



YOUTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

# CHALLENGES IN IMPLEMENTATION OF NDCS 2021 IN PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTOR OF PAKISTAN

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**Youth General Assembly** is an autonomous assembly that has been formed in order to provide a credible platform that instigates a true sense of policy & strategy making, equitable administration and non-customary legislative, public speaking and social issues by empowering enthusiasm in youth for being the future ambassadors and democrats.

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# **CHALLENGES IN IMPLEMENTATION OF NDCS 2021 IN PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTOR OF PAKISTAN**

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**Mahin Khan & Amina Saddiq**

NDCs and Pakistan's commitments: The Paris Agreement mandates that all signatory countries to present National Determined Contributions (NDCs) to represent their intended goals. Pakistan represented its recent NDC's plan in 2021 and aimed to reduce 50% of its projected GHG emissions by 2030 with a 15% from national resources and 30% using international financial aids. According to the updated NDC's, it is intended to switch to 30% electric vehicle and 60 % of renewable energy and completely ban imported coal in to meet the goals. Pakistan aims to expand investments in nature-based solutions and improving technological and scientific capacities, diversifying financial support, and integrating youth and gender inclusive incentives. Despite efforts to implement NDCs 2021, challenges such as economic constraints, inadequate infrastructure, and lack of inclusivity and coordination persist in both public and private sectors. Pakistan's budgetary constraints limit the allocation for NDCs implementation and climate action due to lack of financial resources, hindering policy building and investments. For fiscal year 2024-25, the allocation for climate-related projects remains relatively small. The Ministry of Climate change was allocated with PKR 15 Billion (USD 90 Million), that is only 0.1% of the total budget for year 2024-25. The budget is said to have higher allocation for climate change action plans than the last fiscal year, yet it fails to determine the course of action for NDCs leading to delays or inactivation of many projects, including large-scale renewable energy projects. Policy implementation hurdles: Political instability in Pakistan and frequent change of administration causes a significant lack of coordination between federal and provincial government institutions, leading to unclear divisions of responsibilities and this disconnect effects the execution of mitigating and adaptation strategies creating a barrier in achieving the objectives of NDCs. Despite the existence of mitigating regulations, the execution gets undermined due to inappropriate legislation and enforcement measure. Lack of Green Investment incentives: The goal of reducing the emissions while improving the economic growth requires long term investments and finances. In Pakistan, the given strains on public finances, large-scale private investments can be expected but there are insufficient financial incentives for businesses to invest in sustainable projects. The absence of regulatory frameworks hinders investors from putting money in green technology, and other sustainable practices.

Private sector and business often have limited access to advanced technology necessary for achieving energy efficiency and cutting down the emissions. Technology such as eco-friendly agricultural tool, solar panels, technology to capture carbon and energy-efficient machinery are not widely accessible. This gap creates a barrier to reduce emissions and improving energy efficiency and lack of financial resources and a competent workforce further exacerbates the issue.

To develop a sense of urgency and shared responsibility, development of public awareness is a necessity. Recent researches underscores that the general public and stakeholder are not aware of the climate crisis. According to SDPI, only a fraction of total population is aware of NDCs and Pakistan's

commitment of reducing 50% of GHG emissions. SDPI report also indicates that a significant number of Pakistani citizens are unaware of their action's impact on climate leading to limited engagement and implementation. Infrastructure inadequacies: Insufficient infrastructure to produce energy from renewable resources can limit the ability to meet NDCs targets to have clean energy. This consequently affects the progress towards eradicating GHG emissions and use of fossil fuels. Lack of sustainable transport infrastructure for instance; electric vehicle charging stations can hinder efforts to cut down emissions from transport sector. Lack of financial resources and institutional frameworks for planning, implementing, and maintaining the infrastructural projects can delay the progress. Key Sector Challenges: Energy transition: NDCs 2021 outlines the goal of aiming to increase the share of renewable resources by 60% by 2030, also focusing on reducing reliance on coal for power generation, and increasing the share of electric vehicles in total vehicular sale by 30%. Presently, 40% of the total energy supply is met with fossil fuel imports. For fiscal year 2023-24, renewable energy only accounted 3.2% of the total generation mix. Pakistan faces challenges including policy paralysis, high capital costs and lack of financial investments, in efforts to phase out fossil fuels efficiently. Agricultural adaptation: Most of Pakistan's economic revenue is generated through agriculture sector making it one of most significant contributors in overall emissions. Enhancing soil carbon sequestration through projects like ten TBTP is one of main targets set in NDCs. Financial constraints and inadequate infrastructure such as outdated irrigation systems and poor facilities also impede progress. Socioeconomic factors like poverty further obstruct efforts to build agricultural adaptation. International Cooperation: Access to Climate Funds: In NDCs Pakistan stressed the necessity of international fundings accounting USD 101 Billion by 2030; this includes the total cost to improve the implementation of mitigation and adaptation measures stated in NDCs. Accessing and securing funding from these organizations is important therefore, monitoring and reporting the progress is essential step to ensure the funded projects are progressing efficiently. Capacity building: International technical assistance in capacity building trainings and financial support to strengthen national institutions and develop efficient strategies can play a significant role. Collaboration with international institutions to organize trainings and workshops encourages the knowledge sharing to build skills and expertise in policy development and project management. Way forward: To achieve the NDCs goals by 2030, strengthening political commitments, raising awareness among policymakers and creating governing structures for mitigating and adaptation measures are crucial. Allocating budgets to attract investments and building institutional capacity can increase inclusivity and encourage youth participation in climate action.

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