

 Early Warning System

WB-P513786

Connected Punjab



Quick Facts

Countries	Pakistan
Specific Location	Punjab
Financial Institutions	World Bank (WB)
Status	Approved
Bank Risk Rating	B
Voting Date	2026-06-30
Borrower	Islamic Republic of Pakistan
Sectors	Communications, Industry and Trade
Investment Type(s)	Loan
Investment Amount (USD)	\$ 70.00 million
Loan Amount (USD)	\$ 70.00 million
Project Cost (USD)	\$ 278.00 million



Project Description

According to bank's website, the approved project aims to increase access to broadband internet in Punjab, improve digital service delivery, and enhance cashless transactions. Connected Punjab Program has a US\$68m PforR and a US\$2m as an IPF component for technical assistance. The PforR has the following Results Areas: • Result Area 1 (RA1): Improving Access to High-Speed Internet, which focuses on enabling private sector investment in fixed broadband expansion in underserved urbanized areas by addressing regulatory and cost barriers. • Result Area 2 (RA2): Improving Digital Service Delivery, which focuses on strengthening shared digital infrastructure and institutional capacity to support scalable, AI-enabled service delivery. • Result Area 3 (RA3): Increasing Adoption of Cashless Payments, which focuses on establishing the regulatory and systems foundations for digital invoicing, payments, and compliance. The Program has seven disbursement linked indicators, including: DLI 1: Target urbanized areas for broadband coverage identified DLI 2: People covered by fixed broadband internet DLI 3: Public and private sectors using compute-as-a-service for localized AI use case development DLI 4: Number of AI enabled services provided (developed by public and private sector) DLI 5: Regulatory framework for Point-of-Sale (PoS) system providers in Punjab approved DLI 6: Digital Invoice Management System Operationalized DLI 7: Number of business sectors using non-conventional digital point-of-sale payment platform integrated with DIMS The Program will be managed by the Planning and Development Board (P&DB) of the Government of Punjab (GoPb) through its Punjab Resource Management and Policy Unit (PRMPU). The PRMPU, an attached unit of the P&DB, will be responsible for both the PforR operation and the associated IPF component. An Integrated Program Management Unit (PMU), housed within PRMPU and financed under the IPF component, will provide cross-cutting support; coordinate annual work planning; support fiduciary and procurement functions under the IPF component; consolidate monitoring and evaluation; facilitate DLI verification processes; and deliver targeted technical assistance and capacity building to PITB and PRA.



Early Warning System Project Analysis

Environmental and Social Risk: M



Investment Description

- World Bank (WB)

Total Project Cost: US\$ 278.00 million

Commitment Amount: US\$ 70.00 million



Contact Information

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ACCESS TO INFORMATION

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ACCOUNTABILITY MECHANISM OF THE WORLD BANK

The World Bank Inspection Panel is the independent complaint mechanism and fact-finding body for people who believe they are likely to be, or have been, adversely affected by a World Bank-financed project. If you submit a complaint to the Inspection Panel, they may investigate to assess whether the World Bank is following its own policies and procedures for preventing harm to people or the environment. You can contact the Inspection Panel or submit a complaint by emailing ipanel@worldbank.org. Information on how to file a complaint and a complaint request form are available at: <https://www.inspectionpanel.org/how-to-file-complaint>



Bank Documents

- [Appraisal Environmental and Social Review Summary - ESRS \(English\)](#)
- [Appraisal Program Information Document - PID \(English\)](#)
- [Concept Environmental and Social Review Summary - ESRS \(English\)](#)
- [Concept Project Information Document - PID \(English\)](#)