

## Challenges and Opportunities on the Pathway to Net Zero: Focus on National Planning Frameworks

Roundtable Dialogue at the Nexus Summit: Harmonizing Energy, Water and Agriculture Systems for a Low Emissions Future, March 07-08, 2024, organized by the Centre for Water Informatics & Technology at LUMS.

**Time:** 02:15 PM – 04:15 PM.

**Date:** March 07, 2024.

**Venue:** NICL Auditorium, Basement, SBASSE Building, LUMS.

**Moderator:** Dr. Abubakr Muhammad Associate Professor, Dept. of Electrical Engineering, Executive Director, Center for Water Informatics & Technology (WIT).

This roundtable session at the Nexus Summit aims to foster a constructive dialogue with people from diverse perspectives and sectors on the challenges and opportunities associated with Pakistan's pathway in attaining the net zero goal.

The session will commence with a brief presentation to define the concept of net zero in the context of Pakistan's environmental and developmental goals and Pakistan's current national planning frameworks concerning sustainability and climate action. The session will then steer towards an open floor discussion on the following focus points:

- Challenges and Opportunities in Achieving Net Zero for Pakistan
  - How can Pakistan's obligation on the international stage be understood in light of its relatively low contribution to global GHG emissions contrasted with its high vulnerability to climate change impacts?
  - Is there a gap between global targets and Pakistan's national policy in transitioning towards a net-zero economy? What are the most significant challenges in bridging this gap?
  - How can Pakistan address challenges related to resource availability, infrastructure, and technological readiness in its journey towards net zero?
- Transformational Scenarios and Policy Modeling
  - What are some feasible transformation scenarios for key sectors such as energy, transportation, agriculture, and industry in Pakistan? How can innovations in renewable energy, sustainable transportation, and green infrastructure be leveraged to drive the transition?
  - How can policy modeling and scenario analysis help policymakers navigate complex decision-making processes towards achieving net zero?
- Policy Planning and Collaboration
  - How can national planning frameworks better integrate climate and sustainability goals into broader development strategies?
  - What role should collaboration between government agencies, civil society, academia, and the private sector play in driving policy coherence and implementation?

This session will help in fostering an inclusive dialogue that embraces diverse perspectives on the challenges and opportunities inherent in Pakistan's journey toward net zero.