ECONOMIC POLICY
& BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

Think Tank

'an independent, non-partisan, not for profit organization'

NEWSLETTER

The Think Tank

The Economic Policy and Business Development (EPBD) Think Tank is a non-profit, independent and non-partisan policy research organization registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan (SECP) under Section 42 of the Companies Act, 2017. Registered in August 2024. EPBD is committed to advancing evidence-based economic reforms, strengthening private sector-led growth, and supporting sustainable national development through informed policy advice.

Leadership & Governance

The Board of EPBD comprises a distinguished group of professionals, industry leaders and eminent business leaders, whose collective expertise and leadership significantly strengthen the organization's strategic vision and impact. The Patron-in-Chief is, **Mr. Bashir Jan Muhammad** (Dalda Group), whose longstanding contributions to industry continue to guide the institution's mission. Its Honorary President is **Senator Anwaar ul Haq Kakar**, former Prime Minister, whose experience in governance brings valuable strategic direction. The real driving force behind the think tank is its Chairman **Dr. Gohar Ejaz, HI, SI,** who is a leading industrialist and has been former Federal Minister for Commerce, Industry & Production, Investment, Overseas Pakistanis & Interior.

Mr. S M Tanveer (CEO of Din Group), **Mr. Fawad Ahmed Mukhtar** (Chairman and CEO of the Fatima Group), **Mr. Arif Habib** (Chairman of the Arif Habib Corporation), **Mian Amer Mahmood, HI** (Founder and Chairman of the Punjab Group of Colleges), **Mr. Shahid Soorty** (MD of Soorty Enterprises), **Mr. Anwaar Ahmad Khan** (CEO of Ghani Value Glass Ltd. and DCEO of Ghani Glass Ltd.), **Mian Muhammad Ahsan** (US Apparel Group), **Mr. Muhammad Ashraf Mukaty** (Liberty Group), **Mr. Ibrahim Hasan Murad** (President of University of Management and Technology) and **Mr. Nadeem Malik** (Masters Group of Companies), are the other eminent Board members.

Mr. Bashir Jan Muhammad
Patron-in-Chief

Dr. Gohar Ejaz, HI, SI
Chairman

Sardar Ahmad Nawaz Sukhera, HI, PAS (Retd.)
Chief Executive Officer

The think tank is guided by a distinguished and diverse Board of Governors, chaired by Dr. Gohar Ejaz HI, SI, whose leadership and active engagement played a pivotal role during EPBD's formative year.

EPBD reinforced its leadership structure with the appointment of a **Chief Executive Officer Sardar Ahmad Nawaz Sukhera, HI, PAS (Retd.)**, a Harvard Graduate with over 38 years of public service experience. The leadership capacity was further enhanced by induction of Mr. Eazaz Dar as Chief Operating Officer, who brings in extensive public service, development and international sectors experience.

Vision

To provide strategic advice & thought leadership that enables policymakers to shape a dynamic, inclusive, and forward-looking economic policy ecosystem for sustainable GDP growth & equitable prosperity.

Mission Statement

EPBD works through four core commitments:

- Championing private sector-led development
- Strengthening informed policy dialogue
- Promoting inclusive and equitable growth
- Facilitating industrial development and ease of doing business

Core Objectives

Policy Reforms Advocacy
Evidence-based recommendations in taxation, trade, energy, industrial and regulatory policy

Sectoral Development Strategy
Actionable roadmaps for key economic sectors

Ease of Doing Business
Reducing regulatory and administrative barriers

Building the Institution

A Year of Foundations

EPBD's Operational Model

EPBD's work is organized around three integrated pillars

Research

Rigorous, evidence-based research covering:

- Macroeconomic policy
- Sectoral competitiveness
- Regulatory and legal frameworks
- Ease of Doing Business diagnostics

Publications

High-quality knowledge products including:

- Policy briefs and white papers
- Sectoral snapshots
- Infographics and explainer videos

Advocacy

Strategic engagement through:

- Policy dialogues and stakeholder consultations
- Media outreach and public commentary
- Digital platforms and conclaves

2025-26 marked EPBD's fully active and operational, period focused on institutional setup, strategic goal setting, capacity building and quality delivery

Key milestones

- Establishment of office in Islamabad
- Recruitment of a professional core team
- Development of governance frameworks
- Development of annual core and regular workplans
- Development of policies, SOPs, and research protocols
- Developing and disseminating the research-based products

Strategic Policy & Sectoral Work

Priority Policy Reform Areas (2026)

Six critical reform areas focused on by EPBD

1. Tax Policy & Administration Reforms
2. Energy Policy
3. Trade & Tariff Policy
4. Digital Economy Policy
5. Industrial Policy Reforms
6. Ease of Doing Business & Regulatory Frameworks

Completed Research Program

Besides a seasoned Board and competent senior leadership, a lean but amply qualified and dedicated team, augmented by relevant external associated resources such as; a former Chairman FBR, a former Chief Economist P&D, a former Additional Secretary Budget and a former PIDE Economist, helped deliver EPBD's intensive and path-breaking research products.

The 21 Prioritized Sectors for Research

Energy (Electricity) | Energy (Gas & Petroleum) | Textile & Apparel | Digital Economy | Housing & Construction | Agriculture | Livestock | Fisheries | Pharmaceuticals & Biotechnology | Minerals & Mining | Engineering | Food | Leather | Logistics | Tourism | Halal Products | HR Development | Population Planning | Climate Change | Health | Gems & Jewelry

Landmark Publication: Shadow Policy Documents

"An Alternate Plan: From Stabilization to Growth"

From Tax Reforms and the Federal Budget to the Economic Survey and Five-Year Development Plan, these documents present one unified goal: sustainable growth, job creation, investment confidence, and prosperity for every sector and region of Pakistan.

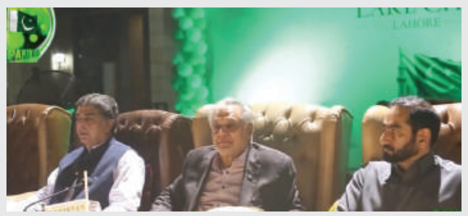
Promoting People & Business Friendly Policies

Governance & Compliance

- 14 Board of Governors meetings held
- All required institutional policies & SOPs developed
- Full compliance with SECP and corporate governance standards

Strategic Events & Partnerships

October '25: Saudi-Pak Joint Business Council



August'25: Wealth Perception Index Launch

November '25: Pakistan-Winter DIALOG Series

The Think Tank expanded strategic partnerships with leading national research institutions and foreign missions, including the US, China, UAE, and Central Asian Republics, strengthening EPBD's international outlook. A key achievement was EPBD's nomination as Pakistan Business Secretariat for the Saudi-Pakistan Business Council, cementing its role as a key facilitator of business and investment cooperation.

EPBD's ongoing commitment to shaping national and international discourse is reflected in several key initiatives and high-level collaborations

- August 2025: Launched the Wealth Perception Index
- October 2025: Convened the Saudi-Pak Joint Business Council
- November 2025: Hosted the Pakistan-Winter DIALOG Series
- May 2026: Launch of Shadow Policy Documents

Built strong partnerships with embassies, diplomatic missions, think tanks, economists, and government bodies to drive policy impact.

EPBD Research Framework Benchmarks

Driven by

- Export Enhancement
- Efficient & Fair Taxation
- Business Development
- Import Substitution
- Reducing Cost of Doing Business
- Ease of Doing Business

Over the course of its inaugural year of operations, Economic Policy & Business Development Think Tank has established itself as a credible and forward-looking policy institution, marked by strong governance, substantive pioneering research work, & expanding engagement across national & international stakeholders. With a visionary and committed leadership structure, growing strategic partnerships, and a clear roadmap for flagship initiatives, EPBD is well positioned to play an increasingly influential role in shaping Pakistan's economic policy discourse and supporting sustainable economic development.

EPBD Uniform Framework Benefits

Consistency

Uniform and unbiased analysis across all economic sectors

Comparability

Evidence-based recommendations for policy makers

Credibility

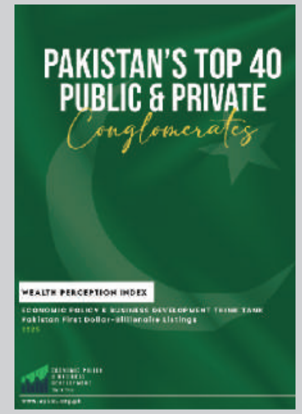
Standardized metrics for cross-sectoral evaluation

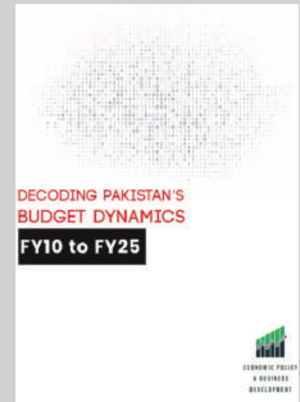
Actionability

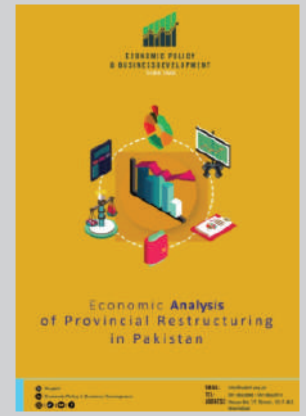
Clear investment costs and measurable outcomes

Impact

EPBD produced a wide range of high-quality publications, including its flagship Wealth Perception Index 2025. Alongside research reports, policy briefs, white papers, infographics, explainer videos, and press releases, these outputs translated complex economic analysis into accessible insights, strengthening informed public discourse and reinforcing EPBD's position as a trusted source of policy-relevant knowledge.



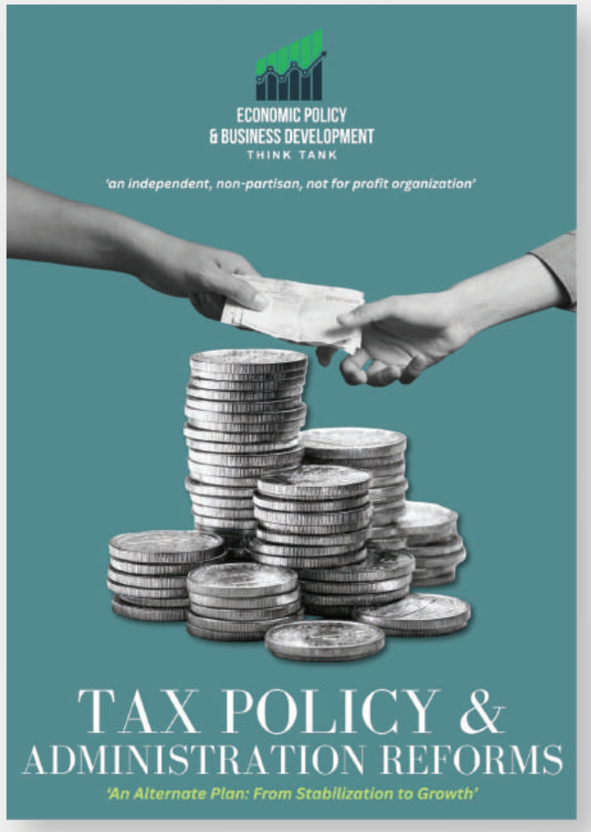




EPBD has increasingly been approached by policymakers, journalists, and institutions, reflecting its growing credibility and influence within Pakistan's policy and media landscape.

Pakistan's First Ever
Shadow Policy Documents

An Alternate Plan: From Stabilization to Growth



Launched on: 25th May, 2026

Pakistan has long been trapped in a cycle of economic boom and bust. While stabilization has been achieved, the critical shift toward sustainable growth remains.

EPBD has launched Pakistan's first ever four comprehensive shadow policy documents that serve as the alternate blueprint and a menu of policy choices to transition from stabilization to long-term economic growth.

EPBD developed & launched Pakistan's first ever four comprehensive Shadow Policy Documents in May, 2026. This integrated economic roadmap presents a rigorous, data-driven alternative vision for our nation's macroeconomic future, establishing a new benchmark for structural reform and fiscal responsibility.

- **Tax Policy & Administration Reforms** – Actionable solutions to broaden the revenue base and streamline tax administration.
- **Shadow Federal Budget 2026-27 –** A structured blueprint for optimised resource allocation and deficit reduction.
- **Shadow Economic Survey of Pakistan 2026 –** A long-term framework targeting sustainable growth and equitable progress. This integrated economic roadmap presents a rigorous, data-driven alternative vision for our nation's macroeconomic future, establishing a new benchmark for structural reform and fiscal responsibility.
- **Shadow Five-Year Development Plan 2026-31 –** A deep analytical dive into 21 identified sectors.

These frameworks represent months of intensive research by our policy experts and serve as a ready-to-implement roadmap for a more resilient, competitive economy.

Advocacy Products

The journey so far :

EPBD has successfully moved from its "setup phase" to its "operational & impact phase." By aligning its ambitious goals with a structured work plan and strong governance, it is now well-positioned to serve as a pivotal bridge between Pakistan's private sector - policy makers and the public.

- Balancing Quality & Speed
- Institutional Strengthening
- Resource Alignment
- Sustainability

An independent, non-partisan, not for profit organization

A platform for economic policy debate & discourse

Find us on

Get In Touch

051 8840099 | 051 8840019

www.epbdt.org.pk
info@epbdt.org.pk

F-8, Islamabad