



# LOANS, LEVERAGE, AND MISSING MARK

## The Hidden Costs of ADB's Projects in Pakistan

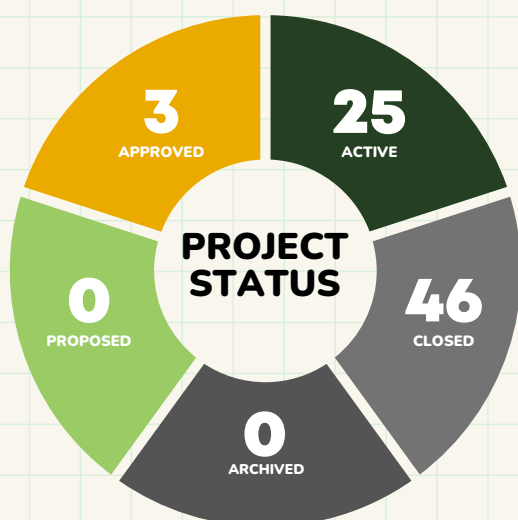
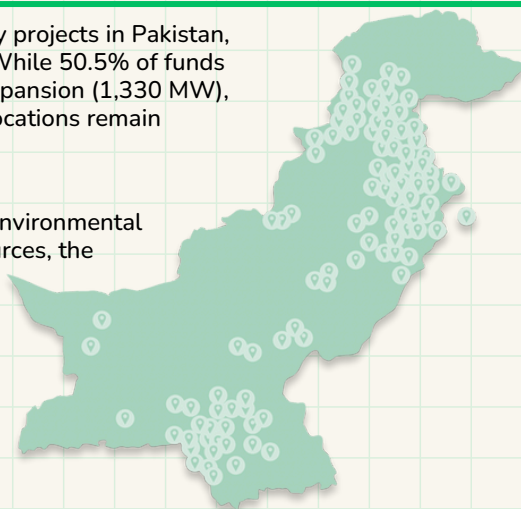
The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has invested \$15.28B in 74 energy projects in Pakistan, yet its focus on conventional energy over renewables raises concerns. While 50.5% of funds modernize the national grid, only 17% supports conventional energy expansion (1,330 MW), and renewable projects receive minimal funding. Biomass and solar allocations remain unspecified.

ADB's continued investment in fossil fuels contradicts its sustainability commitments, potentially undermining Pakistan's energy security and environmental goals. With 61.6% of funding through loans and 72.3% from public sources, the financial burden on Pakistan is significant.

This infographic highlights ADB's energy investments, exposing gaps in its strategy and questioning its alignment with Pakistan's long-term sustainability goals.

### Legend

Project Location



Proposed – Under review, not yet approved for funding or implementation.



Approved – Sanctioned with funds allocated but not necessarily used.



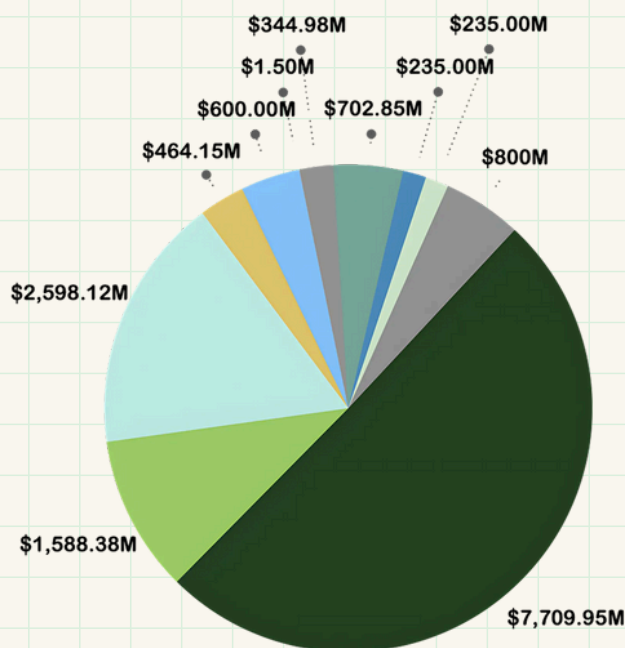
Active – Approved and currently in progress.



Closed – Completed with all activities and reports finalized.



Archived – Stored for reference, no longer tracked or updated.



- Electricity Transmission & Distribution
- Energy Sector Reform & Development
- Conventional Energy Generation
- Energy Efficiency & Conservation
- Oil & Gas Transmission & Distribution
- Solar Energy Generation
- Wind Energy Generation
- Hydro Energy Generation
- Biomass & Waste Energy Generation
- Transmission, Distribution & Efficiency
- Undisclosed

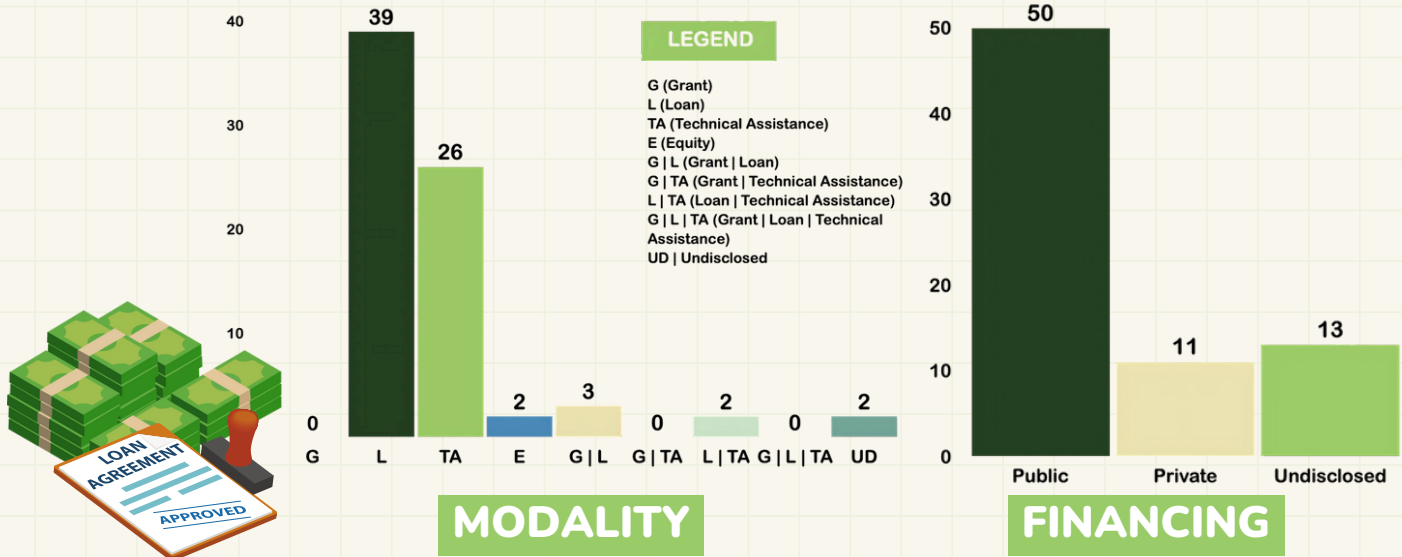
**TOTAL ADB ENERGY PROJECTS 74**

**TOTAL ADB FINANCIAL COMMITMENT (US\$B) \$15.28B**

**DESPITE HIGH POTENTIAL, SOLAR GETS LITTLE FUNDING**

**\$1.5 M**





## SAFEGUARDS CATEGORY

ADB Safeguard Policies minimize the environmental and social impacts of projects, ensuring protection and sustainability. Projects are classified by risk to determine necessary assessments and mitigation. They focus on three key areas to ensure responsible and sustainable development:



**Environment** – Minimizes harm through assessments, management, and sustainability.






**Involuntary Resettlement** – Ensures fair compensation, livelihood restoration, and consultation.



**Indigenous Peoples** – Protects rights, culture, land, and promotes inclusive development.

### CATEGORIES

- **A** | High risk with major, lasting impacts. Needs a full assessment.
- **B** | Moderate risk with local impacts. Needs a basic assessment.
- **C** | Low risk, minimal impact. Only basic screening needed.
- **FI** | ADB funds banks or institutions that lend to subprojects, assessed based on their impact.
- **FI - C** | No expected adverse impacts from subprojects.

CAT			
<b>A</b>	8	9	0
<b>B</b>	28	16	11
<b>C</b>	5	16	30
<b>FI</b>	0	0	0
<b>FI-C</b>	0	0	0
<b>No Classification</b>	33	33	33



## WHAT'S REALLY GOING ON?

The ADB's \$15.28B investment in 74 energy projects in Pakistan claims to improve infrastructure, but glaring gaps in safeguards show reckless disregard for environmental and social risks. Safeguards are missing in 43% of projects, while resettlement and indigenous protections are neglected, risking displacement and conflict. ADB's failure to prioritize environmental and community well-being exposes its negligence. If serious about Pakistan's energy needs, ADB must strengthen safeguards, enforce transparency, and engage affected communities.

While ADB's investment in Pakistan's energy sector aims to enhance infrastructure and address energy needs, major shortcomings in safeguard implementation raise concerns. Many projects lack clear data on environmental, resettlement, and indigenous safeguards, highlighting poor risk management. These gaps threaten ecosystems, displace communities, and fuel social conflict, undermining ADB's sustainability commitments.

Despite investments in generation, transmission, and reforms, ADB must enforce stronger environmental assessments, robust social safeguards, and greater transparency to ensure truly sustainable and equitable development.

**HOLD ADB ACCOUNTABLE – PEOPLE & PLANET DESERVE BETTER!**

**NEED DEFINITIONS? SCAN THE CODE.**



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