



Indus Basin Initiative

Building climate resilience by improving the current understanding of water resources and related opportunities and challenges

We work in the four Indus basin countries – Afghanistan, China, India, and Pakistan – to strengthen regional science cooperation and sharing of best available evidence for adaptation-related policy making and practice. Our goal is to improve the resilience of mountain communities through solutions that address the impacts of climate change at various scales in the basin.

What motivates us?

We are motivated to make knowledge about climate change impacts in the Indus basin more accessible, inclusive, and widely used. With this focus on knowledge sharing and cross learning, we work with governments, practitioners, researchers, and communities to convert knowledge into policy inputs and actionable practice.

Accelerated glacier melt in the high mountains, impacting glacier-fed irrigation

Community Based Flood Early Warning Systems (CBFEWS) for better disaster preparedness

Saltwater intrusion damaging crop lands

Using energy-efficient irrigation technologies (such as hydraulic ram and solar pumps) to meet irrigation water requirements.

Lower fish productivity and species decline

Some **268 million** people depend on the Indus basin as a primary source of water for household consumption, agriculture, and energy production

The basin is **ranked 1st** in terms of vulnerability based on meltwater contribution to river flows and basin-wide demand for water among the planet's 78 water towers

Our approach



Science-based regional cooperation

Through forums, networks, and hubs, such as the Upper Indus Basin Network (UIBN), we discuss regional trends in basin-scale climate adaptation; link institutions and practitioners; and facilitate science cooperation, diplomacy, and understanding of upstream–downstream linkages.



Knowledge generation and exchange

We use evidence-based knowledge generated at local, national, and basin scales to communicate the vulnerability of the river basin and to develop scenarios for water availability, access, and demand.



Climate adaptation pilots

We pilot innovative and context-relevant solutions on water resource and hazards management based on the water–energy–food nexus approach. We work with government and civil society partners to scale up and scale out such solutions.



Gender and social inclusion

We work to mainstream gender and social inclusion in water resources and disaster management through groups such as the UIBN's Gender Resource Group and through sharing gender-responsive research and policy inputs.