Biographies of the Speakers
(In Alphabetical Order)

<table>
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<th>Name</th>
<th>Title</th>
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<tr>
<td>Arjuna Srinidhi</td>
<td>PhD Research Scholar, Water Systems and Global Change Group, Wageningen University &amp; Research</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aastha Bhusal</td>
<td>Senior Programme Officer, LI-BIRD, Nepal</td>
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**Short Bio**

**Aastha Bhusal**
Aastha Bhusal holds Masters’ Degree in Agriculture from Tribhuvan University. She worked as a Senior Programme Officer at Local Initiatives for Biodiversity, Research and Development (LI-BIRD), Nepal. While working in LI-BIRD, she was mainly involved in conducting and disseminating results of research especially in agriculture and climate change adaptation. She has also worked as a Research Associate in LI-BIRD and contributed in research papers.

**Arjuna Srinidhi**
Arjuna Srinidhi is pursuing his PhD at Wageningen University in the Netherlands. In his research, Arjuna focuses on assessing the climate resilience of semiarid farming systems and in co-creating climate resilient development pathways in India. In addition to working on his PhD, Arjuna is also involved with the Watershed Organisation Trust (WOTR) as a researcher and a thematic lead for WOTR’s Ecosystem based Adaptation projects. This engagement in implementation projects at the grassroots, and evidence-based policy advocacy allows Arjuna to work at the intersection of science, policy, and practice of climate change adaptation in India. In previous roles, Arjuna has followed the global climate change negotiations and worked as an energy analyst. He has a master’s degree in Environmental Science and Engineering from a joint programme at Nanyang Technological University, Singapore, and Stanford University, USA and a bachelor’s degree in Chemical Engineering from NIT Surathkal in India.
Bekele A. Shiferaw has a PhD and Development and Resource Economics and leads thematic and focused evaluations and project assessments at the Independent Evaluation Group of the World Bank. He is currently with the World Bank’s Environment, Natural Resources and Blue Economy Global Practice working on program evaluations and analytics and the economics of sustainability. He has worked in global development with interest in agrifood systems, environment and climate change issues for over 25 years, including in research, program evaluation, policy analysis and engagement. He has authored or co-authored over 100 articles published in peer-reviewed journals, books, flagship reports and other outlets.

I am a PhD research scholar in agricultural economics in the department of Humanities and Social Sciences at the Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur, under the guidance of Prof. Pulak Mishra and Prof. Bhagirath Behera. My areas of research interest are agricultural intensification, climate change, food and nutritional security, agriculture and groundwater, and collective farming. At present, I am a research assistant in the Department of Industrial and System Engineering at IIT Kharagpur, working on a project funded by the Department of Science and Technology (DST) to study the effects of climate change and COVID-19 on migration. During my PhD and MPhil courses, I have served as a lab assistant and worked as a guest lecturer, respectively. Through my experience, I have become well versed in conducting research and analyzing data through software packages like STATA, SPSS, and EVIEWS for econometric analysis; QGIS for geo-spatial analysis; and Fuzzy Cognitive Mapping for data modelling and policy implications. I also have ample experience of working in a collaborative environment, as in my previous project, where I collaboratively worked with resource people from Bangladesh, Australia, and New Zealand on a project on sustainable agricultural intensification funded by ACIAR.

I am a PhD research scholar in agricultural economics in the department of Humanities and Social Sciences at the Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur, under the guidance of Prof. Pulak Mishra and Prof. Bhagirath Behera. My areas of research interest are agricultural intensification, climate change, food and nutritional security, agriculture and groundwater, and collective farming. At present, I am a research assistant in the Department of Industrial and System Engineering at IIT Kharagpur, working on a project funded by the Department of Science and Technology (DST) to study the effects of climate change and COVID-19 on migration. During my PhD and MPhil courses, I have served as a lab assistant and worked as a guest lecturer, respectively. Through my experience, I have become well versed in conducting research and analyzing data through software packages like STATA, SPSS, and EVIEWS for econometric analysis; QGIS for geo-spatial analysis; and Fuzzy Cognitive Mapping for data modelling and policy implications. I also have ample experience of working in a collaborative environment, as in my previous project, where I collaboratively worked with resource people from Bangladesh, Australia, and New Zealand on a project on sustainable agricultural intensification funded by ACIAR.
She has over 30 years of experience in water, environment and natural resources management in the context of development. She is working at present on impacts of global changes on water resources, food, environment, and societies. Winner of the Crystal Drop Award in 2016 and the 50th Anniversary Award in 2021, International Water Resources Association (IWRA). Member of the International Selection Committee, Millennium Technology Prize, Technology Academy Finland; the UKRI Future Leaders Fellowships Peer Review College, UK; and the OECD Initiative on Water Governance. A very prolific author, her work has been translated into Arabic, Chinese, Farsi, French, German, Hindi, Japanese, Portuguese, and Spanish languages. She has been advisor for several international and national organisations and development agencies, governments and development banks. She is Editor-in-Chief of the International Journal of Water Resources Development; Associate Editor of Water International; and a member of the Editorial Board of the Journal of Natural Resources Policy Research; Urban, Planning and Transport Research Journal; and International Journal of Water Governance. Co-editor of the Water Resources Development and Management book series, Nature Springer, and member of the Series Advisory Board, Springer Briefs in Earth Sciences, Geography & Earth System Sciences.

Chen JI

Associate Professor, China Academy for Rural China (CARD)/ Department of Agricultural Economics and Management, Zhejiang University, China

Short Bio

Professor Chen JI received her Ph.D degree (European Doctorate) from Department of Agricultural Economics and Management in Universidad Politécnica de Madrid (UPM) in 2012, and she was a visiting scholar in Wageningen University. She started her academic career from serving as an Assistant Professor in Department of Agricultural, Food, and Resource Economics in Michigan State University. She joined Department of Agricultural Economics and Management in Zhejiang University in 2014, and she was promoted as an Associate Professor in 2018.

Professor JI focuses on doing agricultural and development economics studies in China. Her research topics include: agri-food supply chain and industrial organizations development, green and sustainable agriculture, inter-generational mobility and poverty reduction in rural areas. She is dedicated in econometrically evaluating the impacts of agricultural policies, technologies and industrial organizations on rural economy and farmers’ welfare. She published her scholarly research papers in leading peer-reviewed journals such as, Journal of Agricultural Economics, Food Policy, Applied Economics, International Food and Agribusiness Management Review, and Journal of Integrative Agriculture. She also has been invited to review articles for journals such as Review of Development Economics, China Agricultural Economics Review, Agribusiness and Applied Economics.

Chengfang LIU

Boya Chair Professor/Associate Dean, Peking University, China

Short Bio

Chengfang Liu, Ph.D in agricultural and resource economics from the University of California (Davis), 2008, holds the Boya Professorship at Peking University and is a senior research fellow at the China Center for Agricultural Policy. She also serves as the associate dean at the School of Advanced Agriculture Sciences. For more than 20 years, she has worked on development economics and applied microeconometrics. Her work is highly empirical, drawing on a large number of datasets that she and
her coauthoring teams have collected in rural China. Currently, her research has its full focus on human capital (including issues of rural education, health and nutrition) and rural transformation. With her coauthors, Dr. Liu has published more than 120 papers in peer-reviewed journals both domestically and internationally, including Journal of Development Economics, Journal of Labor Economics, etc. In recognition of her work, Dr. Liu received the China National Science Fund for Distinguished Young Scientists (Guojia Jieqing) in 2019, one of the highest academic honors that can be bestowed on a young scholar in China. She served as the Chair of the China Section of Agricultural & Applied Economics Association (AAEA) during 2019-2021.

Dil B. Rahut  
Vice-Chair of Research/Sr Research Fellow, Asian Development Bank Institute (ADBI)

Short Bio
Dil Rahut is Vice-Chair (Research) and Senior Research Fellow at Asian Development Bank Institute (ADBI). He was a global program manager for the International Maize and Wheat Improvement Centre’s (CIMMYT) socioeconomics and sustainable intensification programs. He also served as chair of the staffs’ committee at CIMMYT. He previously worked for the Royal Monetary Authority of Bhutan’s Research and Statistics Department. He also served as a research fellow at the WorldFish Centre; senior fellow and Japan chair at the Indian Council for Research in International Economic Relations; chief of research, planning, and monitoring and Visa/Mastercard director at the Bank of Bhutan Ltd; and assistant professor of development economics at South Asian University. He has a Ph.D. in development economics from the University of Bonn’s Center for Development Research, a master’s degree in economic policy management from the University of Tsukuba, an MBA specializing in finance, and a bachelor of science degree from India. He has over 135 publications (H Index 26) in Scopus indexed journals focusing on development issues across Asia and sub-Saharan Africa.

Hongyun Zheng  
Associate Professor in Applied Economics, College of Economics and Management, Huazhong Agricultural University, China

Short Bio
Hongyun is currently an Associate Professor at the College of Economics and Management, Huazhong Agricultural University, China. He obtained his Ph.D degree in Agricultural Economics through the joint educational program between Huazhong Agricultural University (China) and Lincoln University (China). He works in the fields of Agricultural Economics and Development Economics, with a focus on topics such as agricultural productivity and efficiency, information technology adoption, rural welfare, and farmer subjective well-being. Dr. Zheng have published papers on journals such as Food Policy, Australian Journal of Agricultural and Resource Economics, Canadian Journal of Agricultural Economics, and Applied Economics.
| **Junpeng Li**  
Lecture, School of Economics and Management, Huaiyin Normal University, Huai’an city, Jiangsu province, People’s Republic of China.  
Short Bio  
I specialize in Agricultural Economics, with a focus on Agricultural Infrastructure, Rural Environment Management, Rural Informatization, and Rural Development. My research outputs have covered a wide range of topics, such as agricultural labor supply, water use efficiency, food production, livelihood diversity, rural energy poverty, farmer subjective well-being, financial inclusion, ICTs adoption, and the “China Toilet Revolution.” I have been regularly invited to review articles for several international journals, such as Review of Development Economics, China Agricultural Economic Review, and Applied Economics. As a young researcher, I am doing my best to contribute to the literature in my research fields. |
| **Manh Hung, Do**  
PhD candidate, Institute for Environmental Economics and World Trade, Leibniz University Hannover, Germany.  
Short Bio  
Manh Hung Do is a PhD candidate at Leibniz University Hannover, Germany. He focuses on topics related to development economics, agricultural economics, and world trade. He is working on rural development issues in Southeast Asia. He worked for the Institute of Policy and Strategy for Agriculture and Rural Development (IPSARD), under the Vietnamese Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD) between 2009 and 2019. He has 10-year working experience in agriculture and rural development. He has participated in development research and projects with domestic and international organizations such as the World Bank, FAO... He holds a master degree in public policy |
from Yeungnam University in South Korea and a bachelor degree in agricultural economics from Vietnam. He has published in journals such as World Development, Economic Analysis and Policy, Environment, Development and Sustainability, and the Asia and the Pacific Policy Studies.

Netra Eng
Executive Director, Cambodia Development Resource Institute (CDRI), Cambodia

Short Bio
Dr Eng Netra has a long and distinguished career in development policy research specialising in governance and inclusive society, along with research management and policy influencing. Her current appointment as Executive Director of CDRI caps a history of managerial and leadership positions over a 15-year research career at the institute. She has overseen many research studies that have produced original, high quality and locally owned research on Cambodia’s political and institutional transformation over the past twenty years. Dr Eng is also active in a range of international and regional networks of governance and development scholars, and has published in international peer-reviewed journals and books. Dr Eng received her PhD in political science from Monash University in 2015 with her dissertation on “The Political Economy of Decentralisation Reform in Cambodia”.

Pritha Datta
Research Scholar, Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur, India

Short Bio
Pritha Datta is currently a Ph.D. candidate at the Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur, India. Her doctoral work explores the farmers’ perception of climate change and their adaptation strategies in the Eastern-Himalayan foothills of India. She holds an M.Phil. degree from the Assam University, Silchar, India, an M.A. in Geography and Applied Geography and B.A. in Geography both from the University of North Bengal, India. Her research interests include impacts of climate change on agriculture, adaptation, and spatial analysis.

Ratna Reddy Vippala
Director
Livelihoods and Natural Resources Management Institute, Hyderabad, India.

Short Bio
An economist by training with experience in the fields of environmental economics and natural resource management, environmental impact assessment, climate change, livelihoods and institutions. He is an Alexander von Humboldt Fellow at South Asian Institute, Germany. Visiting fellow at the Institute of Development Studies, Sussex; the University of Leeds, UK; and the UN-University, Dresden, Germany. Served as consultant to organisations like: The World Bank and Independent Evaluation Group (IEG); The World Bank, Washington and India; ADB; UNDP; DFID; EC; WWF, IWMI, ICRISAT, UNU, OPM, IFDC, etc. Served as a working group member in the preparation of 11th and 12th Plans for the
Government of India. He has published 15 books and above 200 research papers in international and national peer reviewed journals.

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<tr>
<th>Roshan Adhikari</th>
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<tr>
<td>Nottingham Business School, Nottingham Trent University, Goldsmith St, Nottingham NG1 4BU, UK</td>
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**Short Bio**

Roshan Adhikari is a Research Fellow in Applied Economics and Policy Analysis at the Nottingham Business School at Nottingham Trent University. He previously worked as a postdoctoral research associate at the Global Development Institute at the University of Manchester. He has a Ph.D. in Applied Economics from Oregon State University and a bachelor’s degree in Economics-Mathematics from Whitman College. His research focuses on issues at the intersection of development economics and natural resources, including the impacts of climate change and related adaptation measures. His research approach is methodologically diverse, including household survey data, large administrative datasets, and participant observation. His current projects are focused on examining the role of irrigation technologies and infrastructure investments on agricultural water security and rural livelihoods in Sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia.

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<th>Sofina Maharjan</th>
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<td>PhD candidate, University of Western Australia</td>
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**Short Bio**

Sofina Maharjan is a PhD candidate at the University of Western Australia in the school of Agriculture and Environment. She has master’s degree in development economics from the South Asian University, India, bachelor’s in business administration (BBA) from the University of Pune, India. Prior to joining a PhD program, she worked with International Maize and Wheat Improvement Centre (CIMMYT) for the Sustainable and Resilient Farming System Intensification (SRFSI) project as a researcher (socio-economist), and for the Climate Change Agriculture and Food Security (CCAFS) project as an intern. She had been working regionally in South Asia (Bangladesh, India, and Nepal). She is an output-oriented person, proactive, believes in participatory approaches and teamwork. Her research interest includes applied microeconomic methods to study farmers adoption of climate-smart agricultural practices, productivity, and technical efficiency. Her PhD research is on measuring productivity and technical efficiency and adoption and impact analysis of laser land leveler in India.

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<td>PhD candidate, The University of Auckland, New Zealand</td>
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**Short Bio**

Souryabrata Mohapatra is a PhD candidate at the University of Auckland, New Zealand.
Souryabrata joined the Department of Economics at the University of Auckland as an international full-time PhD candidate in late 2019. His empirical research is in the field of climate change economics, guided by Prof Basil Sharp and Dr Asha Sundaram. Prior to that, he worked as a Research Associate on an ICSSR project at IIT Hyderabad. Of late, he fulfilled two sponsored visiting fellowships at NISER and IIT Bhubaneswar in mid 2021 and later acted as a Course Coordinator whilst completing two sponsored internships in early 2022. Besides providing teaching and research assistance in the department, he is affiliated with the Energy Centre of the university and multiple other international professional associations, actively participating in academic events. He received many academic awards, including a gold medal in bachelor’s and distinction from RBI governor in master’s program. His recent research outputs are published in reputed Scopus-indexed journals, earning him honoraria. His diversions involve sketching and music.

Dr Subhasis Bera is an Associate Professor in Economics and Quantitative Techniques and Chairperson, Research & Professional Development Programme at the International School of Business and Media, Kolkata. He has more than sixteen years of experience in research and teaching. He has worked at World Bank as a consultant and as a Fellow in an international policy think tank, Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations (ICRIER), New Delhi. He also worked as an Assistant Professor and an Associate Professor at FORE School of Management for 7 years. He also taught courses in Applied Microeconomics at the postgraduate and graduate levels. His areas of expertise are Economics of Technology, Econometrics, Development Economics and International Trade; In particular, he has worked on Digital Divide and Open-Source Software Development, Foreign Direct Investment, Information and Communication Technology, Sustainable Development and Applied Econometrics.

He has published a book, book chapters, and research papers in peer-reviewed reputed international journals and presented papers in many international conferences held abroad as well as in India.

Tetsushi Sonobe is the Dean and CEO of the Asian Development Bank Institute (ADBI), the Tokyo-based think tank of the Asian Development Bank that promotes the realization of a prosperous, inclusive, resilient, and sustainable Asia and the Pacific through policy research and capacity building. Born in 1960 in Tokyo, Dean Sonobe obtained his PhD in economics from Yale University and BA in economics from the University of Tokyo. His research interests are centered on the empirics of economic development, particularly the roles of industrial clusters, human capital, social capital, management practices, and market competition in industrial development in developing Asia and other regions. Before joining ADBI in April 2020, Dean Sonobe served for six years as a vice president of the National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies (GRIPS) in Tokyo and taught economics for thirty years at Tokyo Metropolitan University and GRIPS. Dean Sonobe is a recipient of
Short Bio

Thomas Robert Panella

Director Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture
Chair of the Asian Development Bank Water Sector Group/Committee
East Asia Department, Asian Development Bank, the Philippines

Tom Panella is the Director for Environment, Natural Resources, and Agriculture in the East Asia Department at the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and is Chair the Water Sector Committee/Group for ADB. As Director in East Asia, he is responsible for managing operations including strategy; project development, management, and programming; policy dialogue; and knowledge management. As Chair of the Water Sector Committee, he provides oversight for the ADB-wide Water Sector Group for policy development, institutional engagement in water issues, and strategic direction of lending and non-lending water operations. He served as ADB’s Chief of Water Sector Group from 2017-20, Afghanistan Country Director from 2014-17, and joined ADB in 2003. He has led water operations in Central, South, and Southeast Asia including postings in Indonesia directing the water and climate change programs and in Uzbekistan as head of operations. He worked at the World Bank from 2000 to 2002 as a Water Resources Management Specialist. He was the Southern California Regional Director for Tabors, Caramanis and Associates from 1989 to 1993 and served as the Convener of the California Urban Water Conservation Council in 1997 (now the California Water Efficiency Partnership). He is a member of the AGWA Board of Directors, GWP Technical Committee, and Advisor to the HELP. He has a PhD and MPP in Public Policy and MSc from the Energy and Resources Group from the University of California, Berkeley.
Thong Anh Tran
Research Fellow
School of Geography, Earth and Atmospheric Sciences, Faculty of Science, The University of Melbourne, Victoria, Australia

Short Bio
Thong Tran is a human ecologist with extensive work experiences in mainland Southeast Asia. He earned his PhD at The Australian National University. His research looks into climate-development dynamics in the Mekong region, with a particular focus on (transboundary) environmental governance, agrarian transformation, livelihood resilience, climate change adaptation, social learning, rural and social innovations, knowledge governance, environmental justice, and institutional change. In his research contexts, he works closely with local farmers and stakeholders including government agencies, scientists, and private sectors in seeking ways to tackle the compounding effects of climate change and upstream/in situ development processes and to enhance farmers’ capacity to deal with change. His research has been published in leading journals of Geography, Planning and Development such as Global Environmental Change, Environmental Science and Policy, Land Use Policy, Human Ecology, Asia Pacific Viewpoint, and Environmental Policy and Governance. Before joining The University of Melbourne, he was a Research Fellow at National University of Singapore (2018-2021) and Fulbright University Vietnam (2022). He is an Associate Editor for Society and Natural Resources and also a member of the editorial boards for Journal of Flood Risk Management and International Journal of Water Resources Development.

Tiho Ancev
Associate Professor, School of Economics, The University of Sydney

Short Bio
Tiho Ancev is an Associate Professor at the School of Economics, University of Sydney. He is an applied economist with expertise in the agricultural, environmental, natural resource, and energy economics. Tiho has published widely on these topics in leading international peer-reviewed journals. He has led and participated in numerous national and international research projects in areas of his research interests, including in water economics. Tiho is currently Managing Editor-in-Chief of the Australian Journal of Agricultural and Resource Economics.

Tiyasa Mishra
Research Scholar, Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur, West Bengal, India

Short Bio
Tiyasa Mishra is a Doctoral Research Scholar at the Department of Humanities and Social Sciences of the Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur, India. The area of her primary research interest is industry-environment interface. She is pursuing her doctoral research on the interface between industry and environment for sustainable development and the role of corporate environmental responsibility in this regard. Currently, she is working on a blog on corporate environmental
Wanglin Ma specializes in Applied Economics, with a focus on Agricultural Economics and Development Economics. He obtained his Ph.D in Agricultural Economics from the University of Kiel in 2016. His research outputs have covered a wide range of topics, including sustainability and economies of agrifood systems, food production and marketing, farmer organization, agribusiness, rural development, rural-to-urban migration, climate change and adaptation, land transfer, agricultural technology adoption, information technology adoption, welfare and well-being, productivity and efficiency, income growth, farmer subjective well-being, and rural energy transition. He has published more than 90 articles in international journals (H-index is 27 in Google Scholar) and reviewed articles for more than 100 journals. Currently, Wanglin serves as co-editor of the Review of Development Economics and Associate Editor of the Australian Journal of Agricultural and Resource Economics.
Xiaomeng Cui

Associate Professor
Institute for Economic and Social Research, Jinan University
Guangzhou, China

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<td>Xiaomeng Cui is an associate professor at the Institute for Economic and Social Research (IESR) at Jinan University, Guangzhou, China. He obtained his PhD in agricultural and resource economics at University of California, Davis. His research interests include environmental and resource economics, agricultural economics, and applied econometrics. His research papers appear on leading journals such as <em>American Journal of Agricultural Economics (AJAE), Journal of Environmental Economics and Management (JEEM)</em>, and <em>Journal of the Association of Environmental and Resource Economists (JAERE)</em>.</td>
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