



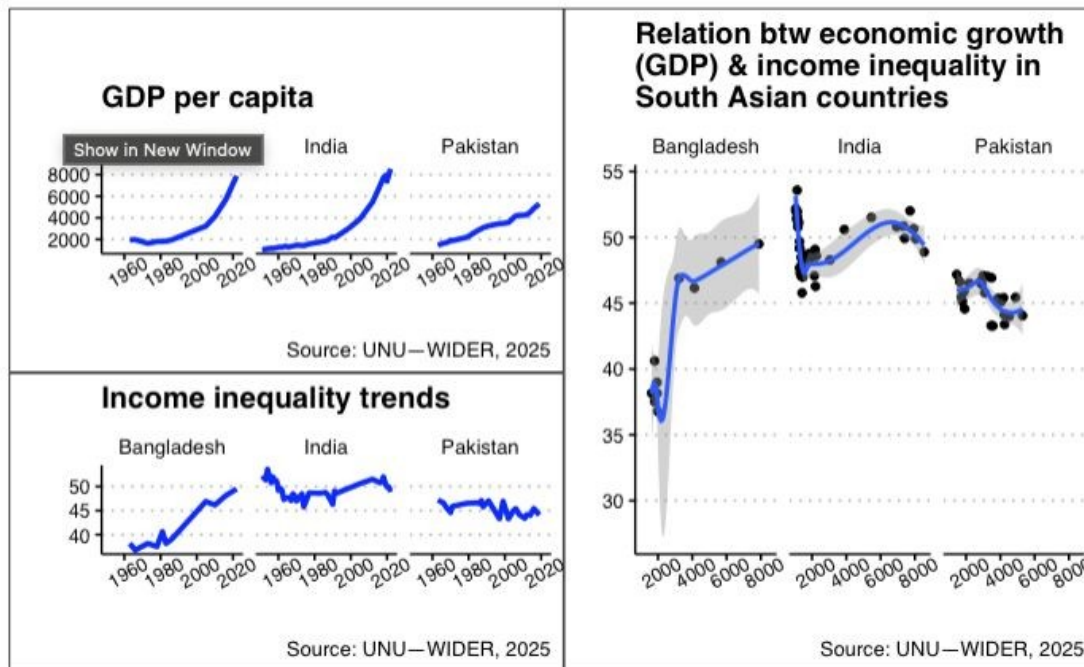
Statistical Summary and Insights Series

See our latest briefs on the following:

- Income Inequality and Economic Growth
- Community-Based Monitoring System and Youth Employment and Entrepreneurship
- Recent Floods in Pakistan – a brief spatial analysis about spread

1. Income Inequality and Economic Growth

UNUWIDER has recently released world inequality data. I quickly observed how inequality in three South Asian nations has changed over time and attempted to understand how the complex relationship between GDP and Gini behaves. One study by Centre for Economic Policy Research (CEPR), London, shows that when the Gini goes up, GDP goes down. It's complex to conclude, though, as another study by Kuznets determined that the Gini initially increases when the economy develops, and then it starts decreasing. Thus forming an inverted U-shaped relationship. In this case, Bangladesh needs to see what structural changes are slowing the decrease in inequality when income is growing, as amid economic growth, inequality is lingering a bit. India appears to be a special case, particularly at the start, however, it's taking shape. Pakistan's economy is the smallest among the three, and it has the lowest inequality. Its economy seems to be entering/has entered another phase where inequality is showing a slight upward trend. Hope it will not become a sinusoidal pattern.

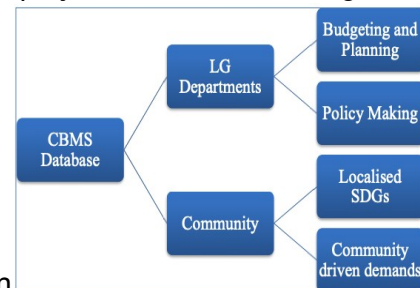


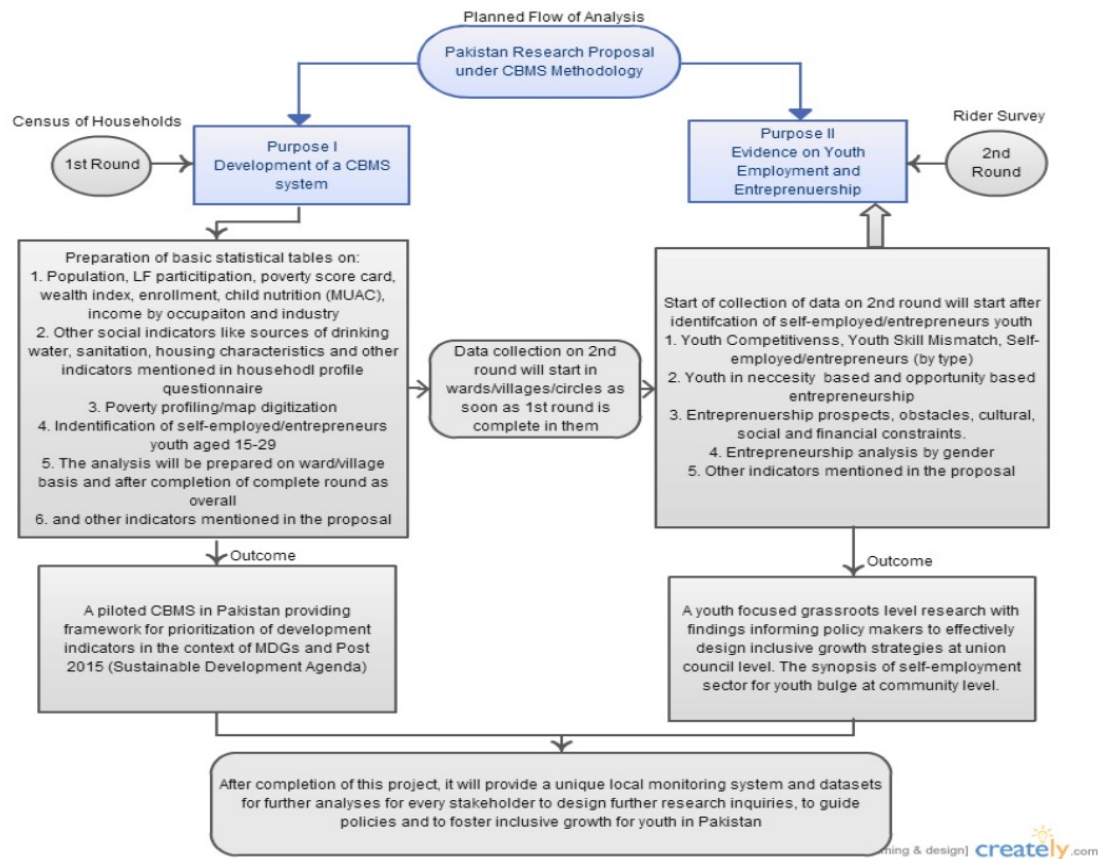
2. Community-Based Monitoring System and Youth Employment and Entrepreneurship in Punjab, Pakistan

Introduction to the research project

Research Analytics International (RAI) implemented a project aimed at localizing SDGs and helping local and district governments make informed decisions. This helps the agencies to benchmark the most relevant indicators, devise development plans, and rationalize and seek the development budgets.

This project employed a census-based data collection scheme in the first phase. The second phase collected data from households having youth engaged in self-employment/entrepreneurship business activities. The following flowchart shows the planned flow of activities covering the complete project's data lifecycle.





➔ Community-based Monitoring System (CBMS)

Below are the key summary statistics that cover the data collected during the **first phase**:

Statistical Summary

- **Study area:** Punjab Province, Pakistan, using the Community-Based Monitoring System (CBMS).
- **Sample size:** 4,513 households, 17,213 individuals.
- **Overall poverty incidence:** **26.6%** of households below the poverty line.
- **By location:** Urban poverty **13.8%**, rural poverty **33.7%**, showing significant rural disadvantage.
- **Employment:** 54% of total population employed; **male employment 83%, female 12%.**

- **Education & poverty:** Poverty incidence decreases with education—from **44% among the illiterate** to **7% among graduates**.
- **Asset ownership:** 91% own houses, but only 9% own vehicles; asset poverty persists despite housing ownership.
- **Health:** 29% of households reported at least one member ill in the past month; 58% used private facilities, highlighting healthcare inequity.
- **Access to water & sanitation:** 88% of urban households have piped water versus 48% in rural areas.

Key Insights

1. **Strong rural-urban disparity:** Poverty, health, and education indicators show rural areas lag behind in every domain.
2. **Education as a poverty shield:** Higher education correlates strongly with reduced poverty risk; illiteracy is the strongest poverty determinant.
3. **Gender inequality:** Female employment remains marginal despite improvements in education.
4. **Employment-poverty link:** Unemployment and underemployment are major poverty drivers, particularly among youth and women.
5. **Social services gap:** Health and water infrastructure access are key differentiators of welfare outcomes.
6. **Policy direction:** The study emphasizes community-based data (CBMS) for **targeted poverty reduction**, improved service delivery, and **evidence-based policy** design.
7. **Recommendation:** Invest in rural education, healthcare, and employment diversification to reduce multidimensional poverty.

Youth Employment and Entrepreneurship

Below are the key summary statistics that cover the data collected during the **second phase**:

Statistical Summary

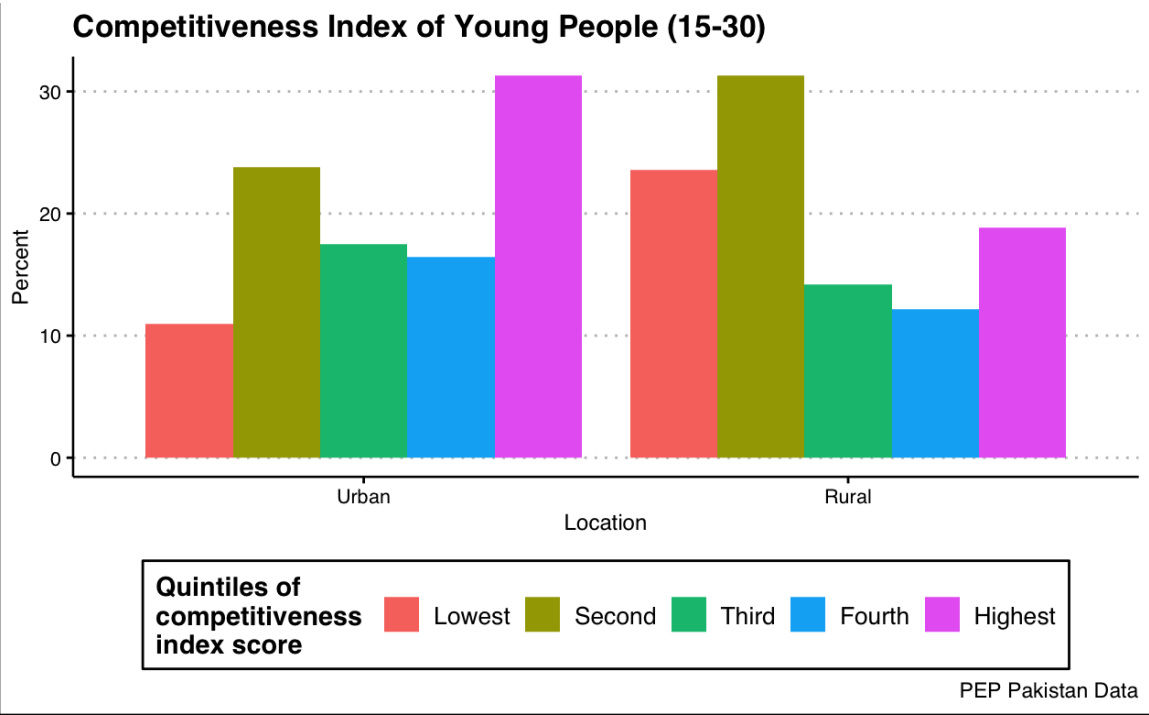
- Sample size: 17,213 individuals from 4,513 households in Punjab (Pakistan CBMS data).

- Youth population (15–30 years): 27.7% of total population (28% urban, 27.5% rural).
- Labour force participation (refined): 56.7% overall; marginally lower in rural (56.4%) than urban (57.1%).
- Unemployment rate: 12% overall; 14.7% males, 8.5% females; lower in rural (4%) vs. urban (26.7%).
- Self-employment correlates positively with household income and non-poor status.
- Education: Matric and intermediate education boosts employability in urban areas; graduates fare better in rural sectors.
- English proficiency, especially listening skills, improves self-employment prospects.
- Competitiveness Index: 44.7% of non-poor youth are in the top quintile vs. only 2.7% of poor youth.

Key Insights

1. Education and Skills: Secondary and intermediate education enhances employability, while English and digital literacy foster entrepreneurship.
2. Poverty Link: Youth from transitory poor and non-poor households are more likely to engage in self-employment, indicating capital access drives entrepreneurship.
3. Urban–Rural Divide: Rural youth dominate agricultural self-employment, while urban youth prefer service and technology sectors.
4. Gender: Female participation remains low despite similar unemployment rates, reflecting informal sector engagement.
5. Policy Implications: Harnessing Pakistan’s youth bulge requires expanding education, vocational training, and access to microfinance.
6. Strategic Need: CBMS serves as a valuable grassroots framework for data-driven youth policy and monitoring.

We have collected and used indicators that cover the factors, including educational attainment, English language proficiency, ability to use a computer, including skills in using word processor and spreadsheet program, IT skills, and vocational and technical training to determine an Index Score, which we call the “Competitiveness Index”. This index measures the relative employability and skills for youth.

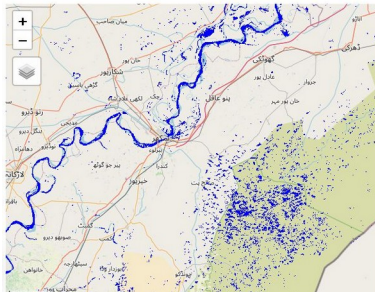


3. 2025 Floods in Pakistan

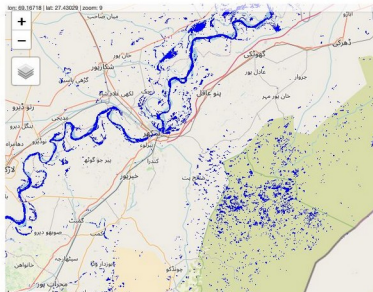
Climate Change and Pakistan: Out of curiosity and with an attempt to see how different parts of Pakistan are affected by recent floods. We have wrapped up an interactive map series showing how floods in Pakistan evolved over July, August, and September 2025. With a low zoomed eye, the difference may not appear as obvious. You can see a spread in July (early monsoon flooding, scattered but rising), a peak in August (flooding with widespread spread across multiple regions). A partial retreat is expected in some inundated areas of the country in September, with more water on the way towards the Indus river currently in the Punjab rivers. As a result, this month may see an increase in water spread in Sindh – this water appears to be the one released by India rather than the in-county monsoon rain.

The first affected region was the Gilgit Baltistan, mostly due to Flash floods. There is a lot of water in Balochistan, but it is hardly in the spotlight.

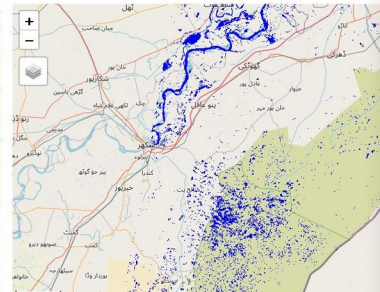
Flood Extent — July 2025



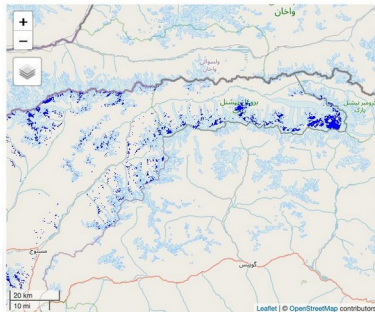
Flood Extent — August 2025



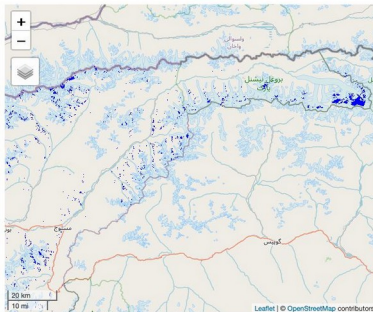
Flood Extent — September 2025



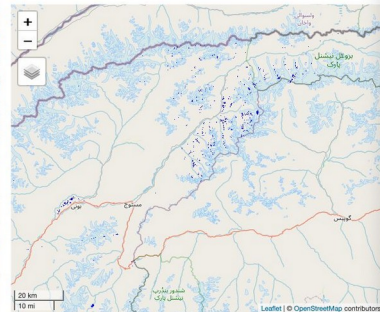
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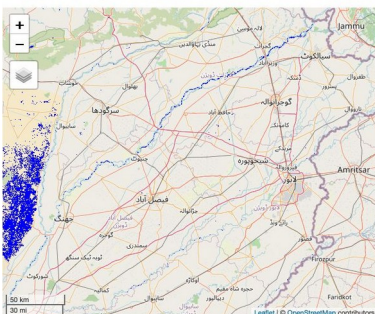
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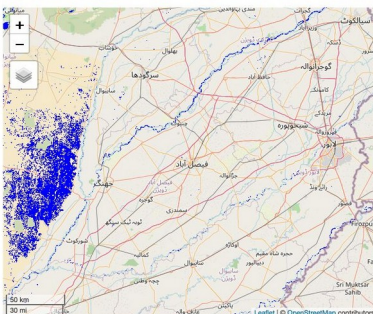
Flood Extent — September 2025



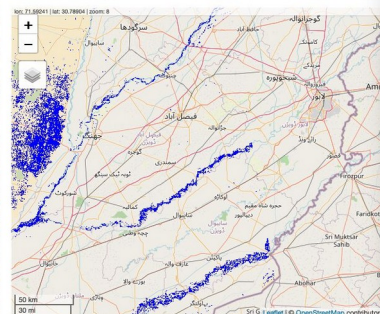
Flood Extent — July 2025



Flood Extent — August 2025



Flood Extent — September 2025



Interactive maps can be requested through email by writing to info@researchanalyticsintl.org.



The [visualization](#) is built using [satellite data](#) + [R](#) + Google Earth Engine.

For more information about analysis and methodology, be in touch with Mr. Nadeem Akhtar, Development Economist, Policy and Capacity Development Lead at nakhtar@researchanalyticsintl.org.