

No.	Subject	Discipline	Institutes	Country	Name of the Principal Researcher(s)
9.	Financial Sector Reforms and International Trade Competitiveness: A Case Study of Pakistan.	Economics	Pakistan Institute of Development Economics (PIDE)	Pakistan	Fazal Husain
10.	An Empirical Analysis of the Combined PPP and UIP: Evidence from South Asia.	Economics	Pakistan Institute of Development Economics (PIDE)	Pakistan	Abdul Rashid
			College of Business Management, Karachi		Kalbe Abbas
11.	Financial Sector Reforms and the Efficiency of Banking in Pakistan	Economics	Pakistan Institute of Development Economics (PIDE)	Pakistan	Abdul Qayyum
12.	Access to Higher Education in Sri Lanka.	Multidisciplinary	Marga Institute	Sri Lanka	Sterling Perera
					Nimal Sandaratne
					N. Selvakumaran
					Susirith Mendis
					Myrtle Perera



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