



**Dr. Wenjian Zhang, Assistant Secretary-General, World Meteorological Organization (WMO)**

Dr. Wenjian Zhang is currently (2016-present) the Assistant Secretary-General of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO). He is, under the guidance and supervision of WMO Secretary-General, leading the supporting efforts for the global coordination and implementation of the following WMO Priorities: i.e. Disaster Risk Reduction and Weather Services; WMO Integrated Global Observing System (WIGOS) including both space and surface components, WMO Information System (WIS), and WMO Polar and High Mountain Regions; WMO administration matters, and WMO Regional development and activities including Capacity Development at WMO Regions.


Prior to this position, he served as the Director of the Observing and Information Systems Department and the Director of WMO Space Programme of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) from 2008-2016; Deputy Administrator of China Meteorological Administration (CMA) from 2006-2008; among other positions. He holds a Master of Science (MSc) degree from Chinese Academy of Meteorological Sciences, and a doctorate degree (PhD) from Peking University of China.



**Dr. Sameh Wahba, Director, World Bank Group**

Sameh Wahba, an Egyptian national, is the Global Director for Urban and Territorial Development, Disaster Risk Management and Resilience at the World Bank Group's Social, Rural, Urban and Resilience Global Practice, based in Washington D.C, where he oversees the formulation of the World Bank's strategy and the design and delivery of all lending, technical assistance, policy advisory activities and partnerships at the global level. Prior to this, he was Practice Manager for the Urban and Disaster Risk Management unit in Africa and the Global Urban and Resilience Unit, and he served as Acting Director of Operations and Strategy for the Global Practice. He also worked as Sustainable Development Sector Leader for Brazil, based in Brasilia, and worked as urban specialist focused on housing, land, local economic development and municipal management and service delivery in Latin America and the Caribbean and the Middle East and North Africa Regions. Prior to joining the Bank in 2004, he worked at the Institute of Housing and Urban Development Studies in Rotterdam and at the Harvard Center for Urban Development Studies. He holds a Ph.D. and Masters in urban planning from Harvard University, and a B.Sc and M.Sc in Architectural Engineering from Cairo University. He speaks Arabic, French, English and Portuguese.

	<p><b>Dr. M. Rajeevan, Secretary, Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoEs), India</b></p> <p>Dr. M. N. Rajeevan, Secretary, Ministry of Earth Sciences, Government of India, is well known for his research work in Tropical Meteorology including monsoon variability, seasonal monsoon forecasts, climate change, cloud-radiation interaction and prediction of convective weather systems. He has more than 30 years of experience both as an operational forecaster and as an active researcher. He contributed significantly for developing many application tools and prediction models for societal applications like long-range monsoon prediction models, gridded climate data sets and many other climate application products for regional climate services. His research contributions include analysis of climate variability and change using observed data, understanding cloud-radiation interaction, Earth's radiative balance, three-dimensional structure of tropical clouds and variability and prediction of mesoscale weather systems. He is a Fellow of the Indian Academy of Sciences (IASc), the Indian National Science Academy (INSA), and the National Academy of Sciences, India (NASI); a member of the International Academy of Astronautics, Paris; and a High-level Advisor to the Commission of Climatology of the World Meteorological Organization for Global Framework for Climate Services. He was also a member of the WCRP-CLIVAR Asian-Australian Monsoon Panel. Dr. Rajeevan has published more than 110 peer reviewed research papers with an h-index of 38.</p>
	<p><b>Markus Repnik, Director of Development Partnerships, the World Meteorological Organization (WMO).</b></p> <p>Markus Repnik is an international development executive with 30 years of experience gained with the United Nations, World Bank Group, Austrian Government, NGOs and private sector, including 16 years field experience in developing and transition countries.</p> <p>Since October 2017, Mr. Repnik is Director of Development Partnerships at the WMO. His office guides Executive Management on increasing WMO's country-level impact through strategic partnerships, supports technical teams in their engagement with countries and partners, and leads the development of new delivery mechanisms of WMO technical expertise. Prior to joining WMO Mr. Repnik was Managing Director of the Global Mechanism, the operational arm of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD). Mr. Repnik worked 15 years at the World Bank Group, including 10 years as a manager. As country manager he was responsible for the Bank's engagement with several African and European countries. Mr. Repnik holds a Master of Economics and Social Sciences.</p>

	<p><b>Arati Belle, Disaster Risk Management Specialist, WB</b></p> <p>Arati Belle is in the World Bank’s South Asia Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management Unit, based in Washington DC. She is the regional coordinator on Hydromet, Early Warning and Climate Services for South Asia and leads a number of related activities in Afghanistan, Bangladesh and Bhutan and has supported implementation of the investment in Nepal. Ms. Belle brings over 16 years of operational experience in the World Bank, GEF and Adaptation Fund, with technical expertise in the areas of climate change resilience, disaster risk reduction, natural resources management and environmental sustainability as well as on Monitoring and Evaluation. In addition to South Asia, Ms. Belle has led and worked on climate information and resilience, and water and natural resources management operations in the Africa and Latin America and Caribbean regions.</p>
	<p><b>Dr. Rupa Kumar Kolli, Chief, World Climate Applications &amp; Services Division, World Meteorological Organization</b></p> <p>Rupa Kumar Kolli is the Chief of World Climate Applications and Services Division in WMO Secretariat, Geneva, Switzerland. His responsibilities include supporting the implementation of the World Climate Services Programme (WCSP), enhancing national capacities, coordinating regional and global networks of climate service providers, user liaison in climate-sensitive sectors, and research-operations linkages. He made significant contributions to the development of Regional Climate Centers (RCCs) and Regional and National Climate Outlook Forums (RCOFs/NCOFs). Rupa Kumar has earlier worked at the Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology (IITM), Pune, India, from 1982 to 2006, and was the Head of IITM’s Climatology and Hydrometeorology Division when he left it to join WMO. Rupa Kumar co-authored a book on “Climates of South Asia” published by John Wiley in 1997, published a number of research papers on seasonal prediction and climate change for the Indian monsoon. He contributed as one of the Lead Authors on regional climate projections for the Fourth Assessment Report (AR4) of the Inter-governmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) released in 2007. Rupa Kumar received his Ph.D. (1981) and M.Sc. (1976) degrees in Meteorology from Andhra University, Visakhapatnam, India.</p>

	<p><b>Dr. K.J. Ramesh, Director General, India Meteorological Department (IMD)</b></p> <p>Dr. Ramesh is the Director General of the India Meteorological Department. His specialization includes numerical weather prediction (weather forecasting, hazard and climate risk assessment and early warning) including model diagnostics, monsoon dynamics, and disaster mitigation modelling. Dr. Ramesh has an extensive career in research including over 50 peer reviewed research publications. He has led a number of roles including: Group Head, Department of Science &amp; Technology, NCMRWF (1994-2001) - Monsoon Prediction, Diagnostics and Performance Evaluation; Technical Head, Disaster Management Unit, Govt. of Andhra Pradesh (2001-2005) – Cyclone and Flood Hazard Mitigation (World Bank Funded Activity); Disaster Management Cell, Department of Science &amp; Technology (2005-2007) – Multi Hazard Mitigation Framework Development; and Adviser and Scientist-‘G’, Ministry of Earth Sciences (2007-to date) – Atmospheric Science Services and Climate Change Research Programme Development. Dr. Ramesh is recognized with various awards and distinctions including Elected Fellow, Andhra Pradesh Academy of Sciences and Elected Fellow of the Indian Meteorological Society. He holds a PhD in Monsoon Dynamics from Indian Institute of Technology Delhi and an MSc in Meteorology from Andhra University.</p>
	<p><b>Dr. A.R. Subbiah, Director, Regional Integrated Multi-Hazard Early Warning Systems (RIMES) Program Unit</b></p> <p>Dr. Subbiah has operational responsibility for RIMES Program Unit and Regional Early Warning Center. He provides strategic direction and leadership for translation of policies, established by the RIMES Council, into effective and high-quality programs and services that meet RIMES Member State needs and demands. Subbiah has 35 years of experience in drought mitigation and management, and more than 15 years of experience in establishing multi-institutional and multi-disciplinary mechanisms and building institutional capacities for generation and application of climate information at different timescales. He served as Reviewer of the IPCC Special Report on Managing Risks of Extreme Events and Disasters to Advance Climate Change Adaptation (SREX). Subbiah held senior positions with the Government of India, involved in policy formulation and implementation of development and disaster risk reduction programs till the late 1990s. Subsequently, Subbiah held the post of Director, Climate Risk Management and Team Leader for Early Warning Systems at Asian Disaster Preparedness Center, and evolved and implemented a multi-country Climate Risk Management program and regional multi-hazard project that eventually transformed into RIMES as an inter-governmental and international institution in 2009.</p>

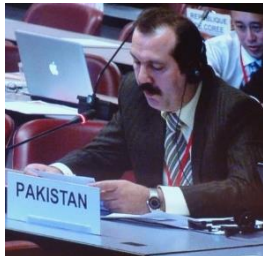

	<p><b>Roberta Boscolo, Climate and Energy Scientific Officer, WMO</b></p> <p>Roberta Boscolo has a long experience in climate variability and change. For more than ten years she has been working as science officer for the World Climate Research Programme. Her role was to coordinate scientific efforts worldwide to address the knowledge gaps in understanding Earth climate system. In particular she lead a team of scientists advancing in the application of climate change research to develop climate adaptation strategies. This work contributed to shaping the vision of the Global Framework for Climate Services (GFCS) that is UN initiative lead by the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) aiming at enabling society to better manage the risks and opportunities arising from climate variability and change through the provision of science-based climate information and prediction. She is currently leading the WMO effort in implementing climate services for the energy sector especially in developing countries.</p>
	<p><b>Dr. Rishi Ram Sharma, Director General, Department of Hydrology and Meteorology (DHM), Nepal</b></p> <p>Dr. Sharma is the Director General for the Department of Hydrology and Meteorology and Permanent Representative of Nepal for WMO since 2012. He is currently the project directors for Building Resilience to Climate-related Hazards, Pilot Program for Climate Resilience, Community-based Flood and Glacial Lake Outburst Risk Reduction Project. Dr. Sharma holds a PhD in Atmospheric Physics (UV Radiation) from Norwegian University of Science and Technology, Master's Degree in Integrated Map and Geoinformation Production with specialization in Remote Sensing from International Institute for Aerospace Survey and Earth Sciences (ITC), The Netherlands, Master's Degree in Physics (First Division) from Tribhuvan University, and a B.Sc. degree (First Division) from Tribhuwan University. He has also completed a Postgraduate Course in Satellite Meteorology and Global Climate (with distinction) and WMO Post graduate training in operational meteorology.</p>
	<p><b>H.E. Mahmood Shah Habibi, Head of Afghanistan Civil Aviation Authority</b></p> <p>With significant experience in civil aviation administrative management and technical roles, Mahmood Shah Habibi is currently working as the Head of Afghanistan Civil Aviation Authority on a Minister rank and is reporting directly to the President of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan. Mr. Habibi has been serving as Deputy Minister of Operations of the Afghanistan Civil Aviation Authority from September 2013 till June 2017. Mr. Habibi holds Master degree in Aviation Management from Embry Riddle Aeronautical University.</p>

	<p><b>Dr. Ghulam Rasul, Director General, Pakistan Meteorological Department (PMD)</b></p> <p>Dr. Rasul is Director General of the Pakistan Meteorological Department and Permanent Representative of Pakistan with WMO. He holds a Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Meteorology degree from the Institute of Atmospheric Physics of the Chinese Academy of Sciences.</p> <p>He has been editor of Pakistan Journal of Meteorology and member of its Editorial Board; reviewer of International Peer Reviewed Journals; and expert reviewer of IPCC 5th Global Climate Change Assessment Report. Dr. Rasul has been Co-Chair of Drought Working Group-GEOSS Asian Water Cycle Initiative, and the WG-2 on Climate Change and Climate Variability, UIB Network.</p>
	<p><b>Dr. Muhammad Hanif, Project Director, Pakistan Meteorological Department (PMD)</b></p> <p>With over 24 years of professional experience in the field of Operational Meteorological and Hydrology, Dr. Hanif has a wide range of experience in programmes and initiatives regarding climate change impacts, climate change adaptation, climate resilience, agro-met services, disaster risk reduction, effective early warning systems and public weather services for stakeholders and the vulnerable communities at national and regional levels.</p> <p>He has presented Pakistan in a number of international seminars, conferences and workshops and contributed in the development of many international and regional programmes related to weather and climate services. He has also developed some projects regarding early warning systems and disaster risk reduction in Pakistan. Recently with support of WMO, HRC and USAID, Dr. Hanif has actively contributed in the development of Regional Flash Flood Guidance System for South Asia. Dr. Hanif holds PhD in Seasonal and Climate Predictability from University of Liverpool, UK, MSc in Physics from Islamia University Bahawalpur, and BSc in Physics and Mathematics from University of Punjab, Pakistan.</p>
	<p><b>Md. Momenul Islam, Meteorologist &amp; Deputy Project Director of Bangladesh Weather and Climate Services Regional Project</b></p> <p>Mr. Islam is a meteorologist and officer in charge of seismic observatory and the research center, Additional In-charge for Planning Division, Bangladesh Meteorological Department, and an Additional Charge Deputy Project Director for Bangladesh Weather and Climate Services Regional Project. Mr. Islam has 22 years of experience in research on meteorology and seismology as well as project planning, development, and management for the following different areas including: seismicity in Bangladesh using local</p>

	<p>seismic station; relation between Tsunami and Earthquake; general aspect of seismological observation in Bangladesh; tectonic stress field near Bangladesh; among others. Mr. Islam holds a B.Sc. Hons (2nd class, 1st position) and an M.Sc. in Statistics (1st class, 1st position) from Dhaka University. He holds a P.G.D in Seismology and Earthquake Engineering, IISEE from Japan and completed the Class II forecasting course in Meteorology from BMD.</p>
	<p><b>Mr. Karma Dupchu, Director, National Center for Hydrology and Meteorology (NCHM), Bhutan</b></p> <p>Mr. Dupchu is the Director of National Centre for Hydrology and Meteorology (NHCM) that is responsible for weather, climate, cryosphere, hydrology and water resources in Bhutan. He is the Permanent Representative of Bhutan with WMO. Prior to this position, Mr. Dupchu was the Chief of the Hydrology and Water Resources Services Division, NCHM. During his more than 20+ years in the services of National Meteorological and Hydrological Service (NMHS), he has contributed to institutional restructuring of NMHS and modernization of hydro-meteorological network and services in Bhutan. One of his most notable contribution in the field of DRM in Bhutan is the installation of first automatic GLOF Early Warning System along the Punakha-Wangdi valley in Bhutan (2009-2013), followed by Rainstorm/GLOF Early Warning System in the Mangdechhu and Chamkharchu sub-basins in 2013-2016 as the Project Manager.</p>
	<p><b>Mr. M.M.P Mendis, Deputy Director, Sri Lanka Department of Meteorology</b></p> <p>Mr. Mendis is the Deputy Director in the National Meteorological Centre (NMC) of the Department of Meteorology responsible for issuing weather forecast and early warning in Sri Lanka. With more than 14 years of rich experience as an operational meteorologist in the Department of Meteorology, Sri Lanka, he has been involved in development and modernization projects of the department. Previously, Mr. Mendis was a Weather Forecaster from 2004 to 2015 and Meteorologists-in-Charge from 2015 to 2017. Mr. Mendis holds MSc in Geoinformatics from University of Colombo and BSc in Mathematics and Physics from University of Ruhuna. Mr. Mendis has participated various international trainings and conferences in the fields of DRM, hydromet services, and early warning systems in Indonesia, Japan, China, India, etc.</p>


	<p><b>Ms. Thahumeena Abdul Kareem, Assistant Meteorologist, Maldives Meteorological Services</b></p> <p>Thahumeena Abdul Kareem is a Meteorological Forecaster for the Maldives Meteorological Services since 2009. She prepares the forecasts, keeps the public informed and prepared for the coming weather. She also appears on TV in presenting daily and 5 days weather forecast of Maldives. In addition, she prepares aviation forecasts, TAF, SIGMET and provide weather information to the aviation sector of the Maldives. Her specialties include weather monitoring, severe weather prediction and dissemination of weather alerts and warning. She holds the WMO class II Meteorological Certificate from RMTTC Pune, India and a Bachelor's Degree in Environmental Management from Maldives National University.</p>
	<p><b>Dr. Lars Peter Riishojgaard, the WIGOS Project Manager, WMO</b></p> <p>Dr. Lars Peter Riishojgaard is the WIGOS Project Manager in the WMO Secretariat in Geneva. He is responsible for managing all aspects of the global and regional development of the WMO Integrated Global Observing System (WIGOS) and reports to the Director of the Observing and Information System in the WMO Secretariat and to the Inter-Commission Coordination Group of WIGOS. From 2007 to 2014, Dr. Riishojgaard was Director of the NASA/NOAA/DoD Joint Center for Satellite Data Assimilation. From 1995 to 2007, he worked at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center. From 1989 to 1995, Dr. Riishojgaard worked as a research scientist in the Danish Meteorological Institute on climate modelling and data assimilation issues. During his employment at DMI he spent two extended periods at a visiting scientist at the Centre National de Recherches Météorologiques in Toulouse in 1990-92 and in 1993-94. From 2008 to 2014 he served as Chair of the Open Area Program Group for Integrated Observing Systems under the WMO Commission for Basic Systems. Dr. Riishojgaard received his M.Sc. in geophysics from the University of Copenhagen in 1989 and a Ph.D. from the same institution in 1992.</p>
	<p><b>Dr. V. Thiruppugazh, Joint Secretary, Policy and Planning, National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), India</b></p> <p>Dr. V. Thiruppugazh is an officer of the Indian Administrative Service of the rank of Joint-Secretary to Government of India. After joining the Civil Service in 1991, he served in various district assignments before he was posted as Joint Chief Executive Officer of the Gujarat State Disaster Management Authority (GSDMA). In addition to his contribution in Gujarat earthquake reconstruction and disaster management initiatives in Gujarat as Joint CEO, Additional CEO and CEO of GSDMA, he held several senior positions in Government of Gujarat. He also worked as Senior Advisor, National</p>








	<p>Reconstruction Authority Nepal on deputation. Currently he is working as Advisor, Policy and Planning in the National Disaster Management Authority, New Delhi. He has authored many book chapters and journal articles related to disaster management. He received his PhD in disaster management from the Australian National University, Canberra.</p>
	<p><b>Mr. Muhammad Idrees Masud, Member, National Disaster Management Agency (NDMA) Pakistan</b></p> <p>Mr. Mahsud is currently leading the Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) Wing of NDMA Pakistan, in his capacity as Member (DRR) after rejoining NDMA in August 2017. He has been a member of the Civil Service of Pakistan for over 18 years. He also served as Director (Recovery &amp; Rehabilitation), Director (Disaster Risk Reduction) at the National Disaster Management Authority (2010-2014), Prime Minister's Secretariat, Government of Pakistan, and Deputy Secretary (Human Resources Development), Ministry of Overseas Pakistanis, Labour and Human Resources Development, Government of Pakistan.</p> <p>Mr. Mahsud has rich experience in DRM, including Pakistan Super Floods 2010, 2011, 2012 and Earthquake of 2013. He represented the Government of Pakistan at a number of international forums including as a panelist at High Level Panel of Humanitarian Affairs Segment of ECOSOC, United Nations, Featured Speaker at 31<sup>st</sup> International Conference of International Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, Guest Speaker at the National Defense University of Pakistan, and Co-chair of DM CBM of Heart of Asia Process. He holds a Masters of International Relations degree from University of Peshawar, Pakistan and Masters of Public Policy and Management from University of Melbourne, Australia as an Australia Award Scholar.</p>
	<p><b>Mr. Robert Masters, Director/Cabinet and External Relations Department, WMO</b></p> <p>Mr. Masters served as the Director of WMO Development and Regional Activities Department from 2008-2016.</p> <p>Before joining WMO, he worked 25 years with the United States National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) holding several positions, including Presidential Management Fellow, Chief, Satellite Activities Branch and Chief, National Weather Service International Activities Office. Early in his career, he worked with NASA and the US House of Representatives Science Committee. He has degrees in Public Policy, Public Affairs (International Development and Management) and studied Law at the University of Paris.</p>



	<p><b>Eng. D.D. Ariyaratne, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Irrigation and Water Resources Management (MIWRM), Sri Lanka</b></p> <p>Mr. Ariyaratne joined the Ministry of Irrigation and Water Resources Management as the Director (Plan Implementation) in 2011 and presently holds the position of Additional Secretary (Irrigation Development) in the Ministry of Irrigation Water Resources and Disaster Management. Mr. Ariyaratne holds a B.Sc. in Civil Engineering from University of Moratuwa (1982) and joined Irrigation Department as an Irrigation Engineer in 1983. He has completed a PG. Dip in Hydraulics Structures in 1987, and has been a corporate member of Institution of Engineer Sri Lanka since 1987.</p>
	<p><b>John Harding, Head of the Climate Risk and Early Warning Systems (CREWS) secretariat at the World Meteorological Organization (WMO).</b></p> <p>John Harding is the Head of the Climate Risk and Early Warning Systems (CREWS) secretariat at the World Meteorological Organization (WMO). He has worked for 18 years for the United Nations. Previously he served as Political Advisor to the UN Special Envoy to Haiti, President William Jefferson Clinton; as Head of UNDP's Disaster Risk Reduction Unit in Haiti; as Advisor to the UN Resident Coordinator in Pakistan; and, as Team Leader for the Global Facility for Disaster Risk Reduction (GFDRR) at the World Bank in Washington DC.</p>
	<p><b>Dr. Archana Shrestha, Senior Divisional Meteorologist, DHM Nepal</b></p> <p>Dr. Shrestha is a Senior Meteorologist/Chief of Agro-Meteorology Section at the Department of Hydrology and Meteorology (DHM) of Nepal. She holds a PhD in Atmospheric Science from University of Wisconsin-Madison, 2016, under the Fulbright International Science and Technology PhD Program. Her research focused on Extreme Weather Events "cloudbursts" in the Nepal Himalayas. Dr. Shrestha is a focal person for Agrometeorology for the World Bank funded pilot project on Building Resilience to Climate Hazards, which provides weather-based weekly advisory for farmers, in collaboration with Ministry of Agriculture Development and Nepal Agriculture Research Council. She is also a focal person for Adaptation to Climate Change for the Ministry of Population and Environment, Nepal. Under her leadership, the Ministry has completed two climate change related studies, which observe climate trends and climate change scenarios of Nepal as part of the National Adaptation Plan.</p>

	<p><b>Mr. Shib Nandan Shah, Project Director, Nepal Agromet Information System (NAMIS)</b></p> <p>Mr. Shah is the Project Director for the Agriculture Management Information System (AMIS), which is one of the components of Building Resilience to Climate related Hazards (BRCH) Project funded by the World Bank and implemented by the Ministry of Agricultural Development, Government of Nepal. Mr. Shah has developed agro climate service delivery under early warning system by managing information system, addressing farmer's requirements for agriculture and development of agro-advisory package for farmers to mitigate climate-related hazards and to increase agricultural productivity in Nepal. During his professional career, Mr. Shah held a position of Under Secretary/Chief of GIS section in the Ministry of Agricultural Development, Statistics Officer in 1996 under National Planning Commission. He holds Master's Degree in Science with specialization in the Statistics (Agriculture) from Tribhuvan University in 1992.</p>
	<p><b>Dr. Mazharul Aziz, Project Director, Department of Agriculture and Extension, Bangladesh</b></p> <p>Dr. Aziz is Project Director for Agro-Meteorological Information Systems, Development Project, Department of Agricultural Extension, Ministry of Agriculture, Bangladesh.</p> <p>With graduation in Agriculture, Master of Science in Agronomy and PhD in Crop Botany, Dr. Aziz has over 24 years of experience in agricultural extension services. Areas of expertise include: (1) technology dissemination; (2) climate change adaptation and mitigation in crop sector; (3) project formulation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation; (4) preparation of training and extension materials like Training Module, Multimedia Presentation Slide, Poster, Calendar, Leaflet etc; and (5) well experienced in networking with GO, NGO and UN Agencies.</p> <p>His publications include: 'Climate Change and Agriculture – Agricultural Activities in Changed Situation' a Bengali booklet published by Agriculture Information Service, Ministry of Agriculture; 'Climate Change and Bangladesh Agriculture' published in 'The Daily Naya Diganta' ; Co-writer of Chapter-4,"Indicators to Assess Impacts on Agriculture Sector", Protocol for Monitoring of Impacts of Climate Change and Climate Variability in Bangladesh, Enhancement of Bangladesh's Capacity to Participate in Road to Copenhagen Negotiations and Post- Copenhagen Regime by IUCN; "Performance of Cotton under Fruit based Agroforestry Systems in the High Ganges Flood Plain Ecosystem of Bangladesh."</p>

	<p><b>Mr. Abdul Fattah Tunio, Member, Planning and Development, Government of Sindh (Pakistan)</b></p> <p>Mr. Tunio is a Member (Natural Resources) of the Sindh Planning and Development Department. His expertise is in program &amp; project development and management with technical expertise in the areas of agriculture, water resources management, land administration, human resources development, gender equality and science &amp; information technology. He possesses analytical, presentation and ICT skills and qualifications in Graduation in Agriculture Engineering from Sindh Agriculture University in 1984 and Master's in Bio-Resources Engineering from Oregon State University, USA in 1994.</p>
	<p><b>Dr. Satheesh C. Shenoi, Director, Indian National Center for Ocean Information Sciences</b></p> <p>In May 2009, Dr. Shenoi joined Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS), Hyderabad as Director and currently leading the operational oceanography institute that provides information on oceans and early warnings to the public and the stakeholders. Dr. Shenoi has more than 37 years of research experience in Ocean Sciences. He worked at National Institute of Oceanography, Goa during 1983 to 2009 and contributed significantly to the understanding of the physical oceanography of the waters around India. He has authored/co-authored more than 90 research papers in national and international journals. His professional Interests include Observational oceanography, ocean currents, role of ocean on monsoon and satellite oceanography. Dr. Shenoi holds an undergraduate degree (1987) and Masters and Ph.D. in Physical Oceanography from School of Marine Sciences, Cochin University of Science &amp; Technology, Kochi in 1980 and 1984 respectively.</p>
	<p><b>Dr. Mandira Shrestha, Program Coordinator, River Basins and Cryosphere, International Center for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD)</b></p> <p>Dr. Mandira Singh Shrestha is a Programme Coordinator of Hi-RISK initiative at ICIMOD. She has over 20 years of research and consulting activities that cover broad areas of climate services, water induced disaster risk reduction and water resources management. She is leading the transboundary flood risk reduction programmes, promoting dialogue and strengthening hydromet capacity in the region. Her research interests center on transboundary flood forecasting and monitoring, application of satellite based products and end user engagement for reduced flood risks. Her current research focuses on communicating flood early warning to improve the last mile connectivity. She has coordinated the development of a web based regional flood information system in the Himalayan region where the</p>

	<p>countries are sharing real-time data and information for flood risk reduction thereby strengthening regional cooperation. She served as the Executive Secretary of HKH-FRIEND, an IHP/UNESCO programme and coordinated all activities with international and regional collaborating institutions. Dr. Shrestha holds a Doctorate in Engineering from Kyoto University, Japan, an MSc in Civil Engineering from the University of Washington, Seattle, USA, and a Bachelor's on Civil Engineering from the University of Roorkee (now IIT Roorkee). Dr. Shrestha has an excellent professional network with donor agencies and partner organizations in the region.</p>
	<p><b>Rodica Nitu, Global Cryosphere Watch Project Manager, WMO</b></p> <p>Rodica Nitu is the Project Manager of the Global Cryosphere Watch, an end-to-end, cross-cutting (E2E, CC) mechanism of WMO for providing international coordination and engagement with a focus on cryosphere. The goals of GCW are to facilitate the provision of authoritative data, information, and analyses on the state of the cryosphere. This function is in support of meeting the needs of WMO Members and partners in delivering services to users, decision and policy makers, to support science, decision-making and policy related to all aspects of the cryosphere, and to inform the media and the public.</p> <p>Ms Nitu has come to WMO with extensive experience in observations and monitoring, from her formal role as the Chief of Observing Systems and Engineering of the Meteorological Service of Canada. In addition to that, she has played an active international role regarding atmospheric measurement systems, most recently having led an international intercomparison on the monitoring of solid precipitation and snow.</p> <p>In her presentation she will focus on the role of data availability and access, for ensuring the realization of the value proposition of the investment in observing and service infrastructure.</p>
	<p><b>Maxx Dilley, Director, Climate Prediction and Adaptation Branch, WMO.</b></p> <p>Dr. Dilley directs the Climate Prediction and Adaptation Branch at the WMO and coordinates climate activities overall within WMO. Prior to joining WMO he led the Disaster Risk Reduction and Recovery Team and was a policy and partnerships advisor at the United Nations Development Programme. He was previously a Research Scientist in the International Research Institute for Climate and Society (IRI) at Columbia University in New York, where he directed the Africa program and co-directed climate impacts research. Before that he worked for two years at the World Bank Disaster Management Facility and for seven years at the U.S. Agency for International Development's Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance. Dr. Dilley has a Doctorate and Master of Science degree from the Pennsylvania State University and a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of</p>

	<p>Delaware, all in Geography. His primary area of expertise is in climate and disaster risk management. He has designed, managed and contributed to disaster and risk management programs in Africa, Latin America and Asia and has authored numerous papers on disaster reduction and climate-related topics.</p>
	<p><b>Dr. L.S. Rathore, Chair, Inter-Governmental Board for Climate Service</b></p> <p>Dr. Laxman Singh Rathore is the former Director General of Meteorology, India Meteorological Department (IMD). He was the Permanent Representative of India with WMO and served many international bodies, in various capacities such as Member of WMO Executive council; Vice President, Commission for Agriculture Meteorology, WMO; Chairman, Governing Council of SAARC Meteorological Research Centre, Dhaka etc. He also made significant contributions toward improving weather forecasting, particularly extreme weather events and development of agro-meteorological advisory services in India. He has published more than 100 research papers, wrote 11 books and 41 book chapters. He is a Fellow of Indian Meteorological Society and Honorary Fellow of the Association of Agro-Meteorologists and a recipient of over a dozen national awards.</p>
	<p><b>Dr. Vladimir Tsirkunov, Lead Specialist, World Bank Group</b></p> <p>Vladimir Tsirkunov is a Lead specialist and the Team Leader of GFDRR's Hydromet Thematic Program, which works as a service center providing analytical, advisory and implementation support for World Bank teams. Dr. Tsirkunov has over 30 years of scientific, applied technical and project management experience in environmental and natural resource management. Prior to joining the World Bank in 1994, he was the Head of the Laboratory of the Supervision of the USSR System of Hydrochemical Monitoring and Water Quality Data Collection. Since joining the Bank, he has worked on projects related to the preparation, appraisal and operational supervision of hydromet and environmental investments and technical assistance activities. He has PhD from the Hydrochemical Institute, USSR.</p>
	<p><b>Rob Masters, Director, Cabinet and External Relations Department, WMO</b></p> <p>Rob Masters is the Director of Cabinet and External Relations Department at the World Meteorological Organization (WMO). Prior to this he was the Director of WMO's Development and Regional Activities Department. Before coming to Switzerland in 2008, he worked for 25 years with the US National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration holding several positions including Presidential Management Fellow, Chief, Satellite Activities Branch and Chief, National Weather Service International Activities Office. Early in his career he worked with NASA and the US House of Representatives</p>

	<p>Science Committee. He has degrees in Public Policy, Public Affairs (International Development and Management) and has studied Law at the University of Paris.</p>
	<p><b>Mr. Christoph Pusch, Practice Manager, World Bank Group</b></p> <p>Christoph Pusch is the Practice Manager at the World Bank Group for a current US\$4.4 billion investment portfolio on climate and disaster resilience in the South Asia region. This includes a wide range of activities such as large scale reconstruction and recovery programs after major earthquake, floods, and cyclone events in Bangladesh, India, Nepal, and Pakistan; improved early warning systems and preparedness programs along the 10,000 km coast line in India; coastal vulnerability programs in Bangladesh; innovative risk financing instruments against natural disaster in Sri Lanka and Maldives; technical assistance program to integrate risk reduction measures in infrastructure investments in Afghanistan; modernizing hydromet systems in Bangladesh, Bhutan, Nepal and Pakistan; advisory services to support countries in implementing their climate commitments (Nationally Determined Contributions, NDCs). In this capacity, he is overseeing a technical expert team of about 30 staff based in the South Asia countries and Washington DC. Mr. Pusch holds a Master's degree in Environmental Engineering from the Technical University of Berlin.</p>
	<p><b>Ms. Gemma Tanner, Climate and Environment Adviser, Department for International Development (DFID), United Kingdom</b></p> <p>Ms. Tanner is a Climate Change and Environment Adviser with the UK's Department for International Development (DFID), which is the UK Government department that leads the UK's work to end extreme poverty. DFID is tackling the global challenges of our time including poverty and disease, mass migration, insecurity and conflict. Ms. Tanner is currently based in in New Delhi leading DFID's South Asia regional climate and environment programmes: focusing on water resources and climate and weather information services for development. She has 15 years' experience working on environment and development issues through policy, research, development programmes and representing the UK at international conventions and forums.</p>



**Mr. Julian Menadue, Senior International Development Manager, United Kingdom Met Office (UKMet)**

Mr. Julian Menadue is the Science Programme Lead for International Development & Project Executive for the MOP ARRCC Programme. Having graduated in Geography & Environmental Science in London in 1986, Julian had a successful career working for System Integrators such as Fujitsu and IBM. Julian returned to his 'environmental science' interest, by joining the Met Office in 2010. He now works within the Met Office's International Development team, and is responsible for coordinating Met Office International Development science programmes across South and Southeast Asia. His primary focus is building, and enhancing relationships with National Meteorological and Hydrological Services whose development ambitions align with Met Office science strategy, and fit with UK Government's and IFI's overseas development plans.



**Mr. Robert Saum, Director, World Bank Group**

As Director Regional Integration and Partnerships in the South Asia Region of the World Bank, Bob Saum leads the World Bank's efforts to (i) promote economic integration and cooperation among countries in South Asia and with neighboring regions and (ii) strengthen support for achieving results in a range of sectors, including water, nutrition and gender, through collaboration with development partners.

Based in Kabul, Mr. Saum was Country Director for Afghanistan from May 2012 until November 2016. From 2009 to 2012 he was Adviser in the Office of the Managing Director. As the Manager for Financial Management in the South Asia Region from 2004 to 2009 Mr. Saum led a team engaged with Ministries of Finance, Auditors General and Public Accounts Committees on public financial management results, capacity development and fiduciary arrangements. He has also worked on public financial management issues in the East Asia Region. Mr. Saum joined the World Bank in 1998, initially in the Loan Department as a Financial Management Specialist.

Previously, Mr. Saum lived in Pakistan, Nigeria, Zimbabwe, Kenya and East Jerusalem working for NGOs focused on relief and development activities. Mr. Saum is a Certified Public Accountant (CPA) and Certified Management Accountant (CMA), having started his career with Ernst & Young, in the US and London. Mr. Saum holds a Master of International Management from the Thunderbird School of Global Management in Phoenix, Arizona and a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration with a minor in political science from the University of Dayton.