



Forum on

Inclusive Growth and Poverty Reduction in the New Asia and Pacific

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Biographical Sketch of Panel Participants and Seminar Speakers

Ifzal ALI is the Chief Economist of the Asian Development Bank. He recently published various articles on inclusive growth and is concerned about growing inequalities in Asia and Pacific.

Rohantha ATHUKORALA has over 15 years experience in British Multinational companies winning twice the "Best marketer Award" and a "Business Achiever Award" from PIM, University of Sri Jayewardenepura. He was the 7th Chairman of the Sri Lanka Export Development Board that helped Sri Lanka cross the 6 billion dollar mark in exports and was appointed as the 1st Executive Director of the National Council for Economic Development in Sri Lanka which championed the 7.4% GDP growth in 2006. Currently he is the Director Economic Affairs of the Secretariat For Coordinating the Peace Process in Sri Lanka under the Presidential Secretariat whilst reading for the doctorate at Asian Institute of technology (AIT).

Jehan ARULPRAGASAM is the acting country director of the World Bank in the Philippines. Mr. Arulpragasam has done extensive work on the economics of poverty and poverty reduction programs especially in Southeast Asia (especially Indonesia) and Sub-sahara Africa.

Neou Bunseng BONHEUR is the Deputy Director of the Department for Nature Conservation and Protection of the Ministry of Environment in Cambodia. He is also Deputy Permanent Secretary of Tonle Sap Biosphere Reserve Secretariat, an inter-ministerial coordination body that facilitates policy coordination and integrated natural resources planning. Dr. Bonheur is coordinator of various ADB projects in the Tonle Sap area one of the largest freshwater lakes in Southeast Asia. He is an expert on environmental management and poverty reduction, natural resources planning, community fishery, and biodiversity.

Duncan CAMPBELL is Duncan Campbell is Director of the Policy Integration Department of the International Labour Office in Geneva. Dr. Campbell worked intensively on East Asia labor markets. He was key in the *World Employment Report 2004-05 on Employment, Productivity, and Poverty Reduction*.

Shiladitya CHATTERJEE is head of the poverty unit of ADB. Before he worked as senior economist and principal program officers for the Philippines and Indonesia.

Jean D'CUNHA is Program Director of the UNIFEM Asia regional program. Ms. D'Cunha is sociologist and has researched many aspects of female sexuality including prostitution and trafficking, and women and violence, and women in international migration.

David A. FEINGOLD is a research anthropologist and filmmaker currently working for UNESCO in Thailand. Dr. Feingold is an expert on narcotics and opium research and served in various position at USA and international institutions. He also has been engaged in long-term research into the political economy of land mines, and worked as consultant on cultural factors in the transmission and prevention of HIV/AIDS in the Mekong region. Lately, Mr. Feingold is currently investigating the trade in minority girls and women from Burma, Yunnan and Laos to Thailand. Mr. Feingold is famous for his documentary films on street children, HIV/AIDS, women trafficking, warlords, and films on cultural survivals. The U.S. Congress and the British Parliament have recognized the importance of Feingold's work with special screenings.

Haishan FU is the chief of the statistical development Section in UNESCAP, Bangkok. Mrs. Fu is the leading contact for the MDG update reports under the ADB-ESCAP-UNDP partnership.

Benjamin GRAHAM is a management and development consultant from the Republic of the Marshall Islands. He has extensive experience on the challenges to development faced by small and fragile states, in particular those in the Pacific Islands region. His main areas of work include development trust funds, national budget systems and fiscal transparency, tourism, governance, and country performance assessments.

Lucia HANMER is Senior Economic Advisor in the South Asia Strategy and Operations Division of DFID in London-UK. As a research fellow at ODI London, Ms. Hanmer worked on PRSP policies in Sub-sahara Africa, poverty assessments, poverty and MDG indicators, and questioned whether growth will be sufficient to reduce poverty.

Mia HARBITZ is senior social development specialist in the Inter-American Development Bank working on legal identities. She works, among others, on social capital, ethics, poverty reduction and development.

Ngo Thi Minh HUONG is Co-Founder, Board of Advisor, Center for Development and Integration in Vietnam. Mrs. Huong graduated (MA) in development management from the Asian Institute of Management in Philippines. She is a poverty specialist focusing on the strategic planning for local government and building development network for changes. She is also working on auditing, monitoring and evaluating development program and projects Mrs. Huong also an innovative NGO development worker and social activist in Vietnam.

Maritta KOCH-WESER is Founder and President of Earth3000 and the Director General of the World Conservation Union (IUCN), international non-profit organizations supporting innovations in environment and development. She is also the Chief Executive Officer of the Global Exchange for Social Investment (GEXSI) promoting private sector development investment and partnerships with development. Dr. Maritta Koch-Weser worked for almost 20 years at the World Bank where she held several senior management positions, including Director for Environmentally and Socially Sustainable Development for the Latin America and Caribbean Region.

LU Mai is the Secretary-General of the China Development Research Foundation. He is also vice-president of the China International Association for Development, vice-chairman of the China Association for Promoting International Cooperation in Agriculture, and member of the Science Committee of the Ministry of Agriculture. Mr. Lu has extensive experience in rural reform in China, and was Director of the Experimental Area office for Rural Reform, Research Centre for Rural Development of the State Council in the late 1980's. He is the author of numerous publications on economic reform..

K.A.S. MURSHID is Research Director of the Bangladesh Institute for Development Studies (BIDS). Dr. Murshid has published extensively on food policy, pro-poor infrastructure, informal and rural credit markets, human resources development, rural energy, and recently also on poverty reduction impact of regional cooperation. He is also working as consultant for international organizations such as World Bank and ADB.

Tserendorj NATSAGDORJ is Senior Advisor in the Parliament of Mongolia. Before Mr. Natsagdorj was Director for Health Economics in the Mongolian Ministry of Health. He also worked as an economist for the Ministry of Finance and lectured in the School of Economics at the Mongolian National University.

Romulo NERI is Director General and Secretary of the National Economic and Development Authority of the Philippines. He is currently also the Chairman of the National Commission on

Higher Education. Before, Mr. Neri was head of the Congressional Planning and Budget Office, professor at the Asian Institute of Management, and worked in leading positions for various private sector companies.

Omar NOMAN is deputy director of the UNDP Regional Center for Asia and Pacific in Colombo, Sri Lanka and worked before as chief of the policy and planning unit and was head of the poverty practice team in UNDP New York. His scientific work is on economic development and environment, political economy.

OU Quingpeng is deputy director of the Foreign Capital Project Management Center of the Leading Group on Poverty, the Chinese government agency for rural poverty reduction.

Auster PANADERO is Undersecretary of the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) in the Philippines.

Mary RACELIS is the former Director and currently Research Scientist of the Institute of Philippine Culture, Ateneo de Manila University. She teaches anthropology at the Graduate Schools of the Ateneo and the University of the Philippines. Her research interests have produced notable publications in urbanization, urban poverty and wellbeing, values, civil society, community organizing, gender, children and youth, socio-cultural change, and development with equity. Active in civil society affairs, she sits on several international and national NGO Boards, and has served as a consultant to various bilateral and multilateral organizations and private foundations. In 2003-04, at the invitation of Secretary-General Kofi Annan, she became a member of the High-Level Panel on United Nations-Civil Society Relations. Her previous positions include Regional Director, UNICEF Eastern and Southern Africa, Nairobi, Kenya, and Country Representative, Ford Foundation, Philippines..

M. Govinda RAO is the Director of the National Institute of Public Finance and Policy in New Delhi, India (since 2003). He is also a Member of the Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister, and is adviser to international and Indian policy making bodies such as the International Advisory Panel on Governance, UNDP regional office in Bangkok, the Expert Committee on Multilevel Planning, the Indian Planning Commission, the Consultative Group of the Indian Inter-State Council, Expert Group on Taxation of Services, the Technical Experts Committee on VAT, the Taxation Policy Group in the Initiative for Policy Dialogue at Columbia University, and the Steering Committee for the South Asia Network of Economic Research Institutions (SANEI). His past positions include Director of the Institute for Social and Economic Change in Bangalore (1998-2002) and Fellow, Research School of Pacific and Asian Studies, Australian National University, Canberra, Australia (1995-98). He has been a consultant to the World Bank, International Monetary Fund, Asian Development Bank and the UNDP. Dr. Rao's research interests include tax reforms, public expenditure management and fiscal decentralization. He has published extensively in reputed journals and wrote books and monographs on various aspects of public finance, fiscal policy and poverty reduction.

Hiren SARKAR the chief of the Development Policy Section in the Poverty and Development Division of UNESCAP (Bangkok). Dr. Sarkar is a well known macro-economist. His research interests include, among others, poverty reduction and pro-poor growth, infrastructure pricing, macroeconomic modeling, protecting the socially excluded, and development planning.

Hitoshi SHOJI is advisor to the Development Assistance Strategy Department in the Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC). Mr. Shoji is also the vice-chair of the DAC Network on Poverty Reduction, where he has led an international working group on Infrastructure for Poverty reduction (InfraPoor).

Anita SIMS is team leader for Corporate Social Responsibility in Population and Community Development Association (PDA) in Thailand. PDA - headed by Senator Meechai. - is perhaps

Thailand's most recognized NGO working on population planning and private sector support for poverty reduction.

Peter WARR is the founding Director of the Poverty Research Centre at the Australian National University. He is an internationally well known scholar on rural development and worked as consultant for many institutions including AUSAID, ADB and World Bank. Dr Warr's recent research has included studies on poverty reduction in Thailand and Indonesia, sector composition of growth in India and Southeast Asian Development Bank.

Michael WALTON is professor at the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University and at the Centre for Policy Studies in Delhi. Dr. Walton worked more than 20 years for the World Bank in various functions in Latin America, Africa and Asia. He was the Deputy Leader for the 1990 World Development Report on Poverty; Economic Adviser to two Chief Economists of the World Bank; the Director for the 1995 World Development Report on labor; the Chief Economist for the East Asia and Pacific Region from 1995 to 1997; and the Director for Poverty Reduction from 1997 to 2000. He also wrote the 2006 World Development Report 2006 on Equity and Development.

Bambang WIDIANTO is Deputy to the Minister of Planning of the Indonesian National Development Planning Agency (BAPPENAS). His main areas of responsibilities are programs for MDG achievements, poverty reduction, employment and small and medium enterprise development. He is a key promoter of Indonesia's cash transfer and social protection programs.

WU Guobao is Director of Poverty and Development Finance Division, Rural Development Institute, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, Beijing, China. He worked as consultant for the Chinese Government, ADB World Bank, UNDP, and others on rural poverty:

