

Role of Agriculture in Green Industrialization in Pakistan

Abstract

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As a critical sector of the Pakistani economy, accounting for about 23% percent of the GDP and providing employment to around 37% of the population. In addition to providing food, fodder, livelihood, and raw materials to industry, this sector is a major employer of rural labour in Pakistan. However, in addition to low productivity, resource inefficiency, and limited adoption of modern technologies; Pakistan's agriculture sector is generally unsustainable in terms of the use of natural resources such as water and soil. These problems are further compounded by climate change as Pakistan is a highly vulnerable country and the agriculture sector has a high exposure to climate change. Furthermore, there is unequal distribution of land, inadequate infrastructure, poor agricultural extension, lack of innovation, and supply chain issues.

The antidote to this problem is the structural green transformation of Pakistani agriculture which entails the adoption of sustainable agricultural practices, improved resource efficiency and productivity, agricultural mechanisation, backward and forward linkages between agriculture and industry, and resilience to climate change. This study conducts a detailed investigation of the above-mentioned problems and suggests several concrete and practical policy recommendations for the transformation of the agricultural sector in Pakistan.