

## Tackling the Climate Crisis Transitioning to Green Economy

**World Environment Day 2021** 



# Are We Listening to What Nature is Saying?

Nature has been firing "warning shots" but we were not listening (or even willing to listen?)

- SARs, Ebola, mad-cow disease, avian influenza
- Each time a species goes extinct

Zoonotic diseases are a major cause of concern as human and animal interface increase

- 70% of all infectious diseases are zoonotic
- Habitat depletion, ill-legal animal trade, etc

COVID pandemic – we should try our level best of not returning to what we consider as "Normal way of doing things"

Where we stand today is because "normal" was not sustainable

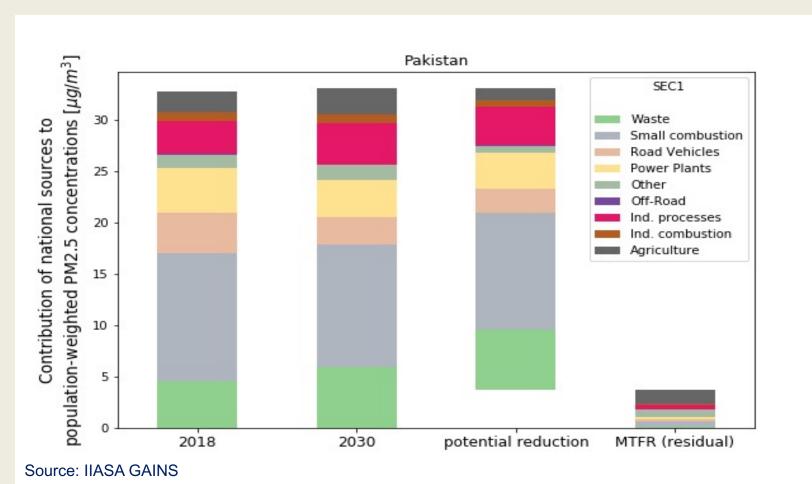


### **Understanding Problem**

- To transition towards green economy, we need to understand where is the problem
- Air pollution is at dangerous levels and far above WHO limits
  - ✓ Has health impacts
  - ✓ Links with climate change
  - ✓ Impacts productivity and GDP growth
  - ✓ Causes natural capital to deplete
- Water usage and pollution is at unstainable levels
  - ✓ Indus River is considered as one of the highest sources of plastic pollution of oceans
  - ✓ Waterborne diseases is major cause of concern
- Natural capital and habitat depletion
  - ✓ Depleting glaciers in Himalayas, Hindukush and Karakorum ranges

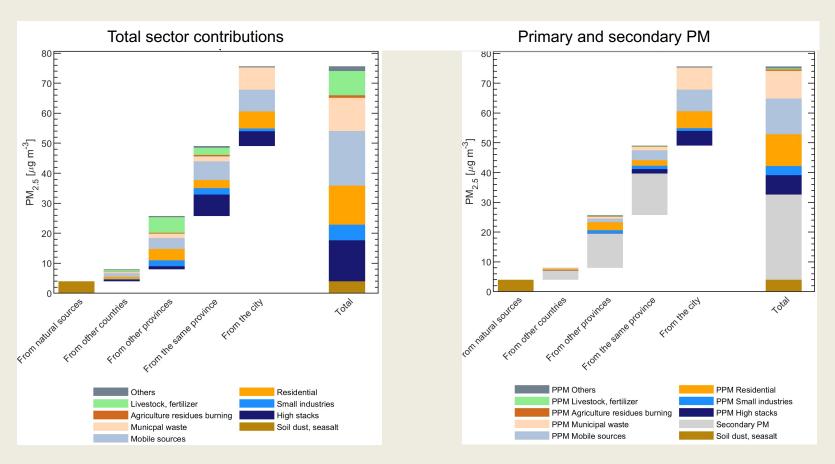
## National Contributions to Air Pollution

Source apportionment of (population-weighted) PM2.5 exposure in 2018



THE WORLD BANK

#### Sources of Pollution in Islamabad

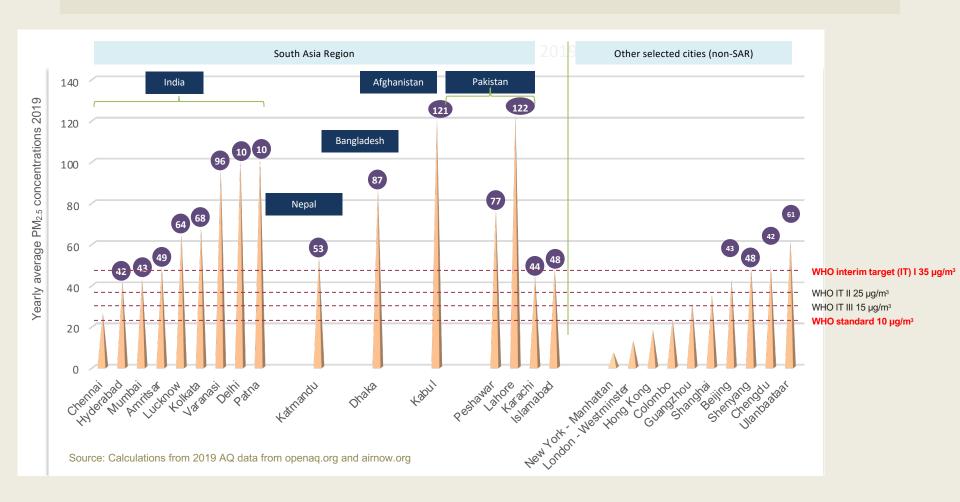


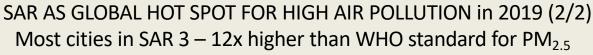
Natural and transboundary contributions have not been considered

Source: IIASA GAINS



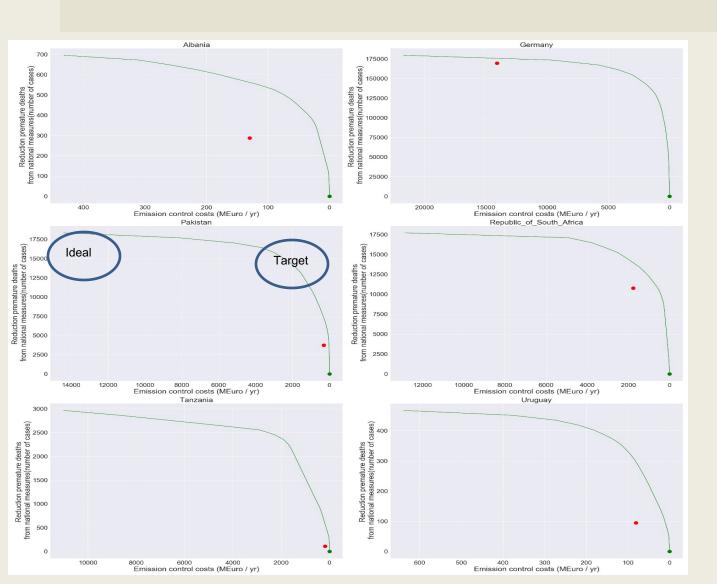
#### Air Pollution in South Asia







### Are We Doing Enough?



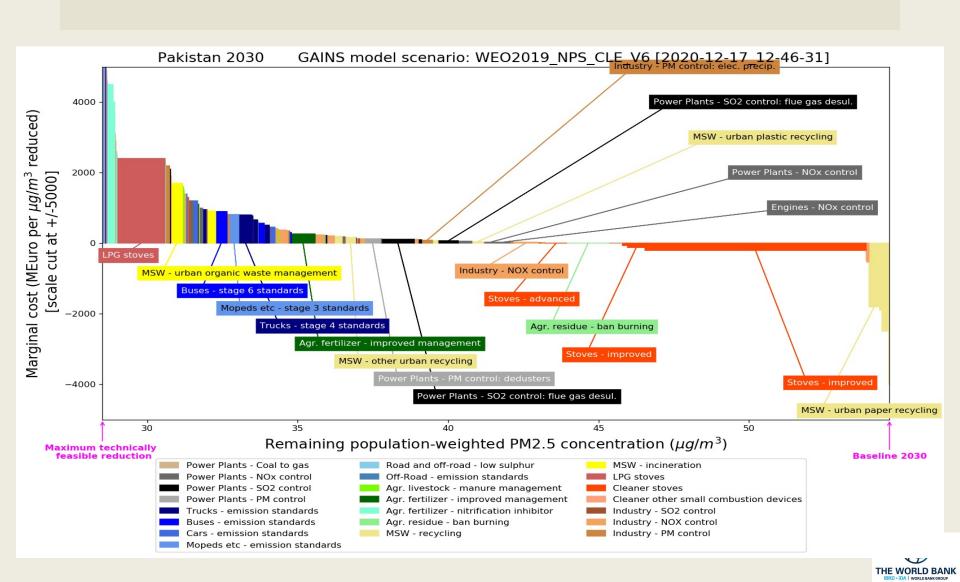
The green curves (ECCC) describes the Pareto-efficient frontier for reducing concentrations by reducing local emissions, starting from the no-control situation (green dot) where no air pollution control measures are in place.

The vertical axis indicates the air pollution benefits, the horizontal axis the emission control costs.

The red dot indicates the implications of the current legislation (CLE) on air pollution control: a reduction in PM2.5-related premature mortality and an associated emission control cost relative to the uncontrolled situation

Source: IIASA GAINS Model WORLD BANK

### **Marginal Abatement Cost Curve**



#### What More Can We Do?

- Undertake a comprehensive dialogue on fiscal regime involving all stakeholders and actors for greening economy
  - ✓ Must be national agenda
  - ✓ Bring together SBP, SECP, Planning Commission and Ministry of Finance among others for transitioning to green economy
- Mainstream environment and climate change into decision making processes
  - ✓ Move beyond have mere NOCs from EPAs and a section PC-Is.
  - ✓ Improve implementation of air quality programs
- Introduce fiscal policy measures to reduce or eliminate distortions
  - ✓ Give incentives for all technologies that are environment friendly and resource efficient
  - ✓ Further encourage green financing mechanism



#### What More Can We Do?

#### Improve Environmental Monitoring

Build capacity of federal, provincial and local govt environmental monitoring and modelling capacity

Develop a network of air (PM<sub>2.5</sub>, Sox, Nox, CO) and water quality monitoring (bacterial and chemical contamination)

Develop protocols for public disclosure and citizen's engagement

## Enhance Devolution of Environmental Responsibilities

Improve local government capacity in environmental services

Adopt airshed and watershed management

Support provincial governments in preparation of green development plans

Improve urban zoning policies to reduce urban sprawl – provisions for public transport services and infrastructure, urban forestry (green belts), etc

## Coordination Between Federal, Provincial and Local Governments

Use existing coordination mechanisms (Pakistan Environmental Council & Council of Common Interests) more effectively

Adopt airshed and watershed management approaches across administrative boundaries for pollution control

Focus on black carbon and Environment friendly recourse efficient technologies (such as clean cooking to reduce impacts on glaciers)



#### What More Can We Do?

Sector	Key emission reduction measure
Household cookstoves	<ul> <li>Access to electricity, LPG in remote areas</li> </ul>
Solid waste management	<ul> <li>Enforced ban of open trash burning</li> <li>Improving collection efficiency</li> <li>Recycling of paper, plastics</li> </ul>
Large industries	<ul> <li>High efficiency well-maintained PM filters,</li> <li>control of fugitive PM emissions,</li> <li>SO<sub>2</sub> and NO<sub>x</sub> controls</li> </ul>
Electricity supply	<ul> <li>Flue gas desulfurization</li> <li>Fewer blackouts, modern diesel generators</li> <li>Switch to clean energy</li> </ul>
Agriculture	<ul> <li>More efficient application of urea fertilizer, (manure mgt)</li> <li>Ban of open burning of agricultural residues</li> </ul>
Brick kilns	<ul> <li>Replacement of traditional kilns with Zig-Zag and vertical shaft brick kilns</li> </ul>
Transport	<ul> <li>Reduce vehicular movement near glaciers</li> <li>Improve fuel quality (Euro V or even better Euro VI)</li> <li>Launch programs to create awareness for reducing excess road usage</li> <li>Safer and greener transport modes</li> </ul>

### **Tackling Cross- Boundary Air Pollution**

- Air Pollution is a cross boundary issue impacting all countries of South Asia
- Building a common South Asia Region Clean Air 2030 vision will provide countries with aspirational targets to significantly improve their air quality over the next 10 years at an accelerated pace
- Countries need to reach one of the interim targets
- Set Interim Targets which would give flexibility for individual countries to pursue these targets at their own pace, as dictated by their economic and social situations

4. Cross-Country AQM collaboration and collaboration in selected airsheds

gradually strategy, and

5. Continue advancing toward more protective **Ambient Air Quality Standards** 

2030: Reaching WHO IT I of 35 µg/m<sup>3</sup> as a minimum (population-weighted average) and progress further towards WHO IT II, IT III and AQG standards

2. Continue to build up strong national AQM programs in SAR countries

1. 2020/21 Consult SAR **AQM Flagship** study findings 3. Expand cooperation on technical challenges and policy designs for sectors, AQM modeling





# Thank you for your Attention

