

Green Pakistan, Safe Pakistan | سبز پاکستان، محفوظ پاکستان

Executive Summary

On August 27, 2025, the Association of People Living with HIV Pakistan (APLHIV) launched an ambitious environmental initiative connecting climate action with community health and resilience. At F-9 Fatima Jinnah Park in Islamabad, government representatives, UN partners, and community leaders united to plant 500 trees and announce a target of 5,000 trees by the 2025-26 season.

This landmark event demonstrates how community leadership can advance both climate resilience and public health, creating lasting impact through collective action and cross-sector partnerships.



Context and Rationale

Pakistan faces escalating climate risks that disproportionately impact vulnerable populations. Devastating floods and extreme heatwaves compound challenges for people living with HIV, creating urgent needs that extend beyond traditional health responses.

APLHIV has evolved from providing flood relief to building long-term resilience through integrated climate action. This strategic shift recognizes that environmental health and community well-being are inseparable. Trees improve air quality, reduce urban heat islands, and symbolize renewal and hope.

The initiative resonates deeply with APLHIV's mission to reduce stigma through visible, community-led action that benefits all Pakistanis while strengthening the HIV response infrastructure.



i Climate resilience requires community-driven solutions that address both immediate needs and long-term sustainability.

Event Overview

Date & Location

August 27, 2025 Fatima Jinnah Park
Mehran Gate, F-9, Islamabad

Program: 3:00 PM

Arrival: 2:30 PM

Ceremonial Activities

- Quranic recitation & national anthem
- Welcome address by APLHIV
- Partner remarks
- Distinguished Guest addresses

Community Action

- **500 trees planted** during the launch ceremony
- Group plantation involving all participants
- Refreshments and networking

Distinguished Partnerships

The event brought together Pakistan's most influential voices in public health, environmental policy, and international development, demonstrating unprecedented multi-stakeholder ownership.



Government Leadership

Dr. Shaista Khan Jadoon - MNA, Chief Guest, **Ms. Shahida Akhter** - MNA, Guest of Honour, **Fahad Javed** - Director, Capital Development Authority



UN System Partners

Trouble Chikoko - UNAIDS Country Director **Richard Cunliff** - Programme Manager HIV, UNDP Pakistan



Health Sector

Dr. Umair Malik - CMU-NACP Representative National AIDS Control Programme leadership



Civil Society

Sister organizations, community representatives, and people living with HIV from across Pakistan

Voices of Leadership

Chief Guest: Dr. Shaista Khan Jadoon (MNA)

"Plant to save the future and the future of our children. Recently visited Buner and saw devastation, such initiatives by APLHIV can act as mitigating factors for climate change."

"Darakht Bachao, Umeed Bachao" (Save Trees, Save Hope)

Dr. Jadoon emphasized the dual crisis facing Pakistan, climate vulnerability, and HIV stigma calling for unified action across both challenges.



Guest of Honour: Ms. Shahida Akhter (MNA)

"Climate change is a burning issue in Pakistan, as we are bearing the brunt. We need lasting change through small initiatives that create sustained and meaningful impact."

International Partnership Voices

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Richard Cunliff, UNDP Pakistan

"Climate change and its effects on Pakistan and HIV response are of utmost importance. Any measures to address and mitigate them are highly appreciated."

"The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago, the second best time is today."

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Trouble Chikoko, UNAIDS Country Director

"Trees are powerful symbols of life and growth. The decisions we take today regarding the environment will bear fruit in the future."

"Whether HIV, stigma, or climate we must ensure no one is left behind."

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Dr. Umair Malik, CMU-NACP

"APLHIV is always at the forefront of innovations. In my 20 years of HIV response work, no one has come up with such a great idea."

Fahad Javed, CDA Director

"It's amazing to see the private sector take ownership and collaborate. Only through public-private partnerships can we make lasting change."



Immediate Impact and Achievements

500

Trees Planted

Successfully planted at F-9
Fatima Jinnah Park during
the launch ceremony

5K

Season Target

Ambitious goal for 5,000
trees by end of 2025-26
planting season

100+

Participants

Government officials, UN
partners, civil society, and
community members united
in action

The launch event exceeded expectations, with ceremonial tree planting followed by community-wide participation. Every attendee contributed to the physical act of planting, embodying the collaborative spirit essential for addressing climate change and health challenges simultaneously.

The diverse participation from Members of the National Assembly to people living with HIV demonstrated Pakistan's commitment to inclusive climate action that leaves no one behind.

Community Engagement and Inclusion



The Green Pakistan, Safe Pakistan initiative prioritizes meaningful participation from Pakistan's most vulnerable communities. Women, girls, people living with HIV, and gender-diverse community members served as both planters and advocates.

Public speeches explicitly connected HIV stigma reduction with environmental responsibility, creating powerful moments of visibility and solidarity in Islamabad's central public space.



Women's Leadership

Women and girls actively engaged as planters and environmental advocates



HIV Community

People living with HIV visible and empowered as climate action leaders



Inclusive Participation

Gender-diverse community members welcomed as full participants

This approach transforms climate action into a vehicle for social inclusion, demonstrating that environmental stewardship and human rights advocacy are mutually reinforcing.

Strategic Timeline and Next Steps



The campaign employs a systematic approach ensuring long-term sustainability. Each plantation site will receive dedicated monitoring, with community volunteers trained in tree care and protection protocols. Quarterly reviews will track survival rates and adapt strategies based on seasonal challenges and local conditions.

This methodical approach reflects APLHIV's commitment to measurable impact rather than symbolic gestures, ensuring every tree contributes meaningfully to Pakistan's climate resilience.

Partnership Opportunities

APLHIV invites partners across sectors to amplify the 2025-26 season and beyond. Join Pakistan's most innovative climate and health initiative.



Co-host Planting Days

Partner with APLHIV to organize community planting events in your region



Sponsor Materials

Donate saplings, protective materials, or maintenance supplies



Adopt Plantation Sites

Take long-term responsibility for specific locations and their care



Mobilize Volunteers

Engage your networks in hands-on climate action and community building

About APLHIV

The Association of People Living with HIV Pakistan is a national, community-led organization dedicated to improving quality of life, dignity, and rights for people living with HIV. Through partnerships with government, UN agencies, and civil society, APLHIV expands access to services, reduces stigma, and strengthens community systems nationwide.

Green Pakistan, Safe Pakistan demonstrates how community leadership creates lasting change through innovation, inclusion, and unwavering commitment to collective wellbeing.

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