

**PAKISTAN ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
STATE OF ENVIRONMENT REPORT 2005**

DRAFT FOR CONSULTATION

**COMMISSIONED BY PAK-EPA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT
GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN**

THROUGH

NATIONAL ENVIRONMENT ACTION PLAN – SUPPORT PROGRAM

SUB-PROGRAM: POLLUTION CONTROL

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About this Report

The Ministry of Environment has initiated the National Environmental Action Plan-Support Program (NEAP-SP) with the assistance of UNDP to support implementation of National Environmental Action Plan and the environmental aspects of Pakistan's Poverty Reduction Strategy. The NEAP-SP aims at environmental sustainability and poverty reduction in the context of economic growth. Pakistan Environmental Protection Act, 1997 obligates Pakistan Environmental Protection Agency (Pak-EPA) to “prepare and publish an annual National Environment Report on the state of the environment”. It is therefore a legislative requirement for Pak-EPA to assess state of the environment and take stock of programmes, activities and projects executed to improve environmental conditions in the country.

SoE report attempts to synthesize information about the state of the environment, population pressure on the environment and resource management. It would provide a public record of the activities of government, industry and the civil society in protecting and restoring the environment. The objective of the report is to increase the awareness and understanding of environmental trends and conditions and to provide a foundation for decision-making by the Pakistan Environmental Protection Council. The SoE attempts to also help gauge progress towards sustainability.

This SoE report hold significance as it the first such report that compiles information on Pakistan’s environmental challenges in various sectors as well as progress made therein. Pak-EPA commissioned this report to not only fulfil the institutional obligation for reporting on environment under the Pakistan Environmental Protection Act, 1997, but also to bring together information in a systematic manner for easy reference. The sectoral themes identified in the SoE report converge to the priority environmental challenges faced by Pakistan in the recent years. This is done with a view to lay solid foundations for a sustainable SoE reporting system as a significant program area for Pak-EPA scope of responsibilities.

It is hoped that in the years to come, the SoE will be coordinating nod for environmental reporting in Pakistan – one which is informed by sectoral and inter-sectoral environmental themes by all stakeholders.