



ADAPTATION FUND

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Adaptation Fund Board
Project and Programme Review Committee
Thirty-eighth Meeting
Bonn, Germany, 19-23 October 2026

PROPOSAL FOR PAKISTAN



ADAPTATION FUND

ADAPTATION FUND BOARD SECRETARIAT
TECHNICAL REVIEW OF PROJECT PROPOSAL FOR
"STRENGTHENING ADAPTIVE CAPACITIES (SAC) OF THE COMMUNITIES AND PUBLIC
SECTOR INSTITUTIONS FOR RAINWATER HARVESTING AND CLIMATE RISK REDUCTION
IN URBAN AREAS OF PAKISTAN (SHORT NAME OF THE PROJECT: "PAKISTAN SAC
PROJECT")"

Project Title	Strengthening Adaptive Capacities (SAC) of the communities and public sector institutions for rainwater harvesting and climate risk reduction in urban areas of Pakistan (short name of the project: "Pakistan SAC Project")
Project ID	AF00000526
Category	Regular size project (over \$1 million)
Type	Single country project
Stage	Concept
Country	Pakistan
Implementing Entity	UNHAB
Financing Requested	USD 10,000,000.00
Reviewer	Mauricio Leon

Co-reviewer(s)

IE Contact Person

Cerin Kizhakkethottam, Khalil Ahmed, Odicea Angelo Barrios, Waqar Syed

Secretariat's Overall Comment

The project “Strengthening Adaptive Capacities (SAC) of the communities and public sector institutions for rainwater harvesting and climate risk reduction in urban areas of Pakistan” aims to strengthen the adaptive capacities (SAC) of communities in Rawalpindi and Islamabad to address climate change through innovative, nature-based solutions, thereby improving the resilience of both the natural and built environments, as well as the society of Pakistan.

The proposal includes a request for a project formulation grant and/or project formulation assistance grant of USD 120,000.

The initial technical review raises several issues, such as the lack of a theory of change diagram, discrepancies in the results framework, lack of qualitative and quantitative estimates of benefits and lack of initial gender analysis as is discussed in the number of Clarification Requests (CRs) and Corrective Action Requests (CARs) raised in the review.

The second review raises several issues which have not been adequately addressed such as the initial gender assessment, editorial issues, role of identified CBO as Executing Entities, Theory of Change diagram and its narrative as is discussed in the number of Clarification Requests (CRs) and Corrective Action Requests (CARs) raised in the review.

The third technical review raises several issues, such as addressing USPs, strengthening cost effectiveness, TOC narrative and initial gender assessment, results framework alignment table among others, as is discussed in the number of Clarification Requests (CRs) and Corrective Action Requests (CARs) raised in the review.

The fourth technical review finds that the proposal has addressed most of the CRs and CARs raised in the previous reviews. A limited number of adjustments remain, mainly related to the Theory of Change narrative, cost-effectiveness assessment, stakeholder consultations, alignment with the Adaptation Fund Results Framework, sustainability arrangements, and environmental and social risk screening.

Country Eligibility

Is the country party to the Kyoto Protocol, or the Paris Agreement?

Response: Yes

Secretariat: Yes.

Pakistan has ratified both the Kyoto Protocol (10 January 2005) and the Paris Agreement (10 November 2016).

Is the country a developing country particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change?

Response: Yes

Secretariat: Yes.

Climate Risk Index 2025 ranked Pakistan as the most affected country in 2022 and is experiencing multifaceted consequences of climate change. Such as increasing rates of warming and changes in rainfall and runoff regimes – hence its water resources are highly uncertain.

Date: May 11, 2026

Project Eligibility

Has the designated government authority for the Adaptation Fund endorsed the project/programme?

Response: Yes

Secretariat: As per the Endorsement letter dated 2 April 2026.

Date: May 11, 2026

Does the length of the proposal amount to no more than Fifty pages for the project/programme concept, including its annexes?

Response: Pending

Secretariat: Yes.

CR1: Please ensure consistency as follows:

- (i) Please ensure that all tables, figures, and diagrams are consistently formatted, clearly titled, and accompanied by concise captions, and that each is explicitly referenced in the main text. Where applicable, please ensure diagrams and process figures include a clear figure number and descriptive title.
- (ii) Please ensure that all acronyms are defined at first occurrence in the text.

Date: May 11, 2026

Response: Pending

Secretariat: CR1: Not Cleared.

1. Please address the page numbering issues in the document, including those after page 21. Please also add paragraph numbers to that content can be more easily located.

2. Some tables and figures are missing captions. For example, the Theory of Change diagram has no caption. Please ensure all tables and figures have captions.
3. Please complete on the cover page: "In case of a resubmission, please indicate the last submission date"

Note: As a result of the page numbering issue, all references to page numbers below relate to the page number in the pdf version of the Tracking version created.

Date: June 23, 2026

Response: Not Cleared

Secretariat: CR1: Not Cleared.

1. Please address the page numbering issues in the document, including those after page 21. Please also add paragraph numbers to that content can be more easily located.
2. Some tables and figures are missing captions. For example, the Theory of Change diagram has no caption. Please ensure all tables and figures have captions.
3. Please complete on the cover page: "In case of a resubmission, please indicate the last submission date"

CR17(NEW): Please ensure that the CN and their annexes are maximum 50 pages.

CR18(NEW): Please ensure that all tables include captions and that paragraphs are numbered to facilitate cross-referencing and improve the review process.

Date: July 27, 2026

Response: Not Cleared

IE: CR1.

1. The Concept Note and its annexes have been reviewed and page numbering has been corrected throughout. Paragraph numbers have also been added to facilitate cross-referencing during the review process.
2. Captions have been added to all tables and figures, including the Theory of Change diagram.
3. The resubmission date (it was 3rd July 2026) has been included on the cover page.

CR17(NEW): The Concept Note and its annexes have been reviewed and consolidated to 50 pages.

CR18(NEW): Captions and that paragraphs are numbered to facilitate cross referencing and improve the review process

Response: Not Cleared

Secretariat: CR1: Not fully cleared. Page numbering, figure captions, and the resubmission date have been addressed. However, the table in Part II.D, p. 22, remains without a number and caption, and paragraphs are not numbered throughout the Concept Note. Please complete these remaining formatting adjustments to facilitate cross-referencing. This comment also addresses CR18 (New).

CR17 (New): Cleared. The Concept Note and its annexes have been consolidated to 50 pages.

Does the project / programme support concrete adaptation actions to assist the country in addressing adaptive capacity to the adverse effects of climate change and build in climate resilience?

Response: Pending

Secretariat: Yes.

As per Part II, Section A (pages 10-21), the concept outlines concrete adaptation actions and are not business as usual. It addresses identified climate risks in Islamabad and Rawalpindi, with clear links to flooding, groundwater depletion, drought, and urban heat and water stress. The activities tangible outcomes include physical investments (underground storage tanks, recharge wells, and rooftop rainwater harvesting) and institutional measures (training). The design of the three components is coherent and aligned with the project's stated resilience objectives. However, a Theory of Change and its diagram are missing. The concept does not explicitly map the activities to the Adaptation Fund Strategic Objectives.

CR2: Please include a Theory of Change (ToC) and its diagram to further illustrate the suitability of activities in responding to the threats posed by the likely climate scenarios. Please ensure the following in the ToC:

- (i) Include the main problem to address through this proposed project.
- (ii) the causal pathway from activities through outputs and outcomes to impact, with assumptions and risks identified at each step
- (iii) Please explicitly indicate the outcomes under each project component, along with the associated outputs

CAR1: Please map activities to the Adaptation Fund Strategic Objectives. A brief sentence can support this.

Date: May 11, 2026

Response: Pending

Secretariat: CR2: Not Cleared.

As per pages 21-23, a Theory of Change diagram and its narrative has been included. However, the TOC is missing the risks.

- i. Please include the potential risks.
- ii. Please use separate boxes for each outcome and then corresponding boxes for their associated outputs, followed by activities. This will greatly assist with readability of the Theory of Change diagram.
- iii. Please shift the Theory of Change and its diagram before Part II Section A. It can be included on page 19 prior to the Project Objectives section.

CAR1: Not Cleared.

The AF outcomes are noted in Table 4, however, please remove from table and include At part II section B as a sentence in the chapeau just before table 8.

Date: June 23, 2026

Response: Not Cleared

Secretariat: CR2: Cleared.

As per revised Figure 8. The Theory of Change diagram now includes potential risks, separate boxes for each outcome and then corresponding boxes for their associated outputs, and activities. In addition, the figure has been moved prior to the Project Objectives section.

CAR1: Cleared.

The AF outcomes has been moved as a sentence in the chapeau just before Table 8.

CR19(NEW): Please remove the duplication of AF outcome 3 from paragraph under Part II.B. (before Table 8).

CR20(NEW): Kindly strengthen the Theory of Change narrative, in line with the diagram in Figure 8, including all the key elements starting from the main problem. This would clearly state how the project activities would lead to substantial tangible outcomes.

CR21(NEW): Please revise specific objective 2 and express it in the following structure: "To promote sustainable use of natural resources and water for XXXX". Please complete the XXX with the purpose of the promotion of natural resources.

CR22(NEW): Please revise the Projected Calendar table and amend the dates, considering that the Full Proposal has not yet entered the review stage.

CR23(NEW): Please review the expected outcomes for each component. The number and scale of the proposed outcomes appear disproportionate to the available budget. Kindly ensure that the expected results are realistic, achievable, and adequately supported by the allocated resources.

CR25(NEW): Please avoid including contextual information in Part II.A. This section should focus exclusively on describing what will be financed under each project component. In this regard, please ensure the following:

- Move contextual information, such as (for example) the first three paragraphs following the heading "A. Project Components" and the table on water demand, to the project context section.
- Review and ensure consistency in the presentation of outcomes. Table 4 presents several outcomes for each component, whereas Part II.A presents only one outcome per component.
- Restructure Part II.A to clearly describe only what will be financed by the project. Please note that outputs (tangible deliverables) and activities (the actions required to achieve those outputs) should also be clearly presented in addition to outcomes.

Date: July 27, 2026

Response: Not Cleared

IE: CR19(NEW): The duplication has been removed of Adaptation Fund outcome 3 from paragraph under Part II.B. (before Table 8).

CR20(NEW): The Theory of Change narrative has been substantially revised and aligned with the Theory of Change diagram presented in Figure 8. The revised narrative now clearly articulates the causal pathway from the identified climate risks and vulnerabilities, through the proposed activities and outputs, to the intended adaptation outcomes and longer-term resilience benefits. CR21(NEW): Revised the structure of specific objective 2 and now clearly articulates the purpose of promoting the sustainable use of natural resources and water in support of climate resilience and adaptation.

CR22(NEW): Revise the Projected Calendar table and amended the dates, considering that the Full Proposal has not yet entered the review stage.

CR23(NEW): Reviewed the expected outcomes for each component. The number and scale of the proposed outcomes were identified and formulated based on the technical inputs provided by respective EEs based on the budgeting experience. The results have been refined to ensure that the proposed outcomes are realistic, measurable and achievable within the available project resources.

CR25(NEW): Part II.A has been carefully reviewed, and contextual information was edited and removed where appropriate without disturbing the overall flow of the narrative.

Part II.A has been restructured to clearly describe only what will be financed by the project, in line with Table 4.

The section now presents outputs (tangible deliverables) and activities (the actions required to achieve those outputs) in a clear and organized manner, alongside the corresponding outcomes. This restructuring ensures that the narrative flows logically, highlights the direct link between project financing and deliverables, and strengthens alignment with donor reporting requirements

Response: Not Cleared

Secretariat: CR19 (New): Cleared. See Part II.B, p. 20. The duplication of AF Outcome 3 has been removed.

CR20 (New): Not fully cleared. See Theory of Change, pp. 6–8. The Theory of Change narrative has been strengthened and includes the main climate risks and proposed interventions. However, the causal pathway presented in Figure 8 is not yet fully reflected in the narrative. Please briefly describe the sequence from the main problem, through activities and outputs, to the intended outcomes and overall resilience impact, following the results chain in Figure 8.

CR21 (New): Cleared. See Project Objectives, p. 9. Specific Objective 2 has been revised to clarify the purpose of promoting the sustainable use of natural resources and water.

CR22 (New): Cleared. See Projected Calendar, p. 10. The projected calendar has been revised to allow adequate time for Full Proposal preparation, review and approval prior to project implementation.

CR23 (New): Not fully cleared. See Table 4, pp. 9–10. The expected outcomes were reviewed and refined to ensure that they are realistic, measurable and achievable within the available project resources. However, these refinements are not readily identifiable in the current Concept Note. Please briefly indicate the revisions made or clarify how the review is reflected in the current number, scope and budget allocations of the expected outcomes.

CR25 (New): Not fully cleared. See Part II.A, pp. 11–12. Part II.A has been substantially streamlined and the presentation of project outcomes and activities has been improved. However, some broader contextual information, including the introductory background under Part II.A and Table 5, remains in this section. Please relocate this information to the Project Context section so that Part II.A can remain focused on the activities and outputs to be financed.

Does the project / programme provide economic, social and environmental benefits, particularly to vulnerable communities, including gender considerations, while avoiding or mitigating negative impacts, in compliance with the Environmental and Social Policy and Gender Policy of the Fund?

Response: Pending

Secretariat: Yes.

As per Part II, Section B (pages 21-22), all three benefit areas are covered in Table 7. However, there is no quantification of expected beneficiaries (e.g., estimated number of people, households, or communities that will benefit), nor disaggregation by country or demographic group. Though guaranteed there is no concrete description of how equitable distribution will be ensured in practice.

The explicit treatment of adverse impact risks is not explicit – apart from the sentence ‘Every effort will be made to avoid the use of environmentally harmful materials in construction activities’. Gender commitments that are not grounded in a referenced initial gender analysis.

CAR2: Please provide qualitative and quantitative estimates of the economic, social, and environmental benefits,

accompanied by a brief explanation of the methodology used to calculate them. If precise figures are not available, please include proxy estimates. These estimates could be included in an additional column in Table 7.

CAR3: Please also specify the following:

1. The number of direct and indirect beneficiaries to be targeted by demographic group.
2. The identification of marginalized or indigenous groups, along with a brief description of their vulnerabilities, and benefits or safeguards tailored for them.
3. Any mechanisms that will ensure equitable access and how benefits will flow to these groups.

CR3: Apart from construction activities, please indicate whether there are any potential negative impacts associated with the proposed project.

CAR4: Please include an initial gender analysis as this is required for all concept notes. This should include information such as differences in roles, needs and capabilities, knowledge of resources of men and women, and/or identify how changing gender dynamics might drive lasting change and possible differentiated effects of the activities, gender-related risks to allow for a basic understanding of the gender dynamics.

Date: May 11, 2026

Response: Pending

Secretariat: CAR2: Cleared.

As per page 24 (Table 8), quantitative estimates/targets have been included as well as a brief sentence as to how targets were calculated.

CAR3: Not Cleared.

1. At 24, Table 8 notes that over 100,000 individuals gain access to water. However, in Part II, Section B, please be explicit when stating the total number of direct beneficiaries and indirect beneficiaries in the project. Note these figures can be included in a sentence above the table.
2. The amendment in relation to “identification of marginalized or indigenous groups, along with a brief description of their vulnerabilities, and benefits or safeguards tailored for them” is not explicit in Part II, Section B.
3. At page 25, the proposal notes ‘Equal participation of both men and women will be ensured’ and ‘These groups will be guaranteed equitable access to the benefits and opportunities’. However, the proposal does not state operational mechanism to support this. Please consider mechanisms such as target quotas, outreach mechanism, more inclusive selection of beneficiaries, and grievance and feedback mechanisms.

CR3: Cleared.

As per page 33, the statement “Apart from the construction activities, negative impacts such as resettlement (wetland creation), introduction of invasive plants are not expected” has been added.

CAR4: Not Cleared.

While a preliminary gender assessment has been included on pages 33-34, the analysis remains largely general with no disaggregated data/findings from past studies. The assessment could be strengthened by providing more information regarding norms and cultural practices and project-based information on differentiated impacts of climate change, examining how changing gender dynamics might drive lasting change and possible differentiated effects of the activities, along with risks from certain activities. Relevant national and sector-specific gender studies or reports may be used to support this analysis. The issues emerging from above should be further examined during stakeholder consultations.

Date: June 23, 2026

Response: Not Cleared

Secretariat: CAR3: Not Cleared.

1. Not cleared.

Please avoid sum direct and indirect as the total beneficiaries. Instead provide the information for direct and indirect beneficiaries, including calculations on how this was estimated.

2. Cleared.

3. Not cleared.

At page 25, the proposal notes 'Equal participation of both men and women will be ensured' and 'These groups will be guaranteed equitable access to the benefits and opportunities'. However, the proposal does not state operational mechanism to support this. Please consider mechanisms such as target quotas, outreach mechanism, more inclusive selection of beneficiaries, and grievance and feedback mechanisms.

CAR4: Not Cleared.

While the preliminary gender assessment has been strengthened, it remains relatively general. Please include a summary of the role of women in the labour market that is directly relevant to the proposed project, as well as additional data and statistics to better understand existing gender gaps. The issues identified above should be further explored during future stakeholder consultations.

CR26(NEW): Please specify whether vulnerable groups other than women are expected to benefit from the project.

CR27(NEW): Please describe the mechanisms that will be used to ensure at least 50% of women, as well as how project benefits will be equitably distributed among beneficiaries.

Date: July 27, 2026

Response: Not Cleared

IE: CAR3:

1. In revising the beneficiary section, the approach deliberately avoided summing direct and indirect beneficiaries as a single total, to maintain clarity and accuracy. Instead, the information for direct beneficiaries and indirect beneficiaries has been presented separately, with explaining how each figure was estimated.

2. Noted. No action required.

3. Elaborated the mechanism how Equal participation of both men and women will be ensured and equitable access to the benefits and opportunities guaranteed throughout the project. The mechanisms presented included inclusion tools such as target quotas, local customary practices of women in community work, more inclusive selection of beneficiaries, and grievance and feedback mechanisms.

CAR4: A summary of the role of women in the labour market has been included, directly linking to the proposed project's objectives. Additional data and information were incorporated to highlight existing gender gaps, including disparities in participation, employment type, wages, and literacy. These insights strengthen the evidence base for integrating gender-responsive measures into climate adaptation interventions.

CR26(NEW): The revised Concept Note identifies vulnerable groups beyond women who may be affected by climate-related risks and may benefit from the proposed interventions. These include vulnerable and marginalized households and communities, including groups facing socioeconomic, physical or other barriers to accessing climate-resilient services and infrastructure.

The project will apply an inclusive approach to beneficiary identification and participation to ensure that the

needs and capacities of these groups are considered during implementation.

CR27(NEW): Mechanisms have been clearly explained to ensure that at least 50% of project benefits are equitably distributed among women beneficiaries. These mechanisms include the establishment of target quotas to guarantee meaningful and balanced representation, the integration of inclusive beneficiary selection processes, and recognition of local customary practices that encourage women's participation in community work, will be duly monitored through gender-disaggregated data during implementation.

Response: Not Cleared

Secretariat: CAR3.

1: Not fully cleared. See Part II.B and Table 9, pp. 20–22. Direct and indirect beneficiaries are presented separately in Table 9. However, the narrative still refers to an aggregate beneficiary figure, and the basis for estimating direct and indirect beneficiaries has not been provided. Please report the two groups separately in the narrative and briefly provide the calculation or basis used to derive each estimate.

3: Cleared. See Part II.B, p. 21. Operational mechanisms for equitable participation and access to project benefits are now described.

CAR4: Cleared. See Gender Assessment, p. 30, and the revised Initial Gender Assessment Report. The assessment has been strengthened with additional gender-relevant socioeconomic information and links to climate-related vulnerabilities.

CR26 (New): Cleared. See Part II.B, p. 21. Vulnerable groups expected to benefit from the project are now identified.

CR27 (New): Cleared. See Part II.B, p. 21, and Table 13, pp. 31–32. Mechanisms to support at least 50% women's participation and equitable access to project benefits are now described.

Is the project / programme cost effective?

Response: Pending

Secretariat: Yes.

However further information is needed.

As per Part II, Section C (pages 22-23), the concept provides justification for cost-effectiveness from a sustainability perspective. It explains the logic of approach. It also demonstrates value for money identifying an indicative cost per beneficiary.

However further thinking around the analysis of alternatives could be provided and expanded in the full proposal

CR4: Please provide further details - at least 2 sentences on how the alternatives presented where arrived.

Date: May 11, 2026

Response: Pending

Secretariat: CR4: Not Cleared.

The concept proposal elaborates on consultations. Kindly specify alternatives interventions and what criteria was used preliminarily to compare them to proposed interventions.

Date: June 23, 2026

Response: Not Cleared

Secretariat: CR4: Not Cleared.

Kindly specify alternatives interventions and what criteria was used preliminarily to compare them to proposed interventions. Please strengthen the narrative logic to explain the cost-effectiveness per component.

CR28(NEW): Please strengthen the cost-effectiveness analysis from a sustainability perspective. While some information has been provided, it is not clear how engagement is expected to contribute to the long-term sustainability of the project.

Date: July 27, 2026

Response: Not Cleared

IE: CR4: The narrative has been strengthened by explaining the criteria applied to compare alternative solutions with the proposed solutions. The processes adapted included stakeholder discussions, guided by comprehensive desk reviews of alternative approaches to the key issues identified. Participants engaged in extensive deliberations to ensure that the interventions selected were both relevant and feasible. Drawing on the experience and data provided by the Executing Entities (EEs) and other government-mandated agencies, the process enabled a thorough evaluation of technical options against criteria of cost-effectiveness, sustainability, and alignment with national priorities. This structured approach ensured that the most suitable sub-projects were identified, reinforcing both the credibility and relevance of the proposed interventions.

CR28 (NEW): The narrative has been strengthened by expanding the cost-effectiveness analysis from a sustainability perspective. Sustainability was emphasized as a key pillar in identifying sub-projects, with particular focus on the capacity of local authorities to maintain investments, their willingness to incorporate them into annual work plans to allocate funding for operations and maintenance, and the importance of community acceptance to ensure long-term utilization of facilities created through project investment. These mechanisms were extensively consulted with all Executing Entities (EEs), community organizations, and representatives, thereby reinforcing the credibility of the proposed interventions and ensuring their durability beyond the project cycle.

Response: Not Cleared

Secretariat: CR4: Not fully cleared. See Part II.C, p. 21. The narrative explains the process and criteria used to assess potential interventions. However, the specific alternative interventions considered are not identified. Please briefly identify the main alternatives considered for each project component and indicate how they were compared with the proposed interventions in terms of cost-effectiveness.

CR28 (New): Cleared. See Part II.C, p. 21. The narrative now explains how stakeholder engagement supports long-term ownership and operation and maintenance of project investments.

Is the project / programme consistent with national or sub-national sustainable development strategies, national or sub-national development plans, poverty reduction strategies, national communications and

adaptation programs of action and other relevant instruments?

Response: Pending

Secretariat: Yes.

However, further information is needed.

As per Part II Section D (pages 23-24), the concept identified relevant national and regional strategies and plans for the country but there are some gaps.

CR5: Please indicate the year of the NAP and TNC as identified for other policies and plans.

CR6: Please strengthen the relevance of the cited national and sub-national policies and plans to the proposed project. This includes identifying the relevant priority or action and how the aligns with the cited policy or plan. A suggested structure could be: 'The proposed project is aligned with [Plan XX], under [Specific Action XX], contributing to [Outcome XX].'"

CR7: Does the country have poverty reduction / development planning instruments or sector-related strategies that may be relevant?

Date: May 11, 2026

Response: Pending

Secretariat: CR5: Cleared.

The year of the NAP and TNC has been included in Section D (page 2).

CR6: Not Cleared

The amendments to Section D are not evident. Please refer to CR6 in the previous review. Please consider using a tabular format to help assist with highlighting alignment between outcomes/actions plans/strategies with project activities.

CR7: Not Cleared.

Please clarify the evidence that poverty reduction / development planning instruments or sector-related strategies have been included.

Date: June 23, 2026

Response: Not Cleared

Secretariat: CR6: Not Cleared

Please provide the list of the national/subnational programmes and strategies in a Table.

CR7: Not Cleared.

Please clarify the evidence that poverty reduction / development planning instruments or sector-related strategies have been included.

CR29(NEW): Kindly ensure that the list of relevant strategies and policy instruments is comprehensive. Please also include any other relevant sector-specific instruments, as well as gender-related strategies (given the importance of gender considerations).

Date: July 27, 2026

Response: Not Cleared

IE: CR6: A consolidated table of relevant national and subnational programmes, policies and strategies has been included in Section D of the Concept Note.

The table identifies the relevant policy and planning instruments and demonstrates their relationship with the proposed project objectives, components and adaptation interventions. CR7: The narrative has been strengthened which demonstrate that poverty reduction development planning instruments and sector-related strategies have been included.

CR29(NEW): All relevant strategies and policy instruments are included with the inclusion of sector-specific instruments, as well as gender-related strategies

Response: Cleared

Secretariat: CR6: Cleared. See Part II.D, pp. 21–22. A consolidated table of relevant national and sub-national policies and strategies has been provided, with the corresponding alignment and relevance of each instrument to the proposed project. Editorial correction: In Part II.D, p. 22, please complete or remove the standalone phrase “Poverty reduction” preceding the table.

CR7: Cleared. See Part II.D, p. 22. Relevant poverty reduction and development planning instruments are included.

CR29 (New): Cleared. See Part II.D, pp. 21–22. The table includes the main relevant climate, water, disaster risk management, poverty and development planning, economic, sector-specific, and gender-related policy instruments. Editorial correction: Please add a table number and caption.

Does the project / programme meet the relevant national technical standards, where applicable, in compliance with the Environmental and Social Policy of the Fund?

Response: Pending

Secretariat: Unsure.

As per Part II, Section F (pages 31-32), the concept names specific legislation and plans but there are gaps. It does not provide any information regarding the specific national standards with which the proposed project will comply.

CAR5: In a tabular format, please provide a comprehensive coverage or list of national technical standards for which the project needs to comply with, including. any sector-specific regulations. For each regional/national standard please ensure that the following is highlighted in a tabular format:

- The scope and relevance should be described specifically.
- How it relates to the proposed project, clearly identifying the outputs/activities that will require compliance
- The project’s compliance status. If compliance is required, outline the steps needed to achieve it.
- The competent authority for each standard should be included

Date: May 11, 2026

Response: Pending

Secretariat: CAR5: Cleared.

Table 10 outlines the relevant rules, regulations, standards and procedures, relevance to project and the

Competent Authority for each. Please briefly clarify the steps for compliance.

CAR5(NEW): Section E can be strengthened by providing a table for all rules and regulations rather than splitting some in the table and others in the narrative. Please merge the narrative below Table 10 in Table 10.

Date: June 23, 2026

Response: Not Cleared

Secretariat: CAR5(NEW): Cleared.

All rules and regulations have been included in Table 10.

CR30(NEW): Please add the following two columns to Table 10:

- Objective of the standard
- In the case that compliance is required, the main steps needed to comply with it (as sequential bullets).

CR31(NEW): Please ensure that the table listing is comprehensive. Applicable standards may include any other sector-specific related regulations relevant to the project interventions.

Date: July 27, 2026

Response: Not Cleared

IE: UN-Habitat Response (revised Concept Note, 6 Aug 2026):

CAR5(NEW): Cleared by Secretariat. Noted

CR30(NEW): Table 10 has been revised with the inclusion of Two columns for Objective of the standards and main steps needed to comply with it.

CR31(NEW): All applicable standards are listed which are relevant to the project interventions. Relevant standards were identified with extensive desk review followed by stakeholder consultations, particularly with EEs and government mandatory agencies

Response: Cleared

Secretariat: CR30 (New): Cleared. See Table 10, pp. 23–24. The requested columns on the objective of each standard and the main steps needed for compliance have been added. Editorial correction: In the row “Rawalpindi Master Plan and Islamabad Master Plan,” please replace “desining” with “designing.”

CR31 (New): Cleared. See Table 10, pp. 23–24. The table includes applicable standards and sector-specific regulations relevant to the proposed project interventions.

Is there duplication of project / programme with other funding sources?

Response: Pending

Secretariat: Unsure.

As per Part II, Section F (pages 24-25), the concept highlights a few projects but does not provide a comprehensive coverage of projects to which the concept aligns. On page 7, the proposal notes that it is scaled

version of the ‘Enhance community, local and national-level urban climate change resilience to water scarcity, caused by floods and droughts in Rawalpindi and Nowshera, Pakistan”

CAR6: Kindly include a comprehensive table listing key national and regional projects that are or have been implemented in the country and are related to the proposed project. For each, please include the following details:

- (i) Project title and funding sources,
- (ii) Main project interventions,
- (iii) Timeline and specific location within the country,
- (iv) Target population,
- (v) Implementing entity,
- (vi) Lessons learned (if applicable),
- (vii) A brief explanation of overlaps, complementarities, and how duplication with the proposed project will be avoided

Date: May 11, 2026

Response: Pending

Secretariat: CAR6: Cleared.

Table 11 on Page 4 provides a comprehensive table listing key national and regional projects.

Date: June 23, 2026

Response: Not Cleared

Secretariat: CAR6(RE-OPENED): Kindly include the following columns to Table 11:

- Target population,
- Lessons learned (if applicable) and how they were applied to the project design.

Date: July 27, 2026

Response: Not Cleared

IE: CAR6(RE-OPENED): Table 11 has been revised adding columns of Target population, - Lessons learned for each project listed. The revised table provides a clearer basis for assessing complementarity and avoiding duplication with existing or previous initiatives.

Response: Not Cleared

Secretariat: CAR6 (RE-OPENED): Not fully cleared. See Table 11, p. 24. Information on target populations and lessons learned has been added. However, these are incorporated within the existing columns rather than presented separately, as requested in the previous review. Please add separate columns for “Target population” and “Lessons learned and application to project design,” indicating where lessons learned are not applicable or available.

Does the project / programme have a learning and knowledge management component to capture and feedback lessons?

Response: Pending

Secretariat: Yes

As per Part II, Section H (pages 25), the concept has

Dedicated component (Component 3), inclusive of activities related to knowledge management and learning.

Additionally, it is not clear who is responsible for knowledge management platform, how often lessons/experiences will be compiled and tracked nor how they will be disseminated.

CAR7: Kindly clarify or include details on the institutional arrangements for learning and knowledge management, including:

1. The entity(ies) responsible for capturing, synthesizing, and disseminating lessons learned;
2. How experiences will be systematically documented and tracked during implementation;
3. The frequency of learning capture and feedback mechanisms; and
4. Whether dedicated human resources (e.g. a focal point or unit) will support this function and under which project component this role is anchored.

Date: May 11, 2026

Response: Pending

Secretariat: CAR7: Not Cleared.

As per pages 29-30, Section G, the proposal indicates that a Knowledge Management and Communication Plan will provide clear guidance to the various EE in the documentation process as knowledge management will be embedded in their task.

1. Please identify the organisation that will lead and coordinate this process and identify a personnel who would coordinate this seamlessly given the multiple EEs identified.

The proposal mentions 6 national workshops but this does not establish frequency of routine learning capture.

2. Please be explicit regarding the frequency of learning capture, and feedback mechanisms. For example, consider if learning will be monthly, quarterly semi-annually at key project milestone and explain how feedback from communities and institutions will be incorporated.

Date: June 23, 2026

Response: Not Cleared

Secretariat: CAR7: Not cleared.

1. Cleared.

As per revised Part II.G. The organisation in charge will be UN-Habitat.

2. Not cleared.

While the CN indicates that "Timing of workshops will be determined during progress review of KMCP implementation", please provide an indication of the expected timing, as this should be defined at the project design stage.

CR32(NEW): Kindly include the following:

- What LKM activities/products will be financed and included in the proposed project. This information should be specific. For example: What product is expected from the Documentation process? What material will be deliver to communities? How will be conducted the participatory process?
- Explain how the knowledge generated will be maintained once the project concludes and describe the institutional or operational arrangements required to ensure its long term sustainability.
- Specify what feedback mechanisms are in place to assess and refine the training materials and capacity

building activities, ensuring they become increasingly effective and impactful over time.

Date: July 27, 2026

Response: Not Cleared

IE: CAR7:

1. Cleared by the Secretariat. No action needed.
2. Expected timing of the proposed workshops has been included.

CR32(NEW): LKM activities were detailed out under component 3 of “Strengthening social resilience and knowledge management platform” providing expected LKM products, material will be delivered. Further explanation has been included on how the knowledge generated will be maintained once the project concludes and describe the institutional or operational arrangements required to ensure its long-term sustainability. Feedback mechanisms have also been ensured to enable participants, communities and stakeholders to provide feedback on training, capacity-building activities and knowledge products through various consultations, with the feedback used to inform their subsequent refinement.

Response: Cleared

Secretariat: CAR7

2: Cleared. See Part II.G, pp. 25–26. The expected timing of the learning and knowledge-management activities is specified.

CR32 (New): Cleared. See Part II.G, pp. 25–26. The proposed knowledge-management activities, products, dissemination channels, feedback mechanisms, and institutional arrangements are now described.

Has a consultative process taken place, and has it involved all key stakeholders, and vulnerable groups, including gender considerations in compliance with the Environmental and Social Policy and Gender Policy of the Fund?

Response: Pending

Secretariat: Yes.

However further information is required.

As per Part II, Section J (pages 26 and Table 8), stakeholders and communities engaged have been noted. Annex 2 also notes further details of meeting date, participants disaggregated by gender, key points (including potential project interventions) and evidence. However, the Annex does not specify the where vulnerable groups and indigenous peoples have been identified, they were consulted at this stage and their interests or concerns taken into account when designing the proposal.

CR8: Please update narrative to indicate how the interests vulnerable groups and indigenous peoples have been incorporated in the project, including how gender and other vulnerable group considerations were addressed. Notably indigenous people have been included in the risk table.

CR9: Clearly indicate participation of stakeholders with gender remit.

CR10: Please clarify which consultations have already been conducted and which are planned to be undertaken during full proposal development, particularly with respect to marginalized and vulnerable groups.

CAR8: Please include an Initial Gender Analysis, that highlights gender dynamics and differentiated impacts between men and women and the proposed urban climate resilience interventions. The analysis should highlight key gender dynamics and differentiated impacts of floods and drought-related water scarcity on women and men, drawing on available national, provincial, or sector-level data. Please also refer to CAR4.

Date: May 11, 2026

Response: Pending

Secretariat: CR8: Not Cleared.

The concept proposal indicates more consultations will be undertaken during full proposal development. Please explicitly address the issues raised in previous CR8 in the narrative for Section J.

Please update narrative to indicate:

1. How the interests vulnerable groups and indigenous peoples have been incorporated in the project,
2. including how gender and other vulnerable group considerations were addressed. Notably indigenous people have been included in the risk table.

CR9: Not Cleared.

Participation by women is not the same as participation an institution or a stakeholder with a formal gender mandate. Please specify any gender related groups such as women's associations or Ministry responsible for gender which will be consulted

CR10: Not Cleared.

As per page 30, Table 12 identifies completed consultations, locations, institutions and participant numbers. However, there are some gaps. Please restructure for readability, using the following headings:

- Stakeholders group
- Date
- Number of Participants (disaggregated by gender)

The narrative for planned consultations should identify the groups to be consulted, and some measures to ensure meaningful participation by women and vulnerable groups.

CAR8: Not Cleared.

Please refer to comments for CAR4 above as they apply here. Please draw on available national, provincial, or sector-level data.

Date: June 23, 2026

Response: Not Cleared

Secretariat: CR8: Not Cleared.

The concept proposal indicates more consultations will be undertaken during full proposal development. Please update narrative to indicate:

1. How the interests vulnerable groups and indigenous peoples have been incorporated in the project,
2. including how gender and other vulnerable group considerations were addressed.

CR9: Not Cleared.

Participation by women is not the same as participation an institution or a stakeholder with a formal gender mandate. Please specify any gender related groups such as women's associations or Ministry responsible for gender which will be consulted.

CR10: Not Cleared.

As this information should be part of the CN (instead the annex), please include on Table 12 the following:

- Dates for each consultation
- Expand on the key issues raised and how they were considered in project design (name specific outputs and outcomes currently in the proposal).
- Background information to verify whether marginalized and vulnerable groups have been consulted.
- A summary of the subjects/issues discussed and any agreements reached, for each session.

CAR8: Not Cleared.

Please refer to comments for CAR4 above as they apply here. Please draw on available national, provincial, or sector-level data.

CR33(NEW): Please indicate how a gender considerations will be ensured in future consultations.

Date: July 27, 2026

Response: Not Cleared

IE: CR8:

1. Narrative has been further revised explaining vulnerable groups and indigenous peoples have been incorporated in the project in the table 13.
2. The narrative has been strengthened by explicitly including the modality of how gender and other vulnerable group considerations were addressed.

Gender-specific concerns and their implications for project design and implementation will be documented, with the findings and recommendations from consultations reflected in project monitoring, learning and adaptive management processes.

CR 9: The narrative has been strengthened by including the consultation modalities with women's associations, gender units of city governments, federal-level gender focal ministries, and other agencies responsible for gender. These institutions will be actively engaged to ensure that gender considerations are systematically integrated into project design and implementation.

CR10: Table 12 has been revised incorporating information such as Dates for each consultation • Expand on the key issues raised and how they were considered in project design • Background information to verify whether marginalized and vulnerable groups have been consulted. • A summary of the subjects/issues discussed and any agreements reached, for each session.

CAR8: included information such as differences in roles, needs and capabilities, knowledge of resources of men and women.

CR33(NEW): Clearly explained how gender consideration will be ensured in future consultations.

Response: Not Cleared

Secretariat: CR8: Not fully cleared. See Part II.H, pp. 26–27. Indigenous communities in the project area have been identified and arrangements for their further engagement during Full Proposal preparation are described. However, it remains unclear whether these communities were consulted during Concept Note preparation. Please briefly clarify whether such consultations took place and, if so, how their interests informed the project design.

CR9: Cleared. See Part II.H, p. 26, and Table 13, p. 31. Consultations with institutions holding a formal gender mandate are now identified.

CR10: Not fully cleared. See Table 12, pp. 26–27. The table includes consultation dates, participant information and the main issues discussed. However, the link between the consultation findings and specific elements of the project design could be further clarified. Please briefly indicate how the principal findings informed specific project activities, outputs or design decisions, and complete participant information, including gender disaggregation, where available.

CAR8: Cleared. See Gender Assessment, p. 30, and the revised Initial Gender Assessment Report. The requested gender analysis has been strengthened.

CR33 (New): Cleared. See Part II.H, p. 26. Measures to incorporate gender considerations into future consultations are now described

Is the requested financing justified on the basis of full cost of adaptation reasoning?

Response: Pending

Secretariat: Unsure.

As per Part II, Section I (pages 26–27), a general justification for adaptation financing needs and desire for full funding is noted. However, there is no explicit statement that the project can achieve its objectives solely with Adaptation Financing nor without additional donor support. Stronger evidence is needed for activities that, taken out of context, could be considered “business-as-usual” development when necessary for adaptation.

CR11: Please clarify if co-financing exists for the project. If it is, please indicate that the success of the project outcomes are not contingent on it. If not, please state this clearly.

CR12: Please provide stronger evidence as to why activities that could appear developmental are specifically necessary to achieve adaptation outcomes.

Date: May 11, 2026

Response: Pending

Secretariat: CR11: Cleared.

As per the concept proposal states: “The proposed project is planned to achieve its full set of outputs and outcomes using Adaptation Fund resources alone and is not depending on the success, continuation, or co-financing of other initiatives.”

CR12: Not Cleared.

Please provide stronger evidence as to why activities that could appear developmental are specifically necessary to achieve adaptation outcomes.

Date: June 23, 2026

Response: Not Cleared

Secretariat: CR12: Not Cleared.

Please provide stronger evidence as to why activities that could appear developmental are specifically necessary to achieve adaptation outcomes.

CAR17(NEW): Please clarify whether the project includes USPs. If this is the case, please refer to the USPs Guidance Document for Project/Programme with Unidentified Sub-Projects, and provide a sound justification for their use. This justification should: (i) provide the reasons why the activity cannot be formulated at the design stage, (ii) describe the specific benefits of not formulating an activity at that stage, and (iii) explain how these benefits outweigh the increased risk on non-compliance with the ESP and GP.

Date: July 27, 2026

Response: Not Cleared

IE: CR12: Explained in the narrative as to why activities that could appear developmental are specifically necessary to achieve adaptation outcomes in the section 1 under “Rationale for Full Cost Funding”

CAR17(NEW): Clearly indicated that “NO USP” under proposed project. All sub-projects have been identified through technical desk reviews, technical consultations with EEs that are mandated for specific work by legislature, and technical expert groups representing government agencies, research organizations, UN-Habitat technical staff followed by wider and comprehensive stakeholder consultations.

Response: Cleared

Secretariat: CR12: Cleared. See Part II.I, pp. 28–29. The narrative now explains why activities that may appear developmental are necessary to achieve adaptation outcomes.

CAR17 (New): Cleared. See Part II.A, p. 11. The Concept Note confirms that no unidentified sub-projects (USPs) are included and presents the proposed concrete adaptation interventions.

Is the project / program aligned with AF's results framework?

Response: Pending

Secretariat: No.

CAR9: Please revise the Results Framework table to ensure alignment with the outcome, outcome indicators, output and output indicators according the Adaptation Fund Results Framework template and guidance. An example is included in the template for guidance. [<https://www.adaptation-fund.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/11/Alignment-with-Adaptation-Fund-Results-Framework-Template-and-guidance-Nov-2025.docx>]:

1. Under the Project Objective section, please remove the text “Details are provided against each outcome listed below” from the Fund Outcome Indicator column, as this does not constitute an appropriate indicator entry.
2. Under the Fund Output column, please replace references such as “Outcome 4” with the correct Adaptation Fund Output statements, in line with the official Results Framework. For example, Output 4 should be presented as:

“Vulnerable development sector services and infrastructure assets strengthened in response to climate change impacts, including variability.”

3. In addition, the total amounts at the objective and outcome levels are not provided in the table. Please include the corresponding financial allocations to ensure completeness and consistency of the Results Framework.

Date: May 11, 2026

Response: Pending

Secretariat: CAR9: Not Cleared.

The table is not compliant with Results Framework Alignment Table (Amended in December 2025) (77 kB, DOC), specifically;

1. The text “Details are provided against each outcome listed below has been removed from Table 14.
2. The Fund Output column has been corrected to reflect the full name of the Fund Output. For clarity please state: “Outcome 4: Vulnerable development sector services and infrastructure assets strengthened in response to climate change impacts, including variability.” Therefore, both the number and the description are reflected.
3. The table is still missing the rows for total amounts at the objective and outcome levels. Please ensure the table used is similar to the table referenced in the guidance document referred to in the previous review.
4. The grant amount per outcome indicator is missing from the top part of the table.

Date: June 23, 2026

Response: Not Cleared

Secretariat: CAR9: Not Cleared.

While some amendments have been included, please address the following:

- Part II states that the project aligns with AF outcomes 2, 3 and 4. However, Table 14 only shows Outcome 2 for the overall objective. Please ensure consistency.
- Ensure consistency across all Fund Outcomes and Outputs (including indicators). Please use the exact wording and terminology provided in <https://www.adaptation-fund.org/document/alignment-with-adaptation-fund-results-framework-template-and-guidance-dec-2025/>

CR34(NEW): Please ensure that project's outcome and output indicators are well presented. Kindly revise all indicators and amend when corresponds, ensuring all are SMART.

Date: July 27, 2026

Response: Not Cleared

IE: CAR9: Table 14 has been revised aligning with AF outcomes, included all outcomes and edited terminology to comply with AF results framework

CR34(NEW): Project's outcome and output indicators are revised.

Response: Not Cleared

Secretariat: CAR9: Not fully cleared. See Table 14, pp. 33–35. Table 14 has been substantially revised; however, further adjustments are needed to fully align it with the current AF Results Framework template. Please: (i) present the project outcome- and output-level sections separately, with their respective indicators, grant allocations and totals; (ii) ensure that AF Outcomes, Outputs and indicators use the exact current wording and are presented at the correct level; and (iii) ensure consistency with Table 4. In particular, the MHVRA output under Component 2 (US\$100,000) is not shown separately, while the DSS allocation is presented as US\$490,000 instead of US\$390,000.

Please refer to the current Alignment with Adaptation Fund Results Framework – Template and guidance (Dec 2025): <https://www.adaptation-fund.org/document/alignment-with-adaptation-fund-results-framework-template-and-guidance-dec-2025/>

CR34 (New): Not fully cleared. See Table 14, pp. 33–35. Project outcome indicators are not yet clearly presented, as several entries currently correspond to project outputs. Please provide clear and measurable indicators for the project outcomes already defined under Components 1–3 in Part II.A, and present project outputs and their indicators separately.

Has the sustainability of the project/programme outcomes been taken into account when designing the project?

Response: Pending

Secretariat: Yes.

As per Part II, Section K (page 27-28), areas of sustainability are addressed such as institutional, social, economic, financial and environmental sustainability. However please revisit to ensure claims are appropriately framed.

CR13: Please present as expected sustainability mechanisms or intended arrangements, with further detail to be developed at full proposal stage. Such details include proposed financing arrangements after the project ends - maintenance and operation, any formal commitments, arrangements or partnership.

Date: May 11, 2026

Response: Pending

Secretariat: CR13: Not Cleared.

Please avoid unsupported guarantees of continuity such as ‘Therefore, accountability of the investment is guaranteed, and continuity of activities beyond the project's lifetime is assured.’ Unless provided in writing and clarify roles of agencies listed.

Date: June 23, 2026

Response: Not Cleared

Secretariat: CR13: Cleared.

The phrase "Therefore, accountability of the investment is guaranteed, and continuity of activities beyond the project's lifetime is assured" has been removed.

CR35(NEW):

1. Kindly explain clearly how replication and scaling up of the proposed project activities and benefits will be achieved.
2. Kindly provide the specific plans for the financial sustainability post project.
3. Please clarify whether pre arrangements has been signed or agreed for the institutional, operational and financial sustainability of the proposed project.

Date: July 27, 2026

Response: Not Cleared

IE: R13: Cleared by the Secretariat. No further action is required.

CR35(NEW):

1. Potential of replication of the project activities has been included in the narrative.

2. Financial sustainability of the project has been explained as EEs are government (mandated for relevant scope) entities with an annual budget for O&M activities of the infrastructure created in the cities and the process of integrating the assets created under this project into their annual work plans.

Response: Not Cleared

Secretariat: CR35 (New): Not fully cleared. See Part II.J, p. 29. The Concept Note now describes pathways for replication and scaling-up and specific financial sustainability arrangements. However, it remains unclear whether the institutional, operational or financial arrangements described have already been formally agreed or signed. Please briefly clarify their current status.

Does the project / programme provide an overview of environmental and social impacts / risks identified, in compliance with the Environmental and Social Policy and Gender Policy of the Fund?

Response: Pending

Secretariat: Yes.

As per Part II, Section K (pages 28-29), the checklist against the 15 E&S principles has been completed inclusive of the level of risk, mitigation measures but does not specify the risks in detail. Additionally, no risk classification for the project is provided. The proposal does not include an initial gender assessment; therefore, it does not elaborate on the gender-specific cultural and/or legal context in which the project/programme will operate. The concept includes the statement that the project will be aligned to AF policy.

CAR10: Please ensure that identified environmental and social risks are clearly linked to the relevant project components, outputs, or activities.

CAR11: Please ensure the risk identified for each are explicit. Risk should describe as: "There is a risk" Then followed by the mitigation measures.

CAR12: Please note for the checklist that Adaptation Fund Principles 1, 4 and 6 always apply and should be unchecked. For more information, please visit: AF's ESP guidance and Environmental and Social Policy .

CAR13: Please assess the project's classification. Though this is tentative, indicate whether the project would be classified as category A, B or C.

Date: May 11, 2026

Response: Pending

Secretariat: CAR10: Cleared.

As per Table 13, pages 35-36, the risks are more explicit.

CAR11: Cleared.

As per Table 13, the risk description has been amended as well as the mitigation measures.

CAR12: Not Cleared.

The Adaptation Fund Principles 1, 4 and 6 are always apply and should be unchecked. These warrant further consideration in the risk screening. A low-risk may be appropriate.

CAR12(NEW): Please note that the Principle related to Climate Change refers to climate change mitigation and potential for increase in greenhouse gas emissions. Please amend accordingly.

CAR13: Cleared.

Page 25 in the statement “As per the Adaptation Fund’s ESP, the project is expected to fall into Category B: projects with potential adverse environmental and social impacts that are less adverse, site-specific, and readily mitigated.” has been included.

Date: June 23, 2026

Response: Not Cleared

Secretariat: CAR12: Cleared.

The Adaptation Fund Principles 1, 4 and 6 are applied.

CAR12(NEW): Not cleared.

Please amend the second column, currently marked. However, as the risk level is "low", the second column should not be marked.

CAR18(NEW): Please revise Table 13:

1. Describe all potential impacts (direct, indirect, transboundary and cumulative) and risks that could result from the project.
2. If no risk is identified for a given principle, a sound justification must be provided.

Date: July 27, 2026

Response: Not Cleared

IE: CAR12: Cleared by the Secretariat. No action is required.

CAR12(NEW): Revisited the risks levels and revised accordingly.

CAR18(NEW): Table 13 has been revised

1. Described all potential impacts (direct, indirect, transboundary and cumulative) and risks that could result from the project.
2. A sound justification has been provided for no risks categories such as Involuntary Resettlement, public health, Physical and Cultural Heritage and Lands and Soil Conservation

Response: Not Cleared

Secretariat: CAR12 (New): Cleared. See Table 13, pp. 31–32. The low-risk entries are now presented under potential impacts and risks requiring further assessment and management.

CAR18 (New): Not fully cleared. See Table 13, pp. 31–32. Risk descriptions and mitigation measures have been strengthened. However, the screening does not yet consistently clarify whether potential impacts are direct, indirect, cumulative or transboundary. Please indicate these impact types where applicable and briefly substantiate entries assessed as “No Risk Identified.” In particular, please reconsider the Public Health screening in light of the proposed water storage, groundwater recharge, wetland and water reuse intervention. Editorial correction: Under “Climate Change,” please replace “Lpw Risk Identified” with “Low Risk Identified” and complete the incomplete sentence.

Resource Availability

Is the requested project / programme funding within the cap of the country?

Response: Cleared

Secretariat: Yes. The proposal is for USD10,000

Is the Implementing Entity Management Fee at or below 8.5 per cent of the total project/programme budget before the fee?

Response: Pending

Secretariat: Yes.

All figures add up in the component financing table and rounded to a whole number. UN-HABITAT serves as the IE and fee is within threshold of 8.5%.

A PFG is requested and valued at USD120,000 which is within the range for a single country project. The PFG will support the development of ESMP and GAP.

CR14:

1. Please clarify if all EEs listed will be executing the PFG. Otherwise, please amend.
2. Please confirm if the PFG is valued at 120,000 or 150,000. The budget states 120,000 but narrative state 150,000

CR15: Please ensure that reference is made to the engagement with stakeholders with gender remit to ensure these stakeholders are included in the process.

Please ensure that a budget is developed for both and the individual costs are outlined in the fully developed proposal. Please also ensure vulnerable groups and indigenous people are a part of the process and the budget adequately supports their involvement.

Date: May 11, 2026

Response: Pending

Secretariat: CR14: Cleared.

1. As per page 1 of the PFG form, UN Habitat will serve as the EE.
2. In addition, both the budget and the PFG narrative are consistent with the stated allocation of US\$120,000.

CR15: Not Cleared.

Please include a sentence in the PFG request under '1. Stakeholder consultations', indicating that stakeholders with a gender mandate (such as women associations or Ministries responsible for gender) will also be consulted.

Date: June 23, 2026

Response: Not Cleared

Secretariat: CR15: Not Cleared.

Please include a sentence in the PFG request under '1. Stakeholder consultations', indicating that stakeholders with a gender mandate (such as women associations or Ministries responsible for gender) will also be consulted.

Date: July 27, 2026

Response: Not Cleared

IE: CR15: PFG request has been revised with the inclusion of gender mandated agencies under stakeholder consultations.

Response: Not Cleared

Secretariat: CR15: Not fully cleared. See PFG request, Activity 1 – Stakeholder consultations, p. 3. The PFG identifies gender-mandated institutions under the Gender and ESS Risk Analysis activity. However, Activity 1 does not yet explicitly indicate that women's organizations and institutions with a formal gender mandate will be consulted. Please ensure that this participation is explicitly reflected under Activity 1.

Are the Project/Programme Execution Costs at or below 9.5 per cent of the total project/programme budget (including the fee)?

Response: Pending

Secretariat: Yes.

All figures add up in the component financing table and rounded to a whole number. The EE costs are within threshold of 9.5%.

CR16: The Concept Note refers to the involvement of "identified Community-Based Organizations (CBOs)" as supporting Executing Entities at the community level. Please clarify when and how these CBOs will be formally identified and engaged.

Date: May 11, 2026

Response: Pending

Secretariat: CAR16(NEW): Please present the budget in the components financing table at table 4 at the output level.

CR16: Not Cleared.

Please explicitly indicate how CBOs will act as Executing Entities. For instance, which on-the ground activities will they be executing? Will funds flows to CBOs to implement/execute the adaptation activities? Please include the names of the CBOs, if so and ensure this is clear in the project narrative in Part II, Section A. If CBOs are not engaged at that level, please remove '...and identified Community-Based Organizations (CBOs)' from the cover page of the proposal.

Date: June 23, 2026

Response: Cleared

Secretariat: CAR16(NEW): Cleared.

Budget for each output has been included at Table 4.

CR16: Cleared.

CBOs have been removed as EE on the cover page.

Date: July 27, 2026

Eligibility of IE

Is the project/programme submitted through an eligible Implementing Entity that has been accredited by the Board?

Response: Cleared

Secretariat: Yes.

As per Decision B.46/9.

CONCEPT NOTE PROPOSAL FOR SINGLE COUNTRY

PART I: PROJECT/PROGRAMME INFORMATION

Title of Project/Programme: Strengthening Adaptive Capacities (SAC) of the communities and public sector institutions for rainwater harvesting and climate risk reduction in urban areas of Pakistan (short name of the project: "Pakistan SAC Project")

Country: Pakistan

Thematic Focal Area: Water Management and Climate Risk Reduction

Type of Implementing Entity: Multilateral Implementing Entity

Implementing Entity: **United Nations Human Settlements Programme**
UN-Habitat

Executing Entities: Water and Sanitation Agency (WASA),
Pakistan Council of Research in Water Resources (PCRWR),
National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA),
Capital Development Authority (CDA).

Amount of Financing Requested: 10,000,000 (in U.S. Dollars Equivalent)

Project Formulation Grant Request (available to NIEs only): Yes ☒ No ☐

Amount of Requested financing for PFG: 120,000 (in U.S. dollars Equivalent)

Letter of Endorsement (LOE) Signed: Yes ☒ No ☐

Stage of Submission:
☒ This concept has been submitted before
☐ This is the first submission ever of the concept proposal

In case of a resubmission, please indicate the last submission date: 03 July 2026.

Project Background and Context

Climate Risk Index 2025 ranked Pakistan as the most affected country in 2022¹. Pakistan is experiencing multifaceted consequences of climate change. To name a few, rates of warming significantly above the global average with a potential rise of 1.3°C–4.9°C by the 2090s over the 1986–2005 baseline; changes to rainfall and runoff regimes, and hence its water resources, are highly uncertain, but an increase in the incidence of drought conditions; the number of heavy rainfall events has increased since 1960².

Climate-induced incidents are becoming recurring systemic threats in Pakistan. Urban infrastructure, particularly water systems are continuously affected and must be redesigned with resilience at the center focusing urgent adaptation actions to address escalating economic losses, public health crises, and social instability in urban Pakistan.

This project specifically targets the climate-induced impacts that are now overwhelming existing systems. Rising temperatures, increasing heavy rainfall, and an intensification of flash-floods (as seen in the 2022 floods that affected 33 million people) are driving new patterns of hydrological extremes that existing drainage, water-supply, and groundwater systems were never designed to handle.

The climate of Pakistan exacerbates varying parameters across the country, which is characterized by diverse topography, ecology, and seasonal variations. The average rainfall in the country is approximately 410 mm, with a range of 48 mm to over 1,700 mm.³ Similarly, the highest and lowest temperatures in the country range between sub-zero and 48 °C⁴. The rainfall variations across ecological zones are shown in Figure 1⁵.

Climate change is shifting Pakistan's predictable monsoon seasonality to higher rainfall variability and extremes. Pakistan experiences monsoon rain patterns during July and August, with the highest rainfall and temperatures during this season, leading to flooding of major rivers and streams. The temperature and rainfall patterns across the 12 months are shown in Figure 2. On the other hand, historical data trends from 1951 to 2020 indicate a gradual increase in mean surface temperature across all months of the year, resulting in extreme heatwaves in central and southern regions, as well as droughts in arid regions.

Floods: Pre-monsoon triggered in 2022, affecting around 33 million people, that is, one in seven people have been affected by the floods, including nearly 8 million displaced⁶. Based on 2010, assuming protection for up to a 1 in 25-year event, the population annually affected by flooding in Pakistan is estimated at 714,000 people, and the expected annual impact on GDP is US\$1.7 billion⁷. Flood hazards are projected to increase within primary cities.⁸

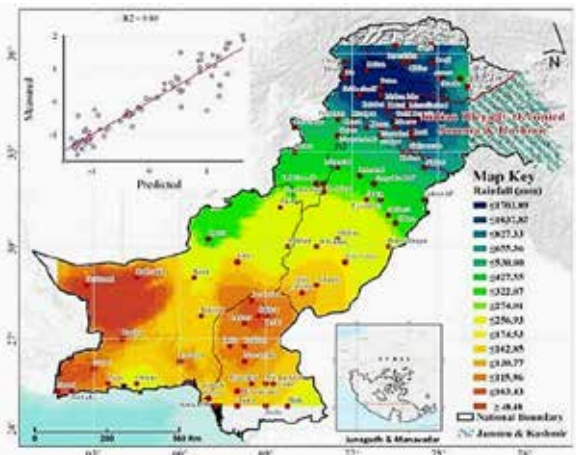


Figure 1: rainfall variations across ecological zones

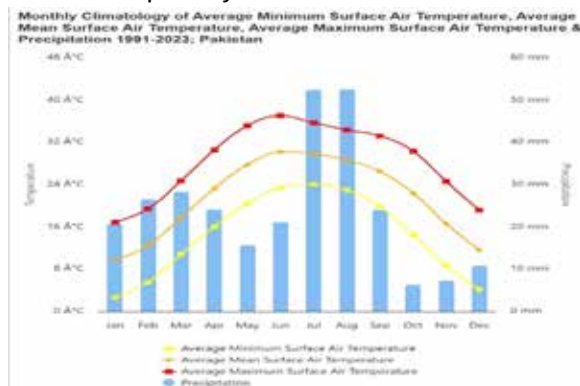


Figure 2: Temperature and rainfall patterns
<https://climateknowledgeportal.worldbank.org/country/pakistan>

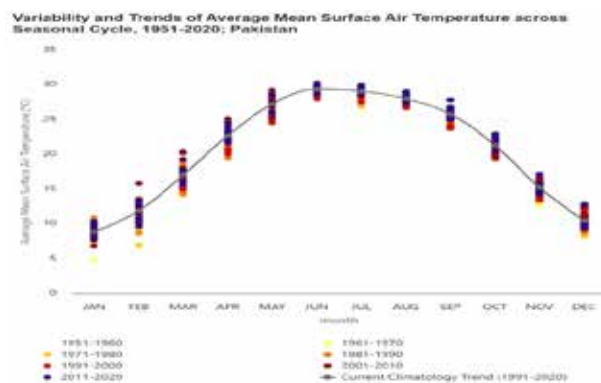


Figure 3: Variability and trends of temperature
<https://climateknowledgeportal.worldbank.org/country/pakistan>

¹ Climate Risk Index 2025, Germanwatch,

² Climate Risk Country Profile Pakistan, 2021, The World Bank Group and Asian Development Bank.

³ Pakistan Meteorology Department, 2024.

⁴ Pakistan Meteorology Department, 2024.

⁵ www.esri.com

⁶ Post-Disaster Needs Assessment, 2022, Ministry of Planning Development & Special Initiatives

⁷ Climate Risk Country Profile Pakistan, 2021, The World Bank Group and Asian Development Bank.

⁸ National Adaptation Plan Pakistan 2023, Ministry of Climate Change and Environmental Coordination.

Drought: Pakistan is on the edge of a water crisis that has intensified over the last decade. More than 80% of the nation suffered due to the mild drought in 2023⁹. Reports indicate that wheat yields in Punjab and Sindh provinces declined by 30–35%, forcing the government to import over 3.14 million tons of wheat from its foreign exchange reserves. The declining availability of water and fodder led to 20% more livestock mortality during dry seasons. A reduction in crop and dairy production led to an increase in inflation and a decrease in food security.¹⁰

The drought in Pakistan could lead to severe water scarcity and food shortages, increased reliance on imports, and long-term economic instability. Studies emphasize the importance of building climate-adaptive assets to mitigate the growing climate vulnerabilities.¹¹

Water availability is the most valuable and expensive commodity worldwide in current climate change trends. The same challenge is becoming more evident in Pakistan. According to the 2017 Population Census, 36.4% of the population resides in urban areas, with an urban population growth rate of 2.7%.¹² The per capita availability of surface water has declined from 5,260 cubic meters annually in 1951 to approximately 1,000 cubic meters in 2016. Projections indicated that by 2025, this may fall further to around 860 cubic meters, signifying Pakistan's shift from a "water-stressed" to a "water-scarce" nation¹³.

Urban and peri-urban communities are facing an acute shortage of drinking water and other domestic water supplies due to prolonged drought conditions—an increasingly frequent consequences of climate change. This water scarcity not only threatens public health and sanitation but also highlights the urgent need for climate-resilient infrastructure and adaptive water management solutions. Addressing this challenge requires integrated approaches that enhance water security, promote sustainable resource use, and build long-term resilience against climate-induced stressors.

Project area and target groups

The metropolitan areas in Pakistan with high population density are particularly susceptible to increased flood risk, as floods can result in substantial damage and loss of life. Climate change and rapid urbanization have a significant impact on precipitation rates in Pakistan. In this proposed project, two geographical locations, namely Islamabad and Rawalpindi, have been identified based on their vulnerabilities, the affected population, and the prioritization of national and provincial stakeholders. Consultations were held at the national level and provincial level with key stakeholders, including the Ministry of Climate Change and Environmental Coordination (MoCC&EC), which is the Designated Authority for the Adaptation Fund, Water and Sanitation Agency (WASA), Pakistan Council of Research in Water Resources (PCRWR), National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), Capital Development Authority (CDA), academia, research organizations and community organizations.

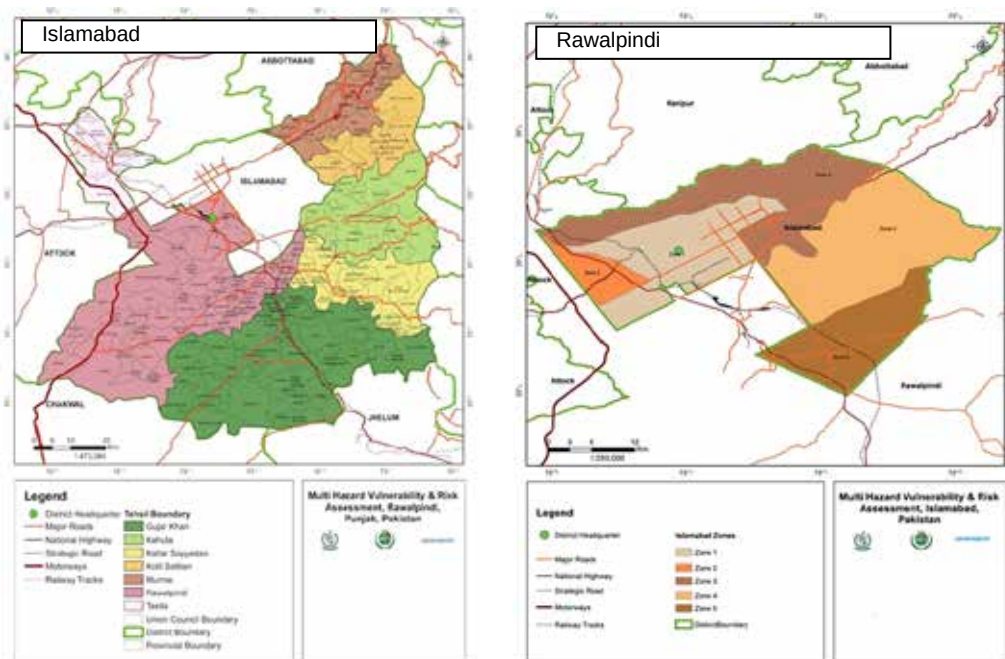


Figure 4: Hazard Vulnerability maps of Rawalpindi and Islamabad. Source: NDMA Pakistan

⁹ Pakistan looks beyond drought with innovation turning crisis into hope, 2025, International Water Management Institute (IWMI)

¹⁰ Multisectoral impacts of continued drought on Pakistan's economy, Mian Ahmad Naeem Salik, 2025.

¹¹ Water Scarcity in Pakistan: Analyzing Its Political, Social, And Economic Impacts, 2025. Indus Journal of Social Sciences

¹² Urban Population Pakistan, 2025, Population data, World Bank.

¹³ National Economic Transformation Plan. 2025, Ministry of Planning Development & Special Initiatives.

The proposed project aims to implement Nature-based Solutions (NbS) for climate change adaptation in these twin cities, reducing climate impacts and threats to human lives. It also seeks to demonstrate replicable NbS actions that can be scaled up in both these cities and other provinces in Pakistan.

Socio-economic context: Islamabad has approximately 2 million residents, growing at an annual rate of 4.9%. Rawalpindi's population is approximately 11.4 million, with an annual growth rate of 4.9%. The population density in Islamabad is 2,211.22 per square kilometer, while in Rawalpindi it is 1,157.79 per square kilometer. **Land use, environment and climate change impacts:** Land use patterns in the region are characterized by a mix of land uses and unplanned growth, resulting in issues such as haphazard development and insufficient public spaces.¹⁴

Rawalpindi has a humid subtropical climate, characterized by hot, wet summers and cooler, drier winters, which pose immense challenges for climate adaptation among its citizens, particularly for urban poor families.

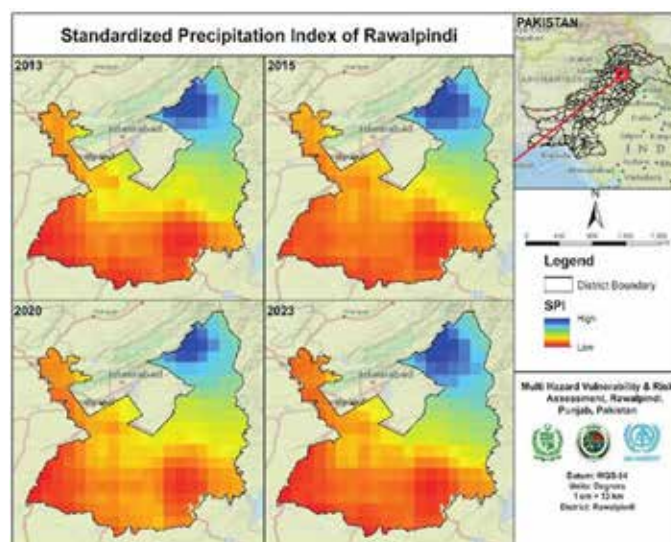


Figure 5: Standard Precipitation Index of Rawalpindi \. Source:

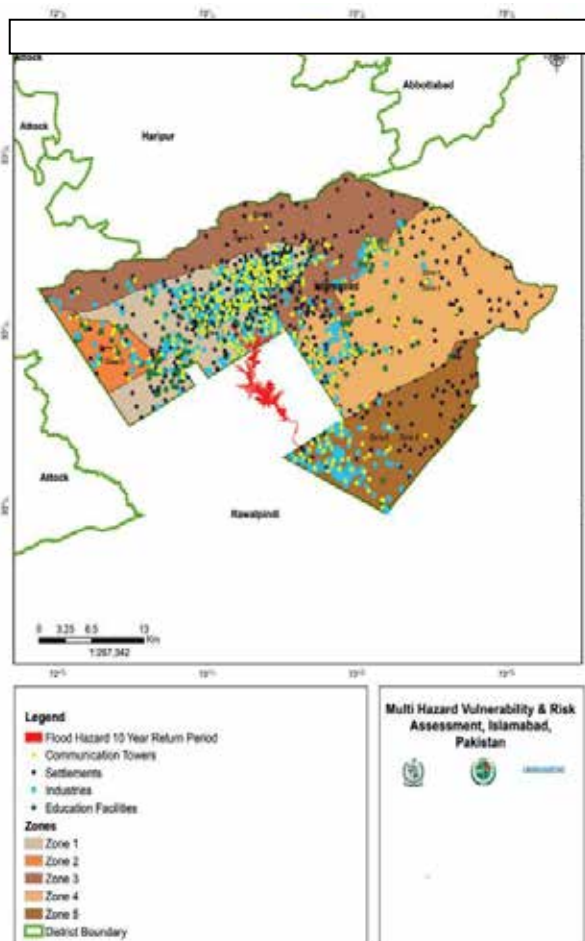


Figure 6: Communication towers, industries, education facilities, and settlements exposed to floods with 10 10-year return period in Islamabad. Source: NDMA Pak.

In 2023, Islamabad experienced an average of 91 thunderstorms, the highest frequency of any city at a plain elevation in the country. Strong windstorms are frequent in the summer, during which the Pakistan Meteorological Department has reported wind gusts to have reached 176 km/h. Such thunder/windstorms, resulting in some damage to infrastructure¹⁵. The weather is highly variable due to the city's proximity to the foothills of the Himalayas. The average annual rainfall is 1,254.8 mm, with the majority of it occurring during the summer monsoon season. However, westerly disturbances also bring quite significant rain in the winter.

During the monsoon season, the risk of urban flooding is typically higher in cities, causing significant disruption to livelihood activities and damage to infrastructure. Now, Pakistan's capital, Islamabad, once a dynamic, futuristic, and resilient city, faces recurring floods during the monsoon and chronic water scarcity during the summer.

Poverty and climate vulnerability: Poverty has been on the rise over the last years. In 2022, it was recorded that 37 percent of the country's population is below the poverty line, with estimates of multidimensional poverty at 51.7 percent.¹⁶ Many of the climate change impacts are likely to disproportionately affect the poorest groups in society, especially in the informal sector. Manual labour jobs are commonly among the lowest-paid, while also being most at risk of productivity losses due to extreme climate events, such as floods and droughts (including heat). Those working in the informal sector and in non-standard employment, including daily wage earners, street vendors, and custodians, do not have access to any mechanisms catering to income losses due to flooding or drought.

¹⁴ Regional Development Plan RAWALPINDI Environment, 2023, The Urban Unit, Government of Punjab

¹⁵ Land Use and Environmental Planning in Rawalpindi, Pakistan, 2023, Journal of Mechanical, Civil and Industrial Engineering

¹⁶ Addressing Poverty and Vulnerability, 2023, UNDP, Pakistan

Table 1 Islamabad Flood 2020: House damage by building type and damage extent¹⁷

Area	Kacha	Pacca	Partially damaged	Completely damaged	Urban	Rural	Total
G-6	100	250	200	150	280	320	600
I-9	80	80	170	140	220	250	470
G-7	90	90	190	160	240	270	510

Table 2 Agriculture Losses by 2010 floods, Islamabad¹⁸

Union Council	Crop damages (Acres)
Tarlai	3000
Sihala	4,200
Kurri	2,800
Total	10,500

An integrated approach to sustainable water management is desirable in the above-case scenario. It is, therefore, crucial to address water shortages by utilizing available resources and enhancing the adaptive capacities of the communities and service providers in the public sector to cope with these challenges. The available surface and groundwater are being utilized and managed to tackle the country's water issues. However, this is insufficient to resolve the problem due to the lack of water. One alternative is to harvest and collect rainwater by improving existing water bodies and creating more wetlands, filtration plants, and groundwater recharge interventions.

Prioritizing nature protection for climate change through the promotion of NbS is one of the guiding principles of the National Adaptation Plan of Pakistan¹⁹. NbS are of paramount importance in effectively addressing heat and food risks. In this project, NbS has been identified as the primary approach for identifying sub-projects in both cities. In this regard, the existing adaptive capacities of key government stakeholders and vulnerable communities are inadequate to address these challenges.

Therefore, a comprehensive and sustainable project is required to build the adaptive capacities of stakeholders and address climate-related water sector issues. The project requires addressing policy and community-level challenges in Pakistan's water sector. This will be achieved by strengthening the adaptive capacities of water sector stakeholders in Pakistan through improved policies and plans, water sector hazard mapping, and the harvesting of surface water received during rainfall in the country.

The proposed project actions will provide and enhance multiple economic, social, developmental, and environmental benefits to vulnerable urban communities and the country. For instance, economic benefits will arise from saving extra effort, such as time saved from fetching water from distant sources, purchasing water from tanker services where water quality is not guaranteed, and reducing travel costs to obtain water for drinking, domestic use, and urban farming. Furthermore, sustainable water sector management in responding to climate change will contribute to the health sector improvement by reducing the incidence of waterborne diseases and illnesses related to poor sanitation.

Communities in the target area will experience meaningful social development gains through this initiative. By organizing into local groups and committees, residents will strengthen their collective voice and capacity to address shared challenges. The project will also expand access to education and healthcare services at the household level, directly improving quality of life. These efforts will contribute to sustained improvements in living standards, fostering empowered, resilient communities that can shape their own development pathways.

In addition to its wide-ranging benefits, the project will deliver significant environmental gains that directly support the well-being of local communities and other stakeholders in the area. By harnessing the potential of wetlands, the project will enable the collection, filtration, and storage of water, one of the region's most vital natural resources. This sustainably managed water supply will serve multiple community needs, including domestic use, kitchen gardening, urban farming, and the creation of urban forests and green public spaces. These nature-based solutions will not only enhance environmental quality but also improve food security, public health, and community cohesion. Ultimately, the project will generate tangible, lasting benefits for urban populations, reinforcing their resilience and quality of life.

Focus of the proposal: This project primarily aims to implement NbS solutions to boost resilience and lessen human

Figure 7: Islamabad Floods 2025 (Source: www.1newstv.com)

¹⁷ Multi-Hazard Vulnerability & Risk Assessment, Islamabad. National Disaster Management Authority, 2024

¹⁸ Multi-Hazard Vulnerability & Risk Assessment, Islamabad. National Disaster Management Authority, 2024

¹⁹ National Adaptation Plan of Pakistan 2023, Ministry of Climate Change and Environmental Coordination.

and ecosystem vulnerability to climate change effects and extreme weather events (mainly to decrease surface temperatures and storm water runoff). It also aims to improve social resilience and enhance the adaptive capacity of national and city institutions. Special emphasis will be placed on tackling water sector challenges in the two selected cities and increasing institutional capacity at both the national and subnational levels. The International Monetary Fund (IMF) identified water sector improvement as a priority area, as Pakistan is among the 30 most water “at-risk” countries in the world.²⁰ Stakeholders’ exceptional collaboration was observed at local, provincial, and national levels, including government agencies, academia, research institutions, and civil society. They recognize that the project supports policy initiatives to mainstream NbS actions and emphasizes a community-based approach. This approach involves engaging with the most vulnerable groups, such as women, persons with disabilities, and low-income communities, to assess their main vulnerabilities through collaborative efforts and to create climate-adaptive assets that enhance resilience.

Table 3 Summary of target locations and vulnerabilities

Location	Critical infrastructures	Community	Climate hazards	Underlying vulnerability
Rawalpindi	§ Wetlands and canals § Water networks § Roads § Public parks and buildings § Houses	§ Urban poor § Low-income groups § Farmer communities § Informal settlements § Ethnically diverse § Culturally rich and diverse	§ Monsoon floods § Droughts and water scarcity § Smog and poor air quality § Heatwaves and temperature increases § Storms	§ Over 70% of the population is below 16 years old § 54.6% of the female population § 4.6% of the older persons population § Farmers § Urban poor living in underserved settlements
Islamabad	§ Wetlands and canals § Water networks § Roads § Public parks and buildings § Houses	§ Urban poor § Low-income groups § Informal settlements § Ethnically diverse	§ Intense monsoon rains § Heat waves § Droughts § Urban flooding § Landslides § Storms	§ Over 43.6 % of the population is below 19 years old § 47.4% of the female population § 3.7% of the older population § Farmers § Urban poor living in underserved settlements

Scaling from Previous Adaptation Fund Project: This concept scales the Adaptation Fund-financed project “Enhance community, local and national-level urban climate change resilience to water scarcity, caused by floods and droughts in Rawalpindi and Nowshera, Pakistan” (from successful pilots to system-scale implementation. The prior phase delivered 5,000 flood-resilient households and public rainwater harvesting, 15 community resilience plans, and city-level spatial strategies (Rawalpindi & Nowshera), demonstrating technical feasibility, cost-effectiveness, and strong public acceptance of NbS. By accepting a broader scope of NbS, the proposed initiative focuses on building resilient water infrastructure, enhancing biodiversity, and fostering sustainable urban ecosystems.

The proposed initiative is the next logical step: system-scale nature-based solutions (100 recharge wells, 10 underground tanks, 3 wetlands, 20 impoundment reservoirs), aquifer-level modelling, and twin-city DSS. The previous project validated community acceptance, technical feasibility, and institutional readiness; this proposal mainstreams these practices into Islamabad–Rawalpindi’s metropolitan water management and hazard-reduction systems.

Theory of Change

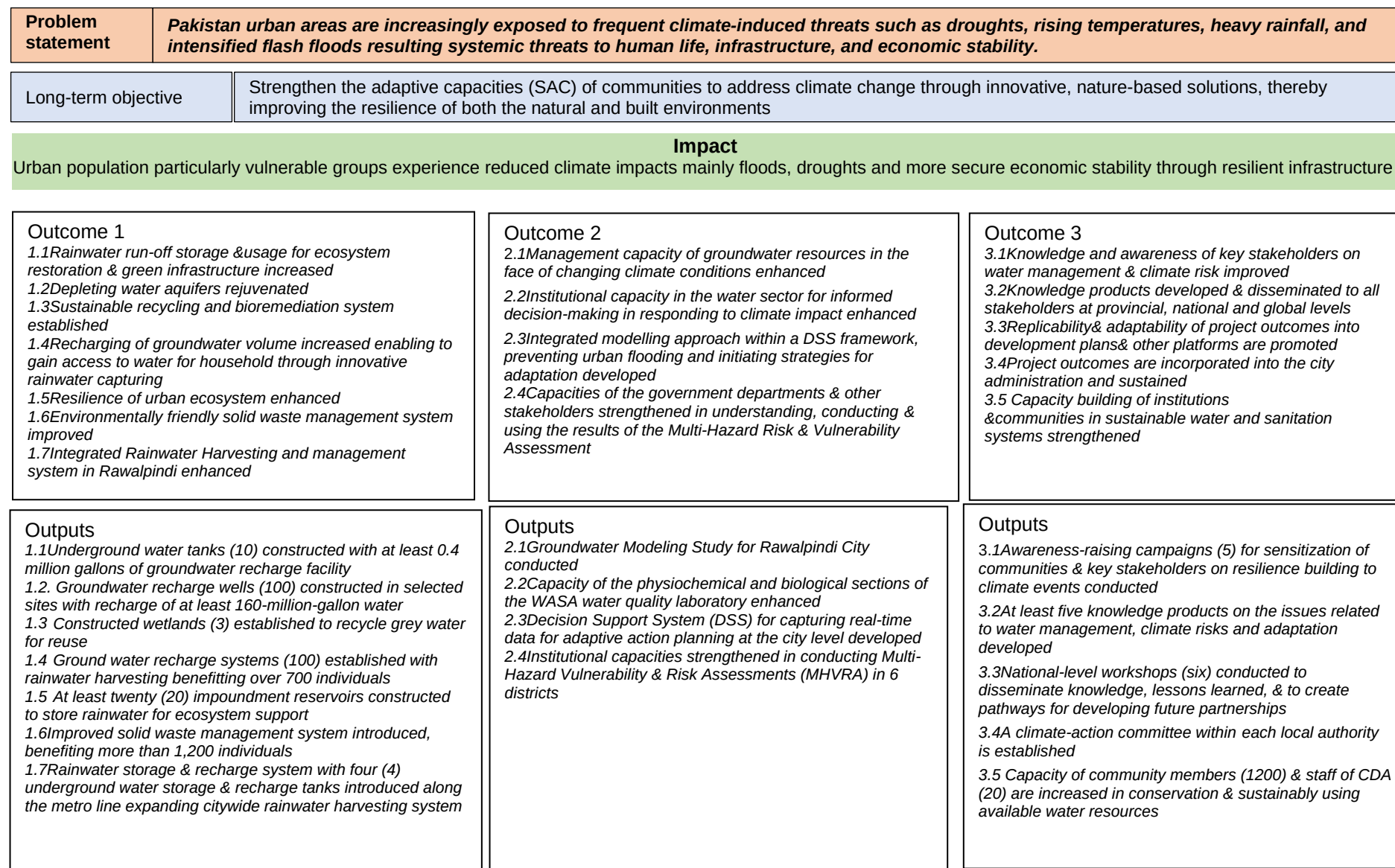
IF the adaptive capacities of communities in Rawalpindi and Islamabad are strengthened to address climate change through innovative, nature-based solutions and institutional systems, thereby improving the resilience of both the natural and built environments enabling to address the increasing exposure to frequent climate-induced threats.

THEN urban communities will become more climate-resilient, reducing the impacts of heavy rainfall and flash floods, rising temperature, drought, and water scarcity and ensuring stabilized economic conditions,

BECAUSE proposed integrated interventions in the project such as rainwater harvesting, groundwater recharge, creation of green infrastructure mainly wetlands construction, improved solid waste management, and improving decision-support systems and enhancing knowledge at multiple levels will solve water security, enhance infiltration, and enable informed, proactive responses to climate variability while providing funding and technical support to stakeholders

²⁰ First Review Under the Extended Arrangement Under the Extended Facility: Press Release: Staff Report May 2025, International Monetary Fund.

Figure 8: Theory of Change



Activities

Component 1 Increasing ecosystem resilience by enhancing urban climate resilience through the creation of adaptive infrastructure

- 1.1 Construction of underground water tanks
- 1.2 Construction of groundwater recharge wells
- 1.3 Construction of Wetlands
- 1.4 Establishing Rooftop water harvesting facilities
- 1.5 Construction of Impoundment reservoirs
- 1.6 Introducing improved solid waste management system
- 1.7 Integrated rainwater harvesting, storage, and groundwater recharge system

Activities

Component 2 Strengthening adaptive response capacity to enhance the ability of institutions and systems to cope with evolving climate conditions & unforeseen events

- 2.1 Conducting Groundwater Modelling Study for Rawalpindi City
- 2.2 Enhancing Capacity of the physiochemical & biological sections of the WASA water quality laboratory
- 2.3 Establishing Decision Support System for adaptive action planning at the city level developed through the estimation of the rainfall threshold for urban flooding
- 2.4 Strengthening Institutional capacities in conducting Multi-Hazard Vulnerability & Risk Assessments

Activities

Component 1 Increasing ecosystem resilience by enhancing **Component 3** Strengthening social resilience & knowledge management platform

- 3.1 Conducting awareness-raising campaigns (five) for sensitization of communities & key stakeholders on resilience building to climate events
- 3.2 Developing at least five knowledge products on the issues related to water management, climate risks & adaptation
- 3.3 Conducting national-level workshops (6) to disseminate knowledge, lessons learned, & to create pathways for developing future partnerships
- 3.4 Establishing Climate-Action Committee within each local authority
- 3.5 Capacity building of institutions & communities

Inputs

Adaptation Fund Financing, UN-Habitat Technical Expertise, Climate risk and spatial data, Community participation mechanism Knowledge, tools and institutional frameworks

Assumptions

- Government remains committed to climate adaptation priorities.
- Policies remain stable without major reversals.
- Effective coordination among key agencies
- Skilled workforce & technical expertise are available.
- Reliable hydrological & climate data is accessible.
- Communities accept & support interventions
- Climate variability remains within projected scenarios.

Risks

- Worker's rights may be neglected/violated, and the work could involve the use of child labour
- Change of the Government and new policies introduced without commitments to climate adaptation priorities.
- mandate of the key agencies changed, and coordination mechanism disrupted
- Skilled workforce & technical expertise not available
- Hydrological & climate data accessibility may be interrupted
- Communities do not accept & support interventions

Project Objectives

The project's overall objective is to strengthen the adaptive capacities (SAC) of communities in Rawalpindi and Islamabad to address climate change through innovative, nature-based solutions, thereby improving the resilience of both the natural and built environments, as well as the society of Pakistan.

The sub-objectives of the project are:

- To improve the climate-responsive capabilities of communities, key stakeholders, and government organizations through the creation of climate-responsive assets.
- To promote sustainable use of natural resources and water for enhancing food and water security through wetland restoration and construction, and groundwater recharge to bolster ecosystems.
- To improve informed decision-making systems and processes through evidence-based vulnerability assessments, supporting targeted adaptation planning and resource allocation to strengthen adaptive capacity and resilience.

Together, these objectives contribute to Sustainable Development Goals 11 and 13 by fostering inclusive, climate-resilient communities, promoting sustainable urban ecosystems, and strengthening local capacity for evidence-based adaptation to climate change.

Table 4 Project Components and Financing

Project Components	Expected Concrete Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Amount (US\$)
1. Increasing ecosystem resilience by enhancing urban climate resilience through the creation of adaptive infrastructure	1.1 Rainwater run-off storage and usage for ecosystem restoration and green infrastructure increased	1.1 Underground water tanks (10) constructed with at least 0.4 million gallons of groundwater recharge facility	2,900,000
	1.2 Depleting water aquifers rejuvenated	1.2 100 groundwater recharge wells constructed in selected sites with a recharge of at least 160-million-gallon water	730,000
	1.3 Sustainable recycling and bioremediation system established	1.3 Constructed wetlands (3) established to recycle grey water for reuse	840,000
	1.4 Recharging of groundwater volume increased enabling to gain access to water for household through innovative rainwater capturing	1.4 Ground water recharge systems (100) established with rainwater harvesting benefitting over 700 individuals (380 males, 320 females)	175,000
	1.5 Resilience of the urban ecosystem enhanced	1.5 At least twenty (20) impoundment reservoirs constructed to store rainwater for ecosystem support	690,000
	1.6 Environmentally friendly solid waste management system improved	1.6 Improved solid waste management system introduced, benefiting more than 1,200 individuals (50% of whom are women)	30,000
	1.7 Integrated Rainwater Harvesting and management system in Rawalpindi enhanced	1.7 Rainwater storage and recharge system with four (4) underground water storage and recharge tanks introduced along the metro line expanding citywide rainwater harvesting system	35,000
2. Strengthening adaptive response capacity to enhance the ability of institutions and systems to cope with evolving climate conditions and	2.1 Management capacity of groundwater resources in the face of changing climate conditions enhanced	2.1 Groundwater Modeling Study for Rawalpindi City conducted	810,000
	2.2 Institutional capacity in the water sector for informed decision-making in responding to climate	2.2 Capacity of the physiochemical and biological sections of the WASA water quality laboratory (WWQL) enhanced	1,150,000
		2.3 Decision Support System (DSS) for capturing real-time	390,000

unforeseen events	impact enhanced	data for adaptive action planning at the city level developed	100,000
	2.3 Integrated modelling approach within a DSS framework, preventing urban flooding and initiating strategies for adaptation developed 2.4 Capacities of the government departments and other stakeholders strengthened in understanding, conducting and using the results of the Multi-Hazard Risk and Vulnerability Assessment	2.4 Institutional capacities strengthened in conducting Multi-Hazard Vulnerability & Risk Assessments (MHVRA) in 6 districts	
3. Strengthening social resilience and knowledge management platform	3.1 Knowledge and awareness of key stakeholders on water management and climate risk improved	3.1 Awareness-raising campaigns (five) for sensitization of communities and key stakeholders on resilience building to climate events conducted	70,000
	3.2 Knowledge products developed and disseminated to all stakeholders at provincial, national and global levels	3.2 At least five knowledge products on the issues related to water management, climate risks and adaptation developed	100,000
	3.3 Replicability and adaptability of project outcomes into development plans and other platforms are promoted	3.3 National-level workshops (six) conducted to disseminate knowledge, lessons learned, and to create pathways for developing future partnerships	130,000
	3.4 Project outcomes are incorporated into the city administration and sustained	3.4 A climate-action committee within each local authority is established	71,014
	3.5 Capacity building of institutions and communities in sustainable water and sanitation systems strengthened	3.5 Capacity of community members (1200) and staff of CDA (20) are increased in conservation and sustainably using available water resources	120,000
Project Execution Cost (9.5%)			875,576
Total Project Cost			9,216,590
Project Cycle Management Fee charged by the Implementing Entity (if applicable) (8.5%)			783,410
Amount of Financing Requested (US\$)			10,000,000

Projected Calendar

Milestones	Expected Dates
Start of Project/Programme Implementation	1 st October 2027
Mid-term Review (if planned)	31 July 2030
Project/Programme Closing	30 September 2032
Terminal Evaluation	31 December 2032

PART II: PROJECT/PROGRAMME JUSTIFICATION

A. Project Components

Climate change impacts in the urban areas of Pakistan have accelerated over recent decades, significantly affecting the lives of people, particularly the urban poor and vulnerable groups such as older persons and children, as well as the economic and social landscape, and the sustainability of biodiversity resources. Rising temperatures, increased rainfall, and a higher frequency of extreme weather events leading to flooding and droughts in cities like Rawalpindi and Islamabad are threatening public safety, health, economic development, and overall well-being. Immediate implementation of targeted adaptation measures is thus essential to enable these cities to address and overcome these escalating challenges effectively.

Nature-based Solutions (NbS) are defined as actions to protect, sustainably manage and restore natural or modified ecosystems, which address societal challenges such as climate change, food and water security, and natural disasters, effectively and adaptively, while simultaneously providing human well-being and biodiversity benefits.²¹ Pakistan's National Adaptation Plan recognizes "Promote Nature-Based Solutions" as one of its guiding principles and encourages prioritizing nature protection for the climate change.²²

This project aims to focus its activities on the application of NbS in Rawalpindi and Islamabad, expecting a win-win situation that addresses biodiversity loss and climate change, while also supporting the country's sustainable development. In line with the project thematic area, i.e., Water Management and Climate Risk Reduction, the following project components are identified through intense stakeholder consultations, including communities, desk reviews of research studies and other published documents, including project completion reports of a similar nature in Pakistan, and the national commitments. Accordingly, all proposed sub-projects are clearly identified at this stage with extensive consultations with all stakeholders including communities and following national climate action plans and other policies and strategies both at national and local levels. (No USP in the project)

Component 1	Increasing ecosystem resilience by enhancing urban climate resilience through the creation of adaptive infrastructure
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Outcomes: Climate resilience of urban communities in Islamabad and Rawalpindi is enhanced through the development and implementation of adaptive infrastructure assets, enabling them to withstand and recover from the impacts of climate variability and change. The specific outcomes under the component 1 to be funded by the project are:

- 1.1 Rainwater run-off storage & usage for ecosystem restoration & green infrastructure increased
- 1.2 Depleting water aquifers rejuvenated
- 1.3 Sustainable recycling and bioremediation system established
- 1.4 Recharging of groundwater volume increased enabling to gain access to water for household through innovative rainwater capturing
- 1.5 Resilience of urban ecosystem enhanced
- 1.6 Environmentally friendly solid waste management system improved
- 1.7 Integrated Rainwater Harvesting and management system in Rawalpindi enhanced

This component focuses on reducing the impact of increasing flooding in two cities, growing water scarcity due to drought conditions, increasing temperature by enhancing the capacities of water absorption in wetlands, recycling grey water, enhancing infiltration, increasing the groundwater volume, and better management of solid waste.

Project expected to address the Rawalpindi's heavy flooding during the monsoon season and high temperatures, leading to droughts during the dry season. Drought has resulted in heavy water scarcity in the city, which has aggravated increasing water demand due to the increasing urban growth rate i.e. 5.80 percent per year.²³ During the monsoon season, rainfall occurs in short, intense spells (most of the rain falls within just 100 hours out of 8,760 hours in a year). In Rawalpindi City, being situated on a lower elevation, low-lying areas along Lai Nullah and its tributaries suffer from even minor floods.²⁴

Urban flooding in Rawalpindi is exacerbated, furthermore, by aging and overburdened drainage systems, as well as a lack of rainwater storage and management systems.²⁵ Leveraging (NbS), the Pakistan National Climate Adaptation Plan envisages rainwater harvesting as an effective method of addressing, firstly, the flooding issues and secondly,

²¹ Nature-based Solutions to address global societal challenges, 2016, E Cohen-Shacham, G Walters, C Janzen, S Maginnis, IUCN.

²² National Adaptation Plan of Pakistan 2023, Ministry of Climate Change and Environmental Coordination.

²³ 7th Population and Housing Census, 2023, Pakistan Bureau of Statistics, Pakistan

²⁴ Pakistan: Lai Nullah Basin Flood Problem: Islamabad and Rawalpindi Cities, 2004, WMO/GWP Associated Programme on Flood Management

²⁷ Water & Sanitation Agency (WASA), Government of the Punjab, Rawalpindi

addressing drought through using retained water. The National Water Policy of Pakistan promotes the adoption of rainwater harvesting technology nationwide and aims to incorporate it into water conservation efforts.²⁶

Table 5: Water demand and supply in Rawalpindi City²⁷

WATER DEMAND PROJECTION OF RAWALPINDI							
Sr. No.	Description	2025	2030	2035	2040	2045	2050
1	Population (M)	4.5	4.94	5.44	5.99	6.6	7.28
2	Demand (MGD)	270	296	326	360	360	437
3	Availability (MGD)	79.5	74	70	66	61	55
4	Surplus/Deficit (MGD)	-190	-222	-256	-294	-299	-382
Projects in-Hand							
5	Chahan Dam (MGD)	-	12	12	12	12	12
6	Dadocha Dam (MGD)	-		35	35	35	35
7	Cherah Dam (MGD)	-	14	14	14	14	14
8	Indus River (MGD)	-	-	-	100	100	200
9	Net Available (MGD) After completing the above projects	79.5	100	131	227	222	316

The motivation for rainwater harvesting in Rawalpindi stemmed from the fact that the groundwater table in the Potohar region (encompassing Rawalpindi district and its surroundings) has declined by 116 meters (380 feet) over the last 30 years. The per capita availability of water is depleting at a rapid pace, having dropped to less than 500 cubic meters compared to 5,300 cubic meters in 1951.

To address these issues, this component includes the following activities:

1.1 Construction of Underground water tanks: Underground water tanks can store, retain and conserve runoff water during heavy rainfall seasons and make it available in the dry season for normal use. The increasing rainfall intensity in the federal capital during monsoon, winter, and pre/post-winter seasons has increased the incidents of localized flooding in various areas due to very high runoff generation. Well-constructed underground water tanks are among the most exemplary nature-based solutions for mitigating water scarcity risks. They play a vital dual role: ensuring water availability during dry seasons and facilitating groundwater recharge through natural infiltration processes. By harnessing and storing rainwater or surface runoff, these systems emulate natural hydrological cycles, reduce surface water loss, and enhance aquifer sustainability. Their integration into water management strategies not only strengthens climate resilience but also supports long-term ecological balance. The proposed underground water tanks, located below ground, will be constructed on preselected sites near natural streams, within recreational parks, or near public places where the stored water can be used to fulfil water needs for green belts, gardens, plantations, or non-potable human use. It is proposed that 10 water tanks be constructed, along with a groundwater recharge system, to achieve a storage capacity of 400,000 gallons. Efforts will be made to make these structures environmentally friendly by using natural materials and employing advanced technology to protect natural vegetation, heritage sites, and other public infrastructure.

1.2 Construction of Groundwater recharge wells: The area of the Federal Capital is experiencing groundwater scarcity in residential neighbourhoods, which is worsening over time. The groundwater table in Islamabad was approximately 10 m in 1960, before the construction of the Capital City, and has since declined to 60-120 m presently. Many streams originate from the mountains, pass through the city, and finally drain into the Soan River. Due to rapid urbanization, a substantial amount of runoff is generated during rainfall, leading to urban flooding almost every year. In this context, it is proposed that rainwater be

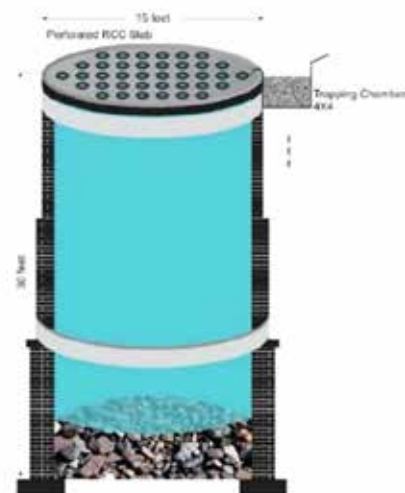


Figure 9: Conceptual design of groundwater recharge well

²⁷ Water & Sanitation Agency (WASA), Government of the Punjab, Rawalpindi

²⁷ Water & Sanitation Agency (WASA), Government of the Punjab, Rawalpindi

harvested and used to recharge the depleting groundwater aquifer through nature-based solutions. Recharge wells will be constructed in 100 identified localities, which are known to be hotspots for depleting water tables. For this purpose, the CDA will collaborate with PCRWR for their technical support and will target the recharging of groundwater with 160 million gallons of water. After the successful demonstration of the activity, the CDA will consider including this in the building code for the capital area.

Groundwater recharge projects will go through a significant amount of scientific attention and formulate effective and efficient operation and maintenance protocols, linking communities to be part of those to ensure the sustainability of the investment. During the technical consultations and field visits, two NbS approaches were considered for further assessment. One is Managed Aquifer Recharge (MAR), which leverages and enhances natural processes to manage water resources by storing water underground within natural aquifers. The other method is Ancillary Recharge Methods (ARM), which uses techniques for artificially adding water to underground aquifers to replenish groundwater supplies.²⁸

1.3 Construction of Wetlands: Wetlands are some of the most biologically diverse and productive natural ecosystems in the world. While not all constructed wetlands replicate natural ones, constructed wetlands can undoubtedly help to absorb /retain water from runoff flows and grey water sources, improve water quality, and support habitat. Constructed wetlands can also be a cost-effective and technically feasible approach, have low operating and maintenance expenses, and can handle fluctuating water levels. Additionally, they are aesthetically pleasing and can reduce or eliminate odors associated with blackish water.

Natural wetland systems have often been defined as the “earth’s kidneys” because they filter pollutants from water that flows through on its way to receiving lakes, streams, and oceans. Because these systems can improve water quality, engineers and scientists construct systems that replicate the functions of natural wetlands. Constructed wetlands are treatment systems that use natural processes involving wetland vegetation, soils, and their associated microbial assemblages to improve water quality.

The proposed wetlands (improved and constructed) primarily filter water in two ways: firstly, by slowing the flow of water, sediment in the water can settle to the bottom of the wetland; and secondly, vegetation absorbs excess nutrients, reducing the amount of contaminants from runoff water that reach downstream aquatic ecosystems.

1.4.1.4 Ground water recharge systems (100) established with rainwater harvesting : Rooftop rainwater harvesting is a proven tool for conserving and sustainable management of water in areas where groundwater is scarce and rainfall is considerably high. Water tanks made of concrete or other durable material, designed based on the calculation of rainfall amount, needs of the household, and surface area of the rooftop, connected to the rooftop through a well-connected network of water pipes, can store water for extended periods to be used for household uses (non-potable). If water filters are installed, the same water can be used for both potable and non-potable purposes. Surplus water from the water tanks to be directed to groundwater recharge wells. Under this project, the CDA will construct 100 rooftop water harvesting systems to recharge wells.

1.5. Construction of Impoundment reservoirs: The rainwater stored in areas based on impoundment reservoirs along natural water streams can impound water for extended periods after rain. While this impounded water can be used for rehabilitating the natural ecosystem in the area, the water tanks with filtration plants near the impoundment sites can provide potable water for the nearby habitations. This system is proposed in the foothills of the Margallahs, where natural streams usually face flash floods during the monsoon and cause occasional damage to the nearby settlements. Diverting water to the impoundment reservoirs will reduce the intensity of the stream flow and risks from flash floods. The CDA has identified 20 potential sites for this activity after consultation with experts and local inhabitants.

According to the CDA office, the average annual rainfall in Islamabad (1,300 mm) has become uncertain and variable

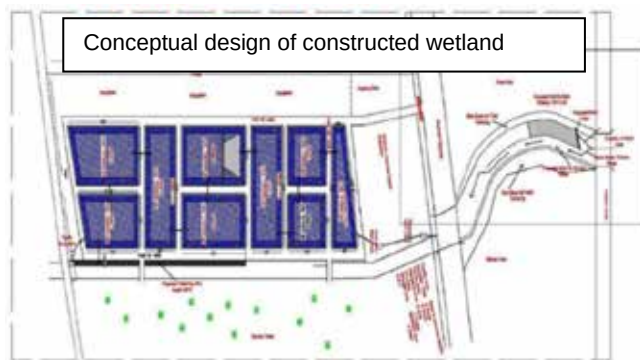


Figure 10: Conceptual design of constructed wetland



Figure 11: Impoundment Reservoir in the capital area

²⁸ Enhancing Groundwater Recharge Through Nature-Based Solutions: Benefits and Barriers, 2024, Mahlet M. Kebede, Mukesh Kumar, Mesfin M. Mekonnen and T. Prabhakar Clement, Hydrology, <https://doi.org/10.3390/hydrology1110195>

due to the overall impact of climate change. The glaring example exists during recent flooding in Saidpur, Chatta Bakhtawar, and adjacent areas of Nallah Lai, as most of the water generated by the rains is drained down towards Rawalpindi and the southern parts of Islamabad due to the geological topography of Islamabad. The vast quantity of rainwater that is presently run off through various streams/nallahs can be preserved through the construction of proposed impoundment reservoirs, along with storage tanks. The harvested rainwater will not only be used for normal utilization during the dry season but also help recharge the groundwater table, which has been drastically depleted.

1.6. Introducing improved solid waste management system: Non-scientific, irregular, and improper management of solid waste in settlements has been identified as one of the primary reasons leading to localized flooding during rainy seasons. Various settlements near the Margallah Hills (Saidpur, E-11, etc.) have experienced this issue due to the blockage of natural waterways by the dumping of solid waste. CDA has consulted experts and residents of the Rumli area to design and implement a proper, sustainable solid waste management system on a pilot basis. The residents of Rumli expressed in meetings that the area had no system for disposing of solid waste. This activity will involve the entire community through their Community-Based Organization (for both males and females) to promote participatory systems and foster a sense of ownership among residents. The successful design will be replicated by the CDA office in other areas. It may be considered for inclusion in the urban rules and regulations after further consultation with stakeholders in the future.

1.7.1.7 Rainwater storage and recharge system with four (4) underground water storage and recharge tanks introduced along the metro line (Rawalpindi City Portion 8.6 Km): Serious flood events frequently occur along

key sections of the Lai Nullah system, particularly between Gunj Mandi Bridge and the Railway Bridge, as well as in tributary areas such as Arya Mohalla, Dhoke Ratta, and Nullah Dhoke Charaghadin. Flooding in these zones typically begins once the water level at Gawal Mandi Bridge reaches 18 feet (5.5 meters). Additionally, Murree Road—the primary arterial route through Rawalpindi City—is regularly inundated during the monsoon season, severely disrupting mobility and access.

To address the potential severe water shortage and increased water demand in Rawalpindi City, and to reduce flooding, WASA-Rawalpindi has planned to promote rainwater harvesting as one of the best possible alternatives/supplementary solutions, which is being practiced in many parts of the region, as well as at the global level.

During technical consultations held with Federal Agencies such as the MoCC&EC, and district/city authorities such as WASA, Punjab Mass Transit Authority (PMA), it was identified that RWH capturing water runoff from the Rawalpindi Islamabad Metro Bus Transit System is suitable for a rainwater harvesting system as a project component. This was further confirmed through field assessments conducted by UN-Habitat and WASA technical teams. The Rawalpindi-Islamabad Metro Bus Transit System begins at Saddar and extends along Murree Road to Faizabad in Rawalpindi City. During heavy rains, all rainwater from the elevated track is discharged onto Murree Road, resulting in inundation at various points. Therefore, the Rawalpindi-Islamabad Metro Bus Transit System is suitable for a rainwater harvesting system.

The system aims at collecting the rainwater runoff from the Metro-Bus track surface along 8.6-kilometer-long and harvests 0.78 million gallons of water (of which 50% is recharged back to the groundwater), benefitting 0.6 million individuals (including 50% women) and directing it to sub-surface storage facilities constructed in public spaces (mostly public parks) connected with the Ground Water Recharge System. The proposed system will harvest and store 1.6 million gallons of rainwater, benefitting at least 0.6 million individuals (50 percent of whom are women). The stored water will be used to feed green belts, plantations, and horticulture activities, and to be used in public buildings. In addition, 50 percent of the stored water will be recharged to the groundwater aquifer through a scientific recharge system to be designed in consultation with PCRWR. The groundwater recharge will benefit residents by rejuvenating water wells and WASA water facilities and support the local ecosystem by enhancing the water table. Additionally, the system will increase the resilience of urban infrastructure by preventing flooding on roads.



Figure 12: Rainwater harvesting system along Rawalpindi Islamabad metro transit bus system

Component 2 **Strengthening adaptive response capacity to enhance the ability of institutions and systems to cope with evolving climate conditions and unforeseen events**

Outcomes: Institutional and systemic adaptive capacity in Islamabad and Rawalpindi is significantly strengthened through enhanced groundwater management, integrated decision-support systems, and multi-hazard risk assessment capabilities—enabling proactive, informed, and climate-resilient responses to evolving and unforeseen climate challenges. The specific outcomes under the component 2 to be funded by the project are:

- 2.1** Management capacity of groundwater resources in the face of changing climate conditions enhanced
- 2.2** Institutional capacity in the water sector for informed decision-making in responding to climate impact enhanced
- 2.3** Integrated modelling approach within a DSS framework, preventing urban flooding and initiating strategies for adaptation developed
- 2.4** Capacities of the government departments and other stakeholders strengthened in understanding, conducting and using the results of the Multi-Hazard Risk and Vulnerability Assessment

The National Adaptation Plan of Pakistan clearly identified that capacity-building initiatives should be prioritized to empower stakeholders with the skills and knowledge required to drive adaptation efforts.²⁹ The institutional and capacity challenges limit policy formulation and implementation, particularly at the local level, and undermine Pakistan's ability to respond to the climatic hazards at all three tiers of governance, i.e., local, provincial, and national.³⁰ This component is intended to reduce the vulnerability of communities to climate-induced hazards through improved response systems.

This component includes the following activities:

2.1 Conducting Groundwater Modelling Study for Rawalpindi City: Excessive withdrawals have depleted the aquifer underneath Rawalpindi and have also suppressed the yield of tube wells (see the table below).

Table 6 **Historical rise in the number of tube wells and changes in the groundwater table in Rawalpindi³¹**

Year	No of Tube Wells	Average Depth of Water Table (m)	Av. Depth of Pump Setting (m)
1980	33	12	23
1985	80	27	41
1990	140	37	52
1995	170	41	60
2002	197	52	70
2003	209	52	72
2012	290	65	83
2019	440	85	100
2025	480	110	120

²⁹ National Adaptation Plan of Pakistan 2023, Ministry of Climate Change and Environmental Coordination.

³⁰ Pakistan's Institutional Capacity for Climate Action: An Analysis, 2023, Muhammad Awais Umar, Salman Danish, Ali Rehmat, Ahmed Khaver, Ramsha Mehboob Khan, and Dr Shafqat Munir Ahmad, Sustainable Development Policy Institute, Pakistan.

³¹ Water & Sanitation Agency, Rawalpindi.

The excessive groundwater abstraction has altered the water balance of the aquifer, wherein recharge is no longer sufficient to sustain the levels. Further, water production from these tube wells has become expensive owing to rising power tariffs. WASA is spending about Rs. 1,200M per annum for the production of 35 MGD groundwater as compared to only Rs. 400M for the production of 29 MGD water from surface water sources of Rawal and Khanpur dams. The production cost is also increased by machinery stress and frequent breakdowns. It is estimated to consume more than 70 percent of the total annual budget of WASA, thus leaving no space for development work aimed at improving infrastructure.

The study aims at evaluating one of the hydrological conditions across the geographic space of the ICT/Rawalpindi based on available supporting data, its incorporation into a groundwater numerical model, and the evaluation of the spectrum of withdrawals leading to the sustainability of the aquifer. The model would be calibrated across using the consistent data on water withdrawals and would generate maps of water level elevations/contours as the primary visualization of simulations conceived for predictions.



Figure 13: Ground water modelling for Rawalpindi City

The study objectives include developing a calibrated groundwater model to assess the impact of withdrawals on the aquifer under the combined usage of the CDA/RDA/MES/RCB precincts and other areas under private development; determining the limits of sustainable withdrawals for the entire geographic area of ICT and Rawalpindi; recommending both short- and long-term measures to reduce aquifer mining based on judicious use of available water resources; and developing guidelines for structured data analysis based on the collection of real-time data against aquifer levels.

2.2 Enhancing Capacity of the physiochemical and biological sections of the WASA water quality laboratory (WWQL):

Water quality analysis laboratory has been established at Rawal water filtration plant to regularly monitor and analyze the quality of water supplied through Rawal Lake water Filtration plant, overhead reservoirs of Khanpur dam, hypo chlorinators installed on contaminated tube wells, mini water filtration plants installed in the Jurisdiction of WASA, tube wells located in different areas of Rawalpindi city, and to analyze the quality of water in the distribution system as it reaches the consumer's tap.

Presently, the WASA laboratory is analyzing the necessary water quality parameters, most of which are physical and chemical. There is a dire need to upgrade and augment this laboratory, not only to increase the water sample analysis capacity but also to increase the physical, chemical, and biological parameters. To achieve this objective, it is proposed to establish or upgrade the Rawal Lake Water Testing Laboratory by procuring advanced water testing equipment and facilities. A key component of this initiative is the segregation of physico-chemical and biological sections, which will ensure compliance with EPA standards while significantly enhancing the laboratory's analytical capacity and the reliability of its results.

The enhanced laboratory facilities will significantly strengthen the monitoring and assessment of existing ground and surface water quality, encompassing overhead and underground reservoirs, as well as water distributed through the WASA system and community tanks or taps. In addition to providing accurate diagnostics, the upgraded lab will play a pivotal role in recommending effective remedial measures to improve overall water quality.

2.3 Establishing Decision Support System (DSS) for adaptive action planning at the city level developed through the estimation of the rainfall threshold for urban flooding:

Pakistan's national and sub-national level climate-related data and information for decision support systems are lacking. Improving information on climate-related risks has been one of the key priorities under Pakistan's economic recovery pathway, guided and supported by the IMF.³² Urban areas are becoming increasingly vulnerable to the impacts of extreme rainfall events, leading to severe socio-economic and environmental consequences. Current methodologies focus on a reactive approach and using historical data models that fail to capture the complex interactions between rainfall, topography, land use, and infrastructure. All estimations are undertaken for flood forecasting to assist disaster response agencies for emergency rescue purposes. There is a need to enhance the resilience of urban cities by determining the urban flooding threshold under different climate and development scenarios. This data and scientific observation will be used for a more effective Decision Support System (DSS) at the city level.

Accurately assessing the rainfall threshold that triggers urban flood disasters is crucial for effective urban planning and disaster management. This component aims to calculate rainfall thresholds using a multi-method approach to

³² First Review Under the Extended Arrangement Under the Extended Facility: Press Release: Staff Report May 2025 International Monetary Fund.

collect data and analyze information on the impacts of rain-related disasters at the city level. By integrating diverse data sources and analytical techniques, this plan aims to provide comprehensive insights into the effects of rainfall, enabling the implementation of proactive measures to reduce disaster risks.

The process will be completed through a multi-stakeholder participatory approach, ensuring transparency and inclusivity across all levels of government and society. This is explained in the following diagram:

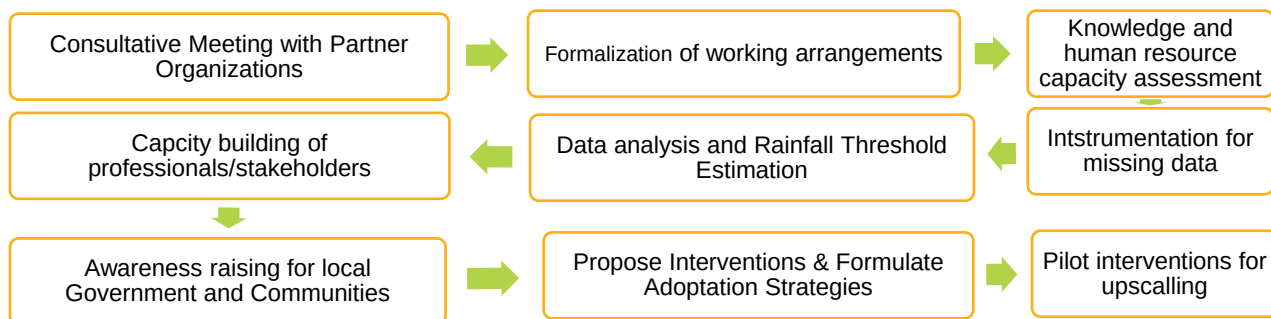


Figure 14 Participatory Approach

2.4 Strengthening Institutional capacities in conducting Multi-Hazard Vulnerability & Risk Assessments (MHVRA):

The MHVRA is a study that analyzes various types of hazards and organizes them into a comprehensive system for evaluation, considering the probability of occurrence of multiple hazardous events and their interrelations. The assessment aims to view the effects and identify/map expected damage and losses due to various natural hazards. The activity can be considered a first step towards integrated Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) planning and mainstreaming risk-informed development at local, provincial, and national levels. It guides the relevant agencies/line departments in requisite land-use planning and the implementation of national-scale programs aligned with vulnerabilities, exposure to risks, and other relevant factors, as well as response and knowledge management. It is a key component of the National Disaster Management Plan (NDMP) and its Implementation Roadmap 2016-2030. It also aligns with many national & provincial commitments to meet the priority needs defined in the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (SFDRR).

Effective disaster risk management hinges on a robust understanding of vulnerabilities and risks. Conducting MHVRAs in selected vulnerable districts of Pakistan is crucial for identifying and prioritizing critical areas of concern, such as earthquake, flood, and heatwave risks exacerbated by climate change. However, the actual value of this assessment lies in its utilization. Training programs are paramount for institutional strengthening, equipping relevant government agencies, local authorities, and communities with the knowledge and skills to interpret MHVRA findings, develop and implement effective risk reduction strategies, take anticipatory action, and build urban and climate resilience.

The proposed activity will implement an Integrated Risk Assessment Methodology (IRAM), as outlined in NDMA's Policy Guidelines for the conduct of MHVRA, with a specific emphasis on leveraging digital databases, satellite imagery, and remote sensing technologies. This methodology is founded on the recognition that various factors collectively contribute to overall risks. These factors include Hazard, Vulnerability, Exposure, and Capacity. The synthesis of these factor components determines the cumulative risk posed by multiple impending hazards in the study area. The flowchart below illustrates the Detailed Methodology to be employed in the study:

The institutional program is scheduled to be carried out in three phases over three years, involving six districts to demonstrate and share the knowledge for replication. The training program under this project will include two training courses in each district, as well as one training course at the provincial headquarters of the MHVRA-targeted districts, totaling five trainings each year. Respective PDMA's shall be taken on board for conducting training in their respective provinces/regions. The institutional programme is an important element in adaptation interventions as those require comprehensive assessments, planning, and effective responses. Success of these functionalities are fully relying on knowledge, skills and institutional structures that are often not geared to emerging challenges unless capacities are built. In Pakistan context, developmental activities such as trainings, introduction of tools and methodologies, build study and assessment capacities are not optional but essential to build the foundation of adaptation outcomes.

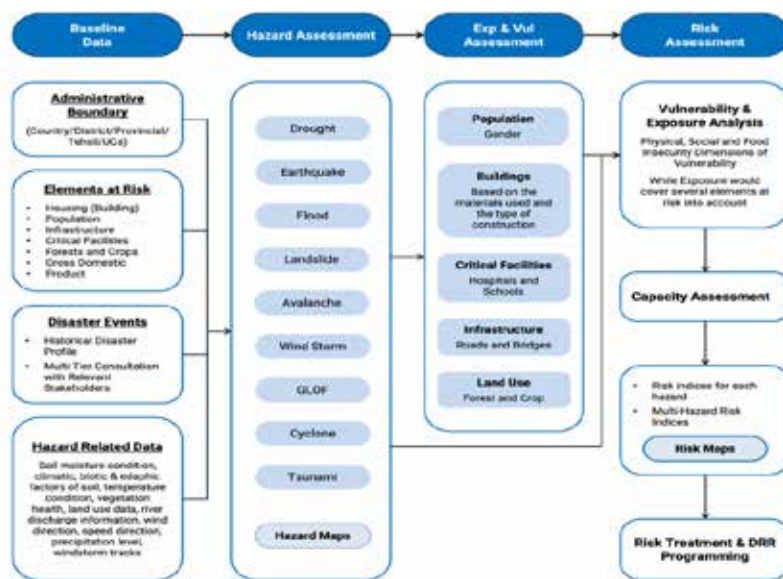


Figure15 Integrated Risk Assessment Methodology

Table 7 Proposed targets for MHVRA and training activity

Activity	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
MHVRA (districts)	Nasirabad and Jhalmagsi	Swat and D.I Khan	Muzaffarabad and Hattian
Trainings	5	5	5

Component 3 Strengthening social resilience and knowledge management platform

Outcome: Social resilience and institutional knowledge and awareness in Islamabad and Rawalpindi are reinforced through inclusive capacity building, strategic dissemination of climate and water management knowledge, and integration of project results into local governance—ensuring ownership of adaptation and climate risk reduction efforts. The specific outcomes under the component 3 to be funded by the project are:

- 3.1 Knowledge and awareness of key stakeholders on water management and climate risk improved
- 3.2 Knowledge products developed and disseminated to all stakeholders at provincial, national and global levels
- 3.3 Replicability and adaptability of project outcomes into development plans and other platforms are promoted
- 3.4 Project outcomes are incorporated into the city administration and sustained
- 3.5 Capacity building of institutions and communities in sustainable water and sanitation systems strengthened

The country's rising climate challenges and emerging water management issues are key focus areas for policy and decision-makers. On the other hand, the lack of awareness and access to information about vulnerable communities and key stakeholders enhances the gap in sustainable issues management. Therefore, it is crucial to address the knowledge gap in this sector. To promote broader awareness, share knowledge, and transfer skills in water management and climate risk reduction, the project will organize mass awareness campaigns, knowledge dissemination workshops, and skill transfer interventions to enhance the capacities of community members and relevant stakeholders.

The knowledge management platform will enable the capturing and dissemination of results from this project not only to Islamabad and Rawalpindi but also to other cities/provinces in Pakistan, with a greater replication potential.

Furthermore, it guarantees full transparency in the implementation process of the project, with all stakeholders being informed of strategies, processes, actions, and results. A dedicated website will be created for information sharing and monitoring, and monthly reports will be disseminated to all stakeholders. The most common human resource capacity gaps identified in Pakistan's Third National Communication on Climate Change are knowledge gaps in the decision-making processes, and the proposed action is to develop knowledge-sharing platforms.³³ This component comprises four different groups of activities:

3.1 Conducting awareness-raising campaigns (five) for sensitization of communities and key stakeholders on resilience building to climate events: Under this, communication, education, and public awareness (CEPA) programs will be strengthened to engage all segments of society and raise awareness about the environment, climate change adaptation, natural resource conservation, and water demand and supply management during droughts. Public awareness of climate change remains relatively low in Pakistan. Lack of awareness affects efforts to build resilience, preventing ownership and limiting the community's willingness to take proactive measures. Awareness raising and building a community of practice among professionals and decision makers in the government sector will ensure that investments in climate adaptation will be sustained and produce high results.

3.2 Developing at least five knowledge products on the issues related to water management, climate risks and adaptation: Knowledge products can strengthen institutional memory, improve stakeholders', including communities, understanding of what works well in climate change adaptation, and increase effective projects and programmes in the future. During the project, all Executing Entities (EEs) are expected to coordinate and document their climate adaptation knowledge and experiences. These efforts aim to reach a broader audience across Pakistan utilizing local languages for accessibility and to facilitate international dissemination through climate forums and global platforms such as the World Urban Forum. The knowledge products will be aligned with UN-Habitat's Global Knowledge and Advocacy Division (GKAD), with participatory consultations to ensure locally relevant content.

3.3 Conducting national-level workshops (six) to disseminate knowledge, lessons learned, and to create pathways for developing future partnerships: Building on the development of knowledge products, national-level workshops are essential for engaging organizational leaders and policymakers. These workshops will serve as platforms to share lessons learned from the project, promote the mainstreaming of best practices, and support the revision or introduction of national policies focused on climate resilience. They will also help stakeholders understand the importance of, and prioritize, investment in adaptive actions within institutional annual budgets—particularly by involving key bodies such as the Pakistan Planning Commission. Equally important is the engagement of the private corporate sector, encouraging them to integrate climate considerations into their investment programs.

3.4 Establishing Climate-Action Committee (CAC) within each local authority: Climate action committees (CACs) at the community level are effective in engaging community members in climate action, not only empowering them to take charge of their environment but also to promote a collective sense of responsibility. CAC will promote partnerships among residents (among youth, women, and older persons), connect with local organizations, businesses, and government entities to create a united structure for addressing climate challenges and enhancing community resilience. This enhances bargaining ability with local bodies to invest in climate resilience and to ensure that such investments are adequately targeted at prioritized climate actions. CACs will be an effective mechanism for tracking progress and measuring the effectiveness of community initiatives, using feedback to refine and enhance future efforts.

3.5 Capacity building of institutions and communities: The resilience activities in the target areas will be sustainable and more impactful if the benefiting communities take ownership of the interventions, and they can take care of the operations, maintenance, and conceptualizing new solutions for their problems. For this purpose, the proposed project will include a capacity-building component based on a proper Capacity Need Assessment. This will consist of awareness-raising sessions, hands-on practice sessions, formal training events, and participation in workshops and events for both male and female members of the communities. In the same lines, Capacity Needs Assessment of the relevant staff of the Capital Development Authority will be conducted, and training events will be organized to enhance their skills to identify better issues, design solutions, and execute in the field. The activity will benefit at least 1,200 community members and 20 staff officers.

Link to Adaptation Fund strategic objectives:

The objectives, outcomes and outputs of the proposed project are well aligned with the Adaptation Fund Strategic Objectives. The activities will contribute to accelerate high quality, city level and scalable adaptation actions, aligned with Pakistan national adaptation strategies and processes (Action Pillar). The project aims to help the most vulnerable urban communities adapt to the impacts of climate change through innovative and locally accommodative solutions which provides learning opportunities for multi-level stakeholders including communities (Innovation pillar).

³³ Pakistan's Third National Communication on Climate Change, 2025, Ministry of Climate Change and Environmental Coordination

The project's concrete adaptation actions will produce wealth of evidence-based knowledge for broader audiences both in the country and globally. It provides opportunities for developing proposals for government's multi-governance investment structure for new funding (Learning and sharing pillar)

B. Project provides economic, social and environmental benefits

The project is expected to generate and amplify a wide range of economic, social, and environmental benefits upon implementation. The project outcomes are aligned with the Adaptation Fund Outcomes of: Outcome 4 Increased adaptive capacity within relevant development sector services and infrastructure assets, Outcome 2 Strengthened institutional capacity to reduce risks associated with climate-induced socioeconomic and environmental losses and Outcome 3: Strengthened awareness and ownership of adaptation and climate risk reduction processes at local level. The project results expected benefit at least 100,000 individuals targeting 43,000 people (of whom 50% are women) directly and more than 60,000 people indirectly (of whom 50% are women).

Table 8 Economic, social and environmental benefits

Type of benefit	Baseline	With/after the project	Target *
Economic Benefits	Dependence on water tankers and healthcare costs to communities	Reducing dependency on water tankers and healthcare costs provides significant economic relief to communities (Cost savings)	Save minimum PKR 10,000 pm
	Funds spent on disaster relief provisions by city authorities and the national government	Reduction of affected communities and duration resulting in a reduction of the cost of relief provisions (Cost savings)	At least 25% relief cost reduced annually per city
	Loss of livelihoods in the agriculture sector due to floods and droughts	Creates job opportunities in the construction and agriculture sectors through constructing and maintaining wetlands (Job creation)	At least 350 jobs created
	Less efficient and less resilient to drought conditions, leading to water scarcity, resulted in low crop yield and a threat to food security	Reused treated water can enhance irrigation, boosting crop yields and food security (Agricultural Productivity)	At least 15% increase of crop yields annually
	Loss of livestock due to flooding and drought (water scarcity) results in loss of income	Livestock surviving during heavy rain and drought, maintaining sustainable income (Economic sustainability)	Reduce by 1000 cattle deaths pa
	Damaged houses (mainly in informal and poor settlements) & community infrastructure during floods	Reduce the rehabilitation and reconstruction costs of houses and community infrastructure. (Cost savings)	At least 30% of rehabilitation cost reduced annually
Social Benefits	Increase prevalence of waterborne diseases, resulting in high health costs for low-income families.	Significantly reduce the prevalence of waterborne diseases, saving healthcare costs for low-income families (Improved Public Health)	At least PKR 30000 saved annually
	Lack of or no commitment to build, maintain, and operate natural assets	Foster a sense of ownership and build the capacity of communities and institutions to ensure the sustainability of climate investments (Community Empowerment)	At least 6 district offices capacitated
	Poor living standards, negative effects on women and children due to water scarcity	Significantly enhance living standards, especially for women and children, who are more affected by water scarcity (Enhance Quality of life)	Over 100,000 individuals (over 50% female gain access to water
Environmental Benefits	Loss of habitat, native flora and fauna in ecosystems.	Increased habitats of native flora and fauna in ecosystems through constructed wetlands (Biodiversity Conservation)	Three new wetlands added
	Depleted ecosystems are reducing the capacity of carbon sinks and increasing water scarcity	Served ecosystems as carbon sinks, mitigating the impacts of climate change while improving water security (Climate Resilience)	Additional 0.4 million gallons of groundwater added
	Depleted groundwater aquifer	Managed aquifer recharge to replenish aquifers with surface runoff water (Climate Resilience)	160 mn gallons of water recharged

* Targets are calculated using citywide population data, economic data, family size, and disaster related data

The project will also yield an additional benefit though not the primary focus of this proposal by contributing to climate change mitigation through Nature-based Solutions (NbS). By reducing the frequency and severity of floods and droughts, the project is expected to lower the reliance on air conditioning, decrease energy consumption in public and residential buildings during drought periods, and reduce the financial burden of road repairs caused by flood damage.

Mitigation of negative impacts, in compliance with the Environmental and Social Policy and Gender Policy of the Adaptation Fund

The implementation of the project will be guided by robust social and environmental safeguard measures aligned with the environmental, social, and gender policies of the Adaptation Fund. Every effort will be made to avoid the use of environmentally harmful materials in construction activities. Equal participation of both men and women will be ensured across all planning, decision-making, and capacity-building initiatives. Project will use gender specific tools such as [UN-Habitat Gender Equality Marker Guide](#), and develop a project specific guide focusing local practices, introducing mandated inclusion targets such as mandatory (quota) women in beneficiary groups, stakeholder consultation meetings, training sessions etc. Local Women Action Committees will be formed to mobilize women to actively participate in the project activities. Local audio literacy tools will be used with local female community mobilizers. Furthermore, the project will actively promote the inclusion and meaningful participation of persons with disabilities, marginalized populations, and other vulnerable community groups. These groups will be guaranteed equitable access to the benefits and opportunities generated by the project. Reporting tools will be introduced to capture information related gender, vulnerable groups such as disable and low income indigenous families in terms of benefits received. UN-Habitat is mandated to set up Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) for all operational projects. Accordingly, GRM will be setup from the inception as a part of the ESP and GP action plan using customary practices and government administrative mechanisms. It will be included into the Communication strategy and communicate in local languages to the project beneficiaries and stakeholders.

C. Cost-effectiveness of the proposed project

The proposed project establishes a high degree of cost-effectiveness, driven by the integration of field-tested technologies, active community engagement, a high level of commitment by local government entities in two cities, and efficient resource management. This cost-effectiveness is evaluated based on the expected outcomes of the interventions of the project, as outlined below:

Sustainability through local ownership: The project fosters long-term sustainability by extensive engagement with a) city level agencies particularly decision makers and technical staff during project development cycle which ensures the climate assets created under the project are incorporated into city inventory for maintenance, and b) strong and inclusive engagement of communities to feel not as beneficiaries but as part of the ownership of the project interventions. These two aspects reduce dependence on external support, encourage self-reliance, and ensure that the benefits of NbS extend beyond the project's lifespan.

Cost effectiveness of proposed interventions: Nature-based solutions (NbS), widely endorsed by national policies and international frameworks, have consistently demonstrated cost-effectiveness through numerous cost-benefit analyses. Extensive consultations with local entities including government mandated agencies were held to identify possible solutions narrowing down to most sustainable and cost-effective options. Multi-criteria assessment was applied. Excel-based evaluation templates were used to record past practices and lessons on similar projects, to evaluate impact with government agencies, Community meetings were structured to capture local knowledge, experience and cost effectiveness analysis used as overall analytical tool. Accordingly, the main project components (concrete actions) are built on NbS, not only offering direct economic benefits against conventional engineering solutions and by protecting communities from environmental hazards, but these interventions also provide substantial co-benefits, such as biodiversity restoration, improved water quality, and carbon sequestration, all of which contribute to long-term socio-economic resilience. Execution of the main project components will be carried out in close cooperation with local executing entities (WASA, PCRWR, NDMA) with extensive knowledge of local context including community needs, government regulations and standards, performing similar projects. This allows for efficient and cost-effective delivery and mitigation of risks of design inefficiencies or implementation delays. The Identified EAs have demonstrated excellent delivery capacity with ongoing AF project. During the stakeholder discussions, which were guided by comprehensive desk reviews of alternative solutions to the key issues identified, participants engaged in extensive deliberations to ensure that the interventions selected were both relevant and feasible. Drawing on the experience and data provided by the Executing Entities (EEs) and other government-mandated agencies, the process enabled a thorough evaluation of technical options against criteria of cost-effectiveness, sustainability, and alignment with national priorities. Sustainability was used as a key pillar in identifying sub-projects focusing on local authorities' capacity to maintain, willingness to incorporate to their annual work plans which enable them to allocate funding for O&M, and community acceptance for sustainable use of the facilities created through the project investment.

Value for Money (VFM): With an estimated total investment of US\$10,000,000 targeting 43,000 people (of whom 50% are women) directly and more than 60,000 people indirectly, the cost per beneficiary is approximately US\$97. In terms of cost efficiency and sustainability, the project is well positioned to reduce climate risks, while providing a range of other benefits such as improved biodiversity, increasing the safety of people, contributing to sustainable livelihoods, reducing the cost of disaster relief each year, and improving the quality of life. Demography of target individuals is shown below.

Table 9: Demography of target individuals						
	Direct Beneficiaries			Indirect beneficiaries		
Age groups	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
0-14	14319	7274	7045	19980	10150	9830
15-64	26660	13543	13117	37200	18898	18302
65 +	2021	1027	994	2820	1433	1387
Total	43000	21844	21156	60000	30480	29520

D. Consistency with national or sub-national development programmes

The project is aligned with Pakistan's national and subnational frameworks on climate change, development, and poverty reduction, contributing to the implementation of climate-resilient development pathways as prioritized in key national policies and strategies. Poverty reduction

Key national/sub-national policies and strategies.	Alignment /relevance
Pakistan National Adaptation Plan (NAP) 2023	One of the guiding principles: Promote Nature-Based Solutions (NBSs) and outcome of improved urban resilience ³⁴
Pakistan's Third National Communication on Climate Change (TNC) 2022	emphasizes NbS as a primary strategy to combat climate impacts and support sustainable biodiversity and ecosystem restoration efforts and project contributes to section 1.4.3 Biodiversity
National Climate Change Policy (2021)	Project clearly contributes to the implementation the policy particularly the 4.6.5. section of Wetlands
Pakistan Climate Change Act 2017	Framework for institutional frameworks for climate governance
Punjab Provincial Climate Change Policy	directly aligned with the Punjab Provincial Climate Change Policy under the policy area 1: Climate Change Adaptation and contribute to achieve the policy target 3; Improving Response against Climate-Induced Disasters prioritizing disaster-resilient infrastructure, early warning systems and services, zoning, and investing in cost-effective nature-based solutions. ³⁵
National Water Policy of Pakistan (2018)	The proposed project clearly aligned with its objectives of conserving and sustainably using available water resources, ensuring the availability and quality of freshwater to meet municipal and agricultural needs. Particularly the proposed actions contribute to objective 2.4 which calls for improved urban water resource management for addressing drinking water demand, sewage disposal, handling of wastewater and industrial effluents, objective 2.12 targets flood management and mitigating flood damage. Similarly, and to the objective 2.15 points out the need for promoting appropriate technologies for rainwater harvesting in urban and rural areas. ³⁶
Pakistan Flood Response plan 2022	The project focuses on year 2022 Pakistan Flood Response plan as a planning tool based on past experiences. It recognizes access to sufficient and quality drinking water as a primary issue, with 63 percent of the population lacking access to safe drinking water, coupled with sanitation and hygiene problems in rural and urban areas. The plan calls for supporting access to water, water treatment, and water quality monitoring and surveillance, restoration of damaged water systems (both public and community-operated). As well as household point of use (PoU) water treatment ³⁷
Five-Year National Disaster Mitigation Plan (2023)	The proposed project aligned with the National Disaster Mitigation Plan for Pakistan and contributes to the preparation of MHVRA at the national, provincial, and district levels to better prepare for climate hazards. Furthermore component 2 of the proposed project contributes to capacity building of institutions and communities and their awareness raising regarding climate-related risks. ³⁸

³⁴ National Adaptation Plan Pakistan, 2023, Ministry of Climate Change & Environmental Coordination

³⁵ Punjab Climate Change Policy (Draft), 2017, Government of the Punjab

³⁶ National Water Policy, 2018, Ministry of Water Resources, Government of Pakistan

³⁷ Pakistan Flood Response Plan 2022, United Nations.

³⁸ National Disaster Mitigation Plan (Remodeled), 2023, National Disaster Management Authority, Government of Pakistan

National Poverty Graduation Programme (NPGP),	The project directly contributes to one of the key results areas by strengthening community climate resilience and promoting sustainable livelihoods. Through the creation of adaptive infrastructure assets, communities in Islamabad and Rawalpindi are able to sustain their livelihoods during extreme climate events.
Uraan Pakistan', a five-year economic plan 2024-29	Uraan Pakistan the five-year National Economic Transformation Plan (2024–2029) explicitly promotes climate resilient infrastructure as part of its “Five Es” framework, which includes Environment, Energy & Infrastructure, and Equity & Empowerment. The project clearly aligned and contributes through the creation of adaptive infrastructure to the five-year plan.
Pakistan Green Taxonomy (2025)	This a useful guidance framework used during project concept development to understand classified economic activities that contribute to climate resilience, ensuring they meet technical screening criteria, “Do No Significant Harm” safeguards, and minimum social standards. This will be used during full proposal development as well.
National Gender Policy Framework	This provides strategic blueprint to set in gender equality into all aspects of development including promoting resilient communities. It emphasizes creating equal opportunities for women in the economy, education, and governance. It serves as the guiding framework for all EEs to follow gender responsive approach.

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E. Compliance with relevant technical standards and policies

The project, Strengthening Adaptive Capacities (SAC) of the communities in Pakistan to climate change through innovative NbS, is cognizant of complying with all relevant technical standards. It will take due consideration in the full project cycle management. Compliance will be ensured with all national technical standards, as well as UN-Habitat and Adaptation Fund Environmental and Social, and Gender Policy requirements. Administrative and statutory approvals for project implementation, including a No Objection Certificate, will be obtained throughout the proposal development stage as per procedures laid by respective authorities. Table 10 provide comprehensive most relevant rules, regulations, standards and procedures applied to all identified sub-projects and indicated the type of compliance.

Table 10: Relevant rules, regulations, standards and procedures

Rules, regulations, standards and procedures	Relevance to the project	competent authority	Objective of the standard	main steps needed to comply
National Environmental Quality Standards (NEQS) 2000	NEQS set mandatory limits for industrial/ municipal liquid effluents, & drinking water quality. This directly links wetland protection and ground water quality compelling city authorities to maintain after the project. (Component 1)	Pakistan Environment Protection Authority.	control, manage, and reduce environmental pollution	Follow the emission standards in preparation of O&M plans for wetlands , ground water reservoirs
The National Reference Manual (NRM) on Planning & Infrastructure Standards 1986	Use as the foundation guideline for designing (linking to land use) infrastructure activities such as construction of wetland, impoundment reservoirs (Component 1)	Islamabad and Rawalpindi City Authorities	Guide the design and preparation of local area plans	Follow the guidelines for land use plans related to planning of construction of wetland, impoundment reservoirs
Initial Environmental Examination (IEE) and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) regulation 2000	As per prescribed schedules, none of the project activities required IEE or EIA. However, during the detailed design stage, EPA will be consulted for clearance.	Pakistan Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)	Systematically screen, evaluate, and mitigate potential environmental and social impacts of development projects	Follow the screening criteria to identify any identified sub-project needs IEE or EIA approvals (initial screening resulted no such requirement)
The Building Code of Pakistan (BCP) 2021	BCP 2021 and accompanying 2021 bylaws mandate that underground water tanks must be designed by qualified professionals, comply with seismic standards (PSHA 2021). The project will ensure that all EEs will comply this requirement.	Islamabad and Rawalpindi City Authorities	Establish minimum safety and engineering benchmarks for building design and construction	EEs to comply all safety standards. This will be incorporated into legal agreement between IE and EEs as mandatory benchmark.
National Environmental Protection Act	The Act provides overarching environmental protection framework. The long-term sustainability of the investments of the proposed project will be ensured through regulatory mechanisms which come under the Act.	Pakistan Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and provincial environment authorities.	Provide legal framework for the protection, conservation, rehabilitation, and improvement of the environment,	Follow the environmental safeguards stipulated in the act s in preparation of O&M plans for all identified sub projects and the entire project implementation cycle.

³⁹ Punjab Climate Change Policy (Draft), 2017, Government of the Punjab

The Climate Change Gender Action Plan (CCGAP)	CCGAP provides clear guiding framework for the proposed project specifically empower women and men alike as agents for change and recognizing women's contribution in the use and management of natural resources and other activities impacted by Climate Change	Ministry of Climate Change and Environmental Coordination	Policy measures, strengthen institutional processes, and enhance women's participation in climate decision-making and implementation	Use CCGAP as a fundamental reference guide for gender inclusion to ensure adequate gender participation in all actions under the project
Rawalpindi Master Plan and Islamabad Master Plan	These two masterplans provide framework for green zoning, land use management which are useful tools for designing NBS solutions particularly wetlands and underground storage tanks.	Rawalpindi Development Authority and Capital Development Authority	Establish a modern, centralized administrative capital while managing twin-city interdependence	Follow the master plan for planning and designing identified sub-projects (this was referred from the inception)
The Punjab Water Act 2019	Legal instrument on water management efficiency which provide legal background for planning of project activities such as aquifer recharge	Punjab Water Resources Commission	Comprehensively manage, protect, and regulate all water resources across the Punjab province.	Refer as a legal instrument for designing of identified sub projects mainly related to water resources and formulating O&M plans
Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI)	Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) will be used at the full proposal development stage in detail designing of identified interventions for accuracy and effectiveness.	Ministry of Planning, Development and Special Initiatives	To measure poverty beyond mere income covering health, education and living standards	Use as a tool to identify vulnerable groups in the project target area.

F. Duplication with other funding sources

There is no duplication of this project with other initiatives financed by multilateral, bilateral, or national sources. While other projects related to climate change adaptation have been implemented in urban or subnational contexts in Pakistan, this proposal is complementary and strategically aligned with ongoing efforts under the National Adaptation Plan (NAP) and the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) for adaptation. All consultations were carried out with city, provincial and national government partners ensuring coherence with ongoing and planned investments and avoided overlapping. Where synergies exist, the project will actively coordinate to leverage resources. This process will continue during the full proposal development stage. The added advantage is most of the climate adaptation related projects are coordinated by the Ministry of Climate Change and Environmental Coordination including this proposed project providing excellent platform for building synergy and avoiding duplication. The list of related projects and programmes, together with their areas of focus added below in a tabulated form.

Table 11 Projects in urban or climate change sectors

Project, funding sources Implementing entity	Duration, location	project interventions and target population	Overlaps, complementarities
The Water Resource Accountability in Pakistan (WRAP) Funding source: FCDO IE: International Water Management Institute	November 2021 to June 2028 Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (Punjab (Okara district), and Gilgit-Baltistan	Interventions: Climate Resilience Solutions for Improving Water Governance, Nature-Based Solutions, and the Catalytic Fund Target population: federal, provincial, and district levels institutions in the water sector.	No geographical overlap The Proposed project creates strong synergies particularly with activities 1.1, 1.2, 1.4, 1.5, 1.7 under component 1, as WRAP project's components of Pilot site for improved water management, groundwater monitoring , and field-level monitoring for water allocation. The available information on designs and implementation processes contribute to stakeholder consultations for identifying sub projects.
The Green Pakistan Programme (GPP) Funding: Public Sector Development Programme, GCF, World Bank IE: Ministry of Climate Change and Environmental Coordination (MCCEC)	2016-2028 covering all provinces and territories	Forest Management, Wildlife Conservation and Protection, Protected Areas Initiative, Zoological Survey of Pakistan, Ecotourism Promotion, Community Engagement and Job Creation target population: refers to a geographic, ecological, and botanical scope, aiming to plant 3.29 billion trees and restore degraded	Complementary. IE i.e. MCCEC is the DA of AF projects. During consultations no overlapping identified. Proposed project steering committee will be chaired by MCCEC ensuring excellent coordination and synergy between two projects. The lessons learned particularly, selection species, coordination among multi-stakeholders, implementation challenges with communities were

		ecosystems nationwide	useful information in designing this project and identifying stakeholders.
Enhance community, local and national-level urban climate change resilience to water scarcity, caused by floods and droughts in Rawalpindi and Nowshera, Pakistan Funding: Adaptation Fund IE: UN-Habitat	2020-2026 Rawalpindi and Nowshera	Community-level rainwater harvesting: 5,000 households and public rainwater harvesting facilities, Infrastructure Planning: 15 community resilience plans, Policy integration: city-level spatial strategies and Capacity building: Training government officials Target population: 5000 Households	Complementary. This project produces wealth of knowledge on RWH, demonstrated community acceptance, technical feasibility, and institutional readiness. The same EEs are identified for the proposed project to utilize built capacity, data sets including spatial mapping assuring higher level of project delivery efficiency, sense of ownership and sustainable outcomes.
Sustainable Actions for Ecosystems Restoration in Pakistan (SAFER Pakistan) Funding: Adaptation Fund IE: International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development	2025-2028 Gilgit-Baltistan, Hunza, Skardu, Chitral	Cryosphere risk reduction Spring shed revival and management Groundwater management and resilient community water services Ecosystem-based adaptation (wastewater treatment) Surface water conservation Adaptive capacities and empowered communities for climate resilience Target population: Direct beneficiaries: 452,900, Indirect 679,350	No geographical overlap. Knowledge produced under Component of Groundwater Management and Resilient Community Water Supply is complementary to proposed project. MCCEC chairing both projects' national steering committees will provide excellent coordination among two projects for knowledge sharing.
Recharge Pakistan (WWF) Funding: GCF, The Coca-Cola Foundation, WWF IE: WWF	2023-2030 Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP), Sindh, and Balochistan,	Ecosystem-Based Adaptation and Green Infrastructure Community-Based Natural Resource Management and Livelihoods Enabling Environment and Policy Formulation Target population: 687,336 people	No geographical overlap. Knowledge produced under all components are equally useful for the proposed project. MCCEC coordinates the RPWWF provides excellent coordination among two projects for knowledge sharing.
National Adaptation Plan (NAP) Implementation Funding GIZ IE GIZ	2023-2026 National	Integration of climate risk management into provincial planning, improving access to climate finance, Enhancing institutional coordination, Protecting vulnerable groups, especially women Target Population; vulnerable population of over 33 million people	Complementary: This project supports building the capacity of MCCEC to implement NAP. The proposed project will closely work with MCCEC to create synergy and resource optimization in the areas of climate risk management, women empowerment etc.

G. Learning and knowledge management component

From 2020 – 2026, the UN-Habitat Adaptation Fund project in Pakistan established a strong foundation for climate resilience through multi-level engagement. It raised climate awareness among communities, advanced policy and institutional advocacy and strengthened knowledge across diverse stakeholders. Crucially, it bridged global climate priorities with local realities, ensuring that adaptation strategies were not only understood but also owned by the people most vulnerable to climate change.

Building on this foundation, the new proposal moves beyond localized interventions to adopt a system-wide approach. It recognizes that resilience is not only about protecting communities, but also about transforming urban systems and investment pipelines to be climate-resilient. By linking knowledge enhancement with resilient infrastructure and effective, inclusive governance, the project will foster a climate-informed society and support Pakistan's cities to become adaptive, inclusive, and sustainable.

Knowledge management will be embedded into day-to-day project implementation process. Under this project each infrastructure activity will include a documentation process capturing design standards, implementation challenges, and community engagement practices. The project implementation process capture documents will serve as key knowledge products, systematically documenting the design, execution, and lessons learned throughout the intervention cycle. It will consolidate evidence from inception, validation, awareness, and training workshops, as well as from adaptive infrastructure and community preparedness activities. This will be included in the tasks of each Executing Entity with clear guidance provided through Knowledge Management and Communication Plan (KMCP) which will be developed during the full proposal development stage. KMCP will be coordinated by UN-Habitat as part

of the quality assurance and embedded as an agenda item in the National Steering Committee which will be chaired by the Ministry of Climate Change and Environmental Coordination for periodic review.

At the local level, a participatory approach involving communities and Tehsil councils (respective Tehsils in Rawalpindi) in planning and implementation will lead to increased local awareness and knowledge of climate change risks and adaptation. For this purpose, project will develop IEC materials for community climate knowledge through EEs. These tools, used in local languages, are highly effective in educating communities about climate risks and sustainable, practical adaptation actions. Furthermore, these IEC materials could be used as KPs for similar projects by the stakeholders.

At the city level, the transfer of outcomes and lessons learnt to other communities across other cities and provinces will be promoted. All information will be consolidated in reports and fully accessible online via the knowledge management platform (a dedicated web portal), which will, naturally, also be available nationally and internationally. Beyond reports, specific tools and guidelines will also be available to all levels, including in local languages.,

At the national level, knowledge transfer will benefit other vulnerable city authorities and provincial bodies by mainstreaming adaptation initiatives and assessing the effectiveness of the different strategies and actions. During stakeholder discussions, it is confirmed that partnering ministries, government agencies, CSOs, and research institutions will help spread knowledge products across the country. For the city and national level knowledge dissemination, under Component 3 of the proposed project NDMA is tasks to organize National-level workshops (six) are conducted to disseminate knowledge, lessons learned, and to create pathways for developing future partnerships. The workshops are linked to KMCP and to disseminate consolidated record of success, key KPs developed under the project including challenges and lessons learned under each component. Timing of workshops will be determined in line with KMCP implementation. The inception workshop with the commencement of the project to introduce objectives, methodologies, and stakeholder roles. At the full proposal development stage, design and validation workshops will be conducted by the EEs to ensure technical accuracy and stakeholder ownership. The first awareness workshops will be rolled out in the first quarter of implementation, focusing on community sensitization and engagement. Subsequently, a series of training workshops will be organized at two to three levels: training of stakeholders on adaptive infrastructure and resilience practices: creating wider awareness among communities and institutions: conducting final workshops for the handover process to ensure sustainability and continuity of project outcomes

Learning capture on activities will be based on continuous basis and the feedback will be based on the milestones of activity implementation plan. It is expected that quarterly reporting/feedback from communities and institutions in a well-structured reporting template, which will be develop as a part of the KMCP.

In addition to the online knowledge transfer platform which will be developed by the MoCC&EC will help mainstream climate adaptation initiatives and methodologies through inter-ministerial coordination mechanisms.

At the international level, knowledge-exchange partnerships are currently under discussion. UN-Habitat will play a key role in sharing insights and experiences from the project through established global dissemination platforms such as the World Urban Forum, COP, and the Asian Cities Conference. To support this effort, a project-specific knowledge management and communications plan will be developed during full project development to ensure active and strategic dissemination of knowledge across local, national, and international levels.

H. Stakeholder Consultations

The project concept note was developed through comprehensive mapping and a multipronged community and stakeholder consultation methodology. This process included a series of expert group discussions involving 42 specialists from the water sector, urban planning, and research institutions; thematic group discussions with 26 professionals from various government departments including gender specific units (Punjab Women Development Department and Women Development Wing of ICT); and community meetings attended by 60 male and 51 female members from local communities in Rawalpindi and Islamabad. These community groups represent urban poor communities economically vulnerable due to number of reasons such as low income, poor living conditions including exposure to climate shocks. Furthermore, during full proposal development stage consultations will be continued in the areas such as settlements near Nullah Leh and Natural Floodplains and other low line areas in Islamabad and urban poor families and people living along Layi Nullah areas for detail designing and validation of technical designs. In Rawalpindi, indigenous communities are identified such as Gakhar clan, Bangial, Dhamial, Kalyal, and Thathaal and these communities are relatively sound in economic terms. During full proposal stage further assessments for validation and detail designing will be undertaken. Gender specific consultations will be conducted with women's groups, Punjab Women Development Department and Women Development Wing of ICT. Particularly local customary practices during consultations women will be adapted including separate meetings, local language and engagement of local women leaders. Detailed agendas, discussion points, and attendance records for these meetings are provided in Annex 2.

Table12 Stakeholders and communities engaged in consultations

Stakeholder group	Date	Number of participants	Issues discussed and considered
Rumli Village (Islamabad) Community	August 30, 2025.	62 participants (two groups, 35 male and 27 female members of the village community),	issues during droughts and floods: drinking water issues, disruption of mobility, livelihoods, children schooling, access to health facilities. Local knowledge on possible solutions (outcome 1,2 and 3)
Urban community in Liaqat Bagh area, Rawalpindi	August 28, 2025.	49 participants (2 groups; 25 male, 24 female residents) This group includes climate vulnerable low-income households. The female members attended consist of female community leaders such as social activists, school principals, group leaders who has greater influence among female members of the communities.	issues during droughts and floods: drinking water issues, disruption of mobility, livelihoods, children schooling, access to health facilities. Local knowledge on possible solutions (outcome 1,2 and 3)
, Ministry of Climate Change and Environmental Coordination:	December 28, 2024,.	attended by 25 officials (20 Male and 5 female)	Implementation of National climate action plan and relevance of identified sub projects, confirmation of no duplication with other investments, sustainability and institutionalization of interventions, coordination among EEs (outcome 1,2 and 3)
Pakistan Council of Research in Water Resources (PCRWR), Islamabad	: August 2, 2025 (online) and August 28, 2025 (in-person)..	Ten staff members attended both meetings (7 male and 3 female)	Design process for groundwater recharge systems in selected locations Creation of green ponds and their impact, sustainability, and integration into urban plans Developing SOPs for operations and maintenance, training stakeholders including community and proposed Climate Action Committees Discussing how to shift public perception on climate-adaptive actions and community-level climate/disaster preparedness. (outcome 1,2 and 3)
National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA):	on August 21, 2025	attended by five members. (5 male)	Multi-hazard vulnerability assessments based on NDMA expertise and experience linking the National Disaster Management Plan (NDMP) and its Implementation Roadmap 2016-2030 Process of formulating Risk Atlas, identifying vulnerability and exposure matrix at the micro level, and data validation process, including community participation. Vulnerability Assessment to cover both natural & climate change-related impacts on physical and social dimensions of the target areas Knowledge sharing and coordination with other actors working on climate resilience Sustainability of interventions, mainly NbS implementation and mainstreaming
Punjab Provincial Environmental Protection Agency	Islamabad 19 August 2025	7 senior staff attended (6 male, 1 female)	Approval process, regulations, laws covering identified sub-projects and requirements of approvals and compliance (outcome 1,2 and 3)

Rawalpindi Water and Sanitation Authority:	August 19, 2025 (online) and August 29, 2025.	Both meetings were attended by 13 people	Water and issues during droughts and floods, investment plans, confirmation of no duplication, existing designs and similar actions (outcome 1,2 and 3)
Capital Development Authority:	July 31, 2025; August 19, 2025; and August 28, 2025.	A total of 21 people participated. (15 male 6 female)	Water and issues during droughts and floods, investment plans, confirmation of no duplication, site specific assessments, governance structure, gender inclusion, sustainability (outcome 1,2 and 3)
Rumli Village, Trail 5, Ayub Park, F-9 Park, National Library, and F-8 Site visit (six sites with meetings)	Date 31 July 2025	Site visits organized by CDA Islamabad to proposed activity sites were also conducted to assess the technical and social feasibility of the activities. During the visit, six sites were visited	issues during droughts and floods: drinking water issues, disruption of mobility, livelihoods, children schooling, access to health facilities. Local knowledge on possible solutions, site specific issues and information (outcome 1,2 and 3)

I. Justification for funding requested

Rationale for Full Cost Funding

Pakistan is among the top ten countries most affected by climate change, despite contributing less than 1 percent to global greenhouse gas emissions.⁴⁰ The country faces increasing climate-related risks and urgently needs support to implement its National Adaptation Plan. The National Adaptation Plan costs approximately US\$348 billion to support the prioritized vulnerable sectors in adapting to the impacts of climate change.

With the current economic crisis and recovery (supported by the IMF), dedicated financing from national and provincial budgets for climate responsive actions are extremely restricted and unable to address the growing risks associated with climate change. This underinvestment scenario will further worsen the climate impact unless financial support is forthcoming to address the increasing demand for climate resilience building among cities and communities.

The project aims to enhance resilience and build the adaptive capacity of local communities by implementing concrete, adaptive actions specifically tailored to local needs. Furthermore, the NbS approach will serve as the foundation for all project components, adopting a holistic approach to support vulnerable communities in Rawalpindi and Islamabad, thereby increasing their resilience to droughts, rainfall variability, and other extreme events. This contributes to increasing their adaptation capacity to the risks and improving their livelihood strategies, addressing water scarcity. Active community engagement will enhance the sustainability of natural resources management actions, ensuring climate investment through this project, which is expected to yield results, including biodiversity conservation.

The proposed project is planned to achieve its full set of outputs and outcomes using Adaptation Fund resources alone and is not depending on the success, continuation, or co-financing of other initiatives. The project adopts a full cost investment model. The risk-averse investment strategy ensures all identified projects are fully funded under the Adaptation Fund without reliance on uncertain external sources. This approach provides certainty in an otherwise unpredictable economic landscape of Pakistan and the budgetary constraints faced by both national and provincial governments. While several project activities may appear developmental in nature, they are moreover critical adaptation measures as they directly reduce vulnerability to climate variability and strengthen community resilience. Investments in adaptive infrastructure such as construction of wetlands and underground water storage systems are not simply urban development, but they are targeted interventions designed to resist and absorb climate shocks and produce resilience outcomes.

Inclusive Intervention: The project integrates institutional and community capacity building, wetland restoration and creation, climate-smart water safety management, and knowledge management with a focus on replicability. Each component was identified through an extensive consultation process and is interdependent, requiring full funding to deliver sustainable, systemic adaptation outcomes. Partial funding could undermine the effectiveness and sustainability of the interventions.

Targeting Vulnerable and Marginalized Groups: Rawalpindi has 76 slum areas and 62 underserved areas⁴¹ and 49 slum areas and 14 underserved settlements are in Islamabad⁴². The project prioritizes through participatory planning ensuring the engagement of the most vulnerable groups overly affected by climate impacts, including

⁴⁰ Climate change / Pakistan | Interactive Country Fiches

⁴¹ UNICEF 2020, Profiles of Slums and Underserved Areas of Five Largest Cities of Punjab, Pakistan

⁴² UNICEF 2020. Profile of Slums/Underserved Areas of Islamabad City – The Federal Capital of Pakistan

women, youth, urban poor, and other marginalized groups in these settlements in the target areas, requiring well-targeted resource-intensive measures to ensure resilience benefits are equally gained.

Confirming Long-Term Sustainability: Strong community participation, which requires other stakeholders to act effectively, fosters a sense of ownership among all stakeholders, committing them to mainstream activities and strategies developed through the project, making the Investments durable and guaranteeing sustained benefits beyond the project's lifetime.

J. Sustainability of the project outcomes

Sustainability is a core design principle of this project, ensuring benefits that persist well beyond the implementation period. The approach is purposely multi-dimensional addressing technical, financial, institutional, social, environmental, and economic aspects, while also embedding resilience into infrastructure systems.

Institutional and technical Sustainability: The project is aligned with Pakistan's national goals, policies and plans in terms of adaptation initiatives. which are designed to be implemented and maintained by existing organizations with firm mandates, procedures and policies. Most identified EEs are government departments that are primarily responsible for managing water and climate-related challenges within their jurisdiction. All activities are maintainable solutions, embedded into governance mechanisms ensuring annual budgeting for operation and maintenance. All infrastructure interventions under the project will be designed and built to climate-resilient technical standards.

Social Sustainability: Community consultations in Rawalpindi and Islamabad had a significant impact on the design of the project. Once the sub-projects are implemented, communities can gain a greater understanding of climate change impacts and the necessity for adaptation through training and awareness programs, as well as learning by doing.

Equitable gaining of benefits from the project activities during project implementation and beyond, through engaging with vulnerable communities (women and girls, youth, and older persons).

Economic Sustainability: Adaptation actions are essential for mitigating economic losses due to flooding and droughts. The project actions address the economic losses at multiple levels i.e. at the community (livelihood losses and repair cost of houses), at the city level (cost of repair of damaged infrastructure, cost of relief measures etc.), and at the national level (restoration of large infrastructure such as roads)

Financial Sustainability:

The project will contribute to the implementation of the National Adaptation Plan covering upfront investment and will be included in the government's annual work plan. Cost-effectiveness will remain a underlying consideration in the design of all infrastructure interventions. Furthermore, the identified Executing Entities (EEs) are government entities with specific mandates to serve the people.. Assets created under the project will be formally incorporated into existing municipal and sectoral asset inventories and maintenance plans, ensuring continuity beyond the project duration. Incorporating into maintenance plans of the mandated government entities will ensure adequate fund allocation for O&M work under annual budgets. This will be done through contractual obligations built into legal instruments used for fund transfers as a pre-arranged/committed approach. The project will support the development or updating of O&M plans, including maintenance schedules and cost estimates, to facilitate budgeting and reduce the risk of deferred maintenance.

Environmental Sustainability: It is of utmost importance that no component of the project (particularly built components 1 and 2) has any negative impact on the ecosystem. It is expected that consultations with experts on ecosystems and biodiversity will continue and be given high priority during the full proposal development stage to ensure that adequate tools and processes are incorporated, thereby providing environmental sustainability, particularly in components 1 and 2. Apart from the construction activities, negative impacts such as resettlement (wetland creation), introduction of invasive plants are not expected. Beyond the experts consulting for the project, the Environmental Protection Agency of Pakistan (EPA), the Ministry of Climate Change & Environmental Coordination (MoCC&EC), and the Punjab Provincial Environmental Protection Agency (Punjab EPA) will be invited to participate as supporting Executing Entities (EEs). All elements, including plant species used in the restoration of wetlands, will be reviewed by these expert entities to confirm that they have no negative impact on local ecosystems.

The outcome and impact of the project interventions provide a valuable evidence-based planning opportunity for future climate resilience initiatives within Islamabad and Rawalpindi and serve as a replicable model for other urban centers facing similar challenges. Capturing lessons learned throughout the project will create a solid knowledge platform generating actionable data and lessons learned that can inform municipal strategies, donor investments, and national climate adaptation strategies and policies.

K. Environmental and social impacts and risks

The project is designed to generate significant environmental, social, and economic benefits for vulnerable populations in Rawalpindi and Islamabad, while proactively minimizing and mitigating potential adverse impacts. Consistent with the Environmental and Social Policy (ESP) and Gender Policy of the Adaptation Fund a preliminary screening has already been conducted. Comprehensive assessments will be undertaken during the full proposal

stage. The project applies the protective principle, ensuring that all potential risks are identified and addressed proactively, while maximizing its contribution to environmental sustainability, social inclusion, and gender equality.

The project is expected to create positive environmental and social outcomes by reducing flood risks, impact of drought, degradation of biodiversity and increasing ecosystem resilience by enhancing urban climate resilience through the creation of adaptive infrastructure. The project integrates multiple interventions that enhance environmental sustainability. Construction of underground water tanks, groundwater recharge wells, creation of wetlands, Rooftop water harvesting and recharge system, construction of impoundment reservoirs will reduce flood risks and address water scarcity during droughts.

The social benefits of the project are significant. By reducing urban flooding, initiatives directly protect urban vulnerable communities from displacement, health risks, and economic losses, thereby increasing overall community resilience. These outcomes contribute not only to improved living conditions but also to enhanced social stability, reducing poverty and equity. The World Bank Pakistan's 2025 reports revealed that poverty rate in Pakistan has rapidly increased by seven percent in last three years and recorded at 25.3 percent in the fiscal year 2023-24 owing to compounding shocks including COVID-19, inflation, floods, and macroeconomic stress. Proposed project contributes to the adaptation targets of the National Economic Transformation Plan 2024-2029.

Institutional and community capacity-building enhances ownership, empowers women and youth, and strengthens multi-governance structure and integrate vulnerable communities into the city management system.

Component 2 relates to capacity building activities and Component 3 relates to knowledge management. Thus, those are not expected to cause any environmental or social risks. As such, these activities would be classified as Category C. However, probable risks will still be carefully screened during full proposal development stage. By their nature, construction activities under Component 1 have the potential for some environmental and social risks. However, as the proposed activities under Component 1 are not expected to pose any adverse environmental or social risks, as those are locations specific implementation and required mitigation measures will be strictly followed. Therefore, risks are considered site specific and manageable with appropriate mitigation measures.

As per the Adaptation Fund's ESP, the project is expected to fall into Category B: projects with potential adverse environmental and social impacts that are less adverse, site-specific, and readily mitigated.

Gender Assessment

Female population in Pakistan is over 111 million and gender inequality is a significant concern in Pakistan. In the climate context, Pakistani women especially those from poor households are becoming more vulnerable to disaster-driven displacement. According to recent assessments, women account for only around 26% of wage employment in formal sectors and large proportions of female labour are in unpaid family work, informal sector work with less than 25-30% lower paid than men, particularly sensitive to drought and flood risks. As female labour force participation averaging only 27–30% (compared to over 80% for men) and 70% of those works in the informal economy, engaging in domestic work, piece-rate garment manufacturing, handicrafts, and running small-scale home-based enterprises in these cities. Educational gaps further exacerbate inequalities make women more vulnerable to climate shocks, as insecure livelihoods and lack of safety nets reduce their adaptive capacity.

Low literacy rates at 42% among women is a major obstacle for climate related communication and awareness in Pakistan. Women are responsible for managing food, water and household work. When climate change disrupts rainfall patterns and water sources run dry, these responsibilities become more time-consuming and physically demanding. Women and girls must walk long distances to collect drinking water at the cost of their safety, education and health. These issues were well noted during women's group discussions held during initial community consultations. A study on Gender Disparities in Climate Change Policies: A Case Study of Pakistan in 2026 further confirms that role women play in climate adaptation, their participation largely remains symbolic and constrained by prevailing socio-cultural norm⁴³s. Another study in 2025 indicates Pakistan has gender-inclusive climate policies, their impact remains limited due to structural patriarchy, governance gaps, insufficient and gender-responsive infrastructure⁴⁴.

The Government of Pakistan introduced pro-women legislations, including the National Gender Policy Framework (NGPF) 2022. NGPF of Pakistan serves as a strategic blueprint to set in gender equality into all aspects of national development. It emphasizes creating equal opportunities for women in the economy, education, and governance. However, tracking the progress of gender responsive policies and actions is hampered due to significant data gaps in all levels of multi-governance structure.

If gender concerns are excluded from climate resilient interventions such as infrastructure development and

⁴³ Gender Disparities in Climate Change Policies: A Case Study of Pakistan, 2026, Maria Mansab, Rabbia Aslam, Muhammad Afnan Talib, Journal of International Peace & Stability, Pakistan

⁴⁴ The Gender-Climate Nexus in Pakistan: Assessing Impacts and Barriers to Sustainable Development, 2025, Tehreem Tariq, Humaira Shafi. Social Sciences Spectrum, Pakistan

community level planning, the result is repeatedly deepening of existing inequalities. As the patriarchal structure remains a dominant role and reinforces power imbalances, which in turn restrict women's freedom, mobility, and autonomy.

To address these gaps, the project will apply a gender-responsive and socially inclusive approach across all components. Recognizing cultural practices, women participation will be ensured through organizing and mobilizing women's groups at community level in each target community and also equal participation is promoted through quotas and targets for women in consultations, decision-making, and monitoring. Gender disaggregated data is captured and embedded into all monitoring and reporting processes. During the full proposal development stage further assessments on gender specific issues and challenges will be identified and examined through stakeholder consultations. A gender action plan for the project will be formulated at the full proposal development stage. The Ministry of Human Rights, Provincial women development departments, Women welfare and development center of Islamabad, National Commission on the Status of Women in Pakistan, Aurat Foundation (a women focused welfare organization working in Pakistan) are some of the mandated and specialized institutions which will be consulted during full proposal development stage.

Table 13 Alignment with AF's Environmental & Social Policy

Checklist of environmental and social principles	No further assessment is required for compliance	Potential impacts and risks – further assessment and management required for compliance
Compliance with the Law		Low risk identified as the EEs are government entities which are mandated to follow all laws in the country. However at the community level there can be instances non-compliance with local government regulations. Activities will be carried out in alignment with the current national and local legal frameworks related to climate change, human rights, environmental protection and protection of land rights. Awareness will be build on local regulations among communities through community meetings, Information materials.
Access and Equity		There is a low Risk of unequal benefit distribution or inequitable participation in decision-making. This risk is indirect and cumulative if vulnerable groups are not adequately included. Mitigation measures include participatory processes during the entire project lifecycle, prioritization of vulnerable groups (including women, persons with disabilities), grievance redress mechanisms, and monitoring of benefits using equity indicators and inclusion tools such as quota for beneficiaries in vulnerable groups
Marginalized and Vulnerable Groups		There is a low risk of exclusion of marginalized or vulnerable group from consultations or project benefits. Mitigation measures include relationship-focused approach considering local customs, communication patters, cultural practices in planning and executing community meetings/consultation, participatory actions and inclusion tools to ensure adequate participation throughout the project cycle to ensure that the voices of vulnerable groups such as women, youth, Indigenous peoples, and older persons are expressively included. Further assessment will be continued during full proposal development and dedicated women's groups, and indigenous group leaders will be consulted respecting cultural values and decision-making processes, local protocols and communication styles. Accordingly, services of community mobilization experts will be obtained during full proposal development stage
Human Rights		Low risk is identified, with strong compliance measures in place to ensure sustainability and inclusivity. All project activities will be fully aligned with national climate adaptation priorities and international frameworks, including the United Nations human rights conventions. These requirements will be embedded into all executing agreements between IE and EEs. By promoting voluntary participation, the project empowers communities to engage meaningfully in climate adaptation not only safeguards infrastructure but also enhances social and economic well-being minimizing risks, and strengthens long-term impact.
Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment		There is a medium risk of potential for women to benefit inequitably or face discrimination (as evidenced by secondary information link to cultural and social practices). Mitigation measures include encouragement of participation of women through a structured representation mechanisms with inclusion tools embedded in the reporting of every event sponsored by the project. Every meeting, training, or workshop will have an attendance registers and dedicated reporting tool for women engagement that enables the project to ensure adequate (at least 50%) women's participation. Cultural practices, such as gender-specific requirements, will be applied in all events. Consultations were held with Women

	Development Wing of the Islamabad Capital Territory, Women Development Department of Punjab, the Gender Unit of Pakistan's Ministry of Planning, Development and Special Initiatives and women leaders of urban communities for designing gender inclusion framework for project formulation,
Core Labor Rights	Low Identified: No violations of labor rights are anticipated in all project activities including construction work. National and international labor standards will be upheld throughout the entire project cycle. As most EEs are government entities, the labour rights are obligatory by the constitution itself. These requirements will be embedded into all executing agreements between IE and EEs.
Indigenous Peoples	There is a low risk of exclusion of indigenous group from consultations or project benefits: Mitigation measures include adapting inclusive approach in areas with the presence of Indigenous peoples to ensure their effective participation through the application of well-structured community consultation and communication processes with specific focus on cultural norms and protocols, respecting traditional knowledge. Local languages are used with leaders of indigenous groups as intermediaries to communicate convey information when required. Further assessment will be continued during full proposal development with participatory tools and methodologies, disaggregated data capturing to ensure no exclusion of Indigenous Peoples from project planning stage to project execution. Grievance mechanism include specific focus on accessibility for indigenous people respecting their cultural sensitivities.
Involuntary Resettlement	No Risk Identified: The project does not anticipate any physical or economic displacement. Initial risks assessments paid special focus on potential resettlements, including consultations with local authorities and found no such requirement. This will be further ensured during full proposal stage.
Protection of Natural Habitats	There is a low risk of disturbance to wetlands or riparian vegetation during infrastructure creation such as RWH tank construction. Mitigation measures including conducting environment assessments as per national guidelines and coordination with the responsible entities to ensure alignment with protection laws, regulations, and mechanisms. Therefore, further assessment will be continued during full proposal development including the areas such as nutrient overloads and possible remedial actions such as source control, Nutrient Interception mechanisms etc
Conservation of Biological Diversity	There is a low risk of temporary disturbance to urban biodiversity during construction of infrastructure assets. Mitigation measures include close monitoring of biodiversity impacts during and after construction and replanting of native species when required, Coordination with the entities responsible will be undertaken to ensure alignment with existing city and infrastructure development plans, laws and regulations. Therefore, further assessment will be continued during full proposal development.
Climate Change	Lpw Risk Identified: The project positively contributes to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and . No activities that would exacerbate the drivers for potential increase of greenhouse gas emission are included.
Pollution Prevention and Resource Efficiency	There is a low risk of localized pollution, including dust, noise, construction waste, traffic congestion or water contamination. Mitigation measures include dust and noise control, proper waste disposal, construction waste management plans, supervision by the Implementing Entity, and development of a resource efficiency plan for energy-efficient methods. Therefore, further assessment will be continued during full proposal development with detailed technical design of sub-projects. Under the improvement of solid waste management systems, the pollution prevention will be further addressed.
Public Health	No Risk Identified: No negative health impacts are anticipated in any of the project activities. In contrast, the project is to contribute to improved health outcomes through climate-resilient actions, particularly addressing water scarcity.
Physical and Cultural Heritage	No Risk Identified: No negative impacts are anticipated on sites of cultural or archaeological value. Heritage maps, data and government authorities were consulted after selection of locations. Further consultation will be continued during the full proposal development stage, and coordination will be established with the entities responsible for archaeological sites during project implementation.
Lands and Soil Conservation	No Risk Identified: The design and implementation of NbS interventions will include soil management measures. The project positively contributes to conservation of eco-systems and increase adaptation and resilience. Soil management methods will be determined during full proposal development stage which may include earth bund formation.

PART III: IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS

Table 14 Project aligns with the Results Framework of the Adaptation Fund

Project Objective(s) ¹	Project Objective Indicator(s)	Adaptation Fund Outcome	Adaptation Fund Outcome Indicator	Grant Amount (USD)
Overall Objective: To strengthen the adaptive capacities (SAC) of communities in Rawalpindi and Islamabad to address climate change through innovative, nature-based solutions, thereby improving the resilience of both the natural and built environments, as well as the society of Pakistan.	At least 43,000 direct and 60,000 indirect including 50% women are benefited from nature-based solutions () Estimated based on residence population in project areas and commute population	Outcome 2: Strengthened institutional capacity to reduce risks associated with climate-induced socioeconomic and environmental losses Outcome 3: Strengthened awareness and ownership of adaptation and climate risk reduction processes Outcome 4: Increased adaptive capacity within relevant development sector services and infrastructure assets	2. Institutions with strengthened capacity to understand and better address climate risks and resilience 3.A. People with strengthened awareness of climate change risks and how to better address them 4. Physical assets improved or constructed to withstand climate variability and change	8,341,014
Total objective level grant amount				8,341,014
Project Outcome(s)	Project Outcome Indicator(s)	Adaptation Fund Output	Adaptation Fund Output Indicator	Grant Amount (USD)
Component 1: Increasing ecosystem resilience by enhancing urban climate resilience through the creation of adaptive infrastructure				
Outcome 1 Climate resilience of urban communities in Islamabad and Rawalpindi strengthened through adaptive infrastructure assets to withstand climate variability and change.	Underground water tanks (10) constructed with at least 0.4 million gallons of groundwater recharge facility	Output 4.1 Vulnerable development sector services and infrastructure assets strengthened in response to climate change impacts, including variability	4.1 .. Development sector services strengthened to respond to climate variability and change	2,900,000
	Groundwater recharge wells (100) constructed in selected sites with a recharge capacity of at least 160-million-gallon water	Output 4.1: Vulnerable development sector services and infrastructure assets strengthened in response to climate change impacts, including variability	4. Physical assets improved or constructed to withstand climate variability and change (disaggregated data) .	730,000
	Constructed wetlands (3) established to recycle grey water for reuse	Output 4.1: Vulnerable development sector services and infrastructure assets strengthened in response to climate change impacts, including variability	4. Physical assets improved or constructed to withstand climate variability and change (disaggregated data)	840,000
	Rooftop water harvesting and recharge systems (100) established at the household level, benefiting at least 700 individuals (380 males, 320 females)	Output 4.1: Vulnerable development sector services and infrastructure assets strengthened in response to climate change impacts, including variability	4. Physical assets improved or constructed to withstand climate variability and change (disaggregated data)	175,000

	At least twenty (20) impoundment reservoirs constructed to store rainwater for ecosystem support	Output 4: Vulnerable development sector services and infrastructure assets strengthened in response to climate change impacts, including variability	4.1 Physical assets improved or constructed to withstand climate variability and change (disaggregated data)	690,000
	Improved solid waste management system introduced benefitting more than 1,200 individuals (50% of whom are women)	Output 4: Vulnerable development sector services and infrastructure assets strengthened in response to climate change impacts, including variability	4. Physical assets improved or constructed to withstand climate variability and change (disaggregated data).	30,000
	Established integrated rainwater harvesting, storage and recharge system with four (4) underground water storage and recharge tanks introduced	Output 4: Vulnerable development sector services and infrastructure assets strengthened in response to climate change impacts, including variability	4. Physical assets improved or constructed to withstand climate variability and change (disaggregated data)	35,000
Component 2: Strengthening adaptive response capacity to enhance the ability of institutions and systems to cope with evolving climate conditions and unforeseen events				
Outcome 2 Institutional and systemic adaptive capacity in Islamabad and Rawalpindi is significantly strengthened through enhanced groundwater management, integrated decision-support systems, and multi-hazard risk assessment capabilities—enabling proactive, informed, and climate-resilient responses to evolving and unforeseen climate challenges.	Groundwater Modeling Study for Rawalpindi City conducted	Output 2.1 Strengthened capacity of institutions to understand and better address climate risks	2.1. Institutions supported to strengthen capacity to understand and address climate risks and resilience	810,000
	Capacity of the physiochemical and biological sections of the WASA water quality laboratory (WWQL) enhanced	Output 2.1 Strengthened capacity of institutions to understand and better address climate risks	2.1. Institutions supported to strengthen capacity to understand and address climate risks and resilience	1,150,000
	Decision Support System (DSS) for capturing real-time data for adaptive action planning at the city level developed	Output 3.2 Strengthened capacity of national and subnational stakeholders and entities to capture and disseminate knowledge and learning	3.2. Climate resilience knowledge products and/or tools developed and shared with stakeholders	490,000
Component 3: Strengthening social resilience and knowledge management platform				
Outcome 3 Social resilience and institutional knowledge and awareness in Islamabad and Rawalpindi are reinforced through inclusive capacity building, strategic	Awareness-raising campaigns (five) for sensitization of communities and key stakeholders on resilience building to climate events conducted	Output 3.1 Targeted population groups participating in adaptation and risk reduction awareness activities	3.1. People participating in activities to improve awareness of climate risks and how to address them	70,000
	At least five knowledge products on the issues related to water management, climate risks and adaptation developed	Output 3.1 Targeted population groups participating in adaptation and risk reduction awareness activities	3.2. Climate resilience knowledge products and/or tools developed and shared with stakeholders rs	100,000

dissemination of climate and water management knowledge, and integration of project results into local governance—ensuring ownership of adaptation and climate risk reduction efforts.	National-level workshops (six) are conducted to disseminate knowledge, lessons learned, and to create pathways for developing future partnerships	Output 3.1 Targeted population groups participating in adaptation and risk reduction awareness activities	3.1. People participating in activities to improve awareness of climate risks and how to address them	130,000
	A climate-action committee within each local authority is established	Output 3.2 Strengthened capacity of national and subnational stakeholders and entities to capture and disseminate knowledge and learning	3.2. Climate resilience knowledge products and/or tools developed and shared with stakeholders	71,014
	Capacity of community members (1,200) and staff of CDA (20) are increased in conservation and sustainably use of available water resources	Output 3.1 Targeted population groups participating in adaptation and risk reduction awareness activities	3.1. People participating in activities to improve awareness of climate risks and how to address them	120,000
Total outcome level grant amount				8,341,014

Budget Note: The estimated budget was prepared in consultation with the Executing Entities (EEs), with values adapted according to the EEs' cost estimation criteria and subsequently evaluated by the technical staff of UN-Habitat. Given the current high level of economic instability, these costs are considered preliminary and will be further validated and refined at the full proposal stage to ensure accuracy

¹ The AF utilized OECD/DAC terminology for its results framework. Project proponents may use different terminology, but the overall principle should still apply

PART IV: ENDORSEMENT BY GOVERNMENT AND CERTIFICATION BY THE IMPLEMENTING ENTITY

- A. Record of endorsement on behalf of the government**² Provide the name and position of the government official and indicate date of endorsement. If this is a regional project/programme, list the endorsing officials all the participating countries. The endorsement letter(s) should be attached as an annex to the project/programme proposal. Please attach the endorsement letter(s) with this template; add as many participating governments if a regional project/programme:

1. Mr. Muhammad Farooq Senior Joint Secretary Climate Change & Environment Ministry of Climate Change and Environmental Coordination, Government of Pakistan LG&RD Complex, Sector G-5/2, Islamabad, Pakistan Tel: +92-51-9245531 2. Mr. Mazhar Hayat Joint Secretary (a.i) Climate Change & Environment Ministry of Climate Change and Environmental Coordination, Government of Pakistan, Islamabad 3. Mr. Muhammad Ijaz Ghani Senior Joint Secretary/Primary Focal Point for AF at MoCC&EC Ministry of Climate Change, Islamabad	Date: 27/01/2025 Date 18/12/2025 Date: 2nd April 2026
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SENIOR JOINT SECRETARY (CC)

D.O No.1(22)/2025/CC (Pakistan SAC Project)
Government of Pakistan
Ministry of Climate Change
& Environmental Coordination
Islamabad

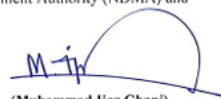
Islamabad, the 2nd April 2026

Adaptation Fund Board Secretariat
A1818 H Street NW
MNS N7-700
Washington, D.C., 20433
United States of America
Email:
secretariat@adaptation-fund.org

Subject: **ENDORSEMENT FOR THE PROJECT TITLED STRENGTHENING
ADAPTIVE CAPACITIES OF COMMUNITIES AND PUBLIC SECTOR
INSTITUTIONS FOR RAIN WATER HARVESTING AND CLIMATE RISK
REDUCTION IN URBAN AREAS OF PAKISTAN**

Reference this Ministry's letters dated 27th January 2025 and 18th December, 2025, in my capacity as designated authority for the Adaptation Fund in Pakistan, I confirm that the project/programme proposal titled "*Strengthening adaptive capacities of communities and public sector institutions for rain water harvesting and climate risk reduction in urban areas of Pakistan*" is in accordance with the government's national priorities in implementing adaptation activities to reduce adverse impacts of, and risks, posed by climate change in the country.

Accordingly, I am pleased to endorse the above project/programme proposal with support from the Adaptation Fund. If approved, the project/programme will be implemented by UNHABITAT and executed by Water and Sanitation Agency (WASA) Rawalpindi, Pakistan Council of Research in Water Resources (PCRWR), National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) and local communities in Pakistan.


(Muhammad Ijaz Ghani)
Primary Contact Point AF

Copy for information to:

- 1) PS to Secretary, Ministry of Climate Change & Environmental Coordination, Islamabad.
- 2) APS to Additional Secretary-I, Ministry of Climate Change & Environmental Coordination, Islamabad
- 3) PS to Joint Secretary (CF), Ministry of Climate Change & Environmental Coordination, Islamabad.
- 4) Mr. Jawed Ali Khan, Country Programme Manager, UN Habitat, Pakistan.

B. Implementing Entity Certification: Provide the name and signature of the Implementing Entity Coordinator and the date of signature. Provide also the project/programme contact person's name, telephone number and email address.

I certify that this proposal has been prepared in accordance with guidelines provided by the Adaptation Fund Board, and prevailing National Development and Adaptation Plans (Pakistan's National Climate Change Strategy, National Adaptation Plan, SDG11) and subject to the approval by the Adaptation Fund Board, <u>commit to implementing the project/programme in compliance with the Environmental and Social Policy and the Gender Policy of the Adaptation Fund</u> and on the understanding that the Implementing Entity will be fully (legally and financially) responsible for the implementation of this project/programme.	
Name & Signature  Rafael Tuts Director of the Global Solutions Division, UN-Habitat Tel. and email: +254207623726; raf.tuts@un.org	Date: 03/23/2026
Project Contact Person: Odicea Angelo Barrios, Human Settlements Officer, ROAP UN-Habitat	Tel. and Email: +81927247121 odicea.angelobarrios1@un.org

ANNEX 1

Revised PFG Submission Form⁴⁵ (additions in red)

Project Formulation Grant (PFG)

Submission Date: 23 March 2026

Adaptation Fund Project ID:

Country/ies: Pakistan

Title of Project/Programme: Strengthening Adaptive Capacities (SAC) of the communities and public sector institutions for rainwater harvesting and climate risk reduction in urban areas of Pakistan.

Type of IE (NIE/RIE/MIE): MIE

Implementing Entity: United Nations Human Settlement Programme, UN Habitat

Executing Entity/ies: United Nations Human Settlement Programme, UN Habitat

A. Project Preparation Timeframe

Start date of PFG	1 st November 2026
Completion date of PFG	31 st March 2027

B. Proposed Project Preparation Activities (\$)

The US\$ 120,000 Project Formulation Grant (PFG) will fund the development of a comprehensive, single-country proposal. This process will include robust stakeholder engagement ensuring adequate female representation, feasibility studies, environmental and social safeguards (ESS), gender assessments, and technical analyses. The grant will cover key preparatory activities, community consultations with local stakeholders including women's groups, translation of essential documents, travel and logistical support, and the engagement of professional services to assist in proposal development. Additionally, the PFG will support a project consolidation workshop organized in collaboration with the Ministry of Climate Change and Environmental Conservation, as well as the Islamabad and Rawalpindi authorities to finalize the proposal.

List of Proposed Project Preparation Activities	Output of the PFG Activities	US\$ Amount	Budget note ⁴⁶
1. Stakeholder consultations (community, city, and national level meetings, working sessions, and workshops including women associations, Ministries and institutions mandated for gender related work)	Project outcomes and outputs are validated and finalized through consultations with a wider range of stakeholders, including community members.	10,500	1.1 6 Consultation meeting in two cities with communities with 120 participants 1.2 5 Consultation workshops in two cities with 5 city/provincial authorities with total 100 participants 1.3 2 Expert group meetings with total 50 participants 1.4 Meeting Refreshments (US\$25*120 participants*1 days = US\$3,000) 1.5 Documentation and reporting (US\$2,000) 1.6 Meeting rooms and facilities (US\$500* 11 days = US\$ 5,500)
2. Identified sub-project interventions feasibility assessment (final estimates based on field survey, design and drawings)	Identified sub-projects finalized (design, scale, location and approach)	25,020	2.1 Field Consultation Meetings (6 in two cities = US\$ 12,000) 2.2 DSA for field surveys and studies (US\$804* 5 technical officers = US\$ 4,020) 2.3 Survey maps and documentation (US\$ 6,000)

⁴⁵ As presented in AFB/PPRC.33/40 Annex 1.

⁴⁶ The proposal should include a detailed budget with budget notes indicating the break-down of costs at the activity level. It should also include a budget on the Implementing Entity management fee use.

			2.4 Expert group meetings (US\$60*50 participants = US\$ 3,000)
3. Gender, Environmental and Social risk analyses in two cities and Formulation of Environmental and Social Management Plan and Gender Action Plan through consultations	Gender, environmental and social risk analyses finalized, comprehensive reports produced and ESMP and GAP formulated	8,100	3.1 Field consultations in two cities (US\$ 60 *60 participants = US\$3,600) 3.2 Gender specialist inputs (US\$150*x 30 days = US\$4,500)
4. Detailed analyses including policy, strategies and regulations in support of the proposed sub-projects and cost effectiveness	Report generated to ensure project activities are in line with policies, strategies, and regulations of the country, and a cost-effective analysis is conducted with possible alternative solutions against proposed sub-projects.	11,200	4.1 Workshops (2xUS \$ 120* 60 participants = US\$7,200) 4.2 Documentation US\$4,000
5. Translations – project-related documents and interpreters for meetings	Effective communication is ensured, particularly with local communities	2,320	5.1 Interpreters (US\$120 *11 days = US\$1,320) 5.2 Translation cost of documents (US\$100x10 =US\$1,000)
6. Development of the full proposal	Full proposal formulated	28,600	6.1 Hiring professional services (US\$ 280*70 days = US\$19,600) 6.2 Hiring National Consultant (US\$ 150 *60 days = US\$9,000)
7. Travel costs for experts for specific consultations and discussions with stakeholders and other interested groups, and local participation as needed in project design.	Adequate expert inputs are acquired in the project formulation process through well-structured information, expert insights, and identifying potential solutions	13,060	7.1 Local travel cost US\$13,060
8. Project consolidation and validation workshop among city-wide and national stakeholders and project beneficiaries	Full proposal finalized and validated	11,000	8.1 Workshop costs (US\$ 60*100 participants = US\$6,000) 8.2 Cost of Venue and facilities (US\$ 5,000)
Total Project/Programme Cost US\$		109,800	
Project/Programme Cycle Management Fee charged by the Implementing Entity (Maximum of 8.5%) US\$		10,200	
Total Project Formulation Grant US\$		120,000	

Please describe below each of the PFG activities and provide justifications for their need and for the amount of funding required:

1. Stakeholder consultations

To support the formulation of the full proposal, the concept note will be reviewed and refined through a series of stakeholder workshops. These workshops are essential for validating the project design and ensuring alignment with local needs and conditions. A diverse group of participants, including community members, local authorities, NGOs, technical experts, and other relevant stakeholders, will be engaged. Women's groups, Women Development Wing of Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT) Administration, specialized government bodies including the [Punjab Women Protection Authority](#) will be consulted on gender. Activities will include presenting the initial project concept, discussing objectives, methodologies, expected outcomes, and implementation strategies, as well as gathering feedback. This participatory process leverages local knowledge, addresses real vulnerabilities,

and fosters community ownership. Insights from these consultations will be used to strengthen and tailor the proposal, enhancing its relevance, feasibility, and potential for successful adaptation outcomes.

2. Identified sub-project interventions feasibility assessment

Through comprehensive review and focus group consultations with implementing partners, sub-level and field interventions will be further developed and clarified during the preparation of the detailed project proposal. A feasibility assessment, including detailed cost analysis for each activity, will be conducted and finalized in alignment with prevailing market conditions.

3. Gender and ESS Risk Analysis and Planning

During the preparation of the project proposal, comprehensive assessments of gender, environmental, and social risks will be undertaken. These risks will be identified through active engagement and thorough consultations with beneficiaries and potential partners. Based on the findings, a detailed risk mitigation plan will be developed to address and manage the identified concerns. For this purpose, works institutions working for human rights, gender and women development will be consult it through meetings and detailed workshops. Representative from following women specific organization will participate: Ministry of Human Rights, National Commission on Status of Women Islamabad, Women Development and Welfare Center Islamabad, Provincial Development Departments, Aurat Foundation, and similar other organizations. Through consultation with these institutions a detail gender assessment and ESSS reports will be developed, compiled and submitted with the detail project proposal.

4. Policy and Regulatory Analysis for Sub-Project Viability

5. Relevant policies and regulatory frameworks will be reviewed to ensure alignment with the proposed project interventions. Consultations and knowledge-sharing sessions will be organized to facilitate stakeholder engagement. Any gaps identified during this process will be documented, and appropriate preventive measures will be formulated to mitigate potential policy-related risks and challenges

Translations
Since most stakeholder consultations will be conducted in Urdu, and existing government and project-related documents require translation into English, a portion of the budget will be allocated to interpretation and translation services.

6. Development of the full proposal

Upon approval of the Concept Note, one international and one national professional experts will be engaged to lead the development of the full project proposal. This process will include extensive consultations involving key stakeholders, government partners, and beneficiary communities. Based on these inputs, the detailed project proposal will be drafted and finalized by the technical experts. Once completed, the draft will be submitted to the Adaptation Fund Board for review, feedback, and final approval.

7. Travel costs

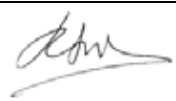
Travel of the consultants and field staff will be required for consultation with the key stakeholders, partners and communities in the fields located within the project sites. For this purpose, estimated travel costs are allocated in the budget table above.

8. Project consolidation and validation workshop

Once the Concept Note is approved by the Adaptation Fund Board, an orientation and project validation workshop will be conducted with all stakeholders involved in the project. This includes those expected to participate in project implementation, facilitation, and the provision of technical assistance. The workshop will serve to align understanding, confirm roles, and ensure shared commitment to the project's objectives.

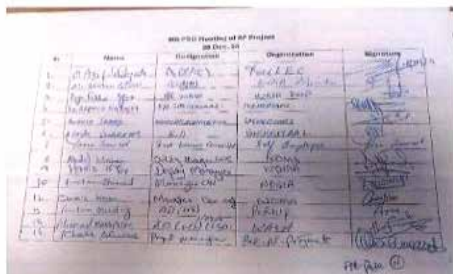
Implementing Entity

This request has been prepared in accordance with the Adaptation Fund Board's procedures and meets the Adaptation Fund's criteria for project identification and formulation.

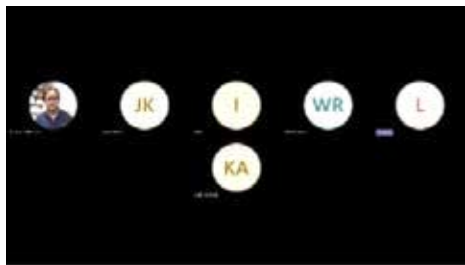
Implementing Entity Coordinator, IE Name	Signature	Date (Month, day, year)	Project Contact Person	Telephone	Email Address
Raft Tuts		03/23/2026	Odicea Angelo Barrios	(81-92) 724-7121	odicea.angelobarrios1@un.org

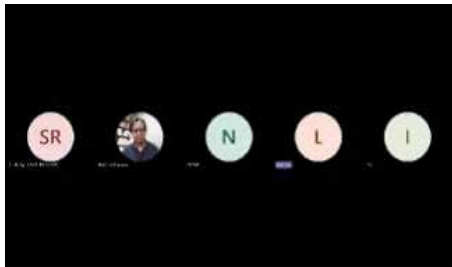
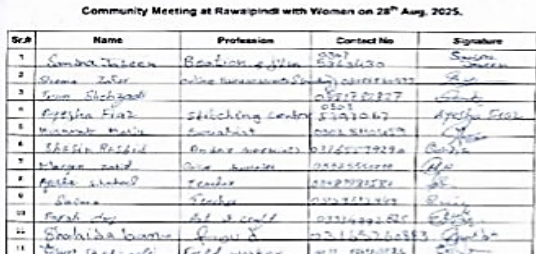
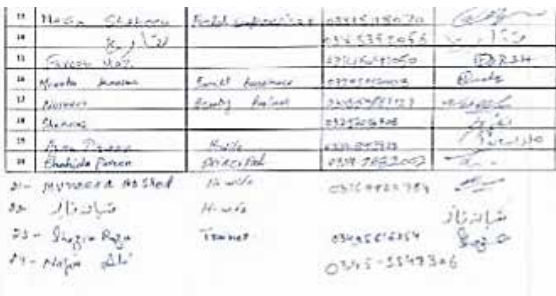
ANNEX 2

Technical consultation process and institutional engagement

Institution	Ministry of Climate Change and Environmental Coordination (MoCC&EC)
Date	28 December 2024
Participants	Meeting chair: Farooq Ahmed, Senior Joint Secretary, (MoCC&EC), and the other participants' list is given below.
	Annex-2: Attendance of the meeting participants;  
Key points	Decisions of 6th PSC Meeting: After detailed discussion on the project matters, following decisions were taken: 1. UNHABITAT Pakistan team will consolidate all 3 concept papers received from the Implementing Partners (NDMA, WASA and the PCRWR) and also include a component for Karachi from the previous proposal submitted to ROAP. The consolidated concept paper will be submitted to MoCC&EC by 15th January 2025 for endorsement by the DNA. 2. WASA Rawalpindi will complete remaining Rain Water Harvesting Units before June 2025. 3. NDMA will expedite the pace of on-going activities by next 3 months. The PSC considering the request of NDMA team, approved 3 months no-cost extension of the LOU from February to 30th April 2025. 4. MoCC&EC will re-submit the PC-1 to Planning and Development Department (P&DD) during first week of 2025. Soon after approval of PC-1 the team will open the project bank account. The MoCC&EC through Designated National Authority (DNA) of the Adaptation Fund in Pakistan will also endorse the new project proposal to be submitted to AFB for approval. 5. TMA Nowshera will follow up and coordinate with P&D department KP to obtain approval of the draft revised LOU. As soon approval is obtained, the LOU documents will be submitted to UNHABITAT Islamabad office for onward submission to ROAP. 6. Sheherana will expedite progress under current AOC and complete all the activities within given timeframe. 7. All Implementing Partners will share the real data established through AF project with UNHABITAT. The IT team M&E officer of the country office will consolidate all data and information under a single data portal link to harmonize the data validity and to avoid future duplications. On completion of every LOU and AOC of LP, the data and its relevant links will be submitted to UNHABITAT by all AF project partners. 8. It was decided that NDMA will lead to finalize the draft guidelines on GIS standards for Pakistan being reviewed by UNHABITAT in consultation with all relevant stakeholders. Project Manager AF from UNHABITAT will share the draft of GIS guidelines through email addressed to NDMA with CC to all implementing partners for their input and feedback. 9. It was decided that next PSC meeting will be conducted during last week of February 2025. ***Meeting ended with vote of thanks and appreciation by the participants to each other.*** Minutes approved by the PSC Chair: Page 2 of 4
Evidence	 

Institution	Capital Development Authority (CDA)	
Date	31 July 2025	
Participants	Mr. Sardar Khan Zimri (Director General Water Management, CDA), Director Mr. Javed Zahri and two other staff members participated. Ms Almas Shakoor and Mr. Sharafat Uddin (Shehersaaz). Mr. Ehtisham (Assistant Director), PCRWR. Mr. Faiz ul Sibtain (PEC). Mr. Irfan Virk (Deputy Director) PMD. Mr. Khalil Ahmed and Mr. Basharat Hussain, UN-Habitat.	
Key points	<u>SITE-01: Rumli Village and Surroundings:</u> Field consultations in the Rumli Village by UN-Habitat and CDA with local people. § Sufficient amounts of clean rainwater flow through the nallahs. The villagers reported that Nullah has water for nearly six months. During the peak monsoon season, water levels are at their highest, then gradually decrease until the end of the year. § GPS location of the village: N 33.77371 E 073.13409 § Point 02: At Bari Imam Bridge Viewpoint, water coming from Rumli Village was observed to be at the same level as in point-01. § GPS location of the village: N 33.74435 E 073.11626 § Potential: A water reservoir could be constructed in Rumli Village to store rainwater during the peak monsoon, providing water throughout the six months for various uses. <u>SITE-02: Trail-5 Area Visit:</u> § Point 01, Nullah visit: Sufficient water was flowing in Nullah. The community reported that almost five months' worth of rainwater has accumulated in the Nullah. The volume remains high during the monsoon season but gradually decreases in the following months. § GPS location of the area: N 33.74649 E 073.08586 § A water reservoir could be built, and stored water can be transferred to the existing nearby 7MGR water reservoir of CDA to conserve more water. § Point 02: The existing 7MGR project of the CDA, which is half a kilometer from Point 01 above. § GPS location of Point 02: N 33.74261 E 073.08592 <u>SITE -03: Visit of Ayub park green area opposite Atta Turk Road:</u> § Location for rain garden and construction of a small underground reservoir to store runoff rainwater for public use, excluding drinking. § GPS coordinates of the point: N 33.73455 E 073.08430 <u>SITE-04: Visit of National Library of Pakistan:</u> § Harvest runoff during monsoon and other rains when they occur. The nearby road area faces flooding every year during rain due to runoff water that drains directly onto the road. The area has great potential for establishing a Rain Garden. It is an NbS (Nature-based Solution) to reduce urban flooding and store water in the pond built nearby, next to the National Library of Pakistan. GPS coordinates of the site: N 33.71334, E 073.06371. <u>SITE-05: Visit of F-9 Park Area:</u> § Point-01: Improve the natural wetland: A natural wetland has already been established, but its outlet needs enhancement. § GPS location: N 33.71334 E 073.06371 § Point-02: Improve surface runoff: Four dug wells measuring 15x30 are needed to harvest more rainwater and facilitate ground recharge. § GPS location: N 33.71334 E 073.06371 <u>SITE-05: Establishment of Ground Recharge Wells on F-8 Green belt site:</u> The entire green belt along the double road and 9th Avenue has strong potential for establishing Ground Recharge Wells and dug wells. At the end of the green area, there is also potential to create a Rain Garden.	
Evidence		
		

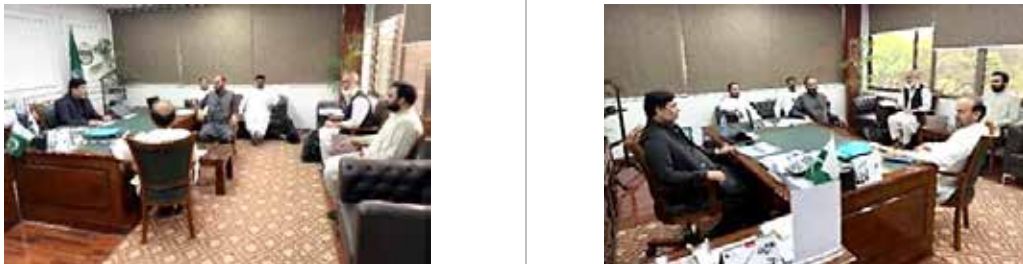
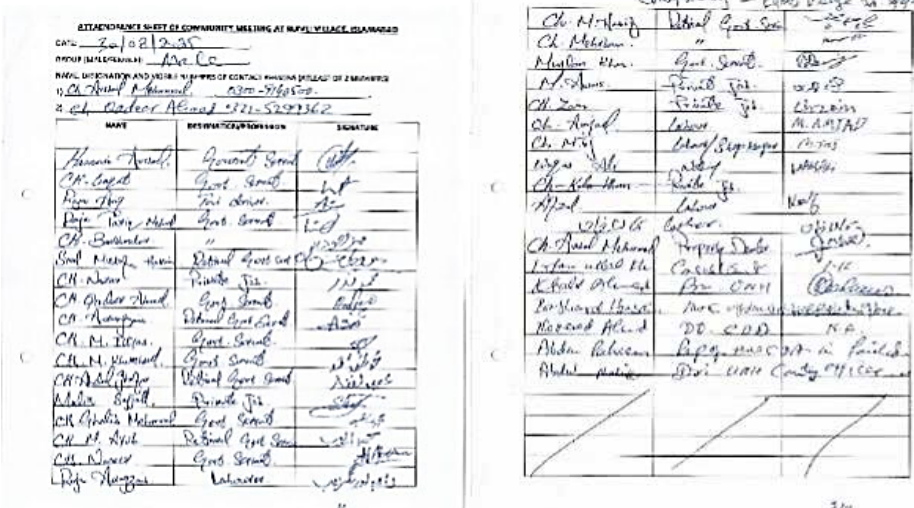
Institution	Capital Development Authority (CDA)	
Date	19 August 2025	
Participants	Mr. Jawed Ali Khan (Habitat Programme Manager), UN-Habitat Pakistan Mr. Khalil Ahmed, (Project Manager), UN-Habitat Pakistan Mr. Basharat Hussain (M&E Officer), UN-Habitat Pakistan Mr. Sardar Khan Zimri, (Director General Water Management, CDA, Islamabad Mr. Javed Zahri, Director, Sanitation and Drainage Mr. Laxman Perera, (Senior Advisor), UN-Habitat, Sri Lanka Mr. Sahibzada Irfanullah (National Consultant), Islamabad	
Key points	§ Verification of locations for storage tanks and treatment plants. § Sites for NbS for the construction of rain gardens are further detailed. § Identification of green belts for groundwater recharge and wetlands construction. § Criteria for community consultation at Rumli village to identify community needs, ensuring male and female inclusion. § Data on beneficiaries' households and key stakeholders of the project to be incorporated into the concept note.	
Evidence		
Institution	Water and Sanitation Agency (WASA), Rawalpindi	
Date	19 August 2025	
Participants	Mr. Jawed Ali Khan (Habitat Programme Manager), UN-Habitat Pakistan Mr. Khalil Ahmed, (Project Manager), UN-Habitat Pakistan Mr. Basharat Hussain (M&E Officer), UN-Habitat Pakistan Mr. Laxman Perera, (Senior Advisor), UN-Habitat, Sri Lanka Mr. Sahibzada Irfanullah (National Consultant), Islamabad Mr. Saleem Ashraf, (Managing Director), Water and Sanitation Agency (WASA), Rawalpindi Mr. Saadoon Basra, Director, WASA, Rawalpindi	
Key points	§ Details of studies, methodology, and process § Calculation of the storage water volume for designs § Maps showing the area's location accuracy § Cost-benefit analysis considering all alternative actions	
Evidence		
Institution	Pakistan Council of Research in Water Resources (PCRWR), Islamabad	
Date	21 August 2025	
Participants	Mr. Jawed Ali Khan (Habitat Programme Manager), UN-Habitat Pakistan Mr. Khalil Ahmed, (Project Manager), UN-Habitat Pakistan Mr. Basharat Hussain (M&E Officer), UN-Habitat Pakistan Mr. Laxman Perera, (Senior Advisor), UN-Habitat, Sri Lanka Mr. Sahibzada Irfanullah (National Consultant), Islamabad Dr. Hifza Rasheed, DG, PCRWR Mr. Arslan Mumtaz, Deputy Director, Water Management	

Key points	§ Design process for groundwater recharge systems in selected locations § Creation of green ponds and their impact, sustainability, and integration into urban plans § Developing SOPs for operations and maintenance, training stakeholders, especially the community and proposed Climate Action Committees § Discussing how to shift public perception on climate-adaptive actions and community-level climate/disaster preparedness. In this regard, it is proposed to include a perception study in the proposal.	
Evidence	 	
Institution	National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA)	
Date	21 August 2025	
Participants	Mr. Basharat Hussain (M&E Officer), UN-Habitat Pakistan Mr. Laxman Perera, (Senior Advisor), UN-Habitat, Sri Lanka Mr. Sahibzada Irfanullah (National Consultant), Islamabad Mr. Sheikh Rafay, DD NDMA Mr. Haris Mir, DD NDMA	
Key points	§ Focused on multi-hazard vulnerability assessments based on NDMA expertise and experience linking the National Disaster Management Plan (NDMP) and its Implementation Roadmap 2016-2030 § Process of formulating Risk Atlas, identifying vulnerability and exposure matrix at the micro level, and data validation process, including community participation. § Vulnerability Assessment to cover both natural & climate change-related impacts on physical and social dimensions of the study area § Establishment of an impact-based National Common Operating Picture (NCOP) of Pakistan through the development of a repository for synchronization of trans-provincial studies and analysis. § Knowledge sharing and coordination with other actors working on climate resilience § Sustainability of interventions, mainly NbS implementation and mainstreaming.	
Evidence	 	
Institution	Community Consultation Meeting (Female group) Rawalpindi	
Date	28 August 2025	
Participants	The meeting was chaired by Basharat Hussain, M&E Officer, (UN-Habitat) and the list of other community participants is given below. Ms. Shahida Parveen, Principal, 0314-7882002 Ms. Musarat Malik, Socialist, 03028110459	
	 	

Key points	§ Promote affordable solutions for needy families. § Community preferred large-scale rainwater storage tanks to maximize benefits against the installation of HH level RWHU and not to leave out tenants § Contamination of water due to floods is a major issue. Filtration system to use rainwater for drinking purposes. § Proper solid waste management systems need to be established to keep a clean environment and reduce the risk of health issues. § Attending schools during floods was raised. Increased access is needed. § Poor families are unable to buy water tanks for domestic use. § Educating households on simple maintenance to ensure sustainability § Provide rainwater tanks to needy households in the targeted area to ensure equitable access to safe water. § For families unable to own tanks, shared or rented rainwater tanks should be installed on community facilities (schools, mosques, halls). § Initiate tree corridors in the community to combat climate change, enhance greenery, and improve air quality. § Develop joint programs with communities for rainwater harvesting. § Provide technical support and monitoring for safety and efficiency. § Enforce minimum but supportive rules for mandatory harvesting units in new constructions while keeping flexibility for low-income areas. § Encourage water recycling and reuse at household and commercial levels. § Establish harvesting reservoirs in neighborhoods for irrigation and washing § Train community water committees to manage tanks and promote equitable access.	
Evidence		
Institution	Community Consultation Meeting (Male group) Rawalpindi	
Date	28 August 2025	
Participants	The meeting was chaired by Basharat Hussain, M&E Officer, (UN-Habitat) and the other community participants list is given below. Mr. Shahfqt Mahmood, Ex Nazim UC-5, 3335108095 Mr. Muhammad Yaqoob, Ex Nazim UC-6, 03335145412 Mr. Irfan Azeem, Ex Vice Chairman, 03455254885 Mr. Akhtar Sab, Ex Councilor, 3335275791	
		

Key points	§ Water issues are key. Rainwater storage tanks to benefit maximum families. § Major issue is clean drinking water. § There is only one tube well in the UC area, which is not enough to fulfill the community's needs. § Health, hygiene, and sanitation-related interventions are also lacking in the UC. Therefore, interventions in this sector are also desired. § Blockage of drainage systems leading to flooding and other health-related issues. Required efficient Solid waste management. § Emphasize cleaning of Nullah Lai, and other drainage lines, which are causing blockage and overflowing the drainage system. Bund construction on both sides of Nullah Lai was expressed § Runoff water to be collected through rainwater tanks. § Reduce the risk of flooding. Muhallah Kashmirian is most valuable for providing safe water and supporting the community. § Enhancing greenery and improving air quality. § Develop joint programs with communities for rainwater harvesting. § Cleaning of Nullah Lai and the attached drainage system § Proper solid waste management system § Provide technical support and monitoring for safety and efficiency. § Regulatory mechanism for mandatory harvesting units in new constructions while keeping flexibility for low-income areas. § Encourage water recycling and reuse at household and commercial levels. § Establish collective harvesting reservoirs in neighborhoods for irrigation and washing purposes. § Training to manage tanks and promote equitable access. § Promote cultural and religious values of conserving water to strengthen community ownership.																															
Evidence	 																															
Institution	Meeting with PCRWR Team, Islamabad																															
Date	28 August 2025 - 10:30 am to 1:00 pm																															
Participants	ATTENDANCE SHEET OF CONSULTATION MEETING OF UN-HABITAT TEAM WITH PCRWR TEAM AT PCRWR HEAD QUARTERS, ISLAMABAD DATE: 28-8-25 (28th Aug 2025) (Mon & 1:00 pm) <table><thead><tr><th>Name</th><th>Designation</th><th>Organization</th><th>Email</th><th>Signature</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>Mr. Hafeez Rashed</td><td>DG</td><td>PCRWR</td><td>hmr@pcrwr.gov.pk</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Adnan Nadeem</td><td>AD</td><td>PCRWR</td><td>adnan@pcrwr.gov.pk</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Ulfat</td><td>Local Expert</td><td>UN-Habitat</td><td>ulfat@unhabitat.org</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Khadija Ahmed</td><td>Prm. APP</td><td>UN-Habitat</td><td>khadija@unhabitat.org</td><td></td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr></tbody></table>		Name	Designation	Organization	Email	Signature	Mr. Hafeez Rashed	DG	PCRWR	hmr@pcrwr.gov.pk		Adnan Nadeem	AD	PCRWR	adnan@pcrwr.gov.pk		Ulfat	Local Expert	UN-Habitat	ulfat@unhabitat.org		Khadija Ahmed	Prm. APP	UN-Habitat	khadija@unhabitat.org						
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Key points	• Climate-resilient resilient responsive capacity improvement is needed • How real-time rainfall threshold forecasting in urban areas to be done. • Design and cost estimates of the proposed interventions and comparison with the designs and costs of previous projects undertaken so far. • Improving decision-making capabilities for urban planners and disaster management authorities. • Model interventions to enhance the urban threshold towards urban flooding																															

Evidence																																										
Institution	Meeting with CDA team at the office of DG-Water																																									
Date	28 August 2025 - 2-Pm to 4-Pm																																									
Participants	ATTENDANCE SHEET OF CONSULTATION MEETING OF UN-HABITAT TEAM WITH CDA TEAM AT THE OFFICE OF DG-WATER, ISLAMABAD Date: 28/08/2025 (Morning) - 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM <table><tr><th>Name</th><th>Description</th><th>Organization</th><th>Unit</th><th>Signature</th></tr><tr><td>Sardar Khan Zair</td><td>Asst. Secy. Gen.</td><td>CDA</td><td>-</td><td>SCZ</td></tr><tr><td>Rhoda Ahmed</td><td>Asst. Secy. Gen.</td><td>UN-HAB</td><td>Water & Sanitation</td><td>Rhoda</td></tr><tr><td>Tasneem Zahra</td><td>Director</td><td>CDA</td><td>-</td><td>TZ</td></tr><tr><td>M. Adnan Yousuf</td><td>Director</td><td>CDA</td><td>-</td><td>AY</td></tr><tr><td>Imranullah</td><td>Asst. Secy. Gen.</td><td>UN-HAB</td><td>-</td><td>Im</td></tr><tr><td>Abdur Rahman</td><td>Asst. Secy. Gen.</td><td>CDA</td><td>-</td><td>AR</td></tr><tr><td>S. A. Khan</td><td>Asst. Secy. Gen.</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr></table>		Name	Description	Organization	Unit	Signature	Sardar Khan Zair	Asst. Secy. Gen.	CDA	-	SCZ	Rhoda Ahmed	Asst. Secy. Gen.	UN-HAB	Water & Sanitation	Rhoda	Tasneem Zahra	Director	CDA	-	TZ	M. Adnan Yousuf	Director	CDA	-	AY	Imranullah	Asst. Secy. Gen.	UN-HAB	-	Im	Abdur Rahman	Asst. Secy. Gen.	CDA	-	AR	S. A. Khan	Asst. Secy. Gen.	-	-	-
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S. A. Khan	Asst. Secy. Gen.	-	-	-																																						
Key points	§ Contamination of drinking water sources with heavy metals and fecal coliform bacteria is a major concern, linked to sewage leakage, industrial effluents, contaminated runoff, and improper waste disposal. § Groundwater Depletion: Over-extraction of groundwater for domestic and farming use, coupled with insufficient recharge, is causing a decline in groundwater levels, impacting the sustainability of water resources. § Inadequate Water Storage: The city relies on Simly and Khanpur dams as major water sources, but inadequate storage capacity and declining water levels in these reservoirs exacerbate shortages during the dry periods. § Climate Change Impacts: Changes in rainfall patterns, including decreased rainfall and increased frequency of droughts, are reducing water availability, while also improving the water demand. § Inefficient Infrastructure: Leaking pipes, outdated water treatment plants, and an inefficient irrigation system contribute to water loss and wastage, further straining the city's water resources.																																									
Evidence																																										
Institution	Meeting with WASA-Rawalpindi held in the office of MD-WASA																																									
Date	29 August 2025 - 2-Pm to 5-Pm																																									
Participants	ATTENDANCE SHEET OF CONSULTATION MEETING OF UN-HABITAT TEAM WITH WASA TEAM AT THE OFFICE, RAWALPINDI Date: 29/08/2025 (2:00 PM to 5:00 PM) <table><tr><th>Name</th><th>Description</th><th>Organization</th><th>Unit</th><th>Signature</th></tr><tr><td>M. Faisal Anwar</td><td>Manager</td><td>WASA</td><td>-</td><td>MFA</td></tr><tr><td>M. Saeed Anwar</td><td>Asst. Secy. Gen.</td><td>WASA</td><td>-</td><td>MSA</td></tr><tr><td>Abdullah Hussain</td><td>Asst. Secy. Gen.</td><td>WASA</td><td>-</td><td>AH</td></tr><tr><td>Muhammad Hameed</td><td>Asst. Secy. Gen.</td><td>WASA</td><td>-</td><td>MH</td></tr><tr><td>Rhoda Ahmed</td><td>Asst. Secy. Gen.</td><td>UN-HAB</td><td>-</td><td>Rhoda</td></tr><tr><td>Imranullah</td><td>Asst. Secy. Gen.</td><td>UN-HAB</td><td>-</td><td>Im</td></tr></table>		Name	Description	Organization	Unit	Signature	M. Faisal Anwar	Manager	WASA	-	MFA	M. Saeed Anwar	Asst. Secy. Gen.	WASA	-	MSA	Abdullah Hussain	Asst. Secy. Gen.	WASA	-	AH	Muhammad Hameed	Asst. Secy. Gen.	WASA	-	MH	Rhoda Ahmed	Asst. Secy. Gen.	UN-HAB	-	Rhoda	Imranullah	Asst. Secy. Gen.	UN-HAB	-	Im					
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Key points	§ Short duration of heavy rain, most of the rain falling on the surface tends to flow away rapidly leaving very little for recharge of groundwater. § Obtaining more rainfall data § Solutions to the city water crisis are rainwater harvesting - capturing the runoff. Motivation for rainwater harvesting § Serious flood events occur in particular: the mainstream between GunjMandi Bridge and Railway bridge, and the tributaries of Arya Muhalla, Dhoke Rata, Nullah Dhoke Charaghadin. § Potential solution- Metro Bus Transit System for rainwater harvesting system § WASA Team will also share the location map of the planned activities proposed in the concept note.	
Evidence		
Institution	Community meeting (Male group) Rumli Village, Islamabad	
Date	30 August 2025 – 5:00 Pm to 7:00 Pm	
Participants		
Key points	§ Drinking water issues during droughts and floods are emerging as the community still faces the shortage of safe drinking water in the area. Constriction of Safe Drinking Water facilities in all 5 villages of Rumli is required. § Road crossing is difficult during heavy rains in the area. School girl students and women and older persons especially suffer during monsoon season. Construction of the cause ways and piping with an elevated road is planned and desired. Construction of a foot bridge is also required for crossing the stream by school students, women, and older persons of the village. § In the only primary school in Rumli, there is no water facility available. § Female Education is also a big challenge for the villagers. And most of the students, especially females, discontinue their education after primary education. Continuing further education away from the village is too costly and difficult for most of the students. A Dispensary and First AID Post is to be established. § Names of 5 small villages of Rumi is as: (1) Rumli Centre (2) Kamalari (3) Dhok Meetha (4) Dhok Phulwar (5) Dhok Barakhand. § Villages Kamalari and Dhok Barakhand are across the river and rain stream. Therefore, construction of 2 bridges is required to connect Kamalari with Dhok Meetha, and Villages Bara-khand to be associated with Phulwar through construction of small foot bridges. § Waste Management facilities from the relevant authorities are not yet in place. The community is maintaining cleanliness on its own arrangements. But with the increasing flow of local visitors and tourists from the city center, there is a dire need for the establishment of proper waste management mechanisms	

	through conducting a feasibility survey and developing a detailed business plan for immediate implementation. § Health, hygiene and sanitation-related interventions are also lacking in the village. Therefore, the initiation of related interventions in this sector is also desired. § Local transportation facilities, especially for women, are 3 km away from the village. And it also involves high costs to avail transport services for education and especially during emergencies. § Community is organized under the only Union Council set of the local administration headed by the Chairmen of the Union Council. A dire need for the establishment of a community-based social welfare organization exists for local-level planning, implementation, and maintenance of the community-related infrastructures. § Participatory community planning is lacking at the village level. To address the emerging and accelerated climate-induced challenges; the development of a Local Level Adaptation and Capacity Building Plan and its implementation is vital to maintain and sustain the ecosystem and biodiversity of the village. § To maintain and future progress of the village communities of Rumli, linkages and partnerships of the local communities with social sector institutions such as the education and health department, the women development and culture department, and the tourism department are needed on a priority basis. § The community members present in the meeting showed their interest in cooperating with the development sector organizations and government departments working in the city center to address the above-listed challenges faced by the Rumli Village community.	
Evidence		
Institution	Community meeting (Female group) Rumli Village, Islamabad	
Date	30 August 2025 – 5:00-Pm to 7:00-Pm	
Participants		
Key points	After discussion of the female team of the UNHABITAT with village women group following areas were identified to address women specific challenges in the village:	

	§ Provision of safe drinking water facilities is highly desired. § Transport mechanism from the village to the nearby town of Bari Imam and back to the village, especially for women, girls, and students, is desired. § Provision of a girls' middle school with qualified teachers is demanded. § Availability of health facilities with technical and qualified staff is required. § Promotion of digital skills for youth and girls, and skill development programmes for adult women of the village on vocational products, is highly desirable and demanded.	
Evidence		