

Report
Seminar on Strengthening Climate Policy & Governance in Pakistan
Lessons from COP28 and the Path to COP29
March 07, 2024

Introduction:

Faculty Development Academy organized a seminar on “Strengthening Climate Policy & Governance in Pakistan” Lessons from COP28 and the Path to COP29 in collaboration with Beyond Carbon. This event was arranged to bring together the stakeholders from various sectors to discuss and explore ways to enhance climate policy and governance in Pakistan. The seminar was held on March 07, 2024, Thursday, at Video Conference Room at Junaid Zaidi Library’s basement. There were 42 participants hailing from different departments of CUI. Moreover, there were Ambassadors and High Commissioners from Azerbaijan, Jordon, Kyrgyzstan, Morocco, Palestine, Srilanka and Yemen.



The seminar started at 03:00 pm with the recitation of Holy Quran. Prof. Dr. Sajid Qamar, the worthy Rector of COMSATS University Islamabad, greeted the esteemed guests and participants in his Welcome remarks. Then an introduction to the program was presented by Mr. Adnan Shafqat, COO Beyond Carbon. A keynote was delivered by Ambassador of Azerbaijan, H.E. Khazar Farhadov. Later, a panel discussion was conducted by Dr. Jabir Hussain Syed, focal person at Centre of Climate Research & Development. The speakers of the panel were Mr. Adnan Younus Lodhi – Advisor Policy UNITC, joined the discussion online. The second speaker was Dr. Urwah Khan – Advisor Climate & Energy UNEP Denmark. Ms. Humera Qasim Khan – Advisor Climate Change & Environment Expert Save the Children, was the third speaker.



Objectives:

The primary objectives of the seminar were to:

- ✓ **Strengthen Climate Policy:** Discuss and identify ways to strengthen climate policy in Pakistan, aligning with global best practices and the country's Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs).
- ✓ **Enhance Governance:** Explore strategies to enhance governance mechanisms, ensuring effective implementation of climate policies and programs in Pakistan.

- ✓ **Promote Stakeholder Engagement:** Foster collaboration and engagement among stakeholders, including government agencies, civil society organizations, private sector entities, and international partners.



Key Discussions and Outcomes:

The seminar featured presentations, panel discussions, and interactive sessions, focusing on the following key areas:

- ✓ **Climate Finance:** Strategies for mobilizing climate finance, leveraging international cooperation, and promoting green investments in Pakistan.
- ✓ **Climate Resilience:** Building resilience to climate-related disasters, enhancing disaster risk reduction and management, and promoting climate-resilient infrastructure development.
- ✓ **Youth Engagement:** Empowering youth to take action on climate change, promoting climate education, and fostering youth-led initiatives and innovations.

Recommendations and Way Forward:

The seminar culminated in a set of recommendations and a way forward for strengthening climate policy and governance in Pakistan:

- ✓ **Develop a National Climate Finance Strategy:** Establish a comprehensive climate finance strategy, outlining mechanisms for mobilizing domestic and international climate finance.
- ✓ **Enhance Institutional Capacities:** Strengthen institutional capacities for climate policy implementation, including training and capacity-building programs for government officials and other stakeholders.
- ✓ **Promote Stakeholder Engagement:** Foster collaboration and engagement among stakeholders, including civil society organizations, private sector entities, and international partners.



Conclusion:

The Seminar was a successful event that brought together stakeholders to discuss and explore ways to enhance climate policy and governance in Pakistan. The seminar's outcomes and recommendations provide a valuable framework for strengthening climate policy and governance in Pakistan, aligning with the country's NDCs and global best practices.

Participants actively contributed to the discussion, providing insights into policy gaps, financing challenges, and opportunities for leveraging private sector investments. Tea and refreshments were served and a group photo was taken as a token of memory.

