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Speaker bio: Atik Ahmed, PhD

Ahmed, Atik, PhD, is an internationally-accredited, applied social scientist, who has worked on a wide array of initiatives of various professional domains including: Disaster and Humanitarian Risk Management, Climate Change Adaptation, and Social-ecological Resilience. He has over ten years of applied hands-on experiences of developing and leading various projects and programs at both local and regional scales. His major areas of expertise are in integrated coastal resource management, social-ecological resilience-building in multiple eco-systems, climate change adaptation, disaster risk reduction, people-centric multi-hazard early warning systems development, regional-national-local-level integrated planning, socio-economic analysis, impact assessment, training and capacity building and so forth. He has unique experiences of developing society-ecology-context-specific risk management solutions drawing on a host of multi-disciplinary expertise in a team. Mr. Ahmed brings wide regional experiences of program coordination, networking and platform building in Asian countries. He has worked with numerous Asian governmental, non-governmental and Inter-governmental agencies and has an active network with various US agencies and research institutions in the US and around the world.

He has worked extensively in various countries in the South Asian and the Southeast Asian region including Bangladesh, India, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar and the Maldives. In these countries, he has worked extensively in multiple eco-systems including coastal zone, drought prone dry areas, riverine floodplains, wetlands, urban areas and mountain systems. In various leading capacities (such as Project Leader, Principal Researcher, Project Manager, Senior Technical Expert), over the years, he has worked in many portfolio projects and programs for various national and international agencies including CEGIS, FAO, ADB, UNDP, UNICEF, CIDA, EC, USAID and ADPC, among others.

In the last five years, he has worked for flagship, regional, multi-country major programs including the USAID Indian Ocean Tsunami Warning System program (US IOTWS), the UNESCAP multi-country Regional Tsunami Trust Fund (RTTF) Program, ADPC facilitated Regional Integrated Multi-hazard Early Warning System (RIMES) and other regional capacity-building/training initiatives relating to climate risk management, early warning and disaster risk reduction.

Mr. Ahmed holds three degrees in various fields of the social sciences including fields of Applied Anthropology. He has studied at the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), University of London, which is the highest ranked anthropology department in the UK. At present, he is working at the Climate Risk Management (CRM) and Early Warning Systems (EWS) Department of Bangkok-based Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC). Mr. Ahmed is an honorable fellow of the Society for Applied Anthropology (SfAA), USA and a member of the Royal Anthropological Institute (RAI), UK.