

# **CLEAN, AFFORDABLE AND SUSTAINABLE ENERGY ALTERNATIVES IN PAKHTUNKHWA**

## **GREEN ENERGY ADVOCACY DIALOGUE**

**MAY 2026**

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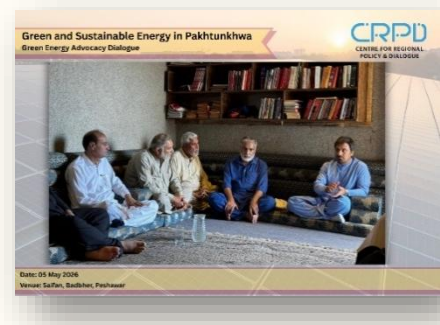
# CLEAN, AFFORDABLE AND SUSTAINABLE ENERGY ALTERNATIVES IN PAKHTUNKHWA

## GREEN ENERGY ADVOCACY DIALOGUE

05 MAY 2026 | SAIFAN, BADBHER, PESHAWAR

The Centre for Regional Policy & Dialogue (CRPD), in collaboration with community stakeholders and members of the Green Energy Jirga (GEJ), successfully organized a Green Energy Advocacy Dialogue on 05 May 2026 in Saifan, Badbher, Peshawar.

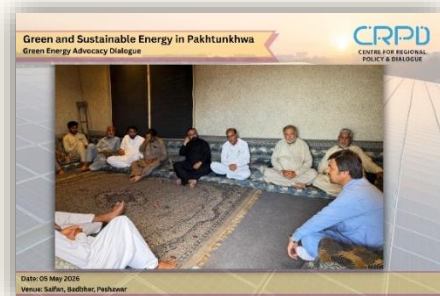
The dialogue convened a diverse group of social, political, and cultural activists alongside community leaders to deliberate on cleaner, affordable, and sustainable energy alternatives for Pakistan. Participants collectively emphasized the urgency of transitioning toward renewable energy systems as a response to rising electricity costs, chronic energy insecurity, and environmental degradation.



### RENEWABLE ENERGY TRANSITION AND TECHNOLOGICAL PRIORITIES

Central to the discussion was the pivotal role of solar energy and Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) in addressing Pakistan's ongoing energy challenges. Participants highlighted that solar energy, when integrated with BESS, offers a viable pathway to stabilize electricity supply, particularly during peak demand periods and grid outages.

It was further emphasized that the adoption of these technologies is essential not only for reducing electricity costs but also for lowering the national carbon footprint and mitigating long-term environmental risks. The dialogue underscored that investment in renewable infrastructure is a strategic necessity for strengthening regional energy resilience and ensuring sustainable development.



### POLICY ADVOCACY AND FISCAL RECOMMENDATIONS

Participants in pre-budget consultations strongly urged the government to eliminate all taxes on solar equipment in order to reduce barriers to renewable energy adoption. A key demand was the immediate restoration of net metering under a 1:1 unit exchange mechanism, which participants described as critical for maintaining the financial viability of private solar investments.

In addition, stakeholders called for enhanced public investment and targeted subsidies for rooftop solar systems and Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS). These measures, they argued, are essential to enable households and businesses to manage peak demand more effectively while reducing pressure on the national grid.

The participants collectively viewed these fiscal interventions as necessary steps toward achieving national energy security, economic stability, and alignment with climate commitments.

## COMMUNITY EXPERIENCES AND ENERGY HARDSHIPS

During the session, participants shared detailed accounts of the economic and social hardships caused by persistent electricity and gas shortages. These narratives reflected how unreliable energy supply has constrained local productivity, disrupted livelihoods, and affected daily life across communities.

A strong consensus emerged that decentralized renewable energy is no longer an optional development goal but a fundamental necessity for community resilience. Participants also stressed that government-supported solarization, along with subsidized battery storage systems, could significantly alleviate the burden of energy shortages and improve stability during peak hours and outages.

The discussion further highlighted the need for collective political commitment to ensure adequate fiscal allocation for sustainable energy infrastructure in the upcoming budget cycle.

## LEGISLATIVE ENGAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT PRIORITIES

The participants resolved to engage with their respective Members of the Provincial Assembly to advocate for the prioritization of renewable energy in development planning. They specifically called for the allocation of recent development funds toward large-scale solarization initiatives.

It was emphasized that such strategic investments would provide immediate relief to communities affected by energy shortages while also contributing to long-term energy independence and economic resilience at the district level.

## COMMUNITY MOBILIZATION AND DIGITAL ADVOCACY

In closing, Malak Farhad Khan, the esteemed community leader (Sadar) of Saifan, Badbher, announced the initiation of a dedicated social media campaign to amplify public advocacy for renewable energy reforms. He emphasized that digital platforms can play a critical role in mobilizing public opinion and ensuring that demands for solarization and net metering reach relevant policy forums.

This initiative reflects the community's commitment to leveraging modern advocacy tools to strengthen collective action and influence energy policy in the forthcoming budget process.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

CRPD extends its sincere gratitude to all participants for their insightful contributions and active engagement throughout the dialogue. Special acknowledgment is extended to Malak Farhad Khan, Gulzar Hussain Khan, Ibrar Salar, and other esteemed guests for their valuable perspectives and participation.

The dialogue reaffirmed the importance of collaborative dialogue, evidence-based advocacy, and community-driven action in addressing Pakistan's energy challenges and advancing a sustainable energy future.

