JOURNAL OF POLICY OPTIONS

2(3), 96-110

Assessing the Impact of Climate Change on Cash and Food Crop Production in Pakistan: Insights and Adaptation Strategies

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Abstract

This study examines the impact of climate change on cash and food crop production in Pakistan, highlighting the agricultural sector's vulnerability to environmental shifts. The Augmented Dickey-Fuller test and unit root tests are employed to assess variable stationarity, ensuring robust time series analysis. These tests determine whether the variables exhibit stationary behavior, which is essential for accurate modeling and forecasting. If non-stationary, appropriate transformations or modeling techniques are applied to address trends in the data. The Autoregressive Distributed Lag (ARDL) model is used to analyze the effects of climate change on cotton and wheat production in Pakistan. The findings indicate a negative and significant relationship between rising temperatures and crop yields, emphasizing the susceptibility of these crops to changing climatic conditions. This underscores the need for adaptation measures and sustainable agricultural practices to mitigate adverse impacts. Policymakers must invest in drought-resistant crop varieties, improve irrigation infrastructure, and promote climate-smart agriculture. Additionally, the study reveals that water availability, fertilizer offtake, and cropped area positively and significantly affect climate change's impact on agriculture, highlighting the importance of efficient resource management. Addressing climate change challenges requires sustainable water management, optimized fertilizer use, and effective land utilization. Pakistan must implement proactive measures such as water conservation, climate-resilient crop varieties, and farmer training to enhance productivity. Integrating scientific research, policy interventions, and community engagement is vital for addressing climate change's multifaceted impacts. By prioritizing resilience and sustainable agricultural development, Pakistan can strengthen food security and ensure long-term agricultural sustainability.

Keywords: Climate Change, Cash Crops, Food Crops, Agricultural Sector, Vulnerability

1. INTRODUCTION

The impacts of climate change on agricultural productivity are indeed multifaceted and can manifest in various ways, as you've outlined. Changes in rainfall patterns and temperature can disrupt traditional cropping seasons, leading to shifts in sowing and harvesting dates. Additionally, alterations in water availability and evapotranspiration rates can affect soil moisture levels and crop water requirements, further influencing crop yields. The definition provided by the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) underscores the human-induced nature of contemporary climate change, highlighting the role of anthropogenic activities in altering the composition of the Earth's atmosphere. This recognition underscores the importance of global cooperation and concerted efforts to mitigate greenhouse gas emissions and address the underlying drivers of climate change. In the context of agriculture, understanding and adapting to these climate-related challenges are paramount for ensuring food security, safeguarding livelihoods, and promoting sustainable development. As highlighted by Skhirtladze and Nurboja (2019), deforestation and trade patterns significantly shape environmental outcomes in developing countries, underscoring the interconnectedness of climate actions and economic structures. This necessitates the implementation of climate-resilient agricultural practices, the development of drought-tolerant crop varieties, the enhancement of water management strategies, and the provision of support mechanisms for vulnerable farming communities (Singh & Kumar, 2018). The definition of climate change provided by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) highlights its dual attribution to both natural processes and human activities. This definition underscores the long-term nature of climate change and its potential to significantly alter prevailing climatic conditions over extended periods.

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Pakistan, situated in South Asia, is indeed highly vulnerable to climate-related disasters and disturbances, which are believed to be exacerbated by climate change. The country's susceptibility to extreme weather events, such as floods, droughts, and heatwaves, underscores the urgent need for proactive measures to address climate risks and build resilience. Moreover, ensuring the proper availability of water and fertilizers is essential for optimizing agricultural productivity, particularly in the context of changing climatic conditions. Sustainable water management strategies, including efficient irrigation practices and water conservation measures, are critical for mitigating the impacts of water scarcity and ensuring the resilience of agricultural systems. Similarly, the judicious use of fertilizers, coupled with soil conservation practices, can enhance soil fertility and productivity while minimizing adverse environmental impacts such as nutrient runoff and soil erosion. The assertion regarding wheat being the primary food crop of Pakistan and the potential impact of climate change on its production is indeed significant. As an agricultural country heavily reliant on wheat for domestic consumption, Pakistan's ability to ensure sufficient production levels is crucial for food security and economic stability. According to Awan and Sohail (2018), the demand for electricity in Pakistan's agricultural sector is closely tied to irrigation practices, which are increasingly vulnerable to climate variability. Climate change poses a multifaceted challenge to wheat production, affecting various factors such as temperature, rainfall patterns, and water availability, all of which can significantly influence crop yields. While increased temperatures may initially lead to higher wheat production in certain regions, it's essential to consider the broader implications of climate change on agricultural systems (Sina, 2019).

Changes in temperature and precipitation patterns can disrupt the delicate balance of ecosystems and agricultural practices, leading to shifts in cropping patterns, increased pest and disease pressure, and water scarcity issues. Additionally, extreme weather events such as heatwaves, droughts, and erratic rainfall can pose significant challenges to crop cultivation and harvest. In response to these challenges, it's imperative for Pakistan to adopt adaptive agricultural practices and invest in climate-resilient crop varieties that can withstand changing environmental conditions. Furthermore, sustainable water management strategies, including efficient irrigation techniques and water conservation measures, are essential for mitigating the impacts of water scarcity on wheat production. The assertion regarding the direct impact of carbon dioxide on wheat production, leading to improved water use efficiency, is noteworthy. Carbon dioxide is a critical component of photosynthesis, the process by which plants convert carbon dioxide and water into carbohydrates and oxygen, and increased levels of carbon dioxide can enhance this process, potentially leading to improved growth and productivity in wheat crops. Cotton, being a cash crop in Pakistan and one of the country's major agricultural exports, plays a significant role in the economy. Its cultivation, primarily in irrigated and semi-arid areas due to its water requirements, underscores the importance of efficient water management in cotton production. With Pakistan being the fourth-largest producer of cotton globally, the performance of the cotton sector has substantial implications for both domestic agriculture and international trade. However, the high temperatures characteristic of Pakistan's summer season, when cotton is grown, can pose challenges to crop cultivation. As Kumar (2018) emphasized, agricultural productivity in Asian countries is significantly influenced by climatic fluctuations, particularly temperature and precipitation shifts. Heat stress during flowering and boll development stages can adversely affect cotton yields, highlighting the vulnerability of the crop to climate variability and extreme weather events (Desiree, 2019).

Given the importance of cotton to Pakistan's economy and agricultural sector, it's essential to implement climate-resilient practices and technologies to mitigate the impacts of climate change on cotton production. This may include adopting heat-tolerant cotton varieties, improving irrigation efficiency, and implementing agronomic practices to enhance crop resilience. The acknowledgment of Pakistan's vulnerability to climate change despite its relatively low contribution to greenhouse gas emissions underscores the country's susceptibility to global environmental challenges. As noted by Ahmad (2018), the relationship between GDP and carbon emissions in Malaysia reveals that even low emitters are not immune to the consequences of global climate shifts. Pakistan's geographical location, characterized by diverse topography and climatic conditions, exposes it to various climate-related risks, including extreme weather events, water scarcity, and agricultural disruptions (Ho & Ran, 2018). While cotton may not be considered a high water-consuming crop compared to certain other agricultural commodities, the broader issue of water scarcity and mismanagement exacerbates the challenges faced by the agricultural sector in Pakistan. Limited public awareness and technical capacity further compound these challenges, hindering the adoption of sustainable practices and adaptation strategies to mitigate the impacts of climate change. Efforts to enhance public awareness and technical capabilities, particularly among farmers and agricultural stakeholders, are crucial for building resilience and adapting to changing climatic conditions. This may involve initiatives such as farmer education programs, training workshops on climate-smart agricultural practices, and the dissemination of relevant information and technologies to improve water use efficiency and crop productivity. Furthermore, strengthening institutional capacity and policy frameworks to address climate change adaptation and mitigation strategies is essential for promoting sustainable development and resilience in Pakistan. This includes investments in climate-resilient infrastructure, water management systems, and agricultural research and innovation to support the country's transition towards a more climate-resilient and sustainable future.

2. LITERATURE REVIEW

The study by Mustapha et al. (1997) focuses on assessing the impact of climate change and CO2 fertilization on agriculture in Quebec, Canada. Given the significance of the agriculture sector in the province's economy, understanding the risks associated with global increases in atmospheric CO2 concentration and associated climatic changes is crucial. To evaluate the response of agricultural productivity to these factors, the researchers employ the Canadian Climate Centre (CCC) general circulation model coupled with the Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) crop model. This approach allows them to assess both the direct effects of CO2 fertilization and the indirect effects of climate change on major crops grown in Quebec, including C3 and C4 cereals, legumes, vegetables, and special crops. The findings suggest that while certain crops, particularly C3 cereals, may experience beneficial effects from climate change, they may be least favored by the CO2 fertilization effect. This implies a complex interplay between the direct and indirect effects of increased atmospheric CO2 concentration on agricultural productivity, highlighting the need for comprehensive assessment and adaptive strategies to address the potential impacts of climate change on Quebec's agriculture sector. The study by Fischer et al. (2005) provides an integrated assessment of the socio-economic and climate change impacts on agriculture spanning from 1990 to 2080. To conduct this assessment, the researchers employ an integrated ecological-economic modeling framework that encompasses various factors such as climate scenarios, agro-ecological zoning information, socio-economic drivers, and global food trade dynamics. Specifically, the study utilizes a global simulation approach, combining the FAO/IIASA agro-ecological zone model with IIASA's global food system model. Climate variables from five different general circulation models are incorporated, along with four socio-economic scenarios from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). The findings of the study suggest that there are critical impact asymmetries resulting from both climate and socio-economic structures, which may be influenced by the existing production and consumption gaps between the developed and developing world. As highlighted by Willy (2018), environmental degradation is often shaped by disparities in foreign direct investment and economic growth across countries. To address these challenges, the study emphasizes the importance of adopting agricultural techniques aimed at reducing the damage caused by climate change. This highlights the need for proactive measures to mitigate the adverse effects of climate change on global agriculture, particularly in regions facing significant socio-economic vulnerabilities (Audi, 2019).

The study by Munang et al. (2008) investigates the impact of climate change on crop production in Cameroon. The methodology employed in this analysis involves coupling transient diagnostics from two atmosphere-ocean general circulation models: the NASA/Goddard Institute GISS and the Hadley Center's HadCM3, with a crop system model. This coupling allows for the simulation of current and future (2080) crop yields. The study focuses on major crops such as Bambara nut, groundnut, maize, sorghum, and soybean, across eight agricultural regions of Cameroon. The findings highlight that the influence of temperature patterns on climate change has a more significant effect on crop yields compared to precipitation changes. Given these findings, the study emphasizes the importance of monitoring climate change and variability, as well as disseminating relevant information to farmers. Encouraging adaptation to climate change through informed agricultural practices becomes crucial in light of the projected impacts on crop production. This underscores the need for proactive measures to mitigate the adverse effects of climate change on agricultural systems in Cameroon. In their study, Lema and Majule (2009) investigate the effects of climate change variability and adaptation strategies on agriculture in semi-arid regions of Tanzania. The research is conducted in two villages, Kamenyanga and Kintinku, located in the Manyoni District of central Tanzania. The primary aim of the study is to gain insights into the perceptions of local communities regarding climate variability and its impacts, particularly within the agriculture sector. Additionally, the researchers seek to identify and analyze adaptation strategies employed by these communities in response to the challenges posed by climate change. Through their investigation, Lema and Majule aim to contribute to a better understanding of the interactions between climate change, agricultural practices, and local adaptation efforts in semi-arid areas of Tanzania.

The study conducted by Lema and Majule (2009) utilizes both primary and secondary data sources, with interviews conducted among a sample size representing 10% of all households in each of the two villages studied. Their findings underscore the significant impact of changes in rainfall and temperature on local communities, affecting not only crop yields but also livestock productivity. The analysis reveals a decreasing trend in rainfall between 1992 and 2007, alongside increases in mean maximum and minimum temperatures. In response to these climate-related challenges, the study emphasizes the importance of equipping farmers with adequate knowledge and adaptive strategies. Furthermore, it advocates for community-level development initiatives in semi-arid regions to prioritize water harvesting methods, ensuring adequate water storage for both agricultural activities and livestock management. In their study, Chaudary et al. (2009) focus on the economic analysis of competing crops, with particular emphasis on cotton production in Pakistan. The research is conducted in two districts, Multan and Bahawalpur. Utilizing primary data, the study employs the Policy Analysis Matrix (PAM) methodology to evaluate the comparative advantage of cotton in relation to its competing crops, namely rice and sugarcane, within the study area. The comparative advantage of cotton over these other significant crops is determined through the application of the Domestic Resource Cost (DRC) technique. The findings suggest that both Multan and Bahawalpur regions possess a comparative advantage in cotton production compared to sugarcane and rice, both domestically and internationally, as evidenced by the respective DRC values. This implies that policymakers should consider providing subsidies to farmers and implementing policies aimed at reducing production costs. By ensuring access to quality inputs and promoting improved management practices, cotton yields could be enhanced, thereby further capitalizing on the comparative advantage observed in these regions.

Sillah (2009) examines the repercussions of climate change on both cash and food crop production in the Gambia. The study employs pooled and de-pooled econometrics methods to assess the impact. Specifically, the de-pooled approach utilizes the EGSL panel data method, incorporating a random time effect to analyze the data. The study indicates that variations in crop production in the Gambia are primarily influenced by factors such as land size and rainfall patterns, rather than changes in prices. Interestingly, the introduction of new crop varieties, particularly for groundnut and rice, has led to positive outcomes, while the adoption of these innovations for crops like cotton, maize, and sorghum has resulted in decreased production. This suggests a need for reassessment and potentially more targeted approaches to technological innovation in agriculture. Moreover, the study highlights that simply increasing land size may not effectively address challenges in crop production. The study underscores the importance of promoting agricultural innovation and the adoption of labor-intensive crops like vegetables and fruit plants. Given the fixed nature of land size and the decreasing and variable rainfall patterns, reliance solely on traditional crops may not be sustainable in the long term. Therefore, diversification towards crops that are less dependent on water availability, such as vegetables and fruit plants, could offer a more resilient approach to agriculture in the face of changing climatic conditions. Additionally, the finding that farmers do not directly respond to changes in crop prices suggests that other factors, such as technological advancements and crop suitability, may have a more significant influence on production decisions. This insight could inform policy interventions aimed at enhancing agricultural productivity and resilience in the Gambia.

Wang's study (2009) provides valuable insights into the differential impacts of climate change on rainfed and irrigated farms in China. By analyzing primary survey data from a large sample of households across multiple provinces, the study highlights that while global warming may initially benefit irrigated farms, it poses significant risks to rainfed farms. These findings underscore the importance of considering regional variations in agricultural vulnerability to climate change and the need for targeted adaptation strategies. Moreover, the study suggests that the detrimental effects of global warming on rainfed farms are likely to intensify over time, emphasizing the urgency of implementing proactive measures to mitigate these risks and build resilience in the agricultural sector.

Ringler et al. (2010) provide a comprehensive analysis of the potential impacts of climate change in Sub-Saharan Africa, employing a robust climate change scenario based on ensembles of 17 General Circulation Models (GCMs). Their findings reveal consistent predictions of higher temperatures and mixed precipitation changes for the 2050 period across the region. Importantly, the study underscores the adverse effects of climate change on agriculture, including yield reductions and changes in cultivated areas. These impacts are further exacerbated by rising food prices, which diminish the affordability of food, reduce calorie availability, and contribute to increased childhood malnutrition in Sub-Saharan Africa. The study highlights the urgent need for targeted adaptation and mitigation efforts to safeguard food security and mitigate the adverse impacts of climate change on vulnerable populations in the region.

Khadka (2011) conducts a study in the Annapurna Conservation Area of Nepal to investigate the impact of climate change on cash crop production. Focusing on the LwangGhalel V.D.C. in the Kaski district, the research aims to assess local communities' perceptions of climate change impacts, analyze the annual production of cash crops in relation to climate change, and identify measures taken by locals to mitigate climate change effects on cash crop production. The study primarily utilizes primary data collected through household surveys employing semi-structured questionnaires, interviews with key informants, group discussions, and informal conversations using random sampling techniques. Cash crops such as tea, miso, and cardamom are examined within the study area to understand their vulnerability and adaptation strategies in the face of climate change. The study spans thirty years of meteorological data collection to analyze rainfall and temperature patterns, utilizing both primary and secondary data sources including published and unpublished literature. Data analysis is conducted using MS-Excel and SPSS-11.5, with results presented through tables, graphs, and diagrams. Findings indicate an increase in both rainfall patterns and temperature over the study period. The research emphasizes the importance of awareness regarding climate change causes, impacts, and adaptation strategies. Recommendations include the distribution of drought-resistant seedlings, implementation of reforestation and afforestation programs, and promotion of climate-resilient agricultural practices. The study highlights the adverse effects of climate change on flower and fruit production, harvest timing of cash crops, and attributes snowfall as a major contributing factor. Challenges such as defective seedlings, lack of planting knowledge, and drought conditions are identified as factors decreasing the survival rate of cash crops. Interestingly, the production of tea shows an increase attributed to climate change, contrasting with challenges faced in cash crop production. Despite these challenges, the sale of cash crops sees an uptick, ultimately boosting household income.

Mkonda and Andyusuph (2011) conducted a study to assess the impact of climate change and variability on crop production and its implications for food security in Mvomero District, Tanzania. The research utilized a sample size consisting of 7% of all household heads randomly selected from two villages, who were interviewed using structured questionnaires. Additionally, focus group discussions, interviews with key informants, and participant observation surveys were employed to gather data. Rainfall and temperature data were collected from meteorological stations in Kongwa and Kinyasungwe, as well as from local farmers. The data analysis was conducted using the Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS) version 12 and Microsoft Excel. The study's findings suggest that there is no correlation between the amount of rainfall and the number of wet spells. However, a higher frequency of wet spells is deemed beneficial for crop production as it ensures sustained moisture levels. Conversely, an increase in temperature contributes to severe drought conditions through evapotranspiration, resulting in poor crop yields and subsequent food insecurity. In response, the study recommends the implementation of adaptation and coping mechanisms to safeguard food security in the face of climate change.

Arndt et al. (2012) focus on assessing the ramifications of climate change on agriculture and food security in developing nations. Given the dependence of many low-income countries on rain-fed agriculture for both income generation and sustenance, they are particularly vulnerable to climate change. The study utilizes representative climate projections, coupled with calibrated crop models, to forecast alterations in crop yields across 110 districts in Tanzania. The outcomes of these assessments are then integrated into a highly detailed, recursive dynamic economy-wide model specific to Tanzania. The findings suggest that compared to a scenario without climate change, and with domestic agricultural production serving as the main conduit for impact, food security in Tanzania is projected to worsen due to climate change. The analysis highlights a considerable range of outcomes across various climate scenarios, economic sectors, and geographical regions. Additionally, significant disparities in impacts are observed among households, both in terms of region and income level.

Ning (2013) investigates the economic repercussions of climate change on typical cash crop farms in designated locations within Quebec and Ontario from 2010 to 2039. This examination employs a mixed-integer dynamic linear programming model. Five distinct climate scenarios—hot and dry, hot and humid, median, cold and dry, and cold and humid—are considered, each combined with four different weather conditions to yield a total of 20 scenarios. The decision support system for agrotechnology transfer (DSSAT) model utilizes historical crop yield data to validate projections of future yields. The study employs Monte Carlo simulation with a Crystal Ball predictor to project economic variables such as production costs and crop prices. Results indicate that optimal resource allocation, output, net returns, economic vulnerability, and adaptation strategies are contingent upon climate scenarios, weather conditions, crop types and varieties, as well as specific site characteristics.

The study conducted by Ali et al. (2014) focuses on analyzing the production costs of major crops in District Bahawalpur, Pakistan. Its objective is to estimate the production cost per unit and net income per unit of these crops. Data collection was primarily achieved through a multistage purposive sampling technique, selecting respondents from four tehsils (administrative subdivisions) - Bahawalpur, Yazman, Ahmadpur East, and Hasilpur. A total of 12 villages and 120 respondents were included in the sample size for the study. The analysis focused on two major crops: wheat and cotton. The results indicated that fluctuations in the cost of production for both crops caused significant variations in output and income. Specifically, all results were found to be statistically significant at p=0.000. However, for cotton, the results were found to be insignificant, indicating a negative relationship between cost and output/income.

The findings of Amin et al. (2014) highlight the vulnerability of major food crops in Bangladesh to the adverse impacts of climate change. With increasing temperatures and erratic rainfall patterns, crops face heightened risks of yield reductions and fluctuations in cropping areas. This poses significant challenges to food security and agricultural sustainability in the country, where agriculture plays a crucial role in livelihoods and the economy.

To address these challenges, policymakers and agricultural stakeholders need to prioritize adaptation strategies aimed at enhancing resilience and mitigating the impacts of climate change on crop production. As Kumar (2018) emphasized, improving total factor productivity and reducing energy intensity in agriculture are essential for long-term resilience. This includes investing in research and development to breed and disseminate climate-resilient crop varieties that can withstand extreme weather conditions such as droughts and floods. Additionally, promoting sustainable agricultural practices, water management techniques, and efficient irrigation systems can help minimize the negative effects of changing climate patterns on crop yields (Toth & Paskal, 2019). Furthermore, the study underscores the importance of timely and accurate climate information and early warning systems to enable farmers to make informed decisions regarding cropping patterns, timing of planting and harvesting, and resource allocation. Capacity-building initiatives and extension services are essential to ensure that farmers have the knowledge and skills needed to implement climate-smart agricultural practices effectively.

The study conducted by Ning et al. (2014) provides valuable insights into the economic implications of climate change scenarios on cash crop farms in Quebec and Ontario. By employing sophisticated modeling techniques and integrating various climate scenarios, the research sheds light on the potential challenges and opportunities faced by agricultural producers in the region. The use of mixed-integer dynamic linear programming models allows for the optimization of land and labor allocation decisions over a 30-year time horizon, considering different climate scenarios and their effects on crop production. By incorporating parameters such as crop prices, production costs, and yields, the study captures the complex interactions between climate, agricultural inputs, and economic outcomes. Furthermore, the inclusion of CO2 enhancement and water limitation scenarios adds granularity to the analysis, enabling researchers to assess how different climatic conditions may impact crop productivity and profitability. The utilization of Monte Carlo simulation and crystal ball predictor techniques enhances the robustness of the results by accounting for uncertainties and variability inherent in climate projections and market conditions. Additionally, the integration of crop rotation and diversification constraints highlights the importance of sustainable farming practices in mitigating the risks associated with climate change. By exploring various adaptation strategies, such as participating in risk management programs, farmers can better manage climate-related uncertainties and optimize their production decisions.

The findings from Ning et al.'s (2014) study highlight the nuanced economic impacts of climate change scenarios on cash crop farms in Quebec and Ontario. Importantly, the research reveals that the economic consequences of climate change are not uniform across different scenarios, with the effects of CO2 enhancement and water limitation exerting a more pronounced influence on agricultural outcomes compared to specific climate scenarios.

This insight underscores the complexity of climate change dynamics and the need for targeted adaptation strategies that address the underlying drivers of vulnerability. By focusing on mitigating the impacts of CO_2 enhancement and water limitation, policymakers and agricultural stakeholders can better allocate resources and implement measures to enhance resilience in the face of changing environmental conditions. As noted by Farahmand (2019), innovation and strategic planning play a pivotal role in driving sustainability across vulnerable sectors. Furthermore, the study underscores the role of technology development and public insurance programs in reducing economic vulnerability to climate change. Investments in innovative agricultural practices, such as precision farming and drought-resistant crop varieties, can bolster the adaptive capacity of farmers and mitigate the negative effects of climate-induced stressors on crop yields and profitability (Clark & Adam, 2018). Similarly, public insurance programs can provide a crucial safety net for farmers, offering financial protection against climate-related losses and enabling them to recover from adverse events more effectively. By promoting the adoption of risk management strategies and facilitating access to insurance mechanisms, policymakers can help build resilience within the agricultural sector and safeguard livelihoods against the uncertainties of climate change.

The study conducted by Sajjad et al. (2014) offers valuable insights into the impact of climate change on major crops in Pakistan, including wheat, rice, maize, and sugar cane. By employing the feasible generalized least squares (FGLS) method and accounting for heteroscedasticity and autocorrelation using consistent standard error (HAC), the researchers were able to analyze time-series data spanning from 1980 to 2014. One of the key findings of the study is the positive and significant effect of maximum temperature on all crops studied. This suggests that rising temperatures associated with climate change can have varying implications for crop productivity, potentially influencing growth and yield patterns across different agricultural regions in Pakistan. The study also highlights the adverse impact of rainfall fluctuations on selected crops, with the exception of wheat. This underscores the complex relationship between precipitation patterns and crop performance, with certain crops exhibiting resilience to changes in rainfall while others may be more vulnerable to water stress. In light of these findings, the study emphasizes the importance of developing and adopting resistant high-yielding crop varieties to mitigate the potential risks posed by climate change to food security in Pakistan. By investing in research and innovation aimed at breeding climate-resilient crop varieties, policymakers and agricultural stakeholders can enhance the adaptive capacity of the agricultural sector and ensure continued food production in the face of evolving climatic conditions.

3. THEORETICAL MODEL

We can construct an economic model with the help of economic theory which will help us to understand the behavior of an individual as well as the society. This study is going to investigate the impact of carbon dioxide on cropped areas, cotton areas, fertilizer off-take, wheat areas, and overall water availability in the field of Pakistan.

where

$Co2 = (CA, CAREA, FOT, WTA, OWA)$ (1)

Co2 = carbondioxide, CA = cropped area, CAREA = cotton area, FOT = fertilizer off take, WTA = wheat area

OWA = overall water availability, e= represent the base of log

t=1,2,……..,N.bo, b1,b2,b3 are the scalar parameters and b is the estimated vector of parameters.The model of climate change impact on agriculture productivity become as:

$LCo2t=bo+b1LCDt+b2LCAt+b3LCTAt+b4LFOTt+b5LWTAt+b6LOWAt+et$ (2)

4. EMPIRICAL RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Table 1 presents the descriptive statistics for the variables used in the model examining the determinants of carbon dioxide emissions, where CO_2 is a function of cropped area (LCA), cotton area (LCTA), fertilizer off-take (LFOT), wheat area (LWTA), and overall water availability (LOWA), all in logarithmic form. These statistics offer insight into the central tendencies, dispersion, and distributional characteristics of each variable.

The dependent variable, LCO_2, has a mean value of 11.42153 and a median of 11.48670, with values ranging from 10.38988 to 12.04872. The standard deviation of 0.501273 suggests moderate variation in carbon emissions across the dataset. The skewness is –0.412608, indicating a slight leftward skew, while the kurtosis of 1.993847 suggests a distribution that is somewhat flatter than the normal curve. The Jarque-Bera statistic is 2.598124 with a p-value of 0.272810, indicating that LCO_2 is approximately normally distributed.

LCA (cropped area) has a mean of 3.104231, a median of 3.125789, and ranges between 2.975214 and 3.184208. The standard deviation is relatively low at 0.061325, reflecting limited dispersion. The skewness is –0.784519, indicating a stronger negative skew, while the kurtosis is 2.584117, slightly below the normal distribution. The Jarque-Bera statistic of 4.735299 and p-value of 0.093786 suggest marginal non-normality at the 10% level.

LCTA (cotton area) exhibits a mean of 7.938114, median of 7.962223, and a narrow range from 7.667218 to 8.075999. The standard deviation is 0.107431, again indicating low variability. The skewness is –0.879562, showing a clear left skew, and kurtosis is 2.765008, which is slightly platykurtic. The Jarque-Bera statistic is 4.735299, with a p-value of 0.093786, again pointing to slight non-normality.

LFOT (fertilizer off-take) has a mean of 7.789672 and a median of 7.854612, with the minimum and maximum values being 7.023551 and 8.361122, respectively. The standard deviation is 0.407228, indicating more variation compared to the previous variables. The skewness is –0.455301, and

kurtosis is 2.117604, suggesting a near-normal distribution. The Jarque-Bera test yields a statistic of 2.448826 and a p-value of 0.293214, confirming that the data is normally distributed.
LOWA (overall water availability) has a mean of 4.842110, a median of 4.895002, and values ranging from 4.582901 to 4.949021. The standard deviation is 0.110382, suggesting modest dispersion. With a skewness of –0.975443, the distribution is notably left-skewed, and a kurtosis of 2.578190 indicates slight deviation from normality. The Jarque-Bera test statistic is 6.004198 with a p-value of 0.049511, suggesting the variable is not normally distributed at the 5% level.
LWTA (wheat area) records a mean of 9.089233, a median of 9.031410, and a narrow range between 8.863745 and 9.141892, with a standard deviation of 0.077202. The skewness is minimal at –0.157491, indicating near symmetry, and the kurtosis is 2.328479, close to a normal distribution. The Jarque-Bera statistic is 0.852230, and the corresponding p-value is 0.653416, confirming that LWTA is normally distributed.
In summary, the descriptive statistics suggest that most variables exhibit low to moderate dispersion, with LCO_2 and LFOT being approximately normally distributed. Other variables such as LCTA, LOWA, and LCA show some evidence of non-normality due to skewness or kurtosis, but these deviations are relatively mild. This preliminary analysis highlights the suitability of the dataset for further econometric modeling, particularly after addressing minor distributional irregularities.

Table 1: Descriptive Statistics

	LCO2	LCA	LCTA	LFOT	LOWA	LWTA
Mean	11.42153	3.104231	7.938114	7.789672	4.842110	9.089233
Median	11.48670	3.125789	7.962223	7.854612	4.895002	9.031410
Maximum	12.04872	3.184208	8.075999	8.361122	4.949021	9.141892
Minimum	10.38988	2.975214	7.667218	7.023551	4.582901	8.863745
Std. Dev.	0.501273	0.061325	0.107431	0.407228	0.110382	0.077202
Skewness	-0.412608	-0.784519	-0.879562	-0.455301	-0.975443	-0.157491
Kurtosis	1.993847	2.584117	2.765008	2.117604	2.578190	2.328479
Jarque-Bera	2.598124	4.735299	4.735299	2.448826	6.004198	0.852230
Prob.	0.272810	0.093786	0.093786	0.293214	0.049511	0.653416

Table 2 presents the results of the unit root test applied to the variables included in the model analyzing carbon dioxide emissions. The test is conducted both at the level and at the first difference to determine whether the series are stationary or contain a unit root. The null hypothesis of the test assumes that each variable is non-stationary, and rejection of this hypothesis indicates stationarity.
At the level form, none of the variables except LOWA (log of overall water availability) appear to be stationary. LOWA has a t-statistic of –3.09871 and a p-value of 0.0367, indicating stationarity at the 5% significance level. All other variables, including LCAERA (cotton area), LCA (cropped area), LFOT (fertilizer off-take), and LWTA (wheat area), have p-values well above 0.05, failing to reject the null hypothesis of a unit root. This suggests that these series are non-stationary in their level form and require differencing.
At the first difference, all variables become highly stationary. LCAERA, LCA, LFOT, LOWA, and LWTA all show extremely low p-values (0.0000) and large negative t-statistics, ranging from –6.43219 to –8.97863. These results strongly reject the null hypothesis of non-stationarity at the 1% significance level, confirming that the variables become stationary after first differencing.
In conclusion, all variables except LOWA are integrated of order one, I(1), while LOWA appears to be stationary at level, I(0). Since the variables are a mix of I(0) and I(1), the ARDL modeling framework is appropriate for further analysis, as it allows for this combination of integration orders, provided none of the series are integrated of order two, I(2).

Table 2: Results of Unit Root Test

Variables	At Level		At 1st Difference	
	t-statistic	p-value	t-statistic	p-value
LCAERA	-2.27634	0.1837	-8.10429	0.0000
LCA	-1.98852	0.2882	-8.97863	0.0000
LFOT	-1.60173	0.4729	-6.43219	0.0000
LOWA	-3.09871	0.0367	-7.48104	0.0000
LWTA	-1.17224	0.6714	-7.38921	0.0000

Table 3 presents the results of the ARDL bounds testing analysis, which is used to determine whether a long-run relationship exists among the variables in the model explaining carbon dioxide emissions. The key test statistic here is the F-statistic (Wald Test), reported as 5.391. This value is compared with the critical lower and upper bound values at conventional significance levels of 5% and 10%.

At the 5% level of significance, the critical bounds range from 2.66 (lower bound) to 3.82 (upper bound). Since the computed F-statistic of 5.391 is greater than the upper bound, the null hypothesis of no long-run relationship among the variables is rejected at the 5% level. Similarly, at the 10% level, where the bounds are 2.29 (lower bound) and 3.39 (upper bound), the F-statistic still exceeds the upper bound by a wide margin.

This outcome confirms the existence of a statistically significant long-run cointegrating relationship among carbon dioxide emissions, cropped area, cotton area, fertilizer off-take, wheat area, and overall water availability. It validates the use of the ARDL approach to estimate both long-run and short-run dynamics of the model and implies that the selected explanatory variables jointly influence carbon dioxide emissions over time.

Table 3: Bound Testing Analysis

F-Statistic (Wald Test) = 5.391

Level of Significance	Lower Bound Value	Upper Bound Value
5%	2.66	3.82
10%	2.29	3.39

The long-run estimation results presented in Table 4 examine the determinants of carbon dioxide emissions, with carbon dioxide as the dependent variable and a focus on agricultural and environmental factors. The model demonstrates statistically significant relationships between carbon dioxide emissions and several explanatory variables, providing key insights into the environmental implications of agricultural practices.

Cotton cultivation area has a statistically significant negative relationship with carbon dioxide emissions (coefficient = −1.7423, p = 0.0010), suggesting that an expansion in cotton area may contribute to reducing emissions in the long run. This counterintuitive result could be attributed to cotton being a less water-intensive or mechanized crop in the study region, potentially involving fewer emissions-intensive inputs or practices. Alternatively, it may reflect substitution effects where cotton replaces more carbon-intensive cropping patterns.

In contrast, the cropped area (total area under cultivation) shows a positive and significant relationship with emissions (coefficient = 3.5116, p = 0.0048), indicating that expansion in overall cultivated land contributes to higher carbon dioxide levels. This is consistent with studies that link agricultural land expansion to increased fossil fuel use, deforestation, and soil degradation, all of which are key drivers of emissions (Burney et al., 2010).

Fertilizer off-take also has a highly significant and positive effect on carbon dioxide emissions (coefficient = 0.9872, p < 0.0001). This finding aligns with the broader literature noting that excessive

use of chemical fertilizers, especially nitrogen-based, is a major source of greenhouse gas emissions, both directly through the emission of nitrous oxide and indirectly through energy-intensive production processes (Snyder et al., 2009).
Similarly, overall water availability exerts a positive and significant influence on carbon dioxide emissions (coefficient = 1.5497, p = 0.0018). Increased availability of irrigation water may lead to intensified cropping, increased fertilizer application, and greater use of water pumps, all of which can contribute to rising emissions if not managed sustainably. This reflects a resource-intensive model of agriculture where enhanced inputs do not necessarily translate into environmentally sustainable outcomes (FAO, 2020).
On the other hand, wheat area shows a negative and statistically significant relationship with carbon dioxide emissions (coefficient = −2.1935, p = 0.0492). This may suggest that wheat, being a seasonal and relatively less input-intensive crop in many regions, contributes less to carbon emissions compared to other crops. Alternatively, a shift toward wheat cultivation may reduce the land allocated to more energy- or water-intensive crops.
Overall, the findings in Table 4 underscore the environmental trade-offs of agricultural intensification. While expansion in cropped area, fertilizer use, and water availability support food production, they simultaneously contribute to environmental degradation if not managed within a sustainable framework. Conversely, strategic crop selection, such as wheat or cotton under specific conditions, may offer opportunities to mitigate emissions. These results call for integrated agricultural-environmental policies that promote climate-smart practices, efficient water use, and optimized fertilizer application to balance productivity and sustainability goals.

Table 4: Long Run Results

Dependent Variable: CO_2

Variables	Coefficient	t-Statistic	p-value
LCAREA	-1.7423	-4.0876	0.0010
LCA	3.5116	3.2842	0.0048
LFOT	0.9872	13.4811	0.0000
LOWA	1.5497	3.7956	0.0018
LWTA	-2.1935	-2.1314	0.0492

The short-run dynamics of the model presented in Table 5 assess the immediate effects of agricultural and resource-use variables on carbon dioxide emissions. These estimates complement the long-run relationships from Table 4 and provide insights into how changes in cultivation and input use affect environmental outcomes in the near term.
The coefficient of the error correction term (CointEq(-1)) is negative and statistically significant (−0.73418, p = 0.0036), confirming the existence of a stable long-run equilibrium relationship among the variables. It indicates that approximately 73.4% of any deviation from the long-run equilibrium is corrected within one period, showing a relatively fast speed of adjustment.
In the short run, cotton cultivation area continues to exhibit a statistically significant and negative relationship with carbon dioxide emissions (coefficient = −0.4382, p = 0.0119). This supports the earlier long-run finding and implies that increasing cotton area can help reduce emissions, possibly due to lower emissions intensity or substitution of more polluting crops.
Conversely, the cropped area is positively associated with emissions in the short run as well (coefficient = 1.0124, p = 0.0215). This reflects that even small expansions in cultivated land can quickly lead to increased emissions, likely due to associated increases in tillage, irrigation, and energy use.
Fertilizer off-take, unlike its positive long-run effect, shows a negative and significant short-run impact on carbon dioxide emissions (coefficient = −0.2879, p = 0.0283). This may suggest that initial

increases in fertilizer application could enhance efficiency and productivity without proportionate increases in emissions. However, this short-run improvement might not be sustainable in the long term, as overuse and diminishing returns can eventually lead to environmental degradation, as highlighted in Snyder et al. (2009).

Table 5: Short Run Results
Dependent Variable: CO_2

Variables	Coefficient	t-Statistic	p-value
LCAREA	-0.43821	-2.8519	0.0119
LCA	1.01236	2.5347	0.0215
LFOT	-0.28795	-2.5533	0.0283
LOWA	-0.61827	-1.8224	0.0861
LWTA	-0.69182	-1.4295	0.1746
CointEq(-1)	-0.73418	-3.4428	0.0036

Overall water availability shows a negative but only marginally significant short-run effect (coefficient = −0.6183, p = 0.0861). This may suggest that while increased water access can support efficient crop growth initially, it does not immediately translate into higher emissions, though the long-run effects differ, as seen in Table 4. Similarly, wheat area remains statistically insignificant in the short term (coefficient = −0.6918, p = 0.1746), although it showed a significant negative effect over the long run.
Collectively, Table 5 indicates that carbon emissions respond more sensitively to land-use changes and cultivation practices in the short run, especially via cropped area and cotton area. The mixed signs of fertilizer and water availability across time horizons highlight the complexity of agricultural-environment interactions, suggesting that sustainability gains may require a longer implementation and adjustment period.

5. DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS
The study on the impact of climate change on cash and food crop production in Pakistan, spanning from 1980 to 2014, is a crucial endeavor to understand the evolving dynamics of agricultural productivity in the face of changing environmental conditions. By employing the Augmented Dickey-Fuller (ADF) unit root test, researchers aim to assess the stationarity of the variables under consideration, which is essential for reliable analysis and modeling. The ADF unit root test is a widely used method for examining the stationarity of time series data, particularly in econometrics and financial analysis. It helps determine whether a time series is stationary or non-stationary by testing the null hypothesis that the series possesses a unit root against the alternative hypothesis of stationarity. In the context of this study, the ADF unit root test serves to ascertain the stationarity of key variables related to cash and food crop production, such as crop yields, temperature, precipitation, and other climatic factors. Stationarity is crucial for ensuring the reliability of subsequent analyses, such as regression modeling or time series forecasting, as non-stationary data can lead to biased or spurious results. By conducting the ADF unit root test on the relevant variables, researchers can gain insights into the underlying trends and patterns in crop production and climatic conditions over the study period. This information is essential for understanding the impact of climate change on agricultural productivity, identifying potential vulnerabilities, and formulating effective adaptation strategies to mitigate adverse effects. The use of the autoregressive distributed lag (ARDL) model for co-integration analysis among the variables of the model represents a sophisticated approach to understanding the long-term relationships and dynamics among the key factors influencing the phenomenon under study. In this context, the ARDL model allows researchers to examine both short-term and long-term effects and interactions among the variables, providing valuable insights into the

underlying mechanisms driving the observed outcomes. The estimation results of the Augmented Dickey-Fuller (ADF) test indicating that six variables are stationary at 1st difference and one is stationary at level suggest that the variables exhibit a mix of non-stationary and stationary behavior. This information is crucial for determining the appropriate specification of the ARDL model and identifying potential co-integrating relationships among the variables. When some variables are stationary at 1st difference and others are stationary at level, it suggests the presence of both integrated and non-integrated components in the data. This scenario is common in economic and financial time series, where certain variables may exhibit trends or stochastic behavior that require differencing to achieve stationarity, while others may already be stationary in their original form.

By incorporating both integrated and non-integrated variables into the ARDL framework, researchers can effectively capture the short-term dynamics as well as the long-term equilibrium relationships among the variables. This allows for a comprehensive analysis of how changes in one variable affect others over different time horizons, enabling a deeper understanding of the underlying causal mechanisms and potential policy implications. The long-run results indicating positive and significant relationships between fertilizer offtake, overall water availability, and cropped area with carbon dioxide in Pakistan suggest that these factors contribute positively to the levels of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere over the long term. This could be due to various factors such as increased agricultural activity leading to higher fertilizer use, expanded irrigation leading to greater water availability, and increased land under cultivation. Conversely, the negative but significant relationships between cotton area and wheat area with carbon dioxide in Pakistan imply that these variables are associated with decreases in carbon dioxide levels over the long term. This could be attributed to factors such as changes in land use patterns, crop rotation practices, or agricultural policies that result in reduced cultivation of cotton and wheat, leading to lower carbon dioxide emissions or absorption. The consistency of the short-run estimated results with the long-run relationships suggests that the observed dynamics between these variables and carbon dioxide levels persist over time. This reinforces the notion that the identified relationships are robust and stable, providing valuable insights into the complex interactions between agricultural activities and carbon dioxide emissions in Pakistan.

The findings suggest that climate change significantly impacts crop production in Pakistan, as indicated by the results of the analysis. The presence of unit root problems in the time series data underscores the need to address this issue to ensure the reliability of the regression results. The Augmented Dickey-Fuller (ADF) unit root test serves as a valuable tool in identifying and mitigating unit root problems, thereby enhancing the robustness of the analysis. The results of the ARDL Bound test, presented in Table 3, provide insights into the presence of co-integration among the variables under investigation. Co-integration implies a long-term relationship between the variables, indicating that they move together over time. This suggests that changes in climate conditions can have lasting effects on crop production in Pakistan. Furthermore, the calculated long-run results, as shown in Table 4, offer valuable insights into the nature and magnitude of the relationship between climate change and crop production in Pakistan. By identifying the long-term impact of climate change on crop yields, policymakers and stakeholders can better understand the challenges posed by changing environmental conditions and formulate effective strategies to mitigate these effects. Additionally, the co-integrating results presented in Table 5 provide further evidence of the relationship between climate change and crop production. Co-integration analysis helps to establish the existence of a stable long-term relationship between the variables, strengthening the validity of the findings. The study underscores the importance of considering the impact of climate change on crop production in Pakistan. By employing rigorous statistical techniques such as unit root tests, ARDL Bound tests, and co-integration analysis, the study provides robust evidence of the linkages between climate change and crop yields. This information can inform policy decisions aimed at enhancing agricultural resilience and sustainability in the face of climate change challenges.

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