

Zubair Faisal Abbasi

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Academic Qualifications

- M.Sc. (2007-08) ‘International Development: Industry, Trade, and Development’, Institute of Development Policy and Management (IDPM), the University of Manchester, UK as Chevening Scholar.

Modules: Qualitative and Quantitative Research Methods in Economic Development; Trade and Policy and Poverty; Economic Growth and Development; Industrial Competitiveness; Industrialization in Developing Countries; Global Institutions, Trade Rules, and Industrialization; Development Finance; Public Sector Reforms and Management.

Short courses:

- *Results-based Project Management: Monitoring and Evaluation*, from edX and the University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa, October 5 – November 30, 2016.
- *Questionnaire Design for Social Surveys* a five week course with Frederick Conrad and Frauke Kreuter from University of Michigan, via Coursera, February 2 – March 31, 2015.
- *Trade Dimensions in United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks* course from UNCTAD/UNITAR from October 7 – November 15, 2013
- *Democratic Development* a ten week course with Larry Diamond from Stanford University via Coursera, October 5 – December 21, 2013
- *Human Development Impact Assessment* course from UNDP/UNITAR from September 20-October 22, 2010
- *Arabic Language* course for 13 weeks September –November, 2013

Professional Skills

- Capacity assessment, development and management of development programmes and projects;
- Design and application of qualitative and quantitative research methods in different fields of social and economic development;
- Designing and application of realist, theory-based, and quasi-experimental evaluation modules; human development impact assessments; and,
- Public policy development and analysis.

Positions and Experience

Founder and Executive Director at IMPACT Consulting, Islamabad, Pakistan. IMPACT Consulting specialises in monitoring and evaluation solutions for decision support.

Consulting:

- Senior Associate Consultant for capacity assessments with Asia Pacific United Nations Development Programme, Bangkok since 2012.
- 2017: Consultant, Gender-based Violence research, institutional analysis, and programme design for UNWOMEN.
- 2017: Consultant for ex-post evaluation of polio eradication project of JICA.
- 2016: Evaluation consultant for measuring effectiveness of the National Humanitarian Network (NHN).
- 2016: Consultant to conduct gender analysis for climate change related micro-insurance fund. Munich Climate Change Insurance Initiative (MCCI) is helping the government of Pakistan to establish the fund.
- 2016: National team lead for ex-post evaluation data collection on water and sanitation related project of JICA in Lahore and Faisalabad.
- 2015: Capacity strengthening expert with Transtec for evaluation of ECHO (European Union) interventions in Pakistan 2010-2014.
- 2015: Team lead for survey on micro-insurance in Tharparkar, Poonch, Rawalpindi/Bahawalnagar, Charsada, and Ziarat for Munich Climate Insurance Initiative (MCII).
- 2015: Consultant to United Nations University – Institute for Environment and Human Security on designing of questionnaire and methodology for assessment of micro-insurance needs.

- 2015: Consultant to FAO on evaluation of knowledge products on food, livestock and natural resources.
- 2014: Rehabilitation Strategy Advisor to UNDP for return and rehabilitation of internally displaced persons in KP and FATA.
- 2014: Team Lead impact assessment of Asian Development Bank's programmes on food security in Pakistan for Oxfam GB.
- 2014: Team Lead knowledge, attitude and practice (KAP) study on rule of law and access to justice with Apex Consulting Pakistan for UNDP.
- 2014: Evaluation specialist on evaluation of training programmes of PPAF-III for AASA Consulting.
- 2014: Senior Consultant to Oxford Policy Management for scoping study on disaster management related capacity building institutional dynamics in Pakistan.
- 2014: Consultant to UNDP for country paper on aid coordination and effectiveness to provide technical assistance to the Economic Affairs Division (EAD).
- 2014: Research Consultant to Collective for Social Science Research for an International Labour Organization (ILO) funded study on '*the Role of Central Banks in supporting economic growth and creation of productive employment*'.
- 2014: Regional expert Pakistan, India, Bangladesh and Myanmar for evaluation of International Growth Centre with GDSI.
- 2013: Capacity Assessment Specialist for United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Asia Pacific Regional Office, Bangkok to assess capacity of the Government of Samoa for the Trade, Commerce, and Manufacturing sector plan, April-May.
- 2012: Lead Trainer for capacity building of Karwan Development Association, Mianwali on social mobilization, conflict management, and public policy analysis.
- 2012: Lead Trainer for two workshops on capacity building of journalists on reporting and public policy analysis skills around issues of water and sanitation, and agriculture and food security with Internews, Pakistan.
- 2012: Principal Consultant for Annual Participatory Programme Review of Plan Pakistan.
- 2012: Principal Consultant for evaluation of Empowering Youth for Peace and Development project of the Plan Pakistan.
- 2012: Principal Consultant for End of the Project Study – Cash for Work in Southern Punjab, Plan Pakistan.
- 2011: National Consultant Programme Analysis and Development for United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), Islamabad on preparation of Joint Programme UNDAF 2013-17. Represented UNIDO in consultation on Provincial Millennium Development Goal reports, commissioned by the UNDP Pakistan.
- 2011: National Consultant for analysis and evaluation of Joint Programme on Environment, United Nations country office.
- 2011: Principal Consultant for a market survey for *Trade across the Line of Control* for Centre for Peace Development and Reforms (CPDR) and Conciliation Resources (CR), UK.
- 2011: Principal Consultant for *Citizen Report on Social, Economic and Cultural Rights* for Bhattai Social Watch and Advocacy, Sindh /Oxfam-Novib.
- 2011: Principal Consultant for a research study '*Corporate Farming in Pakistan*' for Oxfam-GB.
- 2011: Lead Trainer for training of journalists on Election Cycle, for Intermedia and Democracy Reporting International (DRI).
- 2011: Research assistance for '*Overcoming Gender Discrimination: Protecting the Right to Maternal and Child Health in Pakistan*' with Save the Children, UK.
- 2010: Principal Consultant for DFID study on *Skill Development Needs* in FATA and KPK with Inventure (PVT) Limited.

- 2010: Researcher Centre for Peace and Development Initiatives (CPDI), for a research paper and awareness raising seminars titled '*Federalism, Provincial Autonomy, and Conflict*'.
- 2010: Consultant for CPDI to provide legislation and policy analysis support to *Women's Parliamentary Caucus*, Islamabad. Wrote report on '*Home-based Workers*' for the Asian Development Bank.
- 2010: Consultant to SUNGI Development Foundation on project conceptualization and designing for *Women Enterprise Development*.
- 2009: Consultant to the Strengthening Public Grievance Redress Mechanisms (SPGRM) project of the United Nations Development programme (UNDP) to develop '*Civil Society Organization Engagement Strategy*' for the Office of the Federal Ombudsman, Islamabad (May - July).
- 2007: Consultant for *evaluation* of 'Regional Programme to Secure Farmer's Rights to Livelihood in Hindu-Kush Himalaya (HKH) Region' during March-April. The two-year project was implemented by Sustainable Development Policy Institute, Islamabad in collaboration with South Asia Watch on Trade, Economics, and Environment, Nepal.
- 2002: Consultant to UNDP during March – April, on *project evaluation* for Baluchistan Tribal District Management Project, a pioneer in local government reforms later carried out in Pakistan.
- 2001: Consultant with Action Aid Pakistan on a study *evaluating* the 'Formation of District Governments and Devolution of Power Process' during October- November.
- 1999: Consultant to SUNGI Development Foundation for community-based information gathering and dissemination while evaluating the development impacts of Ghazi Barota Hydropower and Tarbella Dam Projects. Assignment also required to organise focus group discussions and building multi-stakeholder network on the issue of rights of development affected and displaced persons.

Academic and Journalism:

- 2009-10: Design and implement courses on *Development Economics, Disaster Management, Industrialization and Developing Countries*, and *Human Development and Capability Approach* at Iqra University and Shaheed Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto Institute of Science and Technology, Islamabad.
- *Columnist*: Write columns and features for prestigious English language newspapers the DAWN, The News, and the Business Recorder. In addition, often invited for expert opinions on issues of Pakistan's economy by Pakistan Television and Aaj TV.

Jobs:

2012-14: Senior Evaluation Specialist, Management Systems International (MSI) for evaluation of the USAID programmes in Pakistan. Worked on evaluation of Pakistan Trade Project (USAID), Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Reconstruction Program (KPRP), Gender Equity Program (GEP), and FATA Institutional Strengthening Project (FISP) of the USAID.

2005-07: National Project Manager with United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) for Trade Initiatives from a Human Development Perspective (TIHP) project based in the Ministry of Commerce, Government of Pakistan.

Tasks: Support for human development *impact assessments and evaluation* of trade policy for competitiveness; project planning and management; policy advocacy, and economic research; assist the government of Pakistan in establishing policy coordination modalities. Establishing linkages and start course on '*trade and human development linkage*' in academic institutions.

2004-05: Manager Monitoring and Evaluation with National Commission for Human Development (NCHD). The commission is a fast-track implementation modality of the Government of Pakistan focusing on health and education sectors to achieve Millennium Development Goals.

Tasks: Research, monitoring, and evaluation related module development and implementation; out-put analysis; progress monitoring and reporting; application of Lots Quality Assurance sampling mechanisms.

2002-04: Regional Director with APPNA SEHAT. The organization is a subsidiary of Association of Pakistani Physicians of North America (APPNA) which sponsors a primary healthcare and development programme in Pakistan.

Tasks: Project planning, management, and implementation; evidence and community-based monitoring and evaluation; conduct trainings on health and development issues including trainings for capacity building of local civil society organization.

1998-2002: Development Communication Coordinator with Action Aid Pakistan; Deputy Coordinator with Sustainable Development Networking Programme (SDNP) - a global initiative of UNDP managed by International Union for Conservation of Natural Resources (IUCN) in Pakistan.

Tasks: Facilitating diffusion and spread of information communication technologies; coordination with key stakeholders and information management to develop Pakistan's first development information gateway. In addition, developed around 6 projects for the ePoor.org initiative addressing issues of digital divide, e-information, and e-services.

Awards and Memberships

- Coordinator, Human Development and Capability Association, Quantitative Research Methods 2016-17.
- President, the British Alumni Association of Pakistan (BAAP), 2009-12.
- Founding member of the Chevening Alumni Association of Pakistan, 2014.
- The British Chevening Scholarship, 2007-08.
- Exceptional Performance recognition for UNDP-TIHP project in 2006-07.
- Certificate of Merit and other awards from Government College, Lahore, 1991-93.
- Merit Scholarships from National Bank of Pakistan 1989-1998.
- Member of 9 national and international professional associations and project steering committees which includes prestigious entities such as Human Development and Capability Association, Boston, USA; International Association of the Wilton Park, UK; The Population Association of Pakistan; Pakistan Society of Development Economists, Islamabad; Sustainable Development Policy Institute, Islamabad.

Workshops and Articles

- Organized, participated, and delivered presentations in more than 55 national, regional, and international conferences and consultative workshops which include lectures in academic institutes. Some international and national events are listed below:
 - Participated in the Tenth South Asian Economic Summit (SAES X) as panellist for session on “*Economic Measurement and Big Data*”. Nepal’s Planning Commission and SAWTEE organized the conference from November 14-16, 2017.
 - Conducted and presented *review of National Economic Council report* during a seminar on “Democratic Accountability: Examining the Efficacy of Constitutional Instruments”, August 11, 2014, Islamabad. The seminar was organized by the Centre for Civic Education Pakistan.
 - Participated in Training of Trainers on *Capacity Building and Capacity Assessment* workshop organized by the UNDP Asia Pacific in Bangkok, May 2-3, 2012
 - Participated as discussant in ‘*Food Justice in a Resource Constrained South Asia*’ and was discussant in panel on ‘Food Inflation and Poverty’ held between September 26-27, 2011 in Kathmandu, Nepal. The discussion was organized by the Oxfam International and SAWTEE.
 - Participated in ‘*International Economic Growth Conference*’, organized by the Planning Commission and the United Nations Development Programmes, July 13-14, 2011
 - Facilitated training session on ‘*Understanding Privatization*’ for Trade Union Youth Forum organized for training of young labour leader, April 12, 2011 with The Solidarity Centre, USA.
 - Organized and participated as discussant on the panel ‘*Federalism and Conflict Management in South Asia*’ on December 21, 2010 during the 13th Sustainable Development Conference held in Islamabad between December 21-23 in Islamabad, Pakistan.
 - Participated and chaired a session on investment in ‘*Asia’s Engagement with Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) and the Development Space: A Dialogue with Civil Society in Asia*’, November 18-21, 2010, held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

- Participated in ‘*Trade and Gender Linkage*’ held between September 15-17, 2010 in Bangkok, Thailand. The training was organized by ESCAP/ARTNet/UNDP.
- Participated in training on *Computable General Equilibrium Modelling (CGE)* at Kathmandu, Nepal between August 2-6, 2010. The training was organized by South Asia Watch on Trade, Economics and Environment (SAWTEE).
- Facilitated focused group discussion-recommendation session on ‘Strengthening Accountability Mechanisms to Improve Service Delivery’ during a high profile *Policy Dialogue Forum* organized by the UNDP and Federal Ombudsman Secretariat Islamabad at Serena Hotel, Islamabad between August 18-19, 2009.
- Chaired a session on Climate Justice during a regional meeting of ‘*Imagine New South Asia*’ initiative by Action Aid and Bangladesh Unnayan Parishad, in Dhaka, Bangladesh held between March 31 and April 1, 2009.
- Presented ‘*Regional Cooperation, Conflict, and Food Security in SAARC*’ in Katmandu between October 23-24. The conference was organized by SAWTEE, Oxfam-Novib, and CUTS International.
- Participated in a IDPM study tour to Singapore between March 17-21, 2008. Interacted with key development, academic, and government officials.
- Participated and delivered presentation on ‘*SAARC Development Fund: Projects Under Social, Economic, and Infrastructure Windows*’ organized by the Indian Council of World Affairs/Ministry of External Affairs and Konrad Adenauer Foundation at Sapru House, New Delhi, India. The event was held between June 1-2, 2007.
- Participated as discussant on a paper from Pakistan presented in ‘*International Conference on Trade in Services in South Asia: Opportunities and Risks in Liberalization*’ Colombo, Sri Lanka, April 4-5, 2007.
- Participated in the Review Meeting of project ‘*WTO Doha Round and South Asia: Linking Civil Society with Trade Negotiations*’, organized by CUTS (Consumer Unity and Trust Society) held between December 21-22, 2006 in Delhi, India.
- Participated in a five day training on ‘*Trade and Development*’ at Siem Reap in Cambodia between March 26-30, 2006. The training was organized by the Regional Office of the United Nations Development Programme, Colombo, for Project Managers of Asia Pacific region.
- Participated in International Conference on ‘*Improving National and Regional Disaster Response Capacity*’ held between Friday 2 - Monday 5 December 2005. The conference was organized by the Wilton Park, an executive agency of the British Foreign and Commonwealth Office, based in Wiston House, Sussex, UK.
- Participated in International Conference on ‘*Millennium Development Goals: Ensuring Achievability and Accountability*’, organized by the Wilton Park. The conference was held between 20th to 24th June 2005.
- Participated in South Asia Forum ‘*Governance and Local Development*’ organized by the Wilton Park from April 29, 2002 to May 3, 2002 at Wiston House, Sussex, UK. Participated in “ICTs and Development” workshop organized by One World International and ICIMOD (International Center for Integrated Mountain Development) in Katmandu, Nepal from July 16 to 20, 2001.
- Represented Sustainable Development Networking Programme Pakistan in TASKNET (Towards South Asia Knowledge Network) Vijayan Bhawan, New Delhi India, November 22 and 23, 1999.

Contributed more than 90 articles and Op-Eds on development related themes in national and international newspapers and magazines. The latest ones are as follows:

- 2018, The Daily Times, “*Social and Political Surveys: What Matters Most?*”, July 7, OpEd.
- 2018, The Trade Insight, ‘*Regional Cooperation in Big Data*’, Vol. 13, No. 3, P 27-19, SAWTEE publication.
- 2017, The Daily Times, ‘*Growth and Governance*’, May 14, OpEd.
- 2017, The News on Sunday, ‘*Manufacturing Fortunes*’, political economy section.

- 2016, The Trade Insight, “Book Review: “*The Art of a Dismal Science*” of Economics Rules by Dani Rodrik, Vol 12, No. 3, P. 35, SAWTEE publication.
- 2016, The News on Sunday, ‘*Economic Thinking in Pakistan*’, April 17, political economy section.
- 2014, The News on Sunday, ‘*Many Layers of Exclusion*’, December 14, political economy section.
- 2014, The Express Tribune, ‘*The Need of Social Protection for Tharparker*’, December 5, OpEd.
- 2014, The News on Sunday, ‘*The Challenge of Urbanisation*’, October 26, political economy section.
- 2012, The Express Herald Tribune, ‘*Why our economic performance has suffered*’, June 1, OpEd.
- 2012, The News on Sunday, ‘*Lend them a Hand*’, February 5, political economy section.
- 2011, The News on Sunday, ‘*The Women Factor*’, December 25, political economy section.
- 2011, The Express Herald Tribune, ‘*The post-MFN Scenario*’, November 11, OpEd.
- 2011, The News on Sunday, ‘*Food Factor*’, October 16, political economy section
- 2011, The News on Sunday, ‘*Manufacturing the Neglected Area*’, September 18, political economy section.
- 2011, The News on Sunday, ‘*Social Movements and Cities*’, September 11, political economy section.
- 2011, The News on Sunday, ‘*Balochistan: Economic Prospects*’, August 22, political economy section.
- 2011, The Express Herald Tribune, ‘*A Plan for Sustained Growth in Punjab*’, July 28, Op-Ed.
- 2011, The News on Sunday, ‘*Corruption in Theory*’, July 17, political economy section.
- 2011, The News on Sunday, ‘*Millennium Development Goals: Where is the Debate Going?*’, June 26, political economy section.
- 2011, The News on Sunday, ‘*New Growth Strategy, Is it new?*’, February, 20, political economy section.
- 2011, The News on Sunday, ‘*Growth of Poverty and Inequality*’, February 06, political economy section.
- 2011, The News on Sunday, ‘*What needs to be done*’, January 9, political economy section.

More publications are available at IMPACT Consulting www.impact.org.pk in the publication section.

References are available on request.