Indus Consortium
Humanitarian Environment and Development Initiatives

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

August 2026

Policy dialogue calls for stable EV framework, wider charging network

Indus Consortium hosted a policy dialogue titled "Electrifying Everyday Mobility: Advancing Public Transport and Two & Three-Wheelers" at the Pakistan Red Crescent in Islamabad.

The dialogue was a part of the Climate Justice Youth Film Festival, which brought together representatives from government ministries, academia, financial institutions, the private sector, development partners and civil society to discuss practical pathways for accelerating affordable electric mobility across Pakistan, in line with the Government's New Energy Vehicle (NEV) Policy 2025 to 2030. The policy targets 30 per cent electrification of all new vehicle sales by 2030, with a specific target of 50 per cent electrification for two-wheelers, three-wheelers and buses over the same period.

The Policy Dialogue session was moderated by Ms Fiza Qureshi, Coordinator, Big Shift Global. Speakers included Mr Rashid Azeem, Head of Sustainability, ESG and Climate Risk, UBL; Ms Noreen Ghaffar, Executive Member, RCCI; Dr Khalid Waleed, Research Fellow, Sustainable Development Policy Institute; Ms Shaheen Akhtar, Deputy Chief Manager , Internal Monitoring Division, State Bank of Pakistan; and Dr Tariq Usman, Deputy Director, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Department of Transport and Mass Transit.

In his welcome remarks, Mr Liaqat Ali, Board of Directors member, Indus Consortium, said Pakistan needed a stable, long-term EV policy framework instead of frequent changes, so that industry and financial institutions could plan and invest with confidence Senator Poonjo Mal Bheel, member senate standing committee on power, said charging and battery-swapping infrastructure must be expanded well beyond highways into cities, residential areas and rural regions to support everyday EV use, and that the national grid required upgrading and stronger integration with renewable energy to reliably meet growing EV demand.

Dr Fateh Marri, Vice Chancellor of Sindh University Jamshoro acknowledged Indus Consortium for engaging university students in creativity initiative of film festival. He said youth is future of country, and they will be equipped with knowledge, skills, & exposure to showcase their ideas and thoughts through films.

Speakers urged that the local manufacturing of EVs, batteries and components should be promoted as a distinct industrial priority to reduce costs and build a self-sustaining EV industry. They said banks and financial institutions needed clearer standards on battery life and resale value, along with de-risking mechanisms, to unlock affordable EV financing for consumers and businesses, and called for closer coordination between government ministries, regulators, financial institutions and industry to ensure policy, grid development and financing moved forward together towards the 2030 targets.

The discussion focused on innovative financing and leasing mechanisms, effective delivery of consumer incentives and subsidies, expansion of charging and battery-swapping infrastructure, localisation of EV manufacturing and supply chains, integration of renewable energy with electric mobility, and the policy and regulatory reforms needed to create an enabling investment environment. The dialogue also provided a platform for stakeholders to share international and national best practices and develop actionable recommendations to support Pakistan's transition towards a cleaner, more resilient and climate-smart transport system.

The policy dialogue was followed by screening of short films developed by the participating university students. The first prize went to University of Baluchistan, Quetta, runner up was NED University of Engineering and Technology while third prize was awarded to University of Sindh, Jamshoro. Other participant universities included Pir Maher Ali Shah Arid Agriculture University, Rawalpindi, University of Engineering and Technology, Peshawar, Sindh Agriculture University, Tandojam and Muhammad Nawaz Sharif Agriculture University, Multan.

Workshop held on Climate Reporting Standards for domestic banks

Indus Consortium organised a workshop on "Sustainability and Compliance Reporting" for domestic commercial banks, bringing together banking professionals to strengthen their practical understanding of climate risk, sustainable finance, and regulatory disclosure requirements.

The workshop was attended by representatives from Samba Bank, Bank AL Habib, Sindh Bank, Bank Alfalah, United Bank Limited, Meezan Bank, Faysal Bank, Soneri Bank, and Dubai Islamic Bank.

Sessions covered climate risk assessment, IFRS S1 and S2 sustainability disclosure standards, and climate stress testing, alongside discussions on disclosure readiness, governance frameworks, climate data management, and implementation roadmaps for banks.

Speaking at the opening session, Hussain Jarwar, CEO of Indus Consortium, said sustainability and climate reporting would form an important part of banks' future interventions. He said banks would need to adhere to and comply with all climate reporting requirements going forward.

Indus Consortium
Humanitarian Environment and Development Initiatives

Indus consortium pledges to highlight the environmental, disaster risk, and development issues of riverine communities living along the river Indus basin and its tributaries in Pakistan.