



ADB-UNESCAP Webinar on Building Economic Resilience in Asia and the Pacific Post COVID-19

15 July, 15:00-17:00, Tokyo, Virtual

Biographies of Speakers

⌞ Opening Remarks ⌟



Tetsushi Sonobe
Dean and CEO,
Asian Development Bank
Institute (ADBI)

Dr. Tetsushi Sonobe is the Dean and CEO of the Asian Development Bank Institute (ADBI). Before joining ADBI on April 1, 2020, he was Vice President of National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies (GRIPS). He received his BA from the University of Tokyo and his PhD in economics from Yale University. His research interest is in development economics, especially field studies of the processes of industrial development, human resource development, social development, poverty reduction, and sustainable economic growth in developing countries. At ADBI, he exercises intellectual and strategic leadership to make ADBI's policy research and capacity building activities more relevant, timely, and evidence-based and reach a wider audience.



Hamza Ali Malik
Director,
Macroeconomic Policy and
Financing for
Development Division,
(UNESCAP)

Hamza Malik, currently the Director of Macroeconomic Policy and Financing for Development Division (MPFD) at UN-ESCAP, leads the team responsible for analyzing economic conditions and emerging development challenges in Asia-Pacific economies, and assesses potential policy options and financing strategies that can support them in their pursuit of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Under his guidance, the division publishes two annual flagship publications – the Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific and the Asia-Pacific Countries with Special Needs Development Report – and an edited analytical book, once in two years, on selected Financing for Development issues. Hamza is also the chief editor of ESCAP's academic journal, the Asia-Pacific Sustainable Development Journal, and supervises the publication of working papers and policy briefs on various economic and financing issues.

Before joining the UN-ESCAP in 2014, Hamza worked as the Director of Monetary Policy Department at the central bank of Pakistan (SBP), and before that he was an assistant professor in the Department of Economics at Lakehead University, Canada. He graduated from McMaster University with a PhD in economics in 2002.

◀ *Presenter 1* ▶



Sweta Saxena
Chief,
Macroeconomic Policy
and Financing for
Development Division,
(UNESCAP)

Sweta C. Saxena is currently on leave from the IMF to serve as the Chief in the Macroeconomic Policy and Financing for Development Division at the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP) in Bangkok, Thailand. She has led ESCAP's 2019 Flagship report, titled "Ambitions beyond growth" and 2020 Flagship, titled "Towards sustainable economies." At the IMF, she has worked on multilateral surveillance for the G20 countries in the Research Department and on fragile countries in the African Department. Her research focuses on policy-relevant macro-financial issues, namely, crises and recoveries, contagion, exchange rates, and sustainable development. Sweta has published extensively, including in the American Economic Review, Journal of Economic Literature and the Journal of International Economics. Prior to joining the IMF, she worked at the Bank for International Settlements in Basel, Switzerland, and as an Assistant Professor at the University of Pittsburgh. Sweta obtained her PhD in economics from the University of Washington and a Masters in Economics from the Delhi School of Economics

◀ *Presenter 2* ▶



John Beirne
Research Fellow,
Asian Development Bank
Institute
(ADBI)

John Beirne has been a Research Fellow at the ADBI since March 2019. His research interests are centered on international finance and macroeconomics. Previously, he worked at the European Central Bank for over ten years mainly on research and analysis of global financial market developments, commodities, and financial stability, as well as global governance issues. His recent research focuses on the implications of climate change for sovereign risk. He has also worked for a shorter period at the IMF, in academia, and as an economic consultant in the private sector. He holds a PhD in Economics from Brunel University in the United Kingdom. John has published over 25 articles in journals such as the Journal of International Money and Finance, Sustainable Development, Economic Modelling, Review of International Economics, Emerging Markets Review, and China Economic Review.

◀ Discussant 1 ▶



Sayuri Shirai
Professor of Economics,
Keio University; Senior
Advisor to EOS at
Federated Hermes

*Sayuri SHIRAI is currently a Professor of Keio University and is also senior advisor to EOS at Federated Hermes located in London. She holds Ph.D. in Economics from Columbia University. She was also visiting scholar to Asian Development Bank Institute in 2016-2020. She was a Member of the Policy Board of the Bank of Japan in 2011-2016, which is responsible for making monetary policy decisions. She taught at Sciences Po in Paris in 2007–2008 and was an economist at the IMF from 1993-1998. She is the author of numerous books and papers on a variety of subjects including CBDC, monetary policies, Macroeconomies, and ESG issues. She frequently comments on Japan's economy and global economy at Japanese and overseas TV and radio programs. Her most recent book in English is *Growing Central Bank Challenges in the World and Japan* published by the Asian Development Bank Institute in June 2020 (free download available).*

◀ Discussant 2 ▶



Sung Jin Kang
Professor of Economics,
and Director of the Institute
for Economic Research,
Korea University

Dr. Sung Jin Kang is a professor in Department of Economics and the Director of the Institute for Economic Research, and former Director of Institute for Sustainable Development at Korea University. His main research fields are issues on sustainable development (economic transition countries), green growth and economic development (foreign direct investment, poverty reduction and foreign aid). He has published a number of papers on green growth on the topic of 'impacts of environmental policies on green trade' (2021), 'green trade patterns and the transboundary transmission of greenhouse gas emissions' (2020), and so on. He was educated at Korea University (BA and MA), and at Stanford University (Ph.D.).

◀ Discussant 3 ▶



Muhammad Edhie Purnawan
Chairman of Board of Supervisors,
Central Bank of Indonesia

Muhammad Edhie Purnawan is Chairman of the Board of Supervisors at the Central Bank of Indonesia. Other experience includes: economist and lecturer at the Department of Economics, Universitas Gadjah Mada, Indonesia; Independent Commissioner at a state-owned enterprise and private company; Chairman at the Indonesian Economist Association International Affairs; and Member of the Expert Council, Sharia Economic Society, Indonesia. He holds a PhD in Monetary and Financial Economics from the University of Melbourne, Australia.

⌞ *Moderator* ⌟



Peter J. Morgan
Senior Consulting
Economist,
Vice Chair of Research,
Asian Development Bank
Institute (ADBI)

Peter Morgan joined ADBI in December 2008. Previously he served in Hong Kong, China as Chief Asia Economist for HSBC where he was responsible for macroeconomic analysis and forecasting for Asia. Before that, he was Chief Japan Economist for HSBC and held comparable positions at Merrill Lynch, Barclays de Zoete Wedd, and Jardine Fleming. Prior to entering the financial industry, he worked as a consultant for Meta Systems Inc in Cambridge, Massachusetts in the United States specializing in energy and environmental areas, including energy policy issues in Asian countries, and at International Business Information KK in Tokyo specializing in financial sector consulting. His research focuses are macroeconomic policy and financial sector regulation, reform, financial development, financial inclusion, fintech, financial literacy, and financial education. He earned his MA and PhD degrees in economics from Yale University.