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## EU-Pakistan Recent assistance 2002-2006

In the 1990s, the European Commission strengthened its support to government policy and supported social sector investment programmes, giving greater emphasis to human development and environmental management. It also provided support to smaller-scale operations with NGOs in areas such as population welfare, child labour, income-generation, drug demand reduction and rural health.

For the period [2002-2006](#), Commission support was largely for human development especially through basic education programmes at provincial level. The Sindh Province received €39 million support to implement its basic education policy while projects implemented by the Aga Khan Foundation to improve education delivery in Pakistan isolated Northern Areas received a total of €30 million. Pakistan also received budgetary support of €50 million to develop micro-finance for small and medium-sized enterprises. In order to enhance Pakistan's capacity in the world trade on issues, a trade-related technical assistance programme was launched in 2004 with a view to streamlining procedures and processes for trade facilitation in compliance with EU norms and standards.

Following the October 2005 earthquake the Commission committed €98 million, €48 for immediate humanitarian assistance and €50 million for medium-long term rehabilitation and reconstruction. In 2006 a special allocation of €20 million was given for education in the North West Frontier Province.

Substantial assistance was also provided under other thematic budget lines, including for Afghan refugees in Pakistan and for projects financed by the European Initiative for Democracy and Human Rights. Under its environment co-operation policy, over the last decade the EU contributed a €32 million to rehabilitation, management and conservation of natural resources, safeguarding and conservation of biodiversity, education and capacity -building through sustainable resource management with the involvement of local communities. Major target areas included upland areas of Punjab and North-West Frontier Province (NWFP), benefiting more than 2 million people.

There are currently some 18 on-going EU-Pakistan bilateral co-operation projects with contributions from the EU totalling around €212 million. Additional support is provided to Pakistan through [Thematic](#) and [Regional Programmes](#).

More details on EU-funded projects and programmes can be found on the website of the [European Commission Delegation in Pakistan](#)

**EuropeAid Co-operation Office**

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