Australian Government
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SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT INVESTMENT PORTFOLIO

PAKISTAN


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The Sustainable Development Investment Portfolio (SDIP) is a program supported by the Australian Government addressing the regional challenges of water, food and energy security in South Asia. It seeks to strengthen transboundary cooperation, facilitate economic growth and improve livelihoods, targeting the poorest and most vulnerable, particularly women and girls.

In this endeavour Australia works through seven partners: International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD), International Finance Corporation (IFC), World Bank South Asia Water Initiative (SAWI), The Asia Foundation (TAF), International Centre of Excellence for Water Resource Management (ICEWaRM), Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR) and Australia's Commonwealth Science and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO). SDIP partners work with governments and other organisations across South Asia.

In Pakistan, Australia has worked with SDIP partners on:

- **Strengthening regional cooperation**
  - Uptake of best practice modelling approaches by key Government of Pakistan agencies to improve water resource management
  - Uptake of renewable energy generation and industrial resource efficiency
  - Support for engagement by female hydrologists and water managers in river basin and agricultural modelling
  - Cooperation across States to improve transboundary water and data management
  - Introduction of flood forecasting and early warning systems in Gilgit Baltistan
  - Formulation and adoption of best practice environmental and social safeguards for hydropower developments and minimum energy performance standards

- **Generating new knowledge and scientific evidence**
  - Estimates of water availability scenarios in the Indus Basin
  - New knowledge developed on water management, agriculture, climate change and livelihoods
  - Research on hydropower-irrigation trade-offs, benefit-sharing and management options
  - Feasibility analyses for a 1500MW hydropower cascade development in the Kunar River Basin
  - Analytical work to ensure the transboundary aspects of water management are incorporated into large scale World Bank-financed projects
  - Multiple forums provided for international transfer of knowledge on renewable energy investment and water management

- **Encouraging private sector engagement and investment in water, energy and food**
  - Supporting the Punjab provincial government to promote private sector industrial energy efficiency through an improved regulatory framework, which delivers enhanced economic competitiveness
  - Provision of advice on resource efficiency practices to textiles, chemicals and agribusiness enterprises that identified potential energy savings totalling 3.7 million MWhs

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- Contribution to the provision of access to clean, safe and affordable solar powered equipment and appliances for an estimated 500,000 people
- Support to the private sector and Government of Pakistan to identify up to 3000MW of possible renewal energy generation projects
- Promotion of good practice private sector investments in hydropower valued at over USD3 billion
- Australian private sector hydrological data management software introduced in Pakistan to improve and assist water resource management decision-making

Over the next four years, we expect to contribute to:

- Strengthened capacity in the Government of Pakistan for water resource planning and management, including impacts on energy, food and economic security
- Energy sector support that is projected to deliver annual emission reductions
- Development of resource efficiency solutions for textiles, chemicals and agribusiness enterprises that reduce energy and water consumption
- Increasing women's involvement in water resource management activities, better understanding of women's roles within communities in response to hydro power developments
- Applying a gender lens to energy use standards and labelling
- Pilots of regional flood information systems to reduce vulnerability in the Indus River Basin
- Stronger communication between state, civil society and market institutions and sub-national water, food and energy managers, as well as across the Indus River Basin
- Improved understanding of climate change and implications on rivers, natural hazards, hydropower and the consequences for livelihoods, particularly women and girls
- Improved overall governance of hydro developments sector through linking policy makers and the private sector, as well as technical capacity building in the Jhelum-Poonch watershed
- Improved integrated management of the Kunar River Basin by the governments of Pakistan and Afghanistan
- Explore opportunities to work with South Asia Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) on regional energy issues

Key relationships in Pakistan:

- Ministry of Water Resources
- Ministry of Energy
- Ministry of Finance, Revenue, Economic Affairs, Statistics and Privatisation
- Ministry of Planning, Development and Reform
- National Engineering Services Pakistan
- Provincial Irrigation Departments (Punjab, Sindh, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Balochistan)
- Pakistan Meteorological Department
- Water and Power Development Authority
- Indus River System Authority
- Federal Flood Commission
- Pakistan Commission for Indus Waters
- Pakistan Council of Research in Water Resources
- Alternative Energy Development Board
- Hisaar Foundation – Rational Use of Water Think Tank
- Worldwide Fund for Nature–Pakistan
- Sustainable Development Policy Institute
- International Union for Conservation of Nature