Reforming Asian Utilities:
Institutional Reforms for Boosting Private Investment

Virtual Conference
18–19 November 2020

Biographies of Speakers
(by session)

Opening Remarks

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

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. 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 include the empirics of economic development, particularly industrial development processes and poverty reduction in developing countries.

Dean Sonobe has more than 20 years’ experience analyzing the role of human capital, institutions, and management in industrial development in Asia and other regions. Notably, he and prominent agricultural and development economist, Keijiro Otsuka, applied their unique enterprise survey approach to a series of development process case studies in different industries in East Asia. They expanded the scope of their industry study to cover South Asia, Africa, and Central America and conducted randomized controlled trials of management training programs for business owners and managers. 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. 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.

Explanation of Special Journal Issue

**Farhad Taghizadeh-Hesary**
Associate Professor, Tokai University, Japan

Dr. Farhad Taghizadeh-Hesary is an associate professor of economics at Tokai University in Japan and a visiting professor at Keio University in Tokyo, Japan. He is a grantee of the Excellent Young Researcher (LEADER) status from the Ministry of Education of Japan (MEXT). He taught as an assistant professor at Keio University and Waseda University, Tokyo, Japan. He was a visiting professor/visiting scholar at the University of Tokyo, Griffith University (Australia), University of Tasmania (Australia), and The Institute of Energy
Rabindra Nepal  
Senior Lecturer in Economics, University of Wollongong, Australia

Dr. Rabindra Nepal is an internationally recognised academic and researcher in the areas of energy, environment and resource. Dr. Nepal joined the University of Wollongong in January, 2020 as a Senior Lecturer in Economics. He is also a Research Associate of the Energy and Climate Change Program at the Centre for Applied Macroeconomic Analysis (CAMA) at the Australian National University (ANU). Dr. Nepal is widely published in the research areas of energy, resource and environment (> 45 journal articles and book chapters)

Session 1: Performance assessment and increasing efficiency in Asian utilities

Venkatachalam Anbumozhi  
Senior Economist, the Economic Research Institute ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA)

Venkatachalam Anbumozhi is a Senior Economist at the Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA), Indonesia. His previous positions include Capacity Building Specialist at Asian Development Bank Institute, Assistant Professor at the University of Tokyo, Senior Policy Researcher at the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies and Assistant Manager in Pacific Consultants International, Tokyo. He has published several books, authored numerous research articles, and produced many project reports on energy policies, energy infrastructure design, and private sector participation in Green Growth. Anbumozhi was invited as a member of the APEC Expert Panel on Green Growth, G20/T20 Task Force Green Financing and the ASEAN Panel on Smart Cities. He has taught Resource management, International cooperation and Development Finance at the University of Tokyo and has speaking engagements at some of the leading international organizations. He obtained his PhD from the University of Tokyo.

Gopal K Sarangi  
Associate Professor, Department of Business Strategy and Innovation, TERI School of Advanced Studies, New Delhi

Dr Gopal K Sarangi is an economist with more than fifteen years of research and consulting experience. His primary domain of research covers energy market and regulation, intersection of energy technologies, fuels and resources with public policies, social systems and processes, energy and climate nexus, governance and institutional analysis of energy transition questions and impact assessment of energy and environmental interventions. He has a PhD on ‘Sustainability Assessment of India Electricity Sector’, from TERI School of Advanced Studies, New Delhi. He has contributed as PI, Co-PI, and team member to several collaborative
To his credit, he has published several peer-reviewed research papers in the domain of his research and has been invited to deliver talks in several national and international forums. He teaches courses on Principles of Economics, Development Economics, Environmental and Resource Economics, Energy Economics and Policy.

Muhammad Mohsin  
Postdoc Fellowship, Jiangsu University

Dr. Muhammad Mohsin has completed his PhD form Nanjing University of Aeronautics and Astronautics, Nanjing, China in management science and Engineering in December 2018. Currently he is in Jiangsu University China at position of postdoc fellowship. He has more than 20 SCI and SSCI papers in reputed journals of Energy, Finance and Environment. It’s my pleasure to present my research work at the Nul-Sultan, Kazakhstan University.

Tooraj Jamasb  
Professor / Director, Department of Economics, Copenhagen Business School

Tooraj Jamasb is CBS Endowed Professor of Energy Economics and Director for Copenhagen School of Energy Infrastructure (CSEI). He has previously held a post as Chair in Energy Economics at Durham University, the SIRE Chair in Energy Economics, Heriot-Watt University and was Senior Research Associate, University of Cambridge. He is also a Research Associate at Energy Policy Research Group (University of Cambridge); Centre for Energy and Environmental Policy Research (Massachusetts Institute of Technology); and Oviedo Efficiency Group (University of Oviedo). He is a member of the academic panel of the UK Energy Regulator Ofgem.

Manuel Llorca  
Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Economics, Copenhagen School of Energy Infrastructure, Copenhagen Business School

Manuel Llorca is a Postdoctoral Researcher at Copenhagen School of Energy Infrastructure (Copenhagen Business School) and a Research Associate at the Oviedo Efficiency Group (University of Oviedo). He was a Research Fellow at Durham University Business School and Early Career Fellow at Durham Energy Institute (Durham University). He holds a PhD (University of Oviedo) and Master's Degree in Economics (Universities of the Basque Country, Cantabria, and Oviedo). His research interest includes efficiency and productivity analysis of energy utilities, energy demand, energy networks, energy issues in developing countries, fuel poverty, electricity sector reform, energy systems integration, and fuel demand in transport.
Session 2: Private Investment in utilities and renewable energy projects

Hyoung Suk Shim
Assistant Professor of Finance, Chazanoff School of Business, CUNY College of Staten Island

Hyoung Suk Shim is an assistant professor of finance at the School of Business of the College of Staten Island. Prior to joining CSI as an assistant professor, he was an economist at the ADP Research Institute of Automatic Data Processing, a substitute lecturer of the School of Business, and a senior econometrician of the CUNY High Performance Computing Center. He received a Ph.D. in Economics at The Graduate School of The City University of New York in 2015, and a B.A. in Economics and a B.S in Applied Statistics in 2009 from Yonsei University, Korea. He specializes in large-scale statistical computing that enhances statistical analysis of big data on a high performance computing system, and general econometric methods (time series and panel data analysis).

Sakib Bin Amin
Associate Professor, Department of Economics, North South University

Dr. Sakib Bin Amin is an Associate Professor (Economics) at North South University (Bangladesh). He holds a Ph.D. in Economics from Durham University (UK). Dr. Sakib was also the receiver of the Commonwealth Rutherford Fellowship (2017-2018) for conducting postdoctoral research in Energy Economics at Durham University (UK). He is the first Bangladeshi modeller to develop an energy focused DSGE (Dynamic Stochastic General Equilibrium) model in relevance to the Bangladesh energy sector. He holds a masters’ degree in International Economics from University of Essex (UK). His research mainly focuses on electricity price reform, and energy policy in the developing countries.

Session 3: Reforming utilities for reducing greenhouse gas emissions

Huaping Sun
Professor, Doctoral Supervisor in School of Finance and Economics, Jiangsu University, PRC

His research interests include Global Value Chains and International Trade, Sustainable Development and Environmental Economics and Regional economy. Previously, He worked as a visiting scholar from 2017.9-2017.12, at Nanyang Technological University, where he was involved in empirical research analysis of the energy policy and energy system. He also worked as a visiting scholar from 2015.3-2016.3, at University of Nevada, Reno, where he was involved in empirical research analysis of the regional economics and Sustainable Development. He also worked as a Post doctor at 2016.6-2019.6, in Shanghai Jiao Tong University in the field of Low-carbon economics. He holds a Ph.D. from Zhejiang University and Master and Bachelor from Qingdao University.
Muhammad Arif
Lecturer, Shaheed Benazir Bhutto University

Muhammad Arif is an academic research scholar, pursuing Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Finance from Lincoln University, New Zealand. His areas of research interest include sustainability disclosures, green investments, applied financial econometrics, market integration, and corporate finance. He has published articles in various well reputed journals.

Session 4: Institutional reforms for connecting Asian utilities

Dina Azhgaliyeva
Research Fellow, Asian Development Bank Institute (ADBI)

Her research interests include energy policy, particularly renewable energy, energy efficiency, and energy storage policies. She is currently a guest editor for the Journal of Sustainable Finance and Investment’s special issue “Scaling up Green Finance in Asia: The Role of Policies and Regulations.” Previously, 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 where she was involved in empirical analysis of the impact of local content policy on extractive industries. From 2012-2015, she was an Economics Teaching Fellow at University College London. She also worked as a leading and chief specialist for the Tax Committee at the Ministry of Finance of Kazakhstan for five years. She holds a PhD, Master’s, and Graduate Diploma in economics, all from the University of Essex. 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.

Pornchai Wisuttisak
Dean, Faculty of Law, Chiang Mai University

Asst/Dr. Pornchai Wisuttisak is Dean of the Faculty of Law, Chiang Mai University, Thailand. He completed his Ph.D. in Business Law and Taxation from the University of New South Wales. He obtained his Master of Commercial Law from Macquarie University, Australia. He also graduated BA in Political Science in Government from Thammasat University, Thailand. His research focus relates to competition law, international trade and investment law, and energy law. He has worked with Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) and Friedrich Naumann Foundation (FNF) on training courses for competition law and policy in Thailand, Myanmar, and Laos. He also involved with Asian Development Bank Institute’s projects on reforming state enterprises in Central Asian countries. His current research involves the business development and Investment for of Provincial Electricity Authority of Thailand (PEA). Dr. Wisuttisak is also a member of the National Committee of Justice Development, Thailand.
Vijay Kumar Singh
Professor and Dean, School of Law, UPES, India

Dr. Vijay Kumar Singh is Professor and Dean at UPES School of Law Dehradun. Dr. Singh is an experienced law professional who has worked with the Indian Institute of Corporate Affairs (IICA), a think-tank and capacity building institute under the Ministry of Corporate Affairs, Government of India and the Competition Commission of India (CCI). Dr. Singh is a doctorate in law with basic degree in science followed by degrees in law with Gold Medals in his LLB and LLM examinations. Dr. Singh has authored a book titled “Corporate Power to Corporate Crimes: Understanding Corporate Criminal Liability in India”. Dr. Singh works in the area of corporate governance, CSR, competition, and business law and policy. Dr. Singh is also a trained mediator and arbitrator. Dr. Singh is the Life Member of Indian Institute of Public Administration (IIPA), the Indian Society of International Law (ISIL) and The International Centre for Alternative Dispute Resolution (ICADR), Indian Law Institute (ILI) and Indian Council of Arbitration (ICA).

Gazi Salah Uddin
Associate Professor, Department of Management and Engineering, Linköping University, Sweden

Gazi Salah Uddin, Ph.D, is an Associate Professor of Financial Economics at the Department of Management and Engineering, Linköping University, Sweden. His research interests emphasize strongly on multidisciplinary aspects, where econometric techniques and methodologies from economics, physics, engineering, and psychology are implemented in studying the complexity of economic and financial systems on a macro level, focused on areas such as international economics and financial markets, energy and corporate finance. He received the “Jan Wallanders and the Tom Hedelius Scholarship” for doctoral thesis in economics during 2016. Recently, he received the “TRISS” award as a visiting scholar at the Trinity College, Ireland. He has have publications in well-renowned journals such as European Journal of Operation Research, Journal of Economic Dynamics and Control, Energy Economics, and etc.

Concluding Remarks

Peter J. Morgan
Senior Consulting Economist and Vice Chair of Research, ADBI

Peter Morgan is Senior Consulting Economist and Vice Chair of Research at ADBI. He has 23 years of experience in the financial sector in Asia, most recently serving in Hong Kong, China as Chief Asia Economist for HSBC. Previously, he served as Chief Japan Economist for HSBC. 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.