Micro, small, and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs) are struggling to survive the significant negative impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. MSMEs suffered most severely while they are the backbone of the economy by absorbing a major share of labor force and contributing to GDP. The COVID-19 pandemic reminds us of the importance of MSMEs with a particular emphasis on resilience as well as inclusiveness and sustainability.

Long-standing challenges facing MSMEs include technological literacy and lack of financial resources. Adoption of digital technology requires the ability to use, manage, understand, and assess technology as well as the access to needed financing. Digital technology once adopted successfully is expected to enhance MSMEs’ innovation and competitiveness, which would also ensure MSMEs’ resilience, inclusiveness, and sustainability.

The Forum organizes a two-day virtual workshop, comprising of interactive presentations and group discussions, by bringing together senior policy makers from Asian countries, who are responsible for designing and implementing policies for MSMEs. The objective is to strengthen the capacity of officials in designing and implementing policies to enhance MSMEs’ innovation and competitiveness. Workshop participants will also include various stakeholders and such resource persons as experts from multilateral institutions, the private sector, and academia. This workshop is expected to help promote sharing of knowledge and experiences between stakeholders from Asia and Japan.

Indonesia-Japan Policy Research Forum for Asia is a collaboration between Asian Development Bank Institute (ADBI), Institute for Economic and Social Research, Faculty of Economics and Business, University of Indonesia (LPEM FEB UI) and The University of Tokyo’s Graduate School of Public Policy (GraSPP) with the support of the Toshiba International Foundation.¹

¹ Toshiba International Foundation (TIFO), a public interest incorporated foundation, provides LPEM with financial support to co-host this workshop under the name of “Enhancing MSMEs’ Innovation and Competitiveness: The Role of Digital Technology”
# DAY ONE: 23 February 2022, Wednesday

<table>
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<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>08:30 – 09:00 (WIB) 10:30 – 11:00 (JST)</td>
<td>Registration of participants</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
| 09:00 – 09:20 (WIB) 11:00 – 11:20 (JST) | Opening Remarks  
Teguh Dartanto, Dean of Faculty Economic and Business, Universitas Indonesia  
Welcome Remarks  
Tetsushi Sonobe, Dean & CEO, Asian Development Bank Institute |
| 09:20 – 09:40 (WIB) 11:20 – 11:40 (JST) | Keynote Address  
Johnny G Plate, Minister of Communication and Information, Republic of Indonesia  
and  
Suahasil Nazara, Vice Minister of Finance, Republic of Indonesia |
| 09:40 – 9:50 (WIB) 11:40 – 11:50 (JST) | Group Photo & Break |
| 09:50 – 11:30 (WIB) 11:50 – 13:30 (JST) | **SESSION 1: Adoption of Digital Technology for MSMEs Development**  
*In many economies, the COVID-19 pandemic has severely affected MSMEs, yet this period also witnessed the resilience and adaptation of MSMEs. This session will discuss perspectives on the adoption of digital technology in the post-COVID-19 pandemic era based on case studies.*  
**Moderator:** Riznaldi Akbar, Senior Capacity Building and Training Economist, ADBI  
**Speakers:**  
1. M. Dian Revindo, Head of Research Group on Global Value Chain, LPEM FEB UI  
2. Karthik Varada, Project Academic Specialist, MbSC2030, The University of Tokyo  
3. Nyoman Adhiarma, Director of Digital Economy, Ministry of Communication and Information, Republic of Indonesia  
Open Discussion |
| 11:30 – 12:50 (WIB) 13:30 – 14:50 (JST) | **SESSION 2: Addressing Challenges on Digital Technology Infrastructure**  
*This session will explore the experiences across Asian countries to sustain an adequate quality of digital technology infrastructure, and discuss initiatives for the provision of an inclusive technology infrastructure in the post-COVID-19 pandemic era* |
**Moderator:** Toshiro Nishizawa, Professor, GraSPP, The University of Tokyo  
**Speakers:**  
1. Ibrahim Kholilul Rohman, Senior Economist, Indonesia Financial Group  
2. Nguyen Anh Duong, Director, Department for General Economic Issues and Integration Studies, Central Institute for Economic Management, Vietnam

Open Discussion

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**DAY TWO: 24 February 2022, Thursday**

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<th>Time</th>
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| 08:30 – 08:35 (WIB) 10:30 – 10:35 (JST) | Opening Remark  
Seungju Baek, Deputy Dean, Asian Development Bank Institute |
| 08:35 – 08:50 (WIB) 10:35 – 10:50 (JST) | Keynote Address  
Febrio Nathan Kacaribu, Head of Fiscal Policy Agency, Ministry of Finance, Republic of Indonesia |

**SESSION 3: Innovative Approaches to MSMEs’ Digital Financing**  
*This session will discuss financial sector evolvement on digital technology and initiatives of financing MSMEs from the private sector’s perspectives.*

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| 08:50 – 10:20 (WIB) 10:50 – 12:20 (JST) | **Moderator:** Nella Hendriyetty, Director of Center for Regional and Bilateral Policy, Fiscal Policy Agency, Ministry of Finance, Republic of Indonesia  
**Speakers:**  
1. Kotaro Yamabe, Music Securities, Inc., Japan  
2. Teguh Yudo Wicaksono, Head of Mandiri Institute, Indonesia  
3. Poornima Gayangani Wasana Jayawardana, Financial Sector Specialist, ADB  
Open Discussion |

**SESSION 4: Policies on Digital Technology and Financial Literacy**  
*Improving digital technology and financial literacy is one of the important policy challenges to ensure readiness to enhance MSMEs’ innovation and competitiveness. This session explore the experiences across Asian countries of government efforts to develop and strengthen such literacy.*

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| 10:20 – 11:50 (WIB) 12:20 – 13:50 (JST) | **Moderator:** Prani Sastiono, Deputy Head of Digital Economy and Behavioral Economics, LPEM FEB UI  
**Speakers:**  
1. Dr. Erica Paula Sioson, Senior Officer, ASEAN Secretariat |
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<th>Time</th>
<th>Session</th>
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| 11:50 – 12:10 (WIB) 13:50 – 14:10 (JST) | Summary and Wrap Up  
Martina Marsili, GraSPP, The University of Tokyo  
Striratna Nityahayu, GraSPP, The University of Tokyo  
Riznaldi Akbar, Senior Capacity Building and Training Economist, ADBI  
Toshiro Nishizawa, Professor, GraSPP, The University of Tokyo  
Riatu Mariatul Qibthiyyah, Director, LPEM FEB UI |
| 12:10 – 12:15 (WIB) 14:10 – 14:15 (JST) | Concluding Remarks  
Toshiro Nishizawa, Professor, GraSPP, The University of Tokyo |