

OICCI hosts 3rd Pakistan Climate Conference to address urgent climate challenges

KARACHI, January 28, 2025: The third Pakistan Climate Conference, organized by the Overseas Investors Chamber of Commerce and Industry (OICCI), began today at the Mövenpick Hotel, Karachi. The two-day event brings together policymakers, business leaders, environmental experts, and thought leaders to tackle the escalating climate crisis facing Pakistan and propose actionable solutions for mitigation and adaptation.

“I commend OICCI for organizing the 3rd Pakistan Climate Conference to address the urgent climate challenges faced by Pakistan. With the nation ranked among the top 10 most climate-vulnerable countries and the devastating 2022 floods causing over \$30 billion in damages, the need for climate finance and sustainable solutions has never been more critical. Pakistan needs a staggering \$348 billion by 2030 to meet its climate adaptation and mitigation goals,” said Finance Minister Senator Muhammad Aurangzeb.

He added: “Mobilizing sufficient climate finance is critical to addressing Pakistan's pressing climate challenges. To achieve this, we must enhance access to international funds such as the Green Climate Fund (GCF) and the Adaptation Fund. The success of Pakistan's first green Eurobond in 2021, which raised \$500 million, highlights our potential to attract sustainable investments. Scaling up such initiatives, alongside innovative financing tools like green bonds, sustainability-linked loans, and carbon credits, will empower the private sector to play a larger role in climate action.”

He mentioned, “the 10-year Country Partnership Framework worth \$20 Billion recently approved by the World Bank Group (WBG) for Pakistan addressing Climate Resiliency and Decarbonization is a significant development, in this regard, where the Government will closely work with the WBG to address key social sector issues for long-term social and economic sustainability of the country.”

He further emphasized “the Private Sector needs to be in the driving seat to come up with the green investable and bankable projects and take our collective journey forward.”

He said: “OICCI, with wealth of global expertise in Climate change related initiatives, can certainly play its role in terms of partnering and building a bridge between the policy makers and the private sector. This collaborative approach will certainly benefit the country to fast track our Climate resilience related efforts as a nation.”

“The Ministry of Finance remains steadfast in its commitment to creating an enabling environment through fiscal reforms, regulatory support, and capacity building to attract both international and domestic investments in green projects,” he assured.

Dr. Shamshad Akhtar, Chairperson of the Pakistan Stock Exchange and former Finance Minister, delivered the keynote address and opening remarks. Her speech emphasized the economic risks posed by climate change and the need for integrating resilience into national economic strategies.

Pakistan must urgently focus on nurturing its green finance markets to ensure sustainable development and resilience against climate challenges, Dr Akhtar said.

“This requires developing a strong midterm strategic financing plan that aligns with our climate goals and economic priorities. Climate vulnerabilities are not just environmental risks but also the biggest economic threats we face, especially considering Pakistan’s economic struggles,” she added.

Yousaf Hussain, President of OICCI, reiterated the chamber’s commitment to sustainable development. He emphasized the importance of public-private partnerships and collaborative efforts to achieve Pakistan’s climate goals.

“Pakistan’s position as one of the most climate-vulnerable countries calls for urgent and collective action,” he stated. “This conference serves as a platform to catalyze transformative change, enabling us to address sustainability challenges and build a resilient future.”

The conference agenda features panel discussions and presentations on critical topics, including climate finance, economic impacts of climate change, advancing circularity, decarbonization, and public-private partnerships for climate resilience. Thought leaders and experts from Pakistan and abroad will share insights to build a cohesive framework for climate action.

Day 2 will focus on actionable strategies, including policy recommendations and business innovations to drive sustainable development. The event will conclude with a unified call to action for stakeholders to implement effective climate solutions.

Organized with the support of leading organizations, the 3rd Pakistan Climate Conference highlights the collective commitment toward sustainability and a secure future for Pakistan.

About OICCI:

The OICCI is the collective voice of major foreign investors in Pakistan, with over 200 members, from more than 30 countries. OICCI members contribute over one-third of Pakistan’s total tax revenue and are involved in 14 sectors of the economy. They facilitate the transfer of technology and skills and provide employment to a significant number of people. About a fourth of OICCI member companies are listed on the Pakistan Stock Exchange, and many are associates of Global Fortune 500 companies. OICCI members also engage in corporate social responsibility activities benefiting 46 million persons from underprivileged communities.

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OICCI hosts inaugural Climate Excellence Awards at 3rd Pakistan Climate Conference

KARACHI, JANUARY 29, 2025: The Overseas Investors Chamber of Commerce & Industry (OICCI) successfully concluded the 3rd Pakistan Climate Conference today, marking the event with the inaugural OICCI Climate Excellence Awards. The two-day conference brought together key policymakers from federal and provincial governments, climate experts, business leaders, and advocates to discuss and promote sustainable climate action in Pakistan.

Chief Minister Sindh Syed Murad Ali Shah speaking at the conference as the Chief Guest appreciated the OICCI initiatives in focusing on a real threat of changing climate dynamics which in mid-2022 caused massive flooding in Pakistan. The CM highlighted the monumental efforts being made by the Sindh Government to build 2 million houses for flood affectees and many other measures being taken to prevent any future such occurrences.

CM landed the OICCI initiative for organising the 3rd Climate Conference with inputs from global and national experts on sustainability and environment to reduce carbon emission and improve life and property of population.

This year, the OICCI Climate Excellence Awards have also been introduced to recognize and celebrate the outstanding contributions of companies driving climate resilience, sustainability, and green innovation. Winners across six categories included industry leaders who demonstrated exceptional commitment to environmental stewardship:

- Climate Champion Award – Nestlé Pakistan Limited
- Climate Resilience Award – Winner: Unilever Pakistan Limited | Runner-up: Attock Refinery Limited | Special Recognition: Lotte Chemicals Pakistan Limited
- Renewable Energy & Conservation Award – Winner: Reckitt Benckiser Pakistan Limited | Runner-up: Indus Motor Company Limited, Haleon Pakistan Limited
- Water Stewardship & Management Award – Winner: Abbott Laboratories (Pakistan) Limited | Runner-up: Dawlance (Private) Limited | Special Recognition: Archroma Pakistan Limited
- Promoting Circular Economy Award – Winner: Pepsi-Cola International (Private) Limited | 1st Runner-up: Total Parco Pakistan Ltd | 2nd Runner-up: Pakistan Mobile Communications Limited (JAZZ)
- Green Finance & Investment Award – Winner: Saudi Pak Industrial & Agricultural Investment Co. Ltd | 1st Runner-up: Mobilink Microfinance Bank Limited | 2nd Runner-up: Standard Chartered Bank (Pakistan) Limited

Speaking at the event, OICCI Secretary-General M. Abdul Aleem expressed his gratitude to all participants, partners, and stakeholders for making the conference a success. He stated: “The 3rd Pakistan Climate Conference has underscored the urgency of climate

action and the pivotal role businesses must play in driving sustainable solutions. The OICCI Climate Excellence Awards recognize industry leaders who have set a benchmark for environmental responsibility. We thank all our partners, sponsors, and attendees for their valuable contributions in making this event a platform for meaningful dialogue and action.”

The 3rd Pakistan Climate Conference 2025 served as a vital forum for exchanging ideas and strategies to tackle climate change. OICCI reaffirmed its commitment to enabling sustainable business practices and will continue to champion initiatives that promote environmental stewardship in Pakistan.

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