



# AUSTRALIA PAKISTAN WATER SECURITY INITIATIVE

The Australia-Pakistan Water Security Initiative (APWASI) is an Australian Government development program which aims to improve integrated water resource management in urban areas of Pakistan. Through tailoring the Australian Water Sensitive Cities approach, the program works with partners to demonstrate and enhance integrated water resource management to make cities more liveable, resilient and sustainable. APWASI is valued at A\$6 million over four years (2021-25), the initiative consists of two components.

## Community Demonstration Project

The Community Demonstration Project (CDP) is delivered in two disadvantaged communities—James Town in Rawalpindi and Farash Town in Islamabad. Access to safe water and sanitation services has improved through the demonstration of low-cost, nature-based solutions. The project is benefiting 24,000 people.

With extensive community engagement, the project has installed rainwater harvesting tanks, water filtration units, recharge pits and green spaces. It has also rehabilitated sewage systems, an ablution water re-use system and rain gardens. Village management committees and water clubs established in schools have raised awareness among the community of water conservation and management.

The CDP is implemented by the Worldwide Fund for Nature-Pakistan (WWF-P), in partnership with counterparts such as the Capital Development Authority, the Water and Sanitation Agency Rawalpindi and, the Pakistan Council of Research in Water Resources.



A rainwater harvesting tank. Credit: WWF-P



Inauguration of a green space. Credit: WWF-P



An ablution water re-use system. Credit: WWF-P

## Technical assistance to the Government of Punjab on urban flood management

Through Australian Government funded technical assistance to the Government of Punjab, a feasibility study on Urban Flood Prevention and Management for Lahore was finalised in 2024. The feasibility study looked at metropolitan Lahore and generated evidence-based recommendations across the short, medium, and long-term. They include structural and non-structural interventions.

The study was conducted from May 2022 to May 2024 by Adam Smith International, with Mott MacDonald Pakistan as the technical partner. It provided a detailed review of background information and international best practice and involved collaboration with more than 50 stakeholders including provincial and federal government entities, donors and development organisations. The study was guided by a Coordination Committee including the Water and Sanitation Agency Lahore, the Housing Urban Development and Public Health Engineering Department, and the Lahore Urban Unit.



Please [click here](#) for a copy of the Urban Flood Prevention & Management Feasibility Study.