



SPEAKERS

DAY 1



ABAN MARKER KABRAJI

Aban Marker Kabraji, currently Senior Advisor on Climate Change and Biodiversity at the UN Development Coordination Office for Asia-Pacific, focuses on Thailand, Pakistan, Samoa, and Fiji. Serving as an advisor to UN Resident Coordinators, she offers strategic guidance on climate change and biodiversity. Kabraji played a crucial role in Pakistan's One UN approach to the Triple Planetary Crisis. She extends her expertise to the Pacific countries, emphasising a response within the context of an Ocean State. Additionally, Kabraji serves as a Senior Biodiversity Consultant to the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank, monitoring major investments. With over 40 years of experience, she has contributed significantly to conservation and development, receiving accolades such as the Tamgha-i-Imtiaz Pakistan Civil Award in 2018. Kabraji is actively involved in various advisory roles and initiatives, promoting sustainability on a global scale.





DR. ADIL NAJAM

Dr. Adil Najam, inaugural Dean Emeritus at the Frederick S. Pardee School of Global Studies at Boston University and Professor of International Relations and Earth and Environment, currently serves as the President of WWF International since July 2023. Previously, he held the position of Vice Chancellor at the Lahore University of Management Sciences (LUMS) in Lahore. Prof. Najam was a co-author for the Third and Fourth Assessments of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), contributing to the panel's receipt of the 2007 Nobel Peace Prize for advancing public understanding of climate change science. Recognized with the Sitara-i-Imtiaz in 2010 and the Hilal-i-Imtiaz in 2023, Dr. Najam has received two of Pakistan's highest civil awards for his global contributions to education and climate change research. With over 100 scholarly papers and book chapters to his name, he continues to be a prominent figure in academia and environmental leadership.





AFIA SALAM

Afia Salam is a Masters in Geography and a career journalist having four decades of experience in print, electronic, and web journalism. She is a LEAD, FNF's International Academy of Leadership & Australia Awards Fellow, and a member of the IUCN Commission on Education & Communications and the Commission on Economic & Social Policy. She is also a member of the national coordinating body for Marine Protected Areas and the Prime Minister's advisory body, the National Climate Change Council. She has been highlighting issues related to the environment and climate change through her writings, and advocacy through seminars and moderation of panel discussions and round tables. As a development practitioner, she is associated in a voluntary capacity with Indus Earth Trust and Baanhn Beli as the elected President of the executive committee and Board of Trustees.





AMIR SHEHZAD

Amir Shehzad, the Executive Director of Unity Foods, boasts a 29+ year career marked by exceptional leadership in Investment Banking and Capital Markets. His influential roles at National Bank, UBL, and Askari Bank Limited reflect his prowess in shaping and executing robust business strategies. A Cornell University graduate, he completed the Executive Leadership Program, and cum-laude alumnus of Arizona State University with a Finance degree, Amir combines academic excellence with practical acumen. Since 2018, his pivotal role at Unity Foods involves crafting comprehensive business and investment strategies. He adeptly manages high-level relationships with diverse stakeholders, including the Asian Development Bank, International Finance Corporation, and FMO: Dutch Entrepreneurial Development Bank, showcasing his strategic impact.





DR. AREBA SYED

Dr. Areba Syed holds an undergraduate degree in Urban and Infrastructure Engineering and a master's degree in Water Resources Management from NED University of Engineering and Technology. She earned her Ph.D. with a specialisation in Land and Water Resources from the Agriculture and Biosystems Engineering department at Iowa State University. A Fulbright Alumna, Dr. Areba actively mentors future foreign graduates. Her research focuses on Watershed scale Hydrological modelling, Climate change impacts and adaptation, and sustainable and integrated water resources management. Currently, she serves as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Civil Engineering at NED University of Engineering and Technology.





ASHRAF KAPADIA

Ashraf Kapadia is a very senior Management and IT Consultant with over 50 years of experience. He started his career by joining IBM Corporation as an Apprentice Systems Engineer in 1971. In 2001, after almost 30 years with IBM, he joined Visionet Systems, Inc. as Vice President (Operations) in New Jersey. He returned to Pakistan in 2004 as the Managing Director of Systems Limited, one of the largest IT services companies in Pakistan. He retired from Systems Limited in 2014. Subsequently, he joined AT&T Corporation in 2015 as the Country Manager (Pakistan Branch). He retired from AT&T in 2021. He has formed AshrKap Consulting, a not-for-profit organization with the objective of providing mentoring and guidance to young entrepreneurs and startups and continues to provide mentoring on a no-cost, no-obligation basis. Ashraf Kapadia has served as the Chairman of the Pakistan Software Houses Association (P@SHA), Chairman of the Computer Society of Pakistan (CSP), member of the Board of Directors of Pakistan Software Export Board (PSEB), member of the Management Committee of the Karachi Institute of Information Technology (KIIT), Chairman of the Organization of Pakistani Entrepreneurs (OPEN) Karachi Chapter, General Secretary of the Board of Trustees of the Publican Alumni Trust (PAT), Chairman of the Board of Governors of Hisaar Foundation, and member of the Board of Directors of MIT Enterprise Forum of Pakistan.





BARBARA SCHREINER

Barbara Schreiner, the Executive Director of the Water Integrity Network, brings over 25 years of expertise in water management within developing countries. Her focus spans good governance, poverty alleviation, and addressing issues of inequality, gender, and socio-economic marginalisation. Barbara has a rich background as a consultant and in senior management in South Africa's public sector, including serving as a Ministerial advisor. Actively engaged in various boards, she has contributed to organisations such as the International Water Management Institute and the Global Water Partnership. Notably, she has chaired the Water Research Commission of South Africa and played crucial roles in the Isimangaliso Wetland Park World Heritage Site. Currently, Barbara serves on the Advisory Committee to the Minister of Water and Sanitation in South Africa and the Steering Committee of the Open Government Partnership. Her extensive writing on these matters further solidifies her impact.





BARKHA SOOMRO

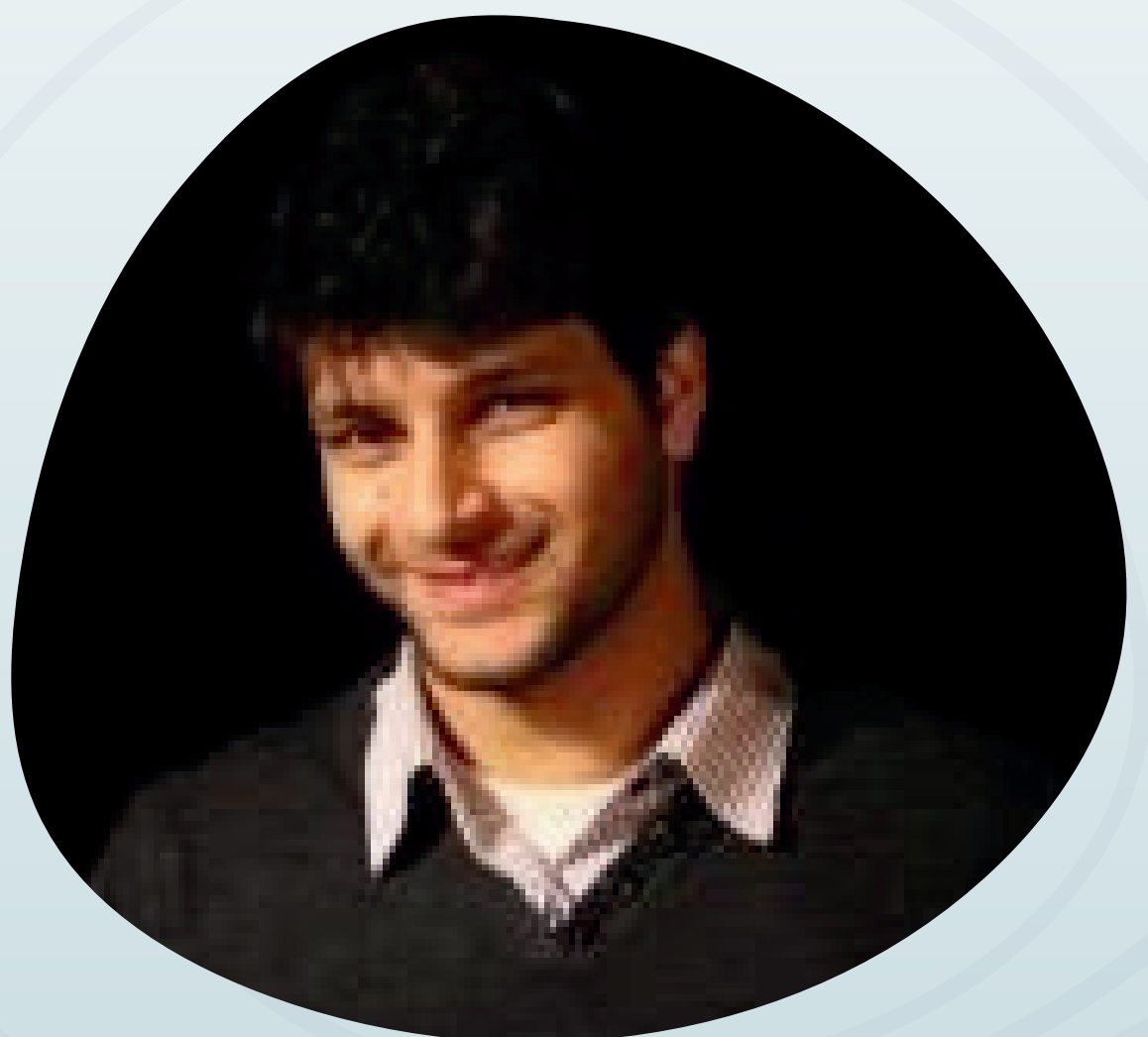
Barkha Soomro, a recent 2023 graduate with a Bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering from NED University of Engineering and Technology, brings a fresh perspective and enthusiasm to the field. Her academic journey has equipped her with a robust foundation in civil engineering, and her Final Year Project, "2-D Flood Risk Assessment of Kunhar River Basin," showcases both technical proficiency and a commitment to addressing water resources challenges. Through detailed flood simulations, Barkha highlights her dedication to advancing the field and emphasises a strong sense of responsibility for addressing community needs. Motivated by contemporary challenges, she looks forward to applying her expertise to develop innovative solutions in water resource engineering.





BASHARAT SAEED

Basharat Saeed brings 12 years of expertise in climate change and water management. His journey began in 2011 with a three-year research project on climate adaptation among farmers in Pakistan, conducted by WWF-Pakistan and Lahore University of Management Sciences. He later served as the coordinator of the Climate Change Program and the Water-Energy-Food Nexus workstream at LEAD-Pakistan. In this role, he focused on under-researched aspects of climate change, addressing issues like nature-based solutions to flooding, public health impacts, safety for female cotton farmers, mental health effects of droughts, climate migration, and the political economy of climate governance. Since 2018, Basharat has been contributing to the World Bank's Water Program in Pakistan, co-authoring key reports and supporting water security projects across regions, emphasising themes such as irrigation modernization, regenerative agriculture, water and sanitation, and environmental sustainability. His analytical work informs evidence-based investment project designs as part of multi-sectoral teams, and he played a role in the National Security Policy as a member of the Working Group on Climate Security.





BOO HOCK KHOO

Boo Hock KHOO, with nearly 30 years of experience in the financial sector, has held diverse roles, including rating corporate, project, securitization, and structured finance bonds, along with project finance consultancy and private equity. Before advising on the establishment of InfraZamin Pakistan, he served as Deputy CEO of Danajamin, Malaysia's inaugural financial guarantor, playing a pivotal role in its conceptualization and establishment. Boo Hock also initiated the Credit Guarantee and Investment Facility (CGIF), the Asian Development Bank's guarantee trust fund. As Vice-President, he significantly contributed to building CGIF's profile, team, and a zero-claim guarantee portfolio of USD 1.6 billion equivalent across the ASEAN region. Boo Hock's achievements include leading the development of new guarantee structures and milestones for Southeast Asian local currency bond markets, such as signing ASEAN's first local currency bond reinsurance treaty. He holds a BSc from Mount Union College and an MBA from Ohio University.





DICK VAN DYJK

Engr. Dick van Dijk, a Dutch national and certified marine engineer, currently serves as the Chairman at Enviro-Pure Foundation, founded in 1989 to address water problems globally. With residences in the Netherlands and Thailand, he holds a distinguished career background. His experience spans from roles in the Dutch Merchant Marine to managerial positions in heating and air conditioning, sales, and marketing. Known as "Mr. Trojan," he significantly contributed to the growth of Trojan Technologies, a leader in UV disinfection technology. Van Dijk is an active member of international water associations and has played a vital role in projects worldwide, including wastewater facilities in Milan, Madrid, Lisbon, and the world's largest facility in Doha, Qatar. Post-retirement, he continues to contribute to water purification initiatives through the Enviro-Water Group.





EMILIO CATTANEO

Emilio Cattaneo, a seasoned professional with over 35 years of experience in corporate finance, asset management, and advisory roles globally, joined PIDG in 2015 as the Executive Director of The Emerging Africa Infrastructure Fund. Later, in December 2019, he assumed the position of Head of TA. Emilio spent nearly two decades with HSBC in the UK and internationally before exploring opportunities in smaller firms, including founding an M&A boutique and working in a commodity brokerage firm focused on emerging markets, including Africa.

In his role at PIDG, Emilio played a crucial part in various water sector transactions, contributing to projects such as the Kigali Bulk Water project in Rwanda, the Ba Lai Water Treatment Plant in Vietnam, and the KWSH water distribution project in Cambodia. He also conducts ongoing evaluations of rural water opportunities in Senegal. Emilio concurrently serves as a Trustee for the UK-based water charity, Water Unite.





FAISAL QAMAR

Faisal Mueen Qamar is Intervention Manager at IRBM, ICIMOD. He leads the food security and climate services related work within the Geospatial Solutions Theme. He is responsible for framing geospatial information based approaches to support decision making process in the agriculture sector and contributes in capacity building and communication through close engagement with local, national, and international partners. His work spans across ICIMOD's eight regional member countries, with special focus in Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Nepal and Pakistan.





FIZA QURESHI

Fiza Qureshi, a versatile development professional, boasts an extensive educational background with an MPhil in development studies, an MA in Sociology and Sindhi Literature, an EMBA, and an LLM. A Fellow of Cohort 18 in the Transboundary Water Resources Leadership Development Program and an alumna of the Wilton Park conference, she actively contributes to global discussions. With over 15 years of experience, Fiza specialises in gender issues, water governance, and the intersection of women with the food-water-energy nexus. Her participation in COP 27 and the World Bank's spring meeting in 2022 reflects her advocacy for vulnerable communities facing Loss and Damage during floods in Pakistan. Fiza's book, "Women in Water," presents a case study on the economic empowerment of fisherwomen, offering innovative solutions for alternative livelihoods.





FRANÇOIS ONIMUS

François Onimus, a Senior Water Resources Specialist with the World Bank in Islamabad since August 2022, brings a unique blend of technical expertise in water and irrigation engineering coupled with hands-on experience in institutional and organisational aspects of water resources management. His background includes significant roles with corporatized bulk water supply companies in Southern France. Since 2007, as a Senior Water Resources Specialist at the World Bank, François has contributed to various global water resources management and irrigation projects. His advocacy for public–private partnerships in irrigation management has been a consistent theme throughout his international engagements, showcasing a commitment to innovative and sustainable water solutions across different regions.





DR. GHAZALA MANSURI

Dr. Ghazala Mansuri is a Lead Economist and a Global Lead for the Welfare Impacts of Climate Change in the World Bank. Her work at the intersection of research and policy, has been published in leading journals in economics and development, including the American Economic Review, the Review of Economic Studies and the Review of Economics and Statistics. Her current research focuses on the effect of public policies on human development, poverty and inequality, institutional and governance reforms for development and the impact of climate change on the agri-food system. Her recent reports include When Water becomes a Hazard (2018), and the Pakistan Country Climate and Development Report (2022). She holds a PhD in economics from Boston University.





IMDAD HUSSAIN SIDDUQUI

Imdad Hussain, currently pursuing a PhD in Human Resources Management at the Institute of Business Administration (IBA), University of Sindh, Jamshoro, brings a wealth of experience in disaster management. With an MS in Public Administration (2020), LLB (2012), and an MPAAdmin-Honors (2003), he has a robust educational background. In his role as Director (Operations)/BS-19 at the Provincial Disaster Management Authority (PDMA), Rehabilitation Department, Government of Sindh, he has accumulated over 19 years of experience in both public and private sectors. Imdad Hussain's notable achievements include effective disaster response during the 2022 floods, earning commendation from the Honourable High Court and various organisations. His expertise spans relief operations, international coordination, organisational management, and supply chain management, showcasing a dedication to disaster management and humanitarian impact.





DR. IMRAN AHMED

Dr. Imran Ahmed, with over 25 years of international and national expertise, is a seasoned professional in climate change, water quantity and quality, irrigation and drainage, and hydrologic modelling of surface and subsurface hydrology.

In 2013, he founded the pioneering 'Water Modeling Center' at NED University. Driven by a commitment to Pakistan's water resources, he contributed to projects funded by the World Bank, UN-Habitat, NDMA and Asian Bank. A trailblazer in watershed scale computer models, specialising in nonpoint/point source pollution control, he brings a unique focus on climate change evaluation, considering variables like precipitation, temperature, and wind. Recently appointed as Director at PHWI, Dr. Imran's impact extends through 100+ publications in esteemed national and international journals and conference proceedings.





DR. INGA JACOBS-MATA

Dr. Inga Jacobs-Mata, a dynamic leader with over 15 years of experience in water security and multi-level environmental governance, serves as the Country Representative for South Africa and Regional Representative for Southern Africa at IWMI since 2019. Under her guidance, IWMI has excelled in key initiatives, such as the CGIAR's Ukama Ustawi Regional Integrated Initiative and the World Bank-funded Accelerating Impacts of CGIAR Climate Research in Africa (AICCRA) Zambia project. As CGIAR Country Convenor for South Africa, she has significantly contributed to the field. Recently appointed as the IWMI/CGIAR Water Systems Director for Growth and Inclusion, effective June 1, 2023, Dr. Jacobs-Mata continues her impactful work in East and Southern Africa and globally. Her leadership extends beyond IWMI, including managerial roles at the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) and as the Executive Manager for Business Development, Marketing, and Communications at the Water Research Commission. Dr. Jacobs-Mata, an accomplished political scientist, holds a PhD in International Relations from St-Andrews University, Scotland, and a Masters in International Relations and Political Science from Stellenbosch University, South Africa.





DR. IQBAL CHAUDHARY

Prof. Dr. M. Iqbal Choudhary is an esteemed recipient of prestigious Mustafa (PBUH) Prize, Distinguish National Meritorious Professor, Director at International Center for Chemical and Biological Sciences (H. E. J. Research Institute of Chemistry and Dr. Panjwani Center for Molecular Medicine and Drug Research) and Coordinator General COMSTECH (Organization of Islamic Cooperation Standing Committee on Scientific and Technological Cooperation). He is among the most prominent scientists of Pakistan, recognized for his original contributions in the fields of natural products and bioorganic chemistry. He has written and edited 90 books and is also the author of over 1,193 research papers and chapters in top international science journals of the West, as well as 62 US patents. He has supervised 98 Ph. D. dissertations. This is by far the largest number of quality publications from any scientist in Pakistan. He is the Volume Editor of many international book series and journals. He has served as a visiting faculty in many prestigious universities of the world, including Cornell University (New York), Purdue University (Indiana), Pennsylvania State University (Pennsylvania), Scripps Institution of Oceanography (San Diego, California), The University Rhode Island (Rhode Island) and various top Universities of UK, China, Saudi Arabia, Malaysia, Kazakhstan, and Iran.





JAMAL ANSARI

Jamal Akbar Ansari serves as the Chief Executive of Akbar Associates Group, a prominent business entity involved in various sectors such as oilfield services, heavy engineering, LPG transport, oil and water reservoir management, mining, IOT, and IT & IVR-CRM solutions. With over 35 years of diverse industry experience, including stints at Schlumberger and the University of Alaska, Ansari has a wealth of knowledge. Apart from his professional role, he actively participates in socio-economic and socio-political initiatives. A former member of the Pakistan army, Ansari holds MS degrees in Geology and Petroleum Engineering and is a recognized author with multiple publications. He has been an active member of the Society of Petroleum Engineers (SPE) since 1980, holding various leadership roles in the organisation.





KAZIM SAEED

Kazim Saeed has been working as a public policy expert in developing countries for over twenty years. He has worked for the World Bank serving in advisory roles in the energy sector for China, Pakistan, Indonesia, and Vietnam. Besides working with the Government of Pakistan on growth in agriculture, he has also advised the World Bank, the Asian Development Bank, USAID, UN Food & Agriculture Organization, etc. His recently published book *Dou Pakistan* presents a comprehensive strategy for delivering prosperity to every Pakistani household. Kazim grew up in a family of intellectuals and poets. After completing his school education in Karachi, he received bachelor's degrees in engineering, history, and philosophy of science from Cornell University, USA, and received a master's degree in public policy from Princeton University, USA.





KHALIL MUGHAL

Khalil Mughal, Founder & President of eco-norm Pakistan and Principal Advisor at NedAccess BV Netherlands, is a purpose-driven entrepreneur. With a belief in sustainability for the entire ecosystem, he transitioned from a commercial aviation role to focus on responsible businesses that contribute to better living. Living in the Netherlands, he initiated two projects for Pakistan under NedAccess BV. The first, Eco-norm, prioritises developments that conserve natural resources, promoting resourceful living and businesses. The second, Karefield, focuses on bio-safe lifestyles and protection against biological hazards. Eco-norm Pakistan, led by Khalil, addresses Pakistan's critical water, wastewater, and WASH needs, emphasising the economic and social value of water. Despite challenges, Khalil has engaged prominent global entities like Nijhuis Water Solutions, Enviro Pure Foundation, Fairbank Nijhuis, Daiki Axis, and Bio-land to address water-related issues in Pakistan and other countries, contributing to environmental conservation and climate risk management. Khalil, a business graduate and TU Delft fellow in the Netherlands, champions sustainable practices for a better future.





DR. KULSUM AHMED

Dr. Kulsum Ahmed, a seasoned senior advisor in international development, climate, and environmental sustainability, boasts a remarkable 30-year career dedicated to policy analysis, advice, and development solutions. Over her 24 years at the World Bank, Dr. Ahmed held various key positions, including global practice manager, overseeing substantial operational teams across Latin America, Europe, Central Asia, the Middle East, and North Africa. As a published author and contributor to esteemed books and journals, she is a recognized speaker at conferences and meetings. Dr. Ahmed continues to serve as a senior advisor, specialising in climate and sustainable development. Her educational journey includes studying Natural Sciences at Cambridge University, culminating in a Ph.D. in Organic Chemistry from Imperial College of Science, Technology, and Medicine, London. Dr. Kulsum Ahmed's extensive experience positions her as a thought leader, contributing significantly to the global discourse on crucial development and environmental issues.





DR. LUBNA GHAZAL

Dr. Lubna Ghazal is an expert in Geography of Environment and Climate Change, specialising in remote sensing and gis applications for natural resources, drought and flood management, and water resource management. With a decade of O' levels teaching experience and over 12 years instructing graduate and postgraduate students at Karachi University, she earned her Ph.D. in 2015 with a focus on the implications of Climate Change and Human Activities on Land Resources of Sindh. Dr. Ghazal has designed courses in Water Resources Management, Hydro-Geography, Ecology of Natural Resources, and Landscape Ecology. She boasts more than 17 research publications, extensive participation in conferences, seminars, and workshops, and has contributed to eight national projects while being a member of various reputable academic and environmental organisations nationally and internationally.





MAHEEN RAHMAN

Maheen Rahman, with over 20 years of experience in investment banking, research, and asset management, currently serves as the CEO of InfraZamin Pakistan, an affiliate of the Private Infrastructure Development Group (UK). She has been instrumental in establishing operations and developing a project pipeline at InfraZamin, positioning it as a key player in financial markets. Her focus is catalysing private sector investment in infrastructure projects through credit guarantees that de-risk and enhance access to finance for underserved sectors.

Formerly, as the CEO of Alfalah GHP Investment Management, Maheen played a pivotal role in its growth into one of Pakistan's largest asset management companies. Recognized as one of Fortune's "40 Under 40 Women to Watch" in 2015, she currently holds multiple advisory and director positions, utilising her expertise. Maheen holds degrees in Economics and Finance, various capital markets certifications, and is a certified independent director in Pakistan.





MAHNAZ RAHMAN

Mahnaz Rahman, the Resident Director at Aurat Foundation's Karachi regional office since 2010, is a prominent advocate for women's rights and socio-political issues. With a journalistic background, she excels in networking, liaising, and communication with media, civil society, political parties, and parliamentarians. As a development practitioner, she possesses versatile skills in human rights advocacy, research paper development, and program backstopping. Her extensive international exposure includes attending conferences and meetings on international human rights charters and conventions in various countries. Mahnaz's leadership role at AF draws from her diverse experience with institutions in the media, Aga Khan University, and Church World Service. Her accolades include being the first female President of a newspaper's employees union, receiving the Friendship Medal from the Prime Minister of China in 1991, and a lifetime achievement award from the Government of Sindh's Commission on Status of Women in 2020.





**water
matters**

MALAIKA ZEHRA

Syeda Malaika Zehra, a third-year student pursuing a degree in Electronics Engineering at NED University of Engineering and Technology, distinguishes herself not only in academics but also in debating competitions and public speaking forums. Her active engagement has brought her to platforms like KIWC, showcasing her commitment to eloquence and advocacy. This trajectory in speaking endeavours reflects her dedication to continuous growth and impactful contributions in various domains.





MASHOOQUE BIRAHMANI

Mashooque Birahmani is the CEO of Sujag Sansar Organization (SSO), located in Johi Tehsil of Dadu District. Since 2005, he has been actively engaged in addressing issues related to child rights, climate change, Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH), and Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) in Dadu District. His work extends to various districts within the Sindh region, reflecting a commitment to broader regional impact. With a focus on social and environmental concerns, Mashooque Birahmani's leadership at SSO underscores a dedication to community development and resilience-building initiatives in the face of challenges related to climate change and child welfare.





MEHER MARKER NOSHIRWANI

Meher Marker Noshirwani, a specialist in conservation and environmental management with a focus on gender, boasts over 38 years of experience in the NGO/social sector. As a Steering Committee Member of the IUCN Commission on Environmental, Economic, and Social Policy (CEESP) and Chair of the CEESP Gender Specialist Group, she provides a unique multi-stakeholder perspective. With a Master's in Sociology from the University of Essex, UK, Meher has advanced women's issues, gender, development, environment, and climate change globally. Currently serving as Technical Advisor to the Trust for Conservation of Coastal Resources (TCCR), she manages gender, environment, and climate change projects along the Sindh coast. Meher is also involved in various boards and committees, including Hisaar Foundation for Water, Food and Livelihood Security, and The Karachi Conference Foundation, contributing significantly to gender, environment, and climate change issues.





DR. MOHSIN HAFEEZ

With over 26 years of experience, Dr. Mohsin Hafeez is a distinguished expert in sustainable land and water management, globally recognized for his expertise in integrated water resources modelling, agricultural water management, and climate change impacts on water resources. His impactful leadership in water organisations worldwide showcases his adeptness in managing multidisciplinary projects, particularly in diverse river basins. Mohsin's notable achievements include receiving the CRC-IF Leadership Award in System Harmonization (2010), the Best Irrigation and Drainage Paper Award (2008), the CSIRO Chairman's Gold Medal for Research Achievements in Irrigation Water Management (2007), and the team Land and Water Eureka Prize for Water Research and Innovation (2007). He holds an impressive publication record, surpassing 200 publications, highlighting his significant contributions to the field.





MOIN IQBAL

With 15 years of experience in the energy sector, Moin Iqbal is a seasoned professional who previously served as the Sales Director at GE Renewables for the Middle East and Pakistan. During his tenure, he successfully closed deals for 500 MW of wind projects. Moin's diverse career of nearly 25 years includes roles in banking, strategy consulting, and entrepreneurial ventures. He played a crucial role in the turnaround team at K-Electric, overseeing projects like SAP ISU system implementation and the Smart Grid initiative. Moin also led Tech Data in Pakistan and founded the country's first locally branded PC, later acquired by the Dawood Group. Holding a BBA (Hons) and an MBA from the Institute of Business Administration, Karachi (1998), Moin completed his Master's Degree at INSEAD in France in 2008.





MUHAMMAD ARFAN

Muhammad Arfan, holding a Ph.D. in Integrated Water Resources Management from the US-Pakistan Center for Advanced Studies in Water, Jamshoro, has a diverse academic background. With a master's in Engineering Hydrology from UET Lahore and a foundation in Agricultural Engineering from the University of Agriculture Faisalabad, he brings a comprehensive perspective to his work. Mr. Arfan's interdisciplinary research experience includes collaborations with the World-Wide Fund for Nature Pakistan (WWF-Pakistan) and the International Institute of Social History (IISH). His research focuses on water governance, integrated water resource management, common pool resource management, and climate change adaptation. Notably, he secured a competitive research grant for an interdisciplinary project from the Pakistan Institute of Development Economics (PIDE), showcasing his ability to bridge disciplines. Muhammad Arfan's technical expertise in quantifying irrigation canal network flows and engaging stakeholders reflects an integration of physical science, engineering, and social science. He has contributed to national and international journals and occasionally shares insights on climate and water issues in various newspapers.





NAILA JABEEN

Naila Jabeen, an MPhil Scholar at the Institute of Environmental Studies, brings seven years of committed expertise in water quality research. Currently immersed in her groundbreaking thesis, Naila focuses on the Spatio-Temporal Transformation of Landscape and Ecology in the Hunza Valley, Gilgit-Baltistan, examining the profound impact of climate change. Her dedicated work reflects a commitment to advancing our understanding of environmental dynamics, particularly in regions susceptible to climatic shifts. Naila's research contributes valuable insights to the complex interplay between climate change and ecological systems, underscoring her significance in the field of environmental studies.





NAYAB RAZA

Nayab Raza is a leading figure in sustainable agriculture as CEO of BHAAN, specialising in freshwater microalgae-based biofertilizer. As the AD for Youth Affairs in the Sindh Government, she fosters youth engagement. A global semifinalist in the Climate Launchpad competition, Nayab has won awards like Hackhon 3.0 and the Green Innovators Program. She's trained over 500 farmers, promoting gender-inclusive, climate-smart agriculture. Nayab's dedication to environmental and social innovation, coupled with her achievements, inspires women in Pakistan and globally to pursue sustainable agriculture practices. Her work significantly contributes to addressing environmental challenges with a focus on carbon capture and gender inclusion.





NAZEER AHMED MEMON

Nazeer Ahmed Memon, a distinguished Senior Public Servant with over 25 years of dedicated service, is an expert in policy reforms, project management, and change leadership. As the Project Coordinator for the Directorate of Sindh Water Sector and Barrages Improvement Projects in the Government of Sindh's Planning & Development department, Nazeer plays a pivotal role in overseeing critical initiatives like the Sindh Water and Agriculture Transformation project and the Sindh Barrages Improvement Project. Additionally, he leads the Shared Services Unit, providing essential support to various World Bank-funded projects. Nazeer's notable career includes implementing institutional reforms in the irrigation & water sector, serving as Project Director for Karachi's flagship Neighborhood Improvement Project, funded by the Government of Sindh and the World Bank. His extensive experience includes collaborations with international donors like the World Bank, ADB, UNDP, JBIC, EC, AKP, Oxfam GB, and USAid. Nazeer's leadership and commitment to public service make him a key figure driving positive change and sustainable development in Sindh.





DR. NUSRAT NASAB

Nusrat Nasab has dedicated over two decades to the field of Development and Disaster Risk Reduction. She currently serves as the Chief Executive Officer at the Aga Khan Agency for Habitat Pakistan. In her prior international assignment, she held the position of Head of Emergency Management at the Aga Khan Agency for Habitat (AKAH). Nusrat also served as the Chief Executive Officer of Focus Humanitarian Assistance, Pakistan, and held senior management roles in various institutions within the Aga Khan Development Network (AKDN). Additionally, she volunteers as a member Director on governance boards of reputable institutes.

Nusrat's academic background includes a Master's degree in Development Economics from the University of East Anglia, Norwich, UK, and another degree in Economics from Pakistan. She has authored and co-authored several papers, contributing to publications such as "The Hindu Kush Himalaya Assessment" and "Geohazards and Disaster Risk Reduction – Multidisciplinary and Integrated Approach."





RABEL AKHUND

With over 20 years of legal practice in London, Pakistan, and globally, Rabel Akhund is a graduate of University College London, holding LL.B. and LL.M. degrees. He is a Solicitor of England & Wales and an Advocate in Pakistan. In 2009, Rabel founded Akhund Forbes, a Top Tier Corporate Law firm in Pakistan and Bangladesh. Prior to this, he spent 8 years in prominent global law firms in London, including Baker McKenzie. Rabel's expertise spans Corporate, M&A, Projects, Capital Markets, and Finance. He maintains a keen interest in Water Law issues affecting Pakistan, reflected in his writings and speeches on the subject.





RABIYA JAVERI AGHA

Rabiya Javeri Agha, a distinguished bureaucrat with 37 years of public service, has significantly impacted human rights in Pakistan. As the first female President of the Pakistan Administrative Service Association, she's been a trailblazer. With a degree from Mount Holyoke College, USA, and the Blavatnik School of Government, University of Oxford, Rabiya received an honorary Doctorate in Law for her advocacy for women and vulnerable groups.

As Chairperson of the National Commission for Human Rights (NCHR), she led the drafting of progressive legislations, including the Transgender Act 2018. Rabiya actively advocates for crucial legislations and raises awareness on diverse human rights issues. Her leadership amplified NCHR's credibility, sought by the government and judiciary for critical inquiries. Under her guidance, NCHR resolved 2459 human rights abuse complaints, initiated 161 suo moto actions, and provided legal support for the acquittal of 75 juvenile offenders in Punjab.





RAFAY ALAM

Ahmad Rafay Alam is an esteemed environmental lawyer specialising in energy, water, natural resources, and urban infrastructure. As a Yale World Fellow with over two decades of expertise, he has significantly contributed to environmental, water, sustainability, climate change, energy efficiency, and air quality issues. Ahmad's leadership roles include serving as Chairman of the Lahore Electric Supply Company Limited and the Lahore Waste Management Company. Presently, he is a Member of the Pakistan Climate Change Council, Senior Advisor to Air Quality Asia, and a valuable contributor to the Hisaar Foundation Think Tank on the Rational Use of Water. With his wealth of experience and commitment to environmental advocacy, Ahmad Rafay Alam plays a pivotal role in shaping policies and initiatives for a sustainable future.





RANA ANSAR

Rana Ansar, a prominent Pakistani politician, secured her place in the Provincial Assembly of Sindh as an Muttahida Qaumi Movement (MQM) candidate in both the 2013 and 2018 Pakistani general elections. Notably, she made history by becoming the first woman Opposition Leader in the Provincial Assembly of Sindh in July 2023. Rana Ansar has actively contributed to legislative initiatives, exemplified by her role in amending the Sindh Water Management Bill, 2018. This amendment seeks to empower women farmers in the province by granting them decision-making authority in water management—an important stride towards gender inclusivity and empowerment in agricultural practices. Her dedicated efforts mark a significant impact on both the political landscape and women's participation in key decision-making processes.





RUI OWASE

Rui Owase, with expertise in business development, wastewater project planning, and operations both in Japan and overseas, boasts leadership and management skills. Holding degrees in Chemical Engineering from National Shizuoka University (1999) and National Ibaraki College of Technology (1977), Owase has a strong educational foundation. Currently serving as the General Manager of Overseas Sales Division at Daiki Axis Co., Ltd., he is also the Managing Director at Daiki Axis Environment, PTD, and the Vice President at Daiki Axis Indonesia, PTD. With a focus on environmental solutions, Owase continues to drive key initiatives in these roles.





SANAA BAXAMOOSA

Sanaa Baxamoosa, a seasoned water and sustainable development specialist with over 15 years of expertise, currently serves as the Director of External Relations and Company Secretary at Hisaar Foundation since 2009. Holding an MSc in Sustainable Development from SOAS, University of London, and a BA in Integrated Water Resources Management and Environmental Studies from Hampshire College, MA, she brings a comprehensive academic background to her role. Sanaa led a significant 3-year project on Women and Water in Central and South Asia, collaborating with George Washington University and the US State Department. This initiative spanned five countries—Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, Afghanistan, Pakistan, and India—aiming to foster social capital among women water professionals. Sanaa's impactful contributions extend to her role as the Country Network Manager for Cap-Net Pakistan, focusing on capacity for sustainable water management. Earlier in her career, she served as the Business Development Associate at Micro Drip Private Limited from 2007-2009, working on providing low-cost drip irrigation systems to small farmers in Tharparkar. Sanaa's wealth of experience is further showcased through her paper presentations in seminars and conferences, as well as her appearances on various television and talk shows.





SEEMA TAHER KHAN

Seema Taher is a communications and media specialist with degrees in International Relations and Communication Design. She served as the Director and Creative Head for Interflow Group of Companies from 1985 to 2005 and is currently the CEO of Airwaves Media. Seema has represented Pakistan at AdAsia Japan and actively participated in various international and national advertising, communications, and media events. She has collaborated with UNICEF and USAID, focusing on the wellness of women and children. Seema has held positions on the boards of Cancer Society and Fatimid Foundation and has been involved in multiple media departments of universities. She is a member of the Hisaar Foundation Think Tank for Food & Water sustainability and actively contributes to sustainable development initiatives related to the environment and ecosystem restoration with various government and non-government organisations.





SHAH MUHAMMAD TANWEER

Shah Muhammad Tanweer possesses extensive expertise in general management and engineering, both in Pakistan and internationally. His diverse experience spans process design, installation, commissioning, and operation of power plants, chemical plants, and water and wastewater facilities. Tanweer has worked on technical auditing, monitoring and evaluation of projects, and served as the Plant General Manager for the world's largest multistage flash distillation, reverse osmosis, and power plants. With a background in chemical engineering and post-graduations in desalination, nuclear power technology, and environmental engineering, he currently runs his consultancy, "Sitech International," specialising in water, wastewater, and process solutions. Additionally, Tanweer is actively involved in humanitarian efforts, installing small drinking water facilities for NGOs in remote areas and providing hand-operated systems for flood victims. He also serves as a visiting faculty at NED Academy and Bahria University in Karachi.





SHAHAB USTO

Shahab Usto is a dedicated civil rights lawyer actively involved in safeguarding water bodies from diverse pollutants, including untreated effluent discharged by public authorities into rivers, canals, lakes, and the sea. His impactful efforts focus on addressing the permanent threat to public health and environmental degradation caused by these pollutants. Notably, Shahab petitioned the Supreme Court, leading to the establishment of a commission dedicated to investigating and proposing remedies for water pollution in Sindh. Over its two-year tenure, the Water Commission produced comprehensive reports addressing various aspects of water pollution and related environmental hazards.





DR. SHAKEEL HAYAT

Dr. Shakeel Hayat holds a master's degree in Climate Change from the University of East Anglia, UK, and a Ph.D. in Water Governance from the University of Amsterdam, the Netherlands. With 15 years of diverse experience in research, capacity building, and advocacy, he has collaborated with national and international organisations, including the Asian Development Bank, WaterAid, GIZ, and the World Bank. His recent roles include 'Climate Change & WASH Specialist' at WaterAid Pakistan, 'Research & Scholarship Development Specialist' with the Asian Development Bank, and 'Environmental and Social Safeguards Specialist' for the GCF-funded 'Recharge Pakistan' Project. Dr. Hayat actively participates in the Green Movement and environmental societies, demonstrating a commitment to sustainable practices.





SHEIKH ALI HUSSAIN

With over two and a half decades of diverse experience in education, healthcare, banking, and hospitality, Sheikh Ali Hussain serves as the Deputy Country Director at Pathfinder. Recognized for his strategic leadership in sustainability and ESG initiatives, he plays a crucial role in overseeing the execution of work plans to ensure their timely implementation and anticipated impact. His wealth of experience spans various sectors, contributing to his effectiveness in providing valuable insights and guidance in his current position.





SIMI KAMAL

Simi Kamal is the founder of Hisaar Foundation and its current Chairperson. She is a co-founder of Panjwani-Hisaar Water Institute at NED University, Pakistan, and the Vice Chair of International Water Management Institute (IWMI), Sri Lanka. She is a geographer, water expert, climate change and environment professional, women's rights campaigner and poverty alleviation specialist. She has founded several private sector and social sector organisations, networks and platforms, many of them related to water. She has served on numerous international and national boards, committees, commissions, task forces and think tanks. She has just started her first term on the Board of WaterAid UK, and is also on the Board of Khushhali Microfinance Bank Limited (KMBL). She served for nine years on the Technical Committee of the Global Water Partnership with headquarters in Sweden and has worked on numerous policy and strategy papers internationally and nationally over the past 40 years. She has led over 200 research studies and projects and is the recipient of several awards. Her work covers 50 countries.





SIRAJ UDDIN KHAN

Siraj Uddin Khan, serving as the Field Manager, holds an M.A. in Economics with Statistics from Sindh University and a B.A. in Economics from Karachi University. With a comprehensive background spanning 32 years in Administrative and Accounts work at Raasta Development Consultants, he brings valuable experience to his role. His expertise extends to a 31-year tenure in Administration at the Reproduction & Printing Unit, overseeing a staff of 70 members. Mr. Khan also contributed to the Coordination Planning & Legislation Cell for four years and briefly served the foundation as Manager HR/Admin. Currently, he plays a crucial role in overseeing day-to-day operations, managing both in-house staff and contractors, showcasing a broad influence beyond the worksite.





SUN YAN EVANS

Sun Yan Evans, a Technical Director at Mott MacDonald, a UK-based international consultancy with a global presence of 18,000 employees across 150 countries, brings over 35 years of expertise to the water sector. She has successfully led the delivery of 200+ river and coastal studies in 20+ countries. Sun Yan specialises in water engineering, hydrodynamic modelling, real-time river forecasting, flood risk assessments, and more. As a Fellow of the Institution of Civil Engineers, a Chartered Institution of Water and Environmental Management Board of Trustees member, and a UK R&D Theme Advisor for Incident Management and Modelling, she plays a key role in shaping the industry. Sun Yan also serves as an expert witness for flood and water quality-related matters and has received multiple awards for her innovative contributions.





ZAHRA ALI

Zahra Ali, a sustainability specialist, has devoted over 14 years to eco-literacy through "Green Schools Pakistan" and founded "Crops in Pots" to promote urban organic farming. Her eco-literacy curriculum has educated 12,000+ youth, establishing school food gardens and empowering communities. Zahra, a freelance environmental journalist, amplifies her advocacy through "The Green Pilgrim," focusing on water access and contamination in Iraq, spanning five continents. With a Master's in Media, Ethics, and Social Change from the University of Sussex, UK, Zahra holds certifications as a Permaculture Designer and a Sustainability Fellow. Her global impact includes presentations in Sri Lanka, Pakistan, Iraq, Canada, Iran, and the United States, showcasing her unique perspective on media and sustainability, establishing her as a distinguished leader in the field.





ZOHAIR ASHIR

Zohair Ashir, currently a Governor of Hisaar Foundation and Executive Board Member of the Panjwani-Hisaar Water Institute, boasts over 30 years of diverse experience, particularly in the water sector. Former Chair of Hisaar Foundation, he played a key role in founding the HF Think Tank for Rational Use of Water and organising the Karachi International Water Conference from 2013 to 2017. Additionally, he holds various positions on Governing Boards and serves pro-bono roles in government-appointed positions, including membership in the Senate of National Skills University, Islamabad. As Chief Executive of AASA Consulting, he brings expertise from senior roles with Grant Thornton International, Aga Khan University Hospital, Baptist Memorial Hospital, and Aetna Life & Casualty Insurance Company. A qualified Professional Hospital Administrator with post-graduation from the University of Minnesota and B.BA from the University of Memphis, Mr. Ashir remains actively involved in key advisory and leadership capacities.





DR. ZULFIQAR UMRANI

Dr. Zulfiqar Ali Umrani, with over 15 years of experience in Industry and Academia, currently serves as the Director of Research, Innovation & Commercialization (ORIC) and leads the Sustainability Office at Ziauddin University, Karachi. Within less than two years, he played a pivotal role in establishing the ORIC with an ecosystem approach and setting up the Clinical Trial Unit. Collaborating with UN-SDSN, UNAI, and PRME, he focuses on implementing research for impact and sustainability. Formerly, he headed the award-winning Innovation & Entrepreneurship Centre (IEC-MUET) at Mehran University of Engineering & Technology, which received the UBI Global 'Most Promising Young Incubator Award 2019-20,' making it the sole Pakistani Business Incubator to achieve this European recognition. Dr. Umrani, holding an MSc and a Ph.D. in renewable energy from France, centres his expertise on innovation, sustainability, and climate change.

