



RESEARCH PAPER

Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) in China- Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC): A Sociometric Analysis

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ABSTRACT

Sociometry is the human connectedness analysis. In the present paper, in the sense of CSR on CPEC ventures, an attempt is made to explain and understand sociometry in the assessment of Public Relations practices. CPEC is in the initial phase, and CPEC is seen by politicians and government officials as "game-changer" for both of countries, as it has the ability to build a multitude of business and job opportunities for local communities as well as international scope. While achieving substantial benefits of the 'Belt and Road Initiative'. For this purpose, a qualitative method approach is adopted, as surveys are carried out through a standardized questionnaire with a total of 360 respondents from the communities residing along the CPEC routes. It finds that the long-term CSR initiative initiates the activities of the CSR of the companies working within the CPEC project. The results reveal that local residents perceive a significant progress in their lives through the implementation of the CPEC, especially in terms of quality of life, improved job opportunities and poverty decrease, education, health care and the environment. Theoretically, this research not only offers new insights into CSR functioning by taking into account an under-studied CPEC context, but also suggests a method for how the CPEC contributes to local community development by establishing a CSR structure.

Introduction

China's One Belt, One Road (OBOR) initiative is a large-scale effort to improve connectivity between Asian, European and African countries via sea and land routes (Jiang, 2020). In essence, the OBOR aims to revise and upgrade the ancient silk route connecting China and the rest of the world, which gives China

access to the world and allows it to achieve its geo-economics and geopolitical goals (Hussain, 2021). OBOR is the parent program of CPEC. CPEC flagship program includes development, infrastructure, and effective energy projects that are equally important for china and its partner countries (Egorycheva et. al, 2020; Rahim et. al. 2018). Scholars from all over the world have been studying CPEC because of its significant geo-economics, geostrategic, and geopolitical implications. China benefits from its strategic location, and Pakistan will benefit from it as well to improve its economy. The China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) is basically a multibillion-dollar project with the potential to influence Pakistan's regional status through the use of public relations tools to assess and educate the most effective approach to stakeholder communication. Building faith, representing the public interest, and upholding good standards and etiquette are all goals of public relations (Clark, 2000; Dozier, Grunig, & Grunig, 2013; Etang, 1994; Begum, et. al. 2019; Muzaffar, et. al, 2018) . According to experts from the regional economic and social alliance, the project will not only bind China to South Asia and the Middle East, but will also serve as a connection between the world and landlocked Central Asia. In this regard, it is critical that CPEC route societies participate in social and economic activities, as this will increase the project's viability. Participant corporations' Corporate Social Responsibility practices are important in this regard. When it comes to CSR, however, it is a normative term that encompasses a large number of issues like corporate governance, human rights, economic development, environmental effects, working conditions, and health and safety. That is, acts that tend to be responsible not just for their financial results but also for their social and environmental record, outside liabilities or beyond the rules of the game.

CSR has two dimensions: internal and external. Internal dimensions consider activities that have a social effect on internal stakeholders, such as workers, and external dimensions consider practices that have a public impact (external stakeholders), such as employees, shareholders, stakeholders, vendors, consumers, state governments, non-governmental organizations, and so on. The above-mentioned activities will be evaluated using Carroll's Pyramid model of CSR. The assessment, however, will be based on a sociometry study of various CPEC route communities. Sociometry is the study of interpersonal relationships within a community. Sociometry is a quantitative tool for determining the strength of social bonds. Measurement of relatedness can be useful not only for assessing actions within communities, but also for evaluating the degree of change and measures to bring about meaningful change. Since sociometry helps a community to see itself objectively and analyses its own dynamics, it can be a powerful tool for reducing the resistance and enhancing communication in the workplace. It's also a useful method for determining group dynamics and progress.

OBOR (One Belt One Road Initiative)

In year 2013, President of People's Republic of China, Xi Jinping presented the One Belt One Road (OBOR) Initiative.(Bhoothalingam, 2016). It includes physical and non-physical components of communication and growth in over 65 countries that will be connected to China (Xing, 2019). Its aim is to create the world's leading

financial cooperation network, as well as policy collaboration, business specially trade cooperation, financial cooperation, cultural and social cooperation. The social and cultural aspects the Silk Road Economic Belt is a land route, while the Silk Road Maritime Silk Road of the Twenty-First Century is a maritime route (Xing, 2019). For a number of reasons, China is extremely interested in this initiative (Wolf, 2021). Guangdong province will oversee the construction of an oil refinery and a power plant in Vietnam and Myanmar, respectively. Similarly, Xinjiang's western province is playing a similar role, with most OBOR routes passing through Kashghar and Urumqi (Toops, 2016). The aim is to use infrastructure and transportation networks to improve growth, connectivity, and trade in the OBOR regions. It will also allow China to expand its economic, diplomatic, but also military presence around the world, allowing it to be more constructive in international relations and better defend its interests (Goldstein, 2020). China has committed \$1 trillion in low-interest loans to various development projects in various countries (Morris et al., 2020). At the Bao Forum, the National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC) issued an action plan for the Belt and Road Initiative in cooperation with China's Foreign Ministry and Commerce Ministry. The official document defines the basic goals of BRI that, "It aims to promote an orderly and free flow of economic factors, highly efficient resource allocation, and deep market integration; encourage countries along the Belt and Road to achieve economic policy coordination and higher-standard regional cooperation; and jointly create an open, inclusive, and balanced regional economic cooperation architecture (Wang, 2021).

The launch of a new initiative between the two countries, the China Pakistan Economic Corridor, coincided with President Xi's 2015 visit to Pakistan. Following that, \$46 billion in Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) were signed (Chung, 2018). However, the envelope was later inflated: local Pakistani news outlets reported in May 2017 that the figure had risen to \$62 billion (From 1948 to 2010, the United States provided \$61.7 billion in financial and military assistance to Pakistan). Decision-makers from all over the world have taken similar steps to ensure regional economic growth and stability. The Bangladesh's Eastern Economic Corridor The Myanmar Forum for Regional Cooperation (BCIM), The Sarawak Corridor of Renewable Energy (SCORE) in Malaysia, Thailand's Eastern Economic Corridor (EEC), the Kalahari Corridor Port of Walvis Bay, the Nanning–Singapore Economic Corridor in China, the Bengaluru Mumbai Economic Corridor (BMEC) in India and the Continental 1 Trade Corridor North America and the Trans European Network Corridors, a series of various economic corridors connecting European countries, are just a few examples of global economic corridors (Rahman & Shurong, 2017). The overall consequences involved geography areas/countries, as well as their role in the economic growth of the entire region covered by these economic activity corridors, can be used to determine the effectiveness of these linkages (Shah, et. al. 2020)



Figure 2.1 Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) Map. Material Source: Fang et al. (2021)

China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC)

Pakistan, being a developing country, is currently confronted with a number of issues, including economic, noneconomic, technological, educational, and infrastructure challenges, as well as low skilled labor, high tax rates, and poor inhabited (Sanchez-Triana et al., 2014). As a result, to accelerate or quicker the economic graph of growth in the global world, the Pakistani government officials and policymakers are developing various development projects. Among the many other infrastructure project, The China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) is one of the major initiatives. It was officially declared when President General Pervez Musharraf met with President Hu Jintao in Beijing in the year 2003 (Kousar et al., 2018).

According to Hussain and Hussain (2017), CPEC become a part of the Chinese government's ancient massive infrastructure project One Belt, One Road (OBOR) initiative, starting in 2013 which links Europe, Asia, and Africa (Du & Zhang, 2018). The project CPEC named as "game changer" especially for the Pakistan, that include various projects such as educational institutes, energy projects, health centers several other economic zones, and the interlink of train tracks and roads within the country (Kanwal et al, 2020). Connecting Kashghar in Xingjiang province with Gawadar in Baluchistan CPEC is also as Pakistan's largest project with China, (Chen, Joseph, & Tariq, 2018).

Form the local Pakistani community prospective The China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) is a massive project between Chinese and Pakistani governments, with all their significant benefits. According to Ali et al., (2017)

survey findings reveal that the ultimate benefits of CPEC programs as well as local community reactions are incomplete and contentious especially with the creation of the Gawadar port project because they believe they are ignored by officials in positions of authority. However, a few scholars discovered the fearful of security issues in the local community nearby Baluchistan and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KPK) provinces, On the other hand, Ali et al., (2018) ; Tong, (2014), scholars and government officials stated that as a mega project's growth CPEC is favorable for local residents in each and every aspects as it enhanced the way of thinking towards the development, quality living standards educational and other miscellaneous . The value of recognizing and understanding, benefits, needs and attitude of local citizens towards CPEC is still lacking that has attracted scholarly attention in recent years, because of local residence facilitation it becomes the gap for researcher for their researched topics. As per researchers, it is assumed that if the local community is not fully satisfied with the progress of CPEC. It may have adverse effect on the host community (Ali et al., 2018). According to policy makers and developers CPEC growth have significant impact on Local community as communities gain more benefits in numerous ways for instance creation of new job opportunities, increase household income and improve the regional educational level. Other than that policy makers also examine the attitude of host community regarding their acceptance, living standards and public demands. So it is comprehended that local community play significant role in the development of CPEC projects.

An increasing body of research suggests that when people's priorities and livelihoods are shifted, every project's progress is usually adversely affected (Chen, Gursoy, & Yoon, 2001; Ali et al, 2018). Scholars believed that CPEC project benefits both Chinese and Pakistani residents by providing millions of job opportunities, education facilities, increase living standards and convenient access to other trading world (Nabiullah Khan, Blanchard, Ahmad, & Kumar, 2018).

The enhancement of CPEC road, many of the small local villages have the opportunity to link up with the big cities, by allowing the poor local people to sell their goods and services easily at reasonable price and that ultimate increase their income (Ali et al., 2017). Furthermore, outcomes from the growth of CPEC projects in terms of economics, education, revenue, and jobs, local communities will support the development in their area (Ali et al., 2018). As a result, in the current research, local citizen benefit-based approaches to CPEC development projects are commonly used.

CPEC act as a parent project which umbrellas many other subsidiaries. Several CPEC projects are currently under construction, including Sachal wind power project in Jhimpir, Dawood wind power project Bhanbore, 3 gorges wind farm project in the Sindh province, Suki kinari project of 870 megawatts in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and 1,000 megawatts of solar power project in Punjab (Bhattacharjee, 2015). As a result, nearly 21 energy production projects involving coal have been launched, and if these mega projects are completed on schedule, 10,400 MW of energy will be available by March 2018. (Kousar et al., 2018). Several CPEC ventures

will be completed by December 2019, according to officials. For eg, the 1,100-kilometer Karachi-Lahore highway, the upgrade of the Karakorum highway between Rawalpindi and Khanjrab, and the railway line between Karachi and Peshawar. This super infrastructure not only connects Pakistan to China, but it also connects Pakistan to India, Iran, and Afghanistan (Ranjan, 2015).

CPEC Perceived Economic Development

In Recent span of time Pakistan is going through economic crises whereas china's biggest splurge on economic development in other under developing countries, so policymakers and government officials propose a number of economic policies and projects aimed at stabilizing the country's sagging economy. Any change either positive or negative enhance the lucrative economic cooperation in the local community (Ali et al., 2018). According to Afzal and Naseem (2018), any project's progress is determined by the local community's or countries economic development.

The CPEC projects has undeniable economic and strategic importance for Pakistan's economy and the local community (Melecky, Roberts, & Sharma, 2018). According to officials from both countries, CPEC is advantageous to Pakistan by create 27 economic zones across the region (Munir, Khalid, & Latif, 2018). CPEC has the potential to carry economic benefits and aid the rehabilitation of Pakistan's economy by industrialization in the major areas. Furthermore, according to Ramay (2016), Pakistan's annual economic growth rate will increase by about 2% as a result of the CPEC project's production. Completion of the CPEC projects will provide Pakistan with new corridors of economic prosperity.

The primary goal of CPEC is to transform the fate of Pakistani and Chinese communities by modernizing the communication infrastructure and initiation of industrialization in the region. Residents' attitudes are positively linked to their perceived wealth. The positive relationship between citizen income and positive attitude was established by connectedness (Haralambopoulos and Pizam, 1996). However CPEC officials have stated that CPEC have very bright future prospective its dividends are not only for economic stability of Pakistani local communities, but for the communities of entire region because CPEC offers many internal and external opportunities for local communities to start businesses. Along with CPEC roads, the local community may start small businesses, hotels, workshops, and supply agriculture products (Nabi et al., 2018), which may have a direct impact on local residents' income.

Infrastructure development projects, according to previous studies (Golmohammadi, 2018), have a major effect on the host community because they increase wages, improve the economy, and eliminate poverty. Furthermore, officials and policymakers create awareness of CPEC project support not only the provincial domain but also the Pakistani local population as a framework of regional connectivity.

CPEC and CSR

In the construction of B&R, the Chinese government places a high value on corporate social responsibility (CSR). The main focus of Chinese entrepreneurs is on “developing local economies, increasing local employment opportunities, and improving local living conditions to fulfil CSR and protect local species diversity a” (the countries along the B&R route). The investment and development banks, and other financial institutions have identified and strengthened the CSR requirements that must be strictly met in the construction of B&R in their guiding principles and investment guidelines. “Policy coordination, facilities connectivity, unrestricted trade, financial integration, and people-to-people bond” are among the B&R's cooperation goals. To attain these goals, CSR is most important tool especially the people-to-people bond. CSR necessitates that businesses not only concentrate on their own income, but also engage effectively with stakeholders such as the local society, the general public, and societies. Chinese enterprises, in particular, while fulfilling social responsibilities abroad, bring development opportunities to local people, create new jobs for them, improve their skills, and help them solve life problems by implementing localized operation and management, establishing a healthy relationship with the local community, and conducting community activities. The World Bank, which has been around for 70 years, has developed some positive habits, such as refusing to finance controversial mega dam ventures and blacklisting firms that have been found guilty of collusion, corruption, fraud, or intimidation or not met the triple bottom line (People, planet profit).

Material and Methods

The study is descriptive in nature that investigates the social economic development of the communities located at the route of China- Pakistan economic corridor following the corporate social responsibility (CSR). A survey of communities along the CPEC path is performed to determine the CSR activities. The Main purpose of this survey is to determine the vital role of the CPEC project in influencing the lives of local communities. It also serves as a means of defining the form of improvement brought on by CPEC's current ventures. Communities residing along the CPEC route make up the current study's unit of research. Purposive and convenience sampling methods is used to pick a sample from the population in this study due to limited financial and administrative resources. The study's sample size is 360 respondents from various provinces in Pakistan. Data is gathered using an online communication tool called Google Sheets and on a well-established questionnaire from multiple communities across Pakistan, including Hunza, Gilgatis, Hazaras, Pashtoons, Pothoharis, Punjabis, Saraikis, Baloch, and Makranis. The reliability of the instrument is $\alpha = .938$.

Results and Discussion

The respondents are consisted of (61.5%) male and (34.9%) females, the results reflect that (42.3%) of the respondents are aged (18-28), (31.2%) of the participants are aged (29-39), (17%) of the participants aged (40-50) and (9.4%) are aged 51 and above. The educational level of is; significant(30.7%) are graduate and (24.4%) are post graduate while (23.6%) are undergraduate, (12.2%) had matric degree and lastly (9.1%) of participants are in middle school. In terms of income about (46.6%) of the participants' income is 18000-38000, (22.7%) participants income is 39000-49000, (10.5%) participants incomes ranges 50000-60000, (6.5%)610000-71000 and(13.6%) are ranged 72000 or above (Fig. 1).

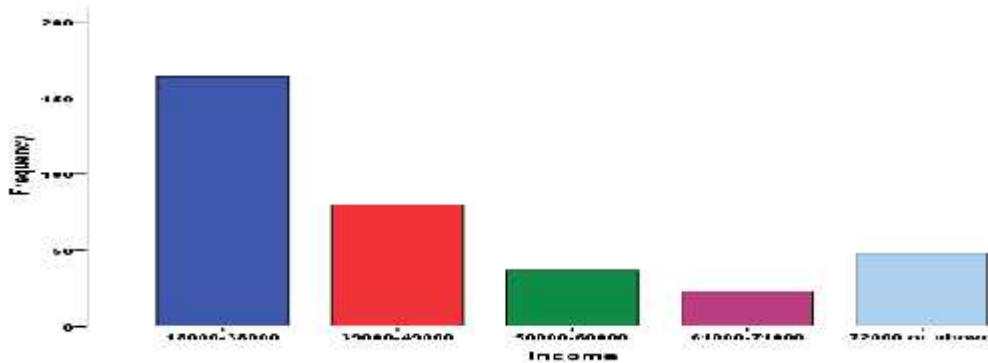


Fig. 1 Respondents' Income

In terms of province wise distribution of respondents is(33.2%) of the participants are from Punjab, (21%) from Gilgit Baltistan,(19.3%) are from Baluchistan, (14.2%) are from KPK and reaming (12.2 %) participants are from Sindh (Fig. 2).

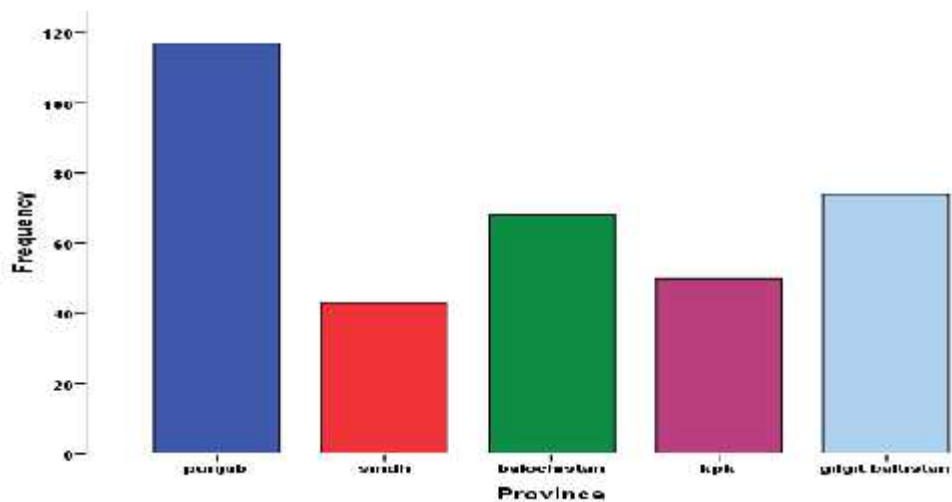


Figure 1: Province wise distribution of respondents

The researchers compare the economic situation, expenditure, living standard, wages, and jobs to the effect of the CPEC project on economic goals. The underlying Table 1 indicates is that if the situation changes, it will be able to comprehend that CPEC and CSR activities have a positive impact on the local community of Pakistan, Table 1 indicates a substantial positive response from respondents in terms of economic situation, with a mean value of ($M = 1.72$; $SD = .634$) agreeing that CPEC will strengthen the economy, and ($M = 1.95$; $SD = .801$) agreeing that CPEC businesses will generate economic income and industry for indigenous people. CPEC project has a major impact on the economy.

Table 1
Economic goals of CPEC Project

	Mean	SD
CPEC would increase the number of jobs in the region	1.80	.677
The China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) would improve the economy.	1.72	.634
CPEC encourages more investment in the area.	1.71	.667
The native people's living standards will increase as a result of CPEC	1.94	.773
Companies involved in the CPEC would generate economic benefits and opportunities for indigenous communities.	1.95	.801
The household income would rise as a result of CPEC.	2.05	.796
The CPEC would bring money into the local economy.	1.95	.746
Feeder roads along the CPEC would boost economic growth, resulting in increased revenue.	1.85	.634
The CPEC would boost the region's economic situation.	1.83	.706
The CPEC would increase the standard of living for ordinary citizens.	2.11	.840
CPEC would resolve the country's ongoing energy crises, resulting in increased family income.	2.03	.830
Long-term investments by businesses have a positive economic impact.	1.92	.676
CPEC will help to reduce poverty along its path.	2.09	.763
CPEC would increase business in the city, which will increase local residents' income.	1.93	.680

Similarly, the mean value ($M = 1.71$; $SD = .677$) come to an understanding that CPEC contributes to further investment in the region, ($M = 1.95$; $SD = .746$) find that CPEC can produce income in the local economy, and ($M = 1.92$; $SD = .676$) reflects that businesses' long-term investment has positive economic implications. CPEC Company's investment in Pakistan benefits the economy as a whole as well as the people who live along the CPEC highway. In terms of living standards, the mean value ($M = 1.94$; $SD = .773$) find that would boost the indigenous people's living standards, ($M = 2.11$; $SD = .840$) reveal that will improve the common people's living standards, and ($M = 2.09$; $SD = .763$) reflect that CPEC would reduce poverty across its borders.

Table 2
Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) of CPEC companies

	M	SD
CPEC is operating in accordance with societal standards.	2.27	0.869
CPEC organizations will engage in charitable and volunteer programs in local communities.	2.29	0.922
CPEC will support initiatives that improve a community's "quality of life" on a voluntary basis.	2.15	0.786
CPEC would offer students the chance to receive a good education.	2.16	0.816
CPEC's access to major cities will expand educational opportunities.	1.97	0.753
Through schooling, CPEC ensures a rise in family income.	2.06	0.752
CPEC is expected to contribute to the establishment of new educational institutions.	2.09	0.82
The enhancement of roads encourages females to enrollment in education.	2.14	0.797
The key component of CPEC is education, which addresses the most basic social needs.	2.25	0.995
CPEC will contribute to the growth and development of education.	2.15	0.792
The standard of current education will be improved by CPEC.	2.19	0.873
The CPEC project would build jobs in the area.	1.88	0.689
CPEC can improve a person's chances of having a successful job.	1.89	0.707
The CPEC project will bring new business opportunities to the city.	1.84	0.641
Wages in CPEC jobs are projected to increase.	1.99	0.728
The China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) would create jobs and boost livelihood opportunities.	1.93	0.691
There will be less violence if there are more work opportunities.	2.01	0.962

In short, the results show that the CPEC project has improved people's living conditions. In terms of revenue, the mean value (M =2.05; SD =.796) reflect that CPEC will increase family income, and (M =1.85; SD =.634) agrees that CPEC's feeder routes will increase economic activity, resulting in increased income. (M =2.03; SD =.830) show` that CPEC will address the country's current energy crises, resulting in an increase in family income; (M =1.93; SD =.680) agree that CPEC will increase industry in the region, resulting in an increase in local people's income. When it comes to work opportunities, the mean value (M =1.80; SD =.677) of respondents agreed that CPEC would increase job opportunities in the regions.As it is the obligation of every big project to give back to society, Table 2 shows CSR goals. Even though it is a discretionary part of duty, it holds a significant position. CSR programs i.e. schooling, employment prospects, and quality of life are the four primary areas in which CSR priorities are divided. The underlying aspect is that if the circumstances change, we can infer that the CPEC has a positive effect on the local community through CSR activities. Table 2 reflects the descriptive statistics for the variables. Table 2 indicates a strong positive response from respondents, with the mean value of (M =2.27; SD = 0.869) agreeing that CPEC will operate in a manner compatible with CSR and charitable aspirations of society, and (M=2.29, SD=0.992) reflect that CPEC businesses will engage in voluntary projects within their local people.

Similarly, when it comes to education, the mean value (M =2.16; SD =.816) agrees that CPEC will provide opportunities for quality education, while the mean value (M = 1.97; SD =.753) reveal that CPEC will provide greater opportunities for quality education. Furthermore, the mean value (M = 2.06; SD =.752) show that it ensures an increase in family income through education. (M = 2.09; SD =.82) agree with the statement that new educational institutions will be founded as a result of CPEC, (M =2.14; SD =.797) disagree with the statement that new educational institutions will be established as a result of CPEC. Road improvements allow female students to enroll in school, (Mean = 2.25; Standard Deviation =.995) the most basic social needs, such as education, are the most important aspect of CPEC (M = 2.15; SD =.792). It would help to promote and expand education. Hence, CPEC would boost the standard of current education (M = 2.19; SD =.873). If community education is properly enriched, more and more skilled people enter the job market in search of work, resulting in more job opportunities. The mean value of the population that accept (M = 1.88; SD =.689) that CPEC will make chances of work in the region (M = 1.89; SD =.707) that it will create opportunities for an individual to find a good job (M = 1.89; SD =.707) that it will create opportunities for a person to find a good job (M = 1.89; SD =.707) that It will create opportunities for a person to find a good (M =1.84; SD =.641) believe CPEC would bring new business opportunities to the area. Furthermore, (M = 1.99; SD =.728) agree that employment salaries will increase in CPEC workers, and (M = 1.93; SD =.691) reflect that CPEC will provide employment and skills for enhanced livelihood opportunities. As a result (M = 2.01; SD =.962) There will be less violence if there are more work opportunities.

Finally, as a result of the above three dimensions being funded by the CPEC initiative, the group agrees that CPEC will provide voluntary assistance to all initiatives that improve a community's "quality of life," with a mean value of (M = 2.15; SD =.786). In short, because of the CPEC project's service, quality of life has improved in terms of normal life, community's living standard, improvement of economic activities, skilled and non-skilled job opportunities.

This research has contributed to the local community and sociometry literature by demonstrating the benefits and perspectives of CPEC projects for local residents across Pakistan. A research model was proposed based on previous similar studies. Data was collected online from all of Pakistan's provinces, including the capital Islamabad Capital territory (ICT). The key finding however indicate and confirmed the majority of the proposed demonstrating communities along with route, and support for the CPEC project's growth.

Present evidence shows that when CPEC companies are involved in CSR practices, communities along the CPEC route have better prospects and a higher standard of living; when CPEC companies engage in CSR practices, communities have quality education, healthcare, and housing facilities.

Practically, policy makers encompasses that CPEC acts as a couple of development projects with numerous regional, international and domestic fronts. It

will also fruitful for local community of Pakistan (Kanwal et al., 2020; Ali et al, 2018). According to John, Mahesar, & Sahito (2020) not only work in development projects but also addresses areas like aqua culture, agriculture, antinarcotic effects, pilot project, science and technology as well as the banking sectors of the two countries to greater the relationship between the local and host community. Wide variety of education-related initiatives are also directly and indirectly connected to CPEC. China – Pakistan economic corridor is a massive bilateral project to develop infrastructure, including routes and overland routes in Pakistan for better trade that would reduce travel time, cost, energy, and also decrease in illegal trade by promoting people to people contact, culture exchange, media and heritage for long term partnership. The social development project of CPEC initiative allows exchange or transfer of knowledge, expertise in backward areas to uplift the quality education in local community. These developmental revolution will produce several jobs, allowing the youth with new academic and technical advancement to achieve a competitive advantage. Local citizens, in particular, are more conscious of the value of this mega project because of the higher education ratio. Previous research on this project indicate that it has also a correlation between citizen education and income (Sun et al., 2020; Shah, 2018).

The second major findings of the current study revealed that Carroll pyramid's five key objectives, as suggested the findings of the study are consistent with previous research studies (Ramay, 2016; Golmohammadi, 2018 and Kanwal et al, 2020). Another fruit of CPEC is that it will provide maximum opportunity to all provinces especially for local residents, enhancing the local community's resources as well as standard of living. This study's result stated that CPEC will provide new vision, new impetus to Pak China relationship. It is an all whether strategic cooperative partnership that uplift the economy of Pakistan. At first, this research make an important contribution to the existing literature by recognizing local residence benefits as a result of the growth of the CPEC in Pakistan. According to Ali et al. (2018), further research is required in relation to CPEC projects across Pakistan. This study tries to fill in the gaps in the literature by looking at the positive factors that affect the living standards of the host group. The results suggest that CPEC regarded as a blessing for a local community of Pakistan. Line with the previous research, the local community of Pakistan materialized this dream as a bright future in terms of local community life styles, educational reforms, modernize infrastructure, revenue generation and awareness related to campaigns. On the other hand Chinese government conceptualize CPEC as a dream of success. Sun et al., (2020) conducted research about the socio culture impact of CPEC on local community well-being, benefit in supporting by host community.

The findings of this study suggested that CPEC officials pay particular attention to boosting local resident trust in CPEC projects, as some residents in Baluchistan and KPK provinces are opposed to the project's growth. Seminars, training, and workshops should be organized by the government and policymakers to educate people to deal threats with great bravery and brotherhood. The officials of Pakistan can also use different communication channels like television, newspapers,

magazines and especially internet technology which comprises social media like Facebook, Instagram, you tube, linkedIn, Twitter and whats app to inform local citizens about the benefits of the CPEC, then they will be more attract and divert their attention towards the significance of CPEC.

Conclusion

With two-thirds of the world's population, South Asia is a less integrated region of the world with a high rate of unemployment due to lack of access to markets and other industries. The China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) paves the way for access to previously inaccessible markets and financing cooperation. . The aim of this research was to look into the local community's gain from the CPEC project's growth as well as the socio economic development of the Pakistani local community. Local residents are aware of the benefits of CPEC but are uncertain about its implementation, according to the findings. The significant population aware that the CPEC project would benefit the host group and supported constructive experiences. . According to representatives from both countries, the CPEC project would help locals in both countries through education, career opportunities, and business opportunities. As a result, officials from both countries are hoping that the CPEC projects will be completed quickly and effectively, and that the economies of China and Pakistan will benefit from increased trade and energy cooperation.

The CPEC project's successful implementation benefited billions of people in both countries. Furthermore, the Pakistani government believes that, while CPEC will change the course of Pakistan's and the region's lives, the project's success will be contingent on both countries' continued commitment. On the other hand, the Chinese government should maintain contact with the local community in order to better serve regional interests and ensure the commitment to their corporate social responsibility that the CPEC helps more Pakistanis. As a result, this study concludes that CPEC ventures would support the Pakistani community.

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