

Impact of CPEC on Socio-Economic Development of Gwadar: A Community Perspective

By

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DEDICATION

This thesis is dedicated to my late father, who, despite never having the chance to attend school, made countless sacrifices in the hardest of times to give me the gift of education. And to my mother, whose unwavering love and support have been my strength through every step of this journey.

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

- **ADB:** Asian Development Bank
- **BRI:** Belt and Road Initiative
- **CPEC:** China-Pakistan Economic Corridor
- **CSR:** Corporate Social Responsibility
- **COPHC:** China Overseas Ports Holding Company
- **ECNEC:** Executive Committee of the National Economic Council (Pakistan)
- **FDI:** Foreign Direct Investment
- **GDA:** Gwadar Development Authority
- **GDP:** Gross Domestic Product
- **HR:** Human Resources
- **IMF:** International Monetary Fund
- **NDRC:** National Development and Reform Commission (China)
- **PPP:** Public-Private Partnership
- **PCTVI:** Pak-China Technical and Vocational Institute
- **PSDP:** Public Sector Development Program
- **SEZ:** Special Economic Zone
- **WB:** World Bank

ABSTRACT

Chinese President Xi Jinping launched the \$46 billion China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) in 2015 as part of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) to boost Pakistan's economy and regional connectivity. Aimed at enhancing internal stability, CPEC also carries geopolitical implications. Its projects in infrastructure, energy, health, education, and transportation play a vital role in improving living standards, fostering social stability, and strengthening climate resilience. With many significant projects under construction, the CPEC is anticipated to bring stability and prosperity to Gwadar, Pakistan. However, disputes might occur if services are not provided per the requirements of the populace. This research evaluates the possible advantages, hazards, and difficulties of the CPEC, as well as its ability to incorporate Gwadar and its citizens into the project. The research focuses on the socio-economic viewpoint of development, which describes how society's political, social, and cultural facets advance concurrently to progressively move it closer to being a modern society. The research makes use of Rostow's "Stages of Economic Growth" model to comprehend Gwadar's socioeconomic transformation following the start of CPEC. The potential conflicts related to Gwadar's development process are supported by the Marxist theory of social conflict. The study examines how CPEC is affecting Gwadar's socioeconomic condition via an integrated design that combines qualitative and quantitative research methods. The research has used surveys, unstructured interviews, and informal discussions with elderly persons in the area. The primary significance of this research is to look deeper into CPEC's integration of Gwadar in its development initiatives, opportunities, and risks for the locals of Gwadar. The study is expected to positively contribute to the literature and contribute to further scholars in the field.

KEY TERMS: CPEC, Gwadar, Socio-Economic, Development

INTRODUCTION

In April 2015, Chinese President Xi Jinping visited Islamabad to formally inaugurate the \$46 billion China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), to invest in Pakistan's energy and transportation industries.¹CPEC is a component of China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI). It aims to increase regional connectivity between China, Pakistan, and Eurasia.² Strategically, CPEC is expected to affect Pakistan and the surrounding area in light of the anticipated investments' magnitude and relationship to the Belt and Road Initiative.³ This corridor is seen by Pakistan as a representation of the cordial and positive ties that exist between China and Pakistan. If the projects go forward as planned, the CPEC might help Pakistan's internally unstable economy and energy-starved nation.

Large-scale development initiatives such as the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) raise living standards by supplying necessities such as jobs, infrastructure, healthcare, education, transportation, water, and sanitation. The Sustainable Development Goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development state that development initiatives such as ports, dams, and infrastructure are essential for raising living standards, promoting social stability, and creating more resilient societies to climate change.⁴ Gwadar has the potential to enter a new phase of stability and prosperity because to CPEC. The port of Gwadar, which has significant geopolitical and economic value, is acknowledged as the center of the China-

¹ Zofeen T. Ebrahim, "CPEC and the environment: good, bad or ugly?," *The Express Tribune*, July 1, 2017

² Pérez Gabriel and Ramos S. Eduardo, "Development and Conflicts Linked to Infrastructure Construction," Repositorio Digital :: Inicio, last modified January 30, 2018

³ Shabnam Gul, Waseem Ishaque, and Muhammad F. Asghar, "Impact of China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) on National Development and Integration in Pakistan," *Global Political Review* VI, no. I (2021)

⁴ Ejaz Hussain, "Will Change in Government Affect China–Pakistan Economic Corridor? The BRI, CPEC and the Khan Government: An Analysis," *Chinese Journal of International Review* 01, no. 02 (2019)

Pakistan Economic Corridor , around which a number of development projects are launched. It is clear that Gwadar stands to be one of the top beneficiaries of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), given that numerous significant projects are planned for development in the region. This study examines how the CPEC's development initiatives have affected Gwadar. The proposed projects under CPEC include the construction of Gwadar International Airport, Gwadar Power Generation Plants, and Gwadar City in addition to the Gwadar port. As of 2024, 32 of the 122 stated projects have been completed, amounting to USD 20 billion.⁵

As CPEC is a multi-billion-dollar development project, it has a high potential to bring about the economic prosperity that Pakistan, and Gwadar in particular, sorely needs. Economists and academicians claim that large-scale development initiatives are linked to societies' success in terms of social and economic advancement. Conflicts between the impacted communities may arise, though, if the development process is not carried out in a way that meets people's demands.⁶ This research examines the possible advantages and possibilities, challenges, and problems that the socioeconomic advancements of the CPEC presents to the inhabitants of Gwadar, as well as the project's ability to incorporate Gwadar and its people into this massive undertaking. Through the eyes of the local people, the study evaluates the CPEC projects and their effects on Gwadar's socioeconomic growth.

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

CPEC being a flagship project of BRI has the potential to change the fate of Pakistan and Gwadar in particular. The project is intended to herald a new era of prosperity and opulence, but

⁵ Ijaz Mishele, "Growth Versus Development: The Case of China Pakistan Economic Corridor," Handle Proxy, last modified June 2018

⁶ Umbreen Javaid, "Assessing CPEC: Potential Threats and Prospects," *Pakistan Economic and Social Review* 54 (June 2016)

since its inception, the transition and progress of the project have generated some confusion and puzzle that how it is going to help the people of Gwadar who have been lingering in poverty since time immemorial.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

- To determine Gwadar's economic development since the introduction of CPEC
- To identify the impact of CPEC on the social development of Gwadar
- To explore the perception of the local community about the impact of CPEC on the socio-economic development of Gwadar.

RESEARCH QUESTIONS

- How has Gwadar's economy transformed with the advent of CPEC?
- What are the impacts of CPEC on Gwadar's social development?
- How does the local community perceive CPEC's influence on Gwadar's socio-economic development?

CORE ARGUMENT

CPEC holds significant potential for the socio-economic development of Gwadar, aiming to transform its economy and social landscape. However, its impacts remain a subject of debate, with local communities expressing mixed perceptions regarding economic transformation, social progress, and the overall benefits of the project.

LITERATURE REVIEW

It is crucial to define the meaning of the Pak-China Relationship, the Belt and Road Initiative, the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), and Gwadar's integration and relevance in the CPEC in the context of this research in order to make connections between the research questions, theoretical framework, literature, and debate. Soon after the introduction of economic reforms in 1978 and later opening to foreign trade and investment and implementation of free-market reforms in 1979.⁷ China became one of

the world's fastest-growing major economies. The average growth rate of the economy remained at 10% over 30 years.⁸ China has emerged as a major economic force in the area. It is now the world's largest economy (in terms of purchasing power parity) and the second-largest economy overall. It additionally trades in goods, manufactures goods, and has foreign exchange reserves. China, a formidable force in politics, economy, and military, is dedicated to resolving its domestic problems and averting needless international conflict. She places a strong emphasis on soft power toward her neighbors. China is strengthening its links with neighboring countries and regions while forging relationships with the world's wealthy nations. China has participated in the CPEC as part of this process, not just for its benefit but also as a gesture of friendship to Pakistan due to the two nations' long-standing and robust relationship.⁹

"Higher than mountaintops, deeper than the oceans, sturdier than metals, costlier than eyesight, sweeter than honey, and so on" is how the relationship between Pakistan and China

⁷ Fakhr U. Munir, Nelofar Ihsan, and Sanaullah, "Strategic and Economic Importance of Gwadar for China and other Regional and Western States," *Global Economics Review* VI, no. III (2021)

⁸ Hashmat Ullah Khan and Shan Yu, "China-Pakistan Economic Corridor: Meeting Security Challenges in Balochistan Through Trade and Development," *MGIMO Review of International Relations* 15, no. 5 (2022)

⁹ Siegfried O. Wolf, "China-Pakistan Economic Corridor and Its Impact on Regionalisation in South Asia," *Contemporary South Asian Studies*, 2017

is described.”¹⁰ Pakistan and China established diplomatic ties in 1950, began providing military assistance in 1966, formed a strategic coalition in 1972, and began economic cooperation in 1979.¹¹ Pakistan and China have maintained cordial relations ever since diplomatic connections were established. In terms of imports and exports, China seems to be Pakistan's main commercial partner. China and Pakistan established bilateral economic and commercial ties in January 1963, and both nations participated in the first trade agreement. In order to enhance communication links and increase cooperation in the economic field, both sides decided to reconstruct and upgrade the Karakorum highway linking China's Xinjiang Uygur autonomous region with northern areas of Pakistan. Pakistan opened its markets for Chinese investment. This proved to be mutually beneficial. On April 20, 2015, Chinese President Xi Jinping signed 51 Memorandums of Understanding (MoU). These were proposed for the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) and the infrastructure investment projects in Gwadar. This marked the economic apex of Pakistan-China cooperation.¹²

The 3,000-kilometer China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) was established. Additionally, it sought to connect China's Xinjiang area with Pakistan's Gwadar port. With Chinese finance, the connections are made via a network of pipes, roads, and railroads. The Express Tribune reported in 2017 that the development projects under CPEC have a present

¹⁰ Pérez Gabriel and Ramos S. Eduardo, "Development and Conflicts Linked to Infrastructure Construction," Repositorio Digital :: Inicio, last modified January 30, 2018

¹¹ Khalid Manzoor, and Anam Abid Butt. "Impact of CPEC on regional and extra-regional actors." *The journal of political science* 33 (2015): 23.

¹² Ministry of Planning, Development & Special Initiatives 'P' block Pak-Secretariat, Islamabad, Pakistan., "Energy Projects Under CPEC | China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) Authority Official Website," CPEC | China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) Authority Official Website, accessed September 7, 2023

worth of \$62 billion.¹³ Pakistan thinks that CPEC would fundamentally alter the course of the nation's growth and prosperity. This enormous investment is expected to strengthen the economy of the country and offer opportunities to lower poverty. Major improvements to Gwadar Port and the building of Gwadar International Airport were finished during the first phase of the CPEC. The project also includes the enlargement and renovation of the Karakoram Highway, which links China and Pakistan (Deloitte Pakistan). Power plants, roadways, ports and railroads upgrading, airport development, and economic zone establishment are among the other projects. It was expected that the energy projects under CPEC will help to end the energy crisis of Pakistan soon.¹⁴

In addition to providing Pakistan with enormous economic benefits, the CPEC would establish a physical link between China and its markets in Asia, Europe, and Africa. At the moment, ships from China travel two to three months to carry oil from the Strait of Malacca to Shanghai. With the Gwadar port operating, this distance is cut to less than 5,000 kilometers. After being offloaded to the port, oil and other items are carried from Gwadar port to China via the corridor, cutting the 12000km trip down to 2395km. Given CPEC's geopolitical and economic importance, it is believed to be the centerpiece of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI). And the port of Gwadar is serving as its central location.¹⁵

¹³ Yao Huang and He Yan, "How Pakistan's Political System Works on China-Pakistan Economic Corridor: Political Dominance and Socio-economic Development," *The Political Economy of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor*, 2023

¹⁴ Muhammad Anwar, Abdul Raheem, and Hussain A. Hashmi, "Impact of CPEC Project on Socio-Economy of Fishery Community in Gwadar: A Case Study of Gwadar West Bay Fishery Community," *Global Economics Review* VII, no. II (2022)

¹⁵ Faisal M. Mirza, Nishat Fatima, and Kafait Ullah, "Impact of China-Pakistan economic corridor on Pakistan's future energy consumption and energy saving potential: Evidence from sectoral time series analysis," *Energy Strategy Reviews* 25 (2019)

The goal of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) is to connect China with the rest of the world through a network of ports, railroads, highways, energy, and other infrastructure projects that will enhance commerce and economic growth. China aspires to link with Europe, the Middle East, and other regions. It will happen by building massive infrastructure projects in many nations worldwide as part of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI). The Silk Road Economic Belt is referred to as the "Belt" portion of the "Belt and Road Initiative (BRI)," while the "Road" stands for the Maritime Silk Road of the twenty-first century.¹⁶ In simple words, the Belt is a series of overland corridors. Which links China to Europe through Central Asia and the Middle East. The Road (instead of the actual road) is a sea route connecting China's southern coast to East Africa and the Mediterranean. China expects that the BRI will assist in boosting its sluggish GDP by opening up new markets for its products. This would make China capable to address regional inequities in the Eastern and Southern areas of China. As these are underperforming areas in terms of growth. Besides socioeconomic progress, BRI will allow China to extend its power in the area.¹⁷ China has pledged around \$1 trillion to invest in various infrastructure projects in different countries. And it will make this happen by providing low-cost loans.¹⁸ China's National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC), in collaboration with China's Foreign and Commerce Ministries, released an action plan for the Belt and Road Initiative at the Boao Forum. The official document defines the basic goals of BRI, "It is aimed at promoting the orderly and free flow of economic factors, highly efficient allocation

¹⁶ Fakhr U. Munir, Nelofar Ihsan, and Sanaullah, "Strategic and Economic Importance of Gwadar for China and other Regional and Western States," *Global Economics Review* VI, no. III (2021)

¹⁷ Hussain Fakhar and Nawaz Saadat, "Geostrategic Imperatives for Pakistan of Gwadar Port," *Asian Journal of Peacebuilding* 9, no. 2 (2021)

¹⁸ Hussain Fakhar and Nawaz Saadat, "Geostrategic Imperatives for Pakistan of Gwadar Port," *Asian Journal of Peacebuilding* 9, no. 2 (2021)

of resources and deep integration of markets; encouraging the countries along the Belt and Road to achieve economic policy coordination and carry out broader and more in-depth regional cooperation of higher standards; and jointly creating an open, inclusive and balanced regional economic cooperation architecture that benefits all”.¹⁹

One of the main components of the CPEC is the construction of the Gwadar port in Gwadar, Baluchistan, Pakistan. The port is located close to the intersection of major international seaports and oil trade routes on the Arabian Sea's coast. The port has the potential to serve as Pakistan's international center and connect three continents: South Asia, Central Asia, and the Middle East.²⁰ At an estimated cost of USD \$248 million, Pakistan finished the first phase of the Gwadar port's development in 2006. In 2013, the port was formally turned over to China for the ensuing forty years. The port of Gwadar is situated 380 kilometers from Oman and 120 kilometers from Iran. The port is almost 500 kilometers away from Karachi, the biggest city in Pakistan. Through Pakistan, Gwadar Port will offer quicker and safer access to landlocked western China, particularly the region's Muslim-majority Xinjiang, allowing traders to reach the rest of the world. Additionally, it will offer transshipment services and transit commerce, making it the quickest route to landlocked Central Asian countries and Afghanistan.²¹ The benefits of Gwadar port would be shared by all the countries in the area, not just China and Pakistan. Because of its strategic location, it can provide commerce transit access to Afghanistan, Central Asia, and the Middle East. The geostrategic significance of the

¹⁹ Hashmat Ullah Khan and Shan Yu, "China-Pakistan Economic Corridor: Meeting Security Challenges in Balochistan Through Trade and Development," *MGIMO Review of International Relations* 15, no. 5 (2022)

²⁰ Dr S. Jaleel, Husna Noor, and Bakhtiar Ahmed, "lease agreement issue of the hambantota and gwadarport: a comparative analysis," *Journal of Pakistan-China Studies (JPCS)* 4, no. 1 (2022)

²¹ Matthew McCartney, "The Dragon's Embrace: Pakistan–China Trade Policy," *The Dragon from the Mountains*, 2021

region was highlighted by former President Gen. Pervez Musharraf, who said, "If we see this whole region, it is like a funnel," during the groundbreaking ceremony in 2002. This large region of Central Asia, together with the western part of China, constitutes the peak of the funnel. And this funnel shrinks as it passes through Pakistan and Afghanistan, ending at the port of Gwadar. Thus, in a future sense, this funnel represents the entire region's economic flow.²² From a military perspective, Gwadar port can be strategically used to watch eastern rival India's nautical occupations in the region.²³ Pakistan would have a backup marine base far from India's borders thanks to the Gwadar port, which is essential to the nation's survival. Due to its geostrategic location in the Arabian Sea, it may be easier to monitor naval activity throughout the Indian Ocean and the Arabian Sea using electronic monitoring. In actuality, Mackinder's Rimland idea, which was used during the Great Game, is squarely within the boundaries of Gwadar Port. Gwadar continued to be the principal center of military powers in the Indian Ocean throughout that period. Ancient Greeks, Arabs, Portuguese, Persians, Russians, and Brits were drawn to the warm waters of Gwadar.²⁴

Gwadar is crucial for Beijing to take into account certain geopolitical factors. The US navy is in charge of providing security in the Strait of Malacca, which runs between the coasts of Indonesia and Malaysia. In the event that Washington and Beijing's interests ever

²² Faisal M. Mirza, Nishat Fatima, and Kafait Ullah, "Impact of China-Pakistan economic corridor on Pakistan's future energy consumption and energy saving potential: Evidence from sectoral time series analysis," *Energy Strategy Reviews* 25 (2019)

²³ Hussain Fakhar and Nawaz Saadat, "Geostrategic Imperatives for Pakistan of Gwadar Port," *Asian Journal of Peacebuilding* 9, no. 2 (2021)

²⁴ Khalid Manzoor, and Anam Abid Butt. "Impact of CPEC on regional and extra-regional actors." *The journal of political science* 33 (2015): 23.

collide, this may become a political pressure point.²⁵ One of the main drivers of Beijing's efforts to diversify oil transportation routes was the country's significant reliance on oil delivery by sea, across the treacherous waterways of the northern Indian Ocean. ²⁶The Gwadar Port Authority Pakistan owns and operates Gwadar Port, which is now managed by the China Overseas Port Holding Company (COPHC), a state-run Chinese company (The News, 2015). By 2020, the Gwadar port was believed to account for 25% of Pakistan's overall foreign commerce, 12% of the trade of China's Xinjiang province, 15% of the Central Asian Republics (CARs), and 40% of Pakistan's trade with Afghanistan. It is anticipated that the port would bring in enormous sums of money and hundreds of thousands of jobs for Pakistanis.²⁷

RESEARCH GAP

The literature indicates a strong focus on the early successes and infrastructural milestones of CPEC, yet there is limited research exploring the lived experiences and socio-economic impact on the people of Gwadar specifically. While many studies highlight CPEC's strategic and economic significance, few have assessed how these developments translate to meaningful improvements in daily life for Gwadar's local communities. This study aims to bridge that gap by delving into the perspectives of Gwadar's residents, shedding light on their views of CPEC's influence on their socio-economic landscape and quality of life.

²⁵ Hashmat Ullah Khan and Shan Yu, "China-Pakistan Economic Corridor: Meeting Security Challenges in Balochistan Through Trade and Development," *MGIMO Review of International Relations* 15, no. 5 (2022)

²⁶ Ministry of Planning, Development & Special Initiatives 'P' block Pak-Secretariat, Islamabad, Pakistan., "Energy Projects Under CPEC | China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) Authority Official Website," CPEC | China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) Authority Official Website, accessed September 7, 2023

²⁷ Pérez Gabriel and Ramos S. Eduardo, "Development and Conflicts Linked to Infrastructure Construction," Repositorio Digital :: Inicio, last modified January 30, 2018

THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

CPEC, a mega-development project in Gwadar, represents a transformative initiative with the potential to reshape the region's socio-economic landscape. To analyze this impact, the study adopts a theoretical framework rooted in two significant paradigms: Rostow's Modernization Theory, also known as Rostow's "Stages of Economic Growth" model, and the Marxist theory of social conflict. While Rostow's model examines how CPEC has driven economic progress and modernization, the Marxist perspective highlights the socio-economic disparities and conflicts that may arise, providing a balanced lens to evaluate the project's multifaceted impact on the local community.²⁸ There are several theories about development. These perspectives involve economic development, human development, social development, and sustainable development. The main focus of the study is on the socio-economic perspective of development. This refers to the simultaneous advancement of all parts of society. Development is a strategy for enhancing a region or community's social, political, economic, and cultural growth. Justice, equality, convenient living arrangements, equal chances, safety, and enhanced resources for welfare, education, and housing are all part of it.²⁹ In addition to economic advancement, development also aims to increase human dignity, self-sufficiency, security, equality, and worth. After World War II, the idea gained popularity and has been quantified using metrics like the Gross National Product (GNP) per capita.

²⁸ Jonathan H. Turner, "Marx and Simmel Revisited: Reassessing the Foundations of Conflict Theory," *Social Forces* 53, no. 4 (1975)

²⁹ "The Development of Development Theory: Towards Critical Globalism," *Development Theory: Deconstructions/Reconstructions*, 2010

To get a better understanding of Gwadar's socioeconomic shift since the CPEC was introduced, the paper discusses Rostow's famous "Stages of Economic Growth" model. This particular model falls under the purview of modernization theory. A framework, which is used to comprehend the course of social and economic development is called modernization theory.³⁰ It implies that cultures advance in phases, from traditional to contemporary, mirroring the trajectory of Western nations' history. The idea behind the thesis is that developing nations may become more modern by incorporating contemporary institutions, values, and technological advancements. In his model, Rostow outlined five stages in total. In his opinion, all nations must go through in order to develop. These include; 1) traditional society, 2) preconditions to take-off (Manufacturing industry begins to develop, and a country or society develops an international outlook), 3) take-off (Short period of intense activity where urbanization increases, and industrialization proceeds with technological breakthroughs.), 4) drive to maturity (Industry diversifies and investment is made in infrastructure and improving quality of life over an extended period) and 5) age of high mass consumption (Where mass production feeds consumer demands).³¹ All the above-mentioned stages along with several socio-economic development indicators will be discussed in the study. This will help the researcher to analyze the impact of CPEC on the socio-economic development of Gwadar.

The research makes use of the Marxist theory of social conflict to support any potential conflicts that may arise during the growth process. Unequal distribution of benefits in society

³⁰ Ibid.

³¹ Piki Ish-Shalom, "Theory Gets Real, and the Case for a Normative Ethic: Rostow, Modernization Theory, and the Alliance for Progress," *International Studies Quarterly* 50, no. 2 (June 2006)

is typically linked to social strife. Most scholars agree that Karl Marx was the first socialist to establish the sociological conflict theory.³² According to the thesis, society is a place where disparity breeds conflict and leads to change. Karl Marx emphasizes in his social conflict theory how some social structures benefit certain members of society while causing grief for others. The notion that social structure benefits society as a whole equitably is rejected by conflict analysis. The idea looks at the ongoing struggle between society's disadvantaged and dominating strata. Marxists believe that power is the only factor that can influence a person's way of life. Command is vested in and exerted by the class of society that owns and controls the sources of life.³³ The state may find it very difficult to handle the possible rise in conflict in Gwadar between various populations, groups, and institutions. The Marxist theory of social conflict is examined in the study to draw attention to potential conflicts related to Gwadar's development process. The study concludes that the hypotheses discussed are pertinent to the research question. As Marxist theory indicates, there are clear socioeconomic conflicts and disparities even if the port has brought about infrastructure growth in keeping with modernization aspirations. This dual framework demonstrates the necessity of regulations that guarantee equitable resource allocation, striking a balance between the modernization of the area and safeguards for local residents to fairly profit from Gwadar's growth.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Based on the proposed study topics, a mixed research methodology comprising both qualitative and quantitative research methodologies have been selected. Within the qualitative

³² George Ritzer, *Sociological Theory*, 9th ed. (New York: McGraw-Hill Education, 2020).

³³ A. Oberschall, "Theories of Social Conflict," *Annual Review of Sociology* 4, no. 1 (1978)

research technique, quantitative research serves as a supporting function. In order to answer the issues and adhere to scientific techniques from the onset, the study is descriptive and analytical in character, integrating both the deductive approach and the inductive inquiry. Key variables include development initiatives under CPEC (independent) and socio-economic indicators such as employment, income, and education (dependent), which are operationalized through measurable indicators.

Data collection involved structured questionnaires with multiple-choice and Likert-scale questions for primary data and secondary sources like government reports and academic publications. Stratified random sampling was used to ensure diverse representation, dividing respondents by occupation, demographics, and other factors. The analysis included thematic and textual evaluation for qualitative data, while statistical methods like correlation and regression were applied to quantitative data. When conducting research, the following resources were consulted in order to gather trustworthy data and information. The socio-economic effects of CPEC in Gwadar were the subject of a study that used structured questionnaires with multiple-choice and Likert-scale questions. The data was evaluated using statistical methods to find significant developments, and stratified random sampling was used to guarantee varied representation.

SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY

This topic's study and research are vital for a variety of reasons. Because it explores the changing socioeconomic position of Gwadar as a result of megadevelopment projects such as CPEC. The fundamental relevance of this research is to delve deeper into CPEC's incorporation of Gwadar in its development plans. The range of options it provides to the local community.

Furthermore, the threats and obstacles that CPEC brought to the people of Gwadar. The study also investigates the long-term socioeconomic implications of CPEC on the residents of Gwadar. This study is intended to provide a valuable contribution to the literature. It will also help encourage more researchers to study the topic.

DELIMITATION

CPEC is the flagship project of BRI, and it will have enormous implications for the country's overall development. But the study focuses on the impact of CPEC on socio-economic development of Gwadar in particular. Due to the prevailing uncertainty in Gwadar, Baluchistan, the data collection was restricted to a limited number of participants who were selected to share their viewpoints.

Chapter One: China-Pakistan Economic Corridor and its Components

The China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) is a transformative project that promises substantial investment and aims to link both nations' private and public sectors. At its core, CPEC envisions the creation of special economic zones as part of a broader industrialization effort. Strategically located on the southwestern coast of Pakistan's Baluchistan province, Gwadar lies along key oil routes, enhancing its importance as a gateway to the Middle East, Central Asia, and South Asia, all regions rich in energy resources. Approximately 40% of the world's oil flows through routes adjacent to Gwadar, highlighting its strategic significance. Furthermore, Chinese companies operating in Gwadar are contributing to the local community through corporate social responsibility (CSR) initiatives.³⁴ The progress of Gwadar following the CPEC projects are briefly explained in this chapter.

This chapter provides an overview of CPEC, detailing its main components, including energy projects, transport infrastructure, industrial cooperation, and the special economic zones it encompasses. It also highlights CPEC's social and economic development objectives and relevant projects under Pakistan's Public Sector Development Program (PSDP).

1.1 Unpacking CPEC: An Overview

China's President Xi Jinping inaugurated the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) during a visit to Islamabad, Pakistan, in April 2015. The project was initially valued at \$46 billion when it was first introduced. However, as new projects were added over time, its value increased to \$62 billion. In January 2017, Pakistan's Federal Minister

³⁴ Small, Andrew. *The China Pakistan axis: Asia's new geopolitics*. Random House India, 2015

for Planning, Development, and Reform, Ahsan Iqbal, Federal Minister of Railways, Khawaja Saad Rafique, and provincial chief ministers visited China. China authorized further funding for infrastructure projects in Pakistan under the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) later in 2017, increasing the project's investment volume to \$62 billion from \$55 billion, according to Governor of Sindh Muhammad Zubair.³⁵

Beijing intended to use its tight ties with Islamabad to create new electricity and transportation facilities throughout the country, serving as a template for other BRI nations to follow.³⁶ China had expressed hopes that the CPEC would provide a direct route from China to the Indian Ocean, stabilize Xinjiang and secure China's periphery by eliminating extremism, and give China an advantage over its strategic rival, India, and consequently the United States. These hopes were left unsaid.

1.2 China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC)

The gem of the CPEC turned out to be the abandoned port of Gwadar, which is situated in one of the most important spots, at the mouth of the Strait of Hormuz, on the Arabian Sea. China intended to develop a free trade zone adjacent to the port of Gwadar, construct auxiliary infrastructure, and modernize the port of Gwadar. To assist Pakistan overcome its severe power shortages, the majority of CPEC financing have gone toward the construction of new coal-fired power facilities. Other notable projects included the construction of a metro system in Lahore, the upgrading of the Peshawar to Karachi railway, hydroelectric power facilities in various parts of Pakistan.³⁷

³⁵ Yunpeng Sun et al., "Social-cultural impacts of China-Pakistan Economic Corridor on the well-being of local community," *Journal of Transport and Land Use* 13, no. 1 (2020)

³⁶ Ministry of Planning, Development & Special Initiatives 'P' block Pak-Secretariat, Islamabad, Pakistan., "Energy Projects Under CPEC | China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) Authority Official Website," CPEC | China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) Authority Official Website, accessed September 7, 2023

³⁷ Khalid Manzoor, and Anam Abid Butt. "Impact of CPEC on regional and extra-regional actors." *The journal of political science* 33 (2015): 23.

1.3 Components of CPEC

Energy Projects Under CPEC

The biggest part of CPEC deals with the energy area of Pakistan. A sum of \$33 billion or roughly 72% of the initially proposed \$46 billion connects with energy-resource improvement, including gas and power through natural resources, for example, coal. A further \$2.5 billion was additionally committed to the development of pipelines for shipping LNG from Iran to the urban areas of Nawab shah and Gwadar.³⁸ This part is deemed crucial for the economic gain of Pakistan. Because many years of war and hardship have prompted a serious lack in its power-generation capacity. Recent patterns have shown that energy deficiencies alone have deducted 2-2.5 percent of Pakistan's GDP growth.³⁹ In the energy sector of the CPEC, 14 projects have been completed. Furthermore, 2 projects are in construction,. In addition to that 5 more are being considered.⁴⁰

³⁸ Gwadar-Nawabshah LNG Project Part of CPEC, 2016, the Nation.

³⁹ Ministry of Planning, Development & Special Initiatives 'P' block Pak-Secretariat, Islamabad, Pakistan., "Energy Projects Under CPEC | China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) Authority Official Website," CPEC | China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) Authority Official Website, accessed September 7, 2023

⁴⁰ Ministry of Planning, Development & Special Initiatives 'P' block Pak-Secretariat, Islamabad, Pakistan., "Energy Projects Under CPEC | China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) Authority Official Website," CPEC | China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) Authority Official Website, accessed September 7, 2023

Table 1.1 Energy Projects Under CPEC

#	Project Name	MW
Completed Projects		
1	1320MW Sahiwal Coal-fired Power Plant	1320
2	1320 MW Coal-fired Power Plant at Port Qasim, Karachi	1320
3	1320 MW China Hub Coal Power Project, Hub Baluchistan	1320
4	660 MW Engro Thar Coal Power Project	660
5	1000 MW Quaid-e-Azam Solar Park, Bahawalpur	400/600
6	50 MW Hydro China Dawood Wind Farm, Gharo, Thatta	50
7	100 MW UEP Wind Farm, Jhimpir, Thatta	100
8	50 MW Sachal Wind Farm, Jhimpir, Thatta	50
9	100 MW Three Gorges Second and Third Wind Power Project	100
10	Matiari-Lahore ±660 KV HVDC Transmission Line Project	4,000
		Evacuation Capacity
11	720 MW Karot Hydropower Project, AJK/Punjab	720
Under Construction Projects		
12	1320 SSRL Thar Coal Block-I 7.8 mtpa & Power Plant (2×660 MW) (Shanghai Electric)	1320
13	330 MW HUBCO Thar Coal Power Project (Thar Energy)	330
14	330 MW HUBCO ThalNova Thar Coal Power Project	330
15	884 MW Suki Kinari Hydropower Project, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa	870
16	300 MW Coal-Fired Power Project, Gwadar	300
Under Consideration Projects		
17	1124 MW Kohala Hydropower Project, AJK	1124
18	700.7 MW Azad Pattan Hydropower Project, AJK/Punjab	700.7
19	1320 MW Thar Mine Mouth Oracle Power Plant & Surface mine	1320
20	500 Cacho Wind Power Project	50
21	50 MW Western Energy (Pvt.) Ltd. Wind Power Project	50

Source: Ministry of Planning, Development & Special Initiatives, "Energy Projects Under CPEC

Transport Infrastructure Projects Under CPEC

The second biggest part of CPEC is interested in Pakistan's transportation sector. In particular, \$11 billion, or roughly 24% of the initially proposed \$46 billion is coordinated toward upgrading Pakistan's transportation. This includes; highways and rail line networks. Six projects in the transportation sector under CPEC have been finished, five more are being built, and eight more are being considered. Additionally, it has eight long-term projects.⁴¹ This includes the construction of a 1,100-kilometer highway connecting the seaside metropolis of Karachi (Sindh) and Lahore (Punjab). It is expected that it will help both connectivity and economic growth. Despite the creation of new transportation networks, there are a few old ones that will be repaired including the Karakorum Highway between Rawalpindi and Kashgar and the main Karachi-Peshawar train route line. The EXIM Bank, the China Development Bank, and the Industrial and Commercial Bank of China are the major financial support.⁴²

⁴¹ Ministry of Planning, Development & Special Initiatives 'P' block Pak-Secretariat, Islamabad, Pakistan., "Energy Projects Under CPEC | China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) Authority Official Website," CPEC | China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) Authority Official Website, accessed September 7, 2023

⁴² Ministry of Planning, Development & Special Initiatives 'P' block Pak-Secretariat, Islamabad, Pakistan., "Energy Projects Under CPEC | China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) Authority Official Website," CPEC | China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) Authority Official Website, accessed September 7, 2023

Table 1.2 Transport Infrastructure Projects Under CPEC

Completed Projects		
1	KKH Phase II (Havelian - Thakot Section)	120
2	Peshawar-Karachi Motorway (Multan-Sukkur Section)	392
3	Orange Line Metro Train - Lahore	27
4	Cross Border Optical Fiber Cable (Khunjrab - Rawalpindi)	820
5	Pilot Project of Digital Terrestrial Multimedia Broadcast (DTMB)	
6	Hakla - D.I Khan Motorway	297
Under Construction Projects		
7	Zhob - Quetta (Kuchlak) (N-50)	305
8	Khuzdar-Basima Road (N-30)	106
9	Hoshab - Awaran Road Section (M-8)	146
10	KKH Alternate Route Shandur - Chitral Road	153
11	Nokundi-Mashkhel Road	103
In-Pipeline Projects Projects		
12	Up-gradation and Dualization of ML-1 and establishment of Dry Port near Havelian	1733
13	Up-gradation of D.I.Khan (Yarik) - Zhob, N-50 Phase-I	235
14	KKH Alternative Route Gilgit-Shandur Road	213
15	Realignment of KKH Phase-I Thakot - Raikot Section	250
16	Peshawar - D.I.Khan Motorway	360
17	Awaran - Khuzdar Road Section (M-8)	168
18	Dir Expressway	29.6
19	DTMB-A (Digitalize the existing three sites of PTV)	
Long Term Projects		
20	Muzaffarabad-Mansehra Road	Mirpur-200
21	Railway	Karachi Circular 43

22	Mashkhel - Pangur Road	200
23	Quetta Mass Transit	48.5
24	Greater Peshawar Region Mass Transit	

Source: Ministry of Planning, Development & Special Initiatives, "Energy Projects Under CPEC

Industrial Cooperation/Special Economic Zones

A component of BRI is CPEC. For this reason, it places special emphasis on the development of regional connections throughout Eurasia. Through the establishment of Special Economic Zones (SEZs) aimed at collaborating with contemporary growth in important strategic and financial sectors of Pakistan, regional connectivity would be improved. Investments for Baluchistan's Gwadar port is a crucial example of this assistance. Its surface size makes it the largest territory in Pakistan. around 380 kilometers away from Oman's Sultanate. China can get closer to the Middle East thanks to Gwadar's geological proximity to the Arabian Sea. It is also a natural gas facility that can supply the Gwadar-Nawab Shah with 500 million cubic feet of gas per day. ⁴²The basis of SEZs under the corridor will be strengthened by trade-related legislative initiatives and market methodologies. The establishment of a free trade zone (FTZ) like to those in Shanghai and Hong Kong at the port of Gwadar serves as an example of how market-oriented strategies are put into practice. China's foremost financial organizer, the National Growth and Reform Commission (NDRC), has expressed in talks to transform Gwadar into a hub for market-driven growth the importance China places on the financial components of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC).

Table 1.3 Industrial Cooperation/Special Economic Zones (SEZs)

#	Project Name
Under Construction Projects	
1	Rashakai Special Economic Zone
2	Dhabeji Special Economic Zone
3	Allama Iqbal Industrial City
4	Bostan Special Economic Zone
In-Pipeline Projects	
5	ICT Model Industrial Zone
6	Industrial Park on Pakistan Steel Mill Land
7	Mirpur Industrial Zone
8	Mohmand Marble City
9	Moqpondass Special Economic Zone

Source: Ministry of Planning, Development & Special Initiatives, "Energy Projects Under CPEC"

Social and Economic Development Under CPEC

The lives of the people of Pakistan and China would be enhanced by building an economic corridor that promotes bilateral connection, construction, investigation of potential bilateral investment, economic and trade, logistics, and people-to-people linkages for regional connectivity. The aspects of development that are not economic have received increased emphasis lately. Nonetheless, the degree of economic progress in a person or community has an impact on

these parameters. Because of this, socio-economic development is now more often accepted as a measure of a society's social and economic progress.⁴³

Table 1.4 Social and Economic Development Under CPEC

Completed Projects	
1	Vaccine storage and transportation equipment
2	Poverty Alleviation Training
3	Emergency relief supplies for enhancing NDMA, disaster preparedness capacity
4	Pakistan Vocational and Technical Education Capacity build-up project
5	Pakistan Vocational Schools Equipment Upgrading and Renovation Project
Under Construction Projects	
6	China-Pakistan Joint Agricultural Technology Laboratory
7	Provision of Agricultural equipment and tools
8	Smart Classroom for Higher education
9	Maintenance and renovation for 50 schools in newly merged districts
10	Solar-powered lighting equipment
11	Overseas student scholarship
12	Medical equipment and materials
13	Gwadar hospital project
14	Brightness journey in Pakistan
15	Drinking water equipment
16	Gwadar Desalination Plant
17	Gwadar Vocational and Technical Project
In-Pipeline Projects	
18	China-Pakistan Joint Agricultural demonstrations
19	Bacterial grass (JunCao) Technology Training and promotion project

⁴³ Ministry of Planning, Development & Special Initiatives 'P' block Pak-Secretariat, Islamabad, Pakistan., "Energy Projects Under CPEC | China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) Authority Official Website," CPEC | China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) Authority Official Website, accessed September 7, 2023

20	Pakistan Agricultural Vocational Training
21	Provision of teaching equipment for primary and secondary schools
22	Burn Centres
23	China-Pak joint telemedicine network
24	Medical emergency center in Balochistan
25	Rural poverty reduction joint research project
26	Cooperative Project with Pak-Austria Fachhochschule: Institute of Applied Sciences and Technology
27	Punjab-Tianjin University of Technology Project

Source: Ministry of Planning, Development & Special Initiatives, "Energy Projects Under CPEC

Table 1.5 CPEC & Related Projects Under Public Sector Development Program (PSDP)

#	Project Name
1	CPEC & Related Projects Under Public Sector Development Program (PSDP) 2018-2019
2	CPEC & Related Projects Under Public Sector Development Program (PSDP) 2017-2018
3	CPEC & Related Projects Under Public Sector Development Program (PSDP) 2016-2017

Source: Ministry of Planning, Development & Special Initiatives, "Energy Projects Under CPEC

1.4 CPEC Projects in Gwadar

The megaprojects in Gwadar under CPEC are listed below because Gwadar is the study's main focus and is also frequently referred to as the "jewel of the whole CPEC" because of its deep, warm water and prime location at the North Arabian Sea, connecting Pakistan with four significant and resource-rich regions of the world: South Asia, China, Central Asia, and Iran. While specific information on the background, importance, and performance of Gwadar's socioeconomic growth will be covered in the next chapters.⁴⁴

Project Name

Completed Projects

- | |
|--|
| 1 Development of Port and Free Zone |
| 2 Gwadar Smart Port City Master Plan |
| 3 Pak-China Technical & Vocational Institute, Gwadar |
| 4 Gwadar Eastbay Expressway |

Under Construction Projects

- | |
|---|
| 5 New Gwadar International Airport |
| 6 Necessary facilities for freshwater treatment, water supply, and distribution |
| 7 Pak-China Friendship Hospital |
| 8 300 MW Coal-Fired Power Project, Gwadar |
| 9 1.2 MGD Desalination Plant, Gwadar |
| 10 5 MGD Water Desalination Plant, Gwadar |

⁴⁴ Ministry of Planning, Development & Special Initiatives 'P' block Pak-Secretariat, Islamabad, Pakistan., "Energy Projects Under CPEC | China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) Authority Official Website," CPEC | China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) Authority Official Website, accessed September 7, 2023

Under Consideration Projects

11 Breakwaters Construction

12 Dredging of berthing area and channels

13 Fish Landing Jetty and Fishermen Boat Making Industry on West Bay

14 Gwadar Smart Environment Sanitation System and Landfill Project

Source: Ministry of Planning, Development & Special Initiatives, "Energy Projects Under CPEC

Chapter Two: Gwadar Port and its Salient Features

This chapter delves into Gwadar Port's significant role within the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor as a transformative gateway for regional connectivity, economic growth, and trade expansion. Gwadar Port, positioned strategically along key maritime routes, serves as a crucial hub for connecting China with the Middle East, Central Asia, and beyond, fostering mutually beneficial economic links. This chapter examines Gwadar's modern infrastructure and ongoing expansion plans, which include a Free Trade Zone aimed at stimulating foreign investment and trade. Additionally, the port's enhanced transport connectivity supports both regional development and the flow of goods, offering untapped opportunities for local farmers and other economic sectors in Baluchistan. Furthermore, as the flagship project of CPEC, Gwadar Port is set to be instrumental in boosting sectors such as energy, trade, health, welfare, and transportation. Each sectoral advancement brings Gwadar closer to realizing its potential as a driver of socioeconomic progress. As such, this chapter provides an in-depth exploration of how CPEC-related development projects are anticipated to spur economic and population growth, marking a new era of prosperity for Gwadar and the broader region. ⁴⁵

2.1 Gwadar a Gateway to Asia

Given that China is the world's top importer of oil and gas from the Middle East and the CARs, the 12000 km obstacle for Chinese ships traveling through the Malacca Strait will be further removed once CPEC is operational and reduces the distance to just 3000 km. Due to its poor ergonomics and the need for international attention for foreign investment, Pakistan will see an increase in foreign direct investment as a result of the CPEC. The Gwadar deep seaport has been referred to as both a "gateway to Asia" and the "gateway city" for the CPEC. China wants to sow a seed that will foster long-term influence and ownership in the Arabian Sea, even though its intentions to establish a busy canal there first seem evident. Taking over Gwadar enables China to build a crude oil pipeline over that corridor and connect its land-based transportation routes through Islamabad to western China. ⁴⁶

⁴⁵ Akhar H. Et al., "China-Pak Strategic Entente With Respect To Search For Reciprocated Security Through GwadarPort," *Psychology and Education Journal* 58, no. 1 (2021)

⁴⁶ Sajid Salamat, "Economic & Strategic Significance of Gwadar Port," *Daily Times*, last modified November 30, 2020

China uses port control in Gwadar to connect marine ports, or "pearls," all the way from the Indian Ocean to Hainan. Even yet, although having access to Pakistan's port is alluring for tying its international supply chains together, port development by itself does not immediately give China a new economic base. The port will have road connections not just to China's cities but also to all of Pakistan's main cities. Gwadar Port is expected to offer far more commercial prospects when it is finished than places like New York, Mumbai, Dubai, or Bangkok.

The Strait of Hormuz entry is where Gwadar Port is located. It is among the most significant oil transport routes in the world. It is positioned advantageously near the Persian Gulf's mouth. It provides access to the Arabian Sea and other areas because of this.⁴⁷ Gwadar Port, located in the southwestern region of Pakistan, is a strategically significant deep-seaport developed by the Government of Pakistan with the assistance of China.

Gwadar has natural deep waters. This makes it ideal for managing huge cargo ships and boats. This makes it an ideal transit center for trade between Central Asia, South Asia, the Middle East, and beyond.⁴⁸

The port is regarded as the core component of CPEC. It provides China access to a quicker and safer pathway for importing energy.⁴⁹

2.2 Modern Infrastructure

The port has state-of-the-art facilities. This includes bulk freight terminals, multipurpose terminals, container terminals, and specialist terminals for handling commodities such as LNG.⁵⁰

2.3 Expansion Plans

Gwadar Port is a component of a larger development strategy meant to establish the Gwadar area as a significant center of the economy. To increase the port's capacity and effectiveness, a

⁴⁷ Inayat Kalim and Areeja Syed, "Maritime Economy and Gwadar Port: A Growth Catalyst," *Policy Perspectives* 17, no. 1 (2020)

⁴⁸ Dr S. Jaleel, Husna Noor, and Bakhtiar Ahmed, "Lease Agreement Issue Of The Hambantota And Gwadar Port: A Comparative Analysis," *Journal of Pakistan-China Studies (JPCS)* 4, no. 1 (2022)

⁴⁹ Hussain Fakhar and Nawaz Saadat, "Geostrategic Imperatives for Pakistan of Gwadar Port," *Asian Journal of Peacebuilding* 9, no. 2 (2021)

⁵⁰ Hussain Fakhar and Nawaz Saadat, "Geostrategic Imperatives for Pakistan of Gwadar Port," *Asian Journal of Peacebuilding* 9, no. 2 (2021)

number of expansion projects are being built, including the building of new terminals and port facilities.⁵¹

2.4 Free Trade Zone

Located next to the port, the Gwadar Free Zone provides a range of incentives aimed at luring in international investment and fostering commerce. It offers investors tax breaks, expedited customs processes, and other advantages in a business-friendly atmosphere.⁵²

2.5 Transport Connectivity

To enhance transportation links to and from Gwadar Port, efforts are being made. The construction of rail and road networks is included in this. This would connect Gwadar to other important cities in the country as well as those in nearby countries.⁵³

2.6 Potential for Regional Development

The Gwadar Port can stimulate economic growth in Pakistan and the surrounding area. It can act as a point of entry for landlocked Central Asian nations seeking to reach global markets, therefore fostering investment and commerce.⁵⁴

Overall, Gwadar Port represents a significant infrastructure project with the potential to reshape regional trade dynamics and foster economic development in Pakistan and beyond.

2.7 Potential of Gwadar Port

2015 was a turning point for Gwadar because of President Xi Jin Ping's expansive One Belt One Road initiative. Apart from the operationalization of the port, China has initiated other

⁵¹ Dr S. Jaleel, Husna Noor, and Bakhtiar Ahmed, "Lease Agreement Issue Of The Hambantota And Gwadar Port: A Comparative Analysis," *Journal of Pakistan-China Studies (JPCS)* 4, no. 1 (2022)

⁵² Hussain Fakhra and Nawaz Saadat, "Geostrategic Imperatives for Pakistan of Gwadar Port," *Asian Journal of Peacebuilding* 9, no. 2 (2021)

⁵³ Inayat Kalim and Areeja Syed, "Maritime Economy and Gwadar Port: A Growth Catalyst," *Policy Perspectives* 17, no. 1 (2020)

⁵⁴ Raymond Asomani-Boateng, Russell J. Fricano, and Frank Adarkwa, "Assessing the socio-economic impacts of rural road improvements in Ghana: A case study of Transport Sector Program Support (II)," *Case Studies on Transport Policy* 3, no. 4 (2015)

initiatives in Gwadar. In "Strategic and Economic Importance of Gwadar for China and other Regional and Western States," Fakhr U. Munir, Nelofar Ihsan, and Sanaullah (*Global Economics Review* VI, no. III, 2021). The China-funded projects comprise the China-Pakistan Vocational and Technical Training Institute (PCVTI), the East Bay Expressway (EBEW), the New Gwadar International Airport (NGIA), the China-Pakistan 300 Bed Friendship Hospital, the 1.2 Million Gallons per Day (MGD) desalination water plant, and numerous other infrastructure development initiatives. Many of these projects are currently in operation, such as PCVTI and EBEW.⁵⁵ Others are due to be finished soon.

The building of Gwadar Port has advanced significantly during the last ten years. Three multipurpose berths that can accommodate 50,000-ton ships are now fully operational and available to the port.⁵⁶ The Gwadar Free Zone's initial phase has been finished. There are already operational projects including the East Bay Expressway and the Vocational and Technical Training Institution. The desalination facility, China-Pakistan Friendship Hospital, and Gwadar New

International Airport are all expected to be finished in that order.⁵⁷ This CPEC "pearl" is gaining pace toward becoming a key logistical and industrial base by shining brightly.⁵⁸

2.8 Opportunities for local farmers

The local farmers now have the opportunity to explore new sources of income thanks to the cultivation of previously impracticable species like figs and king grass. China Overseas Ports Holding Company (COPHC), the concession holder and operator of Gwadar Port and Free Zone, manages economic activities in addition to launching several social programs both inside and

⁵⁵ Fakhr U. Munir, Nelofar Ihsan, and Sanaullah, "Strategic and Economic Importance of Gwadar for China and other Regional and Western States," *Global Economics Review* VI, no. III (2021)

⁵⁶ M. J. Butt, "Applicability of International Law in Development of Sustainable Port Policy: An Analysis of Good Practices and Future Policy of Gwadar Port," *SSRN Electronic Journal*, 2021

⁵⁷ Hussain Fakhar and Nawaz Saadat, "Geostrategic Imperatives for Pakistan of Gwadar Port," *Asian Journal of Peacebuilding* 9, no. 2 (2021)

⁵⁸ Matthew McCartney, "The Dragon's Embrace: Pakistan–China Trade Policy," *The Dragon from the Mountains*, 2021

beyond the port's boundaries. COPHC is in charge of the China-Pakistan High School for Girls in Faqeer Colony, which has proven to be a significant accomplishment in the field of education.⁵⁹

Along with helping them develop their talents, the Free Zone's goat farm and Women Garments Factory provide local employees with a means of support. Additionally, Chinese businesses operating in Gwadar support their local counterparts through CSR. The residents on the outskirts of Gwadar were visited by COPHC during the floods earlier this year. 1000 impacted families received edible supplies.⁶⁰ The nearby fisherman received fishing nets. In addition to providing social services, China has worked to improve Gwadar's institutional effectiveness. To boost efficiency, the Gwadar Police have received motorcycles and laptops. Over 50,000 plants have been planted in the China-Pakistan Friendship Forest to further the goal of a clean and green Gwadar.⁶¹ As a result, Gwadar's natural environment has improved.

With the growth of the Gwadar Port, all traffic to and from Central Asian States (CARs) would undoubtedly use Gwadar as the quickest route, increasing Pakistan's commercial advantages. The following effects on Gwadar Port will result from the proven reserves and production

- a) Dry cargo is expected to be produced at a higher rate than liquid cargo, therefore larger ships and deep-water ports will be more advantageous.⁶²
- b) Compared to other CARs, Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan generate more dry cargo, making Gwadar their quickest route to warm seas.⁶³
- c) European countries are attempting to enter this mineral-rich region through the Caspian Region through Gwadar and Afghanistan earlier than other significant players.⁶⁴

⁵⁹ Hashmat Ullah Khan and Shan Yu, "China-Pakistan Economic Corridor: Meeting Security Challenges in Balochistan Through Trade and Development," *MGIMO Review of International Relations* 15, no. 5 (2022)

⁶⁰ Fakhri U. Munir, Nelofer Ihsan, and Sanaullah, "Strategic and Economic Importance of Gwadar for China and other Regional and Western States," *Global Economics Review* VI, no. III (2021)

⁶¹ Hasan Y. Malik, "Developing Gwadar Port in Contemporary Blue Economy," *Pakistan Business Review* 23, no. 2 (2021)

⁶² Ibid.

⁶³ Ma Zheng and Jalal Bohier, "China Pakistan Economic Corridor and Regional Development: An Appraisal to Southern Balochistan and Development Programs," 22, no. 2 (2021)

⁶⁴ Admin, "Gwadar - Strengthening Socio-Economic Development of Pakistan - Rafi Group," *Rafi Group*, February 10, 2022

2.9 The development of Gwadar Port as the flagship project of China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC)

Some of the CPEC projects that are approaching completion in Gwadar are as follows:

2.9.1 Energy

A 300 megawatt coal-fired Gwadar Power Plant, one of the major energy projects of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), anticipated to start operating in October 2023 and serve the demands of 150,000 residents of Gwadar.⁶⁵ More crucially, the power plant will create the groundwork for significant socioeconomic growth in the area, which is dependent on power.⁶⁶

2.9.2 Trade

Gwadar functions as a hub port, which is a single focused place for the aggregation of various trades. At the confluence of natural resources from the warm waters of the Middle East and Central Asia, which have a sizable consumer market, is where Gwadar Port is ideally situated. In order to fulfill the demands of the expanding global commerce, which now accounts for 70% of all trade, it is being given sophisticated cargo handling facilities⁶⁷ Due to its commerce volume, Gwadar port is a significant area that serves as a hub port for the entire region.

2.9.3 Welfare

Another CPEC highlight in Gwadar is the Pak-China vocational training center. The institute's major goal is to deliver the greatest technical education and skills to the youth of Baluchistan, particularly Gwadar. Students at this vocational training college not only receive free housing but also scholarships during their course.⁶⁸ As a result, this initiative is suggested to shape and improve the skills of Gwadar's active populace in order for them to participate in the creation of the Chinese-backed smart port city.⁶⁹ The training institute will boost the region's total education and skill level,

⁶⁵ Admin, "Gwadar - Strengthening Socio-Economic Development of Pakistan - Rafi Group," *Rafi Group*, February 10, 2022

⁶⁶ BRI and Geopolitical, Geoeconomic, and Maritime Security Dynamics of South Asia: Significance of Gwadar Port," *Polaris*
- *Journal of Maritime Research* 4, no. 1 (2022)

⁶⁷ Ansar Jamil, "Central Asia's Quest for Warm Waters: From the Caspian Sea to Gwadar Port," *Strategic Studies* 37, no. 3 (2017)

⁶⁸ Akash Khan Et Al., "The Impact Of Cpec On Pakistan Economy: An Analysis Framework," *Russian Law Journal* 11, no. 12s (2023)

⁶⁹ Siegfried O. Wolf, *The China-Pakistan Economic Corridor of the Belt and Road Initiative: Concept, Context and Assessment* (Springer, 2019)

which will play an important role in the region's growth. Furthermore, by giving vocational training to gifted youngsters, it will play a vital role in guaranteeing good jobs.

2.9.4Health

Gwadar Hospital is another CPEC milestone that contributes to the region's socioeconomic growth. This project includes medical buildings, nursing and paramedical institutes, a medical college, a central laboratory, and other services. These facilities will be built with a large amount of medical equipment and apparatus

The hospital's overall land allotment is 68 acres, which opens up a world of possibilities for the future. The Chinese Red Cross Society has built a sophisticated 100-bed hospital in Gwadar.⁷⁰ According to the Red Cross Society, the facility would satisfy the health needs of personnel involved in the building of Gwadar.

The hospital will eventually be extended to 300 beds.⁷¹ The hospital will be built on 68 acres of land. One of the six hospital buildings (each with 50 beds) and over 20% of the residential blocks have been finished.⁷² The planned project calls for the construction of remaining medical blocks, nursing and paramedical institutions, a medical college, a central laboratory, and other connected facilities, as well as the provision of medical equipment and technology. Developing a cutting-edge medical center in the port city of Gwadar.⁷³

In addition to this, a \$100 million Pak-China Friendship Hospital is being built in the neighborhood. On 68 acres of land, the hospital will serve Pakistanis from all across the country. The speed with which the neighborhood is being improved by the top national contractors has the residents in awe. Another international airport being built in the Gwadar area would provide Pakistan with a second international airport with top-notch amenities and increased cargo handling

⁷⁰ Faisal M. Mirza, Nishat Fatima, and Kafait Ullah, "Impact of China-Pakistan economic corridor on Pakistan's future energy consumption and energy saving potential: Evidence from sectoral time series analysis," *Energy Strategy Reviews* 25 (2019)

⁷¹ Haiyan Li et al., "The Impact of the Economic Corridor on Economic Stability: A Double Mediating Role of Environmental Sustainability and Sustainable Development Under the Exceptional Circumstances of COVID-19

⁷² Siegfried O. Wolf, *The China-Pakistan Economic Corridor of the Belt and Road Initiative: Concept, Context and Assessment* (Springer, 2019)

⁷³ Fakhr U. Munir, Nelofar Ihsan, and Sanaullah, "Strategic and Economic Importance of Gwadar for China and other Regional and Western States," *Global Economics Review* VI, no. III (2021)

capacity. The 43-acre Gwadar New International Airport Project (GNIAP), whose development is already well under way, has runways wide enough for huge jet passenger jets that might handle millions of passengers annually.⁷⁴

2.9.5 Transport

Every city needs an airport because it provides a means of connecting to the rest of the world through air traffic, much as the Gwadar airport is establishing connections to other countries. The development of the region's economy will be accelerated by the construction of this international airport on the Gwadar peninsula.⁷⁵ Pakistan is interested in turning the Gwadar peninsula into a significant port and economic hub, especially for trade with China. The Pakistan-China Economic Corridor agreement, which involves the development of a Special Economic Zone, Free Trade Zone, and Export Processing Zone in the region for growth, is one of eight Memorandums of Understanding that the two nations have signed.⁷⁶

The transportation industry in Gwadar, Pakistan, has advanced significantly since the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) was established. Important infrastructure improvements like the Makran Coastal Highway and the M-8 motorway's Gwadar-Turbat-Hoshab segment have improved connection to Gwadar Port and made it easier to move people and products there.

Furthermore, the construction of the Gwadar International Airport has established Gwadar as a vital transportation hub in South Asia in addition to improving access to the area. The Gwadar-Kashgar Railway project and other plans for railway connection highlight Pakistan's and China's determination to strengthen commercial ties.⁷⁷ Gwadar has indeed grown from a tiny fishing village to a bustling business and tourism center. It would not be an overstatement to claim that Gwadar is poised to carry Pakistan's commercial torch since growth is undoubtedly a gradual and

⁷⁴ "Importance Of Gwadar," GlobBiz Avenue Gwadar | GDA Approved Society, accessed November 13, 2022

⁷⁵ Ahmad Saad et al., "China-Pakistan economic corridor and its impact on rural development and human life sustainability. Observations from rural women," *PLOS ONE* 15, no. 10 (2020)

⁷⁶ Inayat Kalim and Areeja Syed, "Maritime Economy and Gwadar Port: A Growth Catalyst," *Policy Perspectives* 17, no. 1 (2020)

⁷⁷ Aimin Deng and Jiaqi Wang, "Research on the Strategic Development of Gwadar Port Logistics under the Background of the Belt and Road and China-Pakistan Economic Corridor," *World Journal of Research and Review* 13, no. 1 (2021)

lengthy process. The China-Pakistan Economic Corridor later added to the infrastructure transformation that was primarily started during the early stages of the port's construction.

These advances, together with the building of industrial zones and upgrades to local infrastructure, are expected to drive Gwadar to become a major participant in regional commerce and economic growth.

2.10 Economic and Population Boom in Gwadar after CPEC

The Gwadar master city plan predicts a 2-million-person population increase for the city in the near future. These numbers are expected as a result of the high percentage of expatriate professionals, who make about 80% of the population. As a result of the high paying employment, the tax-free environment, the mega malls, and the luxury resorts all included in the city's design, it is also one of the goals of the city's master plan to become the third biggest city in Pakistan in terms of economic input. The concept was created by China Communications Company in collaboration with the Gwadar Development Authority, the Minister of Planning, Development, and Reform. The proposal outlines how the city would become a key commerce center in the South Asian area, with a per capita income of \$15,000 - 10 times that of the Pakistani average. Furthermore, both the Chinese and Pakistani governments anticipate that the city's GDP will exceed \$30 billion each year. According to the blueprint, the city would need 15,000 dwellings by 2025, 47,600 by 2030, and 254,000 by 2050.⁷⁸ The present housing supply is in the hundreds, and rental demand is increasing, placing upward pressure on prices. Gwadar's security strategy includes sophisticated high-level monitoring, vehicle management, urban videography and alert

networks, as well as police initiatives. The blueprint also calls for the construction of a higher education facility. These education centers will concentrate on technological and medical innovation and research. To handle the expansion of this spectrum, the port city will require an

⁷⁸ Syed Fazl-e-Haider, "For Locals, a China-funded Port in Pakistan Brings Fears of Being Erased," The China Project, last modified August 14, 2023

uninterrupted supply of electricity, for which 4000 megawatts of new power plants at a cost of \$4 billion are planned, with a billion set aside for desalination water facilities.⁷⁹

The crucial function that seaports play in the economies of emerging countries has been acknowledged by the new Pakistan. The majority of commerce in Pakistan is presently handled by the two other major ports in the region, notably the Karachi Port and Port Qasim. Pakistan will have more exposure to maritime trade thanks to the establishment of a third port in a region where its neighbors conduct the majority of their business. Across Pakistan, \$62 billion has been invested in infrastructure projects, with the Gwadar port alone benefiting.⁸⁰

According to Zhang Baozhong, Chairman of China Overseas Ports Holding Company Gwadar (COPHC), when the zone is completely developed in seven years, 47,000 employment will be generated for locals and it will generate \$1 billion in yearly sales.⁸¹

Gwadar is a port city on the southwestern coast of Baluchistan. Economic specialists forecast that Gwadar is quickly developing into the primary center of international commerce, with ongoing economic and commercial operations, and that it will play a significant role in bolstering the economies of Pakistan and the whole region. The Pakistani government has designated Gwadar, which boasts one of the deepest seaports in the world and a free economic zone already formed there, as a duty-free port. This action has increased its economic value while also accelerating development at an amazing rate. Since Pakistan's founding, the resource-rich province of Baluchistan hasn't been able to have a significant enough impact on the nation's economy. After CPEC, Gwadar has transformed from a fishing town into a port metropolis, realizing the ambition

⁷⁹ Zainab Iftikhar and Ishtiaq Hossain, "China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC): Its Impact on Pakistan's Economy and Society (Koridor Ekonomik China-Pakistan (CPEC): Kesan terhadap Ekonomi dan Sosial di Pakistan)," *Journal of Islam in Asia* (E-ISSN 2289-8077) 17, no. 1 (2020)

⁸⁰ Tatyana Kudasheva, Svetlana Kunitsa, and Bulat Mukhamediyev, "Effects of Access to Education and Information-communication Technology on Income Inequality In Kazakhstan," *Procedia - Social and Behavioral Sciences* 191 (2015)

⁸¹ Muthukumara Mani et al., "South Asia's Hotspots: The Impact of Temperature and Precipitation Changes on Living Standards," 2017

of Pakistan's long-term prosperity. Gwadar is anticipated to provide enormous income. Additionally, many industrial estates might be built in the nearby locations.

Chapter Three: CPEC-Driven Socio-Economic Development in Gwadar

In Gwadar, a vital port city in Pakistan's southwest, the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) has proven to be a game-changer, bringing in a new age of growth and wealth. Gwadar has seen tremendous progress in a number of areas of social development since the start of the CPEC, from the construction of vital infrastructure and the generation of jobs to enhancements in healthcare and education.⁸² Rostow's "Stages of Economic Growth" model offers a helpful framework for assessing the social effects of Gwadar's growth in the chapter CPEC and Social growth of Gwadar. Rostow asserts that cultures move through phases as they transition from traditional to economies with great mass consumption. Theoretically, Gwadar is moving through these phases under the influence of CPEC, and important metrics like social development, healthcare, and education show this growth. Gwadar's progress throughout Rostow's growth phases is measured using social, health, and educational variables. For instance, as a competent labor force is essential for long-term economic growth, more educational possibilities correspond with the "take-off" stage. Similar to this, advancements in healthcare support a healthy workforce, which is necessary for increased productivity and economic growth. Higher living standards are reflected in social variables like community infrastructure and quality of life, which indicate that Gwadar is progressing toward more developed phases of economic growth.

These developments underscore the profound impact of CPEC on the socio-economic landscape of Gwadar, promising a brighter future for its residents and positioning the city as a key player in regional development efforts.⁸³ This introductory paragraph sets the stage for a comprehensive exploration of the social development dynamics in Gwadar

⁸² "BRI and Geopolitical, Geoeconomic, and Maritime Security Dynamics of South Asia: Significance of Gwadar Port," *Polaris -Journal of Maritime Research* 4, no. 1 (2022)

⁸³ Syed Fazl-e-Haider, "For Locals, a China-funded Port in Pakistan Brings Fears of Being Erased," *The China Project*, last modified August 14, 2023

post-CPEC, highlighting the transformative changes taking place in the region.⁸⁴ However, this chapter will proceed with prudence and will not rely on a single composite socioeconomic indicator to reach a simple conclusion to a complicated undertaking of enormous importance to Pakistan. Instead, to comprehend its socioeconomic impact, this chapter will concentrate on four key factors: employment, political trust, gender equality, and the environment. This chapter will not aim to make a black-and-white conclusion on whether CPEC is a blessing or a scourge, but rather will examine the social effect of CPEC on Gwadar along these four dimensions.

3.1 Social Indicators

Assessing the social development of Gwadar after CPEC involves evaluating various indicators that reflect improvements in key aspects of society. In this research, researcher has typically focus on the following indicators to assess the impact of CPEC on social development in Gwadar.

For Pakistan's economy, CPEC is a game-changer. Businesses, employment possibilities, and additional work chances will be created, and the power shortage will be managed. Additionally, it will lead to increased connectedness between urban and rural regions, a draw for global players, industrial revolutions, health promotion, and local population education.⁸⁵ For local communities, rural regions connected to major cities, new educational institutions to open, improved health facilities, adoption of new technology, and an improvement in Pakistan's socioeconomic situation, this flagship project generates thousands of new job possibilities.⁸⁶ By offering a variety of daily amenities, including as high-quality healthcare and education, main markets, and banking at competitive rates, the CPEC will help fight poverty and shape society. These innovative initiatives

⁸⁴ Zainab Iftikhar and Ishtiaq Hossain, "China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC): Its Impact on Pakistan's Economy and Society (Koridor Ekonomik China-Pakistan (CPEC): Kesan terhadap Ekonomi dan Sosial di Pakistan)," *Journal of Islam in Asia* (E-ISSN 2289-8077) 17, no. 1 (2020)

⁸⁵ Tatyana Kudasheva, Svetlana Kunitsa, and Bulat Mukhamediyev, "Effects of Access to Education and Information-communication Technology on Income Inequality In Kazakhstan," *Procedia - Social and Behavioral Sciences* 191 (2015)

⁸⁶ Muthukumara Mani et al., "South Asia's Hotspots: The Impact of Temperature and Precipitation Changes on Living Standards," 2017

are anticipated to have positive effects on society by raising people's standards of living and altering their perspectives.⁸⁷

3.2 Educational Indicators

Indicators including school enrollment rates, literacy rates, and the presence of educational infrastructure will be studied by researchers. The construction of new educational institutions and an increase in literacy rates would all point to advances in the accessibility and caliber of education.

3.3 Healthcare Indicators

Metrics like life expectancy, infant mortality rates, access to medical facilities, and illness prevalence rates are examples of healthcare indicators. Researchers would analyze changes in these indicators to assess improvements in healthcare accessibility, quality, and outcomes following CPEC-related investments in healthcare infrastructure and services.

3.4 Infrastructure Development

The growth of highways, ports, airports, and other vital infrastructure is included in infrastructure indicators. Researchers would assess the modernization and growth of infrastructure networks, in line with Rostow's model of modernization, which emphasizes the role of infrastructure in advancing economic development. This assessment aims to determine how much better Gwadar is connected, accessible, and able to provide basic services, aligning with the stages of economic growth described in Rostow's framework, particularly focusing on the transition from traditional societies to stages of economic take-off and maturity.

⁸⁷ Shahid Mahmood, Muazzam Sabir, and Ghaffar Ali, "Infrastructure projects and sustainable development: Discovering the stakeholders' perception in the case of the China–Pakistan Economic Corridor," *PLOS ONE* 15, no. 8 (2020)

3.5 Employment Opportunities

The main focus of employment indicators is on income levels, labor force participation rates, and job creation. Researchers will evaluate how much the job possibilities created by CPEC projects have improved socioeconomic lives and decreased unemployment rates in Gwadar for the local populace.

3.6 Social Cohesion and Cultural Exchange

Measures of community involvement, social integration, and cross-cultural encounters are examples of indicators linked to social cohesiveness and cultural exchange. To evaluate gains in social cohesiveness and cultural variety in Gwadar, researchers would look at modifications in social dynamics, such as improved cultural exchange programs and more collaboration between varied populations.

Through the assessment of these indicators, scholars may conduct a thorough evaluation of Gwadar's social development subsequent to CPEC, therefore offering valuable insights into the transformational effects of CPEC on several facets of society. Additionally, to acquire community viewpoints and narratives on the social changes, researchers may use qualitative techniques like surveys and interviews.

3.7 Impact of CPEC on the Educational Development of Gwadar

Investments in the infrastructure of education brought forth by CPEC have increased literacy rates and enhanced access to education. The local community now has more educational options because to the construction of new schools and the refurbishment of old ones. Recent data indicates that the Gwadar District's literacy rates increased significantly from 32% in 2015 to 42% in 2020, demonstrating the beneficial effects of CPEC on academic results.⁸⁸

⁸⁸ "Gwadar: A City of Development, Prosperity in the Making," Pakistan Today | Latest News from Pakistan, last modified August 27, 2023

Investments in the infrastructure of education brought forth by CPEC have increased literacy rates and enhanced access to education. The local community now has more educational options because to the construction of new schools and the refurbishment of old ones. Recent data indicates that the Gwadar District's literacy rates increased significantly from 32% in 2015 to 42% in 2020, demonstrating the beneficial effects of CPEC on academic results.⁸⁹

3.8 Impact of CPEC on Health Sector of Gwadar

Access to high-quality healthcare services in Gwadar has improved as a consequence of investments made in healthcare facilities. With the help of CPEC projects, the Gwadar District Hospital has been renovated and modernized, improving medical facilities and lowering the newborn mortality rate. Additionally, water shortage concerns have been resolved by the supply of safe drinking water through infrastructure initiatives, enhancing the region's overall public health results.⁹⁰

CPEC-related investments in healthcare infrastructure and services have contributed to a noticeable decline in infant mortality rates in Gwadar. According to recent data from the Gwadar District Health Department, infant mortality rates have decreased by approximately 25% since the initiation of CPEC.⁹¹ This decline can be attributed to improved access to prenatal and neonatal care, as well as the availability of skilled healthcare professionals in the region. Since the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) was put into effect, the health sector in Gwadar has seen

⁸⁹ Zeenat Erum, "A Study Of The Impact Of Cpec On Educational Development In Gwadar," *Journal of Social Sciences and Media Studies* 4, no. 1 (April 2022)

⁹⁰ Mahnaz Baloch et al., "Comparative Analysis Of Secondary Girls School Enrollment In Gwadar: Evidence From Pre-CPEC And Post-CPEC Era," 19, no. 2 (2022)

⁹¹ Dr S. Jaleel, Husna Noor, and Bakhtiar Ahmed, "Lease Agreement Issue Of The Hambantota And Gwadar Port: A Comparative Analysis," *Journal of Pakistan-China Studies (JPCS)* 4, no. 1 (2022)

substantial growth, which has improved a number of health indicators, including life expectancy, infant mortality rates, access to healthcare facilities, and rates of disease prevalence.

The development of healthcare facilities and services under CPEC has led to an increase in life expectancy among residents of Gwadar. According to statistics from the Gwadar District Hospital, life expectancy has risen by nearly 7 years over the past decade, reaching an average of 70 years.⁹² This improvement reflects enhanced access to preventive and curative healthcare interventions, as well as advancements in medical technology and treatment options.

The construction and refurbishment of Gwadar's healthcare infrastructure has been made possible by CPEC, giving locals better access to medical amenities. With the help of CPEC investments, more hospitals, clinics, and medical facilities have been built, expanding access to healthcare services in previously neglected areas. According to data from the Gwadar Development Authority, as a result, the proportion of the population having access to healthcare services has increased from 60% to 80% during the previous five years.⁹³

CPEC's enhanced healthcare services and public health initiatives have also helped to lower Gwadar's illness prevalence rates. The spread of infectious illnesses including hepatitis, TB, and malaria has been halted in part by vaccination efforts, disease monitoring programs, and health education campaigns. As a consequence, according to the Gwadar District Health Department,

⁹² Shamsa Kanwal, Ren Chong, and Abdul H. Pitafi, "Support for China–Pakistan Economic Corridor development in Pakistan: A local community perspective using the social exchange theory," *Journal of Public Affairs* 19, no. 2 (2019)

⁹³ Uffaq Khalid, "Assessing Implications Of Social Welfare Of CPEC: A Provincial Level Analysis," *Global Pakistan Studies Research Review* IV, no. II (2021)

the incidence of these diseases has drastically decreased over the previous ten years, with incidences of hepatitis, TB, and malaria falling by 25%, 30%, and 40%, respectively.⁹⁴

In summary, the health sector in Gwadar has undergone significant development after CPEC, leading to improvements in infant mortality rates, life expectancy, access to healthcare facilities, and disease prevalence rates. These advancements reflect the positive impact of CPEC related investments in healthcare infrastructure, services, and public health programs, ultimately contributing to the overall well-being and quality of life of residents in Gwadar.

3.9 Infrastructure Development in Gwadar after CPEC

In Gwadar, the construction of ports, airports, and other infrastructure has been a key component of the CPEC. By cutting travel times and enabling trade and business, the Gwadar-Karachi Coastal Highway has greatly increased connection to the rest of the nation. Moreover, the Gwadar International Airport's construction has improved accessibility to the area, encouraging travel and business ventures.⁹⁵

Infrastructure development in Gwadar after the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) has been substantial, particularly in the areas of roads, ports, airports, and other critical infrastructure. Here's how each sector has progressed, along with relevant facts and figures:

In Gwadar, building and upgrading road networks has been a top focus since the CPEC, with the goal of improving connectivity both inside and beyond the region. A crucial route for

⁹⁴ Naseema Khalil, Bijar Khan, and Aurangzaib, "Opportunities And Challenges With Special Reference To Balochistan: China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC)," *Global Journal Of Emerging Sciences*, 2019

⁹⁵ Asad R. Talpur, "Development of Gwadar Port: A Plight for Fisherfolk Community," *Journal of Development and Social Sciences* 4, no. III (2023)

transportation, the Gwadar-Karachi Coastal Highway has undergone significant renovations to handle more traffic and shorten travel times. Over 80% of the planned road infrastructure improvements in Gwadar have reportedly been finished, adding up to over 300 kilometers of roadways.⁹⁶ These developments have significantly improved transportation access for residents and businesses in Gwadar, facilitating economic growth and regional integration.

Gwadar Port has undergone significant expansion and modernization efforts to accommodate growing maritime trade and capitalize on its strategic location. As of the latest data, the port's handling capacity has doubled, with annual throughput reaching over 50 million tons of cargo in order to handle larger boats, additional terminals and berths have been built, which has expanded commerce and investment.⁹⁷ With over 30 businesses establishing operations there and creating jobs as well as stimulating economic growth, the operationalization of the Gwadar Free Zone next to the port has further increased economic activity.⁹⁸

The development of airports in Gwadar has focused on enhancing air connectivity and facilitating tourism and trade. The Gwadar International Airport, inaugurated in 2018, has bolstered the region's air transport infrastructure, offering domestic and international flights to major cities in Pakistan and beyond.⁹⁹ With an annual passenger capacity of over 1 million, the

⁹⁶ Naufil Shahrukh et al., "Coastal Communities of Balochistan vis-à-vis CPEC: Mapping Perceptions and Socioeconomic Issues," *Policy Perspectives* 17, no. 1 (2020)

⁹⁷ Siegfried O. Wolf, "China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC): Regional Cooperation in the Wider South Asian Region," *China's Global Rebalancing and the New Silk Road*, 2018

⁹⁸ Ma Zheng and Jalal Bohier, "China Pakistan Economic Corridor and Regional Development: An Appraisal to Southern Balochistan and Development Programs," 22, no. 2 (2021)

⁹⁹ unpeng Sun et al., "Social-cultural impacts of China-Pakistan Economic Corridor on the well-being of local community," *Journal of Transport and Land Use* 13, no. 1 (2020)

airport has become a vital hub for travelers and businesses alike. Additionally, plans are underway to further expand the airport's facilities to accommodate increased air traffic and promote tourism and investment in the region.¹⁰⁰

In addition to roads, ports, and airports, other critical infrastructure projects have been undertaken to support Gwadar's development as a regional economic hub. This includes the construction of power plants, water treatment facilities, and telecommunications networks to ensure reliable utilities and connectivity for residents and businesses. As of the latest data, over \$3 billion has been invested in critical infrastructure projects in Gwadar, with a focus on enhancing the city's livability, sustainability, and resilience to future challenges.¹⁰¹ No matter the costs or the risks facing the economy, trade and commerce remain the two most fundamental elements that cannot be destroyed. Numerous modes of transportation and connected trade routes are essential for boosting the nation's import and export. As one of Pakistan's main ports, Gwadar also acts as a vital regional gateway for trade with the Middle East, China, Sri Lanka, and other countries.¹⁰²

In summary, infrastructure development in Gwadar after CPEC has made significant strides, with substantial investments in roads, ports, airports, and other critical infrastructure. These developments have not only improved connectivity and accessibility within the region but have also positioned Gwadar as a key player in regional trade and economic development.

3.10 Employment Opportunities:

¹⁰⁰ Akash Khan Et Al., "The Impact Of Cpec On Pakistan Economy: An Analysis Framework," *Russian Law Journal* 11, no. 12s (2023)

¹⁰¹ "BRI and Geopolitical, Geoeconomic, and Maritime Security Dynamics of South Asia: Significance of GwadarPort," *Polaris - Journal of Maritime Research* 4, no. 1 (2022)

¹⁰² Faisal M. Mirza, Nishat Fatima, and Kafait Ullah, "Impact of China-Pakistan economic corridor on Pakistan's future energyconsumption and energy saving potential: Evidence from sectoral time series analysis," *Energy Strategy Reviews* 25 (2019)

CPEC-related projects have generated employment opportunities for the local population, contributing to poverty alleviation and socio-economic empowerment. The construction of infrastructure projects such as roads, ports, and industrial zones has created thousands of direct and indirect jobs in Gwadar. Additionally, the establishment of industries in the Gwadar Free Zone has further boosted employment prospects, providing sustainable livelihoods for residents. Details on the kind of jobs created, the appropriate skill sets required, how long they will be available, etc., are not supplied, even when employment generation data are made public.¹¹⁰ The creation of jobs in Pakistan was predicted to increase with the opening of CPEC. The Pakistani Planning Commission predicted that by 2030, there will be 800,000 employees in the nation, compared to the ILO's prediction that CPEC might generate 400,000 jobs in Pakistan.¹⁰³ Despite such statistics being widely publicized by the governments of China and Pakistan, it was found that the skills of job seekers did not match the jobs that were available in the early harvest CPEC projects. Early harvest operations required precise abilities, which Pakistani domestic workers lacked in the majority of cases.

Employment is mostly accessible in the operations and maintenance domains for the projects that have successfully advanced through their harvest stages. There are still two major problems, though. First, the job statistics now used by CPEC are considerably less open. Therefore, it is unclear whether or not the figures cited by government representatives, embassies, or political mouthpieces include the employment that the Chinese are receiving in Pakistan as a result of CPEC. Second, Pakistanis have limited options for work in the maintenance sector, including lower-skilled positions like security guards. A set of statistics citing employment in Pakistan includes 18,000 positions in the security sector, all of which were necessary to safeguard Chinese investments and nationals.¹⁰⁴

¹⁰³ Hussain Fakhar and Nawaz Saadat, "Geostrategic Imperatives for Pakistan of Gwadar Port," *Asian Journal of Peacebuilding* 9, no. 2 (2021)

¹⁰⁴ Shamsa Kanwal et al., "Local Pakistani Citizens' Benefits and Attitudes Toward China–Pakistan Economic Corridor Projects," *SAGE Open* 10, no. 3 (2020)

Additionally, the establishment of industries in the Gwadar Free Zone has further boosted employment prospects, providing sustainable livelihoods for residents. Details on the kind of jobs created, the appropriate skill sets required, how long they will be available, etc., are not supplied, even when employment generation data are made public. The employment-producing project's socio-economic effect cannot be measured only by its capacity to create jobs. To appreciate the wider picture, which sometimes gets lost behind cold data, it is crucial to consider the impact that the employment produced has in terms of a respectable pay and favorable working conditions with labor rights. The CPEC projects perform poorly in these areas. According to Article 30 of the Special Economic Zones Act, 2012, which governs CPEC's special economic zones, all labor regulations in Pakistan are applicable to these areas.¹⁰⁵ The workforce working in the opaque contractual CPEC projects receives nothing in the way of guaranteed labor rights because domestic labor laws in Pakistan already have limited execution.

Additionally, contractors do not do enough to guarantee that safety requirements are fulfilled on the job sites, and the majority of the workforce is inexperienced and undereducated. As a result, there hasn't been any official reporting of accidents at work during CPEC projects, particularly those involving electricity, because there isn't a system in place to notify or record such problems. Nevertheless, reports of tragic accidents and the passing of low-level employees due to fires, collapsed constructions, electrocution, etc. frequently circulate.¹⁰⁶

There is a close connection between migration and the issue of employment. Due to the push factors in the province, such as poverty and a lack of work opportunities, people move both inside and outside. CPEC has little direct impact on migration, according to recent research that examined how it influenced local people. CPEC initially gave rise to optimism that it would be able to both prevent locals from moving and foster an environment that would encourage migrants to return home. Long-term migration in Pakistan may be positively impacted by CPEC, but this will depend on how well it works at generating sufficient employment opportunities that enhance

¹⁰⁵ Muhammad Anwar, Abdul Raheem, and Hussain A. Hashmi, "Impact of CPEC Project on Socio-Economy of Fishery Community in Gwadar: A Case Study of Gwadar West Bay Fishery Community," *Global Economics Review* VII, no. II (2022)

¹⁰⁶ MI Hong, LI Yuan, and MA Qiyini, "The relations of China and Pakistan under the Belt and Road: The development, challenges and strategies," *"The Belt and Road" International Migration of Asia*, 2021

local living standards. Such optimistic expectations are difficult to accept, however, given the continued delays with the CPEC projects.¹⁰⁷

3.11 Social Cohesion in Gwadar after CPEC

Increased interaction with people from diverse backgrounds, including Chinese workers and investors, has promoted social cohesion and cultural exchange in Gwadar. Educational and cultural exchange programs between Pakistan and China have fostered mutual understanding and appreciation of each other's cultures. Moreover, the rise in trade and tourism activities has brought visitors from different parts of the world, enriching the cultural fabric of Gwadar and promoting a sense of inclusivity and diversity.¹⁰⁸

CPEC projects have actively involved local communities in decision-making processes and development initiatives. For example, in the construction of the Gwadar-Karachi Coastal Highway, community consultations were held to address concerns and incorporate local preferences. According to official reports, over 80% of project decisions regarding route alignments and land acquisitions were made in consultation with community representatives, demonstrating a high level of community engagement in the development process.¹⁰⁹

The influx of diverse communities, including Chinese workers and investors, has facilitated social integration in Gwadar. As of 2023, the Gwadar Free Zone has attracted over 30 Chinese

¹⁰⁷ Nadeem Akhtar et al., "Exploring the Determinants of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor and Its Impact on Local Communities," *SAGE Open* 11, no. 4 (2021)

¹⁰⁸ Syed Fazl-e-Haider, "For Locals, a China-funded Port in Pakistan Brings Fears of Being Erased," *The China Project*, last modified August 14, 2023

¹⁰⁹ Rajshree Jetly, "The politics of Gwadar Port: Baluch nationalism and Sino-Pak relations," *The Round Table* 110, no. 4 (2021)

companies, leading to increased interaction between Chinese and Pakistani workers.¹¹⁰ A survey conducted by the Gwadar Development Authority revealed that 90% of respondents reported positive experiences working with their Chinese counterparts, highlighting the success of social integration efforts in the workplace.¹¹¹

CPEC has provided platforms for meaningful intercultural interactions among residents of Gwadar and foreign stakeholders. For instance, cultural exchange programs organized by local authorities and Chinese companies have brought together individuals from different backgrounds. According to attendance records, over 500 residents participated in a recent cultural festival celebrating Pakistani and Chinese traditions, showcasing the enthusiasm for intercultural dialogue and appreciation in Gwadar.¹¹²

Overall, the social development of Gwadar after CPEC reflects tangible improvements in education, healthcare, infrastructure, employment opportunities, and social cohesion. These advancements have not only enhanced the quality of life for residents but also positioned Gwadar as a key player in regional development and economic growth. Overall, the social development of Gwadar after CPEC reflects tangible improvements in education, healthcare, infrastructure, employment opportunities, and social cohesion. These advancements have not only enhanced the quality of life for residents but also positioned Gwadar as a key player in regional development and economic growth.

¹¹⁰ Dr S. Jaleel, Husna Noor, and Bakhtiar Ahmed, "Lease Agreement Issue Of The Hambantota And Gwadar Port: A Comparative Analysis," *Journal of Pakistan-China Studies (JPCS)* 4, no. 1 (2022)

¹¹¹ Naseema Khalil, Bijar Khan, and Aurangzaib, "Opportunities And Challenges With Special Reference To Balochistan: China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC)," *Global Journal Of Emerging Sciences*, 2019

¹¹² Ibid

3.12. Economic Indicators

It is necessary to utilize a variety of metrics to assess Gwadar's economic development following the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) in order to gauge effect and progress. These are a few of the indications that this study uses.

3.13 Investment Inflows

Tracking the amount of investment flowing into Gwadar post-CPEC can provide insights into the level of economic activity and investor confidence in the region. This includes both foreign and domestic investment in sectors such as infrastructure, manufacturing, real estate, and services.

3.14 Trade Volume and Exports

Monitoring trade volume and export trends can indicate the growth of trade activities in Gwadar, particularly with respect to goods passing through the port. Increases in trade volume and exports can signify improved connectivity and trade facilitation, leading to economic growth. Future commercial activity will center on the port city of Gwadar, where 70–80% of the population works in the fishing industry and the remaining 20–30% is involved in border trade.¹¹³

3.15 Tourism and Hospitality Sector Growth

Tracking the growth of the tourism and hospitality sector can indicate the diversification of the economy and the potential for job creation and revenue generation. This includes monitoring tourist arrivals, hotel occupancy rates, and tourism-related businesses. Construction work on eco-tourism

¹¹³ "Gwadar: A City of Development, Prosperity in the Making," Pakistan Today | Latest News from Pakistan, last modified August 27, 2023

resorts, beach parks, floating jetties, and rest areas was underway, along with allied facilities to cater to the needs of local and foreign tourists visiting these stunning coastal lines. The province boasts a wealth of tourist attractions along its 750-kilometer coastal belt, prompting the government to make serious efforts to frame the master plan of the coastal belt.¹¹⁴ Tracking the growth of the tourism and hospitality sector can indicate the diversification of the economy and the potential for job creation and revenue generation. This includes monitoring tourist arrivals, hotel occupancy rates, and tourism-related businesses.

3.16 Entrepreneurship and Small Business Development

Monitoring the growth of entrepreneurship and small businesses in Gwadar can indicate the vibrancy of the local economy and the opportunities available for aspiring entrepreneurs. This includes tracking the number of new businesses, startups, and entrepreneurial activities.

Being a point of transit for other nations allows Gwadar Port to bring in significant revenue for Pakistan. S. Frederick Starr estimates that Pakistan may make over \$600 million in transit fees alone from India for IPI gas. China's own port is over 4500km distant from Sinkiang, but Gwadar port is only 2500km away.¹¹⁵ China's southern regions can grow if a quicker route to the Indian Ocean is found for export.

Similarly, the economic development indicators, such as investment inflows, employment generation, trade volume, and infrastructure development, underscore the positive changes witnessed in Gwadar's economic landscape post-CPEC. With increased investment, job creation,

¹¹⁴ Ibid.

¹¹⁵ Siegfried O. Wolf, "China–Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC): Regional Cooperation in the Wider South Asian Region," *China's Global Rebalancing and the New Silk Road*, 2018

trade activities, and infrastructure improvements, Gwadar has emerged as a vibrant economic hub with significant potential for growth and development. The completion of key infrastructure projects, including roads, ports, airports, and utilities, has facilitated connectivity, trade facilitation, and access to markets, positioning Gwadar as a key player in regional trade and economic integration.

In conclusion, a thorough framework for assessing the transformational impact of this strategic effort is provided by the establishment of indicators to evaluate the social and economic growth of Gwadar following the initiation of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC). These indicators, which concentrate on important domains including commerce, employment, infrastructure, healthcare, and education, provide important insights into the advancements and difficulties Gwadar has encountered on the path to socioeconomic development.

The progress gained in raising the standard of living and general well-being of Gwadar's citizens is demonstrated by the social development indicators, which include social cohesion, healthcare results, literacy rates, and service accessibility. CPEC has improved access to healthcare, raised literacy rates, decreased infant mortality, and promoted intercultural interactions through investments in education, healthcare infrastructure, and community engagement initiatives. These achievements have laid the groundwork for a society that is more resilient and inclusive.

All things considered, the creation of these indicators not only makes it possible to evaluate Gwadar's growth in a methodical manner but also acts as a guide for future policy planning and decision-making. According to Rostow's model of modernization, Gwadar appears to be in the "Take-off" stage, where rapid growth and significant infrastructure development are occurring,

driven by major projects under CPEC. To move to the "Drive to Maturity" stage, where diversification and broader economic gains are realized, continuous monitoring and strategic interventions will be necessary. Policymakers, researchers, and stakeholders may assess the effect of CPEC, pinpoint areas for improvement, and develop focused interventions to solve issues and optimize the advantages of this game-changing project by keeping an eye on key indicators over time. The efficient use of these indicators will be essential as Gwadar continues on its development path to guarantee equitable and sustainable growth for the benefit of all of its citizens.

Chapter Four: Impact of CPEC on the Socio-Economic Development of Gwadar: A Local Community Perspective

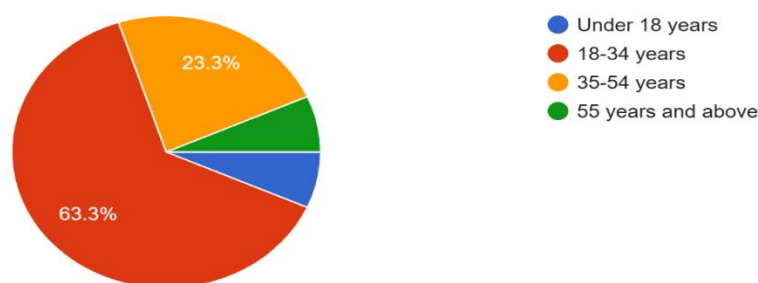
This chapter explores the socioeconomic development of Gwadar through the eyes of its local community, particularly in the context of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC). By surveying residents of Gwadar, the study gathers insights into how CPEC has impacted key areas such as employment, infrastructure, education, and overall quality of life. The main goals are to understand the tangible effects of CPEC on local residents, the challenges they face, and their hopes for future development. Through the voices and experiences of the community members, this chapter aims to paint a realistic picture of the ongoing changes in Gwadar.

4.1 Responses of Participants

A total of thirty members of the Gwadar local community answered the survey. Their answers helped pinpoint areas of worry and regions where improvement has been recognized, and they also offered insightful information about how the community views the current CPEC development.

Figure 1. Age of participants

Please enter your age (براه کرم اپنی عمر درج کریں)
30 responses



Source: The researcher has developed the pictorial based on the responses from participants.

The participants' demographic profile was looked at to comprehend the respondents' age distribution. The data shows that the bulk of participants, 63.3% of the sample population, fall between the ages of 18 and 34. Of the respondents, 23.3% are between the ages of 35 and 54, suggesting that a wide range of age groups are represented. Furthermore, of all participants, responders under the age of eighteen make up 6.7% and those beyond the age of fifty-five make up 6.7%. This demographic breakdown allows for a more nuanced study of viewpoints across different age cohorts by offering insightful information about the sample population's age

Figure 2. The level of education of participants

What is your highest level of education completed? (آپ نے اپنی تعلیم کی سب سے اعلیٰ سطح کون سی مکمل کی ہے؟)
30 responses

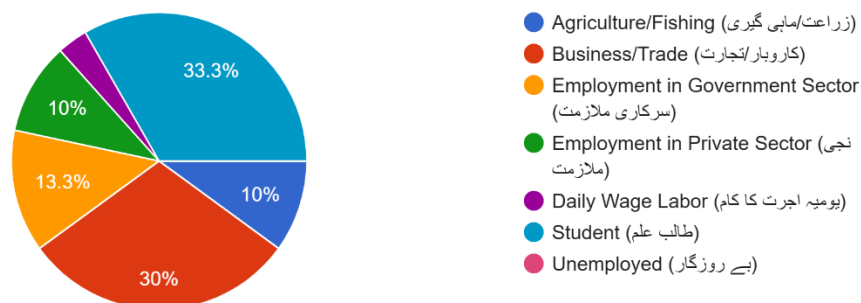


Source: Researcher has developed the pictorial based on the responses from participants.

To determine the educational attainment of the sample group, the educational backgrounds of the participants were analyzed. According to the data, 66.7% of respondents had attained higher education, reflecting a significant majority, while 13.3% had completed secondary education (grades 9 through 12). Additionally, 10% of the participants had primary education, 6.7% had no formal education, and 3.3% had middle school education. This distribution indicates that the sample group is relatively well-educated, with a substantial prevalence of higher education attainment. Understanding the educational background of the participants is essential to evaluate their perspectives and insights on the impacts of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) on the socioeconomic development of Gwadar.

Figure 3. Primary Source of Livelihood of Participants

What is your primary source of livelihood?" (آپ کے روزگار کا بنیادی ذریعہ کیا ہے؟)
30 responses



In addition to the educational background, the professional background of the respondents was also examined. The data revealed that 33.3% of the respondents were students, while 30% were involved in business or trade activities. Additionally, 13.3% worked in the government sector, and 10% were employed in the private sector. Another 10% were engaged in traditional occupations like agriculture or

fishing, while 3.3% earned their livelihood as daily wage laborers. This diverse distribution highlighted a mix of professional roles within the community, providing valuable context for analyzing their perspectives on the socioeconomic impact of the CPEC in Gwadar.

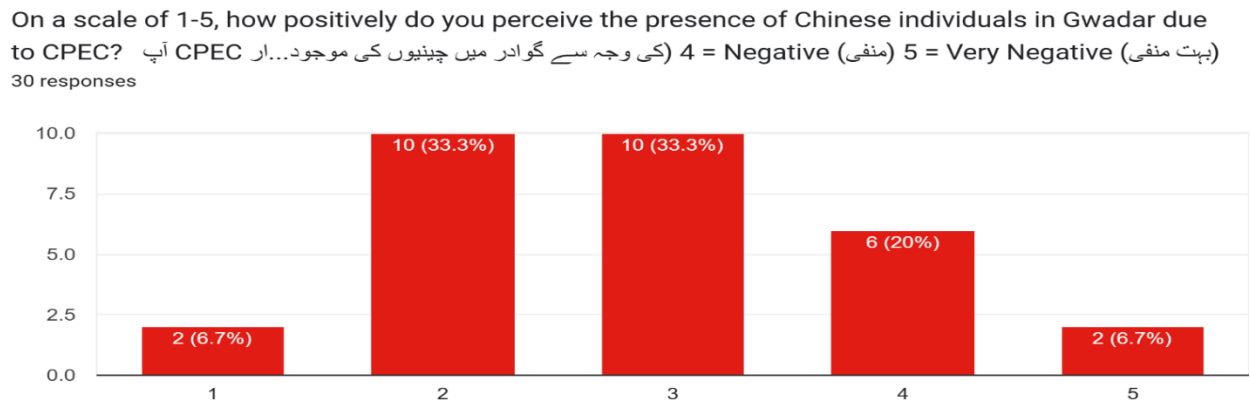


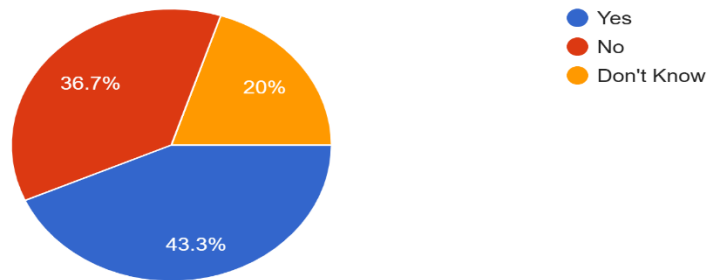
Figure 4. Perception of locals the presence of Chinese individuals in Gwadar due to CPEC

Source: Researcher has developed the pictorial based on the responses from participants.

A 5-point rating system was used to gauge participants' opinions about the number of Chinese people in Gwadar as a result of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC). A score of 1 denotes a highly favorable opinion, while a score of 5 denotes a very negative one. The results indicate diverse viewpoints among respondents. About 6.7% of participants expressed a highly positive opinion (scale 1), and 33.3% reported a somewhat positive perception (scale 2). Similarly, 33.3% of respondents held a neutral opinion (scale 3) regarding the presence of Chinese people in Gwadar. Meanwhile, 20% of participants leaned toward a somewhat negative perception (scale 4), and 6.7% expressed a very negative opinion (scale 5). These varied responses highlight the complexity of public sentiment on the matter.

Figure 5. Involvement of Chinese nationals in Gwadar and its impacts on the local economy

Do you believe that the involvement of Chinese nationals in Gwadar has positively impacted the local economy? کیا آپ کو یقین ہے کہ گوادر میں چینی شہریوں کی شمولیت سے مقامی معیشت پر مثبت اثرات مرتب ہوئے ہیں؟
30 responses



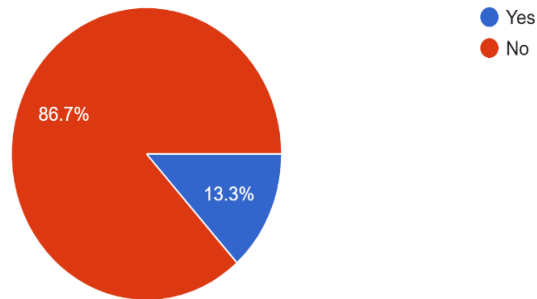
Source: Researcher has developed the pictorial based on the responses from participants.

To assess the participants' views on whether the presence of Chinese people in Gwadar has positively impacted the local economy, their responses were categorized into three groups. The results show that 43.3% of respondents believe that the presence of Chinese people has had a positive impact on the local economy, while 36.7% do not share this view. Additionally, 20% of participants are unsure or do not have enough information to form an opinion. These responses reflect a mix of agreement, disagreement, and uncertainty regarding the economic influence of the Chinese presence in Gwadar.

Figure 6. Increase in cultural exchange between the local community and Chinese residents in Gwadar

Have you personally observed an increase in cultural exchange between the local community and Chinese residents in Gwadar? کیا آپ نے ذاتی طور پر گوادر ... چینی باشندوں کے درمیان ثقافتی تبادلے میں اضافہ دیکھا ہے ؟

30 responses

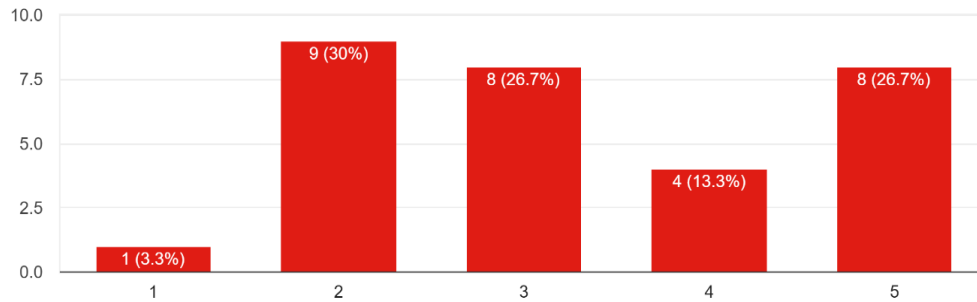


Source: Researcher has developed the pictorial based on the responses from participants.

We examined participants' perceptions of the rise in cross-cultural interactions between the Chinese minority in Gwadar and the local community. The responses reveal a clear trend. Only 13.3% of participants reported experiencing an increase in cross-cultural interactions between the local population and Chinese residents. In contrast, a vast majority—86.7%—indicated that they had not observed any such rise. These findings suggest a significant lack of perceived cultural exchange between the local community and the Chinese population in Gwadar.

Figure 7. Level of cooperation between Chinese and local businesses in Gwadar

How would you rate the level of cooperation between Chinese and local businesses in Gwadar? آپ
گواڈر میں چینی اور مقامی کاروباری اداروں کے درمیان تعاون کی سطح کو کیسے ریٹ کرتے ہیں؟
30 responses

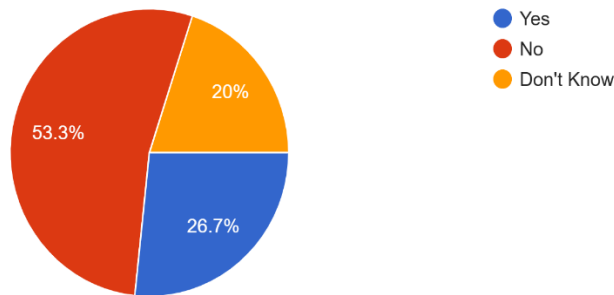


Source: Researcher has developed the pictorial based on the responses from participants.

A 5-point rating system was used to gauge participants' opinions on how cooperative Chinese and local companies were in Gwadar, with a score of 1 indicating highly positive and a score of 5 indicating very unfavorable. The responses highlight a range of perspectives. Only 3.3% of participants rated the collaboration as highly positive (scale 1), while 30% assessed it as somewhat positive (scale 2). Additionally, 26.7% of respondents held a neutral view (scale 3), 13.3% rated the cooperation as somewhat unfavorable (scale 4), and 26.7% considered it extremely unfavorable (scale 5). These mixed responses illustrate the complexity of the relationships between Chinese and local businesses in Gwadar and the varying perceptions of their level of collaboration.

Figure 8. Job opportunities for the local population

Do you think the presence of Chinese companies in Gwadar has led to an increase in job opportunities for the local population? کیا آپ کے خیال ... آبادی کے لیے روزگار کے مواقع میں اضافے کا باعث بنی ہے ؟
30 responses



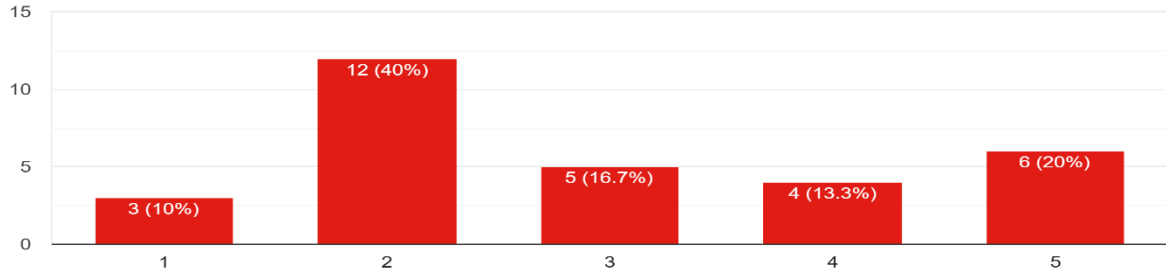
Source: Researcher has developed the pictorial based on the responses from participants.

Gwadar has a population of 147,041 per the 2023 Census and has witnessed significant infrastructural development due to the CPEC. Despite the creation of 4,011 local jobs through various CPEC-related projects, the benefits for the local workforce seem to be limited. Participants were asked whether the presence of Chinese enterprises in Gwadar has created more job opportunities for locals. The responses reveal mixed opinions: 26.7% of participants believe that Chinese businesses have indeed increased employment opportunities for the local population. However, a majority—53.3%—disagree, indicating that they do not think the presence of Chinese enterprises has led to a rise in local jobs. Additionally, 20% of respondents were unsure about the impact. These varying perspectives underscore the challenges in evaluating the influence of Chinese enterprises on local employment in Gwadar.

Figure 9. CPEC's effects on the overall economy of Gwadar

On a scale of 1-5, how much do you believe CPEC has benefited the overall economy of Gwadar? سے گوادر کی مجموعی معیشت کو فائدہ ہوا ہے؟ CPEC کیا آپ کو یقین ہے کہ

30 responses



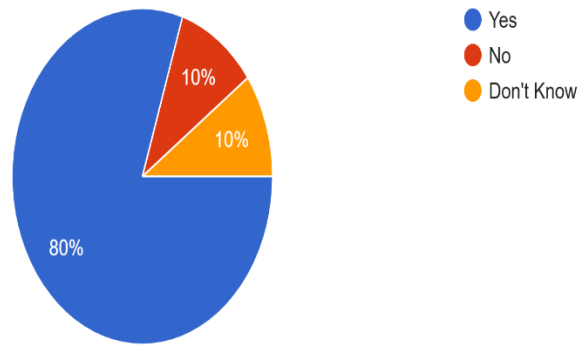
Source: Researcher has developed the pictorial based on the responses from participants.

Participants' perceptions of how much the CPEC has benefited the overall economy of Gwadar were assessed using a scale from 1 to 5, where 1 represents a very positive perception and 5 represents a very negative perception. The responses reveal a range of opinions. About 10% of participants rated their perception as 1, indicating a very positive belief in CPEC's benefits for Gwadar's economy, while 40% rated it as 2, reflecting a generally positive outlook. Additionally, 16.7% expressed a neutral stance by selecting scale 3, 13.3% indicated some negativity by choosing scale 4, and 20% held a very negative perception with scale 5. These varied responses highlight the complexity of public attitudes towards the economic impact of CPEC on Gwadar.

Figure 10. Improvements in infrastructure

Have you seen improvements in infrastructure, such as roads and ports, in Gwadar as a result of CPEC? کیا آپ نے CPEC کی وجہ سے گوادر میں سڑکوں اور بندرگاہوں کے طور پر انفراسٹرکچر میں بہتری دیکھی ہے؟

30 responses

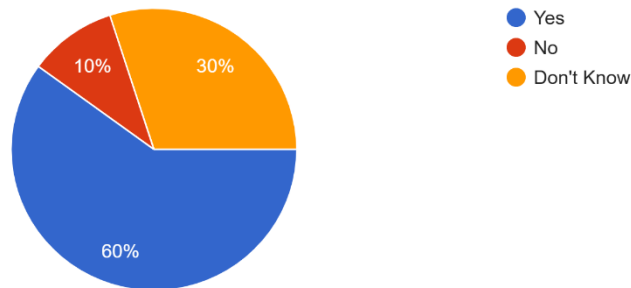


Source: Researcher has developed the pictorial based on the responses from participants.

We examined participants' observations on whether the CPEC has improved Gwadar's infrastructure, including its ports and highways. The responses reveal a clear trend: 80% of participants reported that they have observed infrastructure improvements attributable to CPEC. In contrast, 10% of respondents disagreed, stating that they had not noticed such advancements, while another 10% expressed uncertainty about the outcome. These results underscore the significant role infrastructure development plays in the perception of CPEC's impact on Gwadar.

Figure 11. CPEC's role in strengthening diplomatic ties between Pakistan and China

Do you think CPEC has played a role in strengthening diplomatic ties between Pakistan and China?
نہ پاکستان اور چین کے درمیان سفارتی تعلقات کو مضبوط بنانے میں کوئی کردار ادا کیا ہے؟ CPEC کیا آپ سمجھتے ہیں کہ
30 responses



Source: Researcher has developed the pictorial based on the responses from participants.

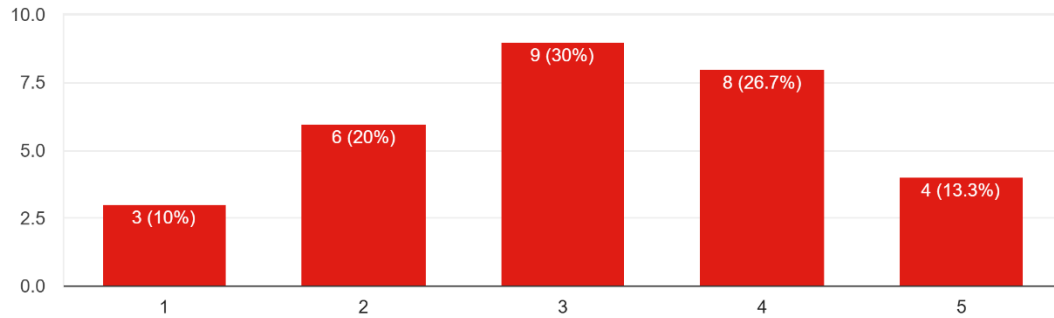
An analysis was conducted on the opinions of participants about the potential impact of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) on the improvement of diplomatic relations between China and Pakistan. The replies show a prevailing opinion among the participants. In response, around 60% of participants said they thought the CPEC had strengthened diplomatic ties between China and Pakistan. On the other hand, a tiny proportion of participants, or 10%, voiced doubt and said they didn't think CPEC had such an impact. Furthermore, 30% of participants said that they were uncertain about the impact in their response. These results support the idea that the CPEC is a major driver of improved diplomatic ties between China and Pakistan.

Figure 12. Level of transparency in the implementation of CPEC projects in Pakistan

How would you rate the level of transparency in the implementation of CPEC projects in

Pakistan? منصوبوں کے نفاذ میں شفافیت کے بارے میں آپ کا کیا خیال ہے؟ CPEC پاکستان میں

30 responses

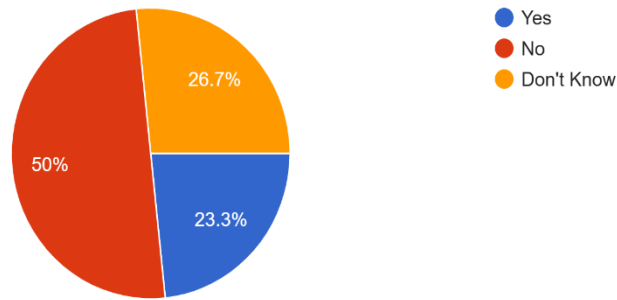


Source: The Researcher has developed the pictorial based on the responses from participants.

A five-point rating system was used to gauge participants' opinions on how transparent the CPEC projects are being implemented in Pakistan. The responses highlight varying perspectives among the participants. About 10% of respondents rated the transparency as very good (score 1), while 20% had a favorable impression, giving it a score of 2. Additionally, 30% of participants expressed a neutral opinion, rating it at 3. On the other hand, 26.7% of respondents had a fairly unfavorable view, assigning a score of 4, and 13.3% rated it as 5, indicating a very negative perception of transparency. These diverse responses reflect differing views on the transparency of CPEC project implementation in Pakistan.

Figure 13. Foreign direct investment in Pakistan since the initiation of CPEC

Have you noticed an increase in foreign direct investment in Pakistan since the initiation of CPEC?
کے آغاز کے بعد سے پاکستان میں غیر ملکی سرمایہ کاری میں اضافہ دیکھا ہے؟ CPEC کیا آپ نے
30 responses



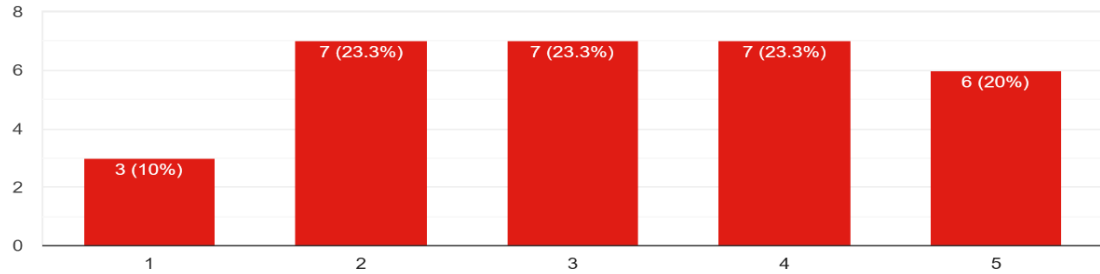
Source: Researcher has developed the pictorial based on the responses from participants.

We looked at what participants had to say about how much more FDI has come into Pakistan since the CPEC was started. The replies show that the respondents had different points of view. Of those who answered in the positive, 23.3% said they had observed a rise in foreign direct investment (FDI) in Pakistan since the start of the CPEC. On the other hand, the majority of respondents, 50%, expressed disbelief, saying they had not noticed such a rise. Furthermore, 26.7% of participants said that they were unsure about the impact in their response. These results demonstrate the range of viewpoints about the connection between CPEC and foreign direct investment in Pakistan.

Figure 14. Environmental impact of CPEC projects in Gwadar

On a scale of 1-5, how concerned are you about the environmental impact of CPEC projects in Gwadar? منصوبوں کے ماحولیاتی اثرات کے بارے میں کتنے فکر مند ہیں؟ CPEC آپ گواڈر میں

30 responses

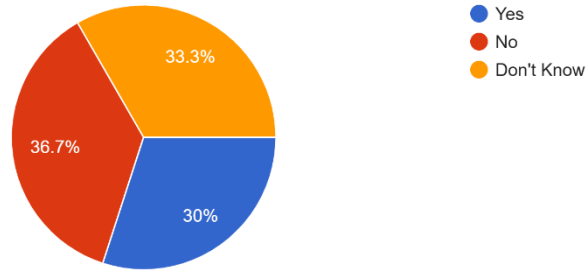


Source: Researcher has developed the pictorial based on the responses from participants.

Participants' levels of concern about the environmental impact of CPEC projects in Gwadar were assessed using a scale ranging from 1 to 5, where 1 signifies "not concerned" and 5 signifies "very concerned." The responses indicate a spectrum of viewpoints among the respondents. Approximately 10% of participants rated their concern as 1, indicating they were not concerned about the environmental impact. Similarly, 23.3% of respondents rated their concern as 2, suggesting a relatively low level of concern. Another 23.3% rated their concern as 3, indicating a neutral stance. Additionally, 23.3% of participants rated their concern as 4, suggesting a moderate level of concern. Finally, 20% of respondents rated their concern as 5, indicating they were very concerned about the environmental impact of CPEC projects in Gwadar.

Figure 15. CPEC's contribution to the technological advancement of Pakistan

Do you believe that CPEC has contributed to the technological advancement of Gwadar? کیا آپ کو
نے گواہر کی تکنیکی ترقی میں اہم کردار ادا کیا ہے؟ CPEC یقین ہے کہ
30 responses



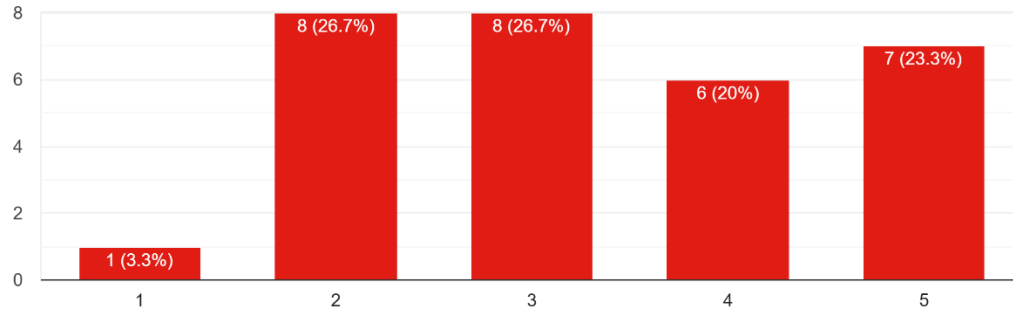
Source: The Researcher has developed the pictorial based on the responses from participants.

An analysis was conducted on the opinions of participants regarding the contribution of CPEC to the technological advancement of Gwadar. The replies show that respondents held a variety of opinions. About 30% of participants said they believed CPEC had contributed to Gwadar's technological progress. On the other hand, a slightly larger proportion, 36.7%, expressed doubt, saying they did not think CPEC had such an impact. Furthermore, 33.3% of participants stated that they were unsure about the impact. These results underscore the diversity of perspectives on CPEC's role in driving technological advancement in Gwadar.

Figure 16. Role of local leadership in managing the impacts of CPEC on the Gwadar community

How satisfied are you with the role of local leadership in managing the impacts of CPEC on the Gwadar community? کے اثرات کو سنبھالنے میں مقامی حکام کے کردار سے کتنے مطمئن ہیں؟ CPEC آپ کوادر میں

30 responses



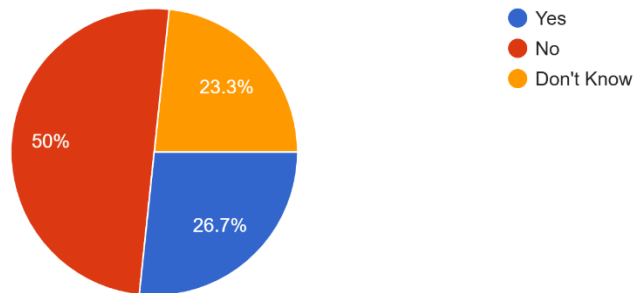
Source: Researcher has developed the pictorial based on the responses from participants.

Participants' satisfaction with the role of local leadership in managing the impacts of CPEC on the Gwadar community was assessed using a scale ranging from 1 to 5, where 1 represents being very satisfied and 5 represents being very dissatisfied. The responses indicate varying levels of satisfaction among the respondents. Notably, only 3.3% of participants rated their satisfaction as 1, reflecting very high satisfaction. Meanwhile, 26.7% of respondents rated their satisfaction as 2, indicating a moderately positive perception, and another 26.7% rated their satisfaction as 3, representing a neutral stance. On the negative side, 20% rated their satisfaction as 4, suggesting moderate dissatisfaction, while 23.3% rated their satisfaction as 5, indicating very high dissatisfaction. These results highlight mixed perceptions regarding the effectiveness of local leadership in managing the impacts of CPEC on the Gwadar community.

Figure 17. Local leaders' engagement with the community

Have you seen local leaders actively engaging with the community to address concerns related to CPEC? کیا آپ نے مقامی رہنماؤں کو سی پیک سے متعلق خدشات... کے لیے کمیونٹی کے ساتھ سرگرمی میں مشغول ہوتے دیکھا ہے؟

30 responses

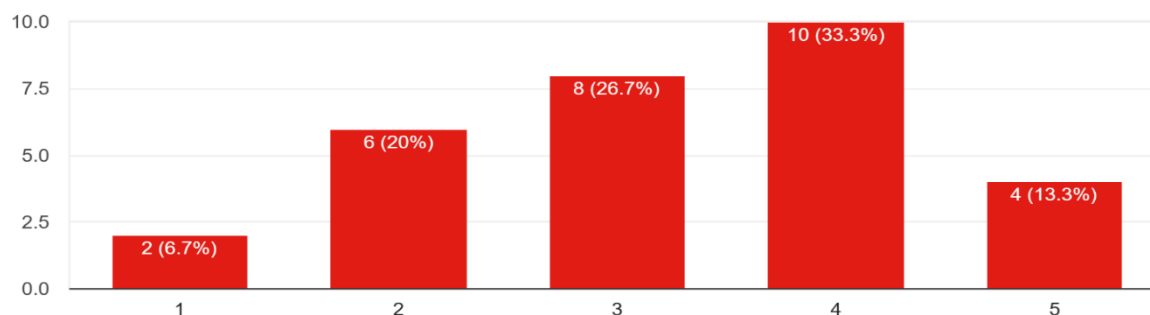


Source: The Researcher has developed the pictorial based on the responses from participants.

We looked at what participants saw as local authorities actively engaging with the community to address concerns related to CPEC. The respondents' various experiences are revealed by their replies. About 26.7% of participants indicated in the positive that they had seen local authorities actively engaging with the community to resolve CPEC-related issues. On the other hand, half of the respondents, 50%, stated that they had not observed such active involvement. Furthermore, 23.3% of participants expressed uncertainty, saying they weren't sure if local leaders had effectively engaged the community on concerns related to CPEC. These results show that opinions about the responsiveness of local leaders to community concerns about CPEC are mixed.

Figure 18. Efforts of local leaders that benefits of CPEC reach the broader community

On a scale of 1-5, how would you rate the efforts of local leaders in ensuring that the benefits of CPEC reach the broader community? CPEC کے فوائد وسیع...امی رہنماؤں کی کوششوں کے بارے میں آپ کا کیا خیال ہے؟
30 responses



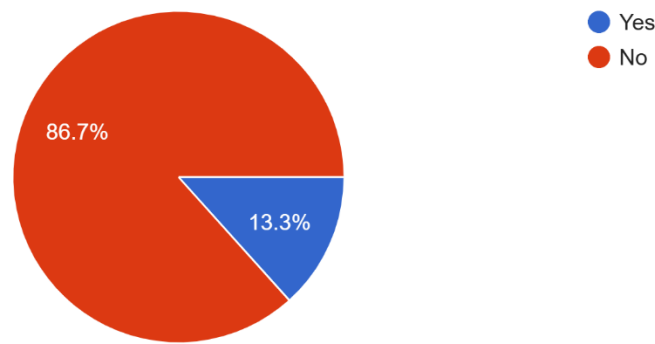
Source: Researcher has developed the pictorial based on the responses from participants.

Participants' assessments of the efforts of local leaders in ensuring that the benefits of CPEC reach the broader community were evaluated using a scale ranging from 1 to 5, where 1 represents very effective and 5 represents very ineffective. The responses indicate varied perceptions among the respondents. About 6.7% of participants rated the efforts as 1, reflecting a very effective assessment. Additionally, 20% of respondents rated the efforts as 2, suggesting a relatively positive evaluation. A larger proportion, 26.7%, rated the efforts as 3, indicating a neutral stance. On the less favorable side, 33.3% rated the efforts as 4, suggesting a relatively ineffective assessment, while 13.3% rated the efforts as 5, indicating a very ineffective perception of local leaders' efforts. These results highlight the mixed views on the effectiveness of local leaders in ensuring that the benefits of CPEC are distributed broadly within the community.

Figure 19. Personal benefits from any community development projects

Have you personally benefited from any community development projects initiated by local leaders in response to CPEC? کے جواب میں مقامی ر... کمیونٹی ڈویلپمنٹ پروجیکٹ سے ذاتی طور پر فائدہ اٹھایا ہے؟ CPEC کیا آپ نے

30 responses



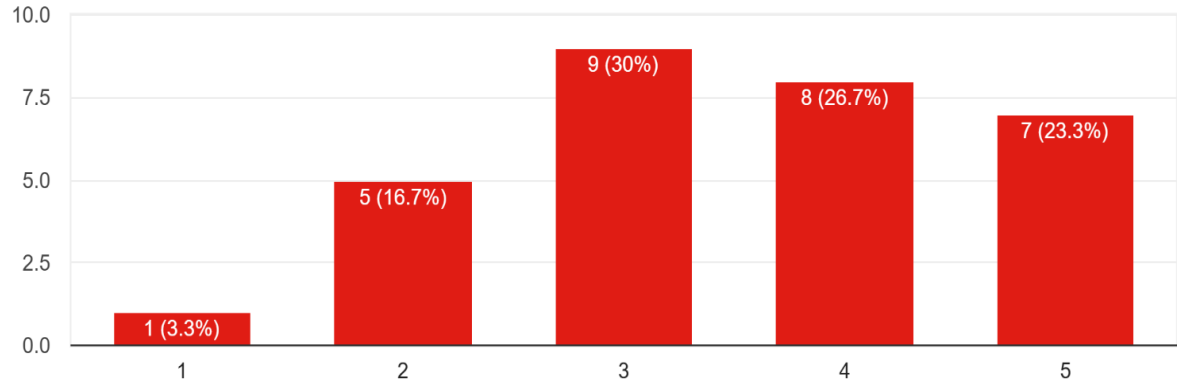
Source: Researcher has developed the pictorial based on the responses from participants.

We looked at the individual experiences of participants on the advantages of community development initiatives that local leaders started in response to the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC). The replies show a common pattern among the participants. A little over 13.3 percent of participants said in the positive that they have benefited directly from these kinds of community development initiatives. On the other hand, a huge majority of respondents—86.7%—stated that these programs had not directly helped them. These results highlight the need for more research on the efficacy and scope of community development initiatives launched by local authorities in reaction to CPEC.

Figure 20. Level of awareness among local leaders regarding the concerns and needs of the Gwadar community

How would you rate the level of awareness among local leaders regarding the concerns and needs of the Gwadar community in the context of CPEC? CPEC...؟ امی رہنماؤں میں آگاہی کے بارے میں آپ کا کیا خیال ہے؟

30 responses



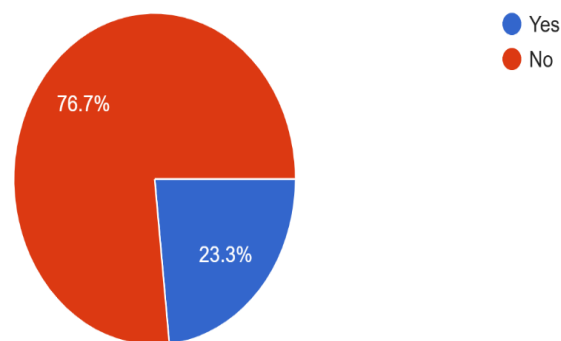
Source: Researcher has developed the pictorial based on the responses from participants.

Participants' assessments of the level of awareness among local leaders regarding the concerns and needs of the Gwadar community in the context of CPEC were evaluated using a scale ranging from 1 to 5, where 1 represents very high awareness and 5 represents very low awareness. The responses indicate varied perceptions among the respondents. About 3.3% of participants rated the awareness level as 1, reflecting a very high level of awareness. Additionally, 16.7% of respondents rated it as 2, suggesting a relatively positive outlook. A larger proportion—30%—rated it as 3, indicating a neutral stance. On the less favorable side, 26.7% of participants rated the awareness level as 4, indicating relatively low awareness, while 23.3% rated it as 5, reflecting a very low level of awareness. These results highlight the spectrum of perceptions regarding the level of

awareness among local leaders about the concerns and needs of the Gwadar community in the context of CPEC.

Figure 21 Social and Cultural Challenges Arising from the Presence of Chinese and the role of local leadership

Do you think local leaders are effectively addressing the social and cultural challenges arising from the presence of Chinese individuals in Gwadar? کیا آپ... سماجی اور ثقافتی چیلنجوں سے موثر انداز میں نمٹ رہے ہیں؟
30 responses



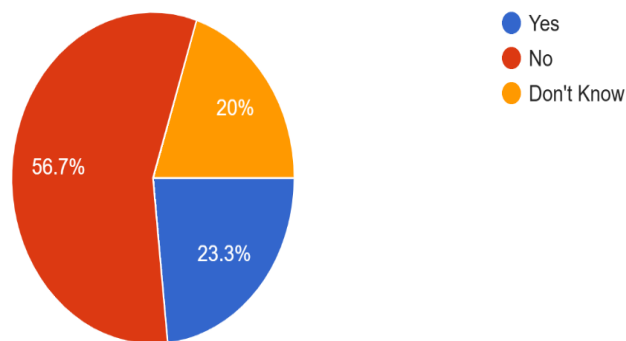
Source: The researcher has developed the pictorial based on the responses from participants.

An analysis was conducted on participants' opinions on how well Gwadar's local officials were handling the social and cultural challenges arising from the presence of Chinese individuals in the city. The responses reveal a clear division of opinion among the respondents. Of those who answered in the affirmative, 23.3% said they believed local officials were effectively addressing these issues. However, a significant majority, 76.7%, expressed pessimism, stating they did not think local officials were doing

enough to address these challenges. These results underscore the need for more focused efforts and research on how local leadership can better handle the social and cultural challenges associated with the presence of Chinese individuals in Gwadar.

Figure 22. Role of local leaders

Overall, do you believe that local leaders are working towards maximizing the benefits and minimizing the challenges associated with CPEC in Gw...؟ سے منسلک چیلنجوں کو کم کرنے کے لیے کام کر رہے ہیں؟
30 responses



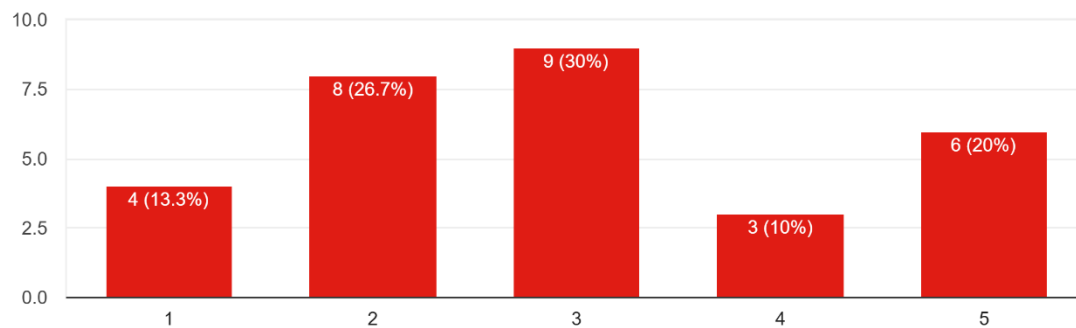
Source: The researcher has developed the pictorial based on the responses from participants.

Participants' overall perceptions of whether local leaders are working towards maximizing the benefits and minimizing the challenges associated with CPEC in Gwadar were examined. The responses reveal varied viewpoints among the respondents. Approximately 23.3% of participants expressed the belief that local leaders are indeed working towards maximizing benefits and minimizing challenges. However, a significant majority, 56.7%, expressed skepticism, stating that they do not believe local leaders are effectively addressing these aspects of CPEC. Additionally,

20% of participants responded with uncertainty, indicating they are unsure of the extent to which local leaders are working towards maximizing benefits and minimizing challenges. These findings highlight the mixed perceptions of local leadership's effectiveness in managing the impacts of CPEC in Gwadar.

Fig 23. Potential cultural conflict between the local community and Chinese residents in Gwadar

On a scale of 1-5, how concerned are you about potential cultural conflicts between the local community and Chinese residents in Gwadar? آپ گوادرم...یان ممکنہ ثقافتی تنازعات کے بارے میں کتنے فکر مند ہیں؟
30 responses



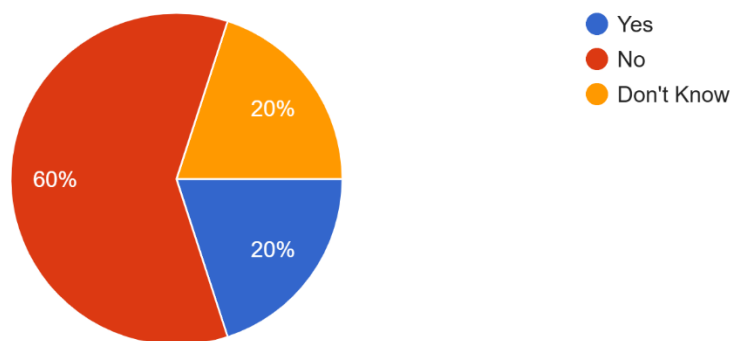
Source: The researcher has developed the pictorial based on the responses from participants.

Participants' levels of concern about potential cultural conflicts between the local community and Chinese residents in Gwadar were evaluated using a scale ranging from 1 to 5, where 1 represents being least concerned and 5 represents being most concerned. The responses indicate varied levels of concern among the respondents. Approximately 13.3% of participants rated their

concern as 1, indicating very low concern about potential cultural conflicts. Similarly, 26.7% of respondents rated their concern as 2, suggesting a relatively low level of concern. A larger proportion—30%—rated their concern as 3, indicating a neutral stance. On the higher end of the concern spectrum, 10% of respondents rated their concern as 4, reflecting moderate concern, while 20% rated their concern as 5, indicating significant concern about potential cultural conflicts. These varied responses highlight the diverse range of perspectives on cultural integration challenges between the local community and Chinese residents in Gwadar, underscoring the importance of proactive measures to foster harmony within the context of CPEC.

Figure 24. Job opportunities for local residents in Gwadar

Have you observed an increase in job opportunities for local residents in Gwadar since the initiation of CPEC? کے آغاز کے بعد سے گوادر میں مقامی باشندوں کے لیے ملازمت کے مواقع میں اضافہ دیکھا ہے؟ CPEC کیا آپ نے
30 responses

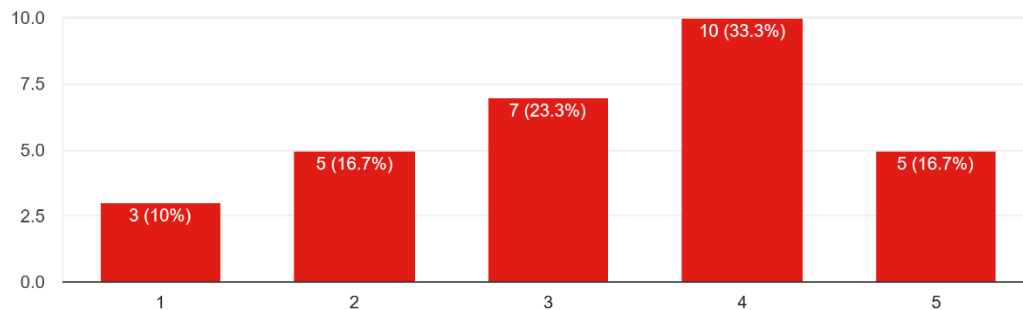


Source: Researcher has developed the pictorial based on the responses from participants.

The study analyzed the perspectives of the participants concerning the rise in employment prospects for Gwadar locals subsequent to the commencement of CPEC. The interviewees' various experiences are evident from their replies. About 20% of interviewees said in the positive that they had observed an increase in Gwadar locals' access to employment opportunities since the start of CPEC. On the other hand, the majority of respondents—60%—expressed disbelief, stating they had not noticed such a rise. Furthermore, 20% of participants gave an unclear response, indicating uncertainty about the outcome. These results emphasize the need to further investigate the employment dynamics and prospects for locals in the context of Gwadar's CPEC expansion.

Figure 25. Economic boost experienced by the local community in Gwadar

How would you rate the economic boost experienced by the local community in Gwadar due to CPEC? کی وجہ سے گوادر میں مقامی کمیونٹی کو ملنے والے معاشی فروغ کے بارے میں آپ کا کیا خیال ہے؟ CPEC?
30 responses

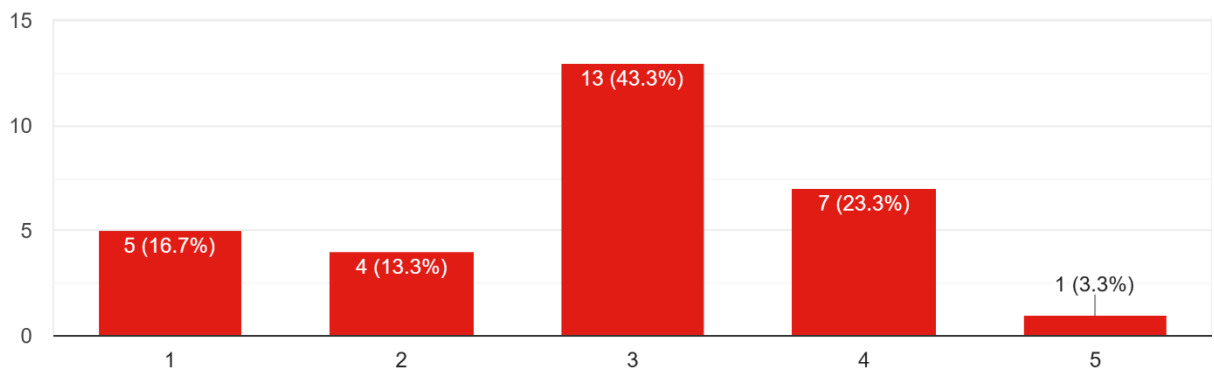


Source: Researcher has developed the pictorial based on the responses from participants.

Participants' assessments of the economic boost experienced by the local community in Gwadar due to CPEC were evaluated using a scale ranging from 1 to 5, where 1 represents a very positive perception and 5 represents a very negative perception. The responses indicate varied perceptions among the respondents. Approximately 10% of participants rated their perception as 1, indicating a very positive outlook on the economic boost. Similarly, 16.7% of respondents rated their perception as 2, suggesting a relatively positive outlook. A larger proportion—23.3%—rated their perception as 3, indicating a neutral stance. Furthermore, 33.3% of respondents rated their perception as 4, suggesting a relatively negative outlook, while 16.7% rated their perception as 5, indicating a very negative view of the economic boost. These varied responses highlight the complexity of evaluating the economic impact of CPEC on the local community in Gwadar and underscore the need for further exploration of the factors shaping these perceptions.

Figure 26. Health facilities available in Gwadar

On a scale of 1-5, how satisfied are you with the health facilities available in Gwadar in light of CPEC development? کی ترقی کی روشنی میں گوادر میں دستیاب صحت کی سہولیات سے کتنے مطمئن ہیں؟ CPEC آپ
30 responses



Source: The researcher has developed the pictorial based on the responses from participants.

Participants' satisfaction with the health facilities available in Gwadar in light of CPEC development was evaluated using a scale ranging from 1 to 5, where 1 represents a very positive perception and 5 represents a very negative perception. The responses indicate varied levels of satisfaction among the respondents. Approximately 16.7% of participants rated their satisfaction as 1, indicating a very positive perception of the health facilities. Similarly, 13.3% of respondents rated their satisfaction as 2, suggesting a relatively positive outlook. A larger proportion—43.3%—rated their satisfaction as 3, indicating a neutral stance. Furthermore, 23.3% of respondents rated their satisfaction as 4, suggesting a relatively negative perception, while 3.3% of participants rated their satisfaction as 5, indicating a very negative view of the health facilities. These diverse responses underscore the complexity of evaluating the adequacy and quality of health facilities in Gwadar amidst CPEC development, highlighting the need for further examination of the factors influencing these perceptions.

Do you think the education sector in Gwadar has improved as a result of CPEC-related initiatives? کیا آپ کے خیال میں سی پیک سے متعلق اقدامات کے نتیجے میں گواڈر میں تعلیم کے شعبے میں بہتری آئی ہے؟
30 responses

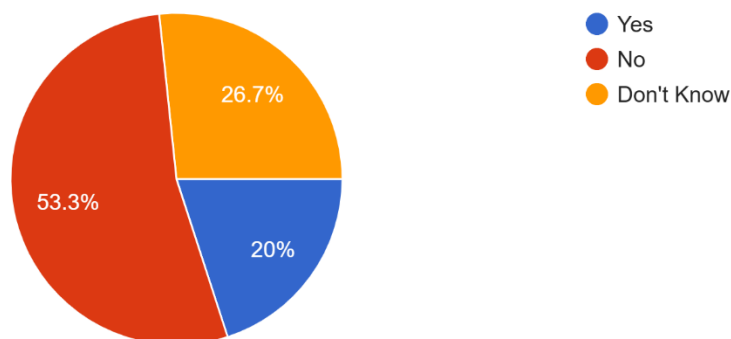


Figure 27. Education sector in Gwadar

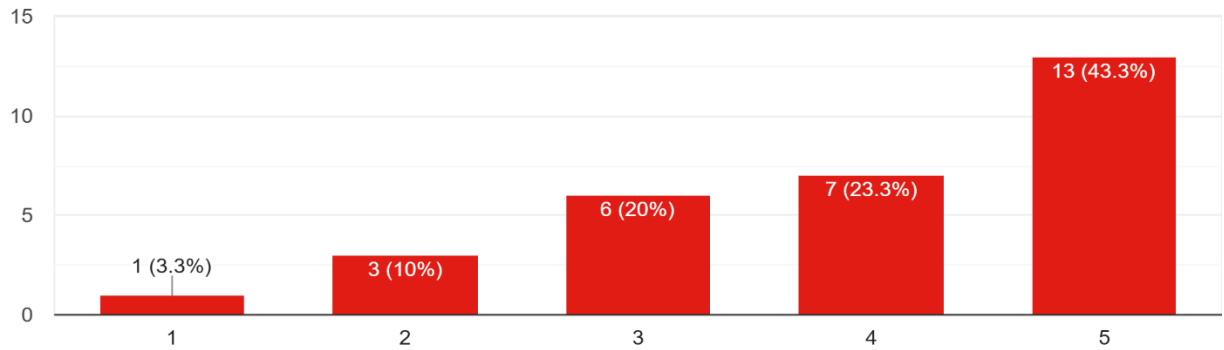
Source: Researcher has developed the pictorial based on the responses from participants.

We examined participant opinions on whether Gwadar's education system has improved as a result of measures associated with CPEC. The responses reveal differing opinions among the respondents. About 20% of participants stated that they believed CPEC-related measures had contributed to improvements in Gwadar's education system. A majority of 53.3% of respondents, however, disagreed, stating that they did not think the education system had improved. Furthermore, 26.7% of participants expressed uncertainty, indicating they were unsure of the outcome. These results underline the necessity of conducting further research into the specific educational initiatives implemented in Gwadar under the auspices of CPEC and emphasize the importance of addressing any perceived shortcomings in the region's educational progress.

Figure 28. Displacement and restrictions in fishing faced by the local community due to CPEC projects

How concerned are you about potential challenges such as displacement and restrictions in fishing faced by the local community due to CPEC projects? آ...ر مابى گىرى مىں پابندىوں كے بارے مىں كتنے فكر مند ہىں؟

30 responses



Source: The researcher has developed the pictorial based on the responses from participants.

Participants' concerns about potential challenges such as displacement and restrictions in fishing faced by the local community due to CPEC projects were evaluated using a scale ranging from 1 to 5, where 1 represents a very low level of concern and 5 represents a very high level of concern. The responses indicate significant concern among the respondents. Only 3.3% of participants rated their concern as 1, indicating very low concern. Additionally, 10% of respondents rated their concern as 2, suggesting a relatively low level of concern. About 20% of participants rated their concern as 3, indicating a moderate level of concern. Furthermore, 23.3% of respondents rated their concern as 4, suggesting a relatively high level of concern. Notably, a substantial 43.3% of participants rated their concern as 5, indicating a very high level of concern about the potential challenges faced by the local community.

These findings underscore the significant apprehension surrounding potential adverse effects of CPEC projects on the local community, emphasizing the need for thorough assessment and mitigation strategies to address these concerns.

The study revealed a noticeable gap between official data and local perceptions about the impact of CPEC. While reports show improvements in infrastructure, such as roads, ports, and energy projects, 86.7% of respondents recognized these developments but still felt that the benefits hadn't fully reached the local population in terms of employment and quality of life. Despite significant foreign direct investment (FDI) flowing into the region, only 20% of locals believed it had directly improved their job opportunities, indicating a disconnect between economic growth and tangible benefits for the community. Technological advancements, especially in sectors like energy and telecommunications, have been acknowledged, but 56.3% of respondents felt that local skill development or job opportunities hadn't kept pace with these changes. Environmental concerns also surfaced, as more than 43.3% of respondents felt the negative impacts hadn't been adequately addressed, even though official data suggests efforts to manage sustainability. This suggests that while the official reports highlight positive economic and infrastructural growth, the local community feels left out when it comes to reaping the benefits, raising concerns about equity and the true long-term impact on their lives.

The participants' answers show that although CPEC has significantly increased Gwadar's potential for economic growth and development, its advantages have not been dispersed equally among the local populace. Positive benefits include access to education, better infrastructure, and employment possibilities. Nonetheless, issues with fair resource allocation, environmental sustainability, and inclusivity continue to exist. The viewpoint of the local populace highlights the necessity of more focused

measures to guarantee that the socioeconomic advantages of CPEC reach all societal sectors, promoting a more inclusive and sustainable development process in Gwadar.

Chapter Five: Perspective and Insight: A Review

In this specific chapter, the research issues given in this study are thoroughly examined. The objective is to decipher the complex dynamics of the socio-economic landscape of Gwadar. Additionally, the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor serves as the foundation for the research's context (CPEC). An in-depth examination of the results will be spoken about. This chapter aims to clarify the local community's viewpoint, the effects of social development, and the economic transformation. The socioeconomic impacts of CPEC on Gwadar will be the primary topic of discussion. The thoughts and perceptions of the locals in Gwadar were gathered by the researcher through the use of a survey questionnaire. It attempted to compile data on the socioeconomic effects of the Economic Corridor between Pakistan and China. The survey questionnaire was a useful instrument for gathering data and offering insights.

5.1 Economic growth

The first research question explores the economic transformation of Gwadar in the wake of CPEC. The analysis reveals a discernible transition, with indications of economic growth and infrastructural development catalyzed by CPEC initiatives. Through empirical evidence and data, it becomes evident that Gwadar has undergone significant economic changes, marked by increased investment, job opportunities, and infrastructural improvements facilitated by CPEC-related projects. 50% of respondents think of it as a generally positive outlook.

5.2 Social Development

The second research question delves into the social development impacts of CPEC on Gwadar. Despite certain infrastructural advancements, the available data suggests that social development indicators in Gwadar remain unsatisfactory. Approximately 87.5% of participants answered affirmatively, indicating that they have indeed observed improvements in infrastructure in Gwadar attributable to CPEC. The analysis highlights persistent challenges in areas such as healthcare, education, and cultural integration, indicating a need for concerted efforts to address social development gaps and ensure the holistic well-being of the local populace.

5.3 Perception of the Local Community on CPEC's Socio-Economic impacts on Gwadar

The third research question examines the perception of the local community regarding the socio-economic impacts of CPEC on Gwadar. Contrary to optimistic expectations, the analysis unveils a prevalent sentiment of dissatisfaction among the local community with the progress achieved under CPEC. Despite economic transitions, there exists skepticism and discontentment among residents, underscoring the imperative for enhanced community engagement, transparency, and inclusivity in CPEC-related initiatives to address community concerns and foster sustainable socio-economic development. A significant majority of 86.7% of respondents of this research expressed that they have not personally benefited from these initiatives.

5.4 Political Trust

According to the UN Department of Economic Affairs, trust in public institutions and leaders has always been essential for social and economic success in any community.¹¹⁶ A high level of political trust fosters the growth of diverse and harmonious societies and enhances cooperation for the implementation of public initiatives. Political trust, in the opinion of UN Secretary-General António Guterres, is crucial for socioeconomic development. Mr. Guterres has cautioned that a "trust gap" might hinder attempts to accomplish the Sustainable Development Goals.¹¹⁶

Numerous disputes and scandals involving corruption, unequal resource allocation, and opaque processes are the main causes of the growing political trust deficit in this area. As a result, not all people consider the government's CPEC-related acts to be politically legitimate. According to a 2021 analysis by Aid Data, Pakistan has the most BRI infrastructure projects (10 projects totaling 5,675 USD 2017 million) that are allegedly marred by scandals, controversies, or violations.¹¹⁷

¹¹⁶ "Trust in Public Institutions: Trends and Implications for Economic Security," *UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs(DESA) Policy Briefs*, 2021

¹¹⁷ Bilge Daldeniz and Mark P. Hampton, "Dive Tourism and Local Communities: Active Participation or Subject to Impacts? Case Studies from Malaysia," *International Journal of Tourism Research* 15, no. 5 (2012)

Pakistan likewise topped the list of nations with BRI infrastructure projects (4 projects totaling 2,675 USD 2017 million) that make mention of allegations of financial misconduct or corruption. The World Bank had warned the nations taking part in BRI projects against, among other things, corruption in 2018, and it appears that this concern has come true in the case of CPEC.¹¹⁸

The problem of discrimination in the allocation of CPEC resources is another element lowering political confidence among Gwadar residents. Baloch rage and insurgency are also sparked by the CPEC and associated resentment among the local populations in the area. The marginalized Baloch are concerned about being displaced as a result of CPEC developments and think that the state would receive all of the economic advantages.¹¹⁹

Finally, the lack of information sharing about CPEC projects has also contributed to a drop in political trust in Gwadar and Pakistan in general. The CPEC has stoked both old and new concerns, which have all contributed to this decline. Citizens' trust in their leaders is weakened when initiatives are implemented in an opaque manner and monies are not used as intended. The most notable example is the business sector in Pakistan, which continues to be skeptical of entering foreign direct investment into Pakistan's market. They worry that if CPEC is finished, cheap Chinese goods would saturate Pakistani markets and harm the country's already fragile manufacturing sector.¹⁷⁰

The lack of information about CPEC projects in the public sphere increases the lack of political trust since local companies feel their government gives Chinese investment special treatment. Similar to this, many individuals have doubts about the government's motivations for the CPEC projects, especially those who have yet to see any real results from them. As a result, Pakistani public is losing faith in politics due to the lack of transparency, pervasive corruption, and claimed imbalance in resource allocation in CPEC-related projects. A majority of 50% of respondents of this research expressed that they have not observed active engagements.

¹¹⁸ Zainab Iftikhar and Ishtiaq Hossain, "China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC): Its Impact on Pakistan's Economy and Society (Koridor Ekonomik China-Pakistan (CPEC): Kesan terhadap Ekonomi dan Sosial di Pakistan)," *Journal of Islam in Asia* (E-ISSN 2289-8077) 17, no. 1 (2020)

¹¹⁹ MI Hong, LI Yuan, and MA Qiyini, "The relations of China and Pakistan under the Belt and Road: The development, challenges and strategies," *"The Belt and Road" International Migration of Asia*, 2021

5.5 CPEC's Impact on Gender Equality

A key element of every nation's socioeconomic condition is gender equality. To empower women and promote gender equality in nations where women are marginalized, proper economic opportunities are crucial. Pakistan has continually performed badly in comparison to other countries in terms of gender equality. Out of 156 nations, it was in 153rd place according to the Global Gender Gap Report 2021.¹²⁰ There were expectations that the CPEC-game-changer hype would help Pakistan's women at the time. It was an "extraordinary opportunity," according to UN Women Pakistan, to advance the rights and economic potential of Pakistani women.¹²¹

Women have more chances in the employment market thanks to the CPEC projects' promise of creating a significant number of different jobs. However, the sheer existence of a sizable economic opportunity did not imply that women would automatically benefit from it. For instance, it was noted that women and men did not gain equally when Pakistan's services industry had a boom following the turn of the millennium. Women were employed for informal, low-paying work in the textile and apparel industries, whereas males were preferred above women for positions in finance and telecommunications.¹²² Therefore, it would be foolish to believe that in the case of CPEC, the creation of jobs would always result in women's empowerment and, as a result, increased gender equality.

There are gaps in reliable information about the distribution of women in these positions since, as was previously indicated, employment data regarding CPEC is not very clear or transparent. Chinese media and Pakistani think tanks working with China present a positive image of the economic gains women would experience as a result of CPEC. One such publication highlighted the benefits of CPEC by using the example of China Power Hub Generation Company(CPHGC).

¹²⁰ *Global Gender Gap Report 2021*, (World Economic Forum, 2021)

¹²¹ Aisha Mukhtar and Fareeha Ummar, *The China-Pakistan Economic Corridor – a Possible “Game-changer” for Empowering Women*, (UN Women, 2016)

¹²² "Grandview Was Invited to ‘Role of Women in CPEC’, Hosted by Pakistan-China Institute," Grandview Institution_ChineseIndependent Think-Tank, last modified 2018

According to the report, CPHGC employs more than 30% women, including those in key roles, and they experience "absolutely no prejudice."¹²³

All the mentioned above, it would be inaccurate to say that CPEC in its entirety is a curse for the ladies of Gwadar. Many of these issues are not specifically related to CPEC, but rather to the extremely low level of women's empowerment in Pakistani society. Whatever possibilities CPEC may have provided, the area's marginalized women were ill-equipped and unable to take advantage of them. One does, however, occasionally hear inspiring tales of female empowerment.¹²⁴

For instance, the news that women are working as truck drivers in these regions as part of a CPEC initiative was hailed as proof that cultural barriers were being broken.¹²⁵ It was encouraging to see that women with poor career prospects were able to obtain employment as well as to see that women were filling roles that had historically been held by men. Even though many had thought that CPEC would empower Pakistani women, the project's disappointing performance and the social issues that are widespread in Gwadar have dashed their dreams.

5.6 CPEC's influence on Biodiversity

For a nation's population to have healthy and meaningful lives, a clean environment is essential. The most recent studies have also shown a connection between long-term declines in people's living standards and climate change, which is a result of environmental degradation. According to a 2018 World Bank analysis, Pakistan's living standards will fall by 2.9% by 2050 under the carbon-intensive scenario due to changes in ordinary meteorological conditions. Additionally, income levels will substantially decline by 2050 in the "severe hotspots" of the nation under the carbon-intensive scenario.¹²⁶ Such a reduction might prove to be catastrophic given Pakistan's struggling economy, where living standards are already fairly low. A clean environment

¹²³ Hadia Majid and Karin A. Siegmann, "A game changer for women?," *Dawn*, November 13, 2017

¹²⁴ FE Online, "Pakistan women drivers break cultural barriers in coal-rich Thar desert; see pictures," *Financial Express*, October 5, 2017

¹²⁵ Muthukumara Mani et al., "South Asia's Hotspots: The Impact of Temperature and Precipitation Changes on Living Standards," 2017

¹²⁶ "Disputes, pollution, deforestation — what it's like to live near CPEC project in Pakistan," *The Print*, December 21, 2020

is crucial when examining the sustainability of socio-economic development in Pakistan for these and many more reasons. Additionally, it is crucial in the case of CPEC since environmental issues may taint the potential advantages that CPEC seeks to provide.

Since the project's launch in 2015, there have been worries about how CPEC may affect the ecology in Gwadar. Tainted water that was discharged from the facility and flowed into a neighboring canal eventually poisoned animals and crops.¹²⁷ One cannot but wonder about the dangerous working conditions within these facilities given the hazardous impact of this facility and several more like it in the adjacent communities. 3,000 employment is a good number, but if those occupations require prolonged exposure to poisonous gases or other harmful substances, for example, the "success" of CPEC in creating jobs is again called into doubt.¹⁸⁴

The Pakistani government has made some efforts to replace the nation's lost forest cover. The "10 billion trees initiative," which was introduced in 2019 and seeks to plant 10 billion trees by 2023 with assistance from the United Nations Environment Programme, is the most ambitious of them (UNEP).¹²⁸ The effectiveness of this initiative in making up for the environmental problems brought on by CPEC is yet to be determined, but it has already drawn a lot of criticism. The "10 billion trees project" is allegedly plagued by administrative errors, has an opaque budget, and is also creating new issues like the removal of grazing lands.¹²⁹ Therefore, the negative effects of CPEC have overshadowed the good effects on Gwadar's natural ecosystem. Furthermore, the prospects for a more ecologically friendly strategy are dim given that the CPEC long-term plan paper makes no mention of a pledge to uphold the Paris Agreement, a statement that China has often made in international fora.¹³⁰

In retrospect, ports have always been infamous among marine life because they facilitated an increase in human activity, which in turn posed a serious threat to and damage to marine life, as

¹²⁷ Ejaz Hussain, "Will Change in Government Affect China–Pakistan Economic Corridor? The BRI, CPEC and the Khan Government: An Analysis," *Chinese Journal of International Review* 01, no. 02 (2019)

¹²⁸ S. Khan, "Pakistan: Environmentalists slam '10 billion trees' project," *DW*, February 9, 2021

¹²⁹ Nilesh Kunwar, "CPEC: a Tale of 'Iron-Clad' Friendship and Weak Bridges," *Indian Defence Review*, May 13, 2022.

¹³⁰ Shamsa Kanwal et al., "Local Pakistani Citizens' Benefits and Attitudes Toward China–Pakistan Economic Corridor Projects," *SAGE Open* 10, no. 3 (2020)

we have observed throughout the world. The nearby Karachi port is one such example where human activity has exacerbated havoc on marine life within the confines of Karachi port specifically. Industrialization has wiped out marine life due to oil pollution, a lack of treatment facilities, and industrial wastes that find their way into the sea and affect sea mammals, birds, and fish, as well as humans who consume these foods. Industrialization will advance along with the development of the Gwadar port. In the past, industrialization had a significant negative impact on the fish business in the Gulf of Mexico, North Atlantic (George Bank), Yellow Sea, and North Sea. Future industrialization may pose a threat to the aquatic species that surround the port.¹³¹ Malicious human actions not only endanger marine life but also the fish business, which employs between 55,000 and 60,000 people as its principal source of income and means of subsistence. As a result of the concerns described above, the fish business has collapsed globally, putting the livelihood of thousands of families in jeopardy. ¹³² 43.3% of respondents of this research expressed a negative outlook on the environmental impact of CPEC projects.

5.7 Uncertain and Conflicting Attitudes of Locals

As the hub of the CPEC, Gwadar is where many of the projects are being carried out, thus there is a lot of activity there. Pak-China Technical and Vocational Institute at Gwadar, the Development of the Port and Free Zone, and the Gwadar Smart Port City Master Plan are the three projects that have been finished thus far. Other projects being built include the Gwadar East-Bay Motorway, New Gwadar International Airport, and Pak-China Friendship Hospital. A number of initiatives are also in the works, the most of which will be finished shortly.

Surprisingly, the majority of people have really nebulous and opaque beliefs about the numerous CPEC projects. Few individuals can name and describe the numerous ongoing mega projects, while most people just know that "the Chinese are heading to Gwadar" and that they are building roads and other physical facilities. However, compared to women and other groups like fishers, daily wage workers, relocated people, micro-business communities, etc., males and local influential/community leaders have a superior understanding of CPEC.

¹³¹ Uffaq Khalid, "Assessing Implications Of Social Welfare Of CPEC: A Provincial Level Analysis," *Global Pakistan Studies Research Review* IV, no. II (2021)

¹³² "Trust in Public Institutions: Trends and Implications for Economic Security," *UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA) Policy Briefs*, 2021

People's opinions on CPEC are divided. It appeared that awareness of the initiatives and their relevance to the community served as two key determinants of people's attitudes. As was previously said, villagers' hazy and ambiguous information contributed to their negative sentiments toward the CPEC since uninformed people are more susceptible to being persuaded by unfavorable propaganda. Similar to this, whether or not people have an overall favorable or unfavorable opinion of CPEC depends on how useful a given project is to the locals. The majority of people think that native people are in a bad situation and that emotions of exclusion are growing worse by the day. People who had lost something, such their land or source of income, or those who had not directly benefited from CPEC were more likely to exhibit negative emotions.

In a nutshell locals lack clear and thorough information on the numerous development projects in Gwadar and have mixed sentiments about CPEC, which is mostly attributable to the lack of perceived local benefit from the projects.

5.8 Locals' Expectations and Disappointments

When CPEC first began, the government and media raised the local population's expectations. The Gwadar locals anticipated that the CPEC would significantly alter their way of life. Early in 2013 and 2014, their expectations were greater, and they gradually began to decline. They currently have less expectations because they haven't received what they had hoped for. The CPEC officials frequently compare Gwadar to Dubai and Singapore, and the media actively cultivates this notion among the general public.¹³³ The lack of safe drinking water has long been a problem for the people of Gwadar, who anticipated that CPEC would at least supply them with clean water.¹³⁴ The locals' once-high hopes are now being met with resentment and disappointment. The most often mentioned aspirations that people are still searching for include things like jobs, access to clean water for drinking, power, gas, facilities for health care and education, etc. The discrepancy between residents' expectations of CPEC advantages and their actual experience of marginalization is explained by Marxist social conflict theory. Despite hopes for better infrastructure and employment,

¹³³ Mariyam Suleman, "How CPEC Left Behind the People of Gwadar," *The Diplomat* – The Diplomat is a Current-affairs Magazine for the Asia-Pacific, with News and Analysis on Politics, Security, Business, Technology and Life Across the Region, last modified June 2, 2021

¹³⁴ Siegfried O. Wolf, "Gwadar protests and the peculiar role of Jamaat-e-Islami in Pakistan," *SSRN Electronic Journal*, 2021

residents believe that elites and outside investors benefit the most, which is consistent with Marxist theories about how capitalist initiatives frequently exacerbate social inequality.

5.9 Development Programs and Benefits for Locals

CPEC is on its way to 'changing the game' in the region, despite the skepticism voiced by many residents. The city of Gwadar is quickly becoming an international center of commerce. The networks of roads that are being built in the city of Gwadar are often seen as the first indication of growth there. The researchers were present when the roadways in Gwadar began to sprout like mushrooms. Roads are believed to be the portals through which the economy pulses, despite the fact that the majority of them appear to have little immediate use. For instance, the Makran Coastal Highway has been very helpful in bridging the gap between the residents of the area and the rest of the nation.¹³⁵

Any growth plan needs roads to connect producers to markets, workers to employment, students to schools, and the ill to hospitals. Everywhere throughout the city, infrastructure projects other than those involving roadways are in progress. The flow of people to Gwadar from other areas of the province of Balochistan and Pakistan was noted as providing benefits and revenues to businesspeople and owners of property, rental properties, hotels, and large restaurants. The ability to take initiative and have an entrepreneurial spirit has helped many succeed financially.¹³⁶

Since the start of the CPEC in 2016, Gwadar has surpassed all other cities in Balochistan in terms of tourism. A stunning cricket stadium has been built in a city neighborhood, which will do much to promote sports in Gwadar. One of Pakistan's largest airports, the international airport is currently built at Gwadar. The airport and roads would improve Gwadar's connectivity to the rest of the globe. A few individuals also mentioned the expanded access to health care, vocational training facilities, and educational options in Gwadar city.¹³⁷

¹³⁵ Yunpeng Sun et al., "Social-cultural impacts of China-Pakistan Economic Corridor on the well-being of local community," *Journal of Transport and Land Use* 13, no. 1 (2020)

¹³⁶ Asad R. Talpur, "Development of Gwadar Port: A Plight for Fisherfolk Community," *Journal of Development and Social Sciences* 4, no. III (2023)

¹³⁷ "Trust in Public Institutions: Trends and Implications for Economic Security," *UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA) Policy Briefs*, 2021

The most substantial repercussions of CPEC in Gwadar and throughout the country would be an increase in trade and business. The city's upgraded infrastructure will draw investors from all around the area, transforming Gwadar into a thriving economic center. This shift has already been noticed by the local business sector. The city's population has grown, resulting in a rise in demand for local goods and services. This is how macro-level initiatives have an influence on the micro-level.¹³⁸

In essence, Gwadar has been rapidly transforming into a developed metropolis with better infrastructure, greater employment prospects, tourism, educational and medical facilities, and more commercial activity. Directly or indirectly, all of these projects are improving the lives of the locals. The local population is not included in the development taking place in Gwadar, hence it lacks inclusion. A city's growth should ideally be planned to safeguard the rights of those residing in unofficial settlements and other vulnerable areas, enhance the infrastructure with facilities and urban design, and provide tenure security. There are a few indications that locals are involved in the process in Gwadar.¹³⁹

5.10 Relocation and Compensation in Gwadar

Locals who lived close to the Gwadar port were forced to relocate as a result of CPEC. Contrary to what was predicted by the research, it was discovered that the majority of those who had been uprooted from their native villages were content and happy because the government had given them monetary compensation and alternative land/plots on which to build homes. Despite the fact that some of these folks lost their employment, they were generally content since moving raised their level of life. When the Gwadar port was being built (before to the start of CPEC projects), the locals in some cases voluntarily accepted the suggestion of relocation. They desired to receive the fundamental comforts of life that the government had promised.¹⁴⁰

¹³⁸ Yunpeng Sun et al., "Social-cultural impacts of China-Pakistan Economic Corridor on the well-being of local community," *Journal of Transport and Land Use* 13, no. 1 (2020)

¹³⁹ Shamsa Kanwal et al., "Local Pakistani Citizens' Benefits and Attitudes Toward China–Pakistan Economic Corridor Projects," *SAGE Open* 10, no. 3 (2020)

¹⁴⁰ Salim Ullah Khan, Zhao Q. Hong, and Alqadami S. Hussein, "China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC): an Assessment of Socio-economic and Geo-political Concerns for Future Planning," *2020 The 11th International Conference on E-business, Management and Economics*, 2020

In short, local residents' financial recompense and relocation have had opposing consequences. On the one hand, it's good that individuals have gotten what they consider to be just recompense. On the other hand, they are no longer able to support themselves as they once did, and getting to their old workplaces is now challenging. In other situations, relocating residents have resold their new homes in order to go back to the original city in quest of better employment possibilities and public amenities.

5.11 Fear of Displacement Among Local Population

The CPEC-related development in Gwadar has already led to the eviction and relocation of thousands of locals, much like any other major project. More people are at risk of being displaced and have been constantly terrified of losing their homes, land, and means of support. In fact, 66.6% of respondents expressed concern about these potential challenges, highlighting the gravity of the issue. If, in exchange, they anticipate obtaining adequate compensation and improved lives, it may be assumed that not all individuals saw relocation as a negative thing. Political activists and socially conscious people with nationalist perspectives were keener to draw attention to this issue than the research participants who were business-minded and ambitious.¹⁴¹

5.12 Gwadar's illumination and the alienation of its residents

The locals of Gwadar feel out of place in their hometown as the city's activity level rises daily as a result of the ongoing CPEC projects, tourism, business, and trade. The local population does not feel enough a part of the CPEC initiatives. Second, it was discovered that the residents of Gwadar were afraid about the city's quick demographic transformation. They believe that outsiders will cause their language and culture to disappear. Since CPEC, the number of non-Balochi speakers has risen.¹⁴²

The bulk of migrants to Gwadar come from neighboring Balochistan regions, particularly from the Panjgur and Kech bordering districts. Only a very small portion of these migrants come from

¹⁴¹ Syed Fazl-e-Haider, "For Locals, a China-funded Port in Pakistan Brings Fears of Being Erased," The China Project, last modified August 14, 2023

¹⁴² Naseema Khalil, Bijar Khan, and Aurangzaib, "Opportunities And Challenges With Special Reference To Balochistan: China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC)," *Global Journal Of Emerging Sciences*, 2019

Pakistan's other provinces and China. The following two factors appear to be the causes of this heightened dread. First, it is a result of Gwadar's present climax in political speech and rhetoric, particularly the Moulana Hidayat Ur Rehman-led Gwadar rights movement. Second, locals are concerned about losing control over their areas and way of life. The local population is unable to keep up with the rate of development because of a lack of resources and abilities. They magnify the problem because they believe they are being surpassed by "outsiders." It has been seen that there is more animosity between locals and non-locals as a result of the growing non-local population. For instance, the locals despise the residents of Turbat and Panjgur because they believe that they are stealing the advantages and job possibilities provided by CPEC.¹⁴³

Additionally, some believe that Gwadar's unique culture is eroding since there is no system or policy in place to protect its heritage, which includes its own language, culture, and historical sites. Modern monuments and structures are being built and illuminated to boost their prominence, whereas old landmarks are being demolished and erased. The indigenous people of Gwadar are becoming enraged by these changes. To retain the cultural character of the city and involve the local population in the process, planners and policymakers must adopt a participatory development plan that is more inclusive.

5.13 Issues Associated with Local Fishing Communities and Chinese Trawling

For many decades, fishing and marine resources have been the main sources of income for about 70% of the people. The fishing villages saw themselves as the CPEC projects' initial victims because so many aspects of their lives and way of life have been impacted. Since the majority of them have lived in the historic district of Gwadar for generations, they also see themselves as legitimate residents of the city. Locals in the fishing towns are particularly uneasy about the problem of Chinese trawling in the water. The locals claim that the Chinese are slowly stealing everything from them. 66.6% of respondents expressed concerns about potential challenges of restrictions in fishing, underscoring the severity of these issues. They believe that because there would be fewer or no fish in the water, fisherman will lose their jobs. One fisherman claims that

¹⁴³ Hussain Fakhar and Nawaz Saadat, "Geostrategic Imperatives for Pakistan of Gwadar Port," *Asian Journal of Peacebuilding* 9, no. 2 (2021)

the Chinese have brought in some 100 trawlers, substantially disrupting the locals' way of life. If the trawling culture persists, the nearby fishing villages would experience unemployment and hardship. One of the demands of the protest by the local populace in Gwadar in November 2021, spearheaded by Maulana Hidayat-ur-Rehman, was a ban on illegal Chinese trawling. Following these demonstrations, the Balochistan government issued a decree in November 2021 prohibiting unlawful fishing and trawling within twelve nautical miles of the Gwadar Sea region. In short, CPEC has had the greatest impact on Gwadar's fishing villages. Their sources of revenue are dwindling, and Chinese trawling is threatening their livelihood.¹⁴⁴ As a result, affirmative action is required to safeguard them and their source of income. Fishing communities should be given access to alternate sources of income to help them overcome their backwardness. "If the port is designed, started, and carried out honestly and completely, it would be feasible for the government of Baluchistan to obtain billions of rupees, which might boost the national budget, and the people of Baluchistan, especially Gwadar, will be the actual shareholder. The most significant point is that the fisheries agency is not doing a good job of assisting fishermen. It does not receive significant funding from the government. The municipal budget has been misallocated. Another aspect is fish harbor, which has set taxes even for ordinary citizens. Taxation is unbearable for the average fisherman. They pay 2% taxes to the fish port, which prevents them from reaping the full benefits of their labor. Despite this, they do not provide any facilities for fishermen.¹⁴⁵ As a result, the fish harbor continues to fail to function efficiently and to benefit the people of Gwadar.

5.14 The Danger of Local Population's Ghettoization

In contrast to the new Gwadar, which is dazzling with lights and where construction is taking place day and night, locals in Gwadar have been forced to live in "Old Gwadar," where the level of living is quite low. There is a significant lack of potable water, power, and other amenities in Old Gwadar. The Kacha dwellings along the dirt, narrow lanes. In the ancient Gwadar, poverty is evident everywhere. There are rumors that this is done on purpose since the government wants these folks to move on their own accord.¹⁴⁶

¹⁴⁴ Qazi A. Nisar, "Gwadar port: A future threat to marine life and fish industry of Balochistan," *The Balochistan Point*, 2022

¹⁴⁵ "Trust in Public Institutions: Trends and Implications for Economic Security," *UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA) Policy Briefs*, 2021

¹⁴⁶ Siegfried O. Wolf, "Gwadar protests and the peculiar role of Jamaat-e-Islami in Pakistan," *SSRN Electronic Journal*, 2021

The locals constantly point out that while roads are lacking where there many people, they are being built in places where there are less people. The ancient city, where the impoverished reside, is covered with filth. The sparkling Gwadar port and the rest of the city are spotless and lovely, but the ancient city is the complete opposite. The locals now feel more excluded, discriminated against, alienated, and completely eliminated as a result of this process of ghettoization, in which the impoverished, local population is progressively marginalized. The impoverished were forced to sell their property due to its high value in order to survive and live better lives, but regrettably they were unaware that they were distant from the Gwadar port project's benefits. In addition, because they were ignorant, individuals were unaware of the value of their property. Unfortunately, the residents of Gwadar struggle with issues related to infrastructure, healthcare facilities, educational institutions, and technical institutes. The CPEC project, which is now expanding, has the ability to solve all of these fundamental problems for the locals of Gwadar if the needs of the community are taken into account. The decision of the All Party Conference, which was convened on January 10 in Islamabad¹⁴⁷, states that in order to alleviate the deprivation of the local residents of Gwadar, the people should be provided with free and mandatory healthcare as well as education. Local population is not satisfied with the outcomes of Gwadar port. That is the main reason behind eruption of protests.

5.15 The Gwadar protests

Numerous ethnic and religious groups in Pakistan experience political marginalization and disregard from the government. People frequently keep their complaints against Islamabad and Rawalpindi to themselves, especially in the rebellious region of Baluchistan, out of concern for a violent crackdown or a media blackout. The government seemed to make an exception in December 2021, when it accepted and acceded to several demands made by the local populace

¹⁴⁷ Tehzeeb Hussain, "CPEC Contributing to the Socio-economic Uplift of Gwadar," China Pakistan Economic Corridor, last modified August 19, 2022

in Gwadar.¹⁴⁸ This should not be interpreted as a turning point in the government's concern for its people, but rather as a blatant demonstration of Pakistan's government's concern for the Chinese and their huge financial resources.

Locals in Gwadar, Baluchistan, started protesting in November 2021, calling for improved rights and living conditions. The Gwadar Ko Haq Do (or Give Gwadar its rights) protest witnessed tens of thousands of women, men, and small children marching on the city's main roadways while yelling anti-provincial government chants.¹⁴⁹ In addition to increased access to energy and education, protesters also called for the elimination of pointless checkpoints and action against the "trawler mafia," which they said is responsible for ruining the livelihood of the city's local fishermen.

The leaders of the protestors decided to cease their sit-in after the Baluchistan administration made a commitment to carry out the steps the demonstrators were calling for more than a month after the protests started. This specific campaign in Gwadar did not meet the same end as other civil society rallies, which the state often immediately rejects by labeling them anti-state. Imran Khan, the prime minister at the time, referred to their demands as "legitimate," and he immediately gave in to them. The way the events in Gwadar are developing reveals two things in particular. First, they are the results of "development with Chinese features," according to this. Pakistan expected that the CPEC's development and the utilization of the cutting-edge port in Gwadar would result in economic stability and employment growth.¹⁵⁰

5.16 Reasons behind massive protests

Marxist analysis of CPEC reveals that it is not only a development initiative but also a means of preserving elite wealth and power. Not everyone in Gwadar is prospering equally, even if some residents

¹⁴⁸ Tehzeeb Hussain, "CPEC Contributing to the Socio-economic Uplift of Gwadar," China Pakistan Economic Corridor, last modified August 19, 2022

¹⁴⁹ Yunpeng Sun et al., "Social-cultural impacts of China-Pakistan Economic Corridor on the well-being of local community," *Journal of Transport and Land Use* 13, no. 1 (2020)

¹⁵⁰ Mariyam Suleman, "How CPEC Left Behind the People of Gwadar," The Diplomat – The Diplomat is a Current-affairs Magazine for the Asia-Pacific, with News and Analysis on Politics, Security, Business, Technology and Life Across the Region, last modified June 2, 2021

may see improved roads, more employment options, and a more robust economy. The fact is that the political elite or foreign investors may end up with a large portion of the actual economic profits. This unequal expansion has affected the local population. According to Marxism, this disparity is a fundamental problem; the expansion of CPEC could only serve to widen already-existing class gaps and leave the community behind.

Following are the main reasons behind the eruption of protests in Gwadar:

5.16.1 Precarious Law and Order Situation

For the residents of Gwadar, the same port has both good and bad elements. People in Gwadar are suffering the most from the negative law and order scenario brought on by the port as it was set to be put into operation. It is widely acknowledged that Baluchistan's culture is quite diversified due to both its material and non-material features in the globe. The Gwadar port developments and the Pak-China economic corridor would have a severe impact on culture local communities, which has rich traditions and values that are revered around the globe.¹⁵¹

5.16.2 Failure of Gwadar Development Authority

An organization called GDA works to give the inhabitants of Gwadar access to economic possibilities. Unfortunately, the actions taken by this group have not pleased the populace. They think this organization has failed to meet their needs. The most fundamental issues with water sanitation, education, and health are not addressed. In addition to this, the GDA also constructed the GDA School to help the residents of Gwadar compete with others in both the educational and economic spheres. The goal of GDA is to create various development activities, such as constructing infrastructure like roads.¹⁵²

¹⁵¹ Ejaz Hussain, "Will Change in Government Affect China–Pakistan Economic Corridor? The BRI, CPEC and the Khan Government: An Analysis," *Chinese Journal of International Review* 01, no. 02 (2019)

¹⁵² Inayat Kalim and Areeja Syed, "Maritime Economy and Gwadar Port: A Growth Catalyst," *Policy Perspectives* 17, no. 1 (2020)

5.16.3 Minimal involvement of locals in policy making

The Baluchistan government, which is administered by the federal government, is represented by the Gwadar Development Authority. The goal of GDA is to carry out the development plan by constructing roads and other infrastructure. In addition to this, the GDA is meant to address the fundamental issue of water. Akara Kaur Dam, built in 1995 and spanning an area of over 17,000 acres, is one of the most well-known water sources. Unfortunately, because there has been less rain, the dam has dried up, which is increasing the likelihood of disease and making people suffer worse. Similar to this, there are many skilled and educated Baloch engineers.¹⁵³ They may engage in any type of engineering, yet they are neglected and undervalued.

It appears to be quite upsetting to state that the people of Gwadar are not given any attention. It was agreed that the people of Gwadar would be prioritized. However, once the construction began, they were ignored. Unfortunately, the residents of the region were unaware of the port's existence while it was being built. As a result, they now argue that they will receive no advantage from this port. After conducting survey and analyzing data, it is considered that the residents of Gwadar are dealing with an enormous number of issues.¹⁵⁴

5.16.4 Lack of basic facilities

They now lack access to basic necessities including water, education, health care, and housing. Finding folks in the area with dismal looks is distressing. A proper investigation of the issues is needed followed by provision of the funding in order for the initiatives to benefit the populace.¹⁵⁵

¹⁵³ "Importance Of Gwadar," GlobBiz Avenue Gwadar | GDA Approved Society, accessed November 13, 2022

¹⁵⁴ www.ETInfra.com, *Gwadar Rights Leader Threatens to Close Chinese-run Port from July 21: Report*, (Economic Times, 2022)

¹⁵⁵ Fakhr U. Munir, Nelofar Ihsan, and Sanaullah, "Strategic and Economic Importance of Gwadar for China and other Regional and Western States," *Global Economics Review* VI, no. III (2021)

5.16.5 State mishandling the demands of locals

As the government characterized the rallies as being anti-Pakistan, they had to endure official violence and persecution. This is comparable to how the state has handled several Baloch groups, including nonviolent ones, by branding them traitorous and further suppressing them with force. However, some demonstrations have proven effective, notably those organized by the religious right. Through their violent, extreme activities, including assassinations, vandalizing public property, and holding the government hostage until their radical demands are granted, groups like the Tehreek-e-Labaik Pakistan have been quite successful at obtaining concessions from the state. The Pakistani government has always pursued a policy of appeasing groups, whether violent or peaceful, that it believes may harm its relations with China (like with the Gwadar demonstrators) or their ties to ultra-orthodox far-right organizations (like the TLP).¹⁵⁶

Even though the government decided to put an end to the Gwadar protests for the time being and realized how crucial it is to maintain support from the local populace, the demonstrations have shown that the locals not only in Gwadar but also all along the Makran coast have the ability to organize, remain nonviolent for the time being, and demand what is rightfully theirs. The provincial administration, the government, and most crucially the military must understand that the local populace must profit from development initiatives in their own backyard before the foreign government. If not, it will eventually lead to the slow unraveling of the myth that the Chinese can bring about country-wide revolution.¹⁵⁷

A month-long sit-in in the port city was put an end by an agreement signed in April, but Maulana Hidayatur Rehman Baloch, the leader of the Gwadar rights movement and the provincial general secretary of the Jamaat-e-Islami, announced that the port would be shut down in protest of the government's failure to keep its end of the bargain.¹⁵⁸ According to him, the primary objectives of the Gwadar rights movement were to free the Baluchistan coast from the control of

¹⁵⁶ Gulnara Mamirkulova et al., "New Silk Road infrastructure opportunities in developing tourism environment for residents better quality of life," *Global Ecology and Conservation* 24 (2020)

¹⁵⁷ Siegfried O. Wolf, "Gwadar protests and the peculiar role of Jamaat-e-Islami in Pakistan," *SSRN Electronic Journal*, 2021

¹⁵⁸ Nizam Hassan, "CPEC: A Harbinger of Utopia or Misery for the People of Gwadar?," *South Asia Monitor*, last modified December 6, 2021

the trawlermafia, open Gwadar's border crossings, stop drug trafficking and remove pointless checkpoints.

5.16.6 Hub of illegal activities

Baloch, who has previously organized protests, has criticized the government for allowing hundreds of illegal trawlers to engage in illegal fishing in Baluchistan's seas, robbing local fishermen of their source of income.¹⁵⁹

The local populace has profited from these advancements either directly or indirectly through employment possibilities, more commercial options, tourism, better health and educational facilities, and other factors. However, because they feel that the government has not provided basic utilities, particularly drinking water, power, and gas, the people have also begun to experience emotions of prejudice and isolation. Local politicians and other organizations who portray a bad image of CPEC are exploiting locals' frustration and their hazy understanding of the project.

The fishing villages are most severely impacted; some have lost their means of subsistence owing to relocation, while others are unable to reach the sea because of the development of CPEC projects along the coast. In general, individuals prefer to exaggerate their troubles, but the majority of them need to be resolved to lessen the sense of deprivation among the locals. To win the trust of the locals and close the trust gap between the government and the locals in Gwadar, it is crucial to adopt a more inclusive and people-centered development strategy.

Summary

The study revealed mixed community perceptions of CPEC's impact on the socio-economic development of Gwadar. Based on the survey conducted on the local community in Gwadar while 80% of participants acknowledged improvements in infrastructure, such as roads and ports, only 31.3%

¹⁵⁹ Asad R. Talpur, "Development of Gwadar Port: A Plight for Fisherfolk Community," *Journal of Development and Social Sciences* 4, no. III (2023)

observed an increase in local employment opportunities, with many expressing skepticism about the benefits for the local workforce. Additionally, the majority of respondents (68.8%) felt that local leadership had not effectively managed the opportunities and challenges arising from CPEC, especially in terms of addressing social and cultural issues. While there was general recognition of CPEC's role in strengthening diplomatic ties between China and Pakistan, concerns about the environmental impact and the lack of sufficient cross-cultural engagement were notable. The findings suggest that while CPEC has brought infrastructural development, its broader socio-economic benefits remain contentious and require more inclusive policies to ensure local communities share in its growth.

Chapter Six: Findings, Recommendations and Conclusion

Findings

Based on the participants' responses, several key findings emerge regarding the impact of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) on the socio-economic development of Gwadar:

- **Mixed Perception of Job Opportunities:** While some participants acknowledge the creation of job opportunities due to CPEC, a significant portion expresses skepticism about the equitable distribution of economic benefits within the community. According to the Ministry of Planning, Development, and Special Initiatives, a total of 6,474 jobs have been created in Gwadar under 11 CPEC projects, including completed, under-construction, and pipeline projects. However, a significant majority of 53.3% of respondents expressed skepticism, stating that they do not believe the presence of Chinese companies has resulted in an increase in job opportunities
- **Concerns About Cultural Integration:** Many participants express uncertainty or negative perceptions regarding cultural exchange and community engagement, suggesting potential challenges in integrating Chinese individuals into the local community. 30% of participants rated a negative perception about potential cultural conflicts.
- **Varied Views on Infrastructure Development:** Responses regarding infrastructure development show a mix of perceptions, with some participants acknowledging improvements in critical infrastructure such as roads and ports, while others remain uncertain about the overall impact. 80% of participants answered affirmatively about infrastructure development
- **Disparities in Social Services:** Perceptions of social services such as healthcare and education vary among participants, with some expressing satisfaction with the availability of

services and others highlighting concerns about accessibility and quality. 62.5% of participants rated a very negative perception of the potential challenges faced by the local community.

➤ The research findings indicate widespread dissatisfaction among the residents of Gwadar regarding the performance of their local leadership in managing the development of the region post-CPEC. Residents express concerns about transparency, inclusivity, and responsiveness in decision-making processes, highlighting a perceived disconnect between local leaders and the community. 76.7% of respondents expressed skepticism, stating that they do not believe local leaders are effectively addressing these aspects of CPEC.

➤ The findings reveal that the people of Gwadar express dissatisfaction with the educational development in the region following the implementation of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC). Despite various infrastructure developments and economic investments, concerns persist regarding the quality, accessibility, and inclusivity of educational opportunities in Gwadar. Only 20% of participants expressed belief that the education sector in Gwadar has indeed improved due to CPEC-related initiatives.

➤ There is a significant level of dissatisfaction among the people of Gwadar regarding the health facilities in the region following the implementation of the CPEC. Participants expressed concerns about the quality, accessibility, and availability of healthcare services in Gwadar, highlighting challenges such as inadequate medical infrastructure, shortage of healthcare professionals, and limited access to essential medical supplies and medications.

➤ There is a prevailing fear of displacement among the people of Gwadar following the implementation of the CPEC. Participants expressed concerns about the potential consequences of large-scale infrastructure development projects, including the displacement of communities and loss of livelihoods. These fears stem from uncertainties surrounding land acquisition processes, lack of

clarity regarding compensation mechanisms, and perceived threats to local cultural heritage and identity. 66.6% of participants rated their concern as as very negative perception of the potential challenges faced by the local community.

Recommendations

Employment Opportunities for Locals: In order to foster a more robust relationship between the local community and the CPEC projects, endeavors should be undertaken to devise educational and vocational training curricula that correspond with the demands of the Gwadar labor market. This entails putting an emphasis on employing people locally, encouraging entrepreneurship, enhancing infrastructure, and implementing environmentally friendly methods

Fishing and Marine Life Policies: It is critical to safeguard Gwadar's fishing sector by putting an end to unlicensed trawling, providing financial assistance to regional fishermen, and enhancing market accessibility. The sustainability of livelihoods in fishing villages is contingent upon investments in infrastructure and skills training, as well as environmental conservation.

Basic Amenities: Ensuring Gwadar residents have access to power and clean drinking water is essential to lowering dissatisfaction and fostering economic growth. Raising living standards requires spending on infrastructure, renewable energy, and long-term planning.

Mitigation of Displacement Fears: To alleviate fears of displacement, clear and fair compensation mechanisms should be established. Additionally, policies ensuring the protection of local livelihoods and cultural heritage should be implemented to preserve the socio-economic fabric of Gwadar

Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR): Companies contributing to Gwadar's growth ought to implement more robust corporate social responsibility strategies emphasizing local population welfare,

environmental conservation, and cultural preservation. CSR efforts have the potential to provide more positive and long-lasting outcomes when they engage with stakeholders and local communities.

Conclusion

Gwadar is a port city on the southwestern coast of Baluchistan. It is expected to become a major center of international commerce. This way, it will automatically contribute significantly to Pakistan's economy. The Pakistani government has designated Gwadar as a duty-free port and has increased its economic value by accelerating its development. The port is expected to provide a significant economic boost and attract investors from other countries and provinces. Gwadar port, when fully operational, has a greater trading capacity than Port Qasim and Karachi port combined.

The CPEC is expected to have a significant socioeconomic impact, serving as a unified belt that promotes economic growth in both countries. This study aimed to assess the overall effects of CPEC projects on Gwadar's social welfare. While the initiative has contributed to infrastructure development, creating social and educational opportunities, its socioeconomic impact on Gwadar has been less favorable in certain aspects, particularly regarding gender parity and environmental concerns. Additionally, if not managed sustainably and in line with local needs, infrastructure development may lead to challenges such as traffic congestion, accidents, and noise, potentially affecting the community's quality of life.

Locals have hazy information and muddled understandings of CPEC projects, with various groups experiencing different effects. Improvements to highways, hospitals, schools, parks, and stadiums have greatly benefitted the city's residents. However, they feel that the government has not provided basic utilities, leading to deprivation and isolation. Fishing villages have been severely impacted, with some losing their means of subsistence and others unable to reach the sea

due to CPEC projects. To win the trust of locals and close the trust gap between the government and locals in Gwadar, a more inclusive and people-centered development strategy is needed.

The residents of Gwadar are beginning to feel excluded from the CPEC, despite the fact that it was supposed to significantly improve the country's economy and transform local communities. The expectations of a better living, increased employment prospects, and access to contemporary infrastructure haven't actually come to pass. Locals are instead dealing with issues like being forced off their property, having little access to employment that is frequently seized by outsiders, and feeling cut off from the advantages that CPEC was meant to provide. This discrepancy between what was promised and what is actually occurring suggests more serious problems with the project's management, particularly given how frequently the local community's opinions are disregarded.

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Annex 1

Impact of CPEC on Socio-Economic Development of Gwadar: A Community

Perspective

Section 1 of 6

Share your thoughts about how CPEC is changing life in Gwadar. Responses are confidential and solely for study purposes.

مکمل اور خفیہ جوابات کے آپ کریں۔ اظہار کا خیالات اپنے میں بارے کے اس بے ربا بدل زندگی میں گوارہ طرح کس CPEC گئے۔ ہوں لیے کے مقاصد تحقیقی پر طور

Section 1

Please enter your age

- Under 18 years
- 18-34 years
- 35-54 years
- 55 years and above

What is your highest level of education completed?

- No Formal Education
- Primary Education (up to Grade 5)
- Middle School Education (Grade 6-8)
- Secondary Education (Grade 9-12 and equivalent)
- Higher Education (Bachelor's Degree and above)

What is your primary source of livelihood?" (آپ کے روزگار کا بنیادی ذریعہ کیا ہے؟)

- Agriculture/Fishing (زراعت/ماہی گیری)
- Business/Trade (کاروبار/تجارت)
- Employment in Government Sector (سرکاری ملازمت)
- Employment in Private Sector (نجی ملازمت)
- Daily Wage Labor (یومیہ اجرت کا کام)
- Student (طالب علم)
- Unemployed (بے روزگار)
- Other...

Section 2

On a scale of 1-5, how positively do you perceive the presence of Chinese individuals in Gwadar due to CPEC?

ہیں؟ سمجھتے مثبت کتنا کو موجودگی کی چینیوں میں گواڈر سے وجہ کی CPEC آپ

Very Positive

1

2

3

4

5

Very Negative

Do you believe that the involvement of Chinese nationals in Gwadar has positively impacted the local economy?

ہیں؟ ہوئے مرتب اثرات مثبت پر معیشت مقامی سے شمولیت کی شہریوں چینی میں گواڈر کہ بے یقین کو آپ کیا

Yes

No

Don't Know

Have you personally observed an increase in cultural exchange between the local community and Chinese residents in Gwadar?

ہے؟ دیکھا اضافہ میں تبادلے ثقافتی درمیان کے باشندوں چینی اور کمیونٹی مقامی میں گواڈر پر طور ذاتی نے آپ کیا

Yes

No

How would you rate the level of cooperation between Chinese and local businesses in Gwadar?

ہیں؟ کرتے ریٹ کیسے کو سطح کی تعاون درمیان کے اداروں کاروباری مقامی اور چینی میں گواڈر آپ

Excellent

1

2

3

4

5

Poor

Do you think the presence of Chinese companies in Gwadar has led to an increase in job opportunities for the local population?

بنی باعث کا اضافے میں مواقع کے روزگار لیے کے آبادی مقامی موجودگی کی کمپنیوں چینی میں گواردر میں خیال کے آپ کیا ہے؟

- Yes
- No
- Don't Know

On a scale of 1-5, how much do you believe CPEC has benefited the overall economy of Gwadar?

ہے؟ ہوا فائدہ کو معیشت مجموعی گواردر کی سے CPEC کہ ہے یقین کو آپ کیا

- Significantly
- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- Not at all

Have you seen improvements in infrastructure, such as roads and ports, in Gwadar as a result of CPEC?

ہے؟ دیکھی بہتری میں انفراسٹرکچر پر طور کے بندرگاہوں اور سڑکوں گواردر میں نتیجے کے CPEC نے آپ کیا

- Yes
- No
- Don't Know

Do you think CPEC has played a role in strengthening diplomatic ties between Pakistan and China?

کیا ادا کردار کوئی میں بنائے مضبوط کو تعلقات سفارتی درمیان کے چین اور پاکستان نے CPEC کہ ہیں سمجھتے آپ کیا ہے؟

- Yes
- No
- Don't Know

How would you rate the level of transparency in the implementation of CPEC projects in Pakistan?

ہے؟ خیال کیا کا آپ میں بارے کے شفافیت میں نفاذ کے منصوبوں CPEC میں پاکستان

- High
- 1
- 2

3
4
5
Low

Have you noticed an increase in foreign direct investment in Pakistan since the initiation of CPEC?

ہے؟ دیکھا اضافہ میں کاری سرمایہ ملکی غیر میں پاکستان سے بعد کے آغاز کے CPEC نے آپ کیا

Yes
No
Don't Know

On a scale of 1-5, how concerned are you about the environmental impact of CPEC projects in Gwadar?

ہیں؟ مند فکر کتنے میں بارے کے اثرات ماحولیاتی کے منصوبوں CPEC گوادرمیں آپ

Not Concerned
1
2
3
4
5

Very Concerned

Do you believe that CPEC has contributed to the technological advancement of Pakistan?

ہے؟ کیا ادا کردار اہم میں ترقی تکنیکی کی پاکستان نے CPEC کہ ہے یقین کو آپ کیا

Yes
No
Don't Know

Section 3

How satisfied are you with the role of local leadership in managing the impacts of CPEC on the Gwadar community?

ہیں؟ مطمئن کتنے سے کردار کے حکام مقامی میں سنبھالنے کو اثرات کے CPEC میں گوادرمیں آپ

Very Satisfied
1
2
3
4

5

Very Dissatisfied

Have you seen local leaders actively engaging with the community to address concerns related to CPEC?

مشغول میں سرگرمی ساتھ کے کمیونٹی لیے کے کرنے دور کو خدشات متعلق سے پیک سی کو رہنماؤں مقامی نے آپ کیا ہے؟ دیکھا ہوتے

Yes

No

Don't Know

On a scale of 1-5, how would you rate the efforts of local leaders in ensuring that the benefits of CPEC reach the broader community?

آپ میں بارے کے کوششوں کی رہنماؤں مقامی لیے کے بنائے یقینی کو پہنچنے تک کمیونٹی تر وسیع فوائد کے CPEC ہے؟ خیال کیا

Very effective

1

2

3

4

5

Very ineffective

Have you personally benefited from any community development projects initiated by local leaders in response to CPEC?

ذاتی سے پروجیکٹ ڈویلپمنٹ کمیونٹی کسی گئے کیے شروع سے طرف کی رہنماؤں مقامی میں جواب کے CPEC نے آپ کیا ہے؟ اٹھایا فائدہ پر طور

Yes

No

How would you rate the level of awareness among local leaders regarding the concerns and needs of the Gwadar community in the context of CPEC?

میں بارے کے آگاہی میں رہنماؤں مقامی سے حوالے کے ضروریات اور تحفظات کے کمیونٹی گواہ میں تناظر کے CPEC ہے؟ خیال کیا کا آپ

High

1

2

3

4
5
Low

Do you think local leaders are effectively addressing the social and cultural challenges arising from the presence of Chinese individuals in Gwadar?

موثر سے چینجوں ثقافتی اور سماجی والے ہونے پیدا سے موجودگی کی چینیوں میں گواڈر رہنما مقامی میں خیال کے آپ کیا ہیں؟ رہے نمٹ میں انداز

Yes
No

Overall, do you believe that local leaders are working towards maximizing the benefits and minimizing the challenges associated with CPEC in Gwadar?

CPEC میں گواڈر اور فوائد زیادہ سے زیادہ لیے کے لوگوں مقامی رہنما مقامی کہ ہے یقین کو آپ کیا پر، طور مجموعی ہیں؟ رہے کر کام لیے کے کرنے کم کو چینجوں منسلک سے

Yes
No
Don't Know

Section 4

On a scale of 1-5, how concerned are you about potential cultural conflicts between the local community and Chinese residents in Gwadar?

ہیں؟ مند فکر کتنے میں بارے کے تنازعات ثقافتی ممکنہ درمیان کے باشندوں چینی اور کمیونٹی مقامی میں گواڈر آپ

Not concerned
1
2
3
4
5
Very concerned

Have you observed an increase in job opportunities for local residents in Gwadar since the initiation of CPEC?

ہے؟ دیکھا اضافہ میں مواقع کے ملازمت لیے کے باشندوں مقامی میں گواڈر سے بعد کے آغاز کے CPEC نے آپ کیا

Yes
No
Don't Know

How would you rate the economic boost experienced by the local community in Gwadar due to CPEC?

بے؟ خیال کیا کا آپ میں بارے کے فروغ معاشی والے ملنے کو کمیونٹی مقامی میں گواڈر سے وجہ کی CPEC

Excellent

1

2

3

4

5

Poor

On a scale of 1-5, how satisfied are you with the health facilities available in Gwadar in light of CPEC development?

ہیں؟ مطمئن کتنے سے سہولیات کی صحت دستیاب میں گواڈر میں روشنی کی ترقی کی CPEC آپ

Very satisfied

1

2

3

4

5

Very dissatisfied

Do you think the education sector in Gwadar has improved as a result of CPEC-related initiatives?

بے؟ آئی بہتری میں شعبے کے تعلیم میں گواڈر میں نتیجے کے اقدامات متعلق سے بیک سی میں خیال کے آپ کیا

Yes

No

Don't Know

How concerned are you about potential challenges such as displacement and restrictions in fishing faced by the local community due to CPEC projects?

پابندیوں میں گیری مابی اور مکانی نقل جیسے چیلنجوں ممکنہ درپیش کو کمیونٹی مقامی سے وجہ کی منصوبوں CPEC آپ
ہیں؟ مند فکر کتنے میں بارے کے

Not concerned

1

2

3

4

5

Very concerned

Section 6 of 6

Thank You for Your Participation