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GREEN DIPLOMACY AND CLIMATE DISCOURSE IN A MULTIPOLAR WORLD: PAKISTAN'S ENVIRONMENTAL NARRATIVES AND INTERNATIONAL COMMUNICATION STRATEGY

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Abstract
This paper examines how Pakistan can convert climate vulnerability into credible diplomatic agency by aligning domestic resilience, climate finance claims, and international communication. The paper argues that in a multipolar order—where the United States, China, the European Union, Gulf states, multilateral banks, and Global South coalitions all shape climate priorities—Pakistan's climate diplomacy cannot rely only on appeals to victimhood. It must build a disciplined narrative architecture that joins climate justice with evidence-based adaptation, low-carbon transition, ecological restoration, and regional cooperation. Using qualitative document analysis and critical discourse analysis, the study reviews Pakistan's updated NDC, National Adaptation Plan, National Climate Change Policy, Living Indus initiative, post-2022 flood recovery assessments, IPCC and UNEP reports, and recent COP finance outcomes. It develops a new Pakistan Green Narrative Diplomacy Framework (PGNDF), which links five communicative functions: vulnerability translation, justice framing, credibility signaling, coalition brokerage, and domestic-international feedback. The analysis finds that Pakistan's strongest climate narrative emerges when it connects low emissions and high exposure to concrete policy instruments, including renewable energy targets, green sukuk, nature-based restoration, adaptation planning, loss-and-damage advocacy, and climate-resilient reconstruction. However, gaps remain in message consistency, subnational coordination, multilingual outreach, data transparency, and regional environmental communication. The paper proposes an "Indus Climate Narrative Compact," a new communication-diplomacy mechanism that would integrate diplomatic messaging, scientific evidence, media strategy, diaspora engagement, and basin-based ecological cooperation for audiences across multilateral, regional, and national arenas. The paper concludes that Pakistan can become a norm entrepreneur in climate justice and adaptation diplomacy if it transforms environmental narratives into measurable policy credibility and internationally legible communication.
Keywords: *Green diplomacy, climate discourse, Pakistan, multipolarity, climate justice, environmental communication, loss and damage, Indus Basin, climate finance.*

1. INTRODUCTION

Climate change has moved from a technical environmental issue to a central question of diplomacy, development, security, finance, and global communication. The IPCC's Sixth Assessment Synthesis Report states that human activities have unequivocally caused global warming and that climate impacts, losses, and damages are already widespread and unequally distributed across regions, sectors, and social groups (IPCC, 2023). It also stresses that climate,

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ecosystems, biodiversity, human well-being, adaptation, mitigation, and sustainable development are interdependent rather than separate policy domains.

This interdependence has created a new diplomatic terrain. Green diplomacy is no longer limited to treaty negotiation; it now includes finance diplomacy, disaster diplomacy, media diplomacy, technology diplomacy, food-water-energy diplomacy, and credibility-building through domestic policy implementation (Falkner, 2016). In the current multipolar world, climate bargaining is shaped not by a single hegemon but by overlapping powers, institutions, and coalitions. The UNFCCC remains central, yet the World Bank, IMF, G20, China's Belt and Road Initiative, EU carbon regulation, Gulf green investment, private finance, civil society, and climate-vulnerable coalitions all shape the field of climate action (Keohane & Victor, 2011; Coen, Kreienkamp, & Pegram, 2020).

The urgency of this field is evident in global emissions trends. UNEP reported that global greenhouse gas emissions reached a record 57.1 $GtCO_2e$ in 2023, while current policies could lead to warming of about 3.1°C over the century unless mitigation accelerates dramatically (UNEP, 2024). This means that climate diplomacy is taking place in a world where scientific warnings are increasingly clear but political implementation remains delayed.

Pakistan occupies a distinctive position in this global discourse. It contributes only about 0.9% of global greenhouse gas emissions, according to its updated NDC, yet it is one of the countries most exposed to floods, heat stress, glacial melt, water insecurity, and climate-related displacement (Government of Pakistan, 2021). Pakistan's updated NDC commits to an overall 50% reduction of projected emissions by 2030, with 15% from domestic resources and 35% conditional on international support.

The devastating 2022 floods made Pakistan a major case in global climate justice discourse. The Post-Disaster Needs Assessment reported that one-third of the country was under water, about 33 million people were affected, and nearly 8 million people were displaced (Government of Pakistan, World Bank, ADB, EU, & UN, 2022). These figures strengthened Pakistan's moral claim in debates on loss and damage, adaptation finance, and climate-resilient reconstruction.

The same disaster also exposed the limits of narrative diplomacy when not fully supported by long-term governance capacity. The PDNA estimated damages above US$14.9 billion, losses of about US$15.2 billion, and resilient recovery needs of at least US$16.3 billion (Government of Pakistan et al., 2022). For Pakistan, therefore, green diplomacy must do two tasks simultaneously: it must communicate climate injustice internationally and demonstrate domestic credibility through policy, data, planning, and implementation.

This paper argues that Pakistan should move from a reactive "climate victim" discourse toward a proactive "climate justice and resilience broker" discourse. The new idea developed here is the Pakistan Green Narrative Diplomacy Framework (PGNDF), supported by an Indus Climate Narrative Compact. The framework suggests that Pakistan's international climate communication should combine five elements: evidence of vulnerability, justice-based claims, credible domestic policy, coalition-building in a multipolar order, and feedback from local communities into global diplomacy.

The core research question is:

How can Pakistan construct a credible, justice-oriented, and policy-linked green diplomatic narrative in a multipolar climate order?

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The sub-research questions are:

1. How does Pakistan frame its environmental vulnerability in international climate discourse?
2. How does Pakistan connect climate justice with policy credibility?
3. What opportunities does multipolarity create for Pakistan's green diplomacy?
4. What communication gaps limit Pakistan's ability to convert vulnerability into diplomatic influence?
5. How can the PGNDF and Indus Climate Narrative Compact improve Pakistan's climate diplomacy?

The paper addresses this question by reviewing literature, building a framework, outlining a qualitative methodology, analyzing policy and diplomatic documents, and discussing implications for Pakistan's environmental narratives and international communication.

2. REVIEW OF LITERATURE

2.1 Green diplomacy and the transformation of climate governance

Green diplomacy refers to the use of diplomatic instruments to address environmental problems, negotiate cooperation, mobilize finance, influence norms, and project international identity through ecological responsibility. Unlike traditional diplomacy, green diplomacy is not confined to foreign ministries. It involves climate ministries, finance ministries, disaster authorities, development banks, scientific institutions, media organizations, cities, civil society, and non-state actors (Betsill & Corell, 2008; Bäckstrand, Kuyper, Linnér, & Lövbrand, 2017).

The literature on global climate governance shows that the climate regime is not a single centralized structure. Keohane and Victor (2011) describe it as a "regime complex," meaning a system of overlapping institutions, agreements, rules, and actors. This is especially relevant in a multipolar world because countries must negotiate across multiple arenas: UNFCCC conferences, development finance forums, trade regimes, security dialogues, and regional organizations.

Coen, Kreienkamp, and Pegram (2020) similarly emphasize that global climate governance includes formal treaty processes, transnational networks, private initiatives, and subnational actors. This wider structure creates opportunities for countries such as Pakistan because climate diplomacy is not restricted to great-power bargaining. Middle powers and vulnerable states can shape agendas through moral authority, coalition diplomacy, scientific evidence, and strategic communication.

Falkner (2016) argues that the Paris Agreement introduced a new logic of international climate politics by combining universal participation with nationally determined contributions. This makes national narratives important because countries must explain their commitments, constraints, and ambitions to international audiences. For Pakistan, the NDC is therefore not merely a technical emissions document; it is a diplomatic narrative about vulnerability, responsibility, conditional ambition, and development space.

The COP process has further intensified climate finance diplomacy. COP28 produced the first global stocktake and called for accelerating the transition away from fossil fuels, while COP29 adopted a new finance goal of US$300 billion annually by 2035 and a broader effort to scale finance toward US$1.3 trillion annually by 2035 (UNFCCC, 2024). These developments show that climate discourse is increasingly centered on implementation, finance, and accountability.

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2.2 Climate discourse, framing, and narrative power

Climate discourse refers to the ways climate change is represented through language, symbols, numbers, stories, images, and policy categories. Hajer (1995) argues that environmental politics is shaped by "storylines" that connect actors around shared interpretations of problems. Dryzek (2013) similarly shows that environmental discourses organize how societies understand ecological limits, sustainability, survival, justice, and modernization.

Critical discourse analysis is useful because climate politics is not only about material interests; it is also about meaning-making (Fairclough, 1992). Terms such as "climate justice," "loss and damage," "resilience," "green transition," "common but differentiated responsibilities," and "nature-based solutions" are not neutral labels. They carry assumptions about responsibility, agency, finance, and moral obligation (Roberts & Parks, 2007; Okereke & Coventry, 2016).

Framing theory also matters. Entman (1993) defines framing as selecting some aspects of reality and making them more salient in communication. Pakistan's climate communication often selects low emissions, high vulnerability, and extreme disasters as central elements. This framing is valid, but the literature suggests that persuasive climate communication must also include agency, solutions, and credibility (Nisbet, 2009).

This is where international communication becomes central to diplomacy. Nye's concept of soft power emphasizes attraction and legitimacy rather than coercion (Nye, 2004). A country's climate reputation can become a form of soft power when it is seen as scientifically informed, morally credible, and practically committed. Pakistan's challenge is that vulnerability gives it moral voice, but implementation credibility determines whether that voice converts into finance, partnerships, and agenda-setting capacity.

2.3 Pakistan, vulnerability, and climate justice

Pakistan's climate vulnerability is widely recognized in official and development literature. The World Bank's Pakistan Country Climate and Development Report states that climate threats from heat, droughts, and floods could reduce GDP by up to 9% by 2050 in a pessimistic scenario, and combined climate and environmental risks could reduce annual GDP by 18–20% by 2050 (World Bank, 2022).

Pakistan's National Adaptation Plan presents adaptation as a national development imperative and emphasizes climate-resilient communities, green livelihoods, social equity, ecosystem protection, governance, and sustainable infrastructure (Government of Pakistan, 2023). It also stresses that adaptation should be gender-responsive, participatory, transparent, and socially inclusive.

The NAP's principles align with global adaptation literature. Adger, Arnell, and Tompkins (2005) argue that adaptation capacity is shaped by institutions, resources, information, social capital, and governance. Pelling (2011) adds that adaptation is not just technical adjustment but can become transformational when it changes unequal development patterns. In Pakistan's case, adaptation discourse must therefore connect climate resilience with poverty reduction, food security, gender justice, local government, and water governance.

The 2022 floods strengthened Pakistan's climate justice narrative, especially during debates on loss and damage. The disaster illustrated what climate justice scholars have long argued: countries and communities that contribute least to global emissions often face the most severe impacts (Roberts & Parks, 2007). However, climate justice communication is strongest when it combines moral claims with evidence, institutional readiness, and specific financing proposals.

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Pakistan's updated NDC already contains elements of such a narrative. It presents Pakistan as a low emitter, a vulnerable country, and a state willing to pursue mitigation through renewable energy, electric vehicles, a moratorium on imported coal power, and nature-based solutions (Government of Pakistan, 2021). It states targets of 60% energy from renewable sources including hydropower by 2030 and 30% electric vehicles among new vehicle sales by 2030.

2.4 Multipolarity and Pakistan's diplomatic space

Multipolarity complicates climate diplomacy because climate cooperation is shaped by competition over technology, finance, minerals, energy security, carbon markets, and geopolitical influence. The United States, China, the European Union, Gulf economies, and emerging powers each promote different models of green transition. For developing countries, this creates both opportunity and risk: they can diversify partnerships, but they may also face fragmented standards, debt exposure, and geopolitical pressure (Biermann & Pattberg, 2012; Coen et al., 2020).

Pakistan's location makes this especially important. It is connected to China through CPEC, to the Gulf through labor and finance flows, to Western institutions through the IMF and World Bank, to South Asia through shared environmental risks, and to Islamic finance markets through sukuk instruments. In 2025, Pakistan launched its first sovereign domestic green sukuk, signaling an attempt to connect climate finance with Islamic finance and domestic capital markets (Government of Pakistan, 2025).

This multipolar environment allows Pakistan to act as a bridge-builder among Global South climate justice coalitions, Islamic finance networks, multilateral development banks, and regional ecological cooperation platforms. Yet this requires disciplined communication. Pakistan must avoid fragmented messaging in which one audience hears only climate victimhood, another hears investment opportunity, and another hears energy transition. A coherent narrative must integrate these messages.

2.5 Proposed framework: Pakistan Green Narrative Diplomacy Framework

This paper proposes the **Pakistan Green Narrative Diplomacy Framework (PGNDF)**. It is a new conceptual framework for linking environmental narratives with diplomatic practice and international communication.

Framework component	Core question	Pakistan-specific application
Vulnerability translation	How is climate harm converted into diplomatic language?	Use flood, heat, glacial melt, smog, and water stress data to communicate human security risks.
Justice framing	How are responsibility and fairness explained?	Link Pakistan's low emissions with loss-and-damage claims and adaptation finance needs.
Credibility signaling	How does domestic action support external claims?	Highlight NDC targets, NAP principles, Living Indus, green sukuk, renewable energy, and resilience planning.
Coalition brokerage	How does Pakistan build influence in a multipolar order?	Work through G77, V20, OIC, MDBs, South Asian platforms, and climate-vulnerable alliances.
Feedback legitimacy	How do local experiences inform global diplomacy?	Include communities, provinces, women, youth, farmers, scientists, and disaster-affected groups in narrative formation.

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The PGNDF draws on constructivist international relations theory, which argues that state interests and identities are shaped through norms and meanings (Wendt, 1992). It also draws on two-level game theory, where governments must negotiate internationally while maintaining domestic legitimacy (Putnam, 1988). Applied to Pakistan, this means climate diplomacy must be credible both abroad and at home.

The framework's main contribution is that it treats climate diplomacy as a narrative-performance system. Pakistan's discourse must not only persuade international actors; it must also organize domestic institutions around measurable climate action. In this sense, narrative is not propaganda. It is a strategic bridge between evidence, policy, identity, finance, and cooperation.

3. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This study uses a qualitative research design based on document analysis and critical discourse analysis. Qualitative methods are appropriate because the research question focuses on meaning, framing, narrative construction, and diplomatic communication rather than numerical causal testing (Fairclough, 1992; Bowen, 2009).

The study analyzes official reports, policy documents, and international climate governance texts. The core Pakistan-specific documents include the Updated Nationally Determined Contribution 2021, National Climate Change Policy 2021, National Adaptation Plan 2023, Living Indus initiative, Pakistan Floods 2022 PDNA, World Bank Pakistan CCDR 2022, and Pakistan's recent climate finance initiatives. These documents are selected because they represent Pakistan's formal climate narrative, domestic policy commitments, and international communication strategy.

The global documents include the IPCC AR6 Synthesis Report, UNEP Emissions Gap Report 2024, COP28 outcomes, COP29 finance outcomes, and COP30 updates. These are selected because they define the international context in which Pakistan's climate discourse circulates. The IPCC provides scientific authority, UNEP provides emissions-gap evidence, and UNFCCC COP outcomes define diplomatic opportunities and constraints.

The analytical strategy has four steps. First, the study identifies recurring themes in the documents, such as vulnerability, justice, resilience, finance, adaptation, energy transition, and ecological restoration. Second, it examines how these themes are framed: as moral claims, investment needs, technical plans, security risks, or development opportunities. Third, it compares Pakistan's domestic policy language with global climate discourse. Fourth, it uses the PGNDF to assess whether Pakistan's narrative is coherent, credible, and diplomatically useful.

The study uses purposive sampling rather than random sampling. Documents are selected because of their policy significance and relevance to Pakistan's international climate communication. This is consistent with qualitative document analysis, where the goal is depth, interpretive relevance, and triangulation rather than statistical representativeness (Bowen, 2009).

The study's validity is strengthened through triangulation. Pakistan's claims are compared with scientific reports, development assessments, and UNFCCC outcomes. For example, Pakistan's NDC claim about low emissions is assessed alongside adaptation needs, flood damage, and global finance debates. The limitation is that the paper does not conduct interviews with diplomats, journalists, civil society actors, or local communities. Future research could strengthen the framework through elite interviews, media corpus analysis, and field-based narrative research in flood-affected regions.

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4. DATA COLLECTION AND ANALYSIS

4.1 Data corpus

The paper uses a qualitative corpus of policy and diplomatic documents. The table below summarizes the core data.

Document/report	Year	Relevance to the study
Pakistan Updated NDC	2021	Defines mitigation targets, adaptation priorities, and conditional finance needs.
Pakistan National Climate Change Policy	2021	Provides domestic policy direction for climate-resilient and low-carbon development.
Living Indus initiative	2022	Frames ecological restoration as a national climate-resilience narrative.
Pakistan Floods 2022 PDNA	2022	Provides evidence for loss, damage, displacement, and recovery needs.
World Bank Pakistan CCDR	2022	Links climate action with development, finance, resilience, and growth.
Pakistan National Adaptation Plan	2023	Defines adaptation principles, governance priorities, and inclusion.
UNEP Emissions Gap Report	2024	Provides global mitigation context and emissions-gap evidence.
COP28/COP29/COP30 UNFCCC outcomes	2023–2025	Provide diplomatic context on fossil transition, finance, and cooperation.
Pakistan Economic Survey climate chapter	2025	Indicates emerging green finance tools such as green sukuk.

4.2 Theme one: vulnerability as diplomatic evidence

Pakistan's climate discourse begins with vulnerability. The 2022 floods are the most powerful evidence because they combine human suffering, economic loss, infrastructure destruction, and development reversal. The PDNA states that 33 million people were affected and nearly 8 million were displaced, while more than 1,700 people died (Government of Pakistan et al., 2022). This evidence supports Pakistan's argument that climate change is not a future abstraction but a present development crisis.

However, vulnerability must be translated carefully. If Pakistan communicates only suffering, it may receive sympathy but not strategic partnership. If it communicates vulnerability together with policy readiness, it can strengthen claims for grants, concessional finance, technical assistance, disaster-risk insurance, and adaptation partnerships. This is why the PGNDF emphasizes "vulnerability translation" rather than vulnerability repetition.

4.3 Theme two: justice framing and responsibility

Pakistan's climate justice discourse rests on the contrast between low emissions and high exposure. Its updated NDC states that Pakistan contributes about 0.9% of global GHG emissions while facing severe climate impacts (Government of Pakistan, 2021). This gives Pakistan a strong ethical position in debates on common but differentiated responsibilities, adaptation finance, and loss and damage.

The challenge is that justice framing must be specific. Instead of only saying "Pakistan deserves climate finance," Pakistan's diplomacy should identify which finance is needed, for what projects, under what safeguards, and with what measurable resilience outcomes. The COP29

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finance outcome, which set a US$300 billion annual goal by 2035, gives Pakistan a diplomatic platform but not an automatic financing pipeline (UNFCCC, 2024).

4.4 Theme three: credibility through domestic policy

Pakistan's strongest narrative assets are those that combine justice with domestic policy. The updated NDC sets a 50% projected-emissions reduction target by 2030, including 15% from domestic resources and 35% conditional on international support. It also includes targets for renewable energy, electric vehicles, imported coal restrictions, and nature-based solutions (Government of Pakistan, 2021).

The National Adaptation Plan strengthens this credibility by framing adaptation as inclusive, evidence-based, local, flexible, and equity-oriented. Its guiding principles include mainstreaming climate adaptation, acting locally, promoting nature-based solutions, leaving no one behind, addressing inequity, and building capacity (Government of Pakistan, 2023).

The Living Indus initiative adds ecological depth to Pakistan's narrative. It reframes the Indus Basin not only as a water resource but as a living ecological system requiring restoration, resilience, and coordinated governance. UNEP recognized Living Indus as a restoration flagship and reported that the initiative aims to restore large areas of Indus Basin ecosystems by 2030.

4.5 Theme four: climate finance and green economic communication

Climate finance is central to Pakistan's green diplomacy because the country's climate needs exceed domestic fiscal capacity. The World Bank CCDR estimates total climate-resilient and low-carbon development needs of about US$348 billion up to 2030 (World Bank, 2022). This scale requires a diplomatic narrative that can attract concessional finance, grants, private investment, blended finance, Islamic finance, and carbon-market readiness.

Pakistan's first green sukuk is important because it gives the country a concrete financial instrument to communicate. Green sukuk can connect Islamic finance with climate-resilient infrastructure, renewable energy, and clean transport. This is diplomatically useful because it allows Pakistan to speak to Gulf investors, domestic savers, multilateral institutions, and climate-finance platforms through one instrument (Government of Pakistan, 2025).

4.6 Theme five: multipolar coalition brokerage

Pakistan has opportunities to act as a coalition broker. In the UNFCCC, it can align with G77, climate-vulnerable countries, and loss-and-damage coalitions. In Islamic forums, it can promote green sukuk and faith-compatible climate finance. In South Asia, it can raise regional concerns on smog, floods, glacial melt, and water stress. In relations with China, Gulf states, the EU, and multilateral banks, it can frame climate cooperation as development stability.

The COP30 context shows that multilateral climate cooperation continues despite geopolitical tension. UNFCCC updates from Belém emphasized that climate cooperation remained alive despite difficult political conditions (UNFCCC, 2025). For Pakistan, this means that multipolarity should not be treated only as fragmentation; it can also be used as diplomatic diversification.

4.7 Summary of findings

The analysis finds six major patterns. First, Pakistan's vulnerability narrative is strong and globally recognizable. Second, climate justice framing is morally persuasive but must be tied to project-ready finance demands. Third, Pakistan's domestic policy documents contain credible elements, but their international communication is not always unified. Fourth, climate finance has become the central bridge between discourse and implementation. Fifth, Pakistan's

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ecological diplomacy is underdeveloped compared with its disaster diplomacy. Sixth, the Indus Basin could become the organizing symbol of Pakistan's next-generation green diplomacy.

5. DISCUSSION

The central argument of this paper is that Pakistan should not abandon climate justice discourse; rather, it should upgrade it. Climate justice remains essential because Pakistan's emissions are low and its losses are severe. Yet in a competitive multipolar environment, justice claims become more powerful when combined with credible implementation, clear financing pathways, and strategic communication.

The first implication is that Pakistan needs a shift from event-based diplomacy to system-based diplomacy. At present, Pakistan's global climate visibility often rises after disasters, especially floods. This creates moral urgency but also makes Pakistan's communication reactive. A system-based approach would communicate year-round evidence on glacial melt, heat stress, smog, water scarcity, resilient agriculture, and urban climate risks.

The second implication is that Pakistan should frame adaptation as development strategy, not emergency response. The NAP already supports this by linking adaptation with livelihoods, equity, governance, infrastructure, and ecosystem protection (Government of Pakistan, 2023). The diplomatic message should be that adaptation finance is not charity; it is investment in regional stability, food security, migration prevention, and sustainable development.

The third implication is that Pakistan should use the Indus as its core environmental narrative. The Indus Basin connects climate change with water, agriculture, biodiversity, culture, livelihoods, provincial politics, transboundary relations, and ecological restoration. An "Indus Climate Narrative Compact" would give Pakistan a recognizable diplomatic brand similar to how small island states use ocean survival narratives.

The proposed Indus Climate Narrative Compact would have five pillars. First, a scientific pillar would produce accessible climate-risk data for international audiences. Second, a community pillar would document lived experiences of farmers, women, fishers, mountain communities, and flood survivors. Third, a finance pillar would translate adaptation needs into bankable projects. Fourth, a media pillar would create multilingual communication for global, regional, and domestic audiences. Fifth, a diplomatic pillar would align Pakistan's missions abroad, COP delegations, diaspora networks, and ministries around a common message.

The fourth implication is that Pakistan should develop climate credibility diplomacy. This means regularly publishing transparent progress on NDC implementation, adaptation indicators, climate finance received and used, green sukuk allocation, and disaster-risk reduction outcomes. The IPCC emphasizes that finance, technology, and international cooperation are critical enablers of accelerated climate action (IPCC, 2023). Pakistan's communication should therefore show not only need, but absorptive capacity and accountability.

The fifth implication is regional. Pakistan's green diplomacy should include India, Afghanistan, Iran, China, and Central Asia where possible, even when political relations are strained. Climate risks do not respect borders. Smog, floods, glaciers, rivers, heatwaves, and disease vectors are regional challenges. Environmental communication can become a limited but practical channel of cooperation when other diplomatic channels are frozen.

The sixth implication concerns media strategy. International media often portrays Pakistan through disasters, instability, and humanitarian crisis. Pakistan should diversify this image by communicating innovation: climate-smart agriculture, early-warning systems, ecological restoration, youth climate entrepreneurship, green finance, and renewable energy potential. This

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does not deny vulnerability; it makes vulnerability politically productive by connecting it with solutions.

The seventh implication is the role of universities and think tanks. Pakistan needs a climate communication knowledge network that can translate technical reports into policy briefs, op-eds, diplomatic notes, social media explainers, and negotiation briefs. Without this translation layer, scientific and policy evidence remains trapped in official documents and fails to influence international narratives.

The final implication is that Pakistan can become a norm entrepreneur in adaptation diplomacy. Norm entrepreneurship means shaping what the international community considers appropriate, fair, and urgent (Finnemore & Sikkink, 1998). Pakistan can promote the norm that adaptation finance should be predictable, grant-based where necessary, locally accountable, and linked to climate-resilient development rather than debt-heavy emergency lending.

6. CONCLUSION

This paper examined green diplomacy and climate discourse in a multipolar world through a Pakistan-centric lens. It argued that Pakistan's climate diplomacy has a strong moral foundation because the country contributes a very small share of global emissions while facing severe climate impacts. The 2022 floods, heatwaves, glacial melt, water stress, and climate-sensitive poverty make Pakistan a central case in climate justice diplomacy.

However, the paper also argued that vulnerability alone is not enough. In a multipolar climate order, diplomatic influence depends on narrative coherence, policy credibility, financial readiness, coalition-building, and communication capacity. Pakistan must therefore move from a reactive disaster-centered discourse toward a proactive green diplomacy strategy that integrates justice, resilience, investment, ecological restoration, and regional cooperation.

The paper's main conceptual contribution is the Pakistan Green Narrative Diplomacy Framework. The PGNDF links five functions: vulnerability translation, justice framing, credibility signaling, coalition brokerage, and domestic-international feedback. It shows that climate narratives are most effective when they connect lived experience with scientific evidence, domestic policy with international claims, and moral urgency with practical finance proposals.

The paper's main policy contribution is the proposed Indus Climate Narrative Compact. This compact would use the Indus Basin as Pakistan's central environmental narrative and diplomatic platform. It would connect scientific data, community stories, adaptation finance, media outreach, and international diplomacy. Such a mechanism could help Pakistan communicate with greater consistency across COP negotiations, multilateral banks, regional forums, diaspora networks, and global media.

In conclusion, Pakistan can become more than a symbol of climate vulnerability. It can become a credible voice for climate justice, adaptation finance, ecological restoration, and Global South climate communication. To achieve this, Pakistan must turn environmental narratives into measurable policy credibility and convert climate suffering into strategic diplomatic leadership.

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