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Professional Development Workshop on Designing and Managing Impact Evaluations
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Speaker Profiles (in alphabetical order)

Anant Sudarshan
Senior Research Manager, Harvard & J-PAL South Asia at IFMR

Anant is working on a project to design and evaluate a pilot emissions trading program for Indian industry that has the support of India’s Ministry for Environment and Forests. He holds undergraduate and master’s degrees in Mechanical Engineering from the Indian Institute of Technology (Delhi) and Stanford University respectively. He received his PhD in Management Science and Engineering, focusing on energy economics, from Stanford University in March 2011. His doctoral research explored the determinants of residential energy consumption and the role California efficiency policies had in reducing energy intensity in the state. He has carried out field trials to understand the effects of providing real time electricity consumption feedback to households. This work is part of a broader agenda aimed at understanding how different incentive structures - both financial and behavioural - can be used to change household energy behaviours. At J-PAL-SA he is co-PI on a project to design and evaluate a particulate emissions trading scheme in India.

Diva Dhar
Assistant Director of Evaluation Capacity Building and Program Director for CLEAR Initiative, CLEAR South Asia at J-PAL South Asia at IFMR

Diva Dhar is Assistant Director of Evaluation Capacity Building and Program Director for the CLEAR Initiative at J-PAL South Asia at IFMR. Diva works on strengthening monitoring and evaluation capacity in the region and promoting evidence based policy and decision-making. She has previously worked as a Research Manager for J-PAL South Asia and as a Project Associate for J-PAL/IPA in Morocco. She has overseen several randomized evaluations dealing with education, gender, urban services, governance and microcredit in India, Morocco and Bangladesh. She has also worked as a consultant for the Planning Commission and with the UN and other NGOs in India. Her research interests include gender and education. Diva has a Masters in International and Development Economics from Yale University and a B.A. in Economics and International Relations from Mount Holyoke College.

John Floretta
Deputy Director, CLEAR South Asia at J-PAL South Asia at IFMR

John Floretta is the Deputy Director of J-PAL South Asia where he is also the Head of the Policy and Training Team. He is working to establish the South Asia Center for Learning and Evaluation and Results (CLEAR) and, more broadly, works to build monitoring and evaluation capacity in the region, support dissemination of policy lessons and aid scale-up of successful programs.
Dr. Syed Ali Asjad Naqvi  
Training and Research Director, Center for Economic Research in Pakistan (CERP)

Asjad Naqvi is currently the Research Director at the Center for Economic Research in Pakistan (CERP). Asjad received his PhD in Economics from the New School (New York) in 2012 and his Masters in Economics from the Lahore University of Management Sciences (Pakistan) in 2004. He has extensive research experience in Pakistan and has been working on several key research topics in the fields of governance, household behavior, history and institutions over the past nine years. He is currently conducting two impact evaluation interventions in the fields of crime and justice and public health in Pakistan. His other research interests include designing evaluation systems for disaster affected areas for improved and targeted policy interventions.

Sree Sen  
Policy and Training Associate, CLEAR South Asia at J-PAL South Asia at IFMR

Sree Sen joined JPAL South Asia in July 2012 as a Policy and Training Associate. She supports activities related to capacity building and policy outreach. She has previously worked as a Senior Program Analyst at the Clinton Health Access Initiative in New Delhi in their HIV/AIDS program and Diarrhea Management Program. She has a Master's in International Relations from Nanyang Technological University, Singapore, a Master's in Journalism from Pioneer Media School, New Delhi and a B.A in Economics from Symbiosis College, Pune University, India.

Dr. Urmy Shukla  
Capacity Building Manager, CLEAR South Asia at J-PAL South Asia at IFMR

Urmy Shukla is a Capacity Building Manager for CLEAR/J-PAL South Asia at IMFR. She works on strengthening monitoring and evaluation capacity in the region. Prior to joining J-PAL, Urmy was a PhD student in Sociology at Emory University, where her research and teaching focused on economic development, human rights, and global health. Her dissertation looked at the links between water, sanitation, and female empowerment, primarily examining global civil society claims that water is a direct tool for gender equality in the developing world. She has worked for UNESCO, NGOs, and government agencies in Ecuador and Brazil, and as a research consultant for the UK government and European Commission. Urmy also holds an MSc in Local Economic Development from the London School of Economics and a B.A. in Economics and Spanish Literature from Brown University.

Nikhil Wilmink  
Policy and Training Associate, CLEAR South Asia at J-PAL South Asia at IFMR

Nikhil Wilmink is a Policy and Training Associate for CLEAR/J-PAL South Asia at IFMR. Nikhil joined J-PAL South Asia in May 2010. He spent two years managing a randomized evaluation in Bihar and Rajasthan on the impact of Mother's Literacy and Participation Programs on child learning with Pratham the largest education focused NGO in India. Since September 2012 he has been working with the J-PAL Policy and Training team in Delhi, as well as working with the CLEAR initiative to strengthen Monitoring and Evaluation capacity in the South Asia region. He holds an Honors Degree in International Development Studies from McGill University.