

MEDIA COVERAGE



PIDE & AIIB Report Launch

May 28, 2025

The News

<https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/1316595-climate-change-is-not-tomorrow-s-threat-it-is-today-s-crisis>

<https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/1315893-minister-wants-nfc-resources-distribution-formula-changed>

Business Recorder

<https://www.brecorder.com/news/40365051>

Pakistan Today

<https://profit.pakistantoday.com.pk/2025/05/27/planning-minister-stresses-sustainable-infrastructure-for-pakistans-future/>

Islamabad Post

<https://islamabadpost.com.pk/experts-demand-nature-based-solutions-in-paks-development-planning/>

Dunya News

<https://dunyanews.tv/en/Business/886400-minister-stresses-sustainable-infrastructure-for-countrys-future>

Daily Jang

<https://urdu.geo.tv/latest/405179->

<https://jang.com.pk/news/1475307>

Express News

<https://www.express.pk/story/2763376/health-and-education-should-be-safe-for-climate-2763376>

Radio Pakistan

<https://www.radio.gov.pk/27-05-2025/climate-health-environment-now-mandatory-in-projects-ahsan>

APP Pakistan

<https://www.app.com.pk/business/pakistan-must-build-infrastructure-ensuring-survival-not-just-growth-ahsan-iqbal/>

<https://www.app.com.pk/business/climate-smart-health-responsive-infrastructure-national-priority-ahsan-iqbal/>

<https://urdu.app.com.pk/urdu/%D8%B5%D8%AD%D8%AA-%D9%88-%D8%AA%D8%B9%D9%84%DB%8C%D9%85-%D8%B3%D9%85%DB%8C%D8%AA-%DB%81%D8%B1-%D8%B4%D8%B9%D8%A8%DB%81-%D9%85%D9%88%D8%B3%D9%85%DB%8C%D8%A7%D8%AA%DB%8C-%D9%84%D8%AD%D8%A7%D8%B8-%D8%B3/>

The PenPK

<https://thepenpk.com/can-investments-in-climate-resilient-infrastructure-deliver-fourfold-returns/>

Global News Pakistan

<https://globalnewspakistan.com/2025/05/28/uraan-pakistan-drives-green-buses-mangrove-revival-and-resilient-healthcare-fm/>

May 28, 2025

PIDE and AIIB Launch Landmark Climate Report

Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: In a powerful call for climate-conscious development, the Pakistan Institute of Development Economics (PIDE) and the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) jointly unveiled the Asian Infrastructure Finance 2025 report under the theme "Infrastructure for Planetary Health." The launch was marked by a high-level conference in Islamabad, bringing together policymakers, economists, development partners, and climate experts for a deep dive into solutions for building resilient, sustainable infrastructure.

The event, themed "Building Climate-Resilient Infrastructure: Lessons and Way Forward," sounded an urgent alarm: infrastructure must evolve—not just to fuel growth, but to protect the health of people and the planet.

Welcoming participants, Dr. Nadeem Javaid, Vice Chancellor of PIDE, reflected on the stark reality Pakistan faces. "The 2022 floods were a national catastrophe—\$32 billion in losses, two decades of development washed away, and over six million pushed into poverty," he said. "Climate change is not tomorrow's threat—it is today's crisis."

Federal Minister for Planning, Development & Special Initiatives, Prof. Ahsan Iqbal, congratulated PIDE and AIIB on their strategic partnership and issued a resounding call for change.

"We must build infrastructure that doesn't just deliver growth—but ensures survival," Prof. Iqbal declared. He outlined the government's bold steps under the 5Es



framework, including the deployment of zero-emission electric buses, restoration of flood-prone riverbanks, and climate-proofing healthcare facilities.

Equally important, the Minister stressed the need to invest in climate-literate professionals—engineers, planners, architects, and economists who can design a future-proof Pakistan. He acknowledged PIDE and AIIB's thought leadership and urged sustained collaboration to embed climate resilience into national policy frameworks.

Presenting the flagship report, Dr. Jang Ping Thia, Lead Economist at AIIB, revealed a sobering link between weak infrastructure and worsening health outcomes in Asia. He highlighted that climate change magnifies inequalities,

disproportionately affecting low-income and marginalized communities.

The conference concluded with an expert panel featuring Dr. Imtiaz Ahmad, Chief Economist at the Ministry of Planning; Dr. Muhammad Faisal, Research Fellow at PIDE; and others. They stressed the urgency of integrating climate risk into infrastructure planning, scaling green finance, and embracing adaptive agriculture and resilient urban development.

Closing the conference, Dr. Shujaat Farooq, Director of Research at PIDE, issued a final rallying cry: "This is more than a development agenda—it's a survival strategy. Every policy decision we make today will shape the wellbeing of future generations."

Islamabad Today

WEDNESDAY 28 MAY 2025,

PIDE, AIIB Climate Report Asks for Bold Action to Safeguard Planetary Health

Saeed Chaudhry

ISLAMABAD: In a bold call to action, the Pakistan Institute of Development Economics (PIDE) and the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) jointly launched the Asian Infrastructure Finance 2025 report under the theme "Infrastructure for Planetary Health" at a high-powered conference held in Islamabad. The event brought together policymakers, economists, development experts, and climate sci-

entists to chart a new course for resilient and sustainable infrastructure development across Asia, with a sharp focus on Pakistan's growing climate vulnerability. In his opening remarks, Dr. Nadeem Javaid, Vice Chancellor of PIDE, underlined Pakistan's harsh climate reality. He pointed to the devastating 2022 floods, which resulted in a staggering \$32 billion in damages, displaced millions, and rolled back decades of development progress.

"Climate change is not a distant warning—it is a daily reality," Dr. Javaid said. He emphasized that environmental degradation, poor water management, and climate-sensitive agriculture are intensifying risks and require strategic, long-term solutions. Federal Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives, Prof. Ahsan Iqbal, delivered a compelling keynote address, urging a complete rethinking of development priorities in the

face of climate change. "Our infrastructure must evolve—not just to drive economic growth—but to guarantee the survival of our people and ecosystems," he said. Highlighting the government's new 5Es framework, Minister Iqbal detailed measures already underway, including the introduction of zero-emission public transport, rehabilitation of flood-prone zones, and climate-proofing of hospitals and public buildings.