

Maktab Competitive Exams Services

Current Affairs Workshop For CSS 2025

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Climate Action at COP 29: Pakistan's Priorities and Challenges

Overview of the Climate Catastrophes in 2024

1. **Afghanistan–Pakistan Floods (March 2024)** Approximately 1,084 people lost their lives
2. **Typhoon Yagi in South East Asia (September 2024)** At least 844 fatalities reported.
3. **Enga Landslide in Papua New Guinea (May 24, 2024)** Between 670 and over 2,000 people were killed.
4. **Wayanad Land slides in Kerala India (July 30, 2024)** At least 254 people lost their lives.
5. **Hurricane Helene in US (September 24–27, 2024)** At least 235 fatalities reported.
6. **Spain Floods (October 29 – November 16, 2024)** At least 231 people died
7. **Tropical Storm Trami (October 19–29, 2024)** At least 178 people lost their lives.
8. **Cyclone Chido in Indian Ocean (December 7–16, 2024)**
9. **Cyclone Remal in Bangladesh (May 24–28, 2024)** At least 85 people died
10. Climate disasters in 2024 caused **approximately \$229 billion** in damages and resulted in around **3500 fatalities**. (Source: The Guardian)
11. Extreme weather events, such as hurricanes, cyclones, and droughts, affected over 1.7 billion people in the past decade, exacerbating global hunger (**World Food Program, USA**)

A glance at International Initiatives to deal with Climate Change

1. **European Union Green Deal 2020** (Investing 1 trillion euros in next decade on Circular Economy, Climate Neutrality by 2050, Zero Pollution Ambitions, Decarbonization of energy intensive industry)
2. **Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM)**: A carbon pricing system for imported goods into the EU that imposes tariffs on products based on their carbon footprint
3. **Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence Directives (CS3D)**: Legislation that requires large companies operating in the EU to identify, prevent, and mitigate adverse human rights and environmental impacts across their supply chains.
4. **Digital Product Passport (DPP)**: An initiative under the EU Circular Economy Action Plan to provide detailed product information throughout its lifecycle.
5. **Inflation Reduction Act 2022**: A landmark U.S. law with over **\$370 billion** in climate and energy investments.
6. **REPowerEU Plan (2022)**: EU initiative to reduce dependence on Russian fossil fuels and accelerate the green transition

7. **African Adaptation Initiative (AAI):** A flagship program designed to enhance resilience to climate impacts across Africa.
8. **Asian Development Bank (ADB) Climate Action:** Commits to providing at least **\$80 billion** in climate financing by **2030**.
9. **Global Methane Pledge COP 28:** aims to cut methane emissions by 30% by 2030
10. **China's Carbon Neutrality Goal:** It has pledged to achieve carbon neutrality by 2060 by investing in Renewables, EVs, reduction of coal based energy

Outcomes of COP 29 at Baku:

Finance:

1. Agreed to triple climate finance from 100 bn \$ to 300 bn \$ by 2035
2. Set goals to mobilize 1.3 trillion\$ from public and private sources by 2035
3. Established New Collective Quantified Goals (NCQG) for Climate Finance

Carbon Markets:

1. Finalized rules of carbon trading under (Article 6) of Paris Agreement
2. Establish clear guidelines for country to country Trading (Article 6.2)
3. Created Standards for a Un centralized carbon market (Article 6.4)

Transparency:

1. Advanced Climate Reporting Mechanism
2. 13 countries submitted their first biennial transparency reports
3. UK pledged \$3.8 million for (Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation) REDD+ activities

Adaptation

1. Created Support Program for National Adaptation Plans for least developed countries
2. Launched Baku Adaptation Roadmap 2024
3. Established Baku high level dialogue on Climate adaptation

Gender and Civil Society

1. Extended Lima Work Program on Gender and Climate for 10 years.
2. New gender action plan to be developed for COP 30
3. Enhanced youth participation, including first ever children's participation in youth led climate forum

Pakistan's Vulnerabilities to Climate Change

1. Coastal areas in Pakistan, especially the **Indus Delta** and **Sindh**, are at risk due to rising sea levels, which lead to saline intrusion and flooding. The **Indus Delta**, home to several million people, is experiencing the loss of approximately **50 square kilometers** of land every year due to sea-level rise and erosion.

2. Coastal areas, such as **Sindh** and **Balochistan**, face rising risks from tropical cyclones, which damage coastal ecosystems and infrastructure. **Cyclone Chido**
3. Pakistan faces frequent and intense heatwaves, especially in southern regions like Sindh and Punjab. In 2022, a heatwave in Karachi caused **1,200+ deaths**. Such extreme heatwaves are becoming more frequent, affecting human health, productivity, and living conditions.
4. Pakistan is ranked globally 5th in vulnerability to climate change
5. Changes in temperature and unpredictable rainfall have affected the yields of Pakistan's major crops, such as wheat, rice, and cotton. The 2021-2022 wheat failure in Sindh and Punjab provinces was partly attributed to extreme temperatures, which caused a 40% decrease in wheat yields
6. 30 million people are affected by climate disasters since 2010
7. Floods in 2022 inflicted 33 bn\$ losses to Pakistan's economy and displacement of 3 million people was evident
8. Significant wildfires were seen in recent years in National Parks of Pakistan

Pakistan's Priorities:

1. National Climate Change Policy 2021
2. National Electric Vehicle Policy 2020
3. Pakistan's Partnership for International Climate Finance (Green Climate Fund)
4. Recharge Pakistan Initiative
5. Living Indus Initiative 17 bn \$ investment
6. Ten Billion Tree Tsunami
7. Clean and Green Pakistan Initiative
8. National Clean Air Policy 2022
9. Pakistan has become one of the fastest growing country in solarization
10. Ravi Urban Development project
11. Pakistan Climate Change Action Plan 2025
12. US Pakistan Green Alliance Framework
13. Establishing Punjab Anti Smog Plan
14. Decades for Dam Program
15. Exploiting the potential of Blue Economy rather than depending on Fossil Fuels