



Launch Webinar: ADB-ADBI Innovation and Structural Transformation Database

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Biographies of Speakers (by Session)



Tetsushi Sonobe
Dean, Asian Development Bank Institute

Tetsushi Sonobe is the Dean and CEO of the Asian Development Bank Institute (ADBI), the Tokyo-based think tank of the Asian Development Bank. Dean Sonobe is a development economist and obtained his PhD in economics from Yale University. His research interests include the empirics of economic development, particularly industrial development processes and poverty reduction in developing countries. 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. He also previously served as a professor of economics at Tokyo Metropolitan University and GRIPS.



Jesus Felipe
Advisor, Economic Research and Regional Cooperation
Department, Asian Development Bank (ADB)

Jesus Felipe has been Advisor in the Asian Development Bank's Economic Research and Regional Cooperation Department since 2012. He has been with ADB since 1996, and he is a member of the Editorial Board, as well as the Managing Editor of the *Asian Development Review*. He has also held academic positions with the Georgia Institute of Technology and the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology. He holds a Ph.D. from the University of Pennsylvania. His research interests spread across areas such as long-run growth in Asia, the dynamics of structural transformation, industrial policy, inclusive growth and full employment, the impact of technology on employment, productivity, technological progress, the functional distribution of income, business cycles, and the path of profit rates. He has published extensively in academic journals on different aspects of Asia's development, productivity and structural transformation; as well as books on labor markets, structural transformation, industrial policy and the foundations of the aggregate production function. Jesus Felipe is a national of Spain, but has lived most of his life abroad, in Asia in particular (a continent that he has travelled extensively), and most of it in the Philippines (since 1996).



Neil Foster-McGregor

Deputy Director/Professorial Fellow, United Nations University-Maastricht Economic and Social Research Institute on Innovation and Technology (UNU-MERIT)

Neil Foster-McGregor is Professor of Innovation and Globalisation and Deputy Director at the United Nations University - Maastricht Economic and Social Research Institute on Innovation and Technology (UNU-MERIT). His research interests are broad, covering issues related to economic growth and development, structural change, international trade and globalization, and innovation and technology transfer. He has conducted consultancy work for numerous organizations including the Asian Development Bank, the African Development Bank, the European Commission and various United Nations agencies. Neil has been with UNU-MERIT since 2014 and prior to that was a Senior Economist at the Vienna Institute for International Economic Studies and Assistant Professor at the University of Vienna. He obtained his PhD from the University of Nottingham.



Peter Morgan

Senior Consulting Economist and Vice Chair of Research, ADBI

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 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 earlier 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.