



KAMARAJ IAS ACADEMY
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\$100 Billion Gap in Himalaya Climate Funding

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Background & Context

The **International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD)** released a synthesis report stating that India requires **USD 102 billion annually** to address climate risks in the HindKush Himalaya (HKH) region.

The "Water Tower" Crisis

- **The HKH Region:** Often called the "Third Pole," it provides freshwater to 2 billion people.
- **The Financial Gap:** Total HKH requirement is ~\$768 billion/year. India and China alone account for **92%** of this need.
- **Risks:** Glaciers in the HKH are melting **65% faster** than in the previous decade. This leads to GLOFs (Glacial Lake Outburst Floods), loss of biodiversity, and water insecurity for downstream states.
- **Solution Strategy:** ICIMOD suggests "**Debt-for-Climate Swaps**" and increased public spending specifically for mountain ecosystems.

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