



China Study Center 中国研究中心

Balochistan University of Information Technology,
Engineering & Management Sciences

Annual Report

July 2022-June 2023



WELCOME

Welcome to the Second Annual Report of the China Study Center at Balochistan University of Information Technology, Engineering and Management Sciences (BUIITEMS). This report serves as a comprehensive overview of the center's activities and accomplishments over the past year, highlighting our commitment to promoting Chinese language, culture, and fostering academic collaboration and research.

In this report, we proudly highlight our significant contributions, including our Chinese language program, which continues to thrive. Our Chinese language classes have empowered individuals to embrace the linguistic beauty of Chinese, fostering cultural understanding and enabling stronger connections between peoples of both nation, China and Pakistan.

We are proud to have organized a captivating exhibition showcasing Chinese culture, offering a unique opportunity for students/individuals to immerse themselves in the vibrant traditions, arts, and heritage of China.

Furthermore, we emphasize the importance of dialogue and collaboration. Throughout the year, we fostered meaningful exchanges with our local and Chinese counterparts, engaging in constructive discussions and knowledge-sharing sessions. These dialogues have not only strengthened our understanding of China but also facilitated the exchange of ideas and perspectives, paving the way for enhanced cooperation and mutual learning.

In addition to our linguistic, cultural, and dialogue initiatives, we are proud to highlight our accomplishments in the publication domain. We have recently released a policy brief focusing on women's empowerment under CPEC, examining the role of gender equality and the reduction of the gender gap in this transformative project. Furthermore, we take pride in the publication of an edited book on the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) and its wide-ranging geopolitical and socioeconomic impacts. This comprehensive study offers a deep dive into the multifaceted aspects of CPEC, shedding light on its implications for regional dynamics, economic development, and social transformation.

As we present the Second Annual Report, we express our sincere gratitude to Higher Education Commission of Pakistan (HEC), BUIITEMS, Balochistan Think Tank Network (BTTN) and the dedicated individuals who have supported our endeavors. It is through their unwavering commitment that we have been able to expand our research, facilitate dialogues, and promote cultural exchange.

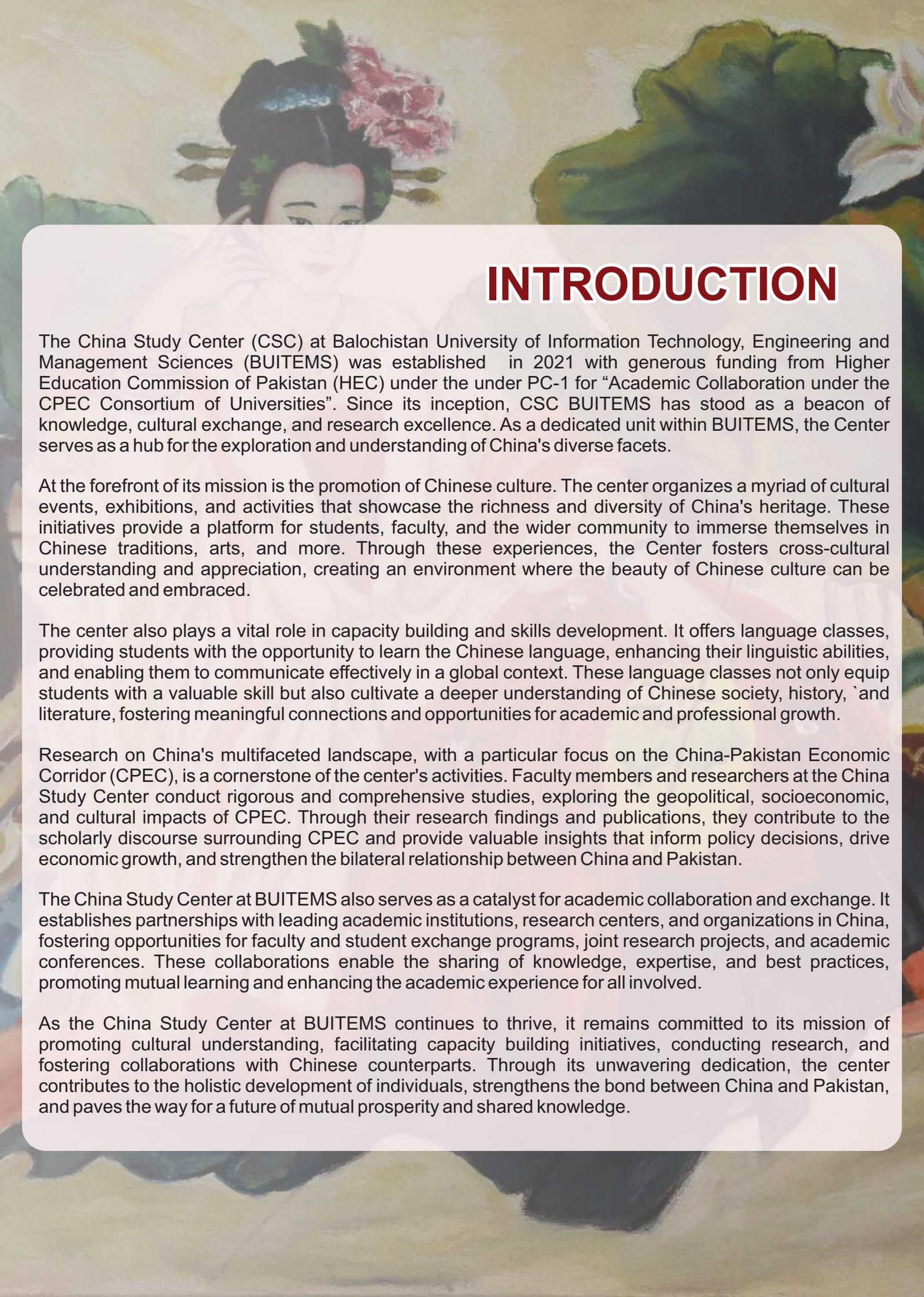
We invite you to explore the pages of this report, where you will discover vibrant cultural initiatives, capacity-building endeavors and the impactful research that define the China Study Center's second year. Together, let us continue to strengthen the ties between China and Pakistan, foster cultural understanding, and propel our nation towards a prosperous future.

Thank you for your continued support.

**Sincerely,
Dr. Abdul Sattar,
Director of China Study Center BUIITEMS**

CONTENTS

◆ Introduction	04
Vision and Mission	05
Core Values and Objectives	05
◆ China Study Center Team	06
◆ A Documentary Movie on Machines of Ancient China	07
◆ A Day Out with Student at Chinese Corner	07
◆ Chinese Art, and Design Exhibition (CADE 2022)	08
◆ CSC BUIITEMS Participation in Webinar on Cultural & Educational Exchanges between China and Pakistan	09
◆ Webinar on Knowledge Partnership between Think Tanks In Pakistan for China Pakistan Economic Corridor Development	10
◆ The Alliance of China-Pakistan Research Centers	10
◆ Chinese Language Day Celebration and Book Translation	11
◆ Policy Brief- Women Empowerment and Gender Gap Reduction Under China Pakistan Economic Corridor	12
◆ Book Titled “the Story of Geopolitics and Socioeconomic Realms- CPEC”	13
◆ Challenges for China Study Center	13
◆ Next Year's Highlights	14



INTRODUCTION

The China Study Center (CSC) at Balochistan University of Information Technology, Engineering and Management Sciences (BUITEMS) was established in 2021 with generous funding from Higher Education Commission of Pakistan (HEC) under the under PC-1 for “Academic Collaboration under the CPEC Consortium of Universities”. Since its inception, CSC BUITEMS has stood as a beacon of knowledge, cultural exchange, and research excellence. As a dedicated unit within BUITEMS, the Center serves as a hub for the exploration and understanding of China's diverse facets.

At the forefront of its mission is the promotion of Chinese culture. The center organizes a myriad of cultural events, exhibitions, and activities that showcase the richness and diversity of China's heritage. These initiatives provide a platform for students, faculty, and the wider community to immerse themselves in Chinese traditions, arts, and more. Through these experiences, the Center fosters cross-cultural understanding and appreciation, creating an environment where the beauty of Chinese culture can be celebrated and embraced.

The center also plays a vital role in capacity building and skills development. It offers language classes, providing students with the opportunity to learn the Chinese language, enhancing their linguistic abilities, and enabling them to communicate effectively in a global context. These language classes not only equip students with a valuable skill but also cultivate a deeper understanding of Chinese society, history, and literature, fostering meaningful connections and opportunities for academic and professional growth.

Research on China's multifaceted landscape, with a particular focus on the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), is a cornerstone of the center's activities. Faculty members and researchers at the China Study Center conduct rigorous and comprehensive studies, exploring the geopolitical, socioeconomic, and cultural impacts of CPEC. Through their research findings and publications, they contribute to the scholarly discourse surrounding CPEC and provide valuable insights that inform policy decisions, drive economic growth, and strengthen the bilateral relationship between China and Pakistan.

The China Study Center at BUITEMS also serves as a catalyst for academic collaboration and exchange. It establishes partnerships with leading academic institutions, research centers, and organizations in China, fostering opportunities for faculty and student exchange programs, joint research projects, and academic conferences. These collaborations enable the sharing of knowledge, expertise, and best practices, promoting mutual learning and enhancing the academic experience for all involved.

As the China Study Center at BUITEMS continues to thrive, it remains committed to its mission of promoting cultural understanding, facilitating capacity building initiatives, conducting research, and fostering collaborations with Chinese counterparts. Through its unwavering dedication, the center contributes to the holistic development of individuals, strengthens the bond between China and Pakistan, and paves the way for a future of mutual prosperity and shared knowledge.

Our Vision

Become the leading research and teaching center on the Chinese history, system, culture, and Chinese language in Quetta for capacity building of the people of Balochistan.

Mission Statement

To produce quality academic research in collaboration with Chinese universities focusing on CPEC, assimilate Chinese culture and be a base for teaching Chinese language.

Our Core Values

Maintain a working environment based on team spirit, mutual respect, seeking unbiased truth keeping supreme the national interest. Collaborative result-oriented academic research based on integrity, creativity, and quality is the hallmark of our core values. We facilitate learning Chinese culture and teaching of Chinese language with passion.

Our Objectives

- .To facilitate capacity building of the people of Balochistan by teaching Chinese history, culture, art and language.
- .To conduct academic research under different themes in collaboration with Chinese universities/institutions of interest to both countries.
- .To promote research-culture and initiate bilateral academic exchanges by creating linkages with Chinese universities / institutes.
- .To strengthen cooperation between the two countries by producing and disseminating academic knowledge of interest to both China and Pakistan.

CHINA STUDY CENTER TEAM



Brig (R) Agha Ahmad Gul
Chairman CSC (CEO/Consultant) BTTN



Dr. Zafar Khan
Executive Director BTTN



Dr. Abdul Sattar
Director of China Study Center, BUIITEMS



Dr. Raja Asif Wagan
Additional Director of China Study Center,
BUIITEMS



Dr. Zamir Abro
Deputy Director of China Study Center,
BUIITEMS



A
Research Assistant China Study Center,
BUIITEMS



Rukhsana Abdul Haq
Research Assistant China Study Center,
BUIITEMS



Sher Ali
Assistant Librarian China Study Center,
BUIITEMS



A Documentary Movie on Machines of Ancient China

On 7 October 2022, the China Study Center at BUIITEMS organized a special event in the Purple Hall at Takatu Campus BUIITEMS. The event featured a documentary titled "Machines of Ancient China." The program commenced at 11:00 a.m., with Dr. Abdul Sattar, the Director of the China Study Center, extending a warm welcome to all attendees. Dr. Sattar expressed gratitude to Dr. Zafar Khan, Executive Director of the Balochistan Think Tank Network (BTTN), for his presence and the support provided by BTTN to the China Study Center.

The purpose of screening this documentary was to provide students with knowledge about the origins of modern complex machines. The documentary titled "Machines of Ancient China" highlights the fact that while Europe experienced the Dark Ages, ancient China emerged as the world's technological superpower. It is only now that we are beginning to realize the profound influence of this remarkable oriental civilization on our modern world. Countless inventions that shape our lives today can be traced back to ancient China. In this film, we embark on a captivating journey through Chinese technological advancements, unraveling the secrets behind these ingenious inventions and shedding light on the ancient inventors who conceived and constructed these remarkable machines.

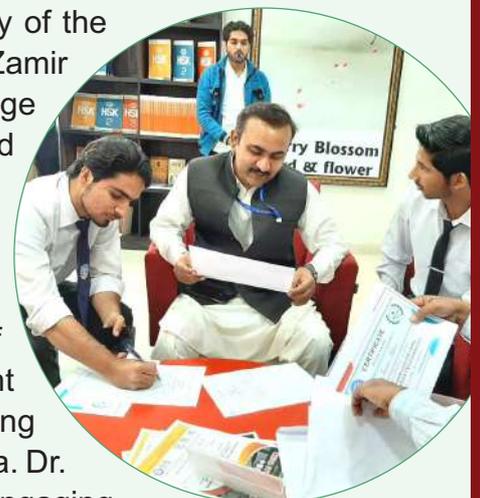
The documentary screening concluded around 11:50 a.m., leaving participants enriched with a wealth of knowledge about technological advancement and the origin of some complex modern machines.



A Day Out with Student at Chinese Corner

After the completion of the Chinese Corner at the central library of the university, students had their first visit on 21 October 2022. Dr. Zamir Ahmed Abro, the then Deputy Director and Chinese language instructor, graciously facilitated the students' visit and provided valuable insights.

During the visit to the Chinese Corner, the students were captivated as they were briefed about the reference wall installed in the corner. The reference wall serves as a treasure trove of information, encompassing the rich history of China, its vibrant culture, the intricacies of its education system, and the exciting scholarship opportunities available for students to pursue in China. Dr. Abro, with his expertise and enthusiasm, made the experience engaging and informative.



To acknowledge their hard work and dedication, Dr. Abro took the opportunity to distribute Chinese language certificates among the passing out students, celebrating their achievements in mastering this important language. The certificates served as a testament to their commitment and opened doors to new horizons of cultural exchange and career opportunities.

Chinese Art, and Design Exhibition (CADE 2022)



The China Study Center at the Balochistan University of Information Technology, Engineering, and Management Sciences (BUITEMS) organized the inaugural "Chinese Art and Design Exhibition (CADE 2022)" in collaboration with the Fine Arts, Textile, and Architecture departments of BUITEMS. The event took place on 24 November 2022, in the art gallery of the Sir Syed Block at Takatu Campus. Additionally, the Fine Arts department of Sardar Bahadur Khan Women's University participated in this esteemed event. The exhibition was inaugurated by Brig Agha Ahmad Gul (R), CEO/Consultant of the Balochistan Think Tank Network (BTTN), and Eng. Ahmed Farooq Bazai (S.I) (H.I), the then Vice Chancellor of BUITEMS.

With a focus on Dragon Fest, Chinese Opera, Architecture Design, and Silk Costumes, CADE 2022 not only aimed to promote Chinese art and culture but also provided a platform for participating students to showcase their talents in painting, sculpture, design, and traditional Chinese costumes. The exhibition welcomed a diverse range of visitors, including students, staff, faculty members, and esteemed dignitaries from various backgrounds. Notably, Mr. Humayun Mehmood, Vice President of the Metallurgical Corporation of China, and Mr. Ahsan Iqbal, the Federal Minister of Planning, Development, and Special Initiatives, graced the event with their presence. The federal minister expressed admiration for the students' efforts and extended congratulations to BUITEMS and the China Study Center for organizing such a mesmerizing event.



CSC Participation in Webinar on Cultural & Educational Exchanges between China and Pakistan



China Study Center BUIITEMS participated in the webinar titled "China-Pakistan Cultural and Education Exchanges under BRI", held on 22 December 2022, and organized by the Institute of Peace and Diplomatic Studies (IPDS) and the Pakistan Research Center of Honder College of Art and Sciences. The purpose of the webinar was to discuss the longstanding cooperation between Pakistan and China in the areas of culture and education.

During the event, speakers from both side China and Pakistan highlighted the strong bilateral relationship and strategic partnership between the two countries. Farhat Asif, President of IPDS, emphasized the exemplary cooperation between Pakistan and China, with a special mention of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) as a symbol of their collaboration.

Prof. Tang Jun, Director of the Pakistan Research Center at Inner Mongolia Honder College of Arts and Sciences, underscored the growing academic engagement between Pakistan and China. Dr. Safdar Ali Shah, Director General of the Higher Education Commission of Pakistan's CPEC Cell, shared statistics on education cooperation and exchanges.

Liaquat Ali Shah, Executive Director of the Centre of Excellence for the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor, proposed various suggestions to enhance cultural and educational ties, including hosting forums and joint research projects while Dr. Abdul Sattar, Director of China Study Center BUIITEMS emphasized the support that China-Pakistan collaboration offers students in Balochistan.

Overall, the webinar provided a platform to discuss and explore the on-going cultural and educational exchanges between Pakistan and China, highlighting the significance of these collaborations in strengthening their relationship.



Webinar on Knowledge Partnership between Think Tanks in Pakistan for China Pakistan Economic Corridor Development



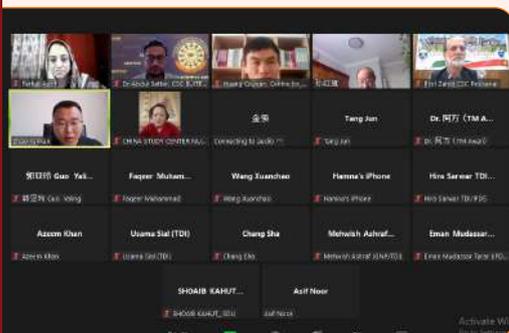
China Study Center BUIITEMS actively participated in a webinar titled "Knowledge Partnership between Think Tanks in Pakistan for China-Pakistan Economic Corridor Development." The webinar, organized by the Pakistan Institute of Development Economics (PIDE) on 26 January 2023, aimed to bring together various think tanks in Pakistan to discuss knowledge partnership and strategies for the success of the China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC). Distinguished representatives from numerous think tanks attended the event. Dr. Nadeem UI Haque, Vice Chancellor of PIDE, delivered the keynote speech, while Dr. Liaqat Ali Shah, Head of Policy CPEC, Ministry of Planning, Pakistan, served as the session moderator.

Dr. Abdul Sattar, the Director of China Study Center BUIITEMS, represented the center in the webinar. During his address, he commended PIDE for organizing such a fruitful session and emphasized the need for think tanks to collaborate and conduct joint seminars and workshops, focusing on sector-specific or location-specific challenges faced by CPEC. Dr. Sattar highlighted that while security and multidimensional poverty are significant challenges in Balochistan regarding CPEC, other provinces such as KP and Punjab have different dynamics.

Moreover, Dr. Sattar emphasized the importance of sharing ideas and experiences in academic research, engaging in joint projects with Chinese counterparts, and fostering language partnerships. In his closing remarks, he stressed the need for think tanks in Pakistan to develop a common value proposition that guides their efforts in achieving the objectives and targets related to the success of CPEC.



The Alliance of China-Pakistan Research Centers



On 11 April 2023 the launching event of the Alliance of China-Pakistan Research Centers was organized by Institute of Peace and Diplomatic Studies (IPDS). The alliance aimed at strengthening the longstanding bond between Pakistani and Chinese academic institutions. The heads of several Study/Research Centers from both China and Pakistan participated in the event including Dr. Farhat Aisf, President of the Institute of Peace and Diplomatic Studies, Prof. Tang Jun, Director of Pakistan Research Center, Inner Mongolia Honder College of Arts and Sciences, Prof. Sun Hongqi, Pakistan Study Center, Jiangsu Normal University, Prof. Dr. Zahid Anwar, Director, China Study Centre, University of Peshawar, Prof. Huang Qiuwen, Director, Pakistan Research Center, Jiangxi University of Science and Technology, Dr. Samina Sabbir, Director CPEC Center, University of Azad Jammu and Kashmir, Dr. Tahir Mumtaz Awan, Director China Study Center, COMSATS University, Islamabad,

Prof. Ma Fujian, Director Pakistan Study Center, North Minzu University, Dr. Abdul Sattar, Director China Study Center, BUIITEMS, Quetta Dr. Zhao Yankan, Pakistan Study Center Southwest University of Political Science and Law, Dr. Faqeer Muhammad, Director China Study Center, Karakorum International University, Gilgit, Prof. Guo Yaling, Pakistan Research Center of He Bei Normal University, Prof. Jin Qiang, Intercultural Communication Research Center at He Bei University and Ms. Xiang Yang Scarlet, Director China Study Center, National University of Science and Technology, Islamabad.

The participants expressed their commitment to promoting research center alliances and exploring new areas of cooperation to achieve common goals. The Alliance of China-Pakistan Research Centers is a significant step towards promoting academic collaboration and achieving common goals between Pakistan and China.

The Director of China Study Center BUIITEMS, warmly welcomed the initiative and expressed that by pooling resources, expertise, and research capabilities, the alliance of China-Pakistan research centers creates a platform for meaningful dialogue, academic collaboration, and the exploration of shared challenges and opportunities. It enables the exchange of innovative ideas, promotes interdisciplinary research, and encourages the development of practical solutions that address the socio-economic needs of both nations.

Chinese Language Day Celebration and Presentation of Translation of Chinese Book



A Seminar on Chinese Language Day Celebration was held at Balochistan University of Information Technology, Engineering, and Management Sciences (BUIITEMS) on 24 May 2023. The seminar was organized by the China Study Center BUIITEMS, with Vice Chancellor BUIITEMS, Dr. Abdul Rehman Khan serving as the chief guest.

The Director of the China Study Center, Dr. Abdul SATTAR welcomed the guests and other participants and expressed the purpose of celebrating Chinese Language Day, which is to celebrate the beauty and significance of the Chinese language while recognizing its status as one of the largest spoken languages globally. In his opening remarks, he highlighted the immense value in learning Chinese, not only for its practical applications but also for fostering cultural exchange and building bridges between two nations that is China and Pakistan. He also emphasized the importance of equipping oneself with Chinese language skills to make the most of the opportunities presented by the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) projects.

One of the speakers at the seminar was Prof. Li Zhang from Lan Zhou Agriculture University, China, who delivered a recorded video message commending the efforts of the China Study Center in organizing such an event. Prof. Li Zhang emphasized the importance of learning Chinese in an interconnected world, as it allows individuals to connect with one of the world's fastest-growing economies and opens doors to numerous opportunities for partnering countries.

The second speaker, Dr. Manzoor Ali Brohi, Chairperson of the Department of Public Administration at BUIITEMS, shared his personal experiences with Chinese language and culture. Having obtained his PhD degree from China, he highlighted the increasing global impact of the Chinese language. China's strategy of welcoming international students, including a significant number from Pakistan, has contributed to growing influence of China on world.



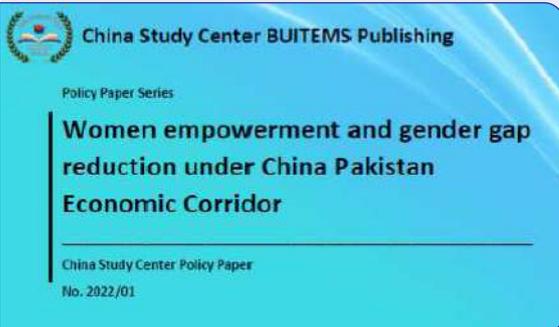
At the culmination of the event, the Director of the China Study Center presented Dr. Abdul Rehman Khan, the Vice Chancellor of BUIITEMS, with an English translation of a captivating Chinese book titled "Taboo and Inertia." This remarkable literary work delves into fascinating facts and explored myths surrounding Chinese culture.



In his concluding remarks, Dr. Abdul Rehman Khan underscored the immense significance of language learning, particularly Chinese, and reiterated BUIITEMS' unwavering commitment to equipping its students with robust Chinese language skills. He emphasized that such skills have become indispensable for harnessing future opportunities in the realms of trade, technology, and international collaboration.

Dr. Abdul Rehman Khan stressed that by mastering the Chinese language, BUIITEMS students would gain a competitive advantage in an increasingly interconnected world, enhancing their ability to participate in and contribute to the ever-expanding global landscape. With China's influential role in various sectors, including trade and technological advancements, proficiency in Chinese language and understanding of its culture are paramount for future success.

Policy Brief- Women Empowerment and Gender Gap Reduction under China Pakistan Economic Corridor



China Study Center published its first policy paper on women empowerment and gender gap reduction under CPEC. Authored by Wanina Tahir and Dr. Raja Asif, the policy brief highlights the significance of promoting gender equality and empowering women within the context of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC). With a focus on empowering women and promoting their active participation in various sectors, the brief offers valuable insights, policy recommendations, and strategies to

address the gender disparities and foster an inclusive and equitable environment. By emphasizing the importance of women's empowerment as a catalyst for socio-economic development, this policy brief serves as a vital resource for policymakers, stakeholders, and organizations working towards gender equality and sustainable growth under the umbrella of CPEC.

Book titled “The Story of Geopolitics and Socioeconomic Realms- CPEC”

China Study Center is about to achieve another milestone by publishing an edited book titled “The Story of Geopolitics and Socioeconomic Realms- CPEC”.

The book is comprised on 5 chapters covering socioeconomic and geopolitical aspect of CPEC.

Authored by experts in the field, this book offers a comprehensive exploration of the geopolitical aspects and socioeconomic implications of one of the world's most significant infrastructure projects. This book provides readers with a deep understanding of the multifaceted dimensions of this transformative initiative. Through its engaging narrative and rigorous analysis, this book serves as a valuable resource for scholars, policymakers, and anyone interested in comprehending the far-reaching impact of CPEC on regional dynamics and global connectivity.

Challenges for China Study Center

China Study Center BUIITEMS is doing well in terms of achieving its core objectives defined by the Higher Education Commission (HEC) under the following terms of references:

- a. Organize Chinese language classes for the faculty and students.
- b. Organize activities to promote understanding of Chinese system and culture.
- c. Undertake translation of Chinese literary pieces to promote understanding of Chinese cultural traditions.
- d. Act as a thinks tank/area study center on China.
- e. Promote/coordinate CPEC-focused research
- f. Act as regional hub for planned China Pakistan Higher Education Research Institute
- g. Organize conferences, seminars, and workshops in collaboration with Chinese universities



However, China Study Center at BUIITEMS encounters specific obstacles that impede its ability to accomplish certain tasks. These challenges arise from the guidelines set by the HEC related to CSC Staff members and the process of acquiring No Objection Certificates (NOCs) for collaborations with Chinese universities.

According to HEC guidelines, the center should have a team comprising four members: Director, Assistant Professor, Chinese language instructor, and Assistant Librarian. However, with this structure, the research workload, particularly pertaining to the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), primarily falls on only two members, namely the Director and Assistant Professor. This concentration of research tasks becomes overwhelming, leading to delays in the center's research activities.

Furthermore, while the guidelines encourage collaboration with Chinese universities, the center has faced challenges in obtaining the necessary NOCs from the HEC and other relevant departments. The cumbersome and time-consuming process of acquiring NOCs has resulted in significant delays in establishing partnerships and conducting collaborative research with Chinese universities.

These challenges hinder the smooth functioning of the China Study Center, hampering its ability to achieve research objectives and establish fruitful collaborations. Therefore, it is imperative that there should be research support staff, and the NOC acquisition process should be simplified to ensure efficient and timely execution of research activities and collaborations with Chinese universities.

Addressing these obstacles will enable the center to overcome delays and enhance its research capabilities, facilitating productive endeavors and meaningful partnerships.

Next Year's Highlights

In the upcoming year, the China Study Center at BUIITEMS has a clear plan to address pending tasks related to book publications, conducting impact studies, and organizing academic debate on the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC). The center aims to prioritize these activities to ensure their timely completion and impactful outcomes. It will focus on finalizing and publishing pending books, which will provide valuable insights into various aspects of China's development, bilateral relations, and CPEC. Additionally, the center will conduct in-depth impact studies to analyze the social, economic, and strategic implications of CPEC.

Furthermore, it plans to organize academic debate and seminars to facilitate discussions and knowledge sharing on CPEC-related topics.

These initiatives will contribute to academic research, promote understanding, and foster meaningful engagement with the CPEC framework.





**China Study Center, CPEC Center of Excellence, Balochistan University of Information Technology,
Engineering and Management Sciences, Takatu Campus, Airport Road Baleli Quetta, Pakistan
UAN: +92 (81) 111-717-111 | Phone: +92 (81) 289991 | www.buitms.edu.pk/china-study
Email: info.csc@buitms.edu.pk**