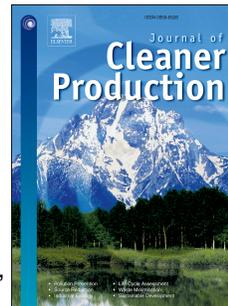


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Credit Author Statement

Abbas Ali Chandio: Conceptualization, Writing-Original Draft, Formal Analysis

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Waqar Akram: Writing-Review & Editing

Sultan Adeel: Methodology, Data Collection

Muhammad Irfan: Software, Validation

Inayatullah Jan: Investigation, Validation

Title Page

Addressing the effect of climate change in the framework of financial and technological development on cereal production in Pakistan

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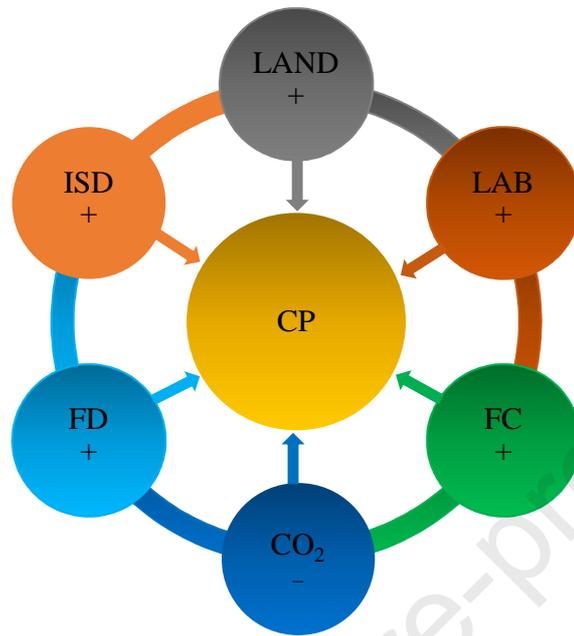
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Graphical Abstract



Long-run nexus between the study variables

1 **Addressing the effect of climate change in the framework of financial** 2 **and technological development on cereal production in Pakistan**

3

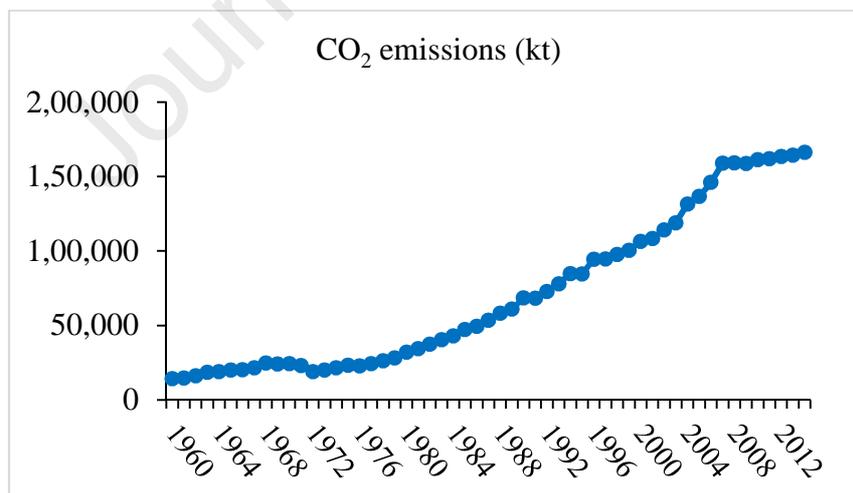
4 **Abstract**

5 The current study examines the effect of global climate change (CO₂ emissions),
6 financial development, and technical progress (fertilizer consumption and improved
7 seed distribution) on cereal production in Pakistan over the 1977–2014 period. The
8 study undertakes the autoregressive distributed lag (ARDL) bounds testing approach
9 to investigate the long-term interrelation among the variables. The outcomes of the
10 ARDL bounds-testing approach confirmed the presence of a long-term relationship
11 among the variables. Empirical results revealed that CO₂ emissions have a negative
12 impact on cereal production in the short-run and long-run. It means that increase in
13 global climate change will decrease cereal production. Findings further showed that
14 financial development has a positive impact on cereal production in both cases. It
15 suggests that increasing financial development will enhance cereal production, which
16 will ensure the country's food security. In addition, technical progress has a
17 significantly positive impact on cereal production in both cases. The dynamic OLS,
18 fully modified OLS, and the canonical cointegrating regression estimators confirmed
19 the robustness of the findings. Financial development is essential for sustainable
20 agriculture production; therefore, policymakers should devise a comprehensive
21 agriculture policy that addresses the financial needs of the agriculture sector and
22 attracts investment. The financial institutions may use carbon financing as a tool to
23 intervene in the financial market to generate funds for the application of cleaner
24 production principles and the use of best practices for agriculture development and
25 sustainable production.

26 **Keywords:** Financial development, Climate change, Cereal production, ARDL
 27 approach

28 1. Introduction

29 Climate change is defined as a change in climate over a long period of time due to
 30 human and non-human activities. It has become the limelight issue that drastically
 31 impacts the global economies (Chandio et al., 2020a). Climate change can alter rain
 32 patterns, decrease water for agriculture, and increase the frequent droughts and overall
 33 temperature (IFAD, 2009). In agriculture, in particular, it severely impacts water and
 34 land and can vary the output by 60% (Matiu et al., 2017). It can also stimulate the
 35 timing of agricultural seasons, water stress, and the magnitude and duration of heat
 36 (Lemma et al., 2016). Carbon dioxide (CO₂) emission is a vital sign of climate change.
 37 Global CO₂ emissions have risen to 36,138,285 kt in 2014 from 24,689,911 kt in 2000;
 38 in Pakistan, it rose to 182,414 kt in 2014 from 106,449 kt in 2000 (WB, 2014). The
 39 trend of CO₂ emissions from 1960 to 2014 is shown in Figure 1.



40
 41 **Figure 1.** The trend of CO₂ emissions in Pakistan

42 Data Source: World Bank, (2014)

43 At the macro level, due to the looming climatic effects, agriculture has hampered
 44 harshly. The food security concern is growing in developing countries, particularly in

45 Africa and Asia, containing 92% undernourished people, 35% in South Asia (FAO,
46 2013). The current unsustainable mode of production and consumption has severe
47 implications for economic growth, societal unrest, and environmental degradation in
48 the future (Clark, 2007). These also require considerable modification to develop a
49 sustainable system (Grin et al., 2010).

50 In retrospect, the United Nations Environment Protection (UNEP) in 1990 introduced
51 the concept of cleaner production, defined as “the continuous application of an
52 integrated environmental strategy to processes, products, and services to increase
53 efficiency and reduce risks to humans and the environment.” Since then, the
54 international community has realized the benefits of cleaner production and adjusted
55 its production processes. For instance, China closed 57,000 small factories, producing
56 effluent material, and contaminating freshwater. In Australia, the lead level decreased
57 in petrol that resulted in reduced blood levels in the general population—health
58 implications. Asia Pacific Economic Corporation (APEC) also formed a working
59 group in 1997 to work on a cleaner production strategy, improving the living
60 conditions of newly developed cities in developing countries (Van Berkel, 2007). At
61 the micro-level, sustainable production in agriculture emphasize the use of eco-
62 friendly technologies (Mahallati et al., 2015) and optimal use of inputs without
63 compromising profits (Müller et al., 2015).

64 In specific to Pakistan, World Bank studies (2006, 2011) suggest a 6% annual
65 environmental degradation cost to GDP. Only in Sindh province, the environmental
66 risk factor is more than 15% of GDP, owing to soil erosion, low soil fertility, worsen
67 air quality, and water pollution. Thus, sustainable agriculture production (crops)
68 demand cleaner production technologies and the best practices following ecological
69 and economic consequences (Blok et al., 2015). In parallel, the share of agriculture to

70 GDP has declined from 30% to 19% from 1970 to 2020 accompanied by low credit
71 availability to the crop sector. For example, in 2019, only 392 billion (PKR) was
72 disbursed to the crop sector, which is relatively low compared to the volume and
73 vitality of this sector for food security (GoP, 2020).

74 Given the statistics and identified potential risks and threats to food security, financial
75 development is crucial to combat and mitigate such adverse situations. Financial
76 development is a key to the economic growth of the country and is used as an
77 instrument to minimize the risk of economic activity (King and Levine, 1993). One
78 way for financial development is credit, which is widely characterized by
79 development economists (Raifu and Aminu, 2019). Available literature elaborates that
80 credit supply and access help in achieving and strengthening sustainable growth,
81 technology adoption, and poverty reduction (Chandio et al., 2017). Specifically, credit
82 supplied to the agricultural sector positively impacts the output and development of
83 the economy (Rehman et al., 2017) and works as a catalyst for increased farmers'
84 participation and transformation of agriculture (Saqib et al., 2016).

85 In their research, Chandio et al. (2018a) conducted a primary data study in Pakistan to
86 investigate the impact of long-term (LT) and short-term (ST) loans on wheat
87 productivity. They found a positive and significant impact of both types of loans on
88 wheat productivity. Similarly, Ahmad et al. (2015) examined the impact of credit on
89 wheat productivity based on primary data in the case of Pakistan. They also found a
90 positive and significant impact on wheat productivity. However, Bashir and
91 Mehmood (2010) investigated the impact of credit on the production of rice crop by
92 using survey data in Pakistan. The survey-based data of 114 sugarcane farmers
93 suggested that formal credit improved sugarcane production in Punjab, Pakistan
94 (Bashir et al. 2007). Using the ARDL, Abbas (2020) analyzed the short-and long-term

95 effect of climate change on production of cotton and concluded that temperature has
96 positive insignificant influence on cotton production. Likewise, Ahmad et al. (2020)
97 observed that temperature has negative significant effect on agricultural output while
98 Chinese FDI improved agricultural output in both short-and long-term period.
99 The present study add-ons in the current literature gap through investigating the
100 robust long-run and short-run relationship among financial development, carbon
101 dioxide emissions, area used for cereal production, improved seed distribution,
102 consumption of fertilizer, labor force, and cereal production in Pakistan during 1977–
103 2014 by utilizing the time-series data. The main objective of this study is realized by
104 employing various econometric approaches, including the ADF and KPSS
105 conventional unit root tests, the ARDL bounds-testing, the Johansen co-integration,
106 DOLS, and FMOLS. Also, the stability of the model is tested through several
107 diagnostic tests. The remaining study has been ordered as follows; section 2 discusses
108 financial development and climate change-related empirical studies and research
109 hypotheses, whereas section 3 provides data and methodology. Sections 4 and 5
110 present the estimated empirical results and conclusion of the study.

111 **2. Critical Literature Review and Research Hypotheses**

112 The current study attempts to investigate the short-run and long-run impacts of
113 climate change (CO₂ emissions), financial development, and technical progress
114 (fertilizer consumption and improved seed distribution) on cereal production from
115 1977 to 2014 and suggest policy implications for food security in Pakistan. This study
116 divides the literature review part into two segments; firstly, the literature on the
117 association between financial development and cereal production, and secondly, the
118 interaction between climate change and cereal production.

119 ***2.1. Association between financial development and cereal production***

120 Credit to the agricultural sector is a catalyst in increasing farmers' participation in
121 agricultural finance and agricultural transformation in Pakistan. For instance,
122 agricultural credit helps in adopting modern technologies and the efficient use of
123 resources. Along with institutional support, i.e., subsidies, taxes, and crop insurances,
124 it supports the development of the agriculture sector (Chandio et al., 2018b). Anetor et
125 al. (2016) advocate that agricultural financing in the shape of credit to small
126 landholders are critical in achieving macro-economic development through
127 agriculture by using time series data for 1981–2013 in Nigeria. They found that
128 commercial loans to the farming sector significantly affect production in the country.
129 Therefore, it has been suggested that the government should encourage commercial
130 banks to provide credit at lower interest rates to the farmers.

131 Shahbaz et al. (2013) examined the long-term empirical interactions between
132 agricultural progress and financial development using the Cobb-Douglas function
133 over the data from 1971 to 2011. Results predicted the bidirectional causality between
134 agricultural progress and financial development and its positive impact on agricultural
135 progress. Authors suggest policymakers to improve the financial sector efficiency to
136 trigger the growth of the farming sector. Zakaria et al. (2019) explored the same
137 phenomenon in South Asia during 1973–2015. The results predicted the inverted U-
138 shaped outcome of financial development on agricultural production. Other variables
139 like industrialization, trade openness, and income level also improve agricultural
140 production, whereas the terms of trade, CO₂ emission, and rural labor force negatively
141 affect agricultural production.

142 Rehman et al. (2019) attempted to explore the causal connections of agricultural GDP
143 with land, fertilizer, agricultural credit, and water availability in Pakistan utilizing
144 time-series data from 1978 to 2015. Researchers found a significantly positive impact

145 of fertilizer, improved seed, and agricultural credit on agricultural GDP. However, the
146 effect of water availability was significantly negative. It has been suggested that the
147 government should formulate policies and develop funding schemes to develop and
148 improve the irrigation system.

149 Agbodji and Johnson (2019) evaluated the effects of credit on maize, sorghum, and
150 rice productivity in Togo and found that the impact of agricultural credit is
151 significantly positive. Similarly, Omoregie et al. (2018) examined the effect of credit
152 supply for the rice output in Nigeria from 1981 to 2016 and explored that if the credit
153 supply increased, it would increase rice output. However, any shock in investment
154 and labor possesses the ability to reduce the rice output. Therefore, it has been
155 suggested that the government should develop interest-free loan schemes for farmers
156 in partnership with banks. Based on a survey of previous related studies following
157 hypothesis is extracted.

158 *H₁: Financial development has a positive impact on cereal production in Pakistan.*

159 **2.2. Association between climate change and cereal production**

160 Agriculture is highly vulnerable to climate change (Bannayan et al., 2014). Climate
161 change has threatened agricultural production worldwide (Enete and Amusa, 2010).

162 Hussain and Mudasser, (2007) stated that climate change affects are significant in the
163 arid and semi-arid zones of South Asia. Studies suggest that climate change can
164 significantly impact the long-run global food production and food security (Ammani
165 et al., 2012). The previous literature confirms this conception that climate change has
166 hampered agricultural production. For instance, Qureshi et al. (2016), with the help of
167 data from 1980 to 2013, suggest that greenhouse gas severely impacts agricultural
168 production, i.e., cotton, wheat, and rice. Hussain et al. (2020) review that South Asia
169 is facing the vulnerability of climate to a greater extent, and have low adaption and

170 mitigation awareness. In Pakistan, it is least due to poverty, limited physical and
171 financial resources, life-threatening climatic conditions and continuous flooding, and
172 melting of glaciers. Also, the saturation of indigenous lakes, earthquakes and storms,
173 water issues and pest attacks, a threat to ecosystem and biodiversity, reduction in
174 forests and rural land conversion, and health crisis which make agriculture more
175 susceptible in the future. On the other hand, per capita impact of climate change in
176 Pakistan is high, which has also impacted the agricultural growth, livestock, forest,
177 weather patterns, as well as food, water and energy security in Pakistan.

178 According to Mersha and Leta (2019), the impacts of climate change on agricultural
179 suggest that subsistence farmers in Sub-Saharan Africa have adopted diversified
180 cropping strategy and mixed cropping, altered plantation dates concerning the
181 precipitation pattern, and adapted from high water required crops to low water needed
182 crops. Mahmood et al. (2019) explored the effects of change in climate on the level of
183 yield and suggested that wheat is highly dependent on precipitation. The findings
184 elaborated on the adverse impact of the rise in temperature on the average yield of
185 wheat, whereas rainfall positively affects it.

186 Khan et al. (2019) explored how corn productivity is affected by the change in climate
187 in the KP province of Pakistan by undertaking the panel data from 1996 to 2015.
188 Results depicted the negative effect of maximum temperature and the positive impact
189 of precipitation on the productivity of maize. Policymakers are suggested to put an
190 eye on this issue of climate change. Harvey et al. (2018) explored by surveying 860
191 small landholders of Central America that nearly 95% of the total farmers face
192 climate changes and reduction in the yield of a crop. Therefore, researchers called for
193 the urgency to help small landholders to cope with the current climatic changes.

194 Chandio et al. (2020b) investigated the dynamic effects of average temperature, CO₂
195 emissions, and average rainfall on the Turkish cereal yield from 1968 to 2014.
196 Researchers found the diverse impacts of CO₂ emissions and the annual average
197 temperature on cereal yield. However, the yearly average rainfall positively affects
198 the long-run yield of cereal. The authors found the long-run equilibrium
199 interrelationship prevailing among CO₂ emissions, mean temperature, per annum
200 rainfall, and production of cereal crops. The study concluded that rainfall and
201 temperate owing to CO₂ emissions affect cereal yield more than land and labor use.
202 Therefore, it has been suggested to revamp the adaption policies related to farmers to
203 develop them and make them resilient.

204 Wang et al. (2018) determined the potential of greenhouse gas release from cereal
205 crops, the climate change impacting cereal yield, and discussed the potential solutions
206 to reduce the impacts of climate change, i.e., drought-tolerant breeds of cereal crops,
207 upsurge in the production of these breeds, enhanced irrigations, and effective usage of
208 fertilizer. Findings predicted that climate change negatively affects cereal yield except
209 millet crop owing to its inbuilt ability to grow in drought conditions. It has been
210 suggested growing millets to reduce the impact of global warming potential.

211 Attiaoui and Boufateh (2019) examined climate change affecting cereal farming in
212 Tunisia during 1975 to 2014. Findings depicted that climate change is negatively
213 impacting the cereal production that felt more when there was a shortage of rainfall.

214 Sarkar et al. (2020) suggested that there are more negative effects of climate change
215 than positive on the production of agricultural products, and worked on finding the
216 influence faced by Malaysian oil palm production due to change in climatic
217 conditions from 1980 to 2010. Results suggested the significant and negative
218 relationship between average annual temperature and palm oil production. Based on a

219 survey of the above-stated previous empirical works, the following hypothesis can be
220 formulated.

221 H_2 : *CO₂ emissions have a negative impact on cereal production in Pakistan.*

222 **3. Data and methodology**

223 The present study attempts to systematically investigate the short-run and long-run
224 effects of financial development, change in climate, and technical progress on the
225 production of cereal in Pakistan from 1977 to 2014. The time-series data regarding
226 concerned parameters such as cereal production (metric tons), domestic credit to the
227 private sector by banks (% of GDP) used as a proxy of financial development, and
228 CO₂ emissions (kt) to measure climate change, land under cereal production
229 (hectares), improved seed distribution (thousand tons), fertilizer consumption
230 (thousand nutrient tons), and rural population (millions) used as a substitution for the
231 labor force, were extracted from World Development Indicators¹ and the Pakistan
232 Bureau of Statistics². Table 1 reports the descriptive statistics of the study variables
233 used in the estimation. The average of cereal production, financial development, CO₂
234 emissions, land, improved seed distribution, fertilizer used, and labor (in their
235 logarithmic form) are 17.02, 3.15, 11.28, 16.30, 4.82, 7.66, and 18.24, respectively.
236 All the selected variables, as indicated by the J-B test, are found to be normally
237 distributed. Figure 2 shows the chosen variables' trend used in the model.

238 **Table 1.** Descriptive statistics.

Variable	lnCP	lnFD	lnCO ₂	lnLUC	lnISD	lnFC	lnLAB
Std. Dev.	0.301	0.154	0.595	0.079	0.648	0.523	0.268
Mean	17.029	3.153	11.286	16.305	4.827	7.660	18.243
Median	17.040	3.181	11.402	16.313	4.704	7.738	18.263
Maximum	17.550	3.394	12.021	16.451	5.883	8.380	18.646
Minimum	16.507	2.740	10.101	16.145	3.879	6.448	17.762
Skewness	0.062	-0.942	-0.434	-0.242	0.229	-0.572	-0.204
Kurtosis	1.827	3.863	2.007	2.255	1.570	2.398	1.822

¹ <http://data.worldbank.org/>

² <http://www.pbs.gov.pk/>

J-B	2.200	4.807	2.756	1.2489	3.570	2.650	2.459
<i>P</i> value	0.332	0.106	0.251	0.535	0.167	0.265	0.292
OBS	38	38	38	38	38	38	38

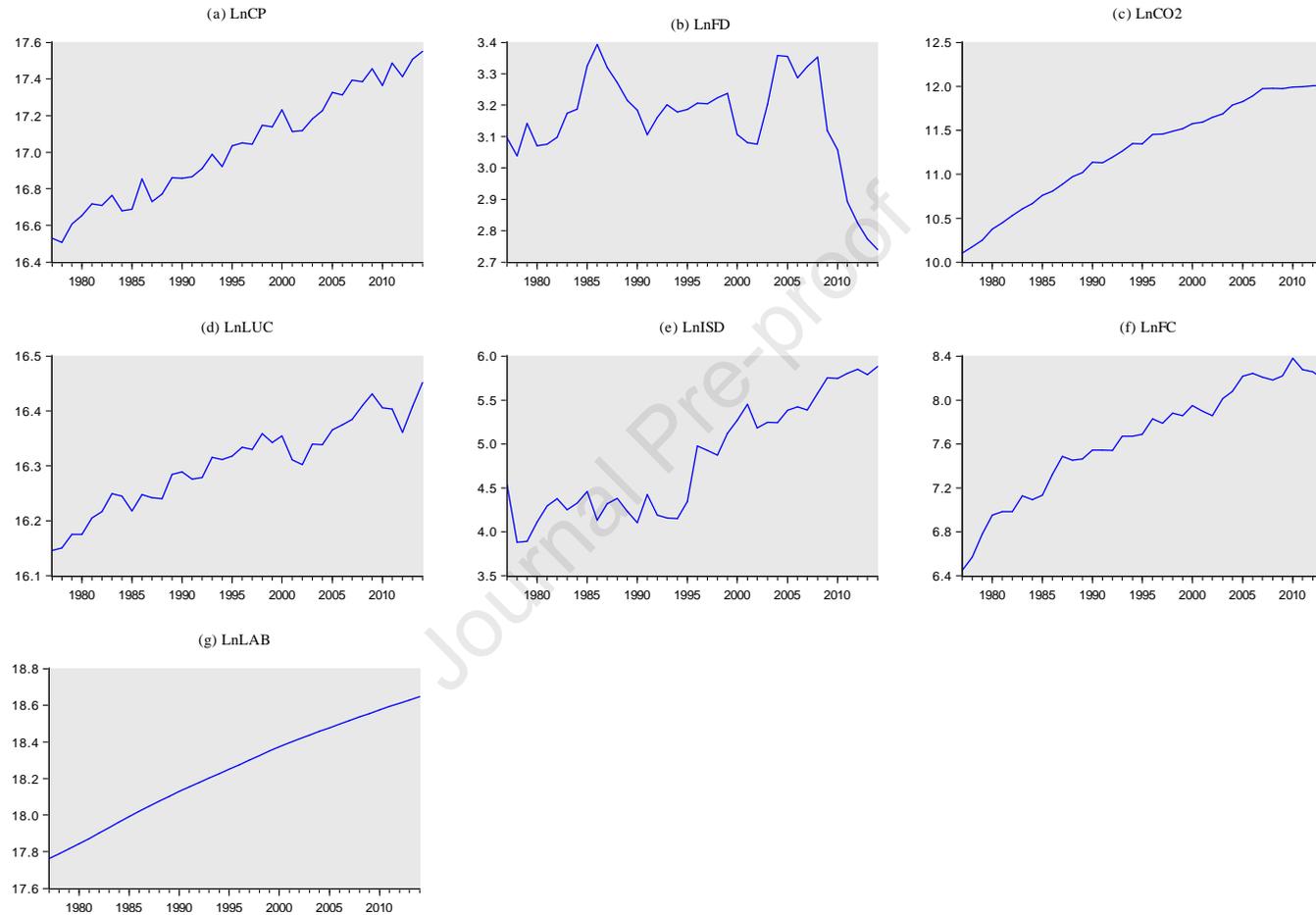
239 *lnCP*, *lnFD*, *lnCO₂*, *lnLUC*, *lnISD*, *lnFC*, and *lnLAB* indicate the natural log of
 240 cereal production, financial development, CO₂ emissions, land under cereal, improved
 241 seed distribution, fertilizer used, and labor force, respectively.

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246 **Figure. 2** Trend of the selected variables.247 *(a)lnCP,(b)LnFD,(c)lnCO₂,(d)lnLUC,(e)lnISD,(f)lnFC,* and *(g)lnLAB* denote the natural log of cereal production, financial development,248 *CO₂ emissions, land under cereal, improved seed distribution, fertilizer used, and labor force, respectively.*

249 The linear relationship among cereal production, financial development, CO₂
 250 emissions, land under cereal crop, improved seed distribution, fertilizer consumption,
 251 and the labor force is expressed as follows:

252

$$253 \quad CP_t = \delta_0 + \delta_1 FD_t + \delta_2 CO_{2t} + \delta_3 LUC_t + \delta_4 ISD_t + \delta_5 FC_t + \delta_6 LAB_t + \varepsilon_t \quad (1)$$

254

255 4. Empirical results and discussion

256 4.1. Unit root tests results

257 There are several approaches to inspect the stationarity properties of the series. The
 258 conventional augmented Dickey-Fuller (ADF) test, the Phillips–Perron (PP) test, and
 259 the KPSS test are the most popular unit root tests. The ADF and the Kwiatkowski,
 260 Phillips, Schmidt and Shin (KPSS) unit root-test are used in the current paper. The
 261 investigated series is a mixed order of integration, as observed in both unit root tests
 262 (see Table 2).

263 **Table 2.** Unit root tests results.

Unit root tests	ζ		Δ	
	Π	Π and τ	Π	Π and τ
ADF				
lnCP	-0.448	-6.103***	-11.296***	-11.159***
lnFD	-1.528	-2.228	-4.788***	-4.932***
lnCO ₂	-3.417***	-1.355	-2.542	-7.728***
lnLUC	-1.334	-3.687**	-7.135***	-7.085***
lnISD	-1.189	-2.493	-7.252***	-7.257***
lnFC	-2.371	-3.559**	-6.726***	-2.441
lnLAB	-5.316***	-0.601	-0.906	-5.230***
KPSS				
lnCP	0.798***	0.062	0.127	0.135*
lnFD	0.294	0.148**	0.158	0.050
lnCO ₂	0.778***	0.199**	0.600**	0.039
lnLUC	0.792***	0.106	0.241	0.156**
lnISD	0.671**	0.104	0.141	0.141*
lnFC	0.783***	0.211**	0.313	0.143*
lnLAB	0.792***	0.210**	0.717**	0.072

264 ***, **, and * indicate that the null hypothesis of the ADF and the KPSS unit root
 265 tests is rejected at the (1%), (5%), and (10%) levels of significance, respectively. ζ
 266 denotes at level, Δ represents the first difference, Π stands for the intercept, and τ
 267 indicates the trend, respectively.

268

269 **4.2. Co-integration testing results**

270 The result of the ARDL bounds test is presented in Table 3. The calculated F-statistics
271 i.e. 6.047, 4.582, 3.400, 3.431, 6.870, 6.026, and 14.876 clearly exceed the upper
272 bound at various significant levels when cereal production (lnCP), financial
273 development (lnFD), CO₂ emissions (lnCO₂), land under cereal crop (lnLUC),
274 improved seed distribution (lnISD), fertilizer consumption (lnFC), and labor force
275 (lnLAB) are used as dependent variable in the estimation, respectively. It predicts the
276 presence of seven co-integration vectors; thus, the current paper rejects the undertaken
277 hypothesis of the “non-availability of long-run co-integration among the study
278 variables. Therefore, this study can determine the presence of long-term interactions
279 among cereal production (lnCP), financial development (lnFD), CO₂ emissions
280 (lnCO₂), land under cereal crop (lnLUC), improved seed distribution (lnISD),
281 fertilizer consumption (lnFC), and labor force (lnLAB), respectively. Also, to verify
282 the estimated findings of the ARDL bounds test, the current study applied the
283 Johansen co-integration test. The outcomes of the test were reported in Table 4. Also,
284 the existence of long-term linkages among the selected variables is conformed
285 through Johansen co-integration test.

286 **Table 3.** Results of the ARDL-bound-test.

Variable	lnCP	lnFD	lnCO ₂	lnLUC	lnISD	lnFC	lnLAB
F-statistics	6.047***	4.582***	3.400**	3.431*	6.870***	6.026***	14.876***
Optimal lag structure	(1, 2, 1, 2, 1, 2, 2)	(1, 0, 2, 1, 2, 2, 1)	(1, 0, 0, 0, 2, 2, 1)	(1, 2, 0, 1, 0, 2, 1)	(1, 1, 1, 2, 1, 2, 1)	(1, 0, 0, 2, 2, 2, 1)	(1, 2, 2, 2, 1, 2, 0)
Critical Value Bounds	1%	5%	10%				
Upper bounds I(1)	4.43	3.61	3.23				
Lower bounds I(0)	3.15	2.45	2.12				
Diagnostic tests							
Adjusted R-squared	0.789	0.460	0.489	0.581	0.478	0.600	0.967
R-squared	0.879	0.662	0.642	0.717	0.674	0.740	0.980
F-statistic	9.848	3.274	4.194	5.278	3.447	5.294	6.523
Prob(F-statistic)	0.000	0.004	0.000	0.000	0.003	0.000	0.000
Heteroskedasticity	0.953 (0.528)	0.919 (0.555)	0.667 (0.757)	1.109 (0.392)	0.626 (0.825)	0.137 (0.712)	1.034 (0.458)
Serial correlation	1.947 (0.394)	1.540 (0.215)	2.396 (0.110)	1.135 (0.337)	1.227 (0.311)	2.102 (0.144)	0.495 (0.616)

287 *** (1%), ** (5%), and * (10%) statistical significance rejection levels, respectively.

288

289

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294 **Table 4.** Johansen co-integration test results.

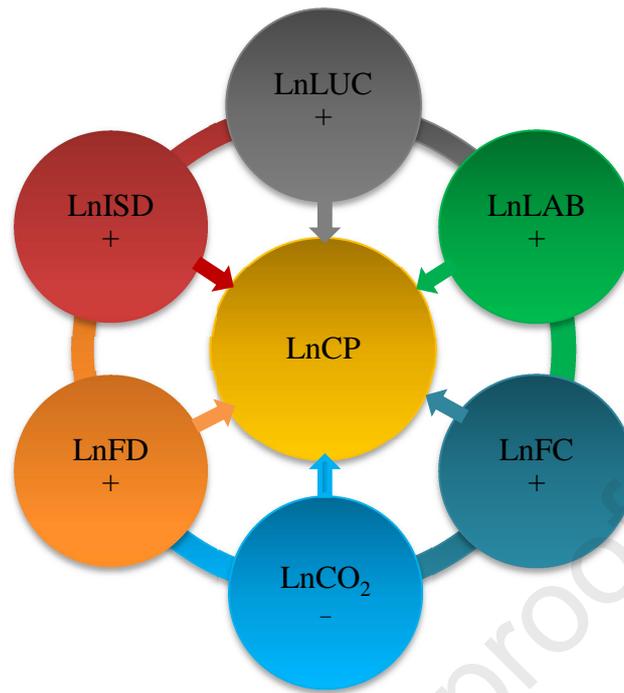
Hypothesized No. of CE(s)	Eigenvalue	Trace Statistic	0.05 Critical Value	Prob.
None	0.820	219.019***	125.615	0.000
At most 1	0.733	151.972***	95.753	0.000
2	0.660	100.345***	69.818	0.000
3	0.549	58.269***	47.856	0.003
4	0.383	27.195	29.797	0.096
5	0.152	8.329	15.494	0.430
6	0.046	1.864	3.841	0.172
Maximum Eigenvalue				
None	0.820	67.046***	46.231	0.000
At most 1	0.733	51.626***	40.077	0.001
2	0.660	42.076***	33.876	0.004
3	0.549	31.073***	27.584	0.017
4	0.383	18.866	21.131	0.100
5	0.152	6.464	14.264	0.554
6	0.046	1.864	3.841	0.172

295 *** indicates that the null hypothesis of no co-integration is rejected at the (1%)
 296 significant level.

297 **4.3. ARDL long-run and short-run results**

298 The current study employs the ARDL approach to estimate the long and short-way
 299 connection between financial development, CO₂ emissions, land under cereal crop,
 300 improved seed distribution, fertilizer usage, agricultural labor force, and cereal
 301 production in the context of Pakistan. Table 5 presents the findings of the ARDL
 302 method, and the long-run summary is demonstrated in Figure 3.

303



304

305 **Figure 3.** Summary of long-run analysis.

306 *lnCP, lnFD, lnCO₂, lnLUC, lnISD, lnFC, and lnLAB* show the natural log of cereal
 307 production, financial development, CO₂ emissions, land under cereal, improved seed
 308 distribution, fertilizer used, and labor force, respectively.

309

310 As illustrated in Table 5, financial development positively impacts cereal production
 311 in the long-run; which means a 1% surge in financial development will boost cereal
 312 production by 0.03%. This result is in line with the outcomes of (Chandio et al., 2016;
 313 Zakaria et al., 2019). Moreover, Akmal et al. (2012) found the agricultural credit to be
 314 the important determinant of agricultural production in Pakistan. On the other hand,
 315 Das and Hossain (2019) found a positive impact of agricultural credit on rice
 316 production in the case of Bangladesh. Financial institutions allocate agricultural
 317 credits to farming households at low interest rates and enables them to adopt
 318 advanced agricultural technologies and to stimulate farming activities, and hence
 319 agricultural progress. This indicates that financial development not only increases
 320 capitalization in the agricultural sector that significantly contributes to the national
 321 economy but also enriches agricultural output (Shahbaz et al., 2013).

322 The observed impacts on the cereal production of CO₂ emissions is significant and
323 negatively related in the long-run. The coefficient of CO₂ emissions is 0.69, which
324 implies that a 1% increase in CO₂ emissions will decrease cereal production by 0.69%.
325 This outcome is consistent with the outcomes of (Qureshi et al., 2016; Sossou et al.,
326 2019). In Pakistan, greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions are the main sources of changes
327 in climate and due to several human activities for instance urbanization, transportation,
328 and deforestation. Besides, agricultural sector is also significantly contributing to CO₂
329 emissions (Hussain et al., 2018).

330 Land under cereal crop, improved seed distribution, and fertilizer consumption played
331 a vital role, and these are the core elements of agricultural production. These non-
332 climate factors positively and significantly affect cereal production. Interpretively, a 1%
333 increase in land under cereal crop, distribution of improved seed, and fertilizer use
334 will increase the cereal production by 2.41%, 0.10%, and 0.47% in the long-run,
335 respectively. These findings are consistent with the results of (Afrin et al., 2017;
336 Shiyan et al., 2017). Furthermore, agricultural labor force exhibits a positive
337 relationship with the production of cereal in the long-run. Faleye et al. (2013) reported
338 that the main agricultural inputs significantly enhance cereal production and provide
339 foods to the region.

340 The estimated results of the short-run dynamics are reported in Table 5. In the short-
341 run, lagged financial development has a significant positive effect on cereal
342 production in the current period, concluding that a 1% increase in financial
343 development will enhance the cereal production in the country by 0.20%. The results
344 further indicated that CO₂ emissions have significantly negative effect on cereal
345 production. The coefficient of short-run value suggests that with a 1% surge in CO₂
346 emissions the cereal production will decrease by 0.33%. In the short run, empirical

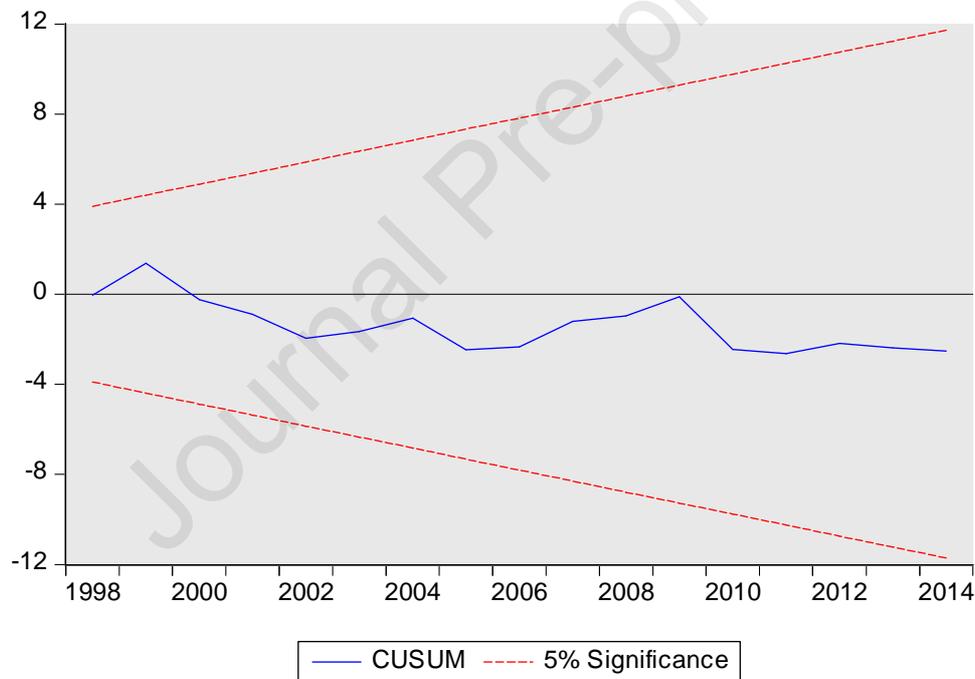
347 outcomes further showed that land under cereal crop, improved seed distribution,
 348 fertilizer use, and agricultural labor force significantly and positively impact the
 349 cereal production. The results suggest that a 1% increase in these necessary inputs
 350 will increase the cereal production by 1.92%, 0.07%, 0.18%, and 1.02%, respectively.
 351 These findings are consistent with the previous literature (Nordjo and Adjasi, 2019;
 352 Ahmad, 2011). To check the ARDL model constancy, this study used various
 353 diagnostic tests, the estimated results of diagnostic tests showed that there is no
 354 evidence of serial correlation, normality, heteroscedasticity, and misspecification
 355 issues (see Table 5). The stability of the ARDL model is confirmed by the estimated
 356 results of CUSUM and CUSUM of squares tests. Figures 4 and 5 exhibit the predicted
 357 standards of the ARDL model and proves that these are constant over the sample
 358 period.

359 **Table 5.** The ARDL long-run and short-run results.

Variables	Coefficient	Standard error	<i>t</i> -Statistic	Prob.
Long-run analysis: lnCP as the dependent variable				
lnFD	0.035	0.086	0.407	0.687
lnCO ₂	-0.695***	0.243	-2.858	0.008
lnLUC	2.411***	0.527	4.576	0.000
lnISD	0.100***	0.029	3.364	0.002
lnFC	0.473***	0.172	2.744	0.011
lnLAB	0.456	0.576	0.791	0.436
Constant	-26.332***	7.662	-3.436	0.002
Short-run dynamics: ΔlnCP as the dependent variable				
ΔlnCP(-1)	-0.010	0.171	-0.058	0.953
ΔlnFD	0.071	0.093	0.769	0.449
ΔlnFD(-1)	0.207*	0.114	1.810	0.083
ΔlnFD(-2)	-0.243**	0.107	-2.274	0.032
ΔlnCO ₂	-0.331	0.263	-1.258	0.221
ΔlnCO ₂ (-1)	-0.370*	0.201	-1.837	0.079
ΔlnLUC	1.926***	0.325	5.913	0.000
ΔlnLUC(-1)	-0.589	0.505	-1.166	0.255
ΔlnLUC(-2)	1.098***	0.345	3.184	0.004
ΔlnISD	0.071**	0.029	2.427	0.023
ΔlnISD(-1)	0.029	0.025	1.143	0.264
ΔlnFC	0.181**	0.086	2.105	0.046
ΔlnFC(-1)	0.064	0.093	0.686	0.499
ΔlnFC(-2)	0.232**	0.110	2.098	0.047
ΔlnLAB	1.027	17.102	0.060	0.952

$\Delta \ln \text{LAB}(-1)$	-27.944	28.187	-0.991	0.331
$\Delta \ln \text{LAB}(-2)$	27.378**	12.318	2.222	0.036
ECT (-1)	-0.921***	0.171	-5.901	0.000
R^2	0.994			
Adj- R^2	0.990			
Prob(F-statistic)	0.000			
F-statistic	256.993			
Diagnostic tests				
Test	F-statistic	Prob.		
Normality	1.878	0.390		
Serial correlation	2.771	0.110		
Heteroskedasticity	0.027	0.869		
RESET test	0.121	0.730		
CUSUM	Stable			
CUSUMSQ	Stable			

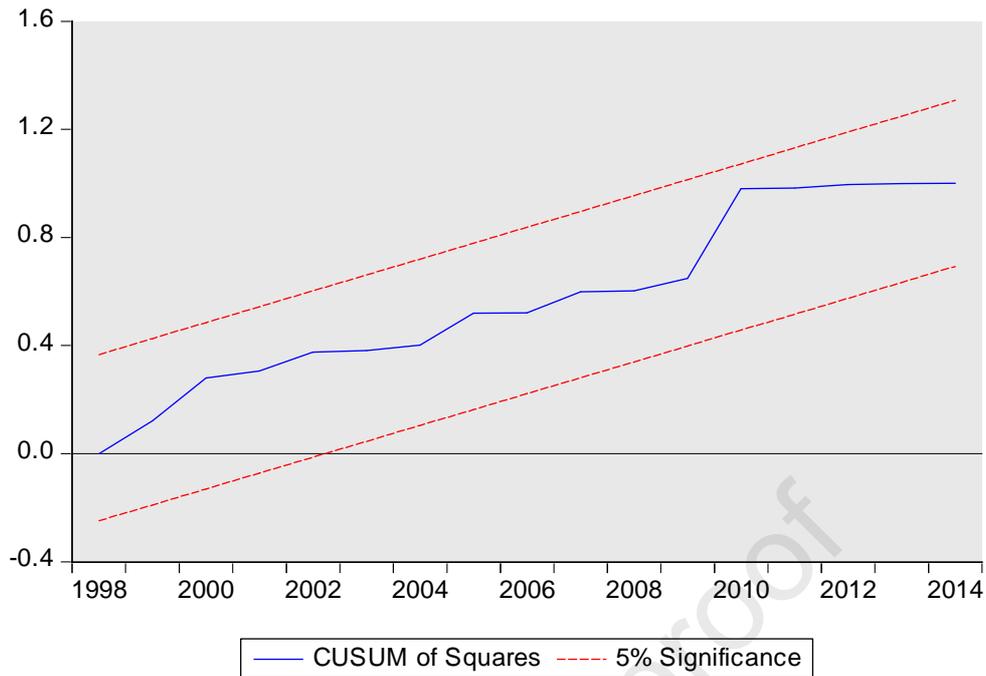
360 ***, ** and * indicate level of significance at (1%), (5%), and (10%), respectively.
 361



362

363

Figure 4. CUSUM test for the constancy of the ARDL model



364

365 **Figure 5.** CUSUM of squares test for the constancy of the ARDL model

366 For robustness check, the present study employed the dynamic OLS, fully modified
 367 OLS, and canonical cointegrating regression techniques, and Table 6 reports the
 368 obtained results. These results of three estimators confirmed that financial
 369 development positively impacts cereal production, while climate change (CO₂
 370 emissions) have significant negative impact on cereal production. These estimated
 371 results are consistent with the obtained results of the ARDL method.

372 **Table 6.** Results of the DOLS, FMOLS, and CCR techniques.

Variables	DOLS		FMOLS		CCR	
	Coefficient	t-Statistic	Coefficient	t-Statistic	Coefficient	t-Statistic
lnFD	0.031	0.317	0.045	0.738	0.041	0.592
lnCO ₂	-1.181	-2.917	-0.513	-3.230	-0.514	-2.462
lnLUC	2.141	4.213	1.792	6.242	1.827	5.720
lnISD	0.072	2.083	0.070	3.512	0.075	3.033
lnFC	0.766	3.007	0.088	1.050	0.084	0.795
lnLAB	0.970	1.481	1.421	4.372	1.410	3.584
Constant	-27.727	-3.085	-33.502	-5.874	-33.823	-4.846
R ²	0.995		0.984		0.984	
Adj-R ²	0.989		0.981		0.981	

373

374 **5. Conclusions**

375 This study examined the impacts of financial development, global climate change
 376 (CO₂ emissions), and technical progress on cereal production in Pakistan from 1977

377 to 2014. The study included land under cereal crop and labor force as additional
378 variables in the ARDL model to examine their impacts on cereal production. This
379 study used conventional the ADF and KPSS unit root tests to check the stationarity of
380 underlying variables. The ARDL-bounds testing approach was applied to explore the
381 long-term co-integration connections among the study variables. To verify the long-
382 run ARDL estimates, the study also employed the DOLS, FMOLS, and CCR
383 approaches.

384 The findings of this study revealed the presence of the association among variables in
385 the long-term. The ARDL model estimates showed that financial development
386 improves cereal production, whereas CO₂ emissions decrease cereal production in the
387 long-run and short-run. Furthermore, other essential input variables, for example, land
388 under cereal crop, improved seed distribution, fertilizer used, and agricultural labor
389 force significantly and positively affected the cereal production in both cases. The
390 results of DOLS, FMOLS, and CCR approaches also confirmed the long-run results
391 of the ARDL model. These outcomes suggest that financial development not only
392 increase cereal production but also sustain the agriculture sector. It has essential
393 implication for sustainable consumption and production of cereals because 20.5%
394 population in Pakistan is un nourished (WFP, 2020a), 36.9% population faces food
395 insecurity (NNS, 2018) 18% children (under five) face acute malnutrition, 40% are
396 stunted, and 29% are underweight (WFP, 2020b). As documented, the economic
397 damages (cost) due to environmental degradation are substantial to the Pakistan
398 economy, and crops sector share to agriculture is declining. This scenario provides
399 enough reason for cleaner production initiatives, in particular to cereal crop
400 production. Pakistan can quickly meet the challenges of food security by adopting
401 sustainable production practices reducing fertilizer use, and the availability of quality

402 seed. Rice exports may also overcome the obstacles of exports by meeting
403 international quality standards. The earned financial resources may be directed to the
404 adoption of sustainable agriculture technologies at the farm level.

405 It requires a new business model that attracts the resources to agriculture and develop
406 the capacity of the supply chain to satisfy the local and international consumers. The
407 role of the financial sector is crucial; for example, agriculture development bank and
408 commercial banks to design the products for cleaner production. Banks can fund the
409 universities' research to develop crop varieties that are beneficial for human health
410 and adapt to adverse climate change.

411 The findings suggest that financial institutions should supply more credit to farmers
412 because, with the help of credit, farmers can quickly adapt to climate change and
413 purchase of improved inputs, and adopt cleaner technologies to increase cereal
414 production sustainably. Also, it is suggested that the realized benefits of cleaner
415 production technologies use must be documented and highlighted at the policy level.

416 Also, future studies should investigate the impact of climatic and non-climatic factors
417 on significant food, and non-food crops yield and exports in Pakistan by using
418 country-level time series data since the present study assessed the impact of financial
419 development and global climate change (carbon dioxide emissions) on the production
420 of cereal in Pakistan by undertaking the ARDL model.

421 **Appendix A**

422 *Autoregressive distributed lag estimation*

423 The present study applied the ARDL co-integration approach to examine the short-
424 and long-run interactions among financial development, climate change, technical
425 progress (fertilizer consumption and improved seed distribution), and cereal
426 production. Other control variables included in the estimation, such as land under

427 cereal crop and labor force, which may impact Pakistan's cereal production during
428 1977 to 2014.

429 The ARDL method extended by Pesaran et al. (2001), which has several advantages.

- 430 i. This technique can be used for small sample size estimation.
- 431 ii. It analyzes the long- and short-run parameters of the model simultaneously
432 and reports the outcomes separately.
- 433 iii. The procedure presents valid t-statistic (irrespective of endogeneity) and
434 unbiased estimates of the long-run.
- 435 iv. The co-integration association between the study variables can be assessed
436 using the ordinary least squares (OLS) regression estimator.

437 The ARDL model is specified as follows:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \Delta \ln CP_t = & \psi_0 + \sum_{i=1}^p \psi_1 \Delta \ln CP_{t-i} + \sum_{i=1}^q \psi_2 \Delta \ln FD_{t-i} + \sum_{i=1}^q \psi_3 \Delta \ln CO_{2t-i} \\
 & + \sum_{i=1}^q \psi_4 \Delta \ln LUC_{t-i} + \sum_{i=1}^q \psi_5 \Delta \ln ISD_{t-i} + \sum_{i=1}^q \psi_6 \Delta \ln FC_{t-i} \\
 & + \sum_{i=1}^q \psi_7 \Delta \ln LAB_{t-i} + \beta_1 \ln CP_{t-1} + \beta_2 \ln FD_{t-1} + \beta_3 \ln CO_{2t-1} \\
 & + \beta_4 \ln LUC_{t-1} + \beta_5 \ln ISD_{t-1} + \beta_6 \ln FC_{t-1} + \beta_7 \ln LAB_{t-1} \\
 & + \varepsilon_t
 \end{aligned} \tag{2}$$

438 where $\ln CP$ is the log of cereal production, $\ln FD$ is the log of financial development,
439 $\ln CO_2$ is the log of CO_2 emissions, $\ln LUC$ is the log of land under cereal crop, $\ln ISD$
440 is the log of improved seed distribution, $\ln FC$ is the log of fertilizer consumption,
441 $\ln LAB$ is the log of the labor force, and t denotes the time. The Δ stands for the first
442 difference operator, and ε is the error term. The long-run coefficients are denoted by
443 $\beta_1, \beta_2, \beta_3, \beta_4, \beta_5, \beta_6, \beta_7$ and $\psi_1, \psi_2, \psi_3, \psi_4, \psi_5, \psi_6, \psi_7$ are indicated in the short-run
444 dynamics.

445 To confirm the long-term interrelationship exists among the undertaken variables, the
 446 following null and alternative hypotheses of the ARDL-bounds procedure are tested:

$$H_0 = \beta_1 = \beta_2 = \beta_3 = \beta_4 = \beta_5 = \beta_6 = \beta_7 = 0$$

$$H_0 \neq \beta_1 \neq \beta_2 \neq \beta_3 \neq \beta_4 \neq \beta_5 \neq \beta_6 \neq \beta_7 \neq 0$$

447 The null hypothesis of the ARDL-bounds test cannot be rejected when the computed
 448 F-statistic is lower than the upper bound, but it can be rejected in the condition where
 449 the estimated F-statistic increases the upper bound. In a case where the outcome of F-
 450 statistic is lesser than the lower bound, the estimated outcomes of this test are
 451 inconclusive.

452 To estimate the interrelationship in the long-run among the undertaken variables, the
 453 conditional ARDL long-run model expressed as follows:

454

$$\begin{aligned} LnCP_t = & \lambda_0 + \sum_{i=1}^p \lambda_1 LnCP_{t-i} + \sum_{i=1}^q \lambda_2 LnFD_{t-i} + \sum_{i=1}^q \lambda_3 LnCO_{2t-i} + \sum_{i=1}^q \lambda_4 LnLUC_{t-i} \\ & + \sum_{i=1}^q \lambda_5 LnISD_{t-i} + \sum_{i=1}^q \lambda_6 LnFC_{t-i} + \sum_{i=1}^q \lambda_7 LnLAB_{t-i} \\ & + \varepsilon_t \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

455

456 To estimate the short-run dynamics with the error correction model (ECM) linked
 457 with the long-run estimates expressed as follows:

458

$$\begin{aligned}
\Delta \ln CP_t = & \delta_0 + \sum_{i=1}^p \delta_1 \Delta \ln CP_{t-i} + \sum_{i=1}^q \delta_2 \Delta \ln FD_{t-i} + \sum_{i=1}^q \delta_3 \Delta \ln CO_{2t-i} \\
& + \sum_{i=1}^q \delta_4 \Delta \ln LUC_{t-i} + \sum_{i=1}^q \delta_5 \Delta \ln ISD_{t-i} + \sum_{i=1}^q \delta_6 \Delta \ln FC_{t-i} \\
& + \sum_{i=1}^q \delta_7 \Delta \ln LAB_{t-i} + \phi ECM_{t-i} + \varepsilon_t
\end{aligned} \tag{4}$$

459

460 Where δ s represents the short-run dynamics, and ECM denotes the error correction
461 terms it must be negative and significant. The stability of the ARDL model will be
462 checked by using the CUSUM and the CUSUMSQ tests.

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Highlights

- We examined the impact of financial development, climate change, and technical progress on cereal production.
- The ARDL approach is employed to explore the long-run relationship among the variables.
- Findings reveal that financial development improves cereal production in both long-run and short-run.
- CO₂ emissions have adverse impact on cereal production in both cases.
- Technical progress will leads to increase cereal production in both long-run and short-run.

Conflict of Interest Statement

The authors of this research work declare no conflict of interest.

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