



Conference on Improving the Quality of Basic Education in Southeast Asia

Asian Development Bank Institute, Asian Development Bank, ISEAS – Yusof Ishak Institute

15-17 September 2021

10 AM – 1PM Tokyo time each day

Southeast Asia is home to varying degrees of autonomy in education service delivery. Countries in the region also vary greatly in terms of their public investment in education, education policy development and community involvement in education. Improving the quality of basic education to ensure students acquire foundational literacy and numeracy remains an urgent priority in the region, prompting a host of education reforms, programs, and non-governmental and non-profit organization-supported interventions.

The Asian Development Bank Institute (ADBI), the Asian Development Bank (ADB), and ISEAS - Yusof Ishak Institute are organizing a conference on the quality of basic education in Southeast Asia. The conference provides contemporary analyses and distill lessons related to improving the quality of basic education.

The conference consists of nine presentations (one regional, three from the Philippines, one each from Indonesia, Vietnam, and Malaysia), delivered by researchers from ADBI, ADB, Boston University, University of Minnesota, De La Salle University, SUNY Korea, and Malaya University. The keynote speech will be delivered by David Evans from the Center for Global Development. There will also be a panel discussion on edtech and its impact on the quality of basic education. The panelists come from the Government of Indonesia, ADB, and SuRaLa Net.

The papers that the presentations are based on will be published in a journal special issue.

DAY 1: 15 SEPTEMBER 2021 (Tokyo Time)	
10:00 – 10:05	<p>Opening</p> <p>Daniel Suryadarma, Research Fellow, Asian Development Bank Institute (ADBI)</p>
10:05 – 10:20	<p>Welcoming Remarks</p> <p>Tetsushi Sonobe, Dean and CEO, ADBI</p> <p>Ayako Inagaki, Director, Human and Social Development Division, Southeast Asia Department, Asian Development Bank</p> <p>Choi Shing Kwok, Director and CEO, ISEAS - Yusof Ishak Institute</p>
10:20 – 10:50	<p>Keynote Speech</p> <p>David Evans, Center for Global Development</p>
10:50 – 11:00	<p>Break</p>
11:00 – 11:40	<p>The Impact of Sending Top College Graduates to Rural Primary Schools</p> <p>Presenter: Masyhur Hilmy, PhD Candidate, Boston University</p> <p>Discussant: M. Niaz Asadullah, Professor of Development Economics, Malaya University</p>
11:40 – 12:20	<p>Measuring the Potential Impact of Eliminating the Education Divide among the ASEAN Members</p> <p>Presenter:</p> <p>Sanchita Basu Das, Economist, ADB</p> <p>Badri N. Gopalakrishnan, Senior Researcher, School of Environmental and Forestry Sciences, University of Washington-Seattle</p> <p>Discussant: Kenn Chua, PhD Candidate, University of Minnesota</p>
12:20 – 12:30	<p>Break</p>
12:30 – 13:10	<p>Home Schooling during the COVID-19 Pandemic in Malaysia: The Role of Family Circumstances</p> <p>Presenter: M. Niaz Asadullah, Professor of Development Economics, Malaya University</p> <p>Discussant: Wannaphong Durongkaveroj, Lecturer in Economics, Ramkhamhaeng University</p>
13:10 – 13:15	<p>Closing</p> <p>Daniel Suryadarma, Research Fellow, Asian Development Bank Institute (ADBI)</p>

DAY 2: 16 SEPTEMBER 2021 (Tokyo time)	
10:05 – 10:10	<p>Opening</p> <p>Siwage Dharma Negara, Senior Fellow, ISEAS – Yusof Ishak Institute</p>
10:10 – 10:50	<p>Mobile-assisted Language Teaching: A Systematic Review with Implications for Southeast Asia</p> <p>Presenter: Sira Maliphol, Assistant Professor, SUNY Korea</p> <p>Discussant: Bich-Hang Duong, Post-doctoral Associate, University of Minnesota</p>
10:50 – 11:00	<p>Break</p>
11:00 – 12:00	<p>Panel Discussion on Education Technology and Efforts to Improve the Quality of Basic Education</p> <p>Moderator: Siwage Dharma Negara, Senior Fellow, ISEAS – Yusof Ishak Institute</p> <p>Panelists</p> <p>Iwan Syahril, Director General for Teachers and Education Personnel, Ministry of Education, Culture, Research, and Technology Republic of Indonesia</p> <p>Jian Xu, Senior Education Specialist, ADB</p> <p>Tomoko Fujihira, Executive Officer, SuRaLa Net</p>
12:00 – 12:10	<p>Break</p>
12:10 – 12:50	<p>Recent Developments in Basic Education in Thailand: Issues and Challenges</p> <p>Presenter: Wannaphong Durongkaveroj, Lecturer in Economics, Ramkhamhaeng University</p> <p>Discussant: Sanchita Basu Das, Economist, ADB</p>
12:50 – 12:55	<p>Closing</p> <p>Siwage Dharma Negara, Senior Fellow, ISEAS – Yusof Ishak Institute</p>

DAY 3: 17 SEPTEMBER 2021 (Tokyo time)	
10:00 – 10:05	<p>Opening</p> <p>Daniel Suryadarma, Research Fellow, ADBI</p>
10:05 – 10:45	<p>The Effects of School Finance on Student Outcomes: Evidence from the Philippines</p> <p>Presenter: Kenn Chua, PhD Candidate, University of Minnesota</p> <p>Discussant: Masyhur Hilmy, PhD Candidate, Boston University</p>
10:45 – 11:25	<p>Vietnam’s Basic Education Quality in the Wake of Standardization Policy and National Curriculum Reform: Implications for Policy and Practice</p> <p>Presenter:</p> <p>Bich-Hang Duong, Post-doctoral Associate, University of Minnesota</p> <p>Ni Thi Ha Nguyen, PhD Candidate, University of Leeds</p> <p>Discussant: Sira Maliphol, Assistant Professor, SUNY Korea</p>
11:25 – 11:35	<p>Break</p>
11:35 – 12:15	<p>Developing Socioemotional skills for the Philippines' Labor Market</p> <p>Presenter: Takiko Igarashi, Research Consultant, ADBI</p> <p>Discussant: Jason Alinsunurin, Associate Professor, De La Salle University</p>
12:15 – 12:55	<p>Unpacking Underperformance: Learning Mindsets and the Challenge of Academic Achievement among Filipino Students</p> <p>Presenter: Jason Alinsunurin, Associate Professor, De La Salle University</p> <p>Discussant: Takiko Igarashi, Research Consultant, ADBI</p>
12:55 – 13:00	<p>Wrap Up and Closing</p> <p>Daniel Suryadarma, Research Fellow, ADBI</p>