



Launch Seminar of the Asia Small and Medium-Sized Enterprise Monitor 2024
Designing an MSME Ecosystem for Resilient Growth in Asia and the Pacific

20-22 November 2024
Auditorium 2-4, ADB Headquarters
Manila, Philippines

DAY 1 – 20 NOVEMBER 2024

Opening Remarks



ALBERT PARK

*Chief Economist and Director General,
Economic Research and Development
Impact Department*
Asian Development Bank

Albert F. Park is Chief Economist of the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and Director General of its Economic Research and Development Impact Department. He is chief spokesperson on economic and development trends and leads the production of ADB's flagship knowledge products and support for regional cooperation fora. Mr. Park has more than 2 decades of experience as a development economist and is a well-known expert on the economy of the People's Republic of China. He has worked on a broad range of development issues including poverty and inequality, intergenerational mobility, microfinance, migration and labor markets, the future of work, and foreign investment.

Mr. Park is Chair Professor of Economics, Social Science, and Public Policy at HKUST (on leave). He served as a founding director of HKUST's Institute for Emerging Market Studies and Center for Economic Policy, and previously held faculty positions at the University of Oxford and University of Michigan.

A national of the United States, he received his bachelor's degree in economics from Harvard University and his doctorate in applied economics from Stanford University.

Welcome Remarks



SHIGEO SHIMIZU
Executive Director, Japan
Asian Development Bank

Shigeo Shimizu is appointed as Executive Director for Japan effective 3 August 2023.

Prior to his appointment in ADB, he was Executive Director for Croatia, Japan, Korea, Portugal, Slovenia and United Kingdom at the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) in Washington, D.C. where he served as chairperson of the Audit Committee and the Organization, Human Resources and Board Matters Committee.

Mr. Shimizu has extensive experience in the public sector, especially on the international front. On international trade issues, as Councilor at the Cabinet Secretariat, he led policies and programs on the Japan-US Trade Agreement and the Comprehensive and Progressive Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement (CPTPP/TPP11). Both agreements went effective during his term (2018 - 2020).

With regard to international development, Mr. Shimizu was a Director at Ministry of Finance responsible for policies on multilateral development banks, including ADB, the IDB, and the World Bank (2011 - 2013). From 2009 to 2011, he served as Director at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in charge of the Japanese Official Development Assistance (ODA) policies to East and Southeast Asian countries and Oceanian countries.

Mr. Shimizu was Minister at the Embassy of Japan in the USA (2015 to 2018). From 2013 to 2015, he oversaw and managed Japanese defense expenditures at the Ministry of Defense. He has also worked for Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO Düsseldorf, Germany) and International Monetary Fund (Washington, D.C.).

Mr. Shimizu holds an LLB from the University of Tokyo and a Master of Public Administration from Cornell University.

**Session 1: Designing an MSME Ecosystem in Asia and the Pacific:
Lessons from the Asia SME Monitor 2024 Volume I**



SHIGEHIRO SHINOZAKI
*Senior Economist, Regional Cooperation
and Integration Division*
Asian Development Bank

Shigehiro Shinozaki is a Senior Economist at the Economic Research and Development Impact Department of Asian Development Bank (ADB). He supports ADB's developing member countries in designing small and medium-sized enterprise (SME) policies through various technical assistance projects. His research expertise includes SME development and inclusive finance in developing Asia.

Prior to joining ADB, he held several expert positions at Japan's Ministry of Finance, OECD in France, and as JICA expert in Indonesia. He holds PhD in International Studies from Waseda University in Japan.

**Session 2: MSME Participation in Global Value Chains –
Constraints and Challenges in Asia and the Pacific**



JONG WOO KANG
*Director, Regional Cooperation
and Integration Division*
Asian Development Bank

Jong Woo Kang is Director of Regional Cooperation and Integration Division at the Economic Research and Development Impact Department (ERDI) of the Asian Development Bank (ADB). As director, he plays a role as an interface between ADB's internal and external stakeholders on regional cooperation and integration. He is a seasoned economist with extensive knowledge and experiences on policy and strategic issues. He was Principal Economist at ERDI, Senior Advisor to the Managing Director General of ADB and Senior Economist at Strategy and Policy Department at ADB. He leads the annual publication of Asian Economic Integration Report. Areas of his research interest include regional integration, inclusive growth, macroeconomic policies, international trade and finance, and aid effectiveness. He published articles in economics journals such as Journal of Development Economics, Journal of Applied Economics, and Journal of World Trade. Before joining ADB, he was director at Ministry of Finance and Economy of Korea until 2006. He got his BA in economics and MA in public administration from Seoul National University, and PhD in economics from University of Washington.



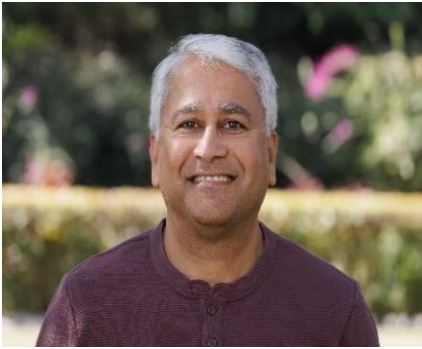
MOHD RITHAUDDEN MAKIP
Deputy CEO (Policy and Coordination)
SME Corporation, Malaysia

Mohd Rithaudden is currently the Deputy Chief Executive Officer (Policy & Coordination) with SME Corporation Malaysia, a Central Coordinating Agency under the Ministry of Entrepreneur and Cooperatives Development (MECD) that formulates overall policies and strategies for Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) and coordinates the implementation of SME development programmes across all related Ministries and Agencies. Prior to joining SME Corp. Malaysia, he was the Vice President of Channel Management at a reputable bank in Malaysia overseeing the branch development, physical and virtual touch points of the bank. He has held various positions and responsibilities in various departments and financial institutions in his 12 years within the banking sector. He holds a Bachelor of Management Studies in Management System and Marketing from University of Waikato, Hamilton, New Zealand. He presented and moderated papers on SMEs and entrepreneurship in specific platforms such as ASEAN, APEC, APO, JICA, OECD, G20, and OIC. He represented Malaysia in APEC SME Working Group, ASEAN SME Working Group, FTAs, other bilateral relationships and was the co-chair of ASEAN-Korea Working Group of Economic Cooperation.



GHULAM SAMAD
Senior Research Specialist
**Central Asia Regional Economic
 Cooperation Program (CAREC) Institute**

Ghulam Samad is a Senior Research Specialist at the Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation (CAREC) Institute, ADB. Before joining CAREC Institute, Dr. Samad was a Senior Research Economist at the Pakistan Institute of Development Economics (PIDE), Ministry of Planning, Development, and Special Initiatives. Dr. Samad also served as an Economist at the Planning Commission of Pakistan. Dr. Samad holds 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. As a consultant, Dr. Samad worked as a consultant for International Development Research Centre (IDRC) Canada, World Bank, Asian Development Bank, United Nations Development Program (UNDP), United Nations Environmental Program (UNEP), and UN World Intellectual Property Organization (WTO).



SAMEER DESHPANDE
Associate Professor
Griffith University, Australia

Sameer Deshpande, PhD, is the Associate Professor of Social Marketing in the Department of Marketing in Griffith Business School at Griffith University. He also serves as the Deputy Director of Social Marketing @ Griffith. Over two decades, in the area of ‘marketing for a better world,’ Sameer has taught, widely published in academic journals, books, and conference proceedings, reviewed, and trained and consulted with government and non-profit organizations in India, Canada, Singapore, Australia, and the U.S. He is the Editor of Social Marketing Quarterly. Sameer has raised over two million dollars and published studies testing the effectiveness of behavior change initiatives using social marketing frameworks with particular emphasis on consumer-insights approach in a variety of contexts, including financial services to disadvantaged women, alcohol abstinence during pregnancy, safe sexual practices, promotion of alternative rides, responsible drinking, water rights, and physical activity. His book, co-authored with Nancy Lee, *Social Marketing in India*, has been well-received by the Indian academic and practitioner social marketing sector.



NEIL FOSTER-MCGREGOR
*Senior Economist, Regional Cooperation
and Integration Division*
Asian Development Bank

Neil Foster-McGregor has broad research interests and has worked and published widely on topics including global value chains; preferential trade agreements; structural transformation; innovation and knowledge transfer; trade and labor markets; and new technologies, inequality, and labor market outcomes. Prior to joining the Asian Development Bank, he worked at the United Nations University–Maastricht Economic and Social Research Institute on Innovation and Technology (UNU-MERIT) initially as a research fellow and later as Deputy Director and Professor of Globalization and Innovation. He obtained his degrees in economics for master’s and doctorate from the University of Nottingham.

Session 3: A New Regime of MSME Financing for Economic Diversification in Asia and the Pacific



SHIGEHIRO SHINOZAKI
*Senior Economist, Regional Cooperation
and Integration Division*
Asian Development Bank

Shigehiro Shinozaki is a Senior Economist at the Economic Research and Development Impact Department of Asian Development Bank (ADB). He supports ADB's developing member countries in designing small and medium-sized enterprise (SME) policies through various technical assistance projects. His research expertise includes SME development and inclusive finance in developing Asia.

Prior to joining ADB, he held several expert positions at Japan's Ministry of Finance, OECD in France, and as JICA expert in Indonesia. He holds PhD in International Studies from Waseda University in Japan.



ARIFF ALI
Governor
Reserve Bank of Fiji

Ariff Ali was initially appointed as Governor of the Reserve Bank of Fiji on 11 September 2017 and then reappointed on 11 September 2022. Mr. Ali joined the Reserve Bank in 1992 in the Research Department. He has worked in the Economics, Financial Markets and Financial Institutions Groups and was Team Leader for the FIJICLEAR project. He rose to head the Financial Markets Group in 2009 and was the Chief Manager of the Economics Group from 2013. Prior to his appointment as Governor, he was the Deputy Governor since May 2014. As Governor, Mr. Ali is the Chairperson of the Board of the Reserve Bank of Fiji, Monetary Policy Committee, Macroeconomic Committee, Capital Markets Development Taskforce, National Financial Inclusion Taskforce and Secured Transactions Taskforce. He is also a member of the Council of the Fiji Institute of Bankers and the National Anti-Money Laundering Council. Mr. Ali is the Chairperson of the Government Tender Board and the Accident Compensation Commission Fiji. Mr. Ariff Ali obtained his Bachelor of Economics (Honours) degree from the International Islamic University, Malaysia and a Master of Business Administration from the University of the South Pacific.



ANURADHA DILRUKSHINI WATUDURA
Assistant Governor
Central Bank of Sri Lanka

W. A. Dilrukshini is an Assistant Governor of the Central Bank of Sri Lanka with over 24 years of experience in Central Banking. As an Assistant Governor, Mrs. Dilrukshini oversees the macroprudential surveillance, financial consumer relations and market conduct, financial literacy & inclusion, and the organization's talent development functions. Before serving as an Assistant Governor, she served as the Director of the Macroprudential Surveillance Department. Also, she worked in the departments of Economic Research, Statistics, and the Center for Banking Studies in different capacities. Mrs. Dilrukshini has expertise in policymaking related to price and economic stability and financial system stability. Further, she spearheaded the sustainable finance initiatives of the CBSL. She is currently leading the implementation of the Sustainable Finance Roadmap.

Mrs. Dilrukshini holds a Master of International & Development Economics Degree from the Australian National University, Australia, a Master of Business Administration from the Postgraduate Institute of Management (PIM) of the University of Sri Jayawardenepura, and a Bachelor of Arts Special Degree in Economics from the University of Colombo.



SEVAK MIKAYELIAN
Deputy Minister of Economy
Republic of Armenia

Sevak Mikayelyan serves as the Deputy Minister of Economy for Armenia, dedicated to advancing the country's economic growth and development. With extensive experience in public administration and economic policy, he focuses on fostering innovation, supporting SME growth, and promoting capital market development to enhance Armenia's economic resilience. Prior to his role as Deputy Minister, Mr. Mikayelyan was the Deputy Head of the Consumer Protection and Education Center at the Central Bank of Armenia, where he contributed to key initiatives in financial education and consumer protection. He holds a Candidate of Economic Sciences degree from Yerevan State University.



SAMUEL WENG YEW LEE
*Manager, Financial Inclusion
 Department*
Bank Negara Malaysia

Samuel Lee oversees SME financing policy matters, with more than 7 years of experience in the development and implementation of financial development strategies. Areas of focus include specialized financing facilities, credit guarantees, public-private partnerships and recent foray into adaptation finance, as well as other tools to address market failures and ensure inclusive finance that supports growth.

**Session 4: Challenges and Policy Actions to Create an Ecosystem of
 Vibrant MSMEs in Asia and the Pacific**



PETER MORGAN
*Senior Consulting Economist and
 Advisor to the Dean*
Asian Development Bank Institute

Peter Morgan is Senior Consulting Economist and Advisor to the Dean at the Asian Development Bank Institute (ADBI). He has been with ADBI since 2008. He has 23 years 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. 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.



EMMA ASUSANO
*Director, Bureau of Small and Medium
 Enterprise Development*
**Department of Trade and Industry,
 Philippines**

Emma Asusano is Director for the Bureau of Small and Medium Enterprise Development (BSMED), Regional Operations Group, of the Department of Trade and Industry, Philippines. BSMED initiates and implements programs and projects addressing the specific needs of MSMEs in the areas of technology development and transfer, financing, marketing, and training. The BSMED is mandated to promote and develop MSMEs in the country, and is also tasked to review and formulate policies and strategies geared towards the advancement of MSMEs in the areas of entrepreneurship development, institutional strengthening, and productivity improvement.



ANWAR HOSSAIN CHOWDHURY
Managing Director
SME Foundation, Bangladesh

Anwar Hossain Chowdhury Managing Director (MD) of the SME Foundation, he is responsible for leading the organization's strategic initiatives to promote and develop the Small and Medium Enterprise (SME) sector in Bangladesh. The Foundation facilitates implementing various programs, including SME financing schemes, capacity-building initiatives, and policy advocacy to support entrepreneurs. The MD works closely with government bodies, international organizations, and the private sector to ensure sustainable growth and create an enabling environment for SMEs. Main focus of SMEF is on fostering innovation, improving access to finance, and enhancing the competitiveness of SMEs across the country.



BAKHYZZHAN MAKAZHANOV
Deputy Chairman of the
Management Board
"DAMU" Entrepreneurship
Development Fund, Kazakhstan

Bakhytzhan Makazhanov is Deputy Chairman of Management Board Entrepreneurship Development Fund "Damu" JSC in Almaty, Kazakhstan. Damu is a government SME support entity and provides SME partial credit guarantee, loan interest subsidy, concessional lending. He is responsible for Finance Department, IT and Investor relations, and coordination with International development institutions such as ADB, EBRD, UNDP, and EIB.



JOHN PORA
Chairman of the Board
Small and Medium Enterprises
Corporation, Papua New Guinea

John Pora is Chairman of the Board for the Small and Medium Enterprises Corporation, Papua New Guinea. With an established career spanning over three decades, his role as Chairman at the SME Corporation of PNG has been pivotal in fostering growth and sustainability within Papua New Guinea's SME sector. Our team's commitment to new business development and problem-solving has driven significant advancements in local entrepreneurship.



DAY 2 – 21 NOVEMBER 2024

Introductory Remarks



JONG WOO KANG
*Director, Regional Cooperation and
Integration Division*
Asian Development Bank



Jong Woo Kang is Director of Regional Cooperation and Integration Division at the Economic Research and Development Impact Department (ERDI) of the Asian Development Bank (ADB). As director, he plays a role as an interface between ADB's internal and external stakeholders on regional cooperation and integration. He is a seasoned economist with extensive knowledge and experiences on policy and strategic issues. He was Principal Economist at ERDI, Senior Advisor to the Managing Director General of ADB and Senior Economist at Strategy and Policy Department at ADB. He leads the annual publication of Asian Economic Integration Report. Areas of his research interest include regional integration, inclusive growth, macroeconomic policies, international trade and finance, and aid effectiveness. He published articles in economics journals such as Journal of Development Economics, Journal of Applied Economics and Journal of World Trade. Before joining ADB, he was director at Ministry of Finance and Economy of Korea until 2006. He had got his BA in economics and MA in public administration from Seoul National University, and PhD in economics from University of Washington.

**Session 1: Private Sector Development and Inclusive Growth –
Role of MSMEs under Global Agendas**



JONATHAN TSUEN YIP WONG
*Chief of Innovation, Enterprise and
Investment Trade Investment and
Innovation Division*
UNESCAP

Jonathan Wong is the Chief of Innovation, Enterprise and Investment at the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP). He joined ESCAP from the UK Department for International Development (DFID), where he was the inaugural Head of Innovation. He has led the establishment of several high-profile innovation initiatives including the Global Innovation Fund, a partnership between the governments of the US, UK, Sweden, Australia and South Africa. He has extensive experience in innovation and entrepreneurship, technology, innovative financing and impact investing. He also has substantial policy expertise on these agendas, having advised governments across Europe, Africa, Asia and the Pacific, and Latin America.

	<p>Before joining DFID, he was a founding partner of a technology and innovation venture-capital fund and supported the establishment of the UK NHS Institute for Innovation and Improvement. Mr. Wong has also served on APEC's E-commerce Business Council and the UNCDF Board for ASEAN, and was awarded a Rockefeller Foundation Policy Fellowship and the inaugural Schwab Foundation Award for Public Social Innovation and Entrepreneurship at the World Economic Forum.</p>
 <p>JOHN BEIRNE Principal Economist, Macroeconomics Research Division Asian Development Bank</p>	<p>John Beirne is Principal Economist at the Economic Research and Development Impact Department of Asian Development Bank. Specializing in international finance and macroeconomics, he has over 20 years of professional experience as an economist, including more than a decade in central banking. Prior to joining ERMR, he was Vice-Chair of Research and a Senior Fellow at the ADB Institute in Japan, where he co-headed the Research Department, leading research workstreams on macroeconomics, finance, and infrastructure. Previously, he was Senior Economist at the European Central Bank (ECB), where his research and policy work focused on exchange rates, commodities, financial crisis and contagion, capital flow management, and monetary policy transmission. Earlier, he was a market operations economist in liquidity management at the ECB during the global financial crisis and euro area sovereign debt crisis periods. Before that, he interned at the International Monetary Fund in the US. John also worked in academia in the UK and as an economist in the private sector with KPMG and DTZ in Ireland and the UK. He has published widely in journals and frequently contributes to the media on global macro issues. He holds a PhD in Economics from Brunel University London.</p>
 <p>ASIF CHEEMA Director, Private Sector Financial Institutions Division Asian Development Bank</p>	<p>Asif Cheema is Director for financial institutions in the Private Sector Operations Department and leads ADB's debt and equity funding to financial institutions throughout ADB's developing member countries in Asia and the Pacific, as well as ADB's Microfinance Risk Participation and Guarantee Program. Prior to his current role, he was Director for urban and social sector in the East Asia Department where he oversaw an existing portfolio of and identified new projects in urban development, climate adaptation and mitigation, education, skills development, social protection, and health sectors. He joined ADB in January 2014 in Manila as part of the private sector operations department and has concluded projects to support affordable housing, SMEs, renewable energy, and agriculture across Asia. Prior to joining ADB, he was an Executive Director/Head of Equities – Investment Banking at</p>

	<p>the Bank Sarasin in the United Arab Emirates and was Executive Director for Corporate Finance at Nomura International, United Arab Emirates. He held the position of Associate Director for Corporate Finance Advisory at the HSBC Investment Bank in London, UK. He started his career at J.P. Morgan Securities as Associate for Financial Institutions Investment Banking in New York. Asif holds a Master's degree, in Business Administration from Yale University, School of Management, United States and completed his Bachelor's degree in Business Administration from New York Institute of Technology, United States.</p>
<div> </div> <div> <p>KATARIINA NILSSON HAKKALA <i>Senior Economist, Regional Cooperation and Integration Division</i> Asian Development Bank</p> </div>	<p>Katariina Nilsson Hakkala is a Senior Economist at the Regional Cooperation and Integration Division of Asian Development Bank. She has more than 20 years of experience in economic research and analysis, academic teaching, and consulting for governments and international organisations.</p> <p>Prior to joining ADB, she was appointed professor (Professional fellow) at the UP School of Economics, University of the Philippines Diliman in 2023. Before taking this role, she has worked as a chief/senior researcher carrying out research projects and leading research teams in international trade, investment, and policy at the ETLA Economic Research and the VATT Institute for Economic Research in Finland, and as a senior lecturer at Lund university in Sweden. During her time in Finland and Sweden, she regularly taught graduate and undergraduate level courses in international trade and microeconomics at Aalto university, Hanken School of Economics and Lund university.</p> <p>As a side activity, she has advised several governmental and international organisations including Prime Minister's Office, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Finnish Intergovernmental Panel for Climate Change (IPCC) in Finland; Globalisation Council, the Ministry Education and Research, the Ministry of Climate and Enterprise and the Swedish International development Agency (SIDA) in Sweden; Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), and United Nations Development Program (UNDP). Her research has been published both in books and peer-reviewed journals including the Review of Economics and Statistics, the Economic Journal, the European Economic Review, Economica, the Canadian Journal of Economics, the Review of World Economics, and Industrial and Corporate Change. She holds a Ph.D. in Economics from the Stockholm School of Economics.</p>

Session 2: Building Gender-Responsive MSME Ecosystems for Women: Data, Financing, and Policies



CAROLINE WAQABACA
Chief Manager,
Financial System Development
Reserve Bank of Fiji

Caroline Waqabaca is the Chief Manager Financial System Development at the Reserve Bank of Fiji since January 2023. She has been with the Bank for over 30 years serving in various capacities including Manager Corporate Communications (2003-2006), Chief Economist (2010-2017), and Head of Financial Markets (2018-2022). From 2013-2015, she was seconded to the IMF as Advisor to the Executive Director in the South East Asia Voting Group (SEAVG) office. She is currently responsible for payment systems development, consumer protection and driving financial inclusion. Caroline holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree and Post Graduate Diploma in Economics from the University of the South Pacific and a Master in Public Policy from GRIPS (2007).



KEIKO NOWACKA
Principal Social Development Specialist
(Gender and Development)
Asian Development Bank

Keiko Nowacka is Principal Social Development Specialist (Gender and Development) in the Sustainable Development and Climate Change Department at the Asian Development Bank. In this role, she focuses on women's entrepreneurship and promoting the ADB's gender mainstreaming mandate, including the gender transformative agenda in line with Strategy 2030's Operational Priority 2. Prior to joining ADB, Keiko led the gender program at the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development's Development Centre, where she was responsible for the Social Institutions and Gender Index. She has also held positions at UNESCO, where she led the first Global Report on gender and culture (2014) and focused on gender mainstreaming in the cultural and creative industries. She has also worked as an Operations Manager at Camfed, an NGO supporting secondary girls' education in sub-Saharan Africa. She has a PhD from the University of Cambridge and is a graduate from the University of Sydney.



MALARMATHY GANGATHARAN
Director General
Department of Development Finance
Ministry of Finance, Sri Lanka

Malarmathy Gangatharan is a Special Grade officer of the Sri Lanka Planning Service and currently serves as the Director General of the Department of Development Finance at the Ministry of Finance in Sri Lanka. She has been working in the public service for 30 years, starting as an Assistant Director at the Department of National Planning in 1994. Over the years, she has worked in the Department of National Planning, Department of National Budget and the Department of External Resources of the General Treasury. In addition, she has served and contributed in policy related development matters of the country and also represented the General Treasury as a Board Director in several statutory institutions and currently serves as a member of the Board of Directors at the National Institute of Education, the National Livestock Development Board, and the State Pharmaceutical Corporation of Sri Lanka.

Mrs. Malarmathy Gangatharan holds a Master's in Transport Economics from the University of Leeds, UK. She also holds two Post Graduate Diploma in Transportation from University of Moratuwa and Development Studies from Institute of Developing Economies Advanced School (IDEAS), Japan. She is a graduate from the University of Jaffna earned BA (Hons) Degree in Economics, Sociology and Political Science.



ADNAN RAFIQ
Senior Investment Specialist,
Private Sector Financial Institutions
Asian Development Bank

Adnan Rafiq is currently a Senior Investment Specialist at Asian Development Bank. Adnan Rafiq brings experience from previous roles at Asian Development Bank, Saudi Fransi Capital and Ey. Adnan Rafiq holds a 2000 - 2002 Master of Business Administration in Finance @ Lahore University of Management Sciences. With a robust skill set that includes Business Planning, Financial Advisory, Banking, Investments, Equity Valuation and more.

Session 3: Promoting ESG for MSMEs and Investment Opportunities



NAOYUKI YOSHINO
Emeritus Professor
Keio University, Japan

Naoyuki Yoshino is Professor Emeritus of Keio University in Tokyo, Japan, and Director of Financial Research Center (FSA Institute, Government of Japan). He obtained a Ph.D. from Johns Hopkins University in 1979, where his thesis supervisor was Sir Alan Walters (UK Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's Economic Adviser). He worked as an Assistant Professor at the State University of New York at Buffalo, Visiting scholar at MIT (USA), Visiting Scholar at the Central Bank of Japan, Visiting Professor at the University of New South Wales (Australia), Fondation Nationale des Sciences Politiques (France). He received Honorary Doctorates from the University of Gothenburg (Sweden) and Martin Luther University of Halle-Wittenberg (Germany). He also conferred the Fukuzawa award from Keio University for his contribution to research. He was the Dean & CEO of the Asian Development Bank Institute (ADBI) in Tokyo (2014–2020).



ALEXANDER RAABE
*Economist, Regional Cooperation and
Integration Division*
Asian Development Bank

Alexander Raabe is an Economist in ADB's Economic Research and Development Impact Department. He leads analytical work on international and climate finance, produces chapters of the Asian Economic Integration Report and ADB's flagship Climate Change Report, and develops an Early Warning System for financial crises. He also advises on regional financial integration. Prior to joining the ADB, Alexander conducted macroeconomic surveillance at the European Stability Mechanism, managed the production of quarterly country risk reports, developed analytical tools, and spearheaded the analytical agenda on climate change. Previously, he taught macroeconomics and international finance at University of Zurich and coordinated a research network on the globalization of real estate markets. Alexander also worked at the International Monetary Fund, the Bank of England, and the United Nations, and in diplomacy. His research has been published in leading academic journals including the IMF Economic Review. He holds a PhD in international economics from the Graduate Institute Geneva, Switzerland, a Master's degree in International Development from Johns Hopkins University's School of Advanced International Studies, USA, and a Bachelor's degree in economics and business administration from WHU School of Management, Germany.



ANAR YUSUFZADA
*Head of the PPP Environment and
 Capacity Building Department
 Small and Medium Business
 Development Agency,
 Republic of Azerbaijan*

Anar Yusufzada is currently Head of PPP environment and Capacity Building Department at the Small and Medium Business Development Agency (KOBIA), Republic of Azerbaijan. Anar Yusufzada brings experience from previous roles at The Small and Medium Business Development Agency of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Ansar Leasing and Greenwood Holding. Anar Yusufzada holds a 2000 - 2003 BA in Human Sciences @ International Islamic University Malaysia. With a robust skill set that includes Islamic Finance, Banking, Portfolio Management, Risk Management, Auditing



SHU TIAN
*Principal Economist,
 Macroeconomics Research Division
 Asian Development Bank*

Shu Tian is a Principal Economist at the Economic Research and Development Impact Department of the Asian Development Bank (ADB). Prior to joining ADB, she was an Associate Professor of Finance at Fudan University in China. Her main working area is financial sector development and sustainable finance. Dr. Tian works in the teams that produce ADB's flagship reports Asian Development Outlook and Asia Bond Monitor. Her team also works on bond market development in the ASEAN+3 economies under the Asian Bond Markets Initiative and maintains the AsianBondsOnline, an online information platform for ASEAN+3 bond markets.

Session 4: Rethinking Regional Cooperation and Integration – Trade and MSMEs



EMMANUEL A. SAN ANDRES
*Senior Analyst
 APEC Policy Support Unit*

Emmanuel A. San Andres holds a Master of Arts in Economics and a Bachelor's degree in Economics from the University of the Philippines School of Economics, where he is also a candidate for a PhD in Economics. Prior to joining APEC, Mr. San Andres was an Economics Officer at the Economics and Research Department of the Asian Development Bank (ADB) in Manila mainly working on poverty, inequality, food security, and social sector issues such as health, education, and employment. He also worked as a consultant for organisations such as the ADB, World Bank, and various non-government organisations where he conducted research on migration and remittances, economic development, taxation, and public policy.



KIJIN KIM

*Senior Economist, Regional Cooperation
and Integration Division*
Asian Development Bank

Kijin Kim is a Senior Economist in the Economic Research and Development Impact Department, Asian Development Bank. Since he joined the ADB in 2017, he has been working on trade, trade facilitation, and trade finance within the context of regional cooperation and integration (RCI). He contributed to ADB's publications on these areas including the *Asian Economic Integration Report*, *Trade Finance Gaps, Growth, and Jobs Survey*, and *Asia-Pacific Trade Facilitation Report*.

Before joining the ADB, he was a research fellow of the Regional Economics Applications Laboratory at the University of Illinois since 2012. From 2004 to 2010, he worked as Economist at the Bank of Korea. He earned his PhD in economics from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in 2016, focusing on research within the fields of regional economics and applied econometrics, centered on the role of labor markets, the effects of heterogeneity in consumption spending and labor market participation on regional economies.



NURLAN KULBATYR

Deputy General Director
**Center for Trade Policy Development,
Kazakhstan**

Nurlan Kulbatyr is Deputy General Director for the Center for Trade Policy Development of the Ministry of National Economy of the Republic of Kazakhstan. He supervises analytical and consulting work of the CTPD on cooperation of the Republic of Kazakhstan with OECD and EAEC. Prior to CTPD, he was Head of the Center for Entrepreneurship Development of the Economic Research Institute of the Ministry of National Economy. Nurlan worked on state programs on entrepreneurship and industrial development of the Republic of Kazakhstan. He is a member of the national Global Entrepreneurship Monitor team (Nazarbayev University), and joined a World Bank *Enhancing the competitiveness of small and medium-sized enterprises in Kazakhstan* project as a consultant. Mr. Kulbatyr is a graduate of the Moscow Timiryazev Agricultural Academy with major in mathematical methods of economic analysis and management. He had several scientific internships in USA, Japan, China (Tsinghua University) and Turkey.



GHULAM SAMAD
Senior Research Specialist
**Central Asia Regional Cooperation
 Program (CAREC) Institute**

Ghulam Samad is a Senior Research Specialist at the Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation (CAREC) Institute, ADB. Before joining CAREC Institute, Dr. Samad was a Senior Research Economist at the Pakistan Institute of Development Economics (PIDE), Ministry of Planning, Development, and Special Initiatives. Dr. Samad also served as an Economist at the Planning Commission of Pakistan. Dr. Samad holds 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. As a consultant, Dr. Samad worked as a consultant for International Development Research Centre (IDRC) Canada, World Bank, Asian Development Bank, United Nations Development Program (UNDP), United Nations Environmental Program (UNEP), and UN World Intellectual Property Organization (WTO).

Session 5: Business Digitalization and Digital Finance for MSMEs





SARAH CHEAH
Associate Professor
**National University of Singapore
 Business School**

Visiting Professor
**Hokkaido University School of
 Economics and Business**

Sarah Cheah is Associate Professor with the National University of Singapore (NUS) Business School, with research and practice in business model innovation, corporate entrepreneurship and early-stage technology development and commercialization. She is a member of International Advisory Committee member of the Department of Interaction Science/ Department of Applied Artificial Intelligence at Sungkyunkwan University, South Korea. She has led consulting practicum and research studies on innovation with business federations, chambers of commerce and multi-national corporations (MNC). Dr Cheah was consultant to National Robotics R&D Programme Office in robotics roadmapping and commercialization strategy. Besides advising venture capital firm on strategic investments, she has provided executive training for corporations and public policymakers from Singapore, Indonesia, China, Vietnam and Thailand.

Before joining NUS, Dr Cheah held the position of Vice President with the commercialization arm of Agency for Science, Technology and Research (A*STAR), responsible for strategic planning, technology foresight and market analytics, to support transfer of technology and knowledge from public research institutes to the industry. Dr Cheah played an instrumental role in the review of government policies pertaining to intellectual property (IP), spin-off and technology commercialization matters. Prior to A*STAR, Dr Cheah was a Lean Six Sigma Belt Black heading operations and program office with US MNC, where she helped clients in Southeast Asia

	<p>to achieve innovation-driven growth. Dr Cheah helped a US-based public-listed company set up operations in Asia Pacific. She had played advisory role in government agency (now Enterprise Singapore) to promote bilateral trade and investment between Singapore and Greater China.</p> <p>Dr Cheah received her PhD in Business and Management from the University of South Australia. She graduated with BEng (Hons) from the National University of Singapore (NUS) and MBA (Banking & Finance) from Nanyang Technological University. She was awarded Prime Minister's Book Prize for outstanding academic achievements.</p>
 <p>DONGHYUN PARK <i>Economic Advisor, Economic Research and Development Impact Department</i> Asian Development Bank</p>	<p>Donghyun Park, Economic Advisor (Strategic Knowledge Initiatives), ADB Office of the Chief Economist and Director General, Economic Research and Development Impact Department.</p> <p>Prior to joining ADB in 2007, he was a tenured associate professor of economics at Nanyang Technological University in Singapore. He has a PhD in economics from UCLA in the US, and his main research fields are international finance, international trade, and development economics. His research, which has been published extensively in journals and books, revolves around policy-oriented topics relevant to Asia's long-term development, including innovation, entrepreneurship, and green finance. Dr. Park plays a leading role in the production of Asian Development Outlook and Asia Bond Monitor, two major ADB flagship publications.</p>
 <p>HIDEKI KAGOHASHI <i>Enterprise Development Specialist</i> International Labour Organization, Country Office for the Philippines</p>	<p>Hideki Kagohashi is an expert of private sector development with more than 30 years of experience with international organizations, private sector and non-profit organizations serving for the developing economies of Asia, Africa and Latin America.</p> <p>Since 2015, Hideki has provided technical services for the Philippines as the Enterprise Development Specialist of the International Labour Organization (ILO), the UN specialized agency on labour and employment. Under the capacity, he contributed to the national dialogue on the Future of Work, explored blockchain use cases in responsible supply chains, coordinated the research on the emerging digital wage payments, and developed and guided projects on the digitalization of micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs). More recently, he pioneered the AI use cases in the flagship entrepreneurship programme of the ILO in the Philippines. During his 18 years of service with the ILO, he also</p>

	<p>served for India and South Asian countries as well as Afghanistan where he was the ILO representative.</p> <p>Prior to joining the ILO, Hideki was an MSME development expert at the Mitsubishi UFJ Research and Consulting, Inc. in Tokyo; the Inter-American Development Bank in Washington, DC; World Bank in Bolivia; and volunteer and NGO programmes in Latin America. Hideki holds Master in International Affairs from Columbia University in New York and MA on international relations from the University of Tokyo.</p>
 <p>LISETTE CIPRIANO <i>Principal Digital Finance Specialist (Financial Technology Services), Finance Sector Group Asia Development Bank</i></p>	<p>Lisette Cipriano currently works as a Principal Digital Technology Specialist in Financial Technology Services with ADB. Prior to her current role, she worked for Vodafone Group in the UK, as Commercial Country Manager for Ghana and DRC, providing support and consultancy services for Vodafone Cash/M-Pesa. Her areas of expertise include payments, financial inclusion, mobile money, and financial services in the EMEA region.</p>
 <p>ERKKO AUTIO <i>Chair in Technology Venturing and Entrepreneurship Imperial College London Business School</i></p>	<p>Erkko Autio is Chair in Technology Venturing and Entrepreneurship at Imperial College London Business School. At the Innovation and Entrepreneurship Group, he directs the Diffusion of Innovation theme, is Co-Investigator in the Digital City Exchange project and affiliated with the UK Enterprise Research Centre. He is also a member of the Senate of Imperial College and serves in the Research Committee of ICBS. He was a founder of the Energy Business Laboratory of ICBS and directed ICBS Doctoral Programme for 7 years until June 2015.</p> <p>Erkko is co-founder of the Global Entrepreneurship and Development Institute and co-author of the Global Entrepreneurship Index and the EU Regional Entrepreneurship Index. He is also a founding team member of the Global Entrepreneurship Monitor GEM initiative -- the World's largest ongoing research consortium in social sciences that has been running since 1997. Erkko has conducted pioneering research in the areas of comparative entrepreneurship, international entrepreneurship, innovation ecosystems, and most recently in systems of entrepreneurship and entrepreneurship ecosystems. His research has been cited in hundreds of news media in over 80 countries (including The Economist, Financial Times, The Wall Street Journal, Forbes, Fortune, CNN, MSBNC,</p>

	<p>among others); in over 15 000 academic publications (Google Scholar), and his research has been recognized in the form of numerous best paper awards and similar recognitions. Professor Autio was recently recognized as one of the 50 most influential management scholars globally in terms of research impact (Aguinis et al, 2012). His current research interests are in entrepreneurship and entrepreneurship policy (notably, National and Regional Entrepreneurial Ecosystems), innovation ecosystems, innovation momentum strategies, business model innovation and innovation from Big Science.</p>
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