

Saira Hafeez

Contact Number: +1 (970) 310-0980

Contact Email: hafeez7@colostate.edu

Career Objective

Aspiring environmental advocate with a passion for catalyzing positive change to address water challenges attributed to climate-induced disasters. Eager to leverage my skills in research, policy analysis, and stakeholder engagement to contribute to a sustainable, water-secure future while fostering resilience in the face of climatic challenges.

Work Experience

Job

Job Title: Policy and Communication Associate

Organization: Pakistan Humanitarian Forum (PHF)

Duration: July 2019-August 2022

- Developed content for communication products such as SITREPs, Weekly Bulletins, Quarterly Newsletters, and Annual Reports.
- Worked on content development through close follow-ups with PHF member organizations in thematic areas of WASH, Health, and Climate Change.
- Drafted press releases, concept notes, briefing notes, and presentations.
- Drafted position papers proposing evidence-based policy solutions in organizational and social care policies.
- Developed and maintained team resources during 2020 Floods & COVID-19 emergency relief.
- Maintained external linkages of PHF by engaging stakeholders in line with policy priorities.

Grants & Internships

- Received **Climate Adaptation Partnership (CAP)** Grant (\$2500) for Blue-Green Infrastructure review project that got accepted at Midwest Political Science Association Conference (2025-2026)
- **10-Week Internship:** CSU Extension Intern for the USFS Project “Cataloging and Assessing Post-Fire Restoration Projects in Colorado Watersheds” by **CSU Summer Extension Internship Program-** Larimar County, Colorado, United States- Summer 2024 (May 16-July 26, 2024)
- **16-Week Internship:** Policy Intern in the Community Impact Team- **United Way of Larimar County**, Fort Collins, Colorado, United States (May 13-August 31, 2024)
- **12-Week Internship** at the Executive Internship Program for the **Office of Governor Jared Polis-** Denver, Colorado, United States- Summer 2024 (May 14 -July 30, 2024)
- **12-Week Internship:** Issue Brief Write-up and Administrative Assignments in Central Strategic Perspective (CSP) Unit- Institute of Strategic Studies Islamabad (ISSI), A think tank of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Pakistan (July 25-October 25, 2022)

- **2-Week Internship:** Community work at an Old-Age Home (Baghban), report writing, and social networking at the Youth and Volunteer Department- Pakistan Red Crescent Society, Islamabad, Pakistan (February 2-February 16, 2018)

Education

PhD

2023 - Present

Degree Title: PhD in Political Science– Environmental Politics and Policy Specialization

CGPA: 3.93/4.00 (Fall 2023-Fall 2025)

Department of Political Science- Colorado State University, Fort Collins

Dissertation Topic: Governing Fire-Driven Water Hazards: Advocacy Coalitions, Hazard Onset, and Resilience in Colorado’s Water Policy Subsystem

Master’s

2021 - 2023

Degree Title: MPhil Public Policy

CGPA: 4.00/4.00- Gold Medalist

Riphah Institute of Public Policy- Riphah International University, Islamabad

Graduation

2015 - 2019

Degree: Bachelor of Science

Major: Biosciences

CGPA: 3.95/4.00

Faculty of Health & Life Sciences- Capital University of Science and Technology, Islamabad

Online Courses

Online Course Provider: Coursera

Course Title_ Institution, Instructor (Grade)- Date:

1. Qualitative Research Methods_ University of Amsterdam, Gerben Moerman (98.66%)- February 8, 2022
2. Quantitative Methods_ University of Amsterdam, Annemarie Zand Scholten (97.22%)- February 13, 2022
3. Technical Writing_ Moscow Institute of Physics and Technology, Elena Bazanova (99%)- February 18, 2022
4. Social and Behavioral Research Best Practices for Clinical Research_ Social Behavioral Researcher (GCP) Group_ COLLABORATIVE INSTITUTIONAL TRAINING INITIATIVE (CITI PROGRAM) (100%)- February 4, 2024

Publications

Research Papers

- **Hafeez, S.,** Olofsson, K., Aftab, R., & Kausar, S. W. A. (2024). Evaluating the Implementation Performance of Pakistan’s National Disaster Risk Reduction Policy. (Accepted at *Disaster*)
- **Hafeez, S.,** Aftab, R., & Mirza, B. (2024). Assessing the impact of climate-driven water stress on agriculture growth of Pakistan. *Journal of Humanities, Social and Management Sciences (JHSMS)*, 5(1), 36-66. <https://doi.org/10.47264/idea.jhsms/5.1.3>
- **Hafeez, S.,** & Kausar, S. W. A. (2022). Revisiting the IWT for Technical Gaps and Climate Change Vulnerability: A Policy Perspective from Pakistan. *Journal of Humanities, Social and Management Sciences (JHSMS)*, 3(2), 88-103. <https://doi.org/10.47264/idea.jhsms/3.2.6>
- Kausar, S. W. A., Gul, A., & **Hafeez, S.** (2023). Exploring Intra-Party Democracy and Political Finance in Pakistan: The Case of Effectiveness of Mainstream Political Parties. *Asian Journal of Comparative Politics*, 8(2), 529-546. <https://doi.org/10.1177/20578911221149422>.

Book Chapter

- **Hafeez, S., Hussain, J., Aftab, R. (2024).** Understanding the Effectiveness of Stringent Governmental Policies Against Mortality Rates in the Case Study of COVID-19: A Comparison of Twenty-Two Countries. In: *Mishrif, A. (eds) Perspectives on Human Capital Development*. Palgrave Macmillan, Singapore. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-981-97-5246-1_5

Book Review

- **Hafeez, S. (2025).** Book review: Build: Investing in America's Infrastructure. *Urban Studies*, 0(0). <https://doi.org/10.1177/00420980251327972>

Working Papers at Colorado State University

- **Hafeez, S., Olofsson, K. (2024).** Blue-Green Infrastructure: Policy Evolution Insights from the Advocacy Coalition Framework. Department of Political Science.
- **Hafeez, S., & Albrecht, T. (2024).** Assessing Funding Mechanisms for Post-Fire Watershed Restoration in Colorado: A Policy Analysis. Department of Ecosystem Science and Sustainability.
- **Hafeez, S., Olofsson, K., & Albrecht, T. (2024).** Stakeholder Analysis: Mapping Interest & Influence in Colorado's Post-Fire Watershed Restoration. Department of Political Science & Department of Ecosystem Science and Sustainability.
- **Hafeez, S. (2024).** Capitalist Deception: How False Consciousness Shields Corporate Influence in Climate Governance. Department of Political Science.
- **Hafeez, S. (2024).** Melting Himalayas: Exploring Climate Change as a Catalyst in the Indian-Chinese Border Dispute. Department of Political Science.

Issue Briefs (<https://issi.org.pk/author/sairahafeez/>)

- **Saira Hafeez (2022, September 12).** Coping with Unpredictable Shifts in Monsoon Pattern of Pakistan: An Indicator of Climate Change. *Centre for Strategic Perspective (CSP), Institute of Strategic Studies Islamabad (ISSI)*. <https://issi.org.pk/issue-brief-on-coping-with-unpredictable-shifts-in-monsoon-pattern-of-pakistan-an-indicator-of-climate-change/>
- **Saira Hafeez (2022, September 29).** Freshwater Resources of Pakistan: Challenges and The Way Forward. *Centre for Strategic Perspective (CSP), Institute of Strategic Studies Islamabad (ISSI)*. <https://issi.org.pk/issue-brief-on-freshwater-resources-of-pakistan-challenges-and-the-wayforward/>
- **Saira Hafeez (2022, November 09).** Rethinking the Policy Capacity of Pakistan to Adopt Blue-Green Infrastructure. *Centre for Strategic Perspective (CSP), Institute of Strategic Studies Islamabad (ISSI)*. <https://issi.org.pk/issue-brief-on-rethinking-the-policy-capacity-of-pakistan-to-adopt-blue-green-infrastructure/>

Newspaper Articles

- **Hafeez, S. (2018, December 29).** Conservation of Himalayan Brown Bear. *Pakistan Observer* (pg. 5). <https://epaper.pakobserver.net/?s=2018-12-29>
- **Hafeez, S. (2022, October 3).** Agricultural Trade Caught in Cross-fire Amidst Indo-Pak Conflict. *Daily Times* (pg. B2). <https://dailytimes.com.pk/1006488/agricultural-trade-caught-in-cross-fire/>
- **Hafeez, S. (2022, November 3).** Policy Measures Needed to Boost Indo-Pak Agricultural Trade. *The Dayspring* (pg. 4). <https://www.thedayspring.com.pk/pakistan-india-trade/>

Training and Workshops

- Introductory **ArcGIS Training** with Josh Reyling (Geospatial Help Desk Lead) organized by Summer Extension Program & Geospatial Centroid, Colorado State University- June 21, 2024

- Advanced **ArcGIS Training** with Elizabeth Tulanowski (GIS Special Instructor- Ecosystem Science and Sustainability) organized by Summer Extension Program & Geospatial Centroid, Colorado State University- July 18, 2024
- Completed a year long **Graduate Student Teaching Certificate of Completion (GSTCC)** Program by The Institute for Learning and Teaching (TILT), Colorado State University- February 25, 2025
- **Graduate Teaching Assistant Training** organized by Graduate School and The Institute for Learning and Teaching (TILT), Colorado State University- August 16, 2023
- **Participant: Cleanliness Drive** organized by Riphah Institute of Public Policy and Life and Living Program, Riphah International University- January 21, 2023
- **Participant: 7th International Water Conference- 2022** organized by PCRWR and Riphah International University- December 29-30, 2022
- **Participant:** International Conference on “**The Impact of COVID-19 on the Economy and Society**” organized by **Sultan Qaboos University**, Muscat, Oman- October 10-12, 2022
- **Participant:** International Conference on “**Islamic Perspectives on Contemporary Urban Governance**” organized by **Riphah Institute of Public Policy**, Riphah International University, Islamabad- September 29, 2022
- **Participant:** One-week Training Session on “**Geographic Information System (GIS)**” organized by **Riphah Institute of Public Policy**, Riphah International University, Islamabad- February 28 to March 7, 2022
- **Participant: 6th International Water Conference- 2020** organized by The Asia Foundation, PCRWR, and Riphah International University- December 29-30, 2020
- **Participant: “Preparedness for Effective Response”** Workshop organized by **Pakistan Red Crescent Society** and **Canadian Red Cross**- March 18-21, 2019
- **Participant: 2-day training for CCA Champion Volunteers on “Climate Change Issues”** Workshop organized by Pakistan Red Crescent Society with Climate Advocacy and Coordination for Resilient Action Project (CACRA), financially supported by **German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development**- July 30-31, 2018
- **Participant:** Poster Presentation at the 6th International Conference on Biological and Computational Sciences (CBICS) organized by the Department of Bioinformatics and Biosciences- Capital University of Science & Technology- 2018
- **Participant:** “1st Annual Hydroponic Exhibition” organized by Institute of Molecular Biology and Biotechnology- University of Lahore, March 2017
- **Participant:** “Therapeutic Applications of Stem Cells” Workshop organized by Institute of Molecular Biology and Biotechnology- University of Lahore, May 2016

Leadership and Volunteer Work

- **President of Rotaract Club of Fort Collins at CSU** (year 2024-25 & 2025-26)-Built it from scratch
- Completed the Certificate Program “**Rotary Leadership Academy**” by The Rotary Club of Fort Collins, Colorado- March-September, 2025
- **Lead Organizer:** Poster Competition and Awareness walk on “The Curse of Plastic” under **Climate Change Week '18** with Climate Advocacy and Coordination for Resilient Action Project (CACRA) supported by Pakistan Red Crescent Society, German Red Cross, and Capital University of Science & Technology- October 15-21, 2018
- **Team lead:** Community-based Project on Old Homes with Pakistan Red Crescent Society- February 2018
- **Organizer:** “Y-Accelerator Challenge- **Climathon**” with Pakistan Red Crescent Society- April 2019
- **Student Organizer:** 6th International Conference on Biological and Computational Sciences (CBICS) organized by the Department of Bioinformatics and Biosciences- Capital University of Science & Technology- 2018

- **Organizer:** “Therapeutic Applications of Stem Cells” Workshop organized by Institute of Molecular Biology and Biotechnology- University of Lahore, May 2016
- **Participant:** Environmental Safety Initiative- **Clean Green Islamabad** (Ideas Competition) organized by the Ministry of Interior, Pakistan. December 2018
- **Participant:** Community Service Program on Road Safety organized by Islamabad Traffic Police- December 2018 (Won 1st Place in Road Safety Competition)
- **Guest Speaker** at a **TV show** “Breakfast at Home” hosted by Tauseeq Haider on PTV Home- October 18, 2018 (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mUw0opmOjxY>)

Achievements and Awards

- Received “**Certificate of Academic Excellence**” presented by NRHH- Colorado State University on securing a 4.0 GPA- Fall 2025
- Received “**Certificate of Academic Excellence**” presented by NRHH- Colorado State University on securing a 4.0 GPA- Fall 2023
- Received “**Excellence in Teaching Certificate**” presented by Colorado State University on completing the Language, Culture, and Resources program for Excellence in Teaching for International Graduate Teaching Assistants-Fall 2023
- **Winner** of “**Gold Medal**” presented by Riphah International University on securing first position in Batch of Fall 2021- November 2023
- **Winner** of “**Chancellor’s Honor Roll**” presented by Capital University of Science & Technology on securing a 4.0 GPA- Spring 2018
- **Two-time Winner** of “**Dean’s Honor Roll**” presented by Capital University of Science & Technology on securing high GPA- Fall 2017 and Fall 2018
- **Winner team member** of **Road Safety Quiz Competition** organized by Islamabad Traffic Police- 2018.
- **Runner up** in the **C++ Programming Competition** organized by IEEE Computer Society at CUST- 2018
- **Winner** of “**High Achievers Award**” presented by The Educators Elite Campus on securing an A+ grade in SSC Part-II Result Lahore Board- 2012
- **Winner** of Inter-school **Speech Contest** held by The Educators School System- 2012
- **Winner** of the “**Best Prefect of the Year**” award by The Educators Elite Campus, Session 2010-2011
- **Winner** of “**Most Regular & Punctual**” award by The Educators Elite Campus, Session 2010-2011

Languages: English- C2, Urdu- C2, Arabic- B2, Hindi- B2, Punjabi (Native)- C2

Software and Programming Languages: MS Office Suite, ArcGIS Pro & ArcGIS Online, R-Studio for Statistical Computing & Graphics, Microsoft Visual Studio, Other Statistical Analysis Tools (EViews, Stata, IBM-SPSS), C/C++ Programming Languages

Skills: Research & Data Analysis, Project Management, Strategic Planning, Problem Solving, Communication, Teamwork, Conflict Management

Profile Links

Google Scholar: <https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=QTW6AqoAAAJ&hl=en&oi=ao>

Researchgate: <https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Saira-Hafeez-2>

Faculty Profile: <https://www.libarts.colostate.edu/people/hafeez/>

References

Available upon request.