

NEWSLETTER

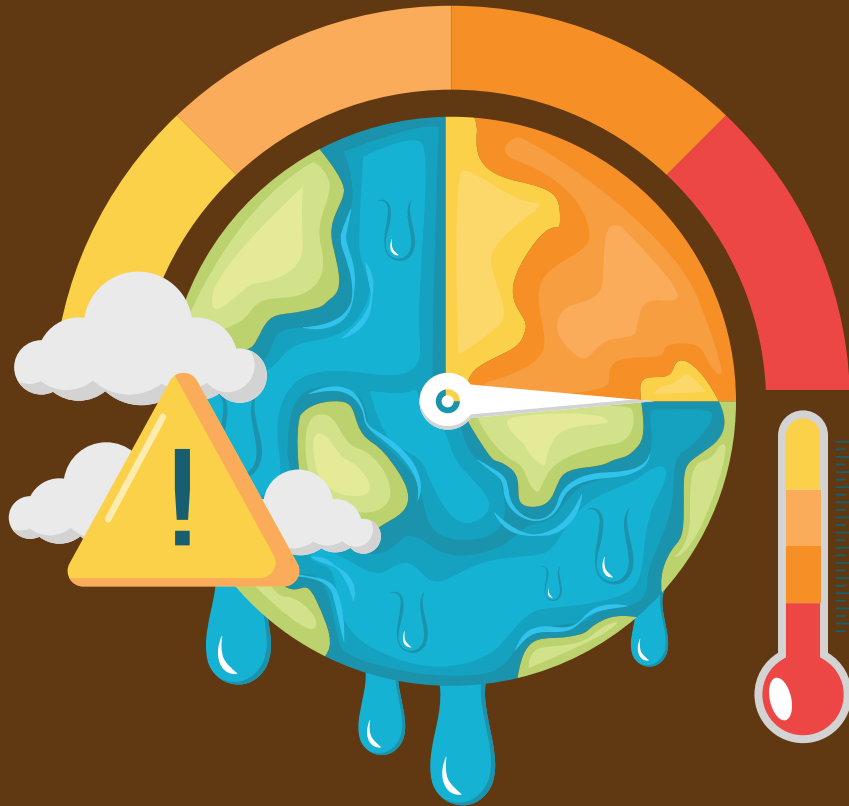
VOLUME 3, ISSUE 2

APRIL-JUNE 2026



MINISTRY OF CLIMATE CHANGE &
ENVIRONMENTAL COORDINATION
GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN

CLIMATE CHANGE



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From the Editor's Desk

Bi-Monthly Newsletter | April–June 2026

Ministry of Climate Change & Environmental Coordination

The April–June 2026 quarter marked another defining chapter in Pakistan's climate journey, as the Ministry of Climate Change and Environmental Coordination advanced a broad agenda of policy innovation, international engagement and practical climate action. This edition captures a period during which climate change increasingly shaped national development priorities, foreign policy and environmental governance.

Among the highlights are Pakistan's historic first carbon market agreement with Norway under Article 6.2 of the Paris Agreement, the launch of a Rs10 billion green finance initiative to support climate entrepreneurship, consultations on the country's first National Urban Strategy, and efforts to establish the first National WASH Accounts to strengthen evidence-based water and sanitation governance. The ministry also deepened cooperation with strategic partners, including the United Kingdom, Spain, China, Türkiye, Azerbaijan, Tajikistan and the World Food Programme, reinforcing Pakistan's growing role in global climate diplomacy.

This issue also reflects our continued commitment to addressing environmental challenges on the ground. From protecting Rawal Lake against pollution and expanding urban tree plantation campaigns to strengthening animal welfare laws and promoting climate-resilient housing, these initiatives demonstrate that climate action must combine policy ambition with tangible benefits for communities.

As always, this newsletter documents the ministry's efforts to translate national commitments into meaningful outcomes while promoting transparency, public awareness and constructive engagement with citizens, development partners and the private sector.

We hope this edition provides readers with valuable insight into Pakistan's evolving climate agenda and inspires broader collaboration in building a cleaner, greener, more resilient and climate-secure future for present and future generations.

— Editor, Newsletter

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INSIDE THE ISSUE



Climate Diplomacy & International Cooperation

- Pakistan calls for binding global water treaty, says water security is a climate justice issue
- Pakistan, Spain discuss climate cooperation, energy security and Indus Waters Treaty
- Pakistan, UK review £35m Green Compact to boost climate resilience and green innovation
- Pakistan, Azerbaijan step up energy, climate cooperation at World Urban Forum
- Pakistan, Tajikistan seek stronger partnership on water, glaciers and climate cooperation
- Pakistan, Azerbaijan seek deeper cooperation in climate, tourism and regional connectivity
- Pakistan, Türkiye forge climate partnership ahead of COP31 to tackle floods and water risks
- Pakistan, Norway seals first-ever carbon market deal under Paris Climate Pact

Green Economy & Climate Finance

- Pakistan seals Rs10bn green finance initiative to spur climate startups
- Pakistan seeks China's support to expand green finance and climate innovation

Urban Resilience & Sustainable Development

- Pakistan urges world to treat climate-resilient housing as a matter of justice
- Climate Minister Musadik Malik calls for justice-centred urban planning at World Urban Forum
- Pakistan launches first National Urban Strategy to tackle climate risks in cities

Environment, Conservation & Public Health

- Hospital waste, plastic pollution found in Rawal Lake clean-up drive
- Climate Ministry, Pak-EPA and CDA launch joint tree plantation drive in Islamabad
- Govt begins overhaul of animal welfare laws as committee targets wildlife trafficking and cruelty

Climate Resilience, Water & Human Development

- Pakistan, WFP step up climate partnership to tackle child stunting
- Pakistan moves to launch first National WASH Accounts to strengthen water and sanitation governance



Pakistan calls for binding global water treaty, says water security is a climate justice issue



Mr. Musadik Masood Malik, Federal Minister for Climate Change, addresses the International Seminar on the Indus Waters Treaty (IWT) 2026.

ISLAMABAD (June 30, 2026) - Pakistan has called for a legally binding international covenant on transboundary water governance, warning that the world is facing not only a climate and water crisis but also a growing "crisis of justice" for downstream nations.

Addressing an international seminar on "Indus Waters Treaty: An Instrument of Peace and Regional Stability," Federal Minister for Climate Change and Environmental Coordination Dr Musadik Malik said the absence of enforceable global rules governing shared rivers had left billions of people vulnerable to upstream actions.

Illustrating the human cost of climate change, he recounted the story of Pakistani farmer Iqbal Solangi, whose family lost its livelihood after successive floods in 2010, 2012 and 2022 destroyed farmland, homes and livestock.

"His story is not unique," the minister said, adding that millions faced similar hardships worldwide.

He cited examples from Bangladesh, Africa's Sahel region, the Nile basin, the Tigris marshes and the Mekong, arguing that water insecurity had become a global justice issue.

"The danger is not just too little water or too much water. The danger is that someone else, who is not you, controls the tap through which your water is going to flow."

Dr Malik said nearly 120 million Pakistanis depended on agriculture, while around a quarter of the country's GDP and its food security relied on water availability. He warned that climate change, glacier melt and erratic river flows were intensifying floods and water shortages.

Describing the Indus Waters Treaty as one of the world's most enduring water-sharing agreements, he cautioned that allowing treaties to be ignored would weaken the international rules-based order.

Calling for a global framework comparable to those governing trade and nuclear non-proliferation, Dr Malik said:

"There must be a covenant with political, economic and diplomatic consequences."

He added that protecting transboundary rivers was "not only Pakistan's case; it is a global test of water rights and climate justice."

Pakistan seals Rs10bn green finance initiative to spur climate startups

ISLAMABAD (June 26, 2026) - In a major push to accelerate climate-friendly investment and green entrepreneurship, the Ministry of Climate Change and Environmental Coordination on Thursday agreed to a Rs10 billion green financing arrangement with the National Credit Guarantee Company Limited (NCGCL), aimed at expanding access to finance for environmentally sustainable businesses across Pakistan.

The understanding was reached during a high-level meeting between Federal Minister for Climate Change and Environmental Coordination Dr Musadik Malik and NCGCL Chief Executive Officer Ammar Habib in Islamabad.

Under the proposed arrangement, NCGCL will provide guarantee support of up to Rs10bn through a structured financing programme designed to reduce investment risks for climate-smart projects and green enterprises.

The guarantee framework will cover a range of financial instruments, including convertible bonds, hybrid financing structures, bank loans, credit facilities and equity investments, subject to the financial and operational viability of individual projects.



Federal Minister for Climate Change and Environmental Coordination, Dr Musadik Masood Malik, addresses a spring tree plantation drive at Shakarparian, organised by Pak-EPA Islamabad in collaboration with telecom operator Zong, in Islamabad on March 26, 2026.

The initiative is expected to improve access to capital for green businesses by lowering financial risks for investors and lending institutions, while encouraging greater private-sector participation in Pakistan's transition towards a low-carbon and

climate-resilient economy.

The programme would particularly benefit young entrepreneurs and women-led green startups, enabling them to secure financing for environmentally sustainable ventures that often struggle to obtain conventional credit.

Speaking on the occasion, Dr Malik described the collaboration as a significant milestone in strengthening Pakistan's green finance ecosystem and mobilising private investment for climate action.

He said expanding innovative financing mechanisms was essential for achieving the country's climate and sustainable development objectives, adding that partnerships between public institutions and

financial organisations would play a critical role in accelerating the growth of green businesses.

The ministry said the agreement reflects its broader strategy to create an enabling environment for climate-smart entrepreneurship by promoting innovative financial instruments and encouraging investment in sustainable economic development.

NCGCL recently received a AAA credit rating from the Pakistan Credit Rating Agency (PACRA), strengthening its capacity to support large-scale guarantee programmes for priority sectors, including green investment.

Pakistan, Spain discuss climate cooperation, energy security and Indus Waters Treaty

ISLAMABAD (June 10, 2026) - Pakistan and Spain on Wednesday discussed climate change, energy security, renewable energy cooperation and the implications of recent geopolitical developments, including concerns surrounding the Indus Waters Treaty, during a meeting between Federal Minister for Climate Change and Environmental Coordination Dr Musadik Malik and Spanish Ambassador Carlos Aragón in Islamabad.

The meeting focused on regional and global challenges linked to climate change, evolving geopolitical dynamics and opportunities for bilateral cooperation in sustainable development.

During the discussion, Dr Malik expressed concern over what he described as a broader shift in the international system from multilateralism towards increasing unilateralism.

"If a long-standing international agreement such as the Indus Waters Treaty can be held in abeyance unilaterally, it raises important questions regarding the sanctity of international agreements and rules-based cooperation," the minister said.

The Indus Waters Treaty, brokered by the World Bank in 1960, has long been regarded as one of the most enduring water-sharing agreements in the region.

Dr Malik also briefed the ambassador on the impact of recent floods in Pakistan, saying changing weather patterns and increasing climate variability had created greater uncertainty for vulnerable communities. He stressed the need for enhanced preparedness, early warning systems and preventive interventions to reduce future climate-related risks.

The two sides also discussed the global transition towards renewable energy sources, particularly in the context of ongoing geopolitical tensions and their impact on energy markets.

Officials said both sides agreed on the importance of accelerating the adoption of green energy solutions such as solar and wind power, noting that recent disruptions in conventional energy supply chains had exposed vulnerabilities in many regions, including Europe.

Ambassador Aragón shared observations from his recent visit to



Islamabad, 10th June 2026: His Excellency Mr. Carlos Aragón, Ambassador of Spain to Pakistan, called on the Federal Minister for Climate Change and Environmental Coordination, Dr. Musadik Malik-

Gilgit-Baltistan and appreciated the region's natural beauty, cultural diversity and hospitality.

Dr Malik briefed the ambassador on two initiatives under development by the Ministry of Climate Change and Environmental Coordination: the Green University and Green Fields initiatives.

According to the ministry, the Green University initiative is intended to promote climate education, research and innovation, while Green Fields aims to connect young entrepreneurs working on green ventures with investors and opportunities to scale sustainable businesses.

Both sides discussed potential avenues for cooperation and knowledge exchange in support of these initiatives, reflecting a shared interest in strengthening bilateral collaboration on climate action, sustainable development and renewable energy.

Pakistan, UK review £35m Green Compact to boost climate resilience & green innovation

ISLAMABAD (June 9, 2026) - Pakistan and the United Kingdom reaffirmed their commitment to strengthening cooperation on climate resilience, green innovation and disaster preparedness during a review of the £35 million Green Compact, a bilateral framework aimed at supporting Pakistan's climate adaptation efforts.

The understanding emerged during a meeting between Federal Minister for Climate Change and Environmental Coordination Dr Musadik Malik and British High Commissioner Jane Marriott in Islamabad.

According to officials, the Green Compact seeks to enhance Pakistan's resilience to climate change through investments in

innovation, institutional cooperation and sustainable development.

During the meeting, Ms Marriott presented the Green Compact's action plan and outlined its key priorities. Dr Malik stressed that the partnership should focus on practical initiatives capable of delivering measurable benefits to communities most vulnerable to climate change.

"The success of the Green Compact should be measured by the tangible impact it creates for the people of Pakistan," the minister said.

The two sides also reviewed progress on the proposed Green University in Islamabad, envisioned as a centre for climate education, research and innovation. Dr Malik said discussions were under way with international partners, including Italy and stakeholders associated with the Arctic Circle initiative, to support the project.

The minister also highlighted the establishment of a Green Tech Hub at the National University of Sciences and Technology (NUST), saying the initiative would promote green entrepreneurship, research and technology-driven solutions to environmental challenges.

Ms Marriott briefed the minister on UK-supported youth entrepreneurship and climate projects in Pakistan, while both sides emphasised the need to strengthen early warning systems to reduce losses from floods, heatwaves and other climate-related disasters.

The meeting concluded with both countries reaffirming their



Islamabad, 9th June 2026: British High Commissioner to Pakistan, Ms. Jane Marriott, called on the Federal Minister for Climate Change and Environmental Coordination, Dr. Musadik Malik.

commitment to expanding cooperation under the Green Compact, particularly in climate adaptation, green technology, research partnerships and youth-led innovation.

Hospital waste, plastic pollution found in Rawal Lake clean-up drive

ISLAMABAD (June 4, 2026) -

A major clean-up campaign at Rawal Lake has exposed growing environmental threats to the capital's key water reservoir, with volunteers collecting discarded syringes, medical waste and large quantities of plastic during an initiative organised by the Pakistan Environmental Protection Agency (Pak-EPA) in collaboration with Nestlé Pakistan.



The activity was held as part of World Environment Day 2026 celebrations under the global theme "Inspired by Nature, for Climate, for our Future" and was hosted by the Small Dams Department of the Government of Punjab.

The campaign brought together volunteers from Nestlé Pakistan, educational institutions, civil society organisations and local communities, who collected solid and hazardous waste from the lake's shoreline and surrounding areas.

The discovery of hospital waste, including used syringes, along with extensive plastic litter, highlighted serious risks to the lake's ecosystem, public health and water quality.

Rawal Lake, one of Islamabad's major water bodies and recreational sites, has increasingly faced pressure from waste dumping, pollution and human activities, raising concerns over the long-term sustainability of its aquatic environment.

Addressing participants, Pak-EPA Director General stressed that environmental protection required sustained public action beyond symbolic one-day campaigns.

"The presence of hospital waste and plastics in Rawal Lake is a stark warning. We must move beyond occasional clean-up drives and develop lasting habits that protect nature and safeguard our future," he said.

The DG Pak-EPA urged young people and citizens to play an active role in protecting natural resources and preventing pollution at source.

Pak-EPA spokesperson said clean air, water and soil were

fundamental rights of future generations, but human activities had severely damaged these natural systems.

He said air pollution from vehicle emissions, industrial stacks, brick kilns and open burning had degraded air quality, while untreated industrial effluents and domestic wastewater were contaminating freshwater resources. Similarly, uncontrolled dumping and increasing solid waste generation were putting severe pressure on land resources.

"The environment must be restored and passed on to future generations in its original form," he said.

The clean-up drive is part of Pak-EPA's broader efforts to promote environmental awareness, strengthen public participation and encourage partnerships between government institutions, private sector organisations and communities.

The agency announced to continue environmental protection initiatives through awareness campaigns, collaborative action and enforcement measures to address pollution challenges across the country.

Pakistan, WFP step up climate partnership to tackle child stunting

ISLAMABAD (May 30, 2026) - Pakistan and the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) agreed to deepen cooperation on climate-resilient development initiatives, with a renewed focus on tackling child stunting through climate adaptation and resilience-building measures in the country's most vulnerable regions.

The understanding was reached during a meeting between Federal Minister for Climate Change and Environmental Coordination Dr Musadik Malik and Coco Ushiyama, Country Director of the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP), in Islamabad.

The two sides reviewed progress under the WFP-Government of Pakistan's five-year cooperation framework and discussed ways to align climate action with food security, nutrition and sustainable development priorities.

A key focus of the discussions was Pakistan's persistently high burden of child stunting, with both sides identifying the "4Cs" — climate change, conflict, Covid-induced economic shocks and corruption — as major factors driving malnutrition and food insecurity.

The meeting underscored the need to shift from reactive interventions to anticipatory, evidence-based and outcome-driven programmes that strengthen communities against climate-related shocks while improving nutrition outcomes.

Dr Malik stressed the importance of translating climate policies into practical interventions that directly benefit communities, particularly those living in climate-vulnerable and food-insecure areas.



WFP Country Director Coco Ushiyama and Federal Minister for Climate Change and Environmental Coordination Dr Musadik Malik discuss strengthening collaboration to address malnutrition and food insecurity in Pakistan's climate-vulnerable regions on May 30, 2026.

He said stronger collaboration between Pakistan and development partners was essential to build resilience against the growing impacts of climate change, which continue to threaten agricultural productivity, food systems and public health.

Ms Ushiyama reaffirmed the WFP's commitment to supporting Pakistan's efforts to integrate climate resilience into national food security and nutrition programmes through long-term, sustainable partnerships.

The meeting concluded with both sides reaffirming their commitment to incorporating climate resilience into Pakistan's national nutrition and development strategies, with an emphasis on protecting vulnerable populations from the escalating impacts of climate change.

Pakistan urges world to treat climate-resilient housing as a matter of justice



Baku, Azerbaijan, 22nd May 2026: Federal Minister for Climate Change and Environmental Coordination, Dr. Musadik Malik, participated in the Thirteenth Session of the World Urban Forum (WUF13) being held in Baku, Azerbaijan.

BAKU (May 22, 2026) - Pakistan has called on the international community to recognise climate-resilient housing as a matter of global justice, warning that climate change is deepening urban inequality and trapping millions of vulnerable people in recurring cycles of poverty.

Speaking at the 13th Session of the World Urban Forum (WUF13) in Baku, Federal Minister for Climate Change and Environmental Coordination Dr Musadik Malik said climate-vulnerable countries were bearing the brunt of disasters despite contributing the least to global greenhouse gas emissions.

Delivering Pakistan's national statement and addressing a high-level dialogue on "The Climate-Housing Nexus: Can We Scale Climate Resilient Housing Without Deepening Inequality or Displacement?", the minister said housing should be treated as a fundamental right rather than a welfare measure.

"It can take two generations for a family to escape poverty, but a single climate disaster can erase decades of progress," he said, describing housing insecurity as one of the defining challenges of climate justice.

Referring to Pakistan's repeated floods and other

climate-related disasters, Dr Malik said millions had suffered displacement, loss of livelihoods & destruction of homes, underscoring the need for greater international support to help vulnerable countries build resilient infrastructure and protect low-income communities.

The minister also participated in a session on "NDC 3.0: Urban Law and Multi-Level

Governance to Enable Climate Commitments," where he stressed that cities would play a decisive role in achieving national climate targets through stronger governance, climate-sensitive planning and resilient infrastructure. On the sidelines of the forum, Dr Malik held talks with Azerbaijan's Energy Minister Parviz Shahbazov to discuss cooperation in

renewable energy, climate resilience and sustainable development.

The World Urban Forum, the United Nations' premier conference on sustainable urban development, brings together governments & international organisations to shape policies for building safe, inclusive and climate-resilient cities.

Pakistan, Azerbaijan step up energy, climate cooperation at World Urban Forum



Baku, Azerbaijan, 20th May 2026: Federal Minister for Climate Change and Environmental Coordination, Dr. Musadik Malik, held a meeting with the Minister of Energy of Azerbaijan, Mr. Parviz Shahbazov, in Baku, Azerbaijan today.

BAKU (May 20, 2026) - Pakistan and Azerbaijan have agreed to deepen cooperation in renewable

energy, climate resilience and sustainable development, as both countries seek to strengthen bilateral engagement on clean energy and climate action.

The understanding emerged during a meeting between Federal Minister for Climate Change and Environmental Coordination Dr Musadik Malik and Azerbaijan's Energy Minister Parviz Shahbazov on the sidelines of the 13th Session of the World Urban Forum (WUF13) in Baku.

According to officials, the two ministers reviewed opportunities to expand collaboration in renewable energy, climate governance and sustainable development, while exploring practical initiatives to strengthen bilateral ties.

Dr Malik said climate change had become one of the defining development challenges of the century and called for stronger regional partnerships to accelerate the transition to low-carbon economies.

He stressed that international cooperation was essential for promoting renewable energy, sharing technology and expertise, mobilising climate finance and improving resilience against

increasingly frequent climate-related disasters.

The meeting also focused on enhancing institutional collaboration in climate governance, environmental protection and sustainable development. Both sides expressed interest in identifying joint initiatives that could support energy security while advancing climate adaptation and mitigation efforts.

The ministers exchanged views on regional and global climate challenges and underscored the importance of coordinated international action to meet sustainable development goals without compromising energy security.

The talks took place as Pakistan continues to expand its climate diplomacy and diversify international partnerships to support renewable energy development and strengthen resilience to extreme weather events.

The two sides reaffirmed their commitment to maintaining high-level engagement and exploring new avenues of cooperation in energy, environmental protection and sustainable development.

The meeting was described as another step towards strengthening Pakistan-Azerbaijan relations and promoting collaborative initiatives that support climate resilience, clean energy and sustainable economic growth.

Climate Minister Musadik Malik calls for justice-centred urban planning at World Urban Forum

BAKU (May 17, 2026) - Pakistan urged the international community to place justice, inclusion and climate resilience at the heart of urban planning, warning that climate change is disproportionately devastating the lives of the poor while widening inequalities in

rapidly growing cities.

Delivering Pakistan's national ministerial statement at the 13th Session of the World Urban Forum (WUF13) in Baku, Federal Minister for Climate Change and Environmental Coordination Dr

Musadik Malik said housing should be recognised as a fundamental right rather than merely a welfare measure, arguing that climate-resilient cities could not be built without addressing poverty and social injustice.

Speaking at the UN's premier global conference on sustainable urbanisation, held under the theme "Housing the World: Safe and Resilient Cities and Communities," the minister said climate disasters were erasing decades of economic progress for vulnerable families.

"It can take two generations for a family to escape poverty, yet a single flood can wipe out decades of progress," he said, describing the housing crisis as fundamentally "a crisis of justice."

Dr Malik said nearly half of Pakistan's population of around 240 million now lived in urban areas, while an estimated 55 per cent of urban residents lived in informal settlements lacking adequate housing, infrastructure and public services.

"Slums are not merely a policy category. Slums are a life category. Real people live in these slums," he said, urging governments to place the needs of low-income communities at the centre of urban development strategies.

Highlighting the human cost of climate change, the minister referred to Karachi's extreme heatwave in 2024, when temperatures reached 47 degrees Celsius. Citing official estimates, he said nearly 560 people died within a week, with most victims belonging to poor and marginalised communities that lacked access to cooling, healthcare and resilient infrastructure.

"It is always the poor who bear the brunt of the crisis," he said, adding that while wealthier populations could shield themselves from extreme weather, vulnerable communities remained exposed to escalating climate risks.

Referring to Pakistan's repeated flooding, Dr Malik said four major flood events over the past decade and a half had claimed around 6,000 lives, left nearly 20,000 people injured or permanently disabled and displaced about 40 million people, causing destruction on a scale comparable to many armed conflicts.



Federal Minister for Climate Change and Environmental Coordination, Dr. Musadik Malik, delivered Pakistan's National Ministerial Statement at the Thirteenth Session of the World Urban Forum (WUF13) being held in Baku, Azerbaijan on May 17, 2026

Calling for a "Baku Call for Action", the minister urged governments and international organisations to prioritise justice-centred urban policies, discourage speculative housing practices and ensure that cities are designed for people rather than investors.

He said sustainable urban development should go beyond slogans and aesthetics, stressing that climate-resilient housing, inclusive planning and equitable access to basic services must become central pillars of future development policies.

Pakistan launches first National Urban Strategy to tackle climate risks in cities



Islamabad (May 17, 2026) - Secretary Ministry of Climate Change & Environmental Coordination, Aisha Humera Moriani addressing a high-level national consultative programme on Formulation of National Urban Strategy organised jointly by the Ministry and UN-Habitat in Islamabad.

ISLAMABAD (May 17, 2026) -Warning that Pakistan's rapidly heatwaves, water shortages and unplanned development, the expanding cities are becoming increasingly vulnerable to floods, federal government on Sunday launched consultations on the

country's first National Urban Strategy, aimed at making urban centres more climate resilient.

The consultative process was initiated at a high-level national workshop jointly organised by the Ministry of Climate Change and Environmental Coordination and UN-Habitat Pakistan. The strategy comes amid mounting concern over recurring urban disasters, including the Swat floods, Karachi's annual urban inundation and recent fatal rain-related incidents in Islamabad.

Senior federal and provincial officials, disaster management authorities, urban planners, development experts and international organisations attended the workshop to help formulate what officials described as a roadmap for climate-resilient urban development.

Addressing the inaugural session, Climate Change Secretary Aisha Humera Moriani warned that Pakistan's urban growth was outpacing its ability to cope with climate shocks.

"Our cities are becoming urban heat islands, flood traps and water-stressed zones because climate risks were never integrated into the way we planned and governed them."

She noted that more than 36 per cent of Pakistan's population already lived in urban areas and projected that over half the country's population would reside in cities within the next two decades.

Referring to recurring flooding in Rawalpindi's Nullah Lai and Nowshera, she said encroachments, poor waste management and outdated drainage systems had significantly increased flood risks.

"The hard truth is that no national framework currently exists to systematically address these interconnected challenges."

She said the proposed strategy would align with the National Climate Change Policy 2021, the National Adaptation Plan 2023 and Pakistan's commitments under the Paris Agreement.

Senior Joint Secretary Muhammad Ijaz Ghani linked recent disasters directly to weak urban governance and unregulated construction.

"The Swat tragedy was not just a natural disaster. It was an act of unplanned, illegal and spatially blind construction."

Referring to repeated flooding in Islamabad's Sector E-11 and the recent DHA underpass tragedy, he added:

"The DHA incident was a wake-up call. No architectural grandeur can compensate for the absence of climate-resilient drainage systems and proper hydraulic planning."

UN-Habitat Pakistan climate expert Khalil Ahmed warned that Pakistan's urban climate risks were evolving into "compound, cascading and systemic climate crises", driven by rapid urbanisation, weak drainage infrastructure and poor environmental enforcement.

"Pakistan's urban population is expected to exceed 50 per cent within the next two decades, while flooding, heatwaves and water scarcity are increasing in both frequency and intensity."

He described the consultation as "the first foundational step" towards a coordinated national framework integrating climate resilience into urban planning, green building codes and environmental governance.

Deputy Director Media and Communications at the climate ministry Muhammad Saleem Shaikh underscored the importance of public participation in implementing the strategy.

"Climate-resilient cities cannot be built through policies alone. Public awareness, community engagement and sustained climate advocacy must become central pillars of Pakistan's urban planning framework."

Urban Affairs Director Muhammad Azim Khoso urged immediate implementation of the Pakistan Green Building Codes 2023, saying:

"Buildings of the future must conserve energy, save water and minimise environmental damage from construction to demolition."

Pakistan, Tajikistan seek stronger partnership on water, glaciers and climate cooperation

ISLAMABAD (May 14, 2026) - Pakistan and Tajikistan agreed to deepen cooperation on climate change, water resource management, glacier conservation and wildlife protection, while exploring greater regional connectivity to address shared environmental challenges.

The understanding emerged during a meeting between Federal Minister for Climate Change and Environmental Coordination Dr Musadik Malik and Tajikistan's Ambassador to Pakistan Yusuf Sharifzoda in Islamabad.

The two sides also discussed preparations for the Fourth High-Level International Conference on the International Decade for Action "Water for Sustainable Development (2018-2028)", scheduled to be held in Dushanbe, where Dr Malik is expected to represent the Prime Minister of Pakistan.

During the meeting, Ambassador Sharifzoda said Pakistan and Tajikistan shared similar geographical and environmental characteristics, noting that both countries were home to nearly 13,000 glaciers and had already lost around 1,000 glaciers because of climate change and other environmental pressures.

He stressed that the accelerating loss of glaciers underscored the need for closer regional cooperation on climate adaptation, water security and scientific research.

The ambassador also highlighted the rich biodiversity common to



His Excellency Mr. Yusuf Sharifzoda, Ambassador of Tajikistan to Pakistan, called on the Federal Minister For Climate Change and Environmental Coordination, Dr. Musadik Malik, in Islamabad on 14.05.2026.

both countries, including species such as the markhor, snow leopard, ibex and migratory birds, and proposed expanding collaboration in wildlife conservation through formal agreements and joint initiatives.

Dr Malik said climate change, water and energy security were closely interconnected challenges that required coordinated regional

responses rather than isolated national efforts.

He reaffirmed Pakistan's interest in strengthening cooperation with Tajikistan in climate resilience, sustainable water management, biodiversity conservation and environmental protection.

The minister also proposed greater regional connectivity between the two countries, saying cooperation should extend beyond environmental issues to include trade, sustainable development and broader economic engagement.

The two sides also exchanged views on innovative approaches to weather forecasting and water management aimed at improving climate resilience across the region.

Both countries reaffirmed their commitment to expanding bilateral cooperation, with the meeting concluding on a shared resolve to strengthen partnerships on climate action, glacier protection, water security and sustainable development while building on the longstanding historical and cultural ties between Pakistan and Tajikistan.

Pakistan, Azerbaijan seek deeper cooperation in climate, tourism and regional connectivity

ISLAMABAD (May 13, 2026) - Pakistan and Azerbaijan on Wednesday reaffirmed their commitment to expanding bilateral cooperation in climate action, tourism, regional connectivity and economic development, as both countries explored new avenues for strengthening their longstanding strategic partnership.

The understanding emerged during a meeting between Federal Minister for Climate Change and Environmental Coordination Dr Musadik Malik and Azerbaijan's Ambassador to Pakistan Khazar Farhadov in Islamabad.

The two sides reviewed ongoing cooperation and discussed opportunities for launching mutually beneficial initiatives in areas ranging from climate and sustainable development to tourism and regional integration.

Dr Malik described Azerbaijan as one of Pakistan's key strategic partners, saying the relationship between the two countries was founded on mutual trust, shared interests and close diplomatic ties.

The ambassador briefed the minister on preparations for the upcoming World Urban Forum in Baku and discussed the possibility of meetings between Dr Malik and Azerbaijan's ministers responsible for energy and ecology during the visit.

Regional cooperation also featured prominently in the discussions, with Ambassador Farhadov expressing satisfaction over the growing engagement among Pakistan, Türkiye and Central Asian countries. He said stronger economic partnerships and regional connectivity could help promote sustainable growth and shared prosperity across the region.

The meeting also reviewed growing people-to-people contacts between Pakistan and Azerbaijan. Officials noted that around 120,000 Pakistanis were issued e-visas and ASAN



Ambassador of Azerbaijan Mr. Khazar Farhadov Calls on Federal Minister for Climate Change and Environmental Coordination Dr. Musadik Malik in Islamabad on May 13, 2026.

visas for Azerbaijan last year, while nearly 90,000 Pakistani travellers visited the country, reflecting increasing bilateral exchanges.

Both sides discussed the need to improve air connectivity to accommodate rising travel demand and facilitate tourism, business and cultural exchanges.

Ambassador Farhadov highlighted Pakistan's tourism potential, citing its mountains, beaches, cultural heritage and diverse landscapes as attractions capable of drawing more international visitors.

Dr Malik said Pakistan could benefit from Azerbaijan's experience in developing its tourism industry, adding that a vibrant tourism sector could generate substantial employment opportunities, particularly for young people, while contributing to sustainable economic growth.

Pakistan, Türkiye forge climate partnership ahead of COP31 to tackle floods, water risks

ISLAMABAD, May 8, 2026) - Pakistan and Türkiye have agreed to strengthen cooperation on climate resilience, flood management and water security as both countries prepare for the upcoming COP31 climate summit scheduled to be held in Antalya, Türkiye, later this year.

The understanding was reached during talks between a high-level Turkish delegation and senior

officials of the Ministry of Climate Change and Environmental Coordination in Islamabad, with both sides agreeing to enhance collaboration on climate adaptation and disaster risk reduction.

The Turkish delegation, led by Maruf Aras, Deputy General Manager of Türkiye's General Directorate of Combating Desertification and Erosion, met



ISLAMABAD (May 8, 2028) - Federal Secretary Ministry of Climate Change & Environmental Coordination, Aisha Humera Moriani chairs meeting with Turkish delegation. Both sides agreed to deepen cooperation on climate resilience, flood management and water security as a part of joint climate action.

Federal Secretary for Climate Change Aisha Humera Moriani. The delegation included experts from Türkiye's State Hydraulic Works and General Directorate for Water Management.

Discussions focused on integrated flood and river basin management, glacier and avalanche risk reduction, multi-hazard early warning systems, combating desertification and developing



ISLAMABAD (May 8, 2026) - Federal Secretary for Climate Change and Environmental Coordination Aisha Humera Moriani (center) poses for a group photograph with MOCC&EC officials and members of a Turkish delegation following a meeting at the ministry.

climate-resilient infrastructure.

Ms Moriani said climate change had become a major economic and security challenge requiring stronger regional cooperation.

"Climate change is no longer a distant environmental concern; it is an immediate challenge affecting economies, livelihoods and national security. Pakistan values Türkiye's technical expertise and brotherly support as we work together to build resilient communities, strengthen disaster preparedness and protect vulnerable ecosystems," she said.

Mr Aras reaffirmed Türkiye's commitment to working with Pakistan on sustainable land management, water governance and climate adaptation.

"Türkiye considers Pakistan a trusted partner in regional climate action. By combining technical knowledge, innovation and institutional collaboration, both countries can develop sustainable solutions to confront floods, droughts, desertification and other climate-induced risks," he said.

Ministry spokesperson Muhammad Saleem Shaikh said both sides also explored cooperation in watershed management, circular economy initiatives, zero-waste models, joint research and technical capacity-building.

He said the partnership would focus on translating climate cooperation into practical solutions, particularly ahead of COP31, where adaptation finance, disaster resilience and support for vulnerable countries are expected to remain key priorities.

Climate Ministry, Pak-EPA and CDA launch joint tree plantation drive in Islamabad

ISLAMABAD (May 7, 2026) - The Ministry of Climate Change and Environmental Coordination, in collaboration with the Pakistan Environmental Protection Agency (Pak-EPA), the Capital Development Authority (CDA) and a private beverage company, launched a plantation drive in the federal capital on Thursday, reaffirming efforts to expand urban green spaces and strengthen climate resilience.

Federal Minister for Climate Change and Environmental Coordination Dr Musadik Malik inaugurated the campaign at Hill View Park, F-6/3, where he planted a sapling and called for greater public and corporate participation in environmental conservation.

The plantation campaign forms part of the ministry's wider afforestation initiative under the "Clean and Green Islamabad" programme, aimed at improving the capital's urban environment and mitigating the impacts of climate change.

Addressing the ceremony, Dr Malik said the ministry remained committed to planting three trees for every allergenic paper mulberry tree removed from Islamabad as part of efforts to restore ecological balance.

He welcomed the beverage company's contribution of 5,000 saplings, urging other private-sector organisations to support



Islamabad, 7th May 2026: Federal Minister Dr. Musadik Malik Participates in Plantation Drive under "Clean and Green Islamabad" Initiative.

environmental initiatives through corporate social responsibility programmes. Similar plantation campaigns, he said, had already been undertaken with the participation of Zong and HUM Network.

"It is not enough to plant trees; we must ensure they survive and grow," the minister said, adding that both government institutions and citizens would be accountable for protecting the newly planted saplings.

The event also featured a painting competition involving students from schools across Islamabad under the theme "Clean and Green Islamabad." The children later joined the plantation activity, with the minister praising their creativity and stressing the importance of engaging young people in environmental stewardship.

Highlighting the growing impact of climate change, Dr Malik said recent floods had claimed more than 6,000 lives, displaced millions and disrupted the education of countless children across the country.

He said forests served as a natural carbon sink by absorbing carbon dioxide and producing oxygen, adding that expanding forest cover remained one of the most effective ways to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and strengthen resilience against rising temperatures, glacial melting and devastating floods.

Pakistan seeks China's support to expand green finance, climate innovation

ISLAMABAD (May 4, 2026) - Pakistan and China on Monday explored opportunities to strengthen cooperation in green finance, climate innovation and sustainable investment, as Islamabad sought to draw on Beijing's experience in building one of the world's largest green financing systems.

The discussions took place during a meeting between Federal Minister for Climate Change and Environmental Coordination Dr Musadik Malik and Ma Jun, President of China's Institute of Finance and Sustainability, in Islamabad.

The meeting focused on promoting climate-smart investment, accelerating green entrepreneurship and identifying practical solutions to support Pakistan's transition towards a low-carbon economy.

Mr Ma briefed the minister on China's Green Accelerator Programme, launched in 2016, which brought together 35 policy recommendations into a unified framework to stimulate green investment. He said the initiative had helped China develop a green financing market worth around \$7 trillion, while enabling the country to become the world's leading manufacturer of renewable energy technologies.

He noted that China currently produces about 70 per cent of global wind and solar energy equipment and nearly 60pc of the world's electric vehicles, highlighting the role of supportive policies, financial innovation and technological advancement in driving the country's green transition.

The Chinese expert said the programme focused on developing commercially viable climate projects by integrating finance, technology, carbon markets and project design, making environmentally sustainable ventures more attractive to investors.

The two sides also exchanged views on successful climate initiatives implemented in other countries, including the production of biochar from jute sticks in Bangladesh, precision irrigation systems in China and Uzbekistan, and desert



Federal Minister for Climate Change and Environmental Coordination Dr. Musadik Malik held a meeting with Mr. MA Jun, President Institute of Finance and Sustainability, China on May 04, 2026.

agriculture projects in the United Arab Emirates.

Dr Malik briefed Mr Ma on the ministry's proposed "Green Fields" initiative, which aims to connect Pakistani entrepreneurs developing environmentally sustainable businesses with domestic and international investors.

He said the initiative would encourage innovation, create green jobs and help young entrepreneurs transform climate-friendly ideas into commercially viable enterprises.

The minister praised China's leadership in green finance and clean technology, stressing that Pakistan was keen to benefit from international experience in developing practical and scalable climate solutions.

Officials said both sides agreed to continue exploring collaboration in green investment, technology transfer and sustainable finance to support Pakistan's climate and economic development objectives.

Govt begins overhaul of animal welfare laws as committee targets wildlife trafficking, cruelty

ISLAMABAD (April 29, 2026) - The federal government launched efforts to strengthen Pakistan's animal welfare regime, with Federal Minister for Climate Change and Environmental Coordination Dr Musadik Malik directing the formulation of a comprehensive legal and policy framework to curb animal cruelty, combat wildlife trafficking and improve the humane management of stray animals.

Chairing the inaugural meeting of the Committee on Cruelty to Animals, constituted on the prime minister's directives, the minister called for a nationwide assessment of animal welfare challenges before the panel's next meeting.

The committee has been tasked with reviewing existing laws, identifying gaps in enforcement, strengthening monitoring systems, tackling illegal wildlife trade and

recommending reforms for stray animal care and management.

Officials informed the meeting that Pakistan remained vulnerable to wildlife trafficking, with species including falcons, freshwater turtles, big cats, crocodiles, birds and primates being smuggled through illegal networks.

Participants also highlighted weak

enforcement of existing laws, inadequate veterinary infrastructure, poor coordination among government agencies, limited financial resources and low public awareness as major obstacles to improving animal welfare.

The meeting was told that the Capital Development Authority (CDA) and Metropolitan Corporation Islamabad had initiated a Track, Neuter, Vaccinate and Release (TNVR) programme for the humane management of stray dogs, supported by volunteers involved in feeding and caring for stray animals.

Other concerns discussed included illegal animal fighting, the circulation of videos glorifying animal abuse on social media and harmful practices causing unnecessary suffering to animals.

Dr Malik directed officials to collect baseline data from all provinces and prepare estimates of the financial and institutional resources required to expand neutering and vaccination programmes nationwide.

He stressed that cruelty to animals was incompatible with humanitarian values and called for a comprehensive review of existing legislation to ensure stronger penalties and more effective enforcement.



Federal Minister for Climate Change and Environmental Coordination, Dr. Musadik Malik, chaired the first meeting of the Committee on Cruelty to Animals in Islamabad on April 29, 2026.

The meeting was attended by representatives of the climate ministry, interior ministry, Metropolitan Corporation Islamabad, the National Commission on the Status of Women and civil society organisations working on animal welfare.

Pakistan moves to launch first National WASH Accounts to strengthen water, sanitation governance

ISLAMABAD (April 7, 2026) - Pakistan has initiated work on its first-ever National Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) Accounts, a move aimed at creating a unified national database to improve planning, financing and delivery of climate-resilient water and sanitation services.

The initiative, launched by the Ministry of Climate Change and Environmental Coordination in collaboration with the Pakistan Bureau of Statistics, will receive technical support from WaterAid, the World Health Organisation (WHO) and Unicef.

The system, the Secretary said, would address longstanding gaps in WASH data by generating standardised information on investments, service delivery and public spending across the country.

Federal Secretary for Climate Change Aisha Humera Moriani described the initiative as "a turning point in Pakistan's WASH governance."

"For years, fragmented and outdated data has undermined effective planning and resource allocation. Through a unified national system, we will now be able to identify gaps, direct investments where they are needed most and ensure that every province is working from the same evidence base," she said.

She said the new system would strengthen transparency, accountability and climate resilience while laying the foundation for evidence-based policymaking. Artificial intelligence and digital tools, she added, would modernise data collection and reporting.

"Pakistan cannot achieve climate resilience without reliable information on who has access to clean water and sanitation, where the gaps are and how public resources are being used."

The secretary said the initiative would also improve Pakistan's



Islamabad (April 7, 2026) Federal Secretary for Ministry of Climate Change & Environmental Coordination, Ms. Aisha Humera Moriani chairs a high-level meeting of officials from the Pakistan Bureau of Statistics, WHO, UNICEF and WaterAid regarding establishment of first-ever National WASH Accounts system held in the Ministry.

reporting on Sustainable Development Goal 6, which seeks universal access to safe water and sanitation.

Ministry spokesman and WASH policy advocacy specialist Muhammad Saleem Shaikh said the National WASH Accounts would, for the first time, provide a comprehensive picture of water and sanitation services nationwide, enabling policymakers to identify underserved areas, improve coordination among provinces and ensure more effective use of public resources through evidence-based planning.

Pakistan, Norway Seal First-Ever Carbon Market Deal Under Paris Climate Pact

Islamabad secures landmark climate accord to unlock green investment, clean energy and international carbon finance

ISLAMABAD (April 1, 2026) - Pakistan and Norway on Wednesday signed the country's first landmark bilateral agreement under Article

6.2 of the Paris Agreement, opening the door to international carbon trading, climate finance and major investment in clean

energy and climate-smart agriculture.

The memorandum of understanding, signed in Islamabad under the auspices of the Ministry of Climate Change and Environmental Coordination, marks Pakistan's formal entry into the global carbon market and is being seen as a breakthrough in the country's climate diplomacy.

Federal Minister for Climate Change and Environmental Coordination Musadik Malik termed the agreement a "historic milestone", saying it would shift Pakistan from carbon market preparedness to practical implementation.

"This is Pakistan's first bilateral agreement under Article 6.2 and an important step towards implementation," Mr Malik said. "It creates a credible pathway for international cooperation and investment in Pakistan's climate priorities."

Under the agreement, Pakistan will be able to develop carbon-credit generating projects in sectors such as clean energy, agriculture, transport and waste management and potentially sell the resulting emission reductions to Norway.

The deal would help channel international finance into Pakistan at a time when the country is grappling with recurring floods, heatwaves and other climate shocks.

Mr Malik said the agreement would strengthen Pakistan's position in international carbon markets and create new opportunities for the country's emerging green economy.

"Carbon markets cannot be treated as an end in themselves," he said. "They must help countries like Pakistan finance transition pathways, create jobs, attract technology and deliver real benefits to communities."

The minister said Pakistan had already put in place the country's first national policy guidelines for carbon trading, approved by the federal cabinet in January 2025, and was now moving to establish rules, reporting systems and bilateral arrangements needed to operationalise the market.

He said Pakistan had "strong mitigation potential" in sectors such as renewable energy, agriculture, transport and waste management, and that the agreement would encourage project developers and investors to move forward.

Addressing at the signing ceremony, Norway's Ambassador to Pakistan Per Albert Ilsaas said the accord marked the beginning of a new era in bilateral environmental cooperation.

"Pakistan is among the countries most affected by climate change, and we believe this partnership can deliver both measurable emission reductions and real development benefits," he said.

The ambassador said Norway, which aims to become climate neutral by 2030, was seeking to purchase Internationally Transferred Mitigation Outcomes (ITMOs) under Article 6, not to meet its formal climate targets but to go beyond them.



Federal Secretary for Climate Change & Environmental Coordination Aisha Humera Moriani and Norway's Ambassador to Pakistan Per Albert Ilsaas sign the country's first landmark bilateral agreement under Article 6.2 of the Paris Agreement during a ceremony at the Ministry of Climate Change & Environmental Coordination on April 1, 2026.

"Norway is not purchasing ITMOs to meet its nationally determined contribution targets. We are purchasing them to achieve climate neutrality beyond those commitments," he said.

Mr Ilsaas said Norway's Global Emission Reduction Initiative, launched in 2024 with a budget of \$1.5 billion approved by the Norwegian parliament, would provide carbon finance to countries such as Pakistan.

"Through NOGER, we want to channel carbon finance into countries such as Pakistan and help bridge the gap in climate mitigation finance," he said.

He added that Norway was looking beyond individual carbon-credit projects and was interested in large-scale programmes in renewable energy, industry and agriculture.

"We are looking beyond individual projects," the ambassador said. "We are interested in cooperation across entire sectors where climate policies can generate emission reductions at scale."

The ambassador said Norway had already signed similar agreements with Benin, Indonesia, Zambia, Jordan and Senegal and was working to buy 15 million carbon credits by 2030.

He also invited Pakistan to present a broader pipeline of projects, specifically pointing to renewable energy ventures such as the Zhenfa 100-megawatt solar project and the Indus wind energy project as possible candidates for future cooperation.

Both sides also agreed that the new ambitious pact could significantly boost Pakistan's access to climate finance and private-sector investment while helping the country pursue low-carbon growth and meet its climate commitments under the Paris Agreement.



**MINISTRY OF CLIMATE CHANGE &
ENVIRONMENTAL COORDINATION
GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN**