

Discuss the important components of Pakistan's National Climate Change Policy. What is the impact of the 18th amendment on Climate Change Policy- formulation in Pakistan? How Pakistan can benefit from COP28?

NATIONAL CLIMATE CHANGE POLICY - 2012: A BRIEF INTRODUCTION

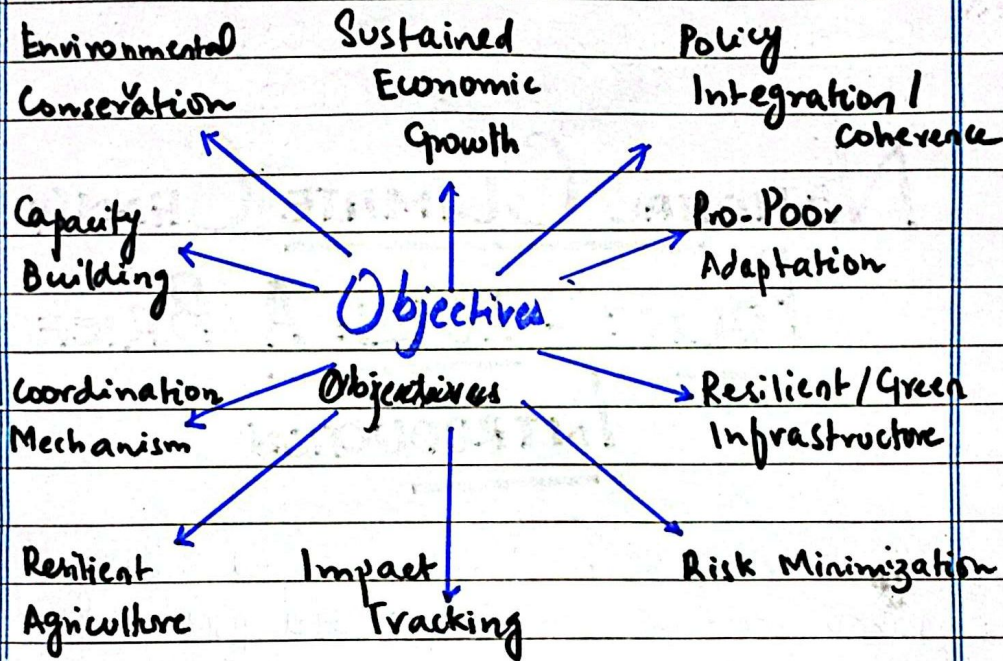
Climate change is world wide accepted reality. Various countries have formulated policies that are tailored to their own regions. Pakistan, in this regard, took up the task in 2012 and presented the first climate change policy.

The major focus of the policy of the then policy makers was on climate resilient adaptation and development because Pakistan's high vulnerability to the adverse effects of climate change were extremely clear by then. The country had suffered through a devastating floods and other natural disasters.

After the Paris Agreement in 2015, Pakistan also pledged to cut down its greenhouse gas emissions. and later on, this policy was revised in 2018 and was expanded to cater all the sectors from transport to livestock etc).

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Objectives of NCC Policy



SALIENT FEATURES OF NCC Policy-2021

1) Climate Adaptation and Mitigation

This policy framework is split into two segments

- a) Climate adaptation
- b) Climate mitigation.

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'Climate adaptation' consists of policy measures that aim to increase the water resources management, agriculture and livestock management, biodiversity and maintainance and increase of existing forest cover. Moreover, it has also identified various vulnerable eco systems in the country and has prepared a disaster preparedness plan and plan for socio-economic uplift of those vulnerable areas.

'Climate Mitigation' As the name suggests, it encourages policy measures for sustainable growth and mitigating the effects of climate change that are already being felt. These measures include changes in urban development patterns, energy generation and conservation patterns, livestock, agriculture and much more. It is a detailed road map for every sector in Pakistan.

2)

INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK FOR CLIMATE GOVERNANCE

This policy called for the following measures to build up institutional capacity and present a road map for effective ^{institutional} capacity development

- a) Establishment of Climate Change Cells at the federal and provincial level.
- b) Activation of Climate Change Fund and Authority

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- as envisaged in Climate Change Act, 2017.
- c) Requirement of a mandatory climate assessments for federally projects.
 - d) Development and strengthening of monitoring, Reporting and Verification of emissions and land systems changes.
 - e) Enhance coordination and capacity building at all levels.
 - f) Development of mechanisms for GHG's monitoring and tracking.
 - g) Upgradation and expansion of meteorological services.
 - h) Align climate change and all development objectives at the policy.

3) FINANCIAL FRAMEWORK OF THE NCC POLICY - 2021

To finance this policy and implement an ever-lasting ^{change} that helps propel the country forward. This policy envisioned the following

- a) National Disaster Risk management Fund and Climate Change Fund to be set for ^{funding} effective disaster response and financing climate change projects respectively.
- b) Carbon Trading and Emission Trading Systems
Develop of regulatory and legal frameworks that

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- allow for regional and domestic pricing, financing of carbon equity in the form of green bonds.
- c) International Financing to be secured through global climate funds and carbon trading schemes.

4) DISASTER RISK REDUCTION

FRAMEWORK OF NCC POLICY-2011

The policy had 84 main features for dealing with disaster preparedness.

Resource Allocation and Funding

Relevant authorities should be adequately funded and additional funding must be kept in reserve the NDRMFAR to avoid any funding lapses.

Development of Frameworks and Regulations

Developments of nature based solution, and regulations for river plains, flood management and define the roles and responsibilities for disaster response.

Monitoring and Early warning System

'Risk mapping of disaster prone sites, forecasting of flash floods and natural disaster i.e (GLOF). and implementation of an early warning system that enable evacuation of vulnerable ^{green} areas.

Infrastructure and Urban Planning

Disaster Shelters, Storm drainage and hydrological

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modelling must be done / constructed to avoid and mitigate disasters. Flood management systems must be upgraded and strengthened and allied infrastructure must be constructed in that they are disaster resilient

IMPACTS OF 18th AMENDMENT ON CLIMATE POLICY FORMULATION

(a) Localised Climate Solutions by the Provinces

Provinces can now tailor the policy according to their own needs and financial constraints. Moreover, localised solutions for local problems can be formulated. The devolution of power to local government can ensure local community takes action and responsibility for their climate related issues.

(b) Enhanced Community Based Actions

Climate change can be best stopped when the local community has a say in the planning process. Local governments can ensure the people that are being affected have a say in the policy implementation process

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Coordination hurdles between Federal and Provincial Governments

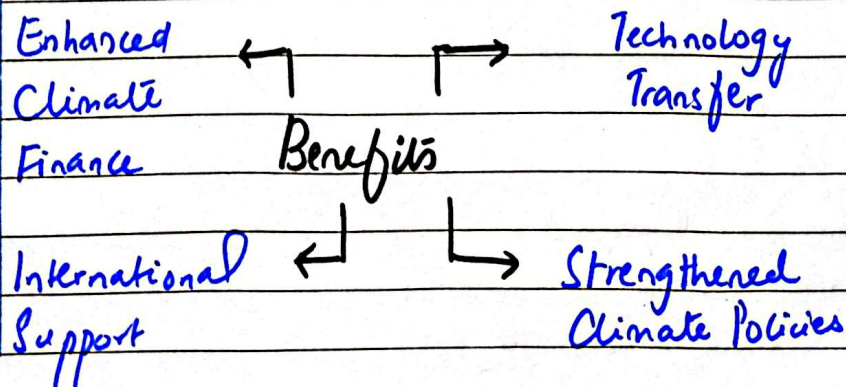
Under the 18th Amendment, the provincial government may be empowered to "implement and formulate their own policies. However, this may create coordination hurdles as the federal response on a particular issue may vary from the provincial response."

Decentralization of Funds and Resources

After the 18th Amendment, provinces receive a larger share of the national funds and resources. This decentralization leads to the provinces prioritising vital climate projects that they see fit. It is "A province lead response to a global problem."

PAKISTAN AND COP 28

COP (Conference of Parties) ²⁸ was held in Dubai last year. The benefits are shown below:



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- 1- Pakistan can leverage the COP 28 to access international funding for climate mitigation and adaptation projects
- 2- It can acquire cutting edge technology to combat climate change through technology transfer agreements
- 3- Receive guidance and expertise from global experts in formulating climate policy
- 4- Engage with diplomatic partners in order to achieve its climate goals.

CONCLUSION

NCC policy of 2021 is a important which binds national progress with sustainable growth. It emphasizes green and sustainable development and after 18th Amendment, the provinces can bear the torch of ^{also} growth. Finally Pakistan can leverage the COP 28 to achieve its climate goals by highlighting its achievements and vulnerabilities.