

# Supporting the implementation of the National Adaptation Plan (NAP) in Pakistan

Enhancing climate resilience in Pakistan by strengthening NAP implementation

## Context

Pakistan is increasingly vulnerable to climate-induced disasters, with floods and storms causing annual losses of about €4 billion. For instance, the 2022 floods caused property damages amounting to €30 billion. Compounding this instability, the recent 2025 floods have again displaced millions, devastated infrastructure, worsened food and water insecurity. These crises have disrupted health and power systems and heightened social and economic inequalities. Women and marginalised groups are disproportionately affected, due to heightened risks of displacement, limited access to resources, safe shelter, healthcare and as well as increased caregiving burdens during crises.

To address these risks, the Planning Commission, introduced the *Handbook on Climate Risk Screening for Development Projects (July 2024)* under the Public Finance Management Act 2019, guiding practitioners on integrating climate risk assessments into project lifecycles. Similarly, the *Manual for Development Projects 2024* now includes methodologies for climate risk assessment, resilience, adaptation, and mitigation. At the provincial level, the *Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Climate Action Board Act 2025* established a climate governance mechanism to implement the provincial climate change policy and mobilize resources for climate action.

Despite these advances, sectoral planning processes in Pakistan still lack sufficient climate adaptation measures, with limited consideration to climate risks and gender dimensions. Project appraisal systems rarely capture the disproportionate impacts on women and marginalized groups, and the capacity building at the provincial level, development of inclusive and bankable proposals, and standardized technical protocols remain weak.

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|-----------------------|---|
| Project name          | Supporting the implementation of the National Adaptation Plan (NAP) in Pakistan |
| Commissioned by       | Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)                 |
| Project region        | Pakistan, South Asia  |
| Lead executing agency | Ministry of Climate Change & Environmental Coordination (MoCC&EC)               |
| Duration              | 08.2023 – 07.2026   |

## Our Approach

This project is dedicated to strengthening the implementation of the *National Adaptation Plan (NAP) 2023* in Pakistan, with a specific focus on strengthening adaptation planning and integrating climate resilience criteria into sectoral project planning at the national and provincial levels: Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Punjab.

Given the proliferation of policy and strategy documents addressing the negative impacts of climate change in Pakistan in recent years, the project supports the operationalisation of adaptation measures identified by the state and civil society.

By operationalizing state-identified and civil society-supported adaptation measures, the project ensures gender-responsive and environmentally sound strategies are effectively embedded within national and provincial development plans and sector projects.



Pg. 1, Left: The northern areas of Pakistan.

Right: First Training of Trainers on CLIMADA, UNU Institute of Environment and Human Security, Germany.

Dr. Nicolai Dellmann  
nicolai.dellmann@giz.de

*Pg. 2, Left: Sectoral Adaptation Pathways for Flood and Drought Resilience workshop, UET Lahore, Pakistan.*

*Right: A participant engages in discussion during the Diploma Program on Climate Governance at IMS Peshawar, Pakistan.*



## Key Achievements

### Stronger national digital appraisal systems for climate & gender screening

Under Ministry of Climate Change and Environmental Coordination (MoCC&EC) leadership, the *RISQ transparency portal* managed by the Global Climate Change Impact Studies Centre (GCISC) serves as Pakistan's central climate data hub. It integrates climate resilience and gender criteria into the digital appraisal systems for federal and provincial governments of Punjab and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. In close coordination with the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the Ministry of Planning Development & Special Initiatives (MOPD&SI), the project is ensuring complementarity across national digitalisation reforms. Linking the Planning Commission's system with the MoCC&EC Transparency Portal is a key action to strengthen NAP implementation nationwide.

### Skilled provincial teams for gender responsive and climate-smart planning

Climate risk analysis for five key sectors: agriculture and forestry, urban resilience, water resources, health and social protection, and infrastructure have been completed in Punjab and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. Using CLIMADA (Climate Risk & Adaptation Platform) model, provincial teams mapped flood and drought risks and validated results through trainings in Germany with the United Nations University (UNU) and the University of Engineering and Technology (UET). Draft provincial guidelines will now include climate projections up to 2050 and sector-specific risk assessments. Through the technical support, over 100 government, private sector, and academic professionals (24% women) are now applying gender responsive and climate-resilient planning.



## Implementation of Climate-Resilient and Gender-Equitable Projects

A new Climate Project Evaluation Framework, co-developed with UET, helps prioritise infrastructure investments. Twenty provincial projects - 10 each from the Planning & Development Departments of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Punjab have been identified to reflect provincial climate goals.

Through the *NAP Challenge Fund*, 520 project proposals were received to enhance institutional, technical, and human capacities for climate resilient planning and decision making across Pakistan. Five projects were chosen based on transparent criteria for implementation, focusing on strengthening provincial and sectoral capacities for adaptation. These innovative projects range from building technical expertise to improving data systems and planning tools for resilience, directly addressing climate risks and advancing national adaptation targets. The project also supported 8 multi-stakeholder dialogues including a pre-COP30 campaign highlighting German Development Cooperation's work in Pakistan. Four policy briefs were published, providing clear recommendations on climate risks, adaptation priorities, and financing strategies. These include: (1) Urban Flooding: Implications for Resilience; (2) Scaling the Potential of Mini and Micro Hydropower Plants (MHPPs) in Pakistan: Opportunities and Instruments; (3) Greening the Macroeconomic Regime for Low-Carbon Development; and (4) Battery Energy Storage Systems: A Roadmap for Pakistan's Grid Resilience.

## Contribution to global frameworks

These achievements contribute to Pakistan's commitments under the Paris Agreement's Enhanced Transparency Framework, advance adaptation targets under its Nationally Determined Contributions and Pakistan's National Adaptation Plan 2023 and support Sustainable Development Goals 2, 5, 6, 9, 11, 13, and 15.

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GIZ Country Office, Level 2, Serena Business Complex,  
Khayaban-e-Suhrawardy, Sector G-5/1, Islamabad,  
Pakistan

Phone +92 51 111 489 725

[www.giz.de](http://www.giz.de)

#### Programme

Supporting the implementation of the National Adaptation Plan  
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#### Responsible

Dr. Nicolai Dellmann, Head of Project

#### Design

Muhammad Qasim Ali, Communication Advisor

#### Text

NAP Project Team

#### On behalf of

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