



From Climate Vulnerability to Economic Resilience: Pathways for Livelihood Diversification and Workforce Transition in Pakistan

1. Name of proposing Party or organization.

Muslim Hands

2. Brief description of the proposed study:

Pakistan is highly exposed to climate-related hazards, including floods, droughts, heatwaves and changing rainfall patterns, which increasingly affect agriculture, livestock, informal employment, household incomes and local economic systems. For climate-vulnerable communities, adaptation is therefore not only an environmental challenge but also a workforce and economic transition challenge. This case study will examine how climate-resilient livelihood diversification can support vulnerable rural communities and workers to move from highly climate-sensitive and increasingly insecure livelihood activities towards more resilient, diversified and sustainable economic opportunities. It will document practical pathways from local climate-risk identification and adaptation planning to skills development, livelihood diversification, enterprise development, market engagement and community-level resilience. The study will draw primarily on Muslim Hands' existing programmes, field experience, technical expertise, partnerships and monitoring and learning systems in Pakistan. Muslim Hands has extensive experience combining humanitarian response, disaster risk reduction, climate adaptation, food security, livelihoods, vocational skills, community infrastructure and local resilience programming. Its climate-resilience portfolio includes climate-smart agriculture, livelihood diversification, disaster preparedness, community-based adaptation and support to vulnerable groups. Particular attention will be given to the experience of climate-vulnerable communities in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, including the Buner and Shangla context, as well as relevant learning from other provinces. The analysis will consider how communities identify climate risks, determine appropriate livelihood options, acquire new skills, access productive assets and markets, and strengthen their capacity to absorb and adapt to climate shocks. It will also examine the roles of women, young people, persons with disabilities and other vulnerable groups in these transition processes. The case study will identify enabling factors, implementation barriers,



institutional and market conditions, and lessons for scaling climate-resilient economic diversification. It will explore how humanitarian, development and climate-action approaches can be linked to support more inclusive and sustainable workforce transitions. The proposed study will be developed without requiring financial support from the UNFCCC. Muslim Hands will contribute existing programme evidence, field access, technical expertise, staff time, monitoring and learning resources and relevant partnerships. Collaboration with the KCI would add value through methodological guidance, comparative analysis and opportunities to share practical lessons with Parties and experts. The intended outcome is a practical evidence-based case study demonstrating how locally led climate adaptation and livelihood diversification can contribute to economic resilience, workforce transition, decent work and quality livelihood opportunities in climate-vulnerable settings.

3. *United Nations region to be covered by the case study:*

Asia-Pacific;

4. *Country or countries to be covered by the case study*

Pakistan

5. *Area of the case study:*

The design and implementation of economic diversification strategies ;Managing workforce transitions ;Policy planning to implementation pathways ;The identification of potential new sectors for diversification ;

6. *Expected duration for completion of the case study (in months):*

06 months

7. *Contribution of the submitting organization*

Technical inputs;Data;Authorship;Financial contribution;

8. *Can the study be developed without financial support from the UNFCCC?*

Yes



9. If no, please provide the estimated range of required financial support in USD (Please note that the UNFCCC is not a donor organization and has limited funding):

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10. Please provide the status of any preliminary work undertaken that could serve as a basis for the study, including a link to any available reports, if available.

Muslim Hands has not undertaken a separate study specifically for KCI Activity 11; however, substantial preliminary work and evidence already exist through its ongoing climate-resilience, livelihoods, food-security, disaster-risk-reduction and community resilience programmes in Pakistan. These existing resources provide a strong evidence base from which the proposed case study can be developed without requiring additional financial support from UNFCCC. In particular, Muslim Hands is an implementing partner in the climate-resilience component of the WFP/Green Climate Fund-supported “Integrated Climate Risk Management for Strengthened Resilience to Climate Change in Buner and Shangla Districts of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Province, Pakistan”. The programme includes local climate adaptation planning, diversified and climate-resilient livelihoods, capacity development, community engagement and small-scale resilience interventions. Existing project documentation, implementation plans, assessments, monitoring and learning systems, community-level evidence and lessons from implementation will provide important inputs for the proposed case study. The proposed study will also draw on Muslim Hands’ wider experience in Pakistan in climate-smart agriculture, livelihood diversification, vocational and market-linked skills development, food security, disaster risk reduction, community infrastructure and locally led resilience programming. These programmes provide practical evidence on how climate risks affect existing livelihoods and how communities can identify and adopt alternative or diversified livelihood opportunities. Muslim Hands can make available relevant non-confidential programme documentation, implementation experience, monitoring and learning evidence, field-level observations and stakeholder insights for the development of the case study, subject to applicable donor, safeguarding, confidentiality and data-protection requirements.



Framework Convention on
Climate Change