

Member of all 3 ACIAR salinity-related projects



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Dr Ed Barrett-Lennard is a Professorial Fellow at Murdoch University and a Senior Principal Soil Scientist at the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development in Western Australia. He works in ACIAR projects in Pakistan, Bangladesh, India, and Vietnam. Ed works in the disciplines of agronomy, soil science and plant physiology. For 40 years, his research has focused on the growth of crops and pastures in saline and waterlogged environments, and on the adoption of saline agricultural principles by farmers and extension workers. He is an author of 80 scientific papers and 6 books.

Member of ACIAR's Mekong and Indus salinity-related projects



Dr Jen Bond
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Jen Bond is a Senior Lecturer in Human Geography at Charles Sturt University, Australia. Jen's research follows two main streams: 1) human-wildlife conflict and 2) agricultural development in Southeast Asia. Jen's work doesn't focus specifically on salinity but looks broadly at rural transformation in various agricultural contexts. This includes farmers' adaptation to climate change, adoption of different farming systems and techniques, gender, migration, community-based natural resource management and decision-making. Jen has undertaken research in Vietnam, Kenya, India, Cambodia, Laos, Indonesia, and Malaysia.

Members of ACIAR's Mekong project



Dr Jason Condon
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Jason is an applied soil chemist specialising in soil fertility for crop and pastures. His research portfolio includes projects dealing with acid soil management, fertiliser efficiencies, carbon sequestration, nitrogen cycling, and salinity management. Jason has collaborated with colleagues at Can Tho University in Vietnam since 2006 and currently leads the ACIAR funded FOCUS project in the Mekong Delta.



Dr. Chau Minh Khoi
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Dr Chau Minh Khoi is an ACIAR John Dillon Fellow and Vice Dean of the College of Agriculture at Can Tho University (CTU). He has been involved in ACIAR-funded projects since 2011 and is a country coordinator for the ACIAR FOCUS project. He leads a range of projects focusing on soil management practices for sustaining agricultural production. His areas of interest are soil organic matter sequestration, availability of soil nitrogen and phosphorus nutrients under cropping diversification and optimal management strategies for acid sulphate soil and saline-affected soils in the Mekong Delta, Vietnam.



Dr Ben Stewart-Koster
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Ben is a quantitative ecologist with expertise in statistical modelling for ecological and agricultural applications. He works on basic and applied research in aquatic systems collaborating with researchers, managers and farmers. With a broad focus on relationships between river flows and aquatic systems, he applies innovative statistical approaches to identify important relationships and guide the management of rivers and agroecosystems. Ben also conducts training workshops in quantitative methods for ecological and agricultural scientists in Australia and Asia. These include tailored workshops on Bayesian statistical methods and Bayesian networks, regression and generalised linear models. His full profile is on the link below.



Dr Susan Orgill
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Dr Susan Orgill leads the Soil Carbon Program at Select Carbon, part of Shell's nature-based solutions business. Susan is an applied soil scientist with a background in soil extension, and 20 years' experience in soil health and soil carbon sequestration research and development with NSW Government and the private sector. She is data-driven and passionate about working with farmers to identify solutions that increase productivity, soil carbon and farming system resilience.



Dr Nguyen Van Sinh
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Dr. Sinh is a lecturer at the Faculty of Soil Science, College of Agriculture, Can Tho University, Vietnam. His research expertise is in the areas of soil ecology, soil management, and sustainable agriculture, especially with a focus on the diagnostic and applications of soil nematodes and nematodes associated with plants. Please see his profile at the link below.

<https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Nguyen-Sinh>

<https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=UUsiS3AAAAAJ&hl=vi>



Campbell Watt
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I am a rural country boy, who grew up on a sheep farm and asked a few too many questions which landed me at university. I enjoy the comradery of sports and the freshness of the outdoors. I like to spend my days walking without intention admiring the beauty that surrounds us all. Passion is what drives hope for me and it has been great to surround myself with passionate people who share the desire to move the world forward. A quote that resonates with me is ‘the core of one’s spirit comes from new experiences.’”



Sarah Fraser
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I am a Honours student at Charles Sturt University in Wagga Wagga. My Honours project is looking into the influence of biochar application rate on nitrogen fixation of cowpea. I have worked in the broadacre cropping industry of Australia for four years part-time while studying my undergraduate degree but I am excited to take on this opportunity in the research section of the agriculture industry.



Dr. Dang Duy-Minh
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Dang Duy Minh is a lecturer in the Soil Science Department, College of Agriculture in Can Tho University. Minh is an ACIAR-John Allwright Fellow and has finished his PhD program in the Australian National University in 2017. He has also graduated the Master program in University of Bonn, Germany – titled “Agricultural Sciences and Resource Management in the Tropics and Subtropics (ARTS)”. Currently, his research areas are soil chemistry, cropping systems and greenhouse gas emissions from agricultural systems. He has experiences for more than 15 years in field trials relevant to soil chemistry, soil physical researches in the Vietnamese Mekong Delta.



Dr. Paul Kristiansen
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Dr Paul Kristiansen is an Associate Professor in Food Systems & Rural Development, University of New England. He has over 20 years' experience in rural development in South and South-East Asia, participating in numerous projects related to farming systems, land use and livelihood impacts, natural resource management, marketing and value chains, and policy analysis. He has research and teaching expertise in horticultural science and bio-statistics, and has presented training on research methods and project management across South-East Asia. Paul has a strong interest in livelihood transformations and adaptive capacity in the context of changes in climate, society, technology and agribusiness.

<https://www.une.edu.au/staff-profiles/ers/pkristi2>



Mr. Michael Coleman
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Mr Michael Coleman is a Research Project Manager in the School of Environmental and Rural Science, University of New England. His research background includes social research regarding transformation in agricultural systems in developing country contexts and evaluating weed management practices. Michael has extensive experience in quantitative and qualitative data collection and publishing information to improve rural livelihoods (e.g. integrated weed management in vegetable production, grazing pastures, perennial essential oil crops) including academic and extension outputs. He has also participated in numerous capacity building activities for rural R&D in South-East Asia.

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Ms. Mao Huynh Nhu
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Ms Mao Huynh Nhu is a rural development consultant, University of New England. Her research background is in agricultural economics, with a focus on sustainable agricultural production and empowerment of women in farming communities. Nhu has also participated in research projects addressing adaptation to, and mitigation of, the impacts of climate change in developing countries, with a focus on the Vietnamese Mekong Delta (VMD). More recently, she has been involved in qualitative assessment of upland crop value chains and quantitative research on profitability, adaptive capacity of upland crop farmers in the VMD.



Mr. Le Thanh Sang
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Mr Le Thanh Sang is a researcher at the Soil Science Department, College of Agriculture, Can Tho University. His research background is in agricultural and natural resource economics, focusing on rural development, smallholder farmer value chain research, and the impacts of climate change in the Vietnamese Mekong Delta (VMD). Sang has been involved in socio-economic research in the FOCUS project, with the goal of understanding economic efficiency, as well as constraints and opportunities of farmer upland crop adoption. He also was the project leader on the ACIAR-funded project, which explored the operation of upland crop value chains in the VMD.



Dr Nguyen Anh Minh,
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Dr Nguyen Anh Minh is a social scientist in the Department of Sociology, School of Social Sciences and Humanities at Can Tho University. She has experience collaborating on internationally projects. Her research focusses on gender equality, equity and empowerment, sustainable development in the agriculture, migration under impacts changes, human rights (i.e., women, disability people, and children), and rural development. She has conducted international research projects in different fields in the Vietnamese Mekong Delta including gender and migration.



Dr Huynh Viet Khai
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Dr. Huynh Viet Khai holds a Ph.D. earned in 2011 and completed a two-year postdoctoral fellowship at Kyushu University, Japan. Currently, he serves as an Associate Professor and Dean of Faculty of Environmental and Resource Economics, School of Economics, Can Tho University, Vietnam. Dr. Khai's research delves into the efficiency of agricultural production, water pollution's impact, and the demand for agricultural insurance. He investigates solutions for poverty reduction and explores strategies for promoting organic production and biodiversity conservation. His interests extend to valuing non-market goods, including agricultural and forestry externalities, waste management, and environmental policy. He employs advanced methods like contingent valuation (CV) and choice modeling (CM) for his research.

<https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=zph5DLEAAAJ&hl=en&oi=ao>



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Dr. Tran Thi Thu Duyen is a lecturer of College of Economics, Can Tho University. She is a Doctor in Agricultural and Resource Economics. She studied Master and Ph.D courses in Kyushu University (Japan). She has been involved in some research projects in the fields of Agricultural Economics, Aquacultural Economics, and Environmental Economics since 2010. She has experiences in all aspects of doing research such as developing proposals, conducting surveys, analyzing data, writing reports and publishing academic papers.



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Dr Nguyen Thi Kim Phuong is working at Soil Science Department, College of Agriculture, Can Tho University, Vietnam as a lecturer and researcher. Her research has focused on greenhouse gas emissions, soil degradation, problem soil reclamation, soil organic amendments, crop rotation and soil fertility.



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Giang is a researcher at the Soil Science Department, College of Agriculture, Can Tho University, Vietnam. His research expertise is in the areas of soil nutrition, soil chemistry, waterlogged/ saline soils. Please see his full profile in the link below.

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1qjgZaiKDnCOWjgqu9pyaNsDVYig1Q0CGyxlsrGht2mk/edit?usp=sharing>



Dr. Tran Ba Linh
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Dr. Tran Ba Linh is a lecturer and researcher of College of Agriculture, Can Tho University, Vietnam. His research expertise is in the areas of soil physics, soil water, soil degradation and conservation. During the working period at Can Tho University, he participates in many local and abroad projects.



Dr Duy Binh Nguyen
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Dr Duy Nguyen is a research fellow at the Industrial Crops Department, Institute of Agricultural Science for Southern Vietnam. His research expertise is in the upland soil management, sustainable agricultural management, crop nutrition and soil constraints in the central highland region.



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Dr. Duong Van Hay is a researcher at the Agronomy Department, Institute of Agricultural Sciences for Vietnam, located in Ho Chi Minh City. His research expertise spans various areas including agri-biotechnology, soil science, conservation agriculture, organic agriculture, and agronomy.



Dr Ngo Thi Thanh Truc
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Dr Ngo Thi Thanh Truc is a senior lecturer at the Faculty of Environmental and Resource Economics, School of Economics, Can Tho University, Vietnam. Her research expertise is in the areas socio-economics, environmental economics, economics of climate change, supply and value chain, gender research focus on environmental friendly technologies. Please see her full profile in the link below.

<https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=mj6x3kEAAAAJ&hl=en&oi=ao>



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Ms. Chung Thi Ngoc Hue is a young researcher in agricultural economics at School of Economics, Can Tho University, Vietnam. Her research expertise is in the area of agricultural economics, market and value chain analysis.

Members of ACIAR's Ganges project (CSI4CZ)

Cropping system intensification in the salt-affected coastal zone of the Ganges delta



Dr Mohammed Mainuddin
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Mohammed Mainuddin is a Principal Research Scientist and Leader of the 'Water and Society Team' with the Water Security Program of CSIRO Environment in Canberra, Australia. Prior to that he worked with International Water Management Institute (IWMI), Sri Lanka and Asian Institute of Technology (AIT), Thailand. He has over 32 years of research experience in integrated water resources management and modelling for river basins, coastal water and salinity management, irrigation systems performance analysis, agricultural productivity and food security analysis, socio-economic and livelihood issues related to water use, and impact of climate change on water availability, agricultural productivity, and food security.



Dr Richard Bell
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Dr Richard Bell is a Professor at the Centre for Sustainable Farming Systems, Food Futures Institute, Murdoch University, Perth Australia. His research expertise is in the areas of crop nutrition, sandy soils, soil management, conservation agriculture, grain biofortification, acidity tolerance, waterlogged/ saline soils, subsoil constraints. Please see his full profile in the link below.

https://researchportal.murdoch.edu.au/esploro/profile/richard_bell/overview



Dr. Nazmun Nahar Karim
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Dr. Nazmun Nahar Karim is working as Member Director at Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council and has over 30 years' experience in crop-soil-water management for cropping system intensification. Dr. Karim's main research interests include irrigation water management of field crops in drought and saline-prone ecosystems of Bangladesh. Her work contributes significantly to the development of resilient irrigation systems, adaptive water management strategies, and evidence-based policies that promote socio-economic well-being of people living in coastal and drought affected areas, including through the ACIAR project "Mitigating risk and scaling-out profitable cropping system intensification practices in the salt-affected coastal zones of the Ganges Delta".



Dr. Md. Mazharul Anwar
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Dr. Md. Mazharul Anwar is a Chief Scientific Officer and Head of On-Farm Research Division of Bangladesh Agricultural Research Institute. He is an agricultural economist, leading research programs exploring issues and problems together with extension agents, donor agencies, NGOs, farming communities, and local government authorities. For the ACIAR CSI4CZ project, he is providing significant support to enhance knowledge and crop productivity of farmers in the saline belt of Bangladesh through saline tolerant technology dissemination, training, organising farmers into clubs and groups, developing linkages that can give farmers opportunities to grow a marketable surplus for improved livelihoods.



Dr. Md. Faruque Hossain
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Dr. Md. Faruque Hossain is a Principal Scientific Officer of Bangladesh Agricultural Research Institute's On-Farm Research Division and Deputy Program Director of its Program on Agriculture and Rural Transformation for Nutrition, Entrepreneurship and Resilience (PARTNER). He is an agronomist specializing in plant physiology and farming systems who researches farming systems socioeconomics, cropping and agro-forestry improvement, on-farm soil fertility management, home gardening and family nutrition, on-farm trials of advance lines, and technology transfer throughout Bangladesh. He focuses on extension agents, donor agencies, NGOs, farming communities, and local government authorities to develop linkages and give opportunities for farmers to create marketable surpluses.



Dr. Md. Shahidul Islam Khan
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Dr. Md. Shahidul Islam Khan is a distinguished agricultural scientist with over 25 years' experience. Currently serving as Chief Scientific Officer at the Bangladesh Agricultural Research Institute, Dr. Khan has dedicated his career to studying changing coastal farming systems and their relationship with climate change in Bangladesh. He has made significant contributions to the advancement of agricultural practices, resulting in the publication of 22 scientific articles domestically and internationally. Under his leadership, mechanized maize, mung-bean, and sunflower production have been expanded as coastal resilient technologies in Bangladesh's coastal areas, improving agricultural productivity and enhancing farming community resilience to climate change.



Dr Taslima Zahan
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Dr Taslima Zahan has been working for Bangladesh Agricultural Research Institute's On-farm Research Division as a Scientific Officer since 2011. She is a cropping system agronomist with over 13 years' experience in crop-soil management, weed management, and impact analysis of climate variables on cropping systems. Dr. Zahan's work with the ACIAR funded project on cropping intensification in Bangladesh's coastal saline regions includes identifying and upscaling suitable crops, varieties, or cropping patterns and their management, and promoting salinity-resilient technologies to improve crop productivity. She is also using present and future scenarios to figure out climatic risks for agriculture in those areas.



Dr. Mohammad Khalequzzaman
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Dr. Mohammad Khalequzzaman is currently Director (Research) in Bangladesh Rice Research Institute. He has over 30 years' experience developing modern rice varieties and germplasm conservation. He has a PhD from University of Southampton, UK. Since 1994, he actively engaged with rice research especially its breeding, germplasm management, molecular biology and seed technology. He is part of the "Rice Seed Network" with over a thousand other GOs, NGOs and private seed entrepreneurs, liaising with global donors and SAARC countries for germplasm exchange. Dr Khalequzzaman has directed many national and international projects, supervised many postgraduate students, and has over 100 publications.



A.B.M. Mostafizur
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A.B.M. Mostafizur is a Senior Scientific Officer of Bangladesh Rice Research Institute. He has completed his BSc.Ag (hons) in Agriculture and MS in Horticulture from Bangladesh Agricultural University in the year 2011 and 2013, respectively. His major research area is Rice Farming System and he has been working in this discipline since 2015. He has actively participated in program planning, execution and report writing of cropping system research under favorable and unfavorable ecosystems, specifically for the improvement of cropping systems in the salt-affected coastal regions of Bangladesh. A.B.M. Mostafizur also gathers knowledge on integrated system productivity.



Dr Priya Lal Chandra Paul
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Dr Priya Lal Chandra Paul is a Senior Agricultural Engineer of the Department of Irrigation and Water Management at Bangladesh Rice Research Institute. He has over 15 years' experience in crop-soil-water management for rice-based cropping system intensification. His research interests include soil salinity mitigation techniques, conjunctive use of fresh and saline water, drainage effectiveness for crop establishment in saline-wet soil, mulch application for reducing salinity, heavy texture soil tillage techniques, crop response to soil solute potential, and development of water saving techniques. His current research with ACIAR is delivering solutions to overcome crop establishment constraints in Bangladesh's coastal saline area.



Mst. Shetara Yesmin
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Mst. Shetara Yesmin works as a Senior Scientist in the Irrigation and Water Management division of Bangladesh Rice Research Institute. She has an Agricultural Engineering BSc and Farm Power and Machinery MSc from Bangladesh Agricultural University, and completed a post-graduate course in RS and GIS from Indian Institute of Remote Sensing. She has experience in rice-based cropping system intensification through crop-soil-water management in coastal saline areas. Her research interests include GIS, RS and Modelling for water resources and crop production assessment, and she is an expert user of QGIS, SNAP, ENVI Classic, GEE, Cropwat, DSSAT, Python and R Statistical software.



Dr Koushik Brahmachari
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Dr. Koushik Brahmachari serves as a Professor in the Department of Agronomy, Bidhan Chandra Krishi (Agriculture) Viswavidyalaya (BCKV), West Bengal, India. With a prolific academic background, Dr. Brahmachari has contributed significantly to the field, boasting a publication record of over 120 scientific articles in esteemed national and international journals, and involvement in sixteen national and international research projects. These initiatives span development, testing and widespread implementation of novel agricultural technologies and practices, including those to improve agriculture in saline coastal environments. Dr. Brahmachari has played a pivotal role in advancing agricultural sustainability in the Sundarbans region of West Bengal, India.



Dr. Dhiman Burman
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Dr. D. Burman is the Head and Principal Scientist (Soil Science) at ICAR-Central Soil Salinity Research Institute, Regional Research Station, West Bengal, India. He received his Ph.D. in Agricultural Physics from ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute. Since 1995 he has been engaged in research at ICAR on sustainable management of problem soils in semiarid and coastal regions, resulting in 21 years' research experience on soil and water management for agricultural development in coastal salt-affected regions. He has developed many agricultural technologies especially for small and marginal farmers of the salt-affected coastal region.



Dr. Kshirendra Kumar Mahanta
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Dr. Kshirendra Kumar Mahanta presently working as Principal Scientist (Land & Water Management Engineering) at ICAR-Central Soil Salinity Research Institute, RRS, Canning Town, West Bengal. He graduated from College of Agricultural Engineering & Technology, OUAT, Bhubaneswar and did his master in the same institute in the discipline of Soil and Water Conservation Engineering. He did Ph.D. from Department of Water Resources Development & Management, IIT, Roorkee. Since 2001, He is working as Scientist at ICAR-CSSRI, RRS, Canning Town conducting research in coastal salinity. His research areas are groundwater monitoring, water harvesting, efficient use of water through advanced irrigation techniques.



Dr Sukanta Kumar Sarangi
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Dr. S.K. Sarangi worked as Principal Scientist (2014-2023) at ICAR-Central Soil Salinity Research Institute (CSSRI), Regional Research Station (RRS), West Bengal, India. Currently he heads the Division of Agricultural Technologies for Women at ICAR-Central Institute for Women in Agriculture, Odisha, India. His contributions to salinity research include improved package of practices for nursery raising, integrated nutrient management, crop establishment for rice cultivation in coastal saline soils, modified system of rice intensification (SRI) for dry season rice in coastal salt-affected soils, and identifying salt tolerant rice germplasm like IC-594013 (Kumrogor), IC-596840 (Kalonuria), IC-594020 (Talmugur) and IC-594027 (Nonabokra).



Dr. M. Akkas Ali
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Dr. Akkas Ali is a farming systems agronomist and participatory researcher, and was raised in a farming family of Bangladesh. He began his career as a Scientific Officer in Bangladesh Agricultural Research Institute (BARI), did his PhD at the University of the Philippines Los Baños, worked as research scholar at IRRI HQ, Philippines from 2002 to 2005 and a Senior Associate Scientist at IRRI Bangladesh in 2010-2015. Thereafter, he returned to work at BARI as Chief Scientific Officer and Head of the On-Farm Research Division. Presently, he is working as Director (Crops & Natural Resources) at Krishi Gobeshona Foundation, Dhaka.



Dr Nathu Ram Sarker
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Dr. Nathu Ram Sarker has an M.Sc. in Animal Science from Bangladesh Agricultural University and a Ph.D. from Haryana Agricultural University, India. Dr. Sarker started his career as a Scientific Officer and retired as Director General from Bangladesh Livestock Research Institute in 2021. While Director General, he liaised with national & international organizations especially BARC, KGF, FAO, World Bank, ADB, DANIDA, CDC, OXFARM and supervised 10 Ph.D., 9 M.S. and 3 post-doctoral students. Dr Sarker has over 200 national and international publications to his credit. He currently works as Executive Director of the Krishi Gobeshona Foundation, BARC, Farmgate, Dhaka.



Dr Sanchayeeta Misra
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Sanchayeeta Misra, Assistant Professor at Ramakrishna Mission Vivekananda Educational and Research Institute, India, specializes in agriculture and rural development, with a Ph.D. and M.Sc. in Agricultural Extension. Her expertise includes Social Network Analysis, Digitalization of Agriculture, Sustainable Rural Livelihoods, Gender Analysis, and Climate Change Adaptation. Engaged in five research projects funded by ICSSR, IRRI, CSIRO, and ICAR, she leads two. Her research focuses on women farmers' empowerment in climate-stressed systems, particularly in the Indian Sundarbans, using the Women Empowerment in Agriculture index. She aims to understand the impact of cropping intensification on women farmers, contributing insights to sustainable agricultural practices.



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Mahanambrota Das is an experienced professional in research and development, holding a Master of Science in Geography & Environment and PhD from the University of Dhaka. His focus lies on sustainability of polders in the South-west Ganges Tidal Floodplain Area of Bangladesh. M. Das boasts a diverse skill set, ranging from environmental and social impact assessment to community livelihood development and ethical engagement. His expertise extends to analysing adaptive agricultural and water-based solutions for climate change resilience, particularly addressing salinity impacts in the coastal ecosystem of Bangladesh, where he actively involves vulnerable farming communities. For more information, please visit <https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Mahanambrota-Das/research>.

Members of ACIAR's Indus project (ASSIB)

Adapting to Salinity in the Southern Indus Basin



Dr Michael Mitchell
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Dr Michael Mitchell is a Research Fellow with Charles Sturt University's Gulbali Institute and project leader for the Adapting to Salinity in Southern Indus Basin (ASSIB) project. His research expertise relates to social dimensions of natural resource management. He has designed and delivered research to support engagement of people managing and living in salinity affected areas through co-inquiry, social learning and transdisciplinarity, and the application of systems thinking to enhance their adaptive capacity, resilience, and sustainability. This means changing behaviours of resource managers not just users, and the governance arrangements that determine the behaviours of both.



Dr Catherine Allan
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Dr Catherine Allan is Professor of Environmental Sociology at Charles Sturt University, Australia. Catherine has a strong connection with rural landscapes, and sees people as part of, not separate from, those landscapes. Her research interests include regional scale adaptive management, and the related topics of participatory inquiry and social learning. Catherine's expertise in qualitative research approaches, including collaborative research which empowers communities, has contributed to multi and transdisciplinary projects and programs. For example, Catherine has been involved with groundwater and salinity projects in Pakistan and Italy, and is Leader of the social/ economic Program of Australia's Cooperative Research Centre for High Performance Soils.



Dr Mobushir (Moby) Khan
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Mobushir Riaz Khan holds a doctorate in Spatial Sciences for Natural Resources from Twente University, Netherlands and has extensive experience as a geospatial expert implementing projects and services across Australia, China, Netherlands, Pakistan and Spain. Currently, he is engaged with Charles Sturt University's School of Agriculture, Environment and Veterinary Sciences and Gulbali Institute. Dr. Khan's work focuses on provision of models, tools and techniques to policy makers and researchers assess food security, monitor crop production systems, and manage water resources using remote sensing, GIS, and mobile development. He has published more than 35 peer-reviewed research papers and book chapters.



Dr Jehangir (Jay) Punthakey
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Dr Jehangir F Punthakey is a groundwater specialist with Ecoséal Developments Pty Ltd and an Adjunct Professor at Charles Sturt University. He has provided research/consulting services to ACIAR, ADB, ICBA and World Bank for water resource management projects in Australia, Middle East, South Asia, and Southeast Asia. His research interests span modelling seawater intrusion in coastal aquifers, surface and groundwater management, and water security. His work has led to a patent on a novel Groundwater Management System for managing stressed aquifers. His work in Pakistan aims to improve management of Pakistan's vital groundwater resources for improved food security and livelihoods.



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Dr. Mobin-ud-Din Ahmad is an accomplished Water Resources Specialist and Principal Research Scientist at Australia's National Science Agency CSIRO, based in Canberra. He leads CSIRO's Water and Irrigation Systems Team, which delivers innovative, appropriate, and relevant scientific solutions to support policy and address complex water management issues in Australia and international river basins. With over 28 years of experience in research and management, Dr. Ahmad has worked in major food-producing river basins across the world. He has published close to 200 scientific papers, showcasing his expertise in agro-hydrological models, remote sensing, water balance analysis, and irrigation performance and productivity analysis.



Dr Sandra Heaney-Mustafa
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Sandra has a background in primary health care in developing countries as a nurse-midwife, health educator, and community engagement. She has spent 15 years working on ACIAR projects in Pakistan, initially on the ASLP2 project, then Developing approaches to enhance farmer water management skills in Balochistan, Punjab, and Sindh in Pakistan, and currently, Adapting to Salinity in the Indus Basin (ASSIB) project. These projects engaged whole farming communities and other stakeholders in co-inquiry processes to increase livelihoods, enhance production and adapt to living in saline affected environments, and better manage water and irrigation practices on small and medium sized holdings.



Dr Asad Qureshi
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Dr Asad Qureshi is a Senior Water Scientist at the International Center for Biosaline Agriculture (ICBA) in Dubai. He has long been associated with action research to improve water management for increased crop production. His work involves evaluating agronomic and engineering solutions to water management and mitigating incipient waterlogging and salinity problems. He has been involved in capacity building and training activities of national partners, and has managed multi-donor-funded projects in the Middle East, South Asia, and Central Asia for over 30 years, focusing on irrigation strategies for water-short areas, salinity, groundwater, and wastewater management. He has 90 scientific publications.



Dr Bakhshal Khan Lashari
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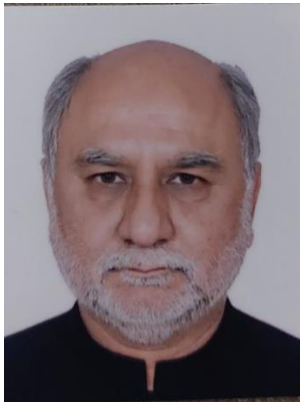
Dr Bakhshal Lashari is an expert in the field of irrigation management, water policy, networking and capacity of communities for sustainable livelihoods, with a strong emphasis on practical applications of water-related research, where he actively contributes to national and international forums, academic institutes, research organizations, and policy centers dedicated to the water sector. Currently, he is the Emeritus Professor at the US-Pak Center for Advanced Studies in Water, Mehran University of Engineering & Technology Jamshoro. He has more than 40 years of experience as an educationist and researcher, with a proven track record in policy influence and extensive practical knowledge.



Nadia Jabeen
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Nadia Jabeen is a distinguished professional with over a decade of experience in research project management and event coordination for both national and international entities. Holding advanced degrees in Socio-Cultural Anthropology and Sociology, she has demonstrated proficiency in workshop organization, research, and presentation across various domains. Nadia is also recognized for her contributions to training programs on diverse subjects including Data Analysis and Child Rights. Her expertise in social sciences, combined with her commitment to community service, underscores her exceptional ability to lead, communicate, and work independently, making her a valuable asset in any professional setting.



Dr Kamran Ansari
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Dr. Kamran Ansari is presently the Director of MUET's US-Pakistan Center for Advanced Studies in Water. With more than 30 years' professional experience, he possesses commendable academic and professional distinctions; and administrative and managerial skills. He is a well-qualified water resources engineer, and his professional purview encompasses a broad spectrum of specialized fields, including hydrological assessment and design, water resources management, hydraulic modeling, and irrigation engineering. He has authored many research reports and has over 50 publications in well-reputed national and international peer reviewed journals. He has also made valuable contributions as a member of numerous water resources technical committees.



Dr Abdul Latif Qureshi
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Dr Abdul Latif Qureshi is Professor of Hydraulics, Irrigation and Drainage Engineering at USPCAS-W, Mehran University of Engineering & Technology Jamshoro, Sindh, Pakistan. He has more than 35 years' experience of teaching and research having more than 90 research papers. He has recently worked on groundwater monitoring, modelling, and management in various projects in Sindh and Balochistan. He has worked with FAO, ICARDA, and the World Bank. He has a strong emphasis on practical applications of water-related research working with farmers' communities contributing to enhance the capacity building and livelihood of farmers' families especially under USAID, ICARDA and ACIAR projects.



Dr Arjumand Zaidi
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Dr Arjumand Zaidi is a geospatial expert who specializes in geospatial modeling, vulnerability assessment, and resource mapping. She is a Senior Research Fellow at USPCAS-W, where she shares her vast knowledge in environmental monitoring, flood modeling, and climate change using advanced geospatial techniques. With over 25 years of experience, Dr. Zaidi has a strong background in both research and project management. She focuses on addressing important issues related to environmental changes and their impacts on land and water while promoting sustainable livelihoods.



Dr Syeda Sara Hassan
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Dr Syeda Sara Hassan is a water quality expert in the field of environmental engineering, analytical chemistry, and nanotechnology. She is currently working as Assistant Professor at USPCASW, MUET Jamshoro, and shares her expertise in various research domains including the fabrication of nanomaterials, catalysis, sensor development, and the assessment of physical, chemical and biological parameters for water quality testing and treatment. As a laboratory In-charge at USPCASW, Dr. Hassan has undergone extensive training at the University of Utah, USA in laboratory management, equipment handling, and characterization techniques thus enhancing her skills and knowledge in the field.



Dr Asmat Ullah
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Dr Asmat Ullah is a faculty member at the US-Pakistan Center for Advanced Studies in Water, Mehran University of Engineering and Technology in Jamshoro, Pakistan. He is an environmental and resources economist with a PhD in Natural Resources Management from the Asian Institute of Technology, Thailand. He also worked as postdoctoral researcher at the King Mongkut's University of Technology, Thonburi, Bangkok, Thailand for two years. He has more than 12 years' research experience and participated in several research-for-development projects. His research expertise includes water governance, circular economy, life-cycle assessment, water-energy-nexus, and climate smart agriculture.



Shahryar Jamali
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Shahryar Jamali, a proficient Research Assistant at ASSIB project, has a Master's degree in Integrated Water Resources Management and a Bachelor degree in Environmental Engineering. He specializes in groundwater and flood modelling, and uses remote sensing techniques for more effective water management. His master's research delved into inland water monitoring using remote sensing. With a year of hands-on experience in groundwater modelling in the Indus Delta, Shahryar is currently involved in developing strategies to address salinity challenges. His expertise centers on formulating effective strategies to address water-related challenges and advance sustainable development worldwide.



Dr Fateh Muhammad Marri
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Prof Dr Fateh Muhammad Marri is Vice Chancellor of Sindh Agriculture University, and a renowned expert in agriculture, economics, and education. He was previously Acting Executive Director of Pakistan's Higher Education Commission, Sindh Government's Chief Economist, and led the successful Sindh Water Sector Improvement Project. With over 25 years' experience, Dr. Marri has played a crucial role in rejuvenating agricultural and irrigation initiatives. For salinity-related research, Dr Marri gives priority to site-specific screening and re-vegetation of barren, degraded, and salt-affected lands in Sindh, emphasizing use of native tree species and cereal crops to turn these lands into profitable use.



Dr Irfan Ahmad Baig
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Dr Irfan Ahmad Baig is professor of Agricultural Economics at MNS University of Agriculture, Multan. He is currently serving as Dean, Faculty of Social Sciences and Director, Center for Agricultural Sustainability in South Punjab (CAS-SP). He is also UNESCO Co-Chair on Low Carbon and Sustainable Agriculture in Biosphere Reserves. Dr. Baig has a diversified experience of 25 years of working with multiple international projects and programs in the areas of irrigation management, climate change adaptation, institutional analysis, community development and policy analysis. He co-authored multiple background analysis papers used to formulate Punjab Agriculture Policy 2018.



Dr Tanveer ul Haq
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Dr Tanveer Ul Haq is a saline agriculture expert at MNS University of Agriculture, Multan. He received his PhD from the University of Agriculture, Faisalabad and Centre for Arid Zone Studies, Bangor University, Wales, UK, with a focus on plant stress physiology and molecular biology of rice under salt stress. He did extensive work on soil mulching and planting geometry to promote crop production on salinity-affected marginal lands. He received an Endeavour Research Fellowship Award in 2016, when he was a postdoc at the Universities of Western Australia and Murdoch in Perth, Australia. He has authored over 50 journal articles.



Dr Nasir Nadeem
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Dr Nasir Nadeem is Professor and Chairman of the Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics at Muhammad Nawaz Shareef University of Agriculture Multan, Pakistan. His research expertise relates to agriculture productivity and agriculture policy analysis. He is engaged in the ACIAR project “Adapting to Salinity in Southern Indus Basin” (ASSIB) focusing on critical institutional analysis and development (CIAD) research. He has more than 20 years’ experience relating to agriculture productivity analysis and policy issues.



Dr Nighat Raza
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Dr Nighat is an Assistant Professor at Muhammad Nawaz Shareef University of Agriculture Multan. Her research focuses on post-harvest food processing and value addition, employing minimal processing techniques like thermal drying. She strives to bridge agricultural production and consumer consumption through sustainable methods, minimizing waste and maximizing nutrition. With over 10 research articles in esteemed journals, her contributions are recognized. Currently, she contributes to the ACIAR-funded "Adapting to Salinity in South Indus Basin" project as a Food Value Addition expert, addressing salinity challenges in food production. She inspires future food scientists with her emphasis on innovation, sustainability, and quality.



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Dr Nazar Faried, an assistant professor at MNS University of Agriculture in Multan, Pakistan, has been serving in the Horticulture Department since 2016. His research interests primarily revolve around innovative agricultural practices aimed at enhancing productivity and resilience in challenging environments. These interests include soilless greenhouse farming to enable year-round production of high-value vegetables, abiotic stress tolerance induction through grafting, and on-farm interventions such as raised bed cultivation and mulching to promote drainage and soil aeration, conserve moisture, suppress weeds, and moderate soil temperature, thereby enhancing resource efficiency and sustaining productivity. He has contributed to academia through 25 scientific publications.



Muhammad Bilal Ahsan
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Muhammad Bilal Ahsan is an agribusiness lecturer at MNS University of Agriculture, Multan. His research background in agri-marketing and sustainable value chain has prompted his active involvement in many impactful projects, including the "Adapting to Salinity in the Southern Indus Basin" project. Previously, he was a research associate in the LUMS "Development of Cold Chain Infrastructure in Pakistan" project, and during his MS degree, he worked on a project to optimise mango value chains funded by the International Centre for Development and Decent Work, Germany. He recently attended a course at the University of Queensland as an Australia Awards scholar.



Abdul Raheem
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Abdul Raheem is a young researcher in water resources engineering and management. He has advanced skills in groundwater modelling, monitoring and spatiotemporal analysis of different water resources related features. He has been associated with the “Adapting to Salinity in the Southern Indus Basin (ASSIB)” project as a groundwater modeller for the past two years taking a lead role in developing groundwater models for southern Punjab and the coastal belt of Sindh. He is also very good in groundwater monitoring data analysis.



Chaudahry Mahmood Akhtar (Cheema)
Country Representative
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Mahmood Akhtar Cheema has degrees in Agricultural Engineering and Agriculture Extension and 34 years’ programme development and management experience related to natural resource management, conservation, climate change, forestry, biodiversity, sustainable agriculture, and water. He has been associated with IUCN Pakistan for over 26 years, serving as Country Representative since 2012. He serves the government sector and international organizations by fostering partnerships among government, NGOs, IUCN member organizations and the private sector. He supports nature conservation in Pakistan through his numerous professional affiliations, including as a member of directors’ board, councils, and steering committees.



Naveed Ali Soomro
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International Union for Water Conservation (IUCN)

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Naveed Ali Soomro, a seasoned natural resource management professional with 18 years' expertise, manages the Sindh Programme at IUCN Pakistan. Specializing in planning, policy development, governance, and sustainable management of natural resources, he excels in Nature-based Solutions, integrated coastal resource management, ecosystem restoration, and community-based conservation. His work extends beyond the coastal expanse of Indus Delta to the formidable terrains of remote Thar desert, overseeing diverse projects in southern Pakistan. He demonstrates exceptional skills in community engagement, coordination, and stakeholder collaboration. His extensive work has produced numerous publications on ecology and environmental education for diverse audiences.



Danish Rashdi
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Mr Rashdi currently heads IUCN's Karachi Programme Office, overseeing programmes and projects in partnerships with government and donors in Sindh and Balochistan provinces. He has over 20 years' conservation and development sector experience in programme development, coordination, project management, research and strategy. Mr Radish also heads IUCN's Private Sector Engagement Programme, and has initiated and implemented projects with different industries focusing on ecosystem restoration and community livelihoods. He provides technical advice to government and industries on projects and programmes, and has demonstrated capability to create partnerships with government, donors, and project stakeholders on multiple initiatives.



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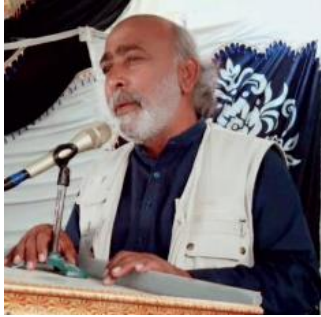
Dr Aslam Jarwar is an aquaculture expert with two decades of experience covering program development, project management, extension, hatchery management, digital data collection analysis and reporting, and policy and regulatory matters. He has worked in both the government and non-government sectors and with national and international organizations, including WWF and FAO. His interest in aquaculture on saline groundwater took him to Auburn University USA where he explored the ideas to make it a reality in Pakistan. Currently, he is working as a consultant with IUCN and the World Bank on aquaculture projects with a main focus on saline aquaculture.



Ifrah Naseem Malik
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As a young professional, Ifrah Naseem Malik has spent the past year as a Field Coordinator/Community Mobilizer with IUCN Pakistan on the ACIAR-funded project, "Adapting to Salinity in Southern Indus Basin." Her primary focus has been active engagement with Indus Delta coastal communities. Using participatory research, her work centres on interventions in coastal aquaculture and agriculture, equipping her with a nuanced understanding of the complexities inherent in coastal regions and the opportunity to effectively address challenges related to salinity. As a graduate in marine science, she is committed to implementing sustainable practices and driving positive change in the coastal region.



Muhammad Yousif Channa
Team Lead
Society of Facilitators and Trainers (SOFT)

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Yousif Channa is an agricultural professional with a Master(hons) degree. He has more than 29 years' experience in agricultural extension as a Farmer Field School specialist through various roles leading up to his current position of Principal at Sindh Department of Agriculture Extension's Agriculture Training Institute, Sakrand. He also previously worked with the Pakistan Agriculture Research Council as IPM Deputy Provincial Coordinator for Sindh. His work relies on a participatory education approach for capacity building of professionals, farmers, and NGO staff. He has helped coordinate food security and natural resource management research projects for ACIAR, FAO and the Pakistan Government.



Muhsin Ali Channa
Community Engagement Officer
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Mr. Muhsin Ali Channa has a Masters in Entomology from Sindh Agriculture University. He has 13 years' experience with different organizations including FAO, CABI and SOFT Pakistan, specialising in integrated pest management, farmer field schools, farmer marketing collectivities and integration of agriculture with conservation. He also has 3 years' experience working with pesticide and seed companies. For the last 2 years has been working with the ASSIB salinity project gaining experience in the capacity building of farming families for sustainable, profitable and environmentally sound production for livelihood improvement.



Babar Zaman
Community Engagement Officer
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Babar Zaman received a Master's degree in Agricultural Entomology from Sindh Agriculture University in 2011, and has over 12 years' experience in national and international NGOs, specializing in linking fields of agriculture and society, as well as in integrated pest management, and in designing and conducting training programs and workshops with farmers to enhance their agricultural knowledge and skills. He has also analyzed data for research published in national and international journals. He is currently working as a community engagement officer with the Society of Facilitators and Trainers (SOFT) collaborating with four communities and many researchers across the ASSIB project.



Benazir Kumbhar
Community Engagement Officer (Sindh)
Society of Facilitators and Trainers (SOFT)

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Ms Benazir Kumbhar is a PhD scholar in the Department of Agronomy at Sindh Agriculture University in Tandojam. She has 12 years' experience working as an agriculture officer for national and international organisations on several projects concerned with agriculture, nutrition, research, and education. In addition to technical agriculture, Ms Kumbhar has experience in community mobilisation, coordination and communication, data management, capacity building, training, conducting community and line department meetings, using the newest technological equipment, collaborating with other organisations, and writing reports. For the past 2 years she has been working with the ASSIB salinity project as a community engagement officer.



Tahira Baloch
Community Engagement Officer (Sindh)
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Ms Tahira Baloch has a strong background in the development sector, with a focus on community mobilization, and experience across various projects, including education, advocacy, climate change, child protection, and salinity. With a master's degree in sociology, Ms Baloch understands social structures and dynamics, and how they intersect with issues such as education, climate change, and child protection. This knowledge has proved valuable in her community mobilization work, allowing her to analyze and address root causes of social issues and engage with communities effectively. She has a wealth of practical knowledge from her 12 years' experience working with different organizations.



Iqra Mohiuddin
Community Engagement Officer (Punjab)
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Iqra Mohiuddin has a foundation in social sciences with a postgraduate degree in agricultural economics. She has actively contributed for over five years to national and international organizations in diverse professional capacities. Her roles have encompassed conducting farmers/facilitators training, undertaking gender-based research, and facilitating gender involvement in various project activities. She has expertise in collaborative problem solving, sustainable agriculture land management, value chain management, food security, natural disaster management, primary data collection, entry and analysis, report writing, and team leadership. Currently, she serves as a community engagement officer in the ACIAR-funded "Adapting to Salinity in the Southern Indus Basin" project.



Muhammad Faisal Riaz
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Muhammad Faisal Riaz, working as Community Engagement Officer at SOFT in Multan, Pakistan, has leveraged his entomology background to contribute to the ACIAR-funded Project "Adapting to Salinity in the Southern Indus Basin" since March 2021. Formerly a Program Officer and District Master Facilitator, Faisal excels in farmer facilitation and resource management. His skills span data collection & analysis, and comprehensive reporting. Proficient in social work and facilitation, he actively engages with diverse stakeholders, showcasing multicultural teamwork and effective communication. Faisal is dedicated to training and capacity building, evident in his contributions to “bright spot” farming communities, ultimately enhancing their well-being.