RESEARCH PAPER

Analysis of Principles of Coordinated Border Management (CBM) in articulation of War-Control Strategies: An Account of Implementation Range on Pakistan and Afghanistan

Dr. Sehrish Qayyum*  
Dr. Umbreen Javaid

1. Academic Advisor at Pakistan Navy War College (PNWC) Lahore, Punjab, Pakistan  
2. Dean, Faculty of Behavioral and Social Sciences, University of the Punjab, Lahore, Punjab, Pakistan

ABSTRACT

Currently, Border Management is crucial issue not only for Pakistan but for the entire world due to increased technological developments and security circumstances. Pakistan and Afghanistan being immediate states have inter-connected future with socio-economic and security prospects. Principles of Coordinated Border Management (CBM) approach have been extracted on the basis of in-depth interviews with security agencies and policymakers to understand the real time needs. The current research employs mixed method approach. Process Tracing is employed in this research to comprehend the causal mechanism behind the contemporary issue of border management system. A detailed statistical analysis of prospect outcomes has been given to validate the implication of CBM. Implication range of CBM has been discussed with positive and probably negative impacts due to its wide range of significance. This research gives an analysis of feasibility support to exercise CBM in best interest of the state and secure future of the region.

Keywords: Afghanistan, Coordinated Border Management, Fencing, Pakistan, Security

*Corresponding Author: drsehrishqayyum@gmail.com

PAPER INFO

Received: July 02, 2021  
Accepted: October 03, 2021  
Online: October 06, 2021

Introduction

Over the years, Border Management System is a very interesting feature of every state. During the last three decades two major boundary changes occurred in the world. One is after the disintegration of Soviet Union and Yugoslavia which resulted in the emergence of several new states on the world map while other is the world largest integration of the states into the borderless or soft Border States’ amalgamation in European Union Organization (Haider, 2019). Following the disintegration of USSR boundaries were nationalized while in the integration of European states into a largest regional organization, borders are internationalized paving way for a single market, soft crossing, Schengen area of trade and dealings with mutual international boundaries. As a researcher on boundaries and international trade O’Dowd narrated that border are ‘places
of economic and political opportunities for nations and states as well as for a number of other interest groups and agencies, legal or illegal’.

This incident resulted in the global change of policy towards international trade particularly USA the Customs-Trade Partnership Against Terrorism along with the implementation of Container Security Initiative (CSI) have changed the concept of borders. Currently, geographical borders are subdued by trade and security approaches.

Presently, a major concern is to manage border system with as much feasible strategy as possible border agencies because they have many responsibilities to deal with i.e., revenue generation, biometric control of influx and outflow of traffic, safety measures based on radiological system, transportation of goods and food items, etc.

This paper focuses on the institutional and minor operational management of the border for neighboring countries i.e., Pakistan and Afghanistan along the border which is a crucial part of the CBM strategy along with major operational management i.e., risk management, hot pursuit, mobile surveillance teams, and information exchange systems.

Other concerning issues include improper legislation, circumlocution, demands of private stakeholders and revenue that add fuel to the fire when dealing with border management.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Value</th>
<th>df</th>
<th>Asymptotic Significance (2-sided)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pearson Chi-Square</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>0.987</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Likelihood Ratio</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>0.983</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Linear-by-Linear Association</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.166</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N of Valid Cases</td>
<td></td>
<td>282</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A significant association was found between “Principles of War Control Theory” and “Long term coherent policy” (P>0.05).

The significant association among principles of CBM and outcome stated as State Level Acceptance (SLA) shows that this approach may work with more feasibility in different situations, mindsets, areas and politico-economic to strategic systems. Following bar graph clearly explains these correlations

**Principles of CBM Approach * Fencing**

Data collected from surveys, from which following numeric values were gathered which shows that Coordinated Border Management Approach will trickle down to pave way for Fencing of the border the participant states.
A significant association was found between “Principles of Coordinated Border Management Approach” and “Fencing” (P>0.05).

The significant association among principles of CBM and outcome stated as Fencing (FEN) shows that this approach may work with more feasibility in different situations, mindsets, areas and politico-economic to strategic systems. Following bar graph clearly explains these correlations to accept the approach in the wide range

**Principles of CBM Approach + Diplomatic Disruption**

Data collected from surveys, from which following numeric values were gathered which shows that Coordinated Border Management Approach will trickle down to pave way for Controlling Diplomatic Disruption among border sharing states.

**Chi-Square Tests**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Value</th>
<th>df</th>
<th>Asymptotic Significance (2-sided)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pearson Chi-Square</td>
<td>15.508a</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Likelihood Ratio</td>
<td>20.728</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Linear-by-Linear Association</td>
<td>.873</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N of Valid Cases</td>
<td>280</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Chi-Square Tests**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Value</th>
<th>df</th>
<th>Asymptotic Significance (2-sided)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pearson Chi-Square</td>
<td>7.222a</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Likelihood Ratio</td>
<td>7.493</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Linear-by-Linear Association</td>
<td>1.890</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N of Valid Cases</td>
<td>280</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
A significant association was found between “Principles of Coordinated Border Management Approach” and “Diplomatic Disruption” (P>0.05).

The significant association among principles of CBM and outcome stated as control over Diplomatic Disruption (DD) shows that this approach may work with more feasibility in different situations, mindsets, areas and politico-economic to strategic systems. Following bar graph clearly explains these correlations to accept the approach in the wide range.

![Bar Graph](image)

**Principles of CBM Approach * Economic Aid**

Data collected from surveys, from which following numeric values were gathered which shows that Coordinated Border Management Approach will trickle down to pave way for Economic aid among the participant states.

**Chi-Square Tests**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Value</th>
<th>df</th>
<th>Asymptotic Significance (2- sided)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pearson Chi-Square</td>
<td>7.328a</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>.987</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Likelihood Ratio</td>
<td>8.001</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>.979</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Linear-by-Linear Association</td>
<td>1.868</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>.172</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N of Valid Cases</td>
<td>280</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A significant association was found between “Principles of Coordinated Border Management Approach” and “Economic Aid” (P>0.05).

The significant association among principles of CBM and outcome stated as Economic Aid (EA) shows that this approach may work with more feasibility in different situations, mindsets, areas and politico-economic to strategic systems. Following bar graph clearly explains these correlations to accept the approach in the wide range.
Principles of CBM Approach * Shared Information and Responsibilities

Data collected from surveys, from which following numeric values were gathered which shows that Coordinated Border Management Approach will trickle down to pave way for Shared Information and Responsibilities of border Sharing states.

![Bar Chart]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chi-Square Tests</th>
<th>Value</th>
<th>df</th>
<th>Asymptotic Significance (2-sided)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pearson Chi-Square</td>
<td>8.294a</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>.974</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Likelihood Ratio</td>
<td>8.704</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>.966</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Linear-by-Linear Association</td>
<td>.305</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>.581</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N of Valid Cases</td>
<td>280</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A significant association was found between “Principles of Coordinated Border Management Approach” and “Shared Information and Responsibilities” (P>0.05).

The significant association among principles of CBM and outcome stated as Shared Information and Responsibilities (SIR) shows that this approach may work with more feasibility in different situations, mindsets, areas and politico-economic to strategic systems. Following Bar graph clearly explains these correlations to accept the approach in the wide range.

![Bar Chart]
Principles of CBM Approach * Skirmishes

Data collected from surveys, from which following numeric values were gathered which shows that Coordinated Border Management Approach will trickle down to control skirmishes at borders among the participant states.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chi-Square Tests</th>
<th>Value</th>
<th>Df</th>
<th>Asymptotic Significance (2-sided)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pearson Chi-Square</td>
<td>8.686a</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>.967</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Likelihood Ratio</td>
<td>9.266</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>.953</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Linear-by-Linear Association</td>
<td>.057</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>.812</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N of Valid Cases</td>
<td>281</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A significant association was found between “Principles of Coordinated Border Management Approach” and “Skirmishes” (P>0.05).

The significant association among principles of CBM and outcome stated as Skirmishes (SKR) shows that this approach may work with more feasibility in different situations, mindsets, areas and politico-economic to strategic systems. Following bar graph clearly explains these correlations to accept the approach in the wide range.

Principles of CBM Approach * Long-Term Conducive Results

Data collected from surveys, from which following numeric values were gathered which shows that Coordinated Border Management Approach will trickle down to pave way for long-term conducive results towards the participant states.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chi-Square Tests</th>
<th>Value</th>
<th>df</th>
<th>Asymptotic Significance (2-sided)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pearson Chi-Square</td>
<td>8.955a</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>.961</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Likelihood Ratio</td>
<td>8.944</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>.961</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
A significant association was found between “Principles of Coordinated Border Management Approach” and “Long-term Conducive Results” ($P>0.05$).

The significant association among principles of CBM and outcome stated as Long-term Conducive Results (LTCR) shows that approach may work with more feasibility in different situations, mindsets, areas and politico-economic to strategic systems. Following bar graph clearly explains these correlations to accept the approach in the wide range.

**Implications of CBM on Relations of Pakistan and Afghanistan**

This research, implications in the various areas are highlighted that how CBM assisted the relations in short and long terms with the least negative and maximum positive output of the schematic provisions.

**CBM Implications Range**

Various international border management systems and border effects can provide a base to devise a border management policy, in fact, we can turn from Integrated Border Management (IBM) system to Coordinated Border Management (CBM) system for more secure and smooth cross border drive.

The level border management system is improved its effects bilateral ties accordingly from social to political level.

Crossing the border sometimes suddenly gives a cultural shock as every state and its local ethnic groups have their own lifestyle and dealings
Fig. 1 is schematic operational situation based happening plan for CBM implementation. According to research and in-depth interviews conducted with border management agencies coordinated border management system is well-agreed for application with a broader range of affirmative prospects. This research reveals that CBM will involve both countries involved in border management as key players and dependent variables which in close coordination will help to curb the confrontation over border and its legal acceptance so far. Moreover, extraneous variables in the inter-state relations will decide how leadership will respond to situations and pave the way for alternate solutions to the problems. According to structure of CBM for border management issues these all extracted variables will be processed under OODA-Loop results in feasible solutions.

Outcomes to the implementation of CBM approach may be seen in three different dimensions. Schematic diagram shows possibility of adversities and reactions in many cases which might be contradicting to the state interests so flexibility to absorb shocks is yet there in the management plan.

In this challenging time period for this sensitive area an innovative and practicable policy is required. In short, trends in a national and international context with changing border policies can be estimated.

**Effectiveness of Border Policies**

Border policies are made after very keen research by keeping in mind national interest, economic development, security, and stability maintenance. This research comprehends the need for improvement and alteration in border policy from Pakistan and Afghanistan regarding the Durand Line. With improved system of border management policy effectiveness can be ensured. In real-time, it’s difficult to get targeted results because
management of a border is a giant process dealing with trade, exchange of information, etc. When advantages are more than the disadvantages then the policy is considered acceptable and successful.

**Implications**

Implications of the proposed system of border management either positive or negative have been taken into account. They can be sorted as follows.

Here is the exposition to the above-given demarcations of the implications of the Coordinated Border System.

**Positive Implications**

Border policy and management system are considered positive when maximum targets and benefits are gained. The coordinated border management system has such qualities and level of flexibility which can improve bilateral ties between the immediate states to the amicable status.

**Effective Policy**

Under this system of CBM, the joint sessions of discussions among the bilateral ministerial teams of diplomats will be conducted. This joint discussion can give an effective policy to operate in the border region among the states to ensure regional security status.

**International Support**

Cross border agencies cooperation is crucial for CBM with strong legal road map. Bilateral agreements (MOUs) can be signed between cooperating countries to practice the SOPs devised in the dialogues. This cooperation works at;

1. Transnational cooperation
2. Bilateral cooperation among border sharing states
3. Intra-agency cooperation at the domestic level

When CBM will be practiced between Pakistan and Afghanistan, cooperation from local to international level would be seen as an ongoing inclined policy of Afghanistan towards India would be balanced and furthermore Pakistan could seek the support of Afghanistan.

**Inter-Service Collaboration**

Working units in the state will show a better level of collaboration to make joint effort in managing borders as their goal. Intra service cooperation in hierarchical form and horizontally at administrative level will result in positive outcomes and the least level of corruption would be seen.
Inter-Agency Teamwork

Agencies involved in managing borders will deal with integrated actions and risk controlling system at an equal level. Cases and situations will be handled from both sides of the border which will result in improving agency cooperation and harmonization in management of the border.

There is a need of honest and devoted political will because mostly when political support is absent then cross border agency cooperation is impossible.

Exchange of Information

Another positive implication of the system will be an exchange of information either general or sensitive. No proper agreements have been signed between them to cooperate at such an intricate level. Under CBM Pakistan and Afghanistan will join hands for next level and reliable cooperation and for mutual interest. This cooperation will help both sides of the border to improve security of the region leading towards stability.

Coordinated Surveillance

Pakistan and Afghanistan signed no agreement of hot pursuit or cross border surveillance of insurgents and most wanted terrorists. CBM can provide a ground for this level of cooperation when and where needed in the best interest of the regional stability and national integration. Belligerency under international rules of engagement will be taken more practically in times of regional or national wars to deal with non-state actors creating instability for the law enforcement agencies and civil society.

Launching and Completion of Developmental Projects

Cross border foreign direct investment for developmental projects with mutual benefits will be launched when states will operate under amicable relation. When CBM is operated in Cooperative environment it can benefit both the participant countries. Trust level will pave way for cross border investments and relaxed policies to give progressive chances to either state for stability.

Negative Implications

Border policy and management system are considered negative when targets remain unachieved or below the expected level. The coordinated border management system may lead to some difficulties if not practiced appropriately. They are as follows:

Tools Blame Game

If and when there will be measured loss in the practice of the system, history may affect the cooperation among the states and blame game over the practiced tools may arise. Tools blame game will only ruin and weaken the operative system under CBM which may lead to the collapse of the system.
Trust Deficit

Pakistan and Afghanistan had turbulent relations throughout the history which may affect the CBM operation even after signing of MOUs and conducted dialogues. Trust deficit between the neighbors may lead to the demolishing of the whole approach of managing the borders especially when government is faced with foreign intrusion on the country and recently seen in Afghanistan.

Both have interconnected interests to progress ahead.

Effect of Regional Security on CBM

Internal insurgencies faced by both states may affect operation of CBM because when they will be engaged in managing internal sensitive cases then their attention on international sphere would be lessened. Not only CBM but cross border and transit trade will be affected badly and mostly due to such cases which will result in weakening of the economy of both neighboring states.

Significance of CBM

CBM system will deal with security concerns at border and management of cross border drive. Although it’s not an easy task to conduct but Pakistan military and adjoining forces are highly motivated to control cross border drive at the Durand Line. CBM will majorly deal with the following sections for which later on detail roadmap can be prepared with SOPs for every unit to perform well.

State-of-the-Art Expertise and Infrastructure

Border organizations have to begin gathering of information from different focuses instead of just from conventional sources, for example, visa applications and border crossing points (BCPs), for instance, travel organizations and cargo forwarders. People’s characters/information should be verified by the truth of real-life data. This is prompting the presentation of new strategies that is utilization of biometric information.

These helpless security check points can be upgraded by utilizing mechanical advancements, for example, infrared sensors, heat-detecting cameras, unmanned aerial vehicles, radar and satellite reconnaissance. Specialized frameworks, permit the assessment of freight without expecting to open it, which sets aside time and cash. This is particularly significant given the rising volumes of exchange and the static or declining levels of border staff.

In particular, this part of a coordinated border management approach may help to deal with the sectors of

1. Remote surveillance to support internal security operations
2. Prevention of smuggling
3. Halting insurgents’ intrusion
4. Encountering terrorists in border regions
5. Putting a check on the role of regional and extra-regional players
Operative Integration and Collaboration

States are confronted with security threats beyond limitations of border that need a coordinated approach to counter. It’s likewise better to approach issues like organized commerce understandings and visa guidelines on a multilateral, as opposed to the two-sided statements and standard administrative contact can help connected with the latest information.

In particular, this part of a coordinated border management approach may help to deal with the sectors of Formation of Technical border security task force, Information sharing for more accurate operations Joint action plan to keep a check on cross border drive from both sides. Regular shuffling of security personnel to avoid monopolization/lobbying

Articulate Procedures

Each successful association or capacity utilizes a procedure model that guarantees rationality between key basic leadership, tasks and support. Strategic evaluation and governance, operational processes and enabling functions are the key aspects of the articulated procedures of border management. In particular, this part of a coordinated border management approach may help to deal with the sectors of

1. Strategic capability development
2. Capability checks on logistics, trade, education, procurement, etc.
3. Command and controlled governance in border zones
4. Keen eye on infrastructural plan and updates needed

Lissome Organizational Proficiencies

Recently border management approach and practice have regularly worked responsively, as governments attempted to react to occasions, rising dangers, and the developing interest for administrations. The ability to use inward and outside learning and assets to improve the mission. The skill to make and keep up straightforwardness to upgrade certainty-based choice making

1. Immigration and logistics/trade control
2. Control of weaponized skirmishes (cross-border fire)
3. Comprehensive strategy plan with critical alignment
4. Tax collection

Conclusion

Among all the other borders of Afghanistan only it doesn’t accept the Durand Line. Although under international law Afghanistan has no significant support to her argument to object the legality and status of the Durand Line. This dispute is upfront among the countries because there is a lack of information to common Afghan people and even tribal or regional lords. This demarcation does not divide Pashtuns but enhances the cross-cultural legacy. Lack of information about the status of the Durand line compels the Afghans to support inclined and biased government policy on the concerned issue running from the
decades. The biased governmental policy has given the status of imaginary enemy to Pakistan in the hearts of the Afghan people who are always welcomed on Pakistani terrain in times of war and instability at the cost of Pakistan’s security and economy.

There are wide-ranging negative implications if this issue is not resolved, and bilateral ties have not been established on trusted and mutual interest grounds. Afghanistan has to launch awareness campaign among the people about the real status of the Durand Line and its need to change its policies for their own interest. Chapter of mutual cooperation among Pakistan and Afghanistan could be opened.

Continuation of the tense relations among the states will distribute the loss to both sides. Provisions related to peace process and ability could be added to all agreements among the nation-states. Ongoing Afghan strategy to gain more and return less will be of no use because Pakistan as a sovereign state demands the same level of acceptance for its people and terrains from Afghan government. Presently, it’s not only Durand Line acceptance and management issue but long list of interest and needs based policies have to be developed to get affirmative and long-run results. It must be cleared among both the nations that border will not be an Iron wall but will be a legal crossing point with soft policies for public and vice versa for insurgents and non-state actors disturbing the peace of both lands. Avoiding bleak future of bilateral ties with Pakistan will only be considered the irresponsible approach of the Afghan government because it is war-stricken region and Pakistan is comparatively stable region. Afghanistan has to depend more on Pakistan as compared to Pakistan on Afghanistan.

After the comprehensive study of the approach of CBM for the Durand Line, there is no argument left which can lead to denial for the practice of the methodology to deal with the world’s sensitive and porous border. Yet alterations and suggestive improvements in policy framework can be launched as per requirements of both sides of the Durand Line which will surely result in the regional peace and stability. Peace and stability of both are interconnected. Primarily, stable Afghan future is much more dependent on regional environment and Pakistan particularly. Pakistan will prefer unstable Afghanistan until and unless Afghanistan balances its relations between Pakistan and India. This is a time for mutual dialogue on beneficiary level rather than communalistic or predatory environment.

The proposed border management system can improve bilateral ties to next level of understanding and friendship. Coordination from general public to governmental level will be done under the system which will help to encounter insurgents. Moreover, the US can play its part in balancing Pakistan and Afghanistan relations by disengaging itself from the region peacefully. In other case situation status quo will retain or may worsen as ongoing US military strikes in Afghanistan with non-nuclear weapon of high degree will give a hike to security concerns of the regional states.

Border management is a prodigious challenge in a progressively globalized world. The unrestricted drive of goods and people ensure economic prosperity until and unless this flow of commodities should be controlled. Unchecked flow may result in smuggling, human trafficking and illegal immigration leading to terrorism. Rather than reaching this node government had to resolve illogicalities for long term and harmonious bilateral relations. It must be understood that U.S. backed Afghan government does not control a
major part of Afghan territory. US. invasion should be focused and managed by Kabul first. Afghan teachers are trained in India, Forces are trained by U.S., hospitals are run by international donors, and they practically survive on aid! This rhetoric is good for media but not for true academic discourse.

The fencing is being done for Pakistan’s safety from the terrorism coming into Pakistan from Afghanistan. U.S. forces in Afghanistan could not manage terrorism on Afghan soil so we had to take our own actions. This may not be seen in line with any U.S. requests to do more. Afghan refugees have lived in Pakistan for decades. Given the situation in Afghanistan, there is no way they can settle back in Afghanistan. They cannot play a constructive role in Afghanistan as that society does not offer the opportunities to do so anymore. Ex-Afghan President Hamid Karzai that American weapon is supplied to the ISIS militants through helicopters.

Diplomacy is the constant and important effort to find negotiated peaceful solutions to all problems. Pakistan has always demonstrated her willingness to work with Afghanistan on all issues. U.S. involvement in Afghanistan should not be to tailor specific governance models, alliances and representatives. An Afghan-led and Afghan-owned peace process is the way forward. Global politics is the domain of gains and competition. War is only one means to achieve certain ends. An assessment of enemy potential is the beginning and the end of all security plans.

War is one tool in the kit. It is never a favored tool. Pakistan is not an aggressor and has no aggressive designs towards anyone. However, it is easy to say that we should live and let live. Naturally, if TTP operates from Afghanistan, we cannot say we are hands-off. But instead of attacking TTP bases in Afghanistan, we fenced our border. This is exactly how we continue to try to avoid increasing conflicts. We should play a constructive role due to our natural historical linkages, and to the extent that we secure our national interest and sovereignty, but deeper involvement demands that we should try to stay away from.
References


Haider, M. (2016, April 06). Pak-Afghan smuggling is made part of NAP investigation. *The News*


Mezzadra, S., & Neilson, B. (2013). *The border as Method, or, the Multiplication of Labor*. Duke University Press. [https://doi.org/10.1215/9780822377542](https://doi.org/10.1215/9780822377542)

