



Japanese Association for Development Economics

開発経済学会



Economic Growth Centre
School of Social Sciences





Biographies of Speakers


ADB Conference on


The Social and Economic Impact of Online Commerce on Women

Event | 26-28 Ober 2021 @14:00-17:00 (JST)
Online Conference

	<i>Name</i>	Tetsushi Sonobe
	<i>Institution</i>	Asian Development Bank Institute (ADBI)
	<i>Position</i>	Dean and CEO
Short Bio		
<p>Tetsushi Sonobe is the Dean and CEO of the Asian Development Bank Institute (ADBI). Born in 1960 in Tokyo, Dean Sonobe obtained his PhD in economics from Yale University and BA in economics from the University of Tokyo. His research interests are centered on the empirics of economic development, particularly the roles of industrial clusters, human capital, social capital, management practices, and market competition in industrial development in developing Asia and other regions. Before joining ADBI in April 2020, Dean Sonobe served for six years as a vice president of the National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies (GRIPS) in Tokyo and taught economics for thirty years at Tokyo Metropolitan University and GRIPS. Dean Sonobe is a recipient of the Nikkei Book Publication Prize and the Masayoshi Ohira Memorial Prize, and a founding board member of the Japanese Association for Development Economics.</p>		


	<i>Name</i>	Karen Murray
	<i>Institution</i>	Asian Development Bank
	<i>Position</i>	Alternate Executive Director
Short Bio		
<p>Karen Murray is New Zealand's representative at the ADB Board of Directors in the constituency also representing Indonesia and members from the Pacific and Central and West Asia. She is also co-chair of the Working Group on Gender Diversity at the ADB Board. AED Murray joined ADB in 2019 from the NZ Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade where she led the Development Sector and Thematic Division. Prior to that she worked on economic regulation at the NZ Commerce Commission and tax at Lehman Brothers in London.</p>		

	<i>Name</i>	Euston Quah
	<i>Institution & Position</i>	Albert Winsemius Chair Professor of Economics, Nanyang Technological University (NTU), Singapore, and President, Economic Society of Singapore
Short Bio		
<p>Euston Quah is Albert Winsemius Chair Professor of Economics and Director, Economic Growth Centre at the Nanyang Technological University (NTU), Singapore. He holds a concurrent courtesy appointment at the Lee Kong Chian School of Medicine at NTU and an Adjunct Principal Research Fellow at the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy at the National University of Singapore (NUS). He is also Editor of the Singapore Economic Review and President of the Economic Society of Singapore. He has published widely in the fields of Cost-Benefit Analysis, Environmental Economics, and in Law and Economics. Contributing to over 100 publications inclusive of academic journals and lead opinion pieces in media. Some of his works have been selected for inclusion by the International Library of Critical Writings in Economics in UK. His textbook with E.J Mishan, now in its 6th edition (Routledge UK 2020) is regarded as a classic text in this subject and used by many universities and governments. Professor Quah had also served as external reviewer for some economics schools in various universities in Asia and held appointments as the Hengyi Chair Professor at Zhejiang University, Distinguished Visiting Professor at Universiti Brunei Darussalam, Distinguished Fellow at the University of Economics, Ho Chi Minh City and inducted as a Fellow Member of the European Academy of Sciences and Arts. Professor Quah has been and continues to be advisor to many government ministries in Singapore and had consulted for the Asian Development Bank and Institute, World Bank, and Canadian government organisations. He is a recipient of the Public Administration Medal (Silver) in 2020.</p>		

	<i>Name</i>	Keijiro Otsuka
	<i>Institution & Position</i>	JADE President and Professor of Development Economics, Kobe University


Short Bio

Keijiro Otsuka is a professor of development economics at the Graduate School of Economics, Kobe University in Japan. He received Ph.D. in economics from the University of Chicago in 1979. He was a visiting scientist at the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) from 1986 to 1989, a visiting research fellow at IFPRI from 1993 to 1998, a professor at the National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies from 2001 to 2016, and a core member of the World Development Report: Jobs at the World Bank from 2011 to 2012. He was Chairman of the Board of Trustees of IRRI from 2004 to 2007, President of the International Association of Agricultural Economists from 2009 to 2012, and President of the Japanese Association for Development Economics from 2019 to present. He is coauthor or coeditor of 26 books and published 143 articles in internationally renowned journals. He is the fellow of International, American, and African Associations of Agricultural Economists. He received Purple Ribbon Medal from the Japanese government in 2010, was selected as a member of the Japan Academy in 2018, and will serve as a lecturer at the Imperial New Year's Lectures in January 2022.

	<i>Name</i>	Ashwini Deshpande
	<i>Institution</i>	Ashoka University
	<i>Position</i>	Professor of Economics


Short Bio

Ashwini Deshpande is Professor of Economics and the Founding Director of Centre for Economic Data and Analysis (CEDA) at Ashoka University, India. Her Ph.D. and early publications have been on the international debt crisis of the 1980s. Subsequently, she has been working on the economics of discrimination and affirmative action, with a focus on caste and gender in India. She has published extensively in leading scholarly journals. She is the author of "Grammar of Caste: economic discrimination in contemporary India", Oxford University Press, New Delhi, 2011 (Hardcover) and 2017 (Paperback); and "Affirmative Action in India", Oxford University Press, New Delhi, Oxford India Short Introductions (OISI) series, 2013. She is the editor of several volumes and is currently editing the Handbook of Economics of Discrimination and Affirmative Action to be published as a part of the Springer Major Reference Works. She received the EXIM Bank award for outstanding dissertation (now called the IERA Award) in 1994, and the 2007 VKRV Rao Award for Indian economists under 45.

	<i>Name</i>	Yana van der Meulen Rodgers
	<i>Institution</i>	Rutgers University
	<i>Position</i>	Professor of Labor Studies and Employment Relations

Short Bio

Yana van der Meulen Rodgers is a professor in the Department of Labor Studies and Employment Relations in the School of Management and Labor Relations at Rutgers University. She also serves as Faculty Director of the Center for Women and Work at Rutgers. Yana specializes in using quantitative methods to conduct research on women's health, labor market status, and well-being. She has worked regularly as a consultant for the World Bank, the United Nations, and the Asian Development Bank, and she was President of the International Association for Feminist Economics. She currently serves as an Associate Editor with the journals World Development and Feminist Economics. Yana earned her PhD in economics from Harvard University and her BA in economics from Cornell University.


	<i>Name</i>	Yasuyuki Sawada
	<i>Institution</i>	University of Tokyo
	<i>Position</i>	Professor

Short Bio

Yasuyuki Sawada is Professor at the Faculty of Economics, University of Tokyo. His key research areas are development economics, microeconometrics, economics of disasters, and field surveys and experiments. From March 2017 until August 2021, he was Chief Economist of the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and Director General of its Economic Research and Regional Cooperation Department.

He has worked with well-known development and economic organizations, among them JICA, World Bank, Economic Research Institute of ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA), Pakistan Institute of Development Economics (PIDE), and Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies (BIDS).


Mr. Sawada obtained his Ph.D. in Economics from Stanford University.

	<i>Name</i>	Yesim Elhan-Kayalar
	<i>Institution</i>	Asian Development Bank
	<i>Position</i>	Advisor, Office of the Chief Economist

Short Bio


Yesim Elhan-Kayalar has over 30 years of work experience in development sector and academia in 27 countries. She has worked at national and regional levels to create long-term development solutions in public sector management, infrastructure and finance sectors. During her tenure at ADB, she has held senior positions, including as Country Director for Georgia, where she led ADB's country development strategy and portfolio during 2015-2019. At present, she focuses on knowledge and policy solutions for ADB's high impact development assistance in Asia and the Pacific.

Elhan-Kayalar holds Doctorate and Master's degrees in Economics from the University of California; qualifications in finance and management from Harvard University, University of Michigan, and National University of Singapore. She has published and taught in the fields of economics and finance prior to joining ADB.

	<i>Name</i>	Aya Suzuki
	<i>Institution</i>	University of Tokyo
	<i>Position</i>	Professor


Short Bio

Aya Suzuki is a development economist and a professor at the University of Tokyo. Her primary research interests are agricultural and aquacultural production and marketing, globalization of food systems, and industrial development. Based on field surveys and experiments in Africa and Asia, she has worked on understanding the production organizations, adoption of good practices, information dissemination among peers, and impacts of industrial jobs for unskilled workers. Her works have been published in journals including World Development, American Journal of Agricultural Economics, and Journal of Development Effectiveness. She has served as a board member of the Japanese Association for Development Economics and as an editorial board member of the Asian Development Review. She obtained her Ph.D. from the Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics, the University of California, Davis.

	<i>Name</i>	Connie Bayudan-Dacuycuy
	<i>Institution</i>	Philippine Institute for Development Studies
	<i>Position</i>	Senior Research Fellow


Short Bio


Connie Dacuycuy is a development economist with a focus on issues related to the labor market, gender and the family, poverty and social protection, and structural transformation. She is currently a senior research fellow at the Philippine Institute for Development Studies (PIDS). Prior to joining PIDS, she was an assistant professor at the Economics Department of the Ateneo De Manila University and a consultant at the Asian Development Bank. She obtained her Ph.D. in Economics at Kyoto University.


	<i>Name</i>	Siew Wei Gan
	<i>Institution</i>	University of Nottingham Malaysia
	<i>Position</i>	Associate Professor

Short Bio

Wendy Gan is an Associate Professor at University of Nottingham Malaysia. She practiced law before joining the Asian Disaster Preparedness Center, an international organization involved in building resilience to disasters and climate change impacts in Asia and the Pacific. Her recent work involved assessing digital implementation programs including the E-USahawan (Electronic Entrepreneur) Program funded by MDEC (Malaysia Digital Economy Corporation), a government agency under the Ministry of Communications and Multimedia. She also led a team of colleagues in completing three projects funded by Maybank Foundation, evaluating the outcomes of entrepreneurship training among communities with disabilities in 2017, 2019 and 2021. Wendy's work focuses on the area of development informatics, investigating interventions through capacity building and technological applications which enhance the sustainability of socio-economic initiatives. She has also been involved in projects benefiting youth, indigenous, marginalized, and disabled communities.


	<i>Name</i>	Anel Kireyeva
	<i>Institution</i>	Institute of Economics Committee of Science of the Republic of Kazakhstan
	<i>Position</i>	Lead Researcher
Short Bio		
<p>Anel Kireyeva is a head of department in the Institute of Economics Committee of Science of the Republic of Kazakhstan, and an associate professor at the University of International Business (Kazakhstan, Almaty). Kireyeva opens the line of communication between researchers and different grants funding to get scientific projects done. With over 14 years in both scientific and project sectors, Kireyeva has experience in scientific studies, analytical reports, management consultation, strategic implementation, and collaboration. Kireyeva has managed projects at scientific grant funding, where she was a Project Manager and a Performer. She is currently studying economic problems, gender differences and inequalities, social problems, analysis of the level of digital gaps, associated with access to ICT. She has published in peer-reviewed journals articles in social cases for differentiation between regions, assessment of the level of gender gaps, analysis of the level of digital opportunities, and access to ICT.</p>		

	<i>Name</i>	Meenakshi Rajeev
	<i>Institution</i>	Institute for Social and Economic Change, Bangalore
	<i>Position</i>	Professor
Short Bio		
<p>Meenakshi Rajeev is currently the Reserve Bank of India Chair Professor and Head, Centre for Economic Studies and Policy at the Institute for Social and Economic Change, India. She graduated from the Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur and completed her Ph.D. in Economics from the Indian Statistical Institute. She has worked as a faculty and taught at the University of California at San Diego, Central Michigan University, CSSS, Kolkata, and Presidency College, Kolkata. She has published more than 100 articles in reputed journals and as working papers from India and abroad. Her recent books are "Emerging Issues in Economic Development: A Contemporary Theoretical Perspective" from Oxford University Press and "Financial Access of the Urban Poor: A Story of Exclusion" from Springer. She has visited and taught in universities in the USA, UK, Germany, France and Norway, including Cornell University, University of Essex, and the Central Bank of Norway. She has completed several funded projects for the government, Ford Foundation, and World Bank. She is a member of a number of expert committees of the Government of Karnataka. Her areas of research include game theory, banking and credit market, industrial economics and development economics.</p>		

	<i>Name</i>	Syed M. Hasan
	<i>Institution</i>	Lahore University of Management Sciences
	<i>Position</i>	Associate Professor of Economics


Short Bio


Syed M Hasan is Associate Professor in the Department of Economics, LUMS. His primary research interests and teaching fields are urban and regional economics and public economics. He obtained a PhD in Economics from Ohio State University in 2014, focusing on spatial policy instruments and firm productivity. Under the broad theme of sustainable development, Hasan also has interest in research on resilient cities. In this context, his research focuses on areas related to water conservation, economic cost of congestion and energy choices by households and related carbon emissions in large urban centers of Pakistan. Hasan has several publications in international peer-reviewed journals. In 2007, he completed a master's degree in public finance from GRIPS, Tokyo. Prior to joining academia, Hasan worked in the civil service of Pakistan.


	<i>Name</i>	Tushar Bharati
	<i>Institution</i>	University of Western Australia Business School
	<i>Position</i>	Lecturer in Economics


Short Bio

Tushar Bharati is a Lecturer in Economics at the University of Western Australia. His research focuses on issues in labor economics, health, and public choice. Tushar holds a PhD and master's in economics from the University of Southern California, and a master's from the Delhi School of Economics. A PAFTAD and BRICS Scholar, Tushar's recent research investigates the constraints to female labor force participation in developing countries and the nepotism in the labor markets.

	<i>Name</i>	Poornima Gayangani Wasana Jayawardana
	<i>Institution</i>	ADB
	<i>Department</i>	Southeast Asia Department
	<i>Position</i>	Financial Sector Specialist
Short Bio		
<p>Poornima Jayawardana is a Financial Sector Specialist from ADB. She has been involved in ADB's financial inclusion interventions in the Southeast Asia region, and currently is the Financial Inclusion Lead for Indonesia. Jayawardana holds an MSc in International Development from the University of Manchester in the UK, and BBA, MBA, and PhD degrees from the Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University in Japan. She has also received professional executive education in financial inclusion and financial technology from Harvard University, Oxford University, and Cambridge University.</p>		

	<i>Name</i>	Amy N. Luinstra
	<i>Institution</i>	International Finance Corporation
	<i>Position</i>	EAP Lead
Short Bio		
<p>Amy Luinstra manages gender programs, engages private sector clients, and advises colleagues on gender issues across East Asia Pacific at the International Financial Corporation (IFC), part of the World Bank Group. Ms. Luinstra leads activities aimed at improving business outcomes through investing in workplace gender equality; including women in agribusiness value chains; facilitating access to finance and markets for women entrepreneurs; reaching female consumers as a distinct market segment; and addressing gender-based violence.</p> <p>Previously, Ms. Luinstra managed the Better Work program for IFC, a partnership with the International Labour Organization (ILO) and over 70 leading clothing brands that has improved the working conditions of over 3 million garment workers worldwide. Ms. Luinstra has worked at the ILO in Geneva and as a social protection and labor policy specialist at the World Bank in Washington, DC. She has experience in more than two dozen countries in Latin America, Africa, the Middle East, South and East Asia, and the Pacific Islands. She has been interviewed or had work featured on BBC, CNBC, Asia Wall Street Journal, and the Washington Post among other media outlets. Ms. Luinstra lives in Hanoi, Vietnam with her husband and twin sons.</p>		


	<i>Name</i>	Funda Ustek Spilda
	<i>Institution</i>	University of Oxford
	<i>Position</i>	Researcher
Short Bio		
<p>Funda Ustek Spilda is a Postdoctoral Researcher and Project Manager at the Fairwork Foundation. She is interested in studying data invisibilities & visibilities, looking at the ethical, societal, political and economic implications of being counted and not being counted in data. She has approached this theme from various angles within the fields of labor, gender, migration and responsible technology design. She holds a DPhil in Sociology (University of Oxford, St. Cross College, 2015) and an MSc in Comparative Social Policy (University of Oxford, St. Edmund Hall, 2010).</p>		

	<i>Name</i>	Linda Arthur
	<i>Institution</i>	ADB I
	<i>Position</i>	Senior Capacity Building and Training Specialist
Short Bio		
<p>Linda Arthur is a senior specialist at the Asian Development Bank Institute. She works with government officials by designing knowledge products to strengthen policymaking and implementation across a range of priority areas for developing and emerging Asia, including use of strategic foresight for inclusive recovery policies; innovation ecosystems to spur green growth; and leveraging behavioral insight to augment development impact. She is seconded from the Asian Development Bank, where she has worked since 2003, in various positions, including field assignments in Afghanistan and Pakistan. She holds a PhD from Oxford University and an MA and BA from the University of Toronto.</p>		

	<i>Name</i>	Anna Falentina
	<i>Institution</i>	Indonesian National Statistics Office
	<i>Position</i>	Young Statistician


Short Bio

Anna T. Falentina is a researcher, economist and survey design methodologist in development economics, particularly sustainable development, energy for development, digital economy, and regional economics. She started her professional career as a statistician in 2006 with more than a decade of experiences in socioeconomic research and in developing census/survey methodology with Indonesian National Statistics Office (BPS). Anna is also a lecturer at the University of Indonesia and Institute of Statistics (STIS). She has published papers in World Development, Bulletin of Indonesian Economic Studies and the ADBI Working Papers. Currently, she engages in collaborative research with the SMERU Research Institute on digital transformation among micro small enterprises during the COVID-19 pandemic in Indonesia. Anna received her BSc in Statistics from Institute of Statistics (STIS), in Management from University of Indonesia, MSc in Economics from Hiroshima University and University of Indonesia, and PhD in Economics from Australian National University.

	<i>Name</i>	Trung Thanh Nguyen
	<i>Institution</i>	Leibniz University Hannover
	<i>Position</i>	Senior Lecturer


Short Bio

Trung Thanh Nguyen is at the Institute for Environmental Economics and World Trade (www.iuw.uni-hannover.de), School of Economics and Management (www.wiwi.uni-hannover.de), Leibniz University Hannover (www.uni-hannover.de), Germany. His research and teaching focus on the interactions between environmental and development issues in the developing world.

	<i>Name</i>	Vengadeshvaran Sarma
	<i>Institution</i>	Nottingham University Business School
	<i>Position</i>	Associate Professor

Short Bio

Vengadeshvaran Sarma is an Associate Professor of Business Economics and Director of the Undergraduate Programme at the Nottingham University Business School (NUBS) in the University of Nottingham Malaysia (UNM). Venga is interested in policy-oriented research in the areas of poverty, inequality, social entrepreneurship, structural transformation, education, and displacement. His current and past projects examine the role of structural transformation and widening inequality in Vietnam, Mauritius, and Sri Lanka; social entrepreneurship and inclusive growth in Malaysia, Indonesia, the Philippines and Laos; educational inequality and compulsory schooling policies in Sri Lanka; the effect of parental migration on left-behind Sri Lankan families; and the role of land disputes and forced-displacement in India, Nepal and Malaysia.

	<i>Name</i>	Daniel Suryadarma
	<i>Institution</i>	Asian Development Bank Institute
	<i>Position</i>	Research Fellow

Short Bio

Daniel conducts applied economics research in the areas of education, poverty, and social policy. His work has appeared in peer-reviewed journals, such as American Economic Journal: Applied Economics, and Journal of Development Economics. His research has informed policy discussions at the Indonesian Vice President's Office, Indonesian Ministry of Education and Culture, and various international organizations and donor agencies.

Prior to joining ADBI, Daniel was the deputy team leader of the Research on Improving Systems of Education (RISE) Programme in Indonesia and a senior research fellow at the SMERU Research Institute in Jakarta. Daniel has economics degrees from Brandon University, the University of Toronto, and the Australian National University.



<i>Name</i>	Vu Thu Trang
<i>Institution</i>	Asian Development Bank Institute
<i>Position</i>	Research Associate

Short Bio

Vu Thu Trang is a research associate at the Asian Development Bank Institute. Her research focuses on development economics, applied econometrics, impact evaluation, and behavioral economics. She earned her MA in Public Policy from Hitotsubashi University.

Prior to joining ADBI, she worked as a senior researcher at the Institute for Development Strategy, a national think tank in Viet Nam. She also previously worked as a research assistant on impact evaluation at the Japan International Cooperation Agency.