

## Government Initiatives

The Government of Sindh, under various financial packages, construct small dams on torrent streams to recharge groundwater. However, these small dams negatively impact the natural irrigation system, particularly *Nai Gaj*. Low flows, previously used for rabi season irrigation, are now diverted to dams, affecting the rabi season crop. Overflow from these dams is released into the *Nai* during high-flow periods, which often harms agricultural crops.

## Impacts

- In most of the cases water diverted to small dams either evaporates or percolates to a limited extent due to unfavorable soil strata and silt load in the dams.
- Most of the catchment areas are mostly muddy, the torrential flow carries lot of silt and fill the dams within 1-2 years.
- Silt accumulation in dams reduces their water holding capacity resulting in overflows during high discharge.



Figure: Field watercourses and crops grown on hill torrent irrigation