

CLEAN AIR FOR A BILLION PEOPLE: BRIDGING SCIENCE, POLICY, AND FINANCE IN THE INDO-GANGETIC PLAIN AND HIMALAYAN FOOTHILLS AIRSHED



By

Mr. Ashish Tiwari

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About the speaker:

Mr. Ashish Tiwari is a senior executive, a member of Indian Forest Service (IFS), with more than 30 years of proven success spanning across policy and planning level senior positions namely Secretary (Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Government of Uttar Pradesh), Member Secretary (Uttar Pradesh Pollution Control Board), Member Secretary (UP State Climate Change Authority), Member Secretary (Uttar Pradesh Environment Impact Assessment Authority) & several execution level positions. He was awarded WWF-PATA Bagh Mitra Award for Tiger Conservation in 2015. He was also awarded certificate on commendation by honorable Governor of Uttar Pradesh for Biodiversity Conservation in 2002 and for his outstanding work in the field of Environment, Forest & Climate Change in 2019.

Abstract:

The Indo-Gangetic Plain and Himalayan Foothills constitute one of the world's largest and most polluted airsheds, home to over a billion people and critical ecosystems. While scientific understanding of air pollution has advanced considerably, significant gaps remain in translating evidence into effective policies and sustained investments. My talk will focus upon designing strategies based upon how science, governance, and finance can work together to accelerate clean air action. Drawing on experiences from across South Asia, the talk will highlight approaches for linking source apportionment and health evidence with policy reform, leveraging innovative financing mechanisms, strengthening institutional capacities, and fostering regional cooperation. The presentation will argue that achieving clean air at scale requires not only better science, but also stronger governance and smarter investments that transform evidence into measurable outcomes for people, economies, and the environment.

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