



ADBI-EASTS Plenary on High-Speed Rail (HSR) Development in 14th International Conference of EASTS at Hiroshima, Japan



Date: Sept. 14, 2021, from 14:45 to 16:15 JST [Check conversions to other local time zones by clicking [here](#)].

Co-organizers: ADBI, EASTS, Chubu University, WCTRS SIG A4

Session Co-chairs: Yoshitsugu Hayashi, Junyi Zhang, KE Seetha Ram

Background:

Asia needs high-quality infrastructure development projects to catalyze its economy and improve the quality of life. Asian countries are also seeking policy measures for adopting advanced transportation technologies such as High-Speed Rail (HSR), and attracting private sector investment in transport infrastructure to fill the financing gaps. The COVID-19 pandemic has impacted the transportation networks and has further emphasized on the urgent need of interdisciplinary research addressing the issues related to sustainable transportation infrastructure development.

Responding to this need through the [ADB Institute's](#) priority theme of “Making cities more livable (Infrastructure)”, and building on its past collaborations of with [ADB's Transport sector group](#), [WCTR Society](#) and members of [Eastern Asia Society of Transport Studies \(EASTS\)](#), a plenary session on HSR development and sustainable transport planning will be organized during the upcoming [14th International Conference of EASTS \(12 - 15 Sept. 2021\)](#).

In March 2020, ADBI in association with WCTR Society established a [Special Interest Group \(SIG\) on High-Speed Rail: Policy, Investments and Impacts \(WCTRS-SIG: A4\)](#). Despite the challenges posed by COVID-19 outbreak, organized a [3-part webinar series on HSR](#) between May-June 2020 in order to progress the research activities. Subsequently, under the auspices of this group, and along with the support of Center for Sustainable Development and Global Smart City and Chubu Institute for Advance Studies at Chubu University, Japan, a [10-session international conference on “Transport Infrastructure Development, Spillover Effects and Quality of Life”](#) was organized virtually between 12-16 October 2020. This conference also commemorated the 80th anniversary of Chubu University (Japan). The objective of this conference was to enhance capacity and increase knowledge among senior officials and experts on critical issues related to the planning, implementation, operation, and management of transport infrastructure in Asia, particularly in the context of HSR development. The conference witnessed participation of over 70 speakers and about 150 registered attendees including various academics, policy makers, practitioners, and students. Over 20 scholarly papers were presented in various sessions of this conference. These papers along with the summarized expert dialogues/discussions from all 10 sessions, are published in the edited volume by ADBI Press, titled – “**Frontiers in High-Speed Rail Development**”, which is **co-edited by- Yoshitsugu Hayashi, Werner Rothengatter, K E Seetha Ram**. This edited volume aims to the document the best practices and state-of-the-art policy focused research, from across the globe.

This edited volume is planned to be launched in this ADBI-EASTS Plenary Session in 14th International Conference of East Asia Society of Transport Studies (EASTS). Roundtable discussions on sustainable transport planning and policy is also planned during this plenary which will include the spotlight of key lessons from this edited volume.

Simultaneous interpretation : English- Japanese (MIK International)

Secretariat: Ayushman Bhatt, Veronica Ern Hui Wee, Deepanshu Agarwal, Mie Saito (ADBI)

Output: Launching of edited volume in presence of the appropriate academic and research fraternity, publicizing ongoing initiatives of ADBI on relevant themes that are covered in the edited volume, and build networks with EASTS for future collaborative works.

Agenda (as on August 24, 2021)

S. No.	Time	Description
1	14:30 to 14:45 JST	<i>Meeting room opens / pre-event chat</i>
2	14:45 to 14:55 JST	<i>Opening Remarks and Launch of the ADBI Edited Volume by Tetsushi Sonobe, Dean and CEO, ADBI, Japan</i>
3	14:55 to 16:10 JST	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Roundtable Discussions on Spotlight Themes from the book titled - “Frontiers in High-Speed Rail Development” 14:55 to 16:10 JST (75 minutes)</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Moderator Tomoyo Nonaka, <i>Chair and Founder of GAIA Initiative/Full member of Club of Rome/Ex-CEO of Sanyo Electric Co. Ltd./ Ex-NHK Main Caster</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Panelists <i>Yoshitsugu Hayashi, Distinguished Professor, Chubu University, Japan</i> <i>Werner Rothengatter, Karlsruhe Institute of Technology, Germany</i> <i>K E Seetha Ram, Senior Consulting Specialist, ADBI, Japan</i> <i>Junyi Zhang, Professor, Hiroshima University, Japan</i> <i>James Leather, Chief of Transport Sector, ADB, Manila, Philippines</i> <i>Francesca Pagliara, University of Naples, Italy</i> <i>Geetham Tiwari, Indian Institute of Technology Delhi, India</i> <i>Pelin Alpkokin, General Manager of Istanbul City Transport Policy Division, Turkey (TBC)</i></p>
		Rounds
3.1		Round 1: <i>Key Messages from edited volume on “Frontiers in High-Speed Rail Development” (about 20 min.)</i>
3.2		Round 2: <i>Transport Policies for post COVID-19 & Mainstreaming Wider Economic Impacts, Quality of Life and Integrated Developments (urban and regional) in Transport Planning (about 20 min.)</i>
3.3		Round 3: <i>Development of Mega Transport Infrastructure Projects in Asia (about 20 min.)</i>
3.4		Concluding/Final remarks by each panelist and Wrap-up by Moderator (about 15 min.)
4	16:10 to 16:15 JST	<i>Closing remarks by Seungju Baek, Deputy Dean, ADBI, Japan</i>
5	16:15 to 16:30 JST	<i>Post event chat</i>



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Note:

- To participate in the webinar, we request you to download and install Zoom-US.
- All participants are requested to test and pre-configure the software on your computers.
- To configure your computer's Audio-Video, please see the instructions [here](#).
- During the webinar, participants are requested to be seated in a quiet environment.
- During the webinar, participants are requested to mute their microphones. Participants may unmute their microphones to interact when required.
- For asking any question to the speakers/panellists during the webinar, participants are requested to use Zoom Q&A option/[Menti meter](#).
- If you wish to give any feedback to panelists during the webinar, participants are requested to use chat option during the session.
- For any other queries, please email us at abh@adbi.org or vwee@adbi.org.