



CAREC INSTITUTE RESEARCH CONFERENCE

**THEME: Resilience and Economic Growth in Times of High
Uncertainty in CAREC Region**

Participants' Profiles

11-12 April 2022

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DAY ONE

< Opening Session >

Chair

	<i>Last Name</i>	Shah	<i>First Name</i>	Syed Shakeel
	<i>Institution</i>	Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation Institute		
	<i>Position</i>	Director		
Short Bio				
<p>Mr. SYED SHAKEEL SHAH is the CAREC Institute Director. Prior to this, he was the Chief Reforms, Automation and Preferential Trade – Pakistan Customs – Federal Board of Revenue, Government of Pakistan. He has also served as the Joint Secretary, Economic Affairs, Prime Minister’s Office, Government of Pakistan. He has decades of experience working in the civil service system of the Government of Pakistan. He holds two master’s degrees: 1) in Advanced Studies in International Trade Law and Economics (MILE) from World Trade Institute – Bern – Switzerland, and 2) in International Relations from Quaid-e-Azam University – Islamabad -Pakistan. His areas of expertise, include WTO law (Dispute Resolution, SPS, TRIPS/ TRIMS Agreements, Doha Round), Micro and Macroeconomics, Trade (International, Regional and Preferential), Economic Corridors, Customs laws, Reforms and Automation including Single Windows for Trade, Ease of doing business in Trading Across Border indicator, and Trade Facilitation Agreement of WTO.</p>				

Opening Remarks


	<i>Last Name</i>	Lu	<i>First Name</i>	Jin
	<i>Institution</i>	Ministry of Finance, The People's Republic of China (PRC)		
	<i>Department</i>	Department of International Economic and Financial Cooperation		
	<i>Position</i>	Deputy Director General		
Short Bio				
<p>Prior to taking Deputy Director General post at the Ministry of Finance (MOF) of the PRC, Lu Jin held various senior posts in MOF, also served as an Advisor to Executive Director and Alternate Executive Director for the PRC at the Asian Development Bank during 2006-2008 and 2018-2020. Mr. Lu holds MA in Finance from Wuhan University.</p>				

Opening Remarks


	<i>Last Name</i>	Sonobe	<i>First Name</i>	Tetsushi
	<i>Institution</i>	Asian Development Bank Institute		
	<i>Position</i>	Dean and CEO		
Short Bio				
<p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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</p>				

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.

Opening Remarks


	<i>Last Name</i>	Sabyrova	<i>First Name</i>	Lyaziza
	<i>Institution</i>	Asian Development Bank		
	<i>Department</i>	Central and West Asia Regional Department		
	<i>Position</i>	Principal Regional Economist		
Short Bio				
<p>Lyaziza Sabyrova is a Principal Regional Economist in Central and West Regional Department. After obtaining her PhD degree in Economics from Indiana University (Bloomington, IN, USA), she joined ADB in 2000, and worked on infrastructure projects in the People's Republic of China, as well as in the Central Asian and South Caucasus countries. She was also posted in ADB's Resident Mission in the Kyrgyz Republic, and led the preparation of the Joint Country Support Strategy for the Kyrgyz Republic from the ADB side (together with DFID, the Swiss Development Agency, the World Bank, and UN Agencies). From 2008–2011, she was on a special leave from the ADB, during which she co-founded an independent economic think tank in Kazakhstan, the RAKURS Center for Economic Analysis. She led the work on ADB's Country Partnership Strategies for several Central Asian and South Caucasus countries. She was also involved in the Department's Knowledge Management and analytical work.</p>				

Keynote Address


	<i>Last Name</i>	Linn	<i>First Name</i>	Johannes
	<i>Institution</i>	Brookings Institution		
	<i>Department</i>	Global Economy and Development		
	<i>Position</i>	Nonresident Senior Fellow		
Short Bio				
<p>JOHANNES F. LINN is a Non-resident Senior Fellow at the Brookings Institution, a Distinguished Resident Scholar at the Emerging Markets Forum in Washington, D.C., a Senior Fellow at the Results for Development Institute and a Senior Research Fellow at the International Initiative for Impact Evaluation. From 2005 to 2010 he was Director of the Wolfensohn Center for Development at Brookings. During this time also served as Special Advisor to the Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation Forum (CAREC). Prior to joining Brookings in 2003, he worked for three decades at the World Bank, including as the Bank's Vice President for Europe and Central Asia.</p> <p>Johannes served as leader and principal author of the UNDP's Central Asia Human Development Report (UNDP, 2005). He co-edited and contributed to four books on Central Asia – Central Asia and the Caucasus: At the Crossroads of Eurasia in the 21st Century (Sage, 2011), Kazakhstan 2050: Toward a Modern Society for All (Oxford University Press, 2014), Central Asia 2050: Unleashing the Region's Potential (Sage, 2016). China's Belt and Road Initiative: Potential Transformation of Central Asia and the South Caucasus (Sage, 2019). Johannes holds a bachelor's degree from Oxford University and a doctorate in economics from Cornell University.</p>				

<Special session>

Chair

	<i>Last Name</i>	Abdullaev	<i>First Name</i>	Iskandar
	<i>Institution</i>	Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation Institute		
	<i>Position</i>	Deputy Director		
Short Bio				
<p>Dr. Iskandar Abdullaev holds MSc and PhD degrees from Tashkent Institute of Irrigation and Agriculture Mechanization Engineers (TIAME), Tashkent, Uzbekistan. Part of his PhD work Dr. Abdullaev conducted at Iowa State University (ISU), Iowa, USA. Dr. Abdullaev have intensive training and education programmes in Israel (1996-1997), USA (1999) and the Netherlands, (2000), Switzerland (2002). Dr. Iskandar Abdullaev has over 25 years of experience in water management, water institutions, environmental activities in Afghanistan and five Central Asian countries. Dr. Iskandar Abdullaev joined Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation (CAREC) Institute as Deputy Director in June 2019. From 2013-2019 Dr. Abdullaev worked as an Executive Director of Regional Environmental Center (CAREC) for Central Asia. Prior joining of CAREC in 2009-2013, Dr. Abdullaev worked as Regional advisor for Germany's Berlin Initiative- Transboundary Water Management in Central Asia (Programme) at the German Society for International Cooperation (GIZ). During 2007-2009, he worked in position of Senior Researcher at ZEF Centre for Development Research University of Bonn (Germany) and conducted research in Central Asia and Afghanistan. During 2001-2007, Dr. Abdullaev worked as a regional researcher at International Water Management Institute (Headquarters in Sri Lanka). His research focus included Central Asia, Iran, Pakistan, Thailand and Sri-Lanka. Dr. Abdullaev very well linked with research, scientific societies of the region and worldwide. He is member of International Water Resources Association (IWRA), member of editorial boards of few internationally peer reviewed journals.</p>				

Speaker


	<i>Last Name</i>	Abbas	<i>First Name</i>	Qaisar
	<i>Institution</i>	Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation Institute		
	<i>Department</i>	Research Division		
	<i>Position</i>	Chief		

Short Bio

Dr. Abbas acquired the Ph.D. degree in Human Resource Development from the Nankai University Tianjin, the PRC, in May 2000. He performed a post-doctoral research at Cardiff Business School (UK) in September 2007. He also holds M.Sc. and M. Phil. in Economics from Quaid-i-Azam University of Islamabad. He has worked as Dean of the faculty of Business Administration at Comsats University Islamabad (CUI) and Director of CUI Lahore campus. Over the years, he has assumed various responsibilities at CUI, including Provost, Convener of Campus Selection Committee, Convener Board of Studies of Management Sciences, and Convener Board of Faculties of Business Administration and Board Member of Governor CUI in Pakistan.

Dr. Abbas has produced numerous research outputs including 38 publications in national and international journals, nine conference proceedings, and seven conference presentations. Dr. Abbas has also completed two research projects funded by the Higher Education Commission (HEC) of Pakistan and CUI. Five students have completed their Ph.D. works under his supervision. He was instrumental in launching an international research journal “South Asian Journal of Global Business Research” published by Emerald Publications. He has been actively involved in organizing a number of international workshops/seminars/conferences/forums.

Speaker

	<i>Last Name</i>	Akhmedov	<i>First Name</i>	Shakhboz
	<i>Institution</i>	Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation Institute		
	<i>Department</i>	Research Division		
	<i>Position</i>	Senior Research Fellow, Knowledge and Research Networking		

Short Bio

Shakhboz Akhmedov is Senior Research Fellow, Knowledge and Research Networking at the CAREC Institute. Prior to that, he was Head of the Knowledge, Projects and Resource Management unit and Resource Mobilization Coordinator at the Regional Environmental Centre for Central Asia (CAREC), based in Almaty, Kazakhstan. He was also responsible for strategic development and partnerships. Before joining CAREC, he worked with the Regional Environmental Centre for Central and Eastern Europe (REC) and GIZ on project development and fundraising.

He earned his Postgraduate Diploma in Organisational Leadership from Said Business School, University of Oxford, Master's degree from the Willy Brandt School of Public Policy, Germany and Bachelor's degree in International Relations from the University of World Economy and Diplomacy, Uzbekistan. His research interests include climate change, water and environment, regional cooperation and sustainable development. Shakhboz is passionate about promoting cooperation for better environment involving science, technology and innovation.

Speaker

	<i>Last Name</i>	Azhgaliyeva	<i>First Name</i>	Dina
	<i>Institution</i>	Asian Development Bank Institute (ADBI)		
	<i>Position</i>	Research Fellow		

Short Bio

Dr. Dina Azhgaliyeva is a Research Fellow at the Asian Development Bank Institute (ADBI). Before joining ADBI in July 2019, she worked as a Research Fellow in the energy economics division of the Energy Studies Institute, National University of Singapore. She was also a Research Fellow at the Henley Business School, University of Reading (UK) where she worked on a project 'Kazakh-British Centre for Competitiveness'. She also worked as a leading and chief specialist for the Tax Committee at the Ministry of Finance of Kazakhstan.


Her research focuses on energy policy, particularly renewable energy, energy efficiency, and energy storage. Dina has published articles on these topics in journals such as Technological Forecasting and Social Change, Australasian Journal of Environmental Management, Journal of Environmental Management, Energy Policy and Journal of Sustainable Finance & Investment. She is currently a guest editor for the Applied Energy's special issue "Integration of Renewable Energy in Energy Systems, Perspectives on Investment, Technology, and Policy".

She earned her PhD and MSc in economics from the University of Essex (UK). She also holds an internationally recognized teaching qualification from the Fellow of Higher Education Academy and a qualification in research career management from the Staff Educational and Development Association. More information is available here:

<https://www.adb.org/adbi/about/staff-profiles/dina-azhgaliyeva>

< Session One >

Chair


	<i>Last Name</i>	Abbas	<i>First Name</i>	Qaisar
	<i>Institution</i>	Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation Institute		
	<i>Department</i>	Research Division		
	<i>Position</i>	Chief		
Short Bio				
<p>Dr. Abbas acquired the Ph.D. degree in Human Resource Development from the Nankai University Tianjin, the PRC, in May 2000. He performed a post-doctoral research at Cardiff Business School (UK) in September 2007. He also holds M.Sc. and M. Phil. in Economics from Quaid-i-Azam University of Islamabad. He has worked as Dean of the faculty of Business Administration at Comsats University Islamabad (CUI) and Director of CUI Lahore campus. Over the years, he has assumed various responsibilities at CUI, including Provost, Convener of Campus Selection Committee, Convener Board of Studies of Management Sciences, and Convener Board of Faculties of Business Administration and Board Member of Governor CUI in Pakistan.</p> <p>Dr. Abbas has produced numerous research outputs including 38 publications in national and international journals, nine conference proceedings, and seven conference presentations. Dr. Abbas has also completed two research projects funded by the Higher Education Commission (HEC) of Pakistan and CUI. Five students have completed their Ph.D. works under his supervision. He was instrumental in launching an international research journal “South Asian Journal of Global Business Research” published by Emerald Publications. He has been actively involved in organizing a number of international workshops/seminars/conferences/forums.</p>				

Speaker


	<i>Last Name</i>	Dosmaganbetov	<i>First Name</i>	Ablay
	<i>Institution</i>	SDSN Kazakhstan		
	<i>Department</i>	N/A		
	<i>Position</i>	Project Manager		
Short Bio				
<p>Ablay Dosmaganbetov is a Project Manager at Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) in Kazakhstan. He earned his PhD in Public Policy at Graduate School of Public Policy, Nazarbayev University, Kazakhstan. Before joining SDSN Kazakhstan, he worked in the private equity and mining sector as analyst (Resource Capital Group, RCG IA) and managing director (JSC 'BAST'), respectively. Prior to that, he got Master's degree from the Graduate School of Management, Russia and Bachelor's degree in Economics from the Karaganda State Technical University, Kazakhstan. His research interests include extractive industries and sustainable development.</p>				

	<i>Last Name</i>	Ulagpan	<i>First Name</i>	Yelif
	<i>Institution</i>	Shanghai Jiao Tong University		
	<i>Department</i>	School of International and Public Affairs		
	<i>Position</i>	PhD Student		
Short Bio				
<p>Yelif Ulagpan is a PhD student at the School of International and Public Affairs, Shanghai Jiao Tong University and a former affiliate of Center for the History of Global Development, Shanghai University, PRC. She earned her Master's degree from Shanghai University. Prior to that, she gained work experience at international development agencies like United Nations in Mongolia. Her research interests include public policy, sustainable development and the environment with a focus on natural resource management and climate change.</p>				

Discussant


	<i>Last Name</i>	Kapsalyamova	<i>First Name</i>	Zhanna
	<i>Institution</i>	Nazarbayev University		
	<i>Department</i>	Department of Economics		
	<i>Position</i>	Assistant Professor		
Short Bio				
<p>Dr Kapsalyamova is an Assistant Professor of Economics at Nazarbayev University. During her past career she worked as a Deputy Director of the Center for Macroeconomic Research and Quantitative Economic Modeling at the Economic Research Institute under the Ministry of National Economy of Kazakhstan. She was a Fulbright Visiting Scholar at Massachusetts Institute of Technology and postdoctoral research associate at the Masdar Institute of Science and Technology in the United Arab Emirates. She holds her Doctoral degree in Economics from Christian Albrechts University of Kiel. Her research interests lie in Energy Economics, Environmental Economics, and Computable General Equilibrium Modeling.</p>				

Speaker

	<i>Last Name</i>	Yao	<i>First Name</i>	Yixin
	<i>Institution</i>	Asian Development Bank Institute (ADBI)		
	<i>Department</i>	Research Division		
	<i>Position</i>	Senior Research Fellow		

Short Bio


Yixin Yao joined ADBI in September 2021. Previously she served in the Ministry of Finance of China (MOF PRC) as the director responsible for bilateral and multilateral financial cooperation between PRC and ADB, KFW, OFID, GCF, Austria, Israel etc. Before that she was Financial Partnership Specialist responsible for PRC Poverty Reduction and Regional Cooperation Fund in ADB HQ. Prior to entering ADB, she worked in MOF PRC responsible for fiscal policy research and international financial cooperation, in the Mission of PRC to European Union (EU) in Belgium responsible for public policy research, in the National General Bureau of Press and Publication of PRC responsible for copyright research and has been Senior Fulbright Visiting Scholar in the University of Minnesota, USA, and visiting scholar in the University of Hong Kong. Her research focuses on sustainable development, climate change, green finance, and intellectual property. She earned her PhD degree in Economics from Northwest University, MA and BA degree in law from Peking University, PRC.

	<i>Last Name</i>	Fan	<i>First Name</i>	Mingyuan
	<i>Institution</i>	Asian Development Bank		
	<i>Department</i>	Environnement, Natural Resources, and Agriculture Division East Asia Department		
	<i>Position</i>	Principal Water Resource Specialist		

Short Bio

Mr. Fan joined ADB in 2010. He served at different positions in ADB, including Urban Development Specialist (2010–2013); Senior Urban Development Specialist (2013–2017) in Urban Development Division in South Asia Region. He served as Senior Urban Development Specialist to process and implementation of urban development loan projects and TAs in Sri Lanka, India and Bangladesh. He is urban focal point for Sri Lanka (2011-2015) and Bangladesh (2016-2017). He transfer to the East Asia Region from 2017 to now and served as Principal Water Resources Specialist to process and implementation of Urban and rural environment development project in Sichuan Ziyang Inclusive Development Project and Anhui Huangshan Xin'an River Ecological Protection and Green Development Project, as well as Jiangxi Ganzhou Ecological Development and Green Development Project.

Mingyuan Fan holds a Bachelor's degrees in water and wastewater engineering from the Department of Environment Engineering, Changan University, (China), and a Master's Degree in municipal and environmental engineering from Harbin Institute of Technology, (China). Mingyuan Fan joined ADB in July 2010 as Urban Development Specialist. In SAUW, Prior to joining ADB, Mingyuan Fan worked as Senior Municipal Engineer in the World Bank's East Asia and Pacific Region, and Director of Urban Unit in China International Engineering Consulting Corporation (CIECC). In EAER, he served as Principal Water Resource Management Specialist to process and implementation of water and environment loan projects and TAs.


	<i>Last Name</i>	Heckmann	<i>First Name</i>	Arnaud
	<i>Institution</i>	Asian Development Bank		
	<i>Department</i>	East Asia Regional Department		
	<i>Position</i>	Principal Urban Development Specialist		

Short Bio

Arnaud Heckmann is a principal urban development specialist at the Asian Development Bank's East Asia Regional Department. He designs, processes, and administers integrated economic and urban development projects and technical assistances, that promote inclusive and green livable cities, climate change adaptation and mitigation, environmental sustainability, and green urban-rural development. Before joining ADB, he worked with various international organizations as project team leader on urban and regional development planning and infrastructure investments.

He holds a master's degree in comparative development research from EHESS (Paris School of High Study in Social Science), a master's degree in human geography from Toulouse University, and a diploma in Chinese language and culture from Paris University. He is currently based in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia.

Discussant

	<i>Last Name</i>	Karymshakov	<i>First Name</i>	Kamalbek
	<i>Institution</i>	Kyrgyz-Turkish Manas University		
	<i>Department</i>	Finance and Banking		
	<i>Position</i>	Associate Professor		
Short Bio				
<p>He is Vice-Rector of the Kyrgyz-Turkish Manas University. He was economist at CAREC Institute. He has 15 years of experience as an economist in Central Asian economies. Kamalbek holds Ph.D. in Economics from Yeditepe University (Istanbul, Turkey). He also had post-doctoral research fellowship at Free University of Berlin (2010-2011). He worked as Associate Professor at the Finance and Banking department of Kyrgyz-Turkish Manas University (Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan). From 2016-2020 he was vice-director of Central Asian Research Center (ORASAM) at Kyrgyz-Turkish Manas University. His research interests include labor economics, migration, economic integration, infrastructure economic growth and development in Central Asia. He has applied economic analysis experience using household level data. He has project and consultancy experience on various topics of labor market, migration, public policy, and rural economic development.</p>				

Speaker

	<i>Last Name</i>	Mukhammedova	<i>First Name</i>	Azizakhon
	<i>Institution</i>	Westminster International University in Tashkent (WIUT)		
	<i>Department</i>	Research Department in Graduate School		
	<i>Position</i>	Research Assistant in Economics		
Short Bio				

Azizakhon Mukhammedova is a Research Assistant in Economics in the Research department of Graduate school at Westminster International University in Tashkent since 2021. Prior to that, she worked at “ELGA MANZUR MEBEL” in Tashkent in the position of Assistant Manager. She was also responsible for creating incentive programs with the head manager to increase productivity. Before that, she had been also a practitioner at the Center for Economic Research and Reforms under the Administration of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan (CERR) and was involved in the project on “The World Trade Organization (WTO) membership of Uzbekistan”.

Azizakhon is a graduate of Master of Science in Applied Economics at Westminster International University in Tashkent. She also earned her BSc in Economics with Finance from Westminster International University in Tashkent. Her research interests include development economics, household economics, sustainable development, gender equality, and transition economies. Azizakhon is passionate about working on faculty-initiated research projects gives her the opportunity to work closely with a mentor—a faculty member or another experienced researcher.

Discussant

	<i>Last Name</i>	Azhgaliyeva	<i>First Name</i>	Dina
	<i>Institution</i>	Asian Development Bank Institute (ADBI)		
	<i>Position</i>	Research Fellow		
Short Bio				
<p>Dr. Dina Azhgaliyeva is a Research Fellow at the Asian Development Bank Institute (ADBI). Before joining ADBI in July 2019, she worked as a Research Fellow in the energy economics division of the Energy Studies Institute, National University of Singapore. She was also a Research Fellow at the Henley Business School, University of Reading (UK) where she worked on a project ‘Kazakh-British Centre for Competitiveness’. She also worked as a leading and chief specialist for the Tax Committee at the Ministry of Finance of Kazakhstan. Her research focuses on energy</p>				

policy, particularly renewable energy, energy efficiency, and energy storage. Dina has published articles on these topics in journals such as Technological Forecasting and Social Change, Australasian Journal of Environmental Management, Journal of Environmental Management, Energy Policy and Journal of Sustainable Finance & Investment. She is currently a guest editor for the Applied Energy's special issue "Integration of Renewable Energy in Energy Systems, Perspectives on Investment, Technology, and Policy". She earned her PhD and MSc in economics from the University of Essex (UK). She also holds an internationally recognized teaching qualification from the Fellow of Higher Education Academy and a qualification in research career management from the Staff Educational and Development Association. More information is available here: <https://www.adb.org/adbi/about/staff-profiles/dina-azhgaliyeva>


DAY TWO < Session Two >


Chair

	<i>Last Name</i>	Umar	<i>First Name</i>	Khalid
	<i>Institution</i>	Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation Institute		
	<i>Department</i>	Strategic Planning Division		
	<i>Position</i>	Chief		
Short Bio				
<p>Khalid is heading Strategic Planning Division (SPD) at the Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation Institute (CAREC Institute), headquartered in Urumqi, China. He is also the coordinator of CAREC Think Tank Network (CTTN) and the flagship annual Think Tank Forum (TTF). Khalid is a Fulbright Scholar and holds an MA degree in International Economics and Finance from Brandeis University, Massachusetts, USA. His professional interests include the global economic environment, economic policy, regional economic cooperation, strategic alliances, and partnerships.</p>				

He is a career civil servant working for the Ministry of Finance, Government of Pakistan since 2005. Before joining civil service, he has worked in the NGO sector in Pakistan. Prior to his current assignment, he worked as Deputy Secretary (Economic Affairs) at Prime Minister's Office, Islamabad, Pakistan.

Speaker

	<i>Last Name</i>	Mukhtorova	<i>First Name</i>	Nasiba
	<i>Institution</i>	Academic Lyceum of Westminster International University in Tashkent		
	<i>Department</i>	The Department of Foreign Languages		
	<i>Position</i>	Academic English Teacher		
Short Bio				
<p>Nasiba Mukhtorova is Teacher of Academic English at the Academic Lyceum of Westminster International University in Tashkent. Prior to that, she is a MA IBM postgraduate student at Westminster International University in Tashkent. She is an academician by choice and researcher by heart.</p> <p>She has five years of ESL teaching experience. She graduated from Uzbek State World Languages University, interpretation translation faculty. She recently published an article in International Journal of Engineering Science and Computing, A Study of GUCCI, the Changes in its Strategies During the Pandemic and the Consumers` Perception Towards the Brand`s Products. Her research interests include marketing management, tourism and sustainable development. Nasiba has a great enthusiasm to contribute to research sustainability to make our planet healthier.</p>				

	<i>Last Name</i>	EKIZ	<i>First Name</i>	ERDOGAN
	<i>Institution</i>	Dean of Faculty at TEAM University		
	<i>Department</i>	Hospitality and Tourism		
	<i>Position</i>	Professor of Marketing		
Short Bio				

Erdogan Ekiz was previously Associate Professor at Westminster International University in Tashkent, and Ad-Hoc Professor at The Ostelea in Morocco. Before this Dr. Erdogan was the Founding Dean of the School of Hospitality Business and Management at UM6P in Morocco.

He also served as launching Head of Travel and Tourism Department. He worked as a Director of Studies of Cardiff Metropolitan University, London School of Commerce, and Associate Professor at the University of Derby, University of Worcester, and University of Northampton's common degree program (held in Saudi Arabia) on ad hoc basis.

He is a 'Certified Hospitality Educator' (CHE) from the American Hotel and Lodging Educational Institute and 'Qualified Learning Facilitator' (QLF) from École hôtelière de Lausanne. He is an 'Advanced Trainer' with Distinction of International Air Transport Association (IATA).

He has around 200 published journal articles, book chapters, and conference papers. His papers have appeared in respected refereed. He is an editorial board member of top tier journals.

He has successfully completed several consultancy projects with major companies on a dozen grants and consultation projects for both government and private sectors

	<i>Last Name</i>	Kiran	<i>First Name</i>	Prabha
	<i>Institution</i>	Westminster International University in Tashkent		
	<i>Department</i>	Marketing and Management Department, School of Business and Economics		
	<i>Position</i>	Senior Lecturer		

Short Bio


Dr. Prabha Kiran currently is associated as Sr. Lecturer- Business Management and Marketing department, School of Business and Economics, Westminster International University, Tashkent. She is an academician by choice and researcher by heart. She has five years of research experience and has worked extensively on Government funded projects in the area of Digital Marketing and Food technology.

She has published more than 40 research papers in International Refereed Journals and 10 Scopus indexed journals. She has presented more than 50 research papers in International and National conferences across India as well as in other countries

Discussant

	<i>Last Name</i>	Bankar	<i>First Name</i>	Ravi
	<i>Organization</i>	Genesis Leisure Consulting, India		
	<i>Sector</i>	Tourism, Hospitality and Leisure		
	<i>Position</i>	Founder & Senior Tourism Specialist		
Short Bio				
<p>Ravi Bankar is the founder and principal consultant of Genesis Leisure Consulting. He has been associated with the tourism and leisure industry for over 25 years. His expertise lies in policy and strategy reviews, master planning, techno-economic feasibility study, infrastructure planning & design, project management and business development.</p> <p>Genesis Leisure Consulting, a research and strategy consulting firm based in India provides an array of services within the tourism, hospitality and leisure sectors.</p> <p>Ravi Bankar has extensive project consulting experience having worked on numerous assignments as a team leader and project advisor across tourism and hospitality sectors.</p>				


Speaker

	<i>Last Name</i>	Duprey, PhD	<i>First Name</i>	Brendan
	<i>Institution</i>	Narxoz University		
	<i>Department</i>	Sustainable Kazakhstan Research Institute		
	<i>Position</i>	Director		
Short Bio				

Brendan is the founding director of the Sustainable Kazakhstan Research Institute whose mission is to foster solutions driven research and field work which aim to solve some of the most pressing sustainability challenges in Kazakhstan and beyond. He has 14+ years' experience in the environmental sustainability sector. During this timeframe Dr. Duprey lead multiple international programs and projects aimed towards sustainability solutions including the globally recognized framework program 'ESD in the Western Balkans (2012-2016)' that was selected as a best practice within the framework of the UNECE Decade on Education for Sustainable Development. Over the course of his career he has been known as a sustainability leader with the ability to integrate its diverse aspects to drive solutions by connecting and leading team work across-sectors. As an academic his research interests include sustainable development policies, programs and governance, implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals, educational reforms through education for sustainable development, outcome-based policy evaluation, and transformational change management.

	<i>Last Name</i>	Salimzhanova	<i>First Name</i>	Aizhan
	<i>Institution</i>	Sustainable Kazakhstan Research Institute		
	<i>Department</i>			
	<i>Position</i>	Associated Faculty		
Short Bio				
<p>Aizhan Salimzhanova is a PhD candidate in Economics. Aizhan's research interests include Gender Studies, Care Economy, Unpaid Care Work, Labor Economics. Currently, she works at the Research Institute for Social and Gender Studies at Kazakh State Women's Teacher Training University. Aizhan's work is related to promoting, coordinating and initiating social and gender research and programs. Working together with UNDP Istanbul regional hub and UNDP Country Office Kazakhstan, Aizhan has been involved in the research on unpaid domestic work in Kazakhstan and gender equality issues in Central Asia, CIS, and Western Balkans. She has International experience of working and traineeship in Turkey and France. Aizhan continues promoting gender equality issues in Kazakhstan and collaborates with Sustainable Kazakhstan Research Institute at Narxoz University.</p>				

Discussant

	<i>Last Name</i>	Raufhon	<i>First Name</i>	Salahodjaev
	<i>Institution</i>	AKFA University, Uzbekistan		
	<i>Department</i>			
	<i>Position</i>	Director at Center for research in social sciences (CRISS)		
Short Bio				
<p>Raufhon Salahodjaev conducts academic and policy research on international economics, institutions, gender equality, sustainable development and human capital in both Eurasia and around the world. He has published more than 50 peer-reviewed journal articles in top journals across the social sciences. He also serves as associate professor at AKFA University and an advisor to the Government of Uzbekistan.</p>				


Speaker

	<i>Last Name</i>	Azhgaliyeva	<i>First Name</i>	Dina
	<i>Institution</i>	Asian Development Bank Institute (ADBI)		
	<i>Position</i>	Research Fellow		
Short Bio				
<p>Dr. Dina Azhgaliyeva is a Research Fellow at the Asian Development Bank Institute (ADBI). Before joining ADBI in July 2019, she worked as a Research Fellow in the energy economics division of the Energy Studies Institute, National University of Singapore. She was also a Research Fellow at the Henley Business School, University of Reading (UK) where she worked on a project 'Kazakh-British Centre for Competitiveness'. She also worked as a leading and chief specialist for the Tax Committee at the Ministry of Finance of Kazakhstan. Her research focuses on energy policy, particularly renewable energy, energy efficiency, and energy storage. Dina has published articles on these topics in journals such as Technological Forecasting and Social Change, Australasian Journal of</p>				

Environmental Management, Journal of Environmental Management, Energy Policy and Journal of Sustainable Finance & Investment. She is currently a guest editor for the Applied Energy's special issue "Integration of Renewable Energy in Energy Systems, Perspectives on Investment, Technology, and Policy". She earned her PhD and MSc in economics from the University of Essex (UK). She also holds an internationally recognized teaching qualification from the Fellow of Higher Education Academy and a qualification in research career management from the Staff Educational and Development Association. More information is available here:


<https://www.adb.org/adbi/about/staff-profiles/dina-azhgaliyeva>

Discussant


	<i>Last Name</i>	Samad	<i>First Name</i>	Ghulam
	<i>Institution</i>	Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation Institute		
	<i>Department</i>	Research Division		
	<i>Position</i>	Senior Research Specialist		
Short Bio				
<p>Dr. Ghulam Samad is a Senior Research Officer at Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation (CAREC) Institute. Before joining CAREC Institute, Dr. Samad was Senior Research Economist at the Pakistan Institute of Development Economics (PIDE). Dr. Samad also served as an Economist at Planning Commission of Pakistan. Dr. Samad graduated with a Ph.D. in Economics from Colorado State University, USA. He brings together an experience spanning over 15 years of high-level research and teaching, along with providing valuable contributions to peer reviewed national and international journals, and several international books on key economic themes.</p>				

Speaker

	<i>Last Name</i>	Karymshakov	<i>First Name</i>	Kamalbek
	<i>Institution</i>	Kyrgyz-Turkish Manas University		


	<i>Department</i>	Finance and Banking
	<i>Position</i>	Associate Professor
Short Bio		
<p>He is Vice-Rector of the Kyrgyz-Turkish Manas University. He was economist at CAREC Institute. He has 15 years of experience as an economist in Central Asian economies. Kamalbek holds Ph.D. in Economics from Yeditepe University (Istanbul, Turkey). He also had post-doctoral research fellowship at Free University of Berlin (2010-2011). He worked as Associate Professor at the Finance and Banking department of Kyrgyz-Turkish Manas University (Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan). From 2016-2020 he was vice-director of Central Asian Research Center (ORASAM) at Kyrgyz-Turkish Manas University. His research interests include labor economics, migration, economic integration, infrastructure economic growth and development in Central Asia. He has applied economic analysis experience using household level data. He has project and consultancy experience on various topics of labor market, migration, public policy, and rural economic development.</p>		

Discussant

	<i>Last Name</i>	Lee	<i>First Name</i>	Minsoo
	<i>Institution</i>	Asian Development Bank		
	<i>Department</i>	Central and West Asia Department		
	<i>Position</i>	Senior Economist		
Short Bio				
<p>Minsoo Lee is a senior economist at the Central and West Asia Department (CWRD) of the Asian Development Bank (ADB). He is currently acting as the focal point of knowledge management at the CWRD, overseeing the department's knowledge management function and promoting the generation and dissemination of knowledge products and services. Before joining CWRD, he served as the head of the Knowledge Hub at the People's</p>				

Republic of China (PRC) Resident Mission of the ADB in Beijing and he was responsible for undertaking policy research, operations support, and management support on key development issues to generate and disseminate knowledge products and services. Prior to that, he has also worked in the Economic Research and Regional Cooperation Department of the ADB, where he supported the *Asian Development Outlook*, ADB's flagship publication and other publications. Before joining ADB, he was an associate dean and full professor at Peking University HSBC Business School in Shenzhen, PRC.

Speaker

	<i>Last Name</i>	Museyibov	<i>First Name</i>	Ayaz
	<i>Institution</i>	Center for Analysis of Economic Reforms and Communication of the Republic of Azerbaijan (CAERC)		
	<i>Department</i>	Strategic Planning and Development		
	<i>Position</i>	The Head of the Department		

Short Bio

Ayaz Museyibov is a head of the Strategic Planning and Development department at the Center for Analysis of Economic Reforms and Communication (CAERC). Ayaz Museyibov joined the Center for Analysis of Economic Reforms and Communication's team in 2019. He works with the chief executive officer and senior management to develop the economic reform processes in the country. His main responsibilities are conducting research on the economic development of the country, making proposals on potential economic reforms, monitoring and evaluation of state programs. He also contributes to the communication of the reform programs with the public, assisting in government agencies in the implementation of state projects, consulting with government bodies on state economic programs and other related issues.


Since 2021, he has been working as an adjunct lecturer at Azerbaijan Tourism and Management University and Azerbaijan Technical University. Ayaz has spent the majority of his early career in public sector. From 2015 to 2016 he worked at Central Bank of Azerbaijan, where he monitored and regulated the quality of data on credits from banks and non-bank credit institutions.

Furthermore, he worked for two years (from 2016 to 2018) at Financial Market Supervisory Authority, and one year at Azerbaijan Credit Bureau. His main responsibilities in these organizations were monitoring and regulation the quality of data on credits from banks and non-bank credit institutions, assisting in identifying and assessing threats, as well as deciding how

to avoid, reduce or transfer risks, writing methodology and instructions for business process, and participation at implementation of other strategic targets.

Moreover, Ayaz participated in secondment programs at Presidential Administration of Azerbaijan Republic and State Agency for Public Service and Social Innovations under the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

He earned his bachelor and master degrees from Azerbaijan State University of Economics (UNEC), respectively with BSc in Finance and MSc in Financial Management. Mr. Museyibov has also attended in Executive Education program of Cambridge Fintech and Regulatory Innovation at Cambridge Judge Business School. He is currently a PhD candidate in Economics at UNEC. His research interests cover economic reforms, banking sector, taxes system, energy security, Covid-19's economic implications, regional economic development projects and so on. He is an experienced government specialist and economist possessing strong educational background and profound experience in the field of formulating strategic development programmes, designing organizational operational, tactical, and strategic plans, developing analytical techniques/tools and conducting monitoring and evaluation of state programmes, organizational plans, drafting policy briefs, producing high-quality research papers.


	<i>Last Name</i>	Satiji	<i>First Name</i>	Ayhan
	<i>Institution</i>	Center for Analysis of Economic Reforms and Communication (CAERC)		
	<i>Department</i>	Strategic Planning and Development		
	<i>Position</i>	The Analyst of the Department		

Short Bio

Ayhan Satiji is the analyst of the Strategic Planning and Development department at the Center for Analysis of Economic Reforms and Communication (CAERC). He has worked at many local and international companies and been a part of many international projects. His professional experiences in “British Council” Azerbaijan, AFFA – UEFA, “Bosshelf” LLC have equipped him with necessary skills to become a professional and competitive in his field. At CAERC, Mr. Satiji has started as junior analyst and continues his career as analyst.


He has successfully passed the state exam and been admitted to ADA university in Bachelor of Arts in International Studies in 2014. He has proudly finished the bachelor degree and continued his study at ADA university with “Graduate Assistantship” scholarship program at the Master’s Public Administration in 2019. Ayhan Satiji has collected extensive experiences in the field of research and development. Mr. Satiji now pursues his PhD in Economics at Azerbaijan State University of Economics (UNEC). Hence, he has conducted several trainings and attended in various conferences in the country and outside of the country including Turkey, Romania, and Germany. He also knows fluent in Azerbaijani, English, Turkish, and Romanian and Russian at A1 level. His research interests cover the economic corridors, public-private-partnership (PPP) mechanism, strategic management in public sector and so on.

Discussant


	<i>Last Name</i>	Mahmudov	<i>First Name</i>	Rovshan
	<i>Institution</i>	CAREC Institute		
	<i>Department</i>	Capacity Building Division		
	<i>Position</i>	Senior Capacity Building Specialist		
Short Bio				
<p>Mr. Mahmudov is an international trade expert with over 15 years of experience in trade negotiation, capacity building and management. He is currently the CAREC Institute’s Senior Capacity Building Specialist responsible for designing and delivering trade-related capacity building activities in support of the CAREC Program (ADB), utilizing expertise as a trade resource person to lead sessions in relevant events.</p> <p>Prior to joining the CAREC Institute, Mr. Mahmudov was the Head of the Trade Division at the Ministry of Economy of the Republic of Azerbaijan, a position developing trade policy and proposed recommendations, including regulatory policies and strategies to promote foreign trade and commerce, as well as worked closely with the CAREC Program’s trade related projects.</p> <p>He obtained his MA degree in international trade and economic cooperation from the Kyung Hee University (South Korea). He holds BA diploma in Economics from Karadeniz Technical University (Turkey).</p>				


<Session Three>

Chair

	<i>Last Name</i>	Rahut	<i>First Name</i>	Dil
	<i>Institution</i>	Asian Development Bank Institute		
	<i>Department</i>	Research		
	<i>Position</i>	Vice Chair and Senior Research Fellow		
Short Bio				
<p>Dil Rahut joined the Asian Development Bank Institute (ADBI) as a Senior Research Fellow/Economist in January 2021 and was appointed Vice-Chair of Research in April 2022. His research focuses on development microeconomics, agricultural economics, and environmental and natural resource economics. He is currently implementing experiments and field research in agriculture, natural resources, and climate in Asia.</p> <p>Prior to joining ADBI, he was a senior global program manager for the International Maize and Wheat Improvement Centre's (CIMMYT) socioeconomic and sustainable intensification programs and served as chair of the staffs' committee at CIMMYT.</p> <p>He also previously worked for the Royal Monetary Authority of Bhutan's Research and Statistics Department and served as a research fellow at the WorldFish Centre; senior fellow and Japan chair at the Indian Council for Research in International Economic Relations; chief of research, planning, and monitoring and Visa/Mastercard director at the Bank of Bhutan Ltd; and assistant professor of development economics at South Asian University.</p> <p>He has over 130 publications in Scopus indexed journals and has guest-edited several journal special issues. He also serves as an editorial board member of the Asian Development Review and lectures</p>				

Speaker

	<i>Last Name</i>	Asfaw	<i>First Name</i>	Etenesh
	<i>Institution</i>	Westminster International University in Tashkent (WIUT)		
	<i>Department</i>	Center for Policy Research and Outreach (CRPO)		
	<i>Position</i>	Senior Research Fellow, Agriculture and Rural Development		
Short Bio				
<p>Etenesh Asfaw is a Senior Research Fellow on Agriculture and Rural Development at the Center for Policy Research and Outreach in WIUT since 2019. Prior to that, she was agriculture livelihoods officer in the Packard Foundation office based in Ethiopia. She worked for the IFPRI as a research fellow, the FAO as agriculture expert, and the Canada and Norway Development cooperation in Addis Ababa as agriculture and natural resource project manager.</p> <p>Etenesh earned her PhD degrees in Development Studies from the University of South Africa in Pretoria. Her MSc in development studies from the Institute of Social Studies in the Netherlands and her BSc in Agriculture Economic from the Alemaya University of Agriculture, Ethiopia. Her research interests include agriculture policy analysis, and rural development, green economy, gender and rural youth. Etenesh is passionate about promoting smallholder agriculture development and gender equality in human development.</p>				

	<i>Last Name</i>	Amirova	<i>First Name</i>	Iroda
	<i>Institution</i>	Westminster International University in Tashkent		
	<i>Department</i>	Center for Policy Research and Outreach		
	<i>Position</i>	Post-doctoral research fellow		

Short Bio
<p>Dr Iroda Amirova is a post-doctoral research fellow at the Center for Policy Research and Outreach (CPRO) at Westminster International University in Tashkent (WIUT). Moreover, for 2022-2024, Dr Amirova is a visiting research fellow at Leibniz Institute of Agricultural Development in Transition Economies (IAMO) in Halle, Germany. She previously worked with IAMO and International Water Management Institute's (IWMI) Resource Recovery and Reuse theme in Germany, Sri Lanka and Uzbekistan respectively.</p> <p>In 2019 she earned her PhD in Agricultural Economics from Martin Luther University and IAMO in Halle, Germany. In 2014, she obtained her MSc. in Agricultural Economics from Bonn University in Germany. Dr Amirova's research interests are natural resource management, institutional, and behavioural analysis. She is the author and principal investigator of the ongoing project "Institutions, change mechanisms and impacts in natural resource management of Central Asia (INRESCA)," funded by the Volkswagen Foundation.</p>

Discussant


	<i>Last Name</i>	Rahut	<i>First Name</i>	Dil
	<i>Institution</i>	Asian Development Bank Institute		
	<i>Department</i>	Research		
	<i>Position</i>	Vice-Chair of Research and Senior Research Fellow		

Short Bio
<p>Dil Rahut is Vice-Chair of Research and Senior Fellow at Asian Development Bank Institute (ADBI).</p> <p>He was a global program manager for the International Maize and Wheat Improvement Centre's (CIMMYT) socioeconomics and sustainable intensification programs. He also served as chair of the staffs' committee at CIMMYT. He previously worked for the Royal Monetary Authority of Bhutan's Research and Statistics Department. He also served as a research fellow at the WorldFish Centre; senior fellow and Japan chair at the Indian Council for Research in International Economic Relations; chief of research, planning, and monitoring and Visa/Mastercard director at the Bank of Bhutan Ltd; and assistant professor of development economics at South Asian University.</p> <p>He has a Ph.D. in development economics from the University of Bonn's Center for Development Research, a master's degree in economic policy management from the</p>


University of Tsukuba, an MBA specializing in finance, and a bachelor of science degree from India.

He has over 130 publications (H Index 26) in Scopus indexed journals focusing on development issues across Asia and sub-Saharan Africa.


Speaker

	<i>Last Name</i>	Xenarios	<i>First Name</i>	Stefanos
	<i>Institution</i>	Nazarbayev University		
	<i>Department</i>	Graduate School of Public Policy		
	<i>Position</i>	Associate Professor		
Short Bio				
<p>Stefanos is an environmental economist by training with a focus on water resources and climate change aspects. He initially acquired a 3-years of postdoctoral experience in India and Ethiopia as a staff member of the International Water Management Institute (IWMI). Subsequently, Stefanos did research on climate change and agriculture in South Asia, based at the Norwegian Institute of Bioeconomy (NIBIO), and worked as Head of the Water and Energy Security Unit at the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) Office in Tajikistan. He further became a Senior Researcher in the University of Central Asia in Kyrgyzstan leading activities on water-energy-food and environment nexus in the region while in May 2018 he was appointed as Associate Professor in the Graduate School of Public Policy in Nazarbayev University based in Kazakhstan. Since January 2020 he has been an Adjunct Senior Research Fellow in the Institute of Water Policy, at the National University of Singapore. He is in the Editorial Board of the International Journal of Water Resources Development, Hydrology Research Journal, World Development Sustainability, and the Central Asian Journal of Water Research, while he is in the Management Board of the International Water Association's Specialist Group on Statistics and Economics.</p>				

Discussant

	<i>Last Name</i>	Ayoobi	<i>First Name</i>	Eisa Khan Ayoob
	<i>Institution</i>	Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation Institute		
	<i>Department</i>	Capacity Building Division		
	<i>Position</i>	Chief		
Short Bio				
<p>Mr. Eisa Khan Ayoob Ayoobi is a former Fulbright Scholar and Oxbridge Fellow at Stanford and Georgetown University, respectively. With a combined BA degree in Economics and International Relations, an LLM (Master of Laws), and currently ABD in Government and Public Policy, Mr. Ayoobi brings nearly two decades of experience in capacity building with stints in civil society, private sector, and government. Mr. Ayoobi is the author of several legal textbooks pertaining to constitutional law, human rights, and criminal law of Afghanistan, some of which are adopted as part of the country's higher education – national law school curricula. Prior to joining the CAREC Institute, Mr. Ayoobi was the Regional Cooperation Advisor to the Government of Afghanistan with the core responsibility of providing advice on strategic issues of regional cooperation for Afghanistan and the country's foreign relations with immediate and far neighbors based on a set of confidence building measures (CBMs).</p>				

Speaker

	<i>Last Name</i>	Salik	<i>First Name</i>	Kashif
	<i>Institution</i>	Sustainable Development Policy Institute		
	<i>Department</i>	Climate Change and Environment Unit		
	<i>Position</i>	Associate Research Fellow		
Short Bio				

Mr Kashif Salik is an agricultural economist with more than 20 years of experience in research and project management. He works with a diverse range of governmental and non-governmental stakeholders, including the National Assembly's standing committee on climate change. He has involved in a number of international/regional projects, focusing on food security, socio-economic vulnerability assessments, infrastructure, water resources development, climate change and the environment as a project leader, country team leader, and team member.


At present, Mr Salik is also pursuing his PhD in human migration and well-being outcomes at the University of Southampton, UK. He has special interest in human and social development with focus on climate change, agriculture, ecosystems, migration, water, energy, and environment. His research work has been published in many national and international journals.

Discussant


	<i>Last Name</i>	Bobojonov	<i>First Name</i>	Ihtiyor
	<i>Institution</i>	Leibniz Institute of Agricultural Development in Transition Economies (IAMO)		
	<i>Department</i>	Agricultural Markets, Marketing and World Agricultural Trade (Agricultural Markets)		
	<i>Position</i>	Research Associate		
Short Bio				
<p>Dr. Ihtiyor Bobojonov joined IAMO in October 2012 as a research associate in the Department Agricultural Markets. He studied agricultural economics at the University of Bonn, Germany. He wrote his PhD thesis in the framework of a project of the Center for Development Research (ZEF) about modeling crop and water allocation under uncertainty in irrigated agriculture in Uzbekistan. He was honored with a prize for the best Doctoral Thesis between January 2007 and May 2009 at the ZEF. Dr. Bobojonov works on several projects related to the mobilization of agricultural market potentials in Commonwealth of Independent States countries. He mainly carries out research on the impact of supply chain transformation on the welfare of agricultural producers. Furthermore, he investigates the role of agricultural insurance in agricultural sector development, and analyzes possible options to improve the performance of insurance markets. He is coordinator of the International Agricultural Economics Chair at the Tashkent State Agrarian University and co-coordinator of the Insurance Lab at the Tashkent State Economic University.</p>				

<PANEL DISCUSSION & CLOSING SESSION>


Chair

	<i>Last Name</i>	Morgan	<i>First Name</i>	Peter
	<i>Institution</i>	Asian Development Bank Institute		
	<i>Position</i>	Senior Consulting Economist and Vice Chair of Research		
Short Bio				
<p>Peter J. Morgan is Senior Consulting Economist and Advisor to the Dean 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 earlier held similar positions at Merrill Lynch, Barclays de Zoete Wedd and Jardine Fleming.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>				

Panelists


	<i>Last Name</i>	Sabyrova	<i>First Name</i>	Lyaziza
	<i>Institution</i>	Asian Development Bank		
	<i>Department</i>	Central and West Asia Regional Department		
	<i>Position</i>	Principal Regional Economist		
Short Bio				
<p>Lyaziza Sabyrova is a Principal Regional Economist in Central and West Regional Department. After obtaining her PhD degree in Economics from Indiana University (Bloomington, IN, USA), she joined ADB in 2000, and worked on infrastructure projects in the People's Republic of China, as well as in the Central Asian and South Caucasus countries. She was also posted in ADB's Resident Mission in the Kyrgyz Republic, and led the preparation of the Joint Country Support Strategy for the Kyrgyz Republic from the ADB side (together with DFID, the Swiss Development Agency, the World Bank, and UN Agencies). From 2008–2011, she was on a special leave from the ADB, during which she co-founded an independent economic think tank in Kazakhstan, the RAKURS Center for Economic Analysis. She led the work on ADB's Country Partnership Strategies for several Central Asian and South Caucasus countries. She was also involved in the Department's Knowledge Management and analytical work.</p>				

Panelist


	<i>Last Name</i>	TAGHIZADEH-HESARY	<i>First Name</i>	Farhad
	<i>Institution</i>	Tokai University		
	<i>Department</i>	School of Global Studies		
	<i>Position</i>	Associate Professor		
Short Bio				

Dr. Farhad Taghizadeh-Hesary is an associate professor of economics at Tokai University in Japan. He is the co-founder and vice president at The International Society for Energy Transition Studies- ISETS based in Australia. Dr. Taghizadeh-Hesary is the Editor-in-Chief of the *Journal of Environmental Assessment Policy and Management (JEAPM)* and associate editor of several scholarly journals, including *Economic Change and Restructuring*, *Singapore Economic Review*, *Global Finance Journal*, *Energy Efficiency*, *China Finance Review International*, and *Journal of Risk Finance*. He authored more than 200 peer-reviewed scholarly journal papers and book chapters and edited 15 books published by Springer Nature, Routledge, World Scientific, and Asian Development Bank Institute. He holds a Ph.D. degree in economics from Keio University in Tokyo with the Japanese government scholarship (MEXT). His main research and teaching areas are energy policy, energy economics, green finance, applied macroeconomics, Japanese and Asian economics.


Panelist

	<i>Last Name</i>	Menon	<i>First Name</i>	Jayant
	<i>Institution</i>	Yusof Ishak Institute, Singapore		
	<i>Position</i>	Senior Fellow at ISEAS		
Short Bio				
<p>Dr. Menon joined the ISEAS – Yusof Ishak Institute in 2020 to continue his work on trade and development in the Asian region, following his early retirement from the ADB. His last post at the ADB was Lead Economist in the Office of the Chief Economist. He began work life as an academic in Australia, spending almost a decade at the Centre of Policy Studies at Monash University at its original campus in Clayton, Melbourne. He has worked at several other academic institutions including the University of Melbourne, Victoria University, the American University in Washington, DC and the ADB Institute in Tokyo. He has served as a Board Director of CDRI, Cambodia, and on the Advisory Board of the University of Nottingham, Malaysia. He holds adjunct appointments with the Australian National University, University of Nottingham, UK and IDEAS, Malaysia. He has authored/edited 15 books, 40 chapters in books and 80 articles in peer-reviewed journals.</p>				

Panelist

	<i>Last Name</i>	Kimberley	<i>First Name</i>	Botwright
	<i>Institution</i>	World Economic Forum		
	<i>Department</i>			
	<i>Position</i>	Head of Sustainable Trade		
Short Bio				
<p>Kimberley Botwright is Head of Sustainable Trade at the World Economic Forum. Previously, she has worked at the International Centre for Trade and Sustainable Development (ICTSD,) and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). Kimberley holds an M.A. in European Economics and Policy from l'Institut d'Etudes Politiques de Paris (Sciences Po) and a B.A. from the University of Oxford. She is fluent in English and French and is a citizen of the UK and Switzerland.</p>				


Panelist

	<i>Last Name</i>	Holzacker	<i>First Name</i>	Hans
	<i>Institution</i>	Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation Institute		
	<i>Position</i>	Chief Economist		
Short Bio				


Before joining the CAREC Institute, Hans was for two years Lead economist for Central Asia with the EBRD, based in Almaty, Kazakhstan. Hans has 30 years of experience as an economist focusing on transition economies. Hans was chief economist at Golomt Bank in Mongolia and of ATFBank in Kazakhstan. He was also teaching at the Turan the Narxoz universities in Almaty. Earlier, he was a Vienna-based senior economist focused on Russia and Ukraine for Bank Austria, a member of UniCredit group, and was also in charge of CEE country rating. Hans was Senior Economist covering the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Slovenia and Ukraine at the Institute of International Finance in Washington, DC from 1999-2001, Head of Country Risk/Research at GiroCredit Research, Investmentbank Austria, from 1993-99, and Central European Economist at the Nomura Research Institute from 1989-93.

Hans holds a Ph.D. in Sociology and a Masters in Economics from the University of Vienna, and completed a postgraduate scholarship at the Economics Department of the Institute for Advanced Studies in Vienna.

<CLOSING SESSION>

	<i>Last Name</i>	Abdullaev	<i>First Name</i>	Iskandar
	<i>Institution</i>	Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation Institute		
	<i>Position</i>	Deputy Director		
Short Bio				
<p>Dr. Iskandar Abdullaev holds MSc and PhD degrees from Tashkent Institute of Irrigation and Agriculture Mechanization Engineers (TIIAME), Tashkent, Uzbekistan. Part of his PhD work Dr. Abdullaev conducted at Iowa State University (ISU), Iowa, USA. Dr. Abdullaev have intensive training and education programmes in Israel (1996-1997), USA (1999) and the Netherlands, (2000), Switzerland (2002). Dr. Iskandar Abdullaev has over 25 years of experience in water management, water institutions, environmental activities in Afghanistan and five Central Asian countries. Dr. Iskandar Abdullaev joined Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation (CAREC) Institute as Deputy Director in June 2019. From 2013-2019 Dr. Abdullaev worked as an Executive Director of Regional Environmental Center (CAREC) for Central Asia. Prior joining of CAREC in 2009-2013, Dr. Abdullaev worked as Regional advisor for Germany's Berlin Initiative- Transboundary Water</p>				

Management in Central Asia (Programme) at the German Society for International Cooperation (GIZ). During 2007-2009, he worked in position of Senior Researcher at ZEF Centre for Development Research University of Bonn (Germany) and conducted research in Central Asia and Afghanistan. During 2001-2007, Dr. Abdullaev worked as a regional researcher at International Water Management Institute (Headquarters in Sri Lanka). His research focus included Central Asia, Iran, Pakistan, Thailand and Sri-Lanka. Dr. Abdullaev very well linked with research, scientific societies of the region and worldwide. He is member of International Water Resources Association (IWRA), member of editorial boards of few internationally peer reviewed journals.

	<i>Last Name</i>	Paracha	<i>First Name</i>	Saad
	<i>Institution</i>	Asian Development Bank		
	<i>Position</i>	Head, CAREC Unit		


Short Bio

Mr. Saad Paracha supports regional cooperation initiatives and project cofinancing as part of Asian Development Bank's operations in Central and West Asia Department covering Afghanistan, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Pakistan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan. He is working as Unit Head, Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation (CAREC) program since February 2020.

Mr. Paracha has been working for ADB in various capacities since 2008. He worked for the Office of Cofinancing managing relationships with several bilateral and multilateral agencies supporting projects throughout Asia. In his previous roles, he has prepared and managed multi-million-dollar projects in various sectors and supported country strategy and programming work. He has remained part of ADB's regional cooperation initiatives and possesses good understanding of issues and opportunities in transport, energy, and trade sectors in Asia.

Prior to joining ADB, he worked for five years with the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) managing a portfolio of around \$100 million focusing on governance and economic growth. He started his career with the Government of Pakistan where he held various positions in the Ministries of Finance, Economic Affairs, and Industries with a focus on policies and strategies relating to development finance and aid programming.

Saad Paracha, a national of Pakistan, has been selected as Chevening Fellow by UK's Foreign & Commonwealth Office, International Policy Fellow by the Open Society Foundations in Hungary and Democracy and Development Fellow by the Stanford University, USA. He holds M.A. in Public Administration from Pakistan and Post-graduate Diploma in Development Studies from Japan.


	<i>Last Name</i>	Beirne	<i>First Name</i>	John
	<i>Institution</i>	Asian Development Bank Institute		
	<i>Department</i>	Research		
	<i>Position</i>	Vice-Chair of Research and Senior Research Fellow		

John Beirne was appointed Vice-Chair of Research and Senior Research Fellow at the Asian Development Bank Institute (ADBI) in April 2022.

He joined ADBI as a Research Fellow in March 2019. He has over 20 years of experience as an economist in the public and private sectors. In his current role, he co-heads ADBI's Research Department, leading research workstreams on macroeconomics, finance, and infrastructure. He is also co-managing editor of the ADBI Working Paper Series.

Previously, he worked as a staff economist at the European Central Bank in various positions for around 11 years. He also worked for around six years as an economic consultant with KPMG and senior economist with DTZ in Ireland and the United Kingdom (UK), and for three years as a part-time lecturer in economics at Brunel University in the UK.

His research focuses on international macroeconomics, financial economics, and applied econometrics. He has published over 30 articles in peer-reviewed journals in economics and finance, co-authored or co-edited several ADBI books, and serves as an editorial board member of the Asian Development Review and subject editor of Asian Economics Letters. He presents his research regularly at international conferences and lectures at the University of Tokyo and Hitotsubashi University in Japan on topics related to financial globalization, monetary policy, and macro-financial risk. He holds a PhD in Economics from Brunel University.

	<i>Last Name</i>	Shah	<i>First Name</i>	Syed Shakeel
	<i>Institution</i>	Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation Institute		
	<i>Position</i>	Director		
Short Bio				
<p>Mr. SYED SHAKEEL SHAH is the CAREC Institute Director. Prior to this, he was the Chief Reforms, Automation and Preferential Trade – Pakistan Customs – Federal Board of Revenue, Government of Pakistan. He has also served as the Joint Secretary, Economic Affairs, Prime Minister’s Office, Government of Pakistan. He has decades of experience working in the civil service system of the Government of Pakistan. He holds two master’s degrees: 1) in Advanced Studies in International Trade Law and Economics (MILE) from World Trade Institute – Bern – Switzerland, and 2) in International Relations from Quaid-e-Azam University – Islamabad -Pakistan. His areas of expertise, include WTO law (Dispute Resolution, SPS, TRIPS/ TRIMS Agreements, Doha Round), Micro and Macroeconomics, Trade (International, Regional and Preferential), Economic Corridors, Customs laws, Reforms and Automation including Single Windows for Trade, Ease of doing business in Trading Across Border indicator, and Trade Facilitation Agreement of WTO.</p>				