

JANUARY - MARCH 2025

NEWSLETTER



What's inside?

- Pakistan's First Report on Transparency in Corporate Reporting 2024
- Sindh Local Government District Performance Index 2024
- Pakistan's First Ever National Carbon Credit Policy
- Capacity Building on Right to Information Laws
- Empowering Youth in Climate Action
- Enhancing Transparency in Climate Financing Framework

Highlights

During the period of January to March 2025, Transparency International Pakistan continued its endeavour for transparency, accountability and good governance throughout the country.

TI Pakistan launched its first ever Sindh Local Government District Performance Index 2024 and Transparency in Corporate Reporting (TRAC) 2024 Assessment - analysis Pakistan's top 70 public listed companies on their disclosure practices.

The organization continued to strengthen implementation of RTI laws in the country and empower youth for climate action.

Annual Members Meeting 2024

Highlights of the Activities by TI Pakistan in the Year 2024



On January 25, 2025, TI Pakistan hosted its membership body for an Annual Members Meeting 2025. The Board of Trustees and the Management briefed the members on the work of the organization during the outgoing year 2024 as well as the planning for 2025.

Mr. Kashif Ali, Executive Director TI Pakistan informed the members that in 2024, TI Pakistan achieved remarkable milestones, from advocating for the enactment of key reforms like the establishment of Balochistan Right to Information Commission and influencing the inclusion of integrity measures in Pakistan's carbon trading policy, to empowering youth, women, and marginalized communities through capacity-building programs and climate governance initiatives. The members appreciated TI Pakistan work and provided suggestions and input on key strategic priorities for the coming years.



Local Government Performance Index 2024

Empowering Local Governments for Enhanced Service Delivery and Public Participation



TI Pakistan published an insightful report on “Sindh Local Government District Performance Assessment 2024”. The report dissemination event was organized in Karachi and was attended by a diverse group of stakeholders, including representatives of political parties, members of National Assembly and Provincial Assemblies, elected local government representatives, regional directors of local government, and relevant public bodies.

It was highlighted that democratic governance cannot be achieved without meaningful citizen engagement at all levels. Empowering local governments through the effective implementation of Article 140A of the Constitution, mandates political, administrative, and financial autonomy for local bodies. It was proposed that districts must receive a direct share in the national budget, enabling better service delivery and restoring public trust in governance.



Advancing Business Integrity in Pakistan

Transparency in Corporate Reporting (TRAC) 2024 Assessment of Top 69 Public Listed Companies

Pakistan continues to navigate economic challenges, where transparency and accountability remain crucial for sustainable growth and investor confidence. Issues such as financial mismanagement, weak regulatory enforcement, and governance gaps have affected the business environment, making it imperative for both public and private sector actors to strengthen corporate integrity. Addressing these concerns is essential not only for economic stability but also for restoring public trust in institutions and fostering a responsible corporate culture.

Recognizing this need, Transparency International Pakistan published its seminal report on Transparency in Corporate Reporting TRAC Pakistan Assessment 2024, evaluating the corporate reporting practices of the top 70 Public Limited Companies in Pakistan. The initiative assesses disclosure in key areas essential for combating corruption, including reporting on anti-corruption programs, corporate structures, financial reporting, gender and non-discrimination, human rights and corporate social responsibility and other key areas. Companies that proactively disclose information—even beyond legal requirements—demonstrate a commitment to ethical corporate practices.

The TRAC Pakistan report plays a vital role in enhancing awareness about corporate data disclosure. Public access to corporate information is essential for building trust among investors, stakeholders, and the general public. By promoting greater transparency in business operations, companies can reinforce their commitment to integrity, responsible governance, and ethical leadership. Strengthening disclosure practices not only aligns businesses with global standards but also contributes to a more open, responsive and accountable corporate sector in Pakistan.

As regulatory bodies and international financial institutions emphasize governance improvements as a key factor for economic recovery, there is a growing need for reforms in corporate reporting practices. Through this assessment, Transparency International Pakistan aims to encourage the private sector to lead by example, fostering an environment where businesses operate with openness, accountability, and zero tolerance for corruption. The findings of TRAC Pakistan 2024 will also aim to inform regulatory enhancements and responsible corporate governance practices. The report provides benchmark for corporate disclosure, identifying best practices and gaps for improvement.

Overall TRAC Index Result **7.23/10**

The overall average TRAC score is 7.23, indicating that companies are moderately transparent in corporate disclosure practices.

26/69

companies are significantly transparent in corporate disclosures.

30/69

companies are moderately transparent in corporate disclosures.

10/69

companies are partially transparent in corporate disclosures.

3/69

companies are slightly transparent in corporate disclosures.

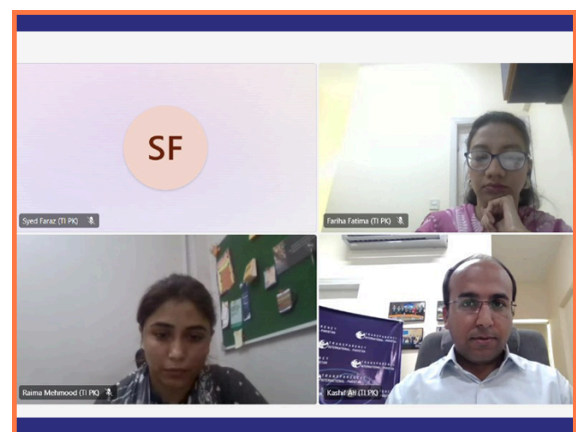
Climate Governance Innovation Challenge 2024

Youth Turning Climate Governance Ideas into Action

During the quarter, TI Pakistan organized an inspiring Climate Governance Innovation Challenge 2024 in collaboration with the University of Peshawar, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. The innovation challenge was part of the Youth Climate Education and Fellowship Program, a year-long program to enhance university students' capacity to understand and address climate change challenges. The fellowship covered diverse modules including climate governance, climate finance landscape, environmental laws in Pakistan, social accountability tools and the role of youth in climate action.



Carbon Market Transparency and Youth Oversight



Carbon markets are increasingly seen as a way to bridge the climate finance gap. It allows countries and companies to voluntarily cooperate with each other to achieve emission reduction targets as set out in their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs). To engage youth on conversation around Article 6 including how they can be involved in Carbon Markets, TI Pakistan organized monthly session on Carbon Market Transparency and Youth Oversight as part of its ongoing Youth Climate Fellowship at Shaikh Ayaz University, Shikarpur, Sindh.

Building News Partnerships

Signing MoU with GCNP-MACN

Transparency International Pakistan has signed MoU with Global Compact Network Pakistan (GCNP) & its Partner Maritime Anti-Corruption Network (MACN). The MoU focuses on engaging in knowledge-sharing, awareness, and capacity-building of different stakeholders to promote transparency, integrity, and good governance.



Meeting with Local Government Stakeholders

Calling for Improved Local Government Service Delivery in Sindh



Mr. Saad Alam, Assistant Project Coordinator TI Pakistan held a meeting with Mayor, Municipal Commissioner, and Regional Director of Shaheed Benazirabad Division, Sindh. TI Pakistan presented the findings of Sindh Local Government District Performance Index Report 2024 and underlined the need for improvement in citizen participation in local governance. The officials of Local Government lauded TI Pakistan's efforts in highlighting existing gaps and appreciated the collaboration between TI Pakistan and Local Government to address gap areas.

Advocating for Climate Finance Transparency

Stakeholder Engagement for Transparency in Carbon Market, Flood Recovery Response and Adaptation and Resilience Efforts

TI Pakistan Policy and Research Coordinator, Ms. Raima Mehmood held strategic discussions with Ms. Sana Rasool, Carbon Market Specialist, Ministry of Climate Change & Environmental Coordination (MoCC&EC), and Mr. Tassaduq Hussain, Senior Advisor for Institutional Strengthening and Capacity Building under the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Flood Recovery Programme.

The meetings centered on highlighting the significance of transparency and accountability in climate finance and disaster recovery efforts. TI Pakistan representative underscored the need for robust governance frameworks, institutional capacity building, and stringent oversight mechanisms to ensure that climate-related funding is utilized effectively and equitably. The discussions also explored potential collaborations to enhance integrity and inclusion in operationalisation of carbon markets.



TI Pakistan climate governance team led by the Executive Director Mr. Kashif Ali, met with Mr. Imdad Hussain Siddiqui, Director (Operations) of PDMA Sindh, to discuss recommendations for the Provincial Inclusive Resilience and Disaster Preparedness (PIRDP) initiative by PDMA Sindh.

It was highlighted that the Provincial Inclusive Disaster Response Plan (PIDRP) is a significant step towards strengthening resilience against climate change and natural disasters.

Enhancing Inclusiveness and Integrity in Provincial Climate Governance Frameworks

Transparency International Pakistan organized Civil Society Stakeholders Consultation Meeting titled “Strengthening Inclusion and Integrity in Provincial Climate Governance Frameworks”. The event brought together TI Pakistan Sindh Civil Society Network on Transparent and Inclusive Climate Governance established in May 2023.

The yearly CSO consultation focused on strengthening civil society input towards enhancing integrity in carbon markets in Pakistan and the provincial inclusive disaster response plan (PIDRP) for Sindh. The network also highlighted concerns over delay in the enactment of the whistleblower protection law and conflict of interest regulation, which is key to ensuring climate action in the province is transparent and equitable.



Sindh remains one of the most vulnerable provinces in Pakistan, with its unique geographical location exposing it to frequent floods and extreme weather events. The climate challenges are further exacerbated by the socioeconomic vulnerabilities of the population. It is crucial to ensure that disaster response and climate adaptation and mitigation measures address these challenges comprehensively to build resilience among communities.

TI Pakistan has proposed recommendations which are necessary to incorporate community needs and civic voices as well as enhance transparency and accountability in the provincial Disaster Reduction Plan.

Unlocking the Potential of Carbon Markets in Pakistan

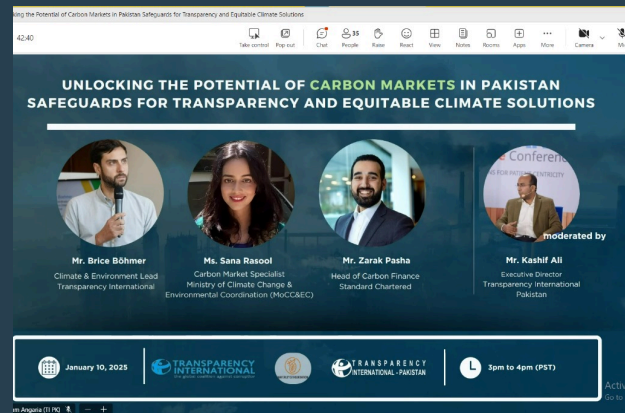
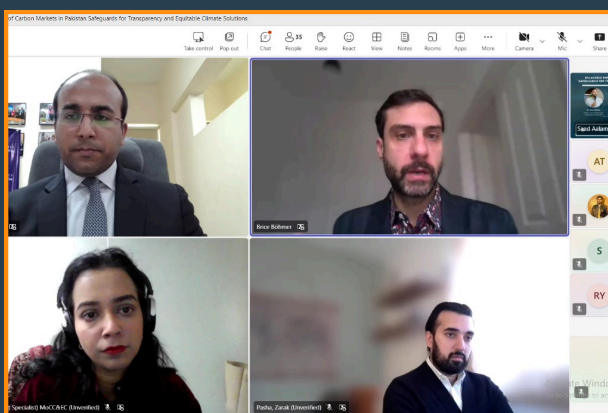
Safeguards for Transparency and Equitable Climate Solutions

Transparency International Pakistan convened stakeholders discussion on the challenges and opportunities in carbon markets in Pakistan, including spotlighting on the need for safeguard for transparency and equitable climate solution. Experts including, Mr. Brice Böhmer, Climate & Environment Lead at Transparency International, Ms. Sana Rasool, Carbon Market Specialist at Pakistan's Ministry of Climate Change & Environmental Coordination and Mr. Zarak Pasha, Head of Carbon Finance at Standard Chartered, UK spoke at the webinar.

The speakers discussed the recently adopted carbon market guidelines, transparency risks in carbon markets globally, sectoral opportunities and pricing

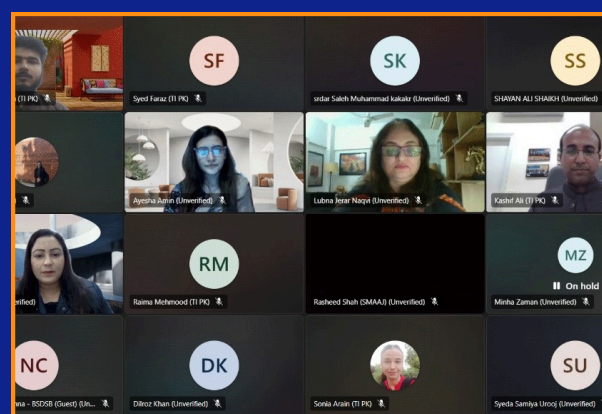
mechanisms in Pakistan, drawing on lessons from international markets. The discussion underscored the importance of transparency, regulatory clarity, and inclusivity to foster carbon market integrity and effectiveness. By leveraging sectoral opportunities and implementing robust systems, Pakistan can develop a sustainable carbon market that benefits communities and addresses global climate challenges.

The webinar offered a roadmap for scaling efforts to meet national and international climate goals, emphasizing the transformative potential of carbon markets in bridging the climate finance gap while promoting equitable and transparent solutions.



Assessing Climate Governance Frameworks Through Gender Lens

Climate change poses complex challenges that require an inclusive approach. Yet, current climate governance structures overlook gender-sensitive policies, which render unequal impacts on women. To foster a meaningful discussion to include women voices in climate-related policies and strategies, TI Pakistan organized a webinar on Integrating Gender Equality in Climate Governance in Pakistan. The discussion aimed at highlighting the importance of inclusivity in the climate governance frameworks to promote gender-balanced approach to fight climate change.



Due to limited access to resources, participation in decision-making, and lower adaptive capacities, women are vulnerable to climate-related disruptions. Bridging these gaps is vital for strong climate governance to ensure inclusive climate action, mitigation and adaptation strategies.

The speakers noted that there is a critical need to address these disparities and highlighted that to build strong climate resilience, it is pertinent to include women in all policy frameworks and decision-making processes.

Paving the way for Sustainable, Strong and Peaceful Society: Sustainable Development Goal 16

Pakistan & Sustainable Development Goal SDG 16 Peace, Justice, & Strong Institutions



Mr. M. Ali Kemal
Chief SDG's
Ministry of Planning, Development
& Special Initiatives



Prof. Dr. Naima Saeed
Chairperson
Department of Criminology,
University of Karachi



Mr. Aijaz Ali Khuwaja
Senior Consultant UN



Mr. Kashif Ali
Executive Director
TI Pakistan



Ms. Sonia Arain
Project Co-ordinator
TI Pakistan



March 25, Tuesday 2025



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

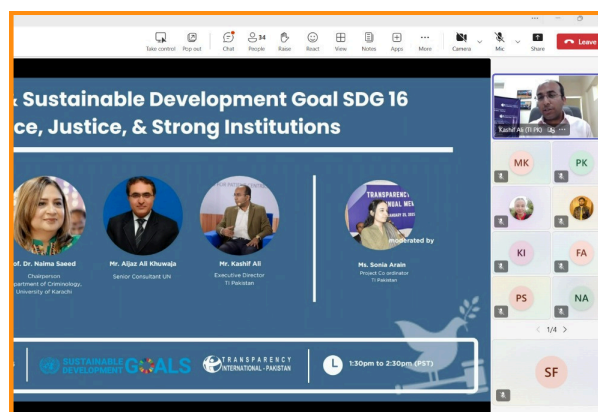


TRANSPARENCY INTERNATIONAL - PAKISTAN



1:30pm to 2:30pm (PST)

Sustainability goes hand in hand with the peace and justice being served to all the members of the society. Societies with strong institutions can ensure that none of its people are left behind. To discuss such ideas and their relation to justice and strong institutions, TI Pakistan organized a webinar on Sustainable Development Goal 16 in which representatives from Ministry of Planning Development and Special



Initiatives, academia and civil society participated. MPD&SI highlighted that weak access to justice, and rising violence are major challenges, exacerbated by economic hardships whereas Prof. Dr Naima Saeed called for research in fostering accountability and institutional integrity. ED TI Pakistan Mr. Kashif Ali emphasized the cross-cutting nature of the SDGs while Mr Aijaz Ali Khawaja, Consultant at UN urged civic engagement for participatory decision-making, and youth-driven initiatives to encourage ownership of governance processes.

Training Workshop

Climate Change Mitigation, Adaptation, and Social Accountability to Enhance Citizens and Civil Society Participation in Climate Governance



Trust in public can be cemented when there is a transparency, and accountability in the conduct of public bodies. The important part to play in this process is the citizen's awareness about their legal rights. As climate action is also one of the areas prone to corruption, TI Pakistan organized a training workshop on Climate Change Mitigation, Adaptation, and Social Accountability to Enhance Citizens and Civil Society Participation in Climate Governance in Peshawar. The training enhanced the understanding of COSs to engage in transparent climate mitigation, adaptation and resilience initiatives. The workshop also linked KP Right to Information Act 2013 to foster fairness and effectiveness in climate action.

Consultation on Climate Change & Women's Health

TI Pakistan Executive Director Mr. Kashif Ali spoke at Consultative Meeting on Climate Change and Women's Well-Being, organized by Ziauddin University in collaboration with FCDO. He called for inclusive climate frameworks to ensure women needs are equally represented in climate change initiatives and sector plans on climate mitigation and adaptation.



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