



Reforms and Innovation in Government for High Performance Project



Background & Project Overview

Pakistan ranks 161 out of 193 countries on the UN’s E-Government Development Index (2022), reflecting persistent gaps in governance, public service delivery, and institutional capacity. Despite constitutional guarantees, the state has struggled to ensure the social and economic well-being of its citizens — particularly women and marginalized communities.

To address these structural challenges, the Reforms and Innovation in Government for High Performance (RIGHP) project was launched as a flagship initiative to drive public

sector transformation. Now in its seventh year, RIGHP focuses on evidence-based policy planning and implementation, alongside inclusive digital and anticipatory governance, to make government more responsive, transparent, and future-ready.

Quick Facts



Duration

June 2019 - December 2028



Implementing Partners

Ministry of Planning, Development and Special Initiatives; Prime Minister’s Office; Federal Ministries of Economic Affairs, Finance, Climate Change; Planning and Development departments of provincial governments; Parliament



Funding Partners

United Kingdom



Location

Nationwide



Total Budget

US\$3.8 million (for 2025)

Objectives

RIGHP contributes to the achievement of UNDP's Strategic Plan and Country Programme outcomes by leveraging gender inclusion and digital transformation as cross-cutting enablers. The project delivers impact through three core outputs:

- **Institutional Strengthening:** Enhancing governance and service delivery through evidence-based policymaking and implementation support.
- **E-Governance and Innovation:** Advancing digital transformation and innovation in public sector institutions to build inclusive, citizen-centered digital societies.
- **Risk Governance and Resilience:** Integrating disaster risk reduction and resilience frameworks into institutional systems to strengthen preparedness and crisis response.

Impact

RIGHP empowers Pakistan's governance landscape through institutional capacity-building and innovative reforms, enabling inclusive social and economic resilience — particularly for marginalized communities and women.

Key Interventions

Project interventions are delivered under two thematic streams:



Sub-National Governance Programme – II

- Support the Prime Minister's Office in developing strategic coordination mechanisms and economic roadmaps to drive key reforms.
- Assist the Government of Sindh in implementing the Risk Governance Framework and strengthening disaster preparedness in high-risk districts, with phased handover to local authorities.
- Help the Provincial Disaster Management Authority Sindh establish a dedicated DRR Wing to improve disaster management and resilience.
- Develop a dashboard to provide real-time disaster risk data and early warning systems for Sindh.
- Conduct studies and evaluations to improve disaster risk financing and refine risk governance approaches.
- Initiate an impact evaluation of Sub-National Governance Programme – II in Punjab and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa to assess institutional strengthening and improved government performance.



National Governance Programme

- Launch a Data Integration Pilot with Benazir Income Support Programme to improve data exchange and targeting within the social protection system.
- Develop an Aid Effectiveness Dashboard for better alignment of foreign assistance with national development goals.
- Support the Ministry of Climate Change in coordinating Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and the National Adaptation Plan at all levels.
- Provide strategic planning support to strengthen evidence-based, long-term development planning.
- Initiate energy sector reform scoping to promote more sustainable and efficient pricing and subsidy structures.
- Strengthen statutory coordination forums and develop an Intergovernmental Coordination Index.
- Support enhanced parliamentary oversight through collaboration with the National Assembly and key committees.