

## Experts deliberate on pertinent economic issues at the three-day SESS virtual conference

**April 2-4, 2021:** The School of Economics and Social Sciences (SESS) and the Centre for Business and Economic Research successfully held the 1st virtual International Conference on Economics and Sustainable Development. The conference was chaired by the ED Dr. S Akbar Zaidi, while local and international experts discussed the pressing issues pertaining to regional economy and economic stability. Leading researchers and scholars also contributed to the forum with their latest research and findings in various sessions.

### Keynote speech

The conference was inaugurated by Governor Sindh, Mr. Imran Ismail with a video message. Following the inaugural, Dr. Lant Pritchett, Director at the Blavatnik School of Government, University of Oxford delivered the keynote address.

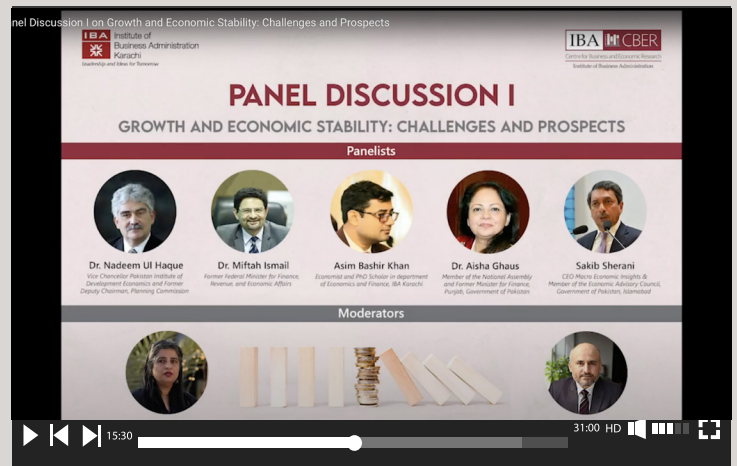
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jXw7NzEuPg0>



### Panel Discussion I

Growth and Economic Stability: Challenges and Prospects

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7XTLR62hJE8>



### Panel Discussion II

Sustainable Development: Inequality and Inclusive Growth

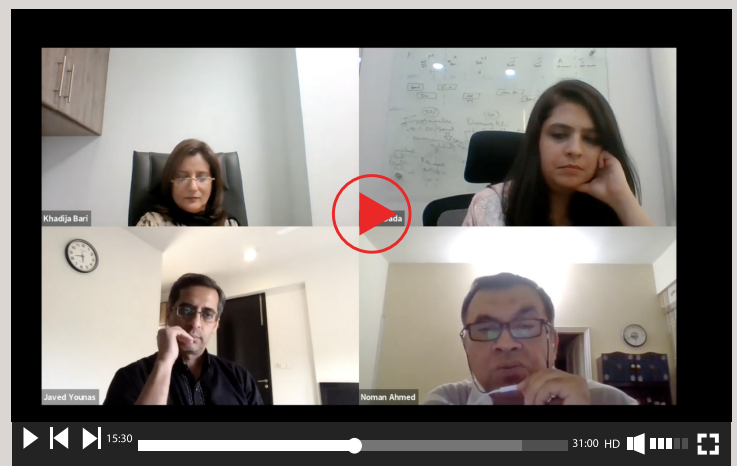
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nqqTtVeAlWI>



### Panel Discussion III

Urban Resilience and Impact on Utility Services

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7rDa\\_0HQaS0](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7rDa_0HQaS0)



### Parallel Technical Sessions and Doctoral Symposium Presentations

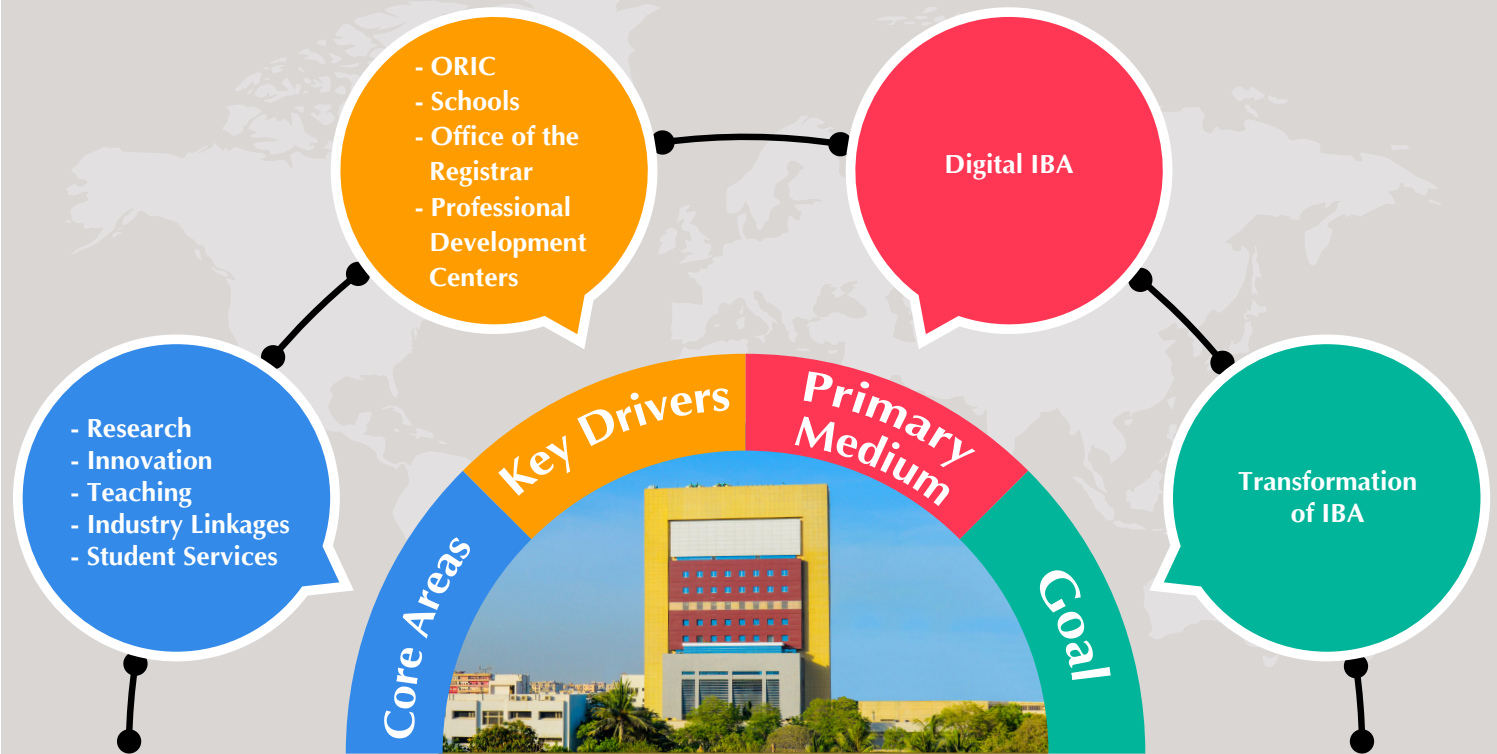
Around nine parallel technical sessions were organized featuring various experts from the industry who spoke on a wide range of topics. The conference also organized the Doctoral Symposium Presentations and a prize distribution ceremony on the last day of the event.



### IBA plans transformative journey of academic excellence and intellectual capital

**April, 2021:** The IBA has set out a comprehensive and a robust plan to steer the Institute towards a transformative journey of academic excellence and intellectual capital, the plan for which the ED Dr. S Akbar Zaidi presented before the Board of Governors (BoG).

The ED apprised the BoG members that the mainstay of the plan would involve the academic schools, the Office of the Registrar, the Office of Research, Innovation and Commercialization, and the Professional Development Centers. The IBA will also be vying for global accreditations in various fields, which has become a benchmark for top universities. The ED elucidated the concept of the Digital IBA which would help deliver value to the IBA's strategic direction.



### Virtual townhall meeting held with students

**April 28, 2021:** A virtual town hall meeting with the IBA students was arranged by the Student Societies Office, where a series of discussions were held along with interactions between the study body and the Vice President ISC, Mr. Muhammad Daniyal Khan. A presentation was given on the draft for new student governance system and electoral process to the participants.

### Faculty engagement session with Dr. Inge Iqbal

**April 30, 2021:** Director, DAAD Pakistan, Ms. Inge Iqbal, conducted an online information session for the IBA faculty members. The session was co-hosted by faculty members Dr. Najam Akber Anjum and Dr. Aadil Nakhoda, along with lecturer, Fit for Export program, Leipzig University, Mr. Gunnar Kasberg.

### Collaboration opportunities discussed

**April 16, 2021:** An interactive session was conducted, attended by the students and faculty members, where Dr. Asad Q. Ahmed discussed the possibilities of academic collaboration and student exchange between University of California, Berkeley and the IBA. He expressed his interest in signing of an MOU between the IBA and UC, Berkeley, regarding the exchange of faculty and students.

### IBA attends conference by French embassy

**April, 2021:** The IBA took part in a conference organized by the Embassy of France, where well-reputed Pakistani universities were invited to interact with French universities. This provided the Institute a good opportunity to initiate interaction with higher education institutes in areas of mutual interest.

### Information sessions on higher education opportunities

**April, 2021:** The IRC organized various information sessions and a webinar for the students, in order to update them regarding different scholarships, higher education opportunities abroad and exchange programs with partner universities.

### IBA conducts self-institutional performance evaluation

**April 7-9, 2021:** The Quality Enhancement Cell (QEC) at the IBA conducted its annual self- Institutional Performance Evaluation. The IPE panel consisted of three members - Associate Professor Dr. Sayeed Ghani, Assistant Professor Dr. Lalarukh Ejaz, Director QEC at the Jinnah Sindh Medical University, Dr. Abdul Wahid Usmani. The IPE panel members met the ED, the Deans of the three schools, the Registrar, Dr. Asad Ilyas and Director, QEC, Dr. Saima Husain along with others.

## Guest Speaker Sessions

### Economist Dr. Mia Mikic talks about issues in trade policies

**April 22, 2021:** Trade economist Dr. Mia Mikic gave a lecture on 'Globalization and Trade Driven Pandemic Recovery: Selected Issues from a Political Economy Perspective', where she highlighted the problems in trade policies and discussed possible solutions with the addition of many inventions.

### Former ED Dr. Farrukh Iqbal gives lecture to students

**April 27, 2021:** Former IBA ED and Chairperson of the National Business Education Accreditation Council, Dr. Farrukh Iqbal, gave an online guest lecture. In his discussion, he primarily focused on analyzing the linkages between international trade and economic development in the world.

### UNCTAD economist discusses 'Trade and Development Report 2020'

**April 13, 2021:** Renowned economist at the United Nations Conference for Trade and Development, Mr. Piergiuseppe Fortunato, gave a virtual guest speaker lecture, where he discussed how the implications of Covid-19 have expanded the financial and socio-economic differences between north and south economies.

### 'Towards post COVID-19 resilient economies'

**April 1, 2021:** Dr. Hamza Ali Malik, Director of the Macroeconomic Policy and Financing for Development Division at United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia-Pacific countries gave guest speaker session on how the ramifications of the COVID-19 exacerbated the financial and socio-economic situations in Asia-Pacific economies.

## Student, faculty and alumni achievements

The IBA takes great pride in the achievements of its students, faculty and alumni. Read on the links below about how the IBA community is excelling and contributing to the society:



## CICT: Learning about tech

### Workshop trains employees of banking sector

**April 9 – 11, 2021:** The CICT organized a three-day workshop under the project titled 'Digitalization of the Banking Sector of Pakistan'. CICT and Dellsons Associates partnered with Faysal Bank Limited to design and execute this training program, with the aim to build capacity of the employees of Pakistan's banking sector. This training project mainly focuses on enhancing IT skills of the bankers and the course content focused on solving problems faced by the banking industry of Pakistan by offering digitally powered solutions.

## CEIF: Promoting Islamic Finance

### Webinar sessions

**'Awareness session on Zakat and its importance':** CEIF conducted a webinar in collaboration with Minhaj University Lahore. Deputy Chairman Board of Governors, Minhaj University Lahore, Dr. Hussain Mohi-ud-Din Qadri and Researcher & Shariah Scholar, ICRIE-MUL, Mr. Mustanir Hussain Wasim were the speakers.

**'Islamic home finance, the way forward':** A webinar was held, featuring a wide range of experts, including Director, CEIF Mr. Ahmed Ali Siddiqui, CEO, Emaar, Mr. Sohail Baig, Group Head, Consumer Finance, Meezan Bank Ltd, Mr. Arshad Majeed and others.

**'RegTech: Regulation of Islamic fintech':** CEIF conducted the webinar in collaboration with Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan (SECP). The speakers included Chairman Shari'ah Committee, SECP, SBP & Chairman Shari'ah Board, Bank Islami, Mufti Irshad Ahmad Aijaz and Secretary to Commission & Policy Board, Executive Director/Head of Islamic Finance Department, SECP, Mr. Bilal Rasul.

## CEE roundup

### Training workshops

**Simulation session:** CEE PGD Program Office organized a simulation session observing bullwhip effect, which was moderated by Director, CEE, Dr. Rameez Khalid, as part of Supply Chain Management course. Mr. Faisal Jalal, visiting faculty IBA, was invited to assess the simulation as an SCM Specialist.

**'Leadership Clinic':** A webinar was organized with faculty Dr. Rameez Khalid, Dr. Nyla Ansari and Mr. Adnan Ahmed as the panelists. This webinar offered an opportunity to aspiring leaders to learn about developmental assistance across career growth and psychosocial support

**'Emerging Need for Governance in Family Managed Business':** The webinar's speaker, Program Director, Family Managed Business, Ms. Aysha Anas Iftikhar discussed the role of family governance in perpetuating a harmonious family and successful business.



## Raising awareness on workplace harassment

**April 14, 2021:** The CED conducted a session in continuation with the 'Personal and Professional Development Program', conducted by CEO, GloChic Skincare Products, Ms. Mariam Faisal Amin. She discussed types of workplace harassment and ways to recognize handle and report harassment.

## Learning about self-care

**April 21, 2021:** A session on self-care was conducted with the aim to encourage participants to take care of their social, emotional, intellectual and physical needs. The participants took part in various productive activities to lower their negative emotions, as part of their emotional well-being.



## Giving Back

### Akhuwat Foundation to facilitate IBA students

**April 13, 2021:** The Akhuwat Foundation agreed to support the education of the Institute's deserving and meritorious students. Through this 5-year agreement, Akhuwat Foundation will provide Qarz-e-Hasna to selected IBA students, who will be able to avail interest free loans of up to PKR 125,000.

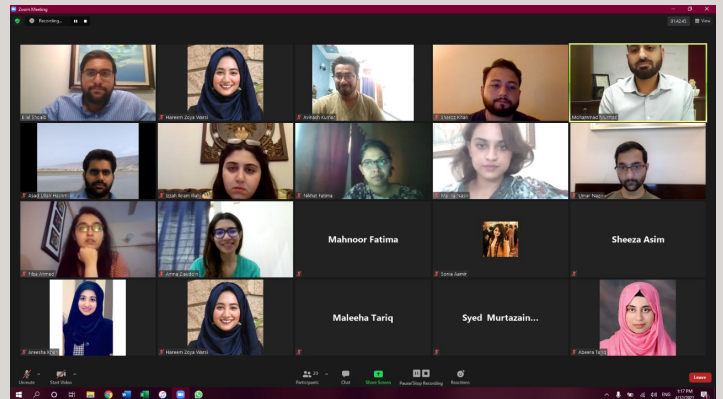
### Various scholarship funds setup

**April, 2020:** PKR 26 million were committed by the alumni donors of Class of 2011, 2000 and 1990 and Pakistan Beverage Limited. We thank the donors for their generosity and contribution in setting up the scholarships and endowment funds.

## CDC News Bytes

### Corporate Connect Series

**April, 2021:** The CDC collaborated with the faculty members in connecting them with the industry experts and covering the guest speaker sessions. A total of 12 guest speaker sessions were conducted during the month, featuring speakers who are experts in their fields, along with the faculty.



### Online mock interviews and recruitment drives

**April 28, 2021:** Simulated online interviews were kicked off in order to prepare junior and senior year students for better preparation of real-time interviews. Over 150 students registered to take part in the mock interviews which will continue until June, while 26 professionals will conduct these interviews. Furthermore, over 20 online programs and virtual drives, offering management trainee and internship opportunities, were arranged for the students.

## Donate books to IBA

