

Media Update

23 January 2018

United Nations

Press Release

Policy Dialogue held between the Government of Punjab and the United Nations Pakistan

Islamabad, 23 January 2018 – The United Nations Country Team (UNCT) in Pakistan and Punjab Planning and Development (P&D) Department held a one-day *Policy Dialogue* on 20th January 2018 in Islamabad. A 15-member senior delegation from P&D Department led by the Chairman P&D Board, Mr. Jehanzeb Khan joined the UNCT Pakistan comprising of UN Heads of Agencies and senior UN officials from 13 UN agencies to discuss practical ways on achieving the SDGs and fostering increased collaboration on policy innovations.

The Chairman shared that the Punjab Government invests approximately in equivalence of USD 6.5 billion annually in development projects. “We want these large investments to generate better and lasting results to accelerate the SDG attainment. The United Nations in Pakistan as our strategic partner is well placed to support us in our policy planning cycle,” the Chairman added.

The Government of Punjab is assigning utmost importance to the Agenda 2030 and SDGs and is undertaking initiatives to align Punjab’s development agenda with the imperatives of Agenda 2030 and SDGs. The UN is supporting the Government of Punjab in the localization of the SDGs agenda and its effective implementation.

On the occasion, Mr. Neil Buhne, the UN Resident Coordinator in Pakistan, said: “This policy dialogue is the first of its kind to be held where senior Government officials from the provincial government have come together with the UN Country Team to jointly brainstorm ideas and actions to take forward on SDGs and policy innovations and enhanced technical assistance for provincial level planning. The UN by its work in Pakistan is privileged to



partner with the government of this country to build strength to overcome the shared challenges.”

Please access photo of the event here:

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/0bqn9ibmivl0oa6/20th%20Jan%20Punjab%20Retreat.jpg?dl=0>

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