

Strengthening Climate Adaptation and Resilience (SAR)

Supporting the Pakistan government and its population in building resilience to climate change and climate related risks

Background

Pakistan is one of the countries most affected by climate change due to its low adaptive capacity and poor infrastructure. It is ranked the 8th most affected country in the world as per the Germanwatch's Long-Term Climate Risk Index (2000-2019) report. The economic losses due to recent climate events i.e., floods, droughts, erratic rains, melting glaciers, heat waves and weather-related extreme events accounts for EUR 3 billion. Climate change is expected to increase the frequency and intensity of these events as well as exacerbate the vulnerability of local populations. Estimates show that more than 21 million people could fall into poverty by 2050 if Pakistan does not take measures to adapt to climate change. Additionally, the technical and financial capacity of the public institutions and that of communities to respond to climate change consequences is very low.

Our approach

On behalf of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH is supporting the Pakistan government to improve the conditions for climate adaptation and resilience as well as climate risk management with a specific focus on vulnerable population, especially women. The project "Strengthening Climate Adaptation and Resilience (SAR)" supports the entire planning cycle of climate change adaptation measures: from the preparation of climate risk assessments to the piloting of financing approaches and instruments. It also supports the measures at the local level as well as up-scaling through international climate finance.

Project name	Strengthening Climate Adaptation and Resilience (SAR)
Commissioned by	German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)
Lead executing agency	Ministry of Climate Change, Government of Pakistan
Financial volume	EUR 10 million
Duration	12/2021 to 05/2025

The SAR Project is in line with Pakistan's planning paper "Pakistan 2025: One Nation - One Vision" which emphasises the need for adaptation to climate change. Moreover, it also contributes towards the National Adaptation Plan (NAP) as well as the Global Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) Partnership, initiated by BMZ together with other partners.

More specifically, the project "Strengthening Climate Adaptation and Resilience (SAR)" supports the Pakistan government in three areas:

- Climate Risk Assessments
- Planning and financial instruments for climate risk management at the local/provincial level
- Accessing international climate finance



Pg. 1, Left: Tharparkar District has been suffering a drought for several decades and has been declared as a drought-affected area.

Right: A flooded street in Karachi. Pakistan experiences frequent floods due to heavy monsoon rainfalls.



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Pg. 2, Left: GIZ Appraisal mission of SAR project meeting with the Planning & Development Department, Punjab.

Right: Launch of the GIZ supported M&E Adaptation tracking system in Pakistan in collaboration with MoCC and GCISC at Islamabad.

Climate Risk Assessments

The project involves conducting sector-specific assessments to understand the vulnerability of the key sectors affected by climate change and to build the capacities of relevant actors on climate risk analysis and on the proper interpretation and use of gender-sensitive climate risk data at the federal and provincial level (Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Punjab). Furthermore, the project will particularly focus on developing and supporting the implementation of training and awareness raising through relevant campaigns. Specific formats on climate risk management for use by partner institutions, e.g., schools, universities, agricultural extension services, non-governmental organisations, etc., will be developed as needed. Moreover, the project will support the improvement of the provincial climate risk assessment tools as well as the development of knowledge products. In addition, the project will also work on the integration of climate risk assessments into the national monitoring and evaluation adaptation tracking system developed by GIZ in 2021 and managed by the Ministry of Climate Change (MoCC) and the Global Change Impact Studies Center (GCISC). Another area of interest for this workpackage will be to improve coordination and exchange of climate change data and information between relevant institutions.

Planning and financial instruments for climate risk management at the local/provincial level

The Project supports its partner institutions to strengthen the planning and financing capacities of climate adaptation and resilience as well as climate risk management measures in the provinces of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Punjab. In collaboration with the provincial Planning and Development Departments, the project supports the integration of climate risks into the planning and budgeting processes and strengthens relevant provincial capacities on how to use the relevant climate change

indicators and markers. Moreover, the project will pilot new financial and non-financial approaches and instruments to mitigate the climate risks. These instruments may include social insurance programmes, such as cash transfer schemes, public-private partnerships, microfinance, climate risk insurance products and piloting of non-financial adaptation solutions with a special focus on women and vulnerable communities. The final selection of the approaches and instruments will be a joint decision to be based on criteria of effectiveness and efficiency.

Accessing international climate finance

The Project supports the Pakistan government to improve the conditions for accessing international climate finance for climate adaptation and resilience as well as climate risk management measures. It focuses on developing the capacities of partner institutions and competencies of individuals regarding access to international adaptation finance. It strengthens the related capacities and competencies, particularly on the adaptation hypothesis, indicators, and donor requirements. It also supports concrete project development processes that build on the experiences of adaptation financing and implementation. Moreover, the project provides opportunities for inter-provincial learning and to disseminate lessons learned at the national and international level. Lessons learnt from the provinces will contribute to shaping the national policy processes such as NDC implementation and updating.

Gender and Diversity

The interventions of the SAR Project are designed specifically to focus on vulnerable population, especially women. It supports its partners to conduct gender-sensitive climate risk assessments as well as integrating gender-sensitive climate risk data into planning and (potentially) budget allocation processes and public investment projects.

Published by Deutsche Gesellschaft für
Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH
Registered offices Bonn and Eschborn, Germany
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Phone +92 51 111 489 725
www.giz.de
As at July 2022
Design Muneeb Azhar, Islamabad

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GIZ is responsible for the content of this publication.

On behalf of Federal Ministry for Economic
Cooperation and Development (BMZ)

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