

V2V THEMATIC WEBINAR SERIES 2026

Uneven Waters: Mapping Vulnerability–Viability Pathways among Small-Scale Fishers of the Indian Sundarbans

Drawing on ethnographic fieldwork and structured surveys with fishing households, the study traces how the same climatic events: cyclones, storm surges, and floods translate into starkly different lived consequences depending on where a household sits within this occupational mosaic. In doing so, it moves beyond a singular narrative of Sundarbans vulnerability toward a more textured account of who bears the sharpest edges of environmental change, and why. The findings speak directly to the V2V framework's central concern: that pathways toward viability cannot be designed as one-size-fits-all responses. The study draws on the I-ADApT framework (Assessment based on Description, Responses, and Appraisal for a Typology) to situate the Sundarbans case within a broader comparative lens on SSF vulnerability and adaptive response across V2V sites. Building resilience in the Sundarbans, this study argues, requires policy and community action attentive to the specific vulnerabilities, capacities, and aspirations of each fishing group, recognizing viability not as a fixed destination but as an ongoing, differentiated negotiation with a changing coast.

Photo credit: Ashik Bandyopadhyay, 2022

V2V COUNTRY CASE STUDIES IN FOCUS: INDIA



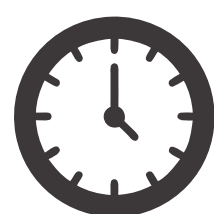
JENIA MUKHERJEE

SPEAKER

Jenia Mukherjee is an Associate Professor in the Department of Humanities and Social Sciences at the Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur, India. She serves as Country Coordinator and Co-Investigator of the V2V Global Partnership and Indian Principal Investigator for ENGAGE4Sundarbans. Her research focuses on coastal risks, resilience, community livelihoods, and deltaic social-ecological systems, with particular emphasis on the transboundary Sundarbans, urban deltas, and wetlands across the Global North and South. She has received several prestigious fellowships and awards, including the World Social Science Fellowship, Australian Leadership Award Fellowships, Salzburg Global and Nippon Foundation Fellowship, and Global CoreNet Award.



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**12:00 PM UTC to 1:15 PM UTC
8:00 AM EDT to 9:15 AM EDT**



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