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Civic Presentation Report Topic : Smog And its Impacts Group members: Muhammad Ali Shahzad 23L-0719 Muhammad Hamza Butt 23L-0725 Zohaib Tarig 23L-0979 Syed Muhammad Ali Kazmi 23L-0665 Saboor Sarfraz 23L-0522 Ali Jafar 23L-0815 Executive Summary : This report is an exploratory exercise into the case of smog, elaborating its effects, its underlying causes and the policies of a government regarding the issue. To examine the opinion of the masses, we developed a Google Form questionnaire and included questions related to health effects caused by smog, as well as understanding, knowledge of and awareness about its causes and effects, satisfaction regarding what the government did about the issue – if at all, expectations in terms of how the issue of smog could be dealt with, etc. The results found out that people had significant levels of concern over the issue and supported measures towards smog reduction. The report further outlines a campaign design to be aimed at promoting activities and sensitization to address the problems associated with smog. Introduction: People who live or work in cities often suffer from a combination of smog and fog. Smoke is considered the most dangerous air in cities. Every November, Pakistan, especially Lahore, faces a thick smog, which makes this discussion all the more relevant. Smog is caused by a variety of factors, including industrial waste disposal, automotive pollution, and crop burning by farmers. When it occurs, it poses serious health risks, impairs vision, and contributes to environmental degradation. In addition, the storm restricts the activities of the general public and limits outdoor activities and daily activities. Addressing this issue requires interagency cooperation and a multilateral response. This report aims to analyze these issues, their causes and impacts, and recommend appropriate interventions to limit the adverse effects of smoke and raise public awareness about this critical issue. Impacts of Smog: Smog, a combination of smoke and fog, is a type of air pollution that can seriously affect the environment,

health, and society. We surveyed smog and its impact, according to which most people are affected by it. Here's a breakdown of the impacts and effects of smog: ● Health Impacts: Smog can seriously harm health by irritating the eyes and lungs, leading to breathing problems like asthma and bronchitis. Some chemicals in smog, such as benzene, can cause lung cancer. According to a study published in The Lancet (2017), air pollution decreases life expectancy by 1 to 2 years globally. However, in highly polluted cities like Lahore and Delhi, the reduction could be as high as 6 to 7 years.

1**Vulnerable groups, such as children, the elderly, and those with pre-existing health** problems, **are** especially **at risk**. According to **the**

Online Campaign Survey Insights To better understand the community's perspective on smog, we conducted a detailed survey. Key areas assessed included: 1. Impact of Smog on Health ○ 84% of participants reported falling ill due to smog (sore throat, running nose, etc.). 2. Smog's Effect on Daily Life ○ On a scale from 1 (not affected at all) to 5 (affected a lot), the average response was 3.5, indicating moderate to severe impact. 3. Awareness of Smog Causes and Effects ○ Majority of participants claimed to have a general idea, but only a few were completely up-to-date on smog's causes and effects. 4. Satisfaction with Government's Response ○ 72% strongly disagreed with the government's efforts to combat poor air quality. 5. Should FAST Switch to Online Classes? ○ Overwhelmingly, participants suggested shifting to online classes during peak smog season. 6. Preferred Solutions to Combat Smog ○ Urgently Implemented Solution: Providing Air Purifiers at Subsidized Rates and Increasing Use of Public Transport. ○ Long-term Solution: Use of Renewable Sources and IT-based Digital Air Quality Monitoring Systems. 7. Major Causes of Smog (Per Participants): ○ Vehicular and industrial emissions. ○ Deforestation and lack of public transport. ○ Crop burning and unregulated factory operations. On-Campus Activities 1. Mask Distribution ○ Over 200 masks were distributed among students and faculty members to minimize exposure to harmful air. 2. Interactive Sessions ○ Informational sessions were held highlighting the causes, effects, and solutions to smog. ○ Students shared personal experiences with air pollution and received free eco- friendly pamphlets. 3. #SmogFreeFAST Trend ○ The campaign's hashtag gained traction online, fostering greater engagement and sparking discussions on air quality among the university and general public. Online Campaign Highlights 1. Hashtag Performance (#SmogFreeFAST) ○ The hashtag reached over 1,000 interactions on social media, emphasizing collective action against smog. 2. Educational Content ○ Infographics, videos, and articles on smog's health impacts and sustainable practices were widely shared. 3. Polls and Discussions ○ Online polls engaged the audience, gathering opinions on solutions like public transport improvements and renewable energy adoption. Solutions to Smog: Addressing Community Needs Based on insights from our community survey, there are actionable solutions to mitigate smog effectively: 1. Implementation of

2**Renewable Energy** Sources **Transitioning to renewable energy sources such as solar, wind, and hydropower is crucial**

. Respondents identified the urgent need for adopting renewable sources to reduce dependency on fossil fuels, which are primary contributors to smog. Encouraging industrial zones to integrate green energy solutions through tax incentives or subsidies can catalyze this shift. 2. Expansion of Public Transport A significant portion of the community advocated for increased use of public transport. This includes expanding affordable, efficient, and eco-friendly public transit systems, which would minimize the reliance on personal vehicles, a major source of vehicular emissions. Incentivizing electric and hybrid buses can further decrease air pollution levels. 3. Digital Air Quality Monitoring Systems As suggested by survey participants, implementing IT-based digital air quality monitoring systems in urban centers is imperative. These systems

can provide real-time data on pollution levels, alerting citizens and authorities about critical areas and times. Transparent reporting from these systems would also foster community trust and encourage behavioral changes. 4. Affordable Air Purifiers and Masks Providing air purifiers at subsidized rates, as recommended in the survey, can alleviate indoor pollution effects. Distributing free masks in smog-affected zones will protect individuals while long-term measures take effect. 5. Stronger Regulation of Industrial Emissions The survey highlighted factories and industrial emissions as key contributors. Strict enforcement of emission limits, along with penalties for non-compliance, can compel industries to adopt cleaner technologies. 6. Awareness Campaigns Community education on the health effects of smog and preventive measures, such as tree planting and reduced reliance on burning waste, is critical. Our campaign can mobilize citizens to adopt these sustainable practices. Implementing these solutions requires collaborative efforts between the government, industries, and citizens, ensuring a healthier, cleaner environment.