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# PROJECT BRIEF

# FOSTERING A CLIMATE RESILIENT MULTAN

## A Capacity Building Initiative for Green Infrastructure

**November 2025 - July 2026**

## FARMERS DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION (FDO)

Farmers Development Organization, was established in 1998 as a not-for-profit, non-governmental public interest organization. It is registered with SECP under section 42 and is "a company setup under section 42 of companies' Act 2017 (Formerly Companies ordinance 1984.

FDO is PCP (Pakistan center for philanthropy) certified entity and registered with Punjab Charity Commission (ACategory).

### BACKGROUND

Pakistan is among the countries most affected by climate change globally. Despite being contributing less than 2% to global carbon emissions, Pakistan remains highly vulnerable to both natural and human-induced disasters. To address these challenges, the country has developed a National Adaptation Plan (NAP) 2023 aimed at strengthening climate resilience across sectors including the agriculture Water nexus, Natural Capital, Urban Resilience, Human Capital with cross cutting areas including Disaster Risk Management and Gender, Youth, and Social Inclusion.

To support the climate resilient efforts of Government of Pakistan under challenge fund, GIZ has partnered with the Farmers Development Organization (FDO)one of South Punjab's leading development organizations in terms of geographic outreach and technical expertiseunder a grant agreement titled Fostering a Climate-Resilient Multan - A Capacity Development Initiative for Green Infrastructure and Sustainable Urban Growth in Punjab.

### PROJECT OVERVIEW

**Title:** *Fostering Climate-Resilient Punjab Promoting Sponge City Model for Urban Resilience*

**Implementing Organization**: Farmers Development Organization (FDO)

**Donor**: German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)

**Duration:** 8 months (15 Nov 2025 to 14 July 2026)

**Geographical Focus**: *Multan (Core Pilot) + 10 Districts across Punjab (Lahore, Multan, Kasur, Gujranwala, Sialkot, Chiniot,*

**The project Fostering a Climate-Resilient Multan is funded by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and supported by the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH. The project is implemented by Farmers Development Organization (FDO) under the NAP Challenge Fund..**

### SUMMARY

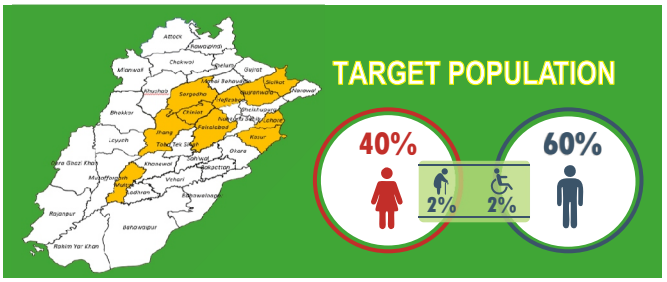
The project introduces an integrated **Sponge City Model** that combines *green* and *gray* infrastructure to strengthen Punjab's climate resilience. Through capacity building, demonstration sites, and academic integration, it will empower universities, government departments, engineers, contractors, and communities to design, build, and maintain sustainable urban systems that absorb, store, and reuse rainwaterreducing heatwaves and floods while improving water security and livability.

### PROJECT OBJECTIVES

The project aims to enhance Punjab's climate resilience efforts by developing the technical, operational, and managerial capacity 1500 individuals from key stakeholder's including Water & Sanitation Agency, (WASA), Parks and Horticulture Authority (PHA), Multan Development Authority, District administration and Academia as future leaders to implement, maintain, and replicate integrated Sponge City solutions.

### GEOGRAPHIC COVERAGE

The **primary target district** for model interventions under the project is **District Multan**. However, for the **baseline study on the causes of urban flooding**, the project will also cover **10 vulnerable districts of Punjab** including Lahore, Multan, Kasur, Gujranwala, Sialkot, Chiniot, Jhang, Hafizabad, Faisalabad, Sargodha.



## CAPACITY BUILDING PATHWAY

I. **200 Government Officials** trained on climate-resilient planning.
II. **150 Engineers/Contractors** trained on Sponge City infrastructure.
III. **300 Skilled & Semi-skilled Workers** trained on installation and maintenance.
IV. **320 Students & Faculty** engaged in practical learning and manual development.
V. **350 Community Members** (including women and marginalized groups) sensitized on green infrastructure maintenance.
VI. **120 Students** formally certified through the *1-month accredited course*.

## PROJECT INNOVATION

The *Fostering a Climate Resilient Multan* project introduces both **conceptual** and **technical innovations** that redefine how urban resilience is built, taught, and institutionalized in Pakistan. Like;
The **"Living Lab" Learning Ecosystem,** where Universities and urban corridors are transformed into *real-time experimental learning spaces*, where theory and practice intersect.
**Integrated Policy Academia Community Framework,** where by combining **conceptual transformation** with **technical advancement,** one-month accredited course on Sponge City principles is introduced and integrated into university curriculum.

**Standardized Manuals and Curriculum for Replication:** Creating easily adaptable training kits for both government and academia.
**Consumable-Based Learning:** Using project materials for practical skill development.

## INCLUSION AS INNOVATION

Rather than treating inclusion as compliance, the project frames **Gender Equity and Social Inclusion (GESI)** as a driver of innovation. Women, youth, and persons with disabilities are directly engaged in design, implementation, and governance roles, expanding the scope and social sustainability of climate adaptation.

## ANTICIPATED RESULTS

**Following results are anticipated at the end of project;**

1. At least **580 individuals** (including 40% women) demonstrate a 80% increase in technical capacity and knowledge on Sponge City principles, green infrastructure development, drainage management, water conservation, and heatwave mitigation techniques. Training interventions contribute to a 25% increase in green cover at pilot sites.
2. Enhanced technical capacities of **225 individuals** through the establishment of **12 groundwater recharge wells.**
3. **10 kilometers of integrated drainage systems** developed along Bosan Road, featuring permeable pavements, bioswales, and rain gardens, supported by the development of a standardized training manual on managing drainage system under Sponge City Drainage Techniques.
4. **Ten (10) District Action Plans** formulated and endorsed for climate-resilient urban infrastructure planning and management across Punjab and **120 district officials** line departments across **10 districts of Punjab** are trained on Urban flood management.
5. To address the urban heat island effect, **100,000 sq. ft.** of rooftop surfaces have been coated with high-albedo reflective material, complemented by the installation of two solar-powered shaded cooling stations, benefiting an estimated **50,000** daily commuters and outdoor workers along Bosan Road with capacity enhancement of **30 individuals** for replication.
6. **120 students and faculty members** are certified from three partner universities on accredited **One-Month University Course** on "Sponge City Principles.
7. At least **40% female participation** across all trainings; inclusion of PWDs and marginalized groups.
8. Standardized training manuals are developed and in use over urban afforestation, rooftop gardening, and Sponge City model approaches.

