

7th Karachi International Water Conference

Water, People, Health – Coping with Floods

October 28th & 29th, 2025

Living Charter for Water & People a Call for Action

Inputs from Simi Kamal and Ahmad Rafay Alam

Elements of the Living Charter

- The Global Scenario
- Framing the Issue for Pakistan
 - Who Lacks Water Justice?
 - Systemic Roots of Injustice
 - Principles of a Just Water Future
- Building Pride in Hydrology and Geography of Pakistan
- Filling Governance Gaps
- Maintaining the Integrity of the Indus Basin
 - But not forgetting *Barani* (rain-fed, non-irrigated) areas
- Building capacities for Pakistan's Water Economy
- Instituting Circular Economy of Water in Urban Areas
- Adaptation to Cycle of Floods and Droughts
- Building a Base for Science, Technology, and the Social Aspects of Water
- Holding the Public Sector to Account

Inputs from Dr Yasmeen Qazi, Thematic Leader Health Stream

- Create an operational multi-sectoral roadmap
- Integrate WASH as a 'nutrient' in nutrition programs
- Develop and adopt SOPs for maternal and primary care providers
- Pilot and evaluate Public-Private-Community Partnerships (PPC/PPP)
- Community-led social behaviour change (SBC) campaigns
- Institutionalize research-to-action mechanisms
- Link family planning to stunting reduction

Inputs from Senator Mushahid Hussain Sayed

- Prioritize women-led programming
- Design pilots for hybrid delivery models
- Create a 'Results Unit'
- Replicate/scale the Panjwani-Hisaar Water Institute model
- Shift donor engagement to performance-based financing

Inputs from Dr Xaher Gul

- Shift from awareness campaigns to community-rooted behaviour change strategies
- Create formal roles and authority for women and youth in water governance
- Invest in anticipatory flood systems and preparedness, not reactive relief alone
- Mandate community decision-making seats for primary caregivers
- Introduce contingency authority