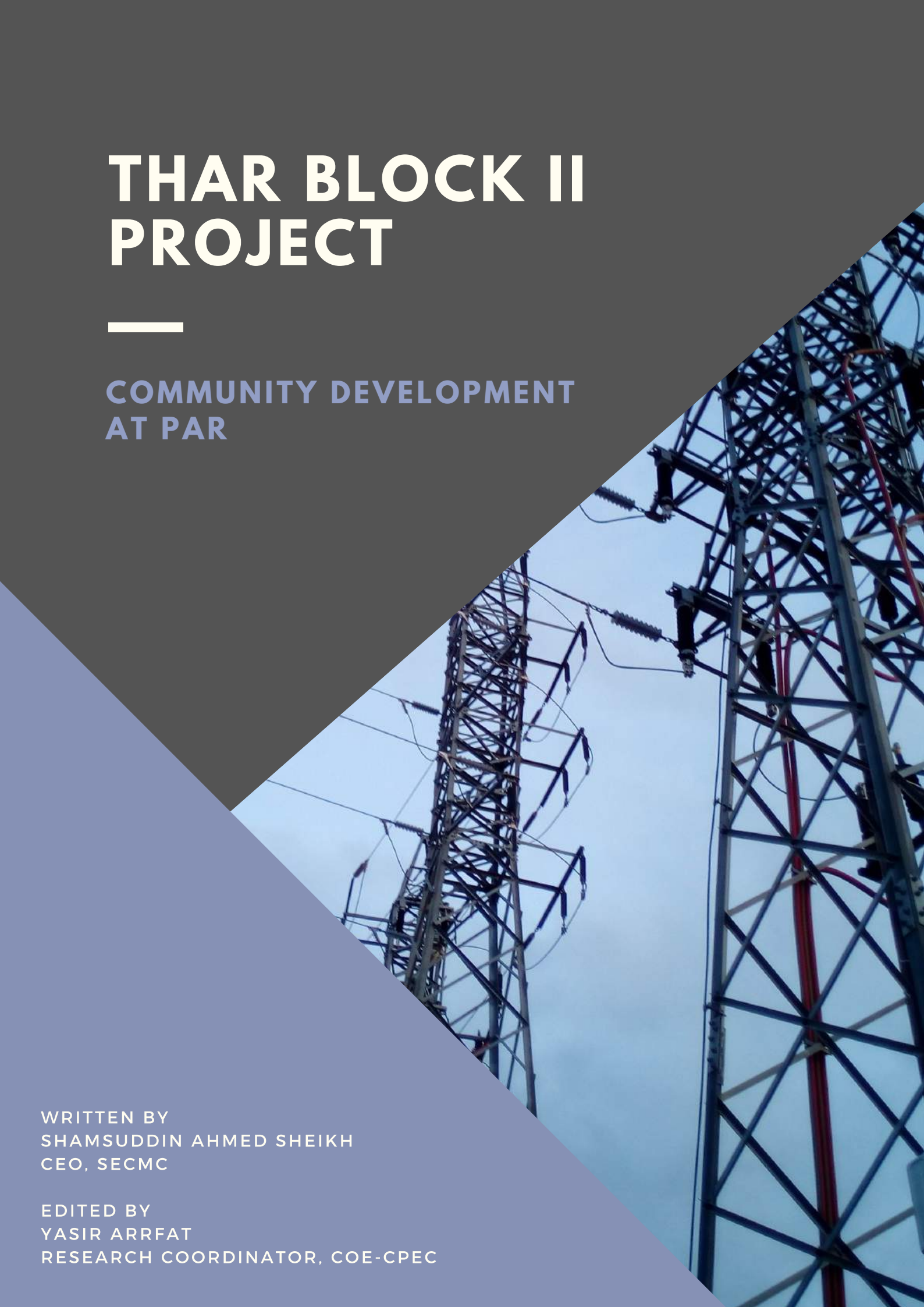


THAR BLOCK II PROJECT



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
AT PAR

WRITTEN BY
SHAMSUDDIN AHMED SHEIKH
CEO, SECMC

EDITED BY
YASIR ARRFAT
RESEARCH COORDINATOR, COE-CPEC

THAR BLOCK II PROJECT: COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AT PAR



The year 2018 will mark history as the first electron will be transmitted from the fabled Thar Coal Block II, mined by Sindh Engro Coal Mining Company (SECMC), produced by Engro Powergen Thar Limited (EPTL) in a 2x330MW units of presently under-construction power plant. The electric transmission will be injected into the national grid early 2019 and all the nightmarish life of power outage will be a thing of the past. In the year 2018, SECMC will touch the coal and, at the beginning of the year 2019, coal-produced electricity will be injected into the national grid, whereas only one percent of the reserves has the potential to produce 4000 to 5000MW by 2024. SECMC has secured an allocation of about 96sq.kms which has 1.57 billion tonnes of coal reserves. The mining and power projects, as of January 2018, is far ahead of its schedule with both the projects witnessing 70% completion.

The Thar Block II projects successfully enter 23rd month of operations and, with steady progress on all fronts – overburden removal, power plant progress, infrastructure, community development initiatives, land acquisition, engineering and construction – has achieved a total of phenomenal 22 million safe man-hours without Lost Workday Injury (LWI). The mining team also touched 2nd Aquifer at a depth of 125m in the month of January

2018 as continues the safe dewatering activity, with cumulative of 30 Million m³. Mine depth crossed 125m the same month. Deeply rooted in the land where we operate, SECMC and EPTL are spending unprecedented resources on the socioeconomic wellbeing of the local community – from the platform of the Thar Foundation, a nonprofit established to take care of the real stakeholders, i.e. the people of Tharparkar – with the



A place of water shortage now produces 30 million m³ safe drinking water~ Thar Block II Project



The Marvi Mother and Clinic, entertaining more than 2000 patients a month~ A Lady Doctor, another 250 bedded hospital has also been planned in Islamkot

commitment to improve life standard of the local community by intervening on sustainable basis in the Health, Safe Drinking Water, Education, Women Empowerment, and Livelihood sectors. The Marvi Mother and Child Clinic is the center for providing free medical healthcare facilities to the area, and garners more than 2000 visits a month especially by the women of surrounding villages. The clinic staff comprises a lady doctor, 02 male medical officers, a nutritionist, a phlebotomist, 02 lady health workers, a pediatrician, and a dispenser who are serving the otherwise

underprivileged communities of Islamkot, Nangarparkar and other talukas of the district. Technically looked after by The Indus Hospital, the clinic also organizes frequent free medical camps for Tuberculosis, Eye Diseases, Hepatitis, and other diseases. A 250-bedded state-of-the-art hospital is also planned to be at Islamkot with a cost of more than 03 billion rupees, in partnership with the Shahid Afridi Foundation and other donors including Government of Sindh. And when it will start functioning in the year 2020, it is expected that people from other districts will also come for quality healthcare facilities in the hospital.



A school in Islamkot operational since 2017 imparting quality education~8 more schools are under construction~Around 5000 children are expected to be enrolled

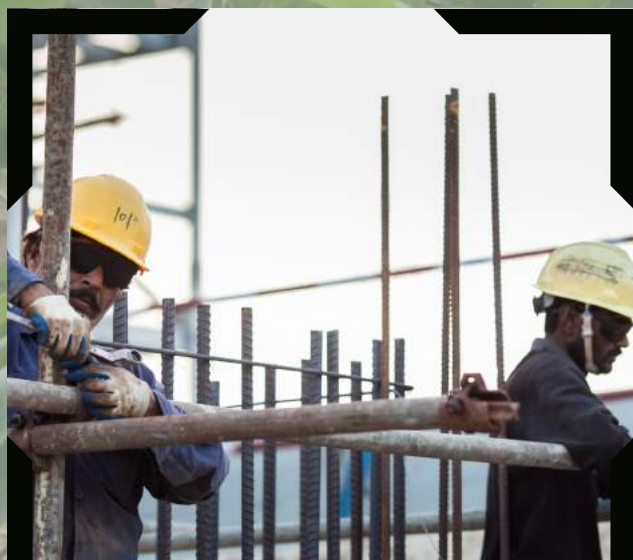
In the education sector as well, the Foundation has spent 63 crore rupees during the past 22 months, i.e. commencement of the Thar Block II project. The Thar Foundation Primary Schools have been established in, each, Tharyo Halepoto, Mansingh Bheel, and Bitra villages of Block II with the technical support of the Charter for Compassion Pakistan. In partnership with The Citizens Foundation, one school in Islamkot is already operational since 2017, while two more schools are under construction in New Senhri Dars, the resettlement village, ready to impart quality education. The schools have all the necessary facilities for the students as well as for the staff. Also, 06 new primary schools are being constructed and, by August 2018, about 4500-5000 kids are expected to be enrolled in the TF schools.

As part of the commitment to bring about a positive socioeconomic change in the area, more than 71% of the total 3,465 workforce including engineers, skills and unskilled labor, and office workers have been hired from district Tharparkar. More than 1000 local youth have been trained in different trades to increase their employability in the current and future coal-centered projects.

The massive campaign to hire local human resource has resulted in heightened income generation for the local communities. Every month, about Rs39.75 million is disbursed into locals of area and such a huge monetary contribution has evidently improved the socioeconomic condition of the district and the local businessmen and traders could be heard of speaking about how their business has had a boost after the interventions in Block II.



26 women are undergoing under the dump truck driving Program to empower them~A picture of a women driver



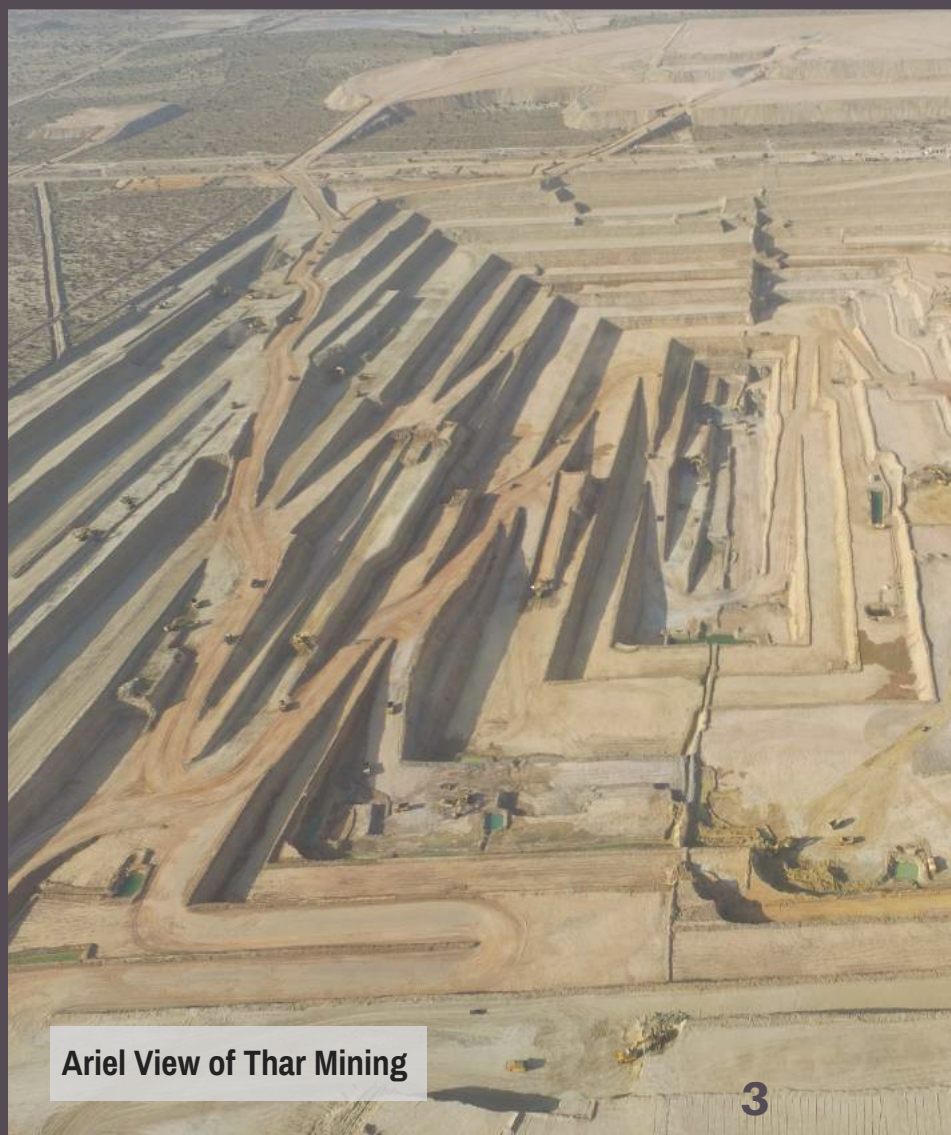
To establish the local vendors **Rs 124,257,518** have been allocated to Block II vendors who are now providing various materials to the companies

Under skills development program, the Thari youth is being trained in refrigeration and air-conditioning, and Android App development programs. Different well-strategized women empowerment interventions have also been launched in different fields under the banner of the Khushaal Naari project. Under the Women Dump Truck Driving Program, a first in the country, 26 women are undergoing dump truck driving training to empower them financially to help them have a say in the family as well as community affairs. Those skills in stitching and embroidery have been given training to utilize their skills to sew school uniforms for the Thar Foundation Primary Schools to earn living for their families. Broadening the horizon of livelihood opportunities for the locals, SECMC has also trained local vendors in company registration laws, processes, and finally in how to place bids.

This handholding has been quite successful as a set of local vendors have been established who now provide different material to the companies in Block II. From April 2016 to January 2018, contracts of Rs942,465,636 have been awarded to these local vendors, out of which contracts of Rs124,257,518 were given to Block II vendors and of Rs818,208,118 to the vendors from the rest of the district. Being a socially responsible company, SECMC and EPTL have ensured compliance with all the applicable national as well as global bindings for protection of the environment. All possible measures have been undertaken to reduce the negative impact of coal-fired power plant on the environment. So far, more than 40,000 trees have been planted in Block II and 100,000 Neem trees have also been planted in the area to ensure a healthy environment for humans as well as birds and animals. A plan has also been adopted to plant one million trees under the Thar Million Tree program.



Front View of Thar Mining



Ariel View of Thar Mining

Revolutionary among the SECMC initiatives is also the bio-saline agriculture in Tharparkar, in which the saline groundwater is used for growing local crops. The pilot project has been successful, and we have partnered with Karachi University, Sindh Agriculture University, and China's Xinjiang Institute of Ecology and Geography. The step, we expect, will bring about a revolutionary change in the agriculture sector of the entire region, not just Thar. As the national narrative for the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) establishes – and rightly so! – the people of Tharparkar have started to reap already the benefits of the Thar Coal project, and their life standard has started to improve. With the success of SECMC-initiated schemes like bio-saline agriculture and fish farming in the region, Tharparkar will thrive on socioeconomic front, attracting people from other areas to come for the large-scale potential livelihood opportunities offered by the area courtesy the Thar Coal.

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