



**ADB Featured Speaker Webinar:
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Rebecca Sta Maria on Rebuilding Supply Chains
29 September 2022**

Speaker Biographies

Rebecca Sta Maria, Executive Director, Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Secretariat

Rebecca Sta Maria is Executive Director of the APEC Secretariat in Singapore. Prior to joining APEC, she served as Secretary-General of Malaysia's Ministry of International Trade and Industry from 2010-2016. In this role, she oversaw the formulation of Malaysia's trade policy and was chief negotiator for bilateral and regional free trade agreements such as the Trans-Pacific Partnership and Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership. In the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), she chaired the body that drafted ASEAN's economic community blueprints for 2015 and 2025.

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

Tetsushi Sonobe is the Dean and CEO of the ADB Institute (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.

Seungju Baek, Deputy Dean, ADBI

Seungju Baek is Deputy Dean of the ADBI. Prior to ADBI, he served as Deputy Minister for Planning and Coordination at the Ministry of Economy and Finance of the Republic of Korea. He was also a senior policy analyst focused on developing countries for the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, as well as an international development expert at the World Bank Institute.

John Beirne, Senior Research Fellow, Vice Chair, ADBI

John Beirne serves as ADBI's Vice-Chair of Research and Senior Research Fellow. Previously, he worked at the European Central Bank for over ten years, where he focused mainly on research and analysis of global financial market developments, commodities, and financial stability, as well as global governance issues. He holds a PhD in economics from Brunel University.