ADBI Featured Speaker Webinar:
Yale University’s Rohini Pande - When the Tide Turns: Poverty, Inequality, and Power
14 June 2022

Biographies of the Speakers

Rohini Pande, Henry J. Heinz II Professor of Economics and Economic Growth Center Director, Yale University

Rohini Pande is the Henry J. Heinz II Professor of Economics and Director of the Economic Growth Center at Yale University. Her research interests include formal and informal institutions’ function in shaping political and economic power dynamics, social protection innovation, and the role of greater awareness of economic justice and human rights in driving change.

Previously, Pande was the Rafik Harriri Professor of International Political Economy at Harvard Kennedy School, where she co-founded Evidence for Policy Design. She received a PhD in economics from London School of Economics and an MA and BA from Oxford University.

Tetsushi Sonobe, Dean, Asian Development Bank Institute (ADBI)

Tetsushi Sonobe is the Dean and CEO of ADBI, the Tokyo-based think tank of the Asian Development Bank. Previously, he was Vice President of the National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies (GRIPS), Japan. He is a development economist and holds a PhD in economics from Yale University.

Dil Rahut, Vice-Chair of Research and Senior Research Fellow, ADBI

Dil Rahut was appointed as a Vice-Chair of Research at ADBI 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. Previously, he was a senior global program manager for the International Maize and Wheat Improvement Centre’s socioeconomics and sustainable intensification programs. He also worked for the Royal Monetary Authority of Bhutan’s Research and Statistics Department.

Peter J. Morgan, Senior Consulting Economist and Advisor to the Dean, ADBI

Peter Morgan served as ADBI’s Vice-Chair of Research until March 2022. He also worked in Hong Kong, China as Chief Asia Economist for HSBC, where he was responsible for macroeconomic analysis and forecasting for Asia. His research focuses are macroeconomic policy and financial sector regulation, reform, financial development, financial inclusion, fintech, financial literacy, and financial education. His recent publications include Fintech and Financial Inclusion in Southeast Asia and India and Impacts of COVID-19 on Households in ASEAN Countries and Their Implications for Human Capital Development.

Dina Azhgaliyeva, Research Fellow, ADBI
Dina Azhgaliyeva is a Research Fellow at ADBI focusing on energy policy, particularly renewable energy, energy efficiency, and energy storage policies. Previously, she worked as a Research Fellow at the Energy Studies Institute at the National University of Singapore. She was also a Research Fellow at the Henley Business School at the University of Reading and worked as a chief specialist for the Tax Committee at the Ministry of Finance of Kazakhstan. She holds a PhD, master’s degree, and graduate diploma in economics, all from the University of Essex.

Daniel Suryadarma, Research Fellow, ADBI
Daniel Suryadarma is a Research Fellow at ADBI, conducting applied economics research in the areas of education, labor, poverty, and social policy. Prior to joining ADBI, he 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. He has economics degrees from Brandon University, the University of Toronto, and Australian National University.

KE Seetha Ram, Senior Consulting Specialist for Capacity Building and Training Projects, ADBI
KE Seetha Ram is ADBI Senior Consulting Specialist for Capacity Building and Training Projects and concurrently visiting professor at the Center for Spatial Information Science at the University of Tokyo and special advisor to East Japan Railways Company (JR East) for India High Speed Rail. Previously, he acted as the focal point for ADB-wide knowledge management and also served as ADB visiting professor at the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy at the National University of Singapore.