Book Launch: Developing Infrastructure in Central Asia: Impacts and Financing Mechanisms

29 March 2021
2:50-5:00 PM (Tokyo time)
Venue: Online

This ADBI-Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation Institute virtual event will highlight key takeaways from the new book Developing Infrastructure in Central Asia: Impacts and Financing Mechanisms, to be discussed by the co-editors and a panel of contributors to the book. The focuses will include insights into spillover effects and financing of infrastructure development in Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, Pakistan, the People’s Republic of China, and Tajikistan. The participants will also examine the economic impact and financing mechanisms of three infrastructure projects: railways in Kazakhstan, roads in the Kyrgyz Republic, and an airport in Georgia.

Useful links


Agenda

Tokyo time
14:50-15:00  Introduction (Technical Guidance) and speakers’ group photo
**Dina Azhgaliyeva**, Research Fellow, Asian Development Bank Institute (ADBI), Japan

15:00-15:10  Opening Remarks
Tetsushi Sonobe, Dean and CEO, ADBI, Japan
Syed Shakeel Shah, Director, Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation (CAREC) Institute, People's Republic of China (PRC)

Session: Presentations of three book chapters
Chair: Bihong Huang, Economist, Monetary and Capital Market Department, International Monetary Fund (IMF), United States

15:10-15:20 Measuring Impacts and Financing Infrastructure in Kazakhstan (Railways)
Bibigul Aidarkhanova, Senior Lecturer, Department of Economics, Kazakh University of Economics, Finance and International Trade, Kazakhstan

15:20-15:30 Measuring Impacts and Financing Infrastructure in the Kyrgyz Republic (Roads)
Kamalbek Karymshakov, Economist, Chief Economist Team, CAREC Institute, PRC

15:30-15:40 Impact Assessment of Infrastructure and Public Private Partnership in Georgia (Airport)
Nestan Devidze, Investment Manager, South and Southeast Asia, Impact Investments, Kiva, United States

15:40-15:55 Q&A

15:55-16:50 Panel discussion
During this session panelists will be invited to highlight their key takeaways, main findings, policy implications, as well as suggestions for future studies.
Moderator: Qaisar Abbas, Chief, Research Division, CAREC Institute, PRC

Guntur Sugiyarto, Principal Economist, Central and West Asia Regional Department, Asian Development Bank (ADB), Philippines
Kubat Umurzakov, Expert, National Institute for Strategic Studies, Kyrgyz Republic
Andy Sze, Managing Director, Fastraxx Group LLC, United States
Alessandro Arduino, Principal Research Fellow, Middle East Institute, National University of Singapore, Singapore
Naoyuki Yoshino, Professor Emeritus, Keio University, Japan

Open Discussion

16:50-17:00 Closing remarks
Notes:

**Time limits**
Presentations of chapters – 10 minutes each
Interventions by the panelists - 5 minutes each
Questions and answers - 15 minutes. The chair/moderator will pick up some questions from the floor for the panelists from ‘Q&A’ box or from ‘raised hands’.
Panel open discussion – 25 minutes.

**Questions**
Questions will be welcomed during the workshop. After presentations, there will be a live discussion. If anyone wishes to ask questions live -please click ‘raise hand’ and ‘unmute mic’ after your name is called. Speakers will need to click ‘Participants’, to see ‘Raise hand’. Attendees may also use ‘Q&A’ at the bottom of your screen to type your questions to the speakers during and after the presentation. Speakers please answer questions in ‘Q&A’ after your presentation.

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**Simultaneous Interpretation by Zoom**

**Zoom Instructions for all Speakers and Attendees**

- Please select from the bottom panel which language for interpretation you would like, **English** or **Russian**.