Beneficial Use of Hill Torrents (Nai)

Rationale

Hill torrents (locally called Nai in Sindh, Rodh Kohi in Punjab, and Sailaba in Balochistan) carry flash flood flows from mountains, causing significant damage to human habitation, infrastructure, wetlands, and crops. The arid regions outside the Indus Basin Irrigation System (IBIS) in Sindh, such as Khirthar Range (Jamshoro, Dadu, Shahdad Kot, Malir, and Thatta), Shadi Shaheed Range (Khairpur Mirs), and Karoonjhar Range (Nagarparkar in Tharparkar), are particularly affected by these torrents. Due to high elevation, canal irrigation is not feasible, and livelihood depends on rainfall and groundwater. Climate change poses a significant threat to water resources and ecosystems in these areas. Thus, management of these torrents needs special attention to harness their potential.