ADBI Featured Speaker Webinar: University of Chicago's John List on The Voltage Effect: How to Make Good Ideas Great and Great Ideas Scale

Biographies of the Speakers

Thursday, 24 February 2022, 9:00am-10:30am Tokyo time

Tetsushi Sonobe

Dean and CEO, Asian Development Bank Institute (ADBI)

Short Bio

Tetsushi Sonobe is the Dean and CEO of the Asian Development Bank Institute (ADBI), the Tokyo-based think tank of the Asian Development Bank that promotes the realization of a prosperous, inclusive, resilient, and sustainable Asia and the Pacific through policy research and capacity building. 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 6 years as a vice president of the National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies (GRIPS) in Tokyo and taught economics for 30 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.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Peter J. Morgan</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Senior Consulting Economist and Vice Chair of Research, ADBI</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Short Bio

Peter J. Morgan is Senior Consulting Economist and Vice Chair of Research at the Asian Development Bank Institute (ADBI), and has been with ADBI since 2008. He has 23 years of experience in the financial sector in Asia, most recently serving in Hong Kong as Chief Asia Economist for HSBC, responsible for macroeconomic analysis and forecasting for Asia. Previously, he served as Chief Japan Economist for HSBC and held similar positions at Merrill Lynch, Barclays de Zoete Wedd, and Jardine Fleming. Prior to entering the financial industry, he was a consultant for Meta Systems Inc in Cambridge, MA, in energy and environmental analysis, and at International Business Information KK in Tokyo, in financial sector consulting. He earned his MA and PhD degrees in economics from Yale University. His research interests are in macroeconomic policy and financial sector regulation, reform, financial development, financial inclusion, fintech, financial literacy, and financial education. In 2019 he served as the Lead Co-chair for the Task Force on The Future of Work and Education for the Digital Age for the Think 20 process, an engagement group with the G20.
## Short Bio

Aya Suzuki is a development economist and a professor at the University of Tokyo. Her primal research interests are on 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 PhD from the Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics, the University of California, Davis.
John A. List

Kenneth C. Griffin Distinguished Service Professor in Economics, University of Chicago

Short Bio

John A. List is the Kenneth C. Griffin Distinguished Service Professor in Economics at the University of Chicago. He received his BS in economics at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point and PhD in economics at the University of Wyoming. List joined the UChicago faculty in 2005, and served as Chairman of the Department of Economics from 2012-2018. Prior to joining the University of Chicago, he was a professor at the University of Central Florida, the University of Arizona, and the University of Maryland. List was elected a Member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences in 2011 and a Fellow of the Econometric Society in 2015. He is currently the Visiting Robert F. Hartsook Chair in Fundraising at the Indiana University Lilly Family School of Philanthropy. His research focuses on questions in microeconomics, with a particular emphasis on using field experiments to address both positive and normative issues. For decades his field experimental research has focused on issues related to the inner-workings of markets, the effects of various incentives schemes on market equilibria and allocations, how behavioral economics can augment the standard economic model, on early childhood education and interventions, and most recently on the gender earnings gap in the gig economy (using evidence from rideshare drivers). His research includes over 200 peer-reviewed journal articles and several published books, including the 2013 international best-seller, *The Why Axis: Hidden Motives and the Undiscovered Economics of Everyday Life* (with Uri Gneezy).
Short Bio

Yasuyuki Sawada is a 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, Pakistan Institute of Development Economics, and Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies. Mr. Sawada obtained his PhD in economics from Stanford University.
Prior to her appointment as Vice President (development finance, mobilization, partnership) in February 2021, Dr. Megumi Muto has held leadership roles at Ogata Sadako Research Institute for Peace and Development, Global Environment Department, and at France office. During 2010 to 2015, she was responsible for the Philippines and the Pacific. Dr. Muto has written extensively in the area of impact evaluation. She has also co-led a WB-ADB-JICA book on the impact of climate change on Asian coastal megacities. She holds a PhD in Development Economics, Master in Public Affairs, and Executive Master of Business Administration.
Ahmed Mushfiq Mobarak is a Professor of Economics at Yale University with concurrent appointments in the School of Management and in the Department of Economics. Mobarak is the founder and faculty director of the Yale Research Initiative on Innovation and Scale (Y-RISE). He holds other appointments at Innovations for Poverty Action, the International Growth Centre (IGC) at LSE, and the Jameel Poverty Action Lab (J-PAL) at MIT. He conducts field experiments exploring ways to induce people in developing countries to adopt technologies or behaviors that are likely to be welfare-improving. He also examines the complexities of scaling up development interventions that are proven effective in such trials. His research has been published in journals across disciplines, including Econometrica, Science, American Economic Review, Review of Economic Studies, the American Political Science Review, Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, and Demography, and covered by the New York Times, The Economist, NPR, BBC, NBC, The Washington Post, Wall Street Journal, Science, Nature, the Times of London, and other media outlets around the world. He received a Carnegie Fellowship in 2017.