



PANELISTS AND MODERATORS

DAY 1 - 3 September (Tuesday)

Opening Remarks



Bambang Susantono, *Vice-President for Knowledge Management and Sustainable Development, Asian Development Bank (ADB)*

Dr. Bambang Susantono is Vice-President for Knowledge Management and Sustainable Development of the Asian Development Bank (ADB). He is responsible for ADB's knowledge management and supervises the development of ADB's flagship publications and reports. This includes macro, micro and regional economic research, and country diagnostic studies, among others.

He coordinates ADB's multi-sector operations research supporting its investments across energy, transport, urban, water, finance, education, and health sectors. He provides strategic leadership on ADB's commitment to the global sustainability and climate change agenda through mainstreaming environment, climate change and disaster risk management, governance, regional cooperation and financial integration, social development and gender equity, rural development and food security, across ADB's respective business lines.

Prior to this, Dr. Susantono was Acting Minister, and Vice-Minister of Transportation of Indonesia, and Deputy Minister for Infrastructure and Regional Development at the Office of Coordinating Ministry for Economic Affairs. He chaired several research institutes and taught in universities. He was also Member of the Board for airline, port, telecommunications and media companies.

Dr. Susantono holds a PhD in Infrastructure Planning, Master's degrees in Transportation Engineering, and City and Regional Planning, all from the University of California Berkeley. He earned a Bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering from the Bandung Institute of Technology.

Plenary Session 1: Digital Economy Transformation in DMCs



Moderator: Cathy Yang, *Anchor and Managing Editor, ABS-CBN News Channel*

Cathy Yang is anchor and managing editor of ABS-CBN News Channel, with more than 25 years of media experience, specializing in business and financial news. She spent 15 years working in Tokyo and Hong Kong as anchor-reporter of global organizations Bloomberg TV, Reuters TV and CCTV English, now CGTN.

In her current dual role at ANC in Manila, she helps shape the editorial discourse of business and financial news in the Philippines' largest media organization. She hosts Market Edge and Business Nightly weekdays, and The Boss every Thursday.

She is a three-time recipient of the Asian TV Awards. She is a communication arts graduate at De La Salle University in Manila, and a journalism fellow at the University of Cardiff in Wales and University of Oxford in England.

She has also attended Wharton seminars for business journalists, first in Hong Kong, then at the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia. She recently completed a scholarship from the National Press Foundation-Hinrich Foundation on sustainable international trade in Hong Kong.

Panelists:



Katsumi Emura, *NEC Fellow*

Dr. Katsumi Emura joined NEC in 1982 and has held senior leadership positions in planning, intellectual asset management, and research. He has been NEC's Executive Vice President, CTO and a Board Member since 2016. He earned a Ph.D. in electrical engineering from the University of Tokyo.



Michael Barrow, *Director General, Private Sector Operations, ADB*

Michael Barrow is Director General for ADB's Private Sector Operations Department handling all of the Bank's private infrastructure and financial institutions investments, lending and guarantees. He joined ADB in July 2003.

Prior to joining ADB, Mr. Barrow worked for the Deutsche Bank group over the course of 15 years in London, Tokyo and Singapore, lastly as both Director of Project Finance and Transportation, with a project finance and PPP focus. He was Senior Vice President in the Structure Finance Department of Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corp. in Singapore handling project financing.

Michel was educated at the Lycee Internationale in Paris, France after which he obtained an MA in Oriental Studies from Oxford University England.



Yasuyuki Sawada, *Chief Economist and Director General, Economic Research and Regional Cooperation Department, ADB*

Yasuyuki Sawada is the Chief Economist of the ADB and Director General of its Economic Research and Regional Cooperation Department. He is the chief spokesperson for ADB on economic and development trends, and leads the production and dissemination of ADB's flagship knowledge products, as well as ADB's support for various regional cooperation fora such as ASEAN+3 and APEC.

Before joining ADB, Mr. Sawada was Professor of Economics at the University of Tokyo. He has worked at the ADB Institute in Tokyo and served as consultant for various projects at the World Bank Group. A leading figure in development economics and applied microeconometrics, he has served as a visiting professor at Stanford University's Stanford Center for International Development and adjunct professor of economics at Korea University. He did research in a variety of institutions, such as the Japan International Cooperation Agency Research Institute and the World Bank, where he led a number of large-scale development policy evaluation projects in Asia and other developing countries.

His key research areas are macro- and micro-development economics, microeconometrics, economics of disasters, and field surveys and experiments. Mr. Sawada obtained his Ph.D. in Economics and his Master's degree in International Development Policy from Stanford University.



Thomas Abell, *Advisor, Sustainable Development and Climate Change Department and Chief of Digital Technology for Development, ADB*

Thomas Abell is leading ADB's Digital Technology for Development Unit, which is tasked with facilitating the effective use of digital technology in ADB programs to improve development impact.

He has over 20 years of professional experience in digital technology, including software development, systems architecture and technology strategy. During his 10+ years of experience in international development, he has worked extensively across Asia, Africa and Latin America, working with governments, development organizations, NGOs and corporations. He has authored several publications on the use of technology in development with leading organizations, including Consultative Group to Assist the Poor, UN High Commissioner for Refugees, Cash Learning Partnership, and Mastercard.

Prior to ADB, he worked for Accenture Development Partnerships (ADP), leading ADP's programs in Digital Technology for Development and Financial Inclusion. He has specific development expertise in financial inclusion, education, and agriculture. Prior to joining Accenture in 2005, he served various management and technical roles in information technology and strategy for large multinationals, including Hewlett Packard, Motorola, and Ford Motor Company.

Plenary Session 2: Digital Development Strategy for Strategy 2030



Moderator: Chiara Bronchi, *Chief Thematic Officer, ADB*

Chiara Bronchi is the Chief Thematic Officer of ADB's Thematic Advisory Service Cluster under the Sustainable Development and Climate Change Department (SDCC). Chiara is responsible for the Cluster's vision, goals, and work plan of eight thematic groups: Digital Technology for Development, Environment, Gender Equity, Governance, NGO and Civil Society Center, Regional Cooperation and Integration, Rural Development and Food Security, and Social Development.

Chiara has over 25 years of experience in managing multi-stakeholders and multi-disciplinary projects gained in various international organizations namely the IMF, OECD, UN and the World Bank. She started her professional career as Economic Adviser at HM Inland Revenue (UK), and she joined the OECD in 1998 as Young Professional, then the IMF in 2003 to pursue her career as an economist. She was also the Head of the Fiscal Affairs Office at the UN Mission in Kosovo before joining the World Bank in 2008 as Country Manager for Tajikistan Country Office, then became Lead Public Sector and Governance Specialist in 2012 and later Practice Manager. She served as a board member of the Central Banking Authority of Kosovo as well as the Kosovo Trust Agency in charge of SOEs and privatization.

A national of Italy, she holds a PhD in Economics from Università degli Studi di Bologna, Italy, and a Master's degree in Economics from University College of London, UK.

Panelists:



Ramayya Krishnan, *Dean, Carnegie Mellon University's Heinz College of Information Systems and Public Policy*

Mr. Krishnan is also Professor of Management Science and Information Systems. He is an INFORMS Fellow, a former member of the Global Agenda Council on Data Driven Development of the World Economic Forum, and a former President of the INFORMS Information Systems Society and Computing Society. He is the recipient of the prestigious Y. Nayuduamma award in 2015. He is recipient in 2017 of the Distinguished Alumnus Award from IIT (Madras).



Lito Tayag, *Dean, Country Managing Director, Accenture Philippines*

Mr. Tayag is the Country Managing Director of Accenture Philippines, with over 35,000 employees and is responsible for the growth and sustainability of Accenture's business in the Philippines, providing technology, operations, digital, and consulting services to Accenture's global and local clients. He is also Accenture's Corporate Citizenship lead for ASEAN, overseeing all Corporate Social Responsibility programs in the region. He serves as Chair of the Board of Trustees for IBPAP and Chair of the Technical Working Group for Impact of Technology & Human Capital, Roadmap 2022.



Amy Leung, *Director General, East Asia Department, ADB*

As DG, EARD, Amy Leung leads the planning, implementation, and supervision of EARD's results-based work plan in support of ADB's overall goals, and ensure that the efficiency, relevance, and impact of ADB operations in the region is maximized.

Prior to her latest appointment, Ms. Leung was Director General, SDCC. As DG, SDCC she provided leadership on the integration of innovative approaches and high-level technologies in selected projects, strengthening of SDCC's linkage with the operations departments for future pipeline development, management of the Sector and Thematic Group work plans, and leadership for SDCC on forging partnerships with centers of excellence and other development agencies.

Ms. Leung has three decades of experience in managing multistakeholder and multi-disciplinary projects in Asia and North America. She is an urban planner with expertise in urban development, water resources management, and project design and monitoring.

She holds a Master of Business Administration from the University of Singapore, a Master of Science from the University of Toronto, and a Bachelor's degree from the University of Hong Kong.



Ramesh Subramaniam, *Director General, Southeast Asia Department, ADB*

Ramesh oversees ADB's relationship and public sector work (including all technical assistance, knowledge generation and dissemination, and grant and loan projects) in all countries of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN). He is also in-charge of ADB's support for all sub-regional cooperation initiatives in the region, including ASEAN, Brunei-Indonesia-Malaysia-Philippines East ASEAN Growth Area, Greater Mekong Subregion and Indonesia-Malaysia-Thailand Growth Triangle.

With ADB for over 20 years, Ramesh has worked on several projects across the Asia-Pacific region. Infrastructure financing is among his primary areas of interest. He represents ADB on the World Economic Forum's Global Future Council on long term investment and infrastructure development.

He has a Ph.D. in Economics from McMaster University (Canada), and has had post-doctoral fellowships in development economics and corporate finance and industry at Yale University (USA) and University of St. Andrews (UK).

Operational Priority 2 Session: Women and the Digital Economy in Asia and the Pacific



Moderator: Sonomi Tanaka, *Chief of Gender Equity Thematic Group, Sustainable Development and Climate Change Department, ADB*

Sonomi Tanaka is responsible for overseeing and providing advice on ADB-wide operations in support of gender equality and women's empowerment. As Chief of the Gender Equity Thematic Group, she facilitates knowledge management on gender and development in ADB and coordinates gender mainstreaming initiatives across different departments and through different sector and thematic groups.

Sonomi has worked on gender and development, poverty reduction, social analysis, social protection, and community participation issues in Asia and the Pacific for nearly 20 years. She has covered a number of sectors including education, finance, health, infrastructure, natural resources management, public sector management, and urban development.

Prior to working with ADB, Sonomi worked in the World Bank's South Asia Department and in development institutions in Japan.

She holds a Master of Arts on Gender and Development from the Institute of Development Studies, Sussex University and a post-graduate diploma on development studies from the Institute of Developing Economies Advanced School in Japan. She has a bachelor's degree on International Relations from the University of Tokyo.

Panelists:



Celina Agaton, *Managing Director, Map the Philippines*

Celina Agaton leads an 11 year-old international consultancy that works across the intersection of civic and community engagement, open data, free and open source geospatial technologies and the Sustainable Development Goals. Her work focuses on reducing risks by strengthening cross sector communities. She leads programs for World Bank, International Finance Corporation, ADB and the public and private sector. Her work has been featured twice at the White House under the Obama administration. Celina was born and raised in Manila and Jakarta, spent 20 years in Toronto. After prototyping her methodology in Toronto, she returned to the Philippines after Typhoon Haiyan.



Linarthes “Lites” M. Vioria, *National Project Coordinator, International Labour Organization*

Lites is the National Project Coordinator of the Women in Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics (STEM) Programme of the International Labour Organization, a specialized agency of the United Nations. The goal of the programme is to encourage more girls to choose to take Technology courses, and to help more women working in STEM-related occupations to stay and advance in tech-related industries. The programme seeks to strengthen linkages between private sector firms, sectoral business associations and technical and vocational training centres to ensure greater opportunity through higher entry, retention and advancement of women workers in STEM-related positions. The programme is supported by JP Morgan Philanthropy, and is being implemented in three countries, namely, Indonesia, Thailand and the Philippines.

Before working with the ILO, Lites was the CEO of Edukasyon.ph, an education tech startup that helps young people find the right education for the careers they aspire for. She helped build from scratch this start-up in 2013, back when startups were not yet popular. Six years later, Edukasyon.ph continues to help students and schools, both here and abroad with more than 5 million users. Prior to working in a tech startup, she worked for more than 7 years, as the Chief of the Advocacy and Publications Division of the Institute for Labor Studies, the policy research and advocacy arm of the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE). At the Institute, she was the focal person for the Joint Programme on Youth Employment and Migration with the United Nations which focused on helping young people get information on finding jobs and preparing for these jobs.

Lites holds a BA in Political Science from De La Salle University, a Bachelor of Laws degree from the Philippine Christian University, and a Social Entrepreneurship Diploma from the Ateneo De Manila. She is the first Filipina to be selected for the US Department of State Women in STEM Program, alongside 50 other women from across the world.



Pamela Wyatt, *Principal Public Management Specialist (Governance), ADB*

Pamela Wyatt is a Principal Public Sector Specialist who works on projects around the Pacific including in Papua New Guinea, Fiji, Tonga and Kiribati. They currently range from large budget support programs focused on public finance management to smaller health projects. Pamela has been with ADB for 6 years and prior to that was in the private sector in both Australia and the Philippines in the banking sector and before that owned her own business.

She has a bachelor's degree with majors in politics, economic history and sociology from Monash University, a post graduate degree in change management from the Australian Graduate School of Management (UNSW) and is about to finalize a Masters in Public Finance Management with the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), University of London.



Janine Teo, *CEO and Co-Founder, SolveEducation!*

Janine Teo heads Solve Education!, an education technology not-for-profit with the mission of delivering quality education to everyone, focusing on the BOP (Bottom of Pyramid) demographic. Janine is a passionate entrepreneur who has founded and sold companies in the technology and consumer industries. On top of her entrepreneurial experience, Janine has also a strong international track record in sales, marketing and revenue management in the corporate world, mostly in the highly competitive hospitality industry. She is born and raised in Singapore, and majored in Computer Engineering at Nanyang Technological University.

Operational Priority 1 Session: Addressing Remaining Poverty and Reducing Inequality



Moderator: Wendy Walker, *Chief of the Social Development Thematic Group, ADB*

She is the team leader for a technical assistance program on Strengthening Capacity for Developing Members Capacity in Elderly Care in six countries in the region and previously developed ADB's first loans and technical assistance in the PRC on developing elderly care systems and services.

Wendy leads the social development thematic group at ADB in operations and knowledge work.

She has an M.Phil from Oxford and PhD from Johns Hopkins University.

Panelists:



Paul Kim, *Chief Technology Officer and Assistant Dean at the Stanford Graduate School of Education*

He teaches graduate level courses and leads projects on the design of learning technologies, educational research, and community development. He received his Ph.D. in educational technology at USC in 1999.



Vincent Quah, *Regional Head, Amazon Web Services*

Vincent Quah is the Regional Head - Education, Research, Healthcare and Not for Profit, Asia Pacific & Japan, Amazon Web Services. Vincent has more than 25 years of experience working in the education, high performance computing, life science, learning and healthcare industries. He has also held roles in content development, project management, consulting, solution development, sales, business development, operations management, marketing and programs management.



Patrick L. Osewe, *Chief of the Health Sector Group, ADB*

Patrick Osewe provides leadership on policy, technical, and operational matters. In close collaboration with the Sector Committee, he is leading the application of new and innovative approaches to address priority and emerging health issues in the Asia and Pacific region. He brings global and regional knowledge to the ADB and promotes best practices by elevating ADB's current activities within the global health community.

Prior to his time at ADB, Patrick worked as the World Bank's Global Lead of Healthy Societies, providing technical and operational guidance to countries, World Bank teams and the global health community to address public health challenges. These included strategies for achieving universal health coverage (UHC), combatting the emerging threat of non-communicable diseases, addressing health security as both an economic issue and as a major challenge to achieving UHC.

He has led major regional multi-sectoral efforts to address TB in Southern Africa's mining sector and has led efforts to build World Bank and client capacity in the use of results-based management. He has over 25 years of experience as a global health leader, including having previously worked for USAID and the CDC as well as providing support to UN agencies and countries in different parts of the world. Patrick holds an MD from the University of Nairobi and an M.P.H. from the Harvard School of Public Health.



Brajesh Panth, *Chief of Education Sector Group, ADB*

He provides technical leadership to the education sector group (EdSG) in ADB, leads the preparation of the EdSG work plan and facilitates collaboration across sector and technical groups in ADB and with external partners. He has over 25 years of experience in the education sector including sector assessment, project processing, implementation, evaluation, and policy dialogue, covering all levels—primary, secondary, technical and vocation education and training (TVET), and higher education. His focus is now mainly on how to improve learning for all and enhance employability of youth. He holds a doctorate in education administration, planning and social policy from Harvard University. Beside coordinating and contributing to several publications. Mr. Panth has made several presentations in different for a and contributed to policy analysis, policy dialogue and analytical work pertaining to different aspects of education reform.

Operational Priority 3 Session: Tackling Climate Change, Disaster Resilience and Environmental Sustainability



Moderator: Preety Bhandari, *Director, SDCD concurrently Chief of Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management Thematic Group, ADB*

Preety M. Bhandari is currently the Director for Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management Division of the Sustainable Development and Climate Change Department (SDCC) at ADB, and also serving as Chief of Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management thematic

group. She is responsible for providing policy and strategic direction to ADB's climate change program and also leads the work on climate finance, with a particular focus on accessing finance from the Climate Investment Funds (CIFs) and the Green Climate Fund (GCF). Coordination of ADB's activities in disaster risk management is also part of her portfolio.

Prior to joining ADB, she was heading the Finance, Technology and Capacity Building Program of the secretariat of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change. She led the support to the international negotiations on climate finance, which culminated in the launch of GCF and the Standing Committee on Finance. She coordinated the establishment of the Technology Mechanism under the Convention, which includes the Climate Technology Centre and Network. She has also worked as the Director of the Policy Analysis Division at TERI (The Energy and Resources Institute) in India.

She has over 30 years of experience in environment, climate change and sustainable development, having worked on projects across Asia, and in multicultural and diverse organizations. She is on the editorial board of Climate Policy and has in the past served as a member of the core group on climate change, established by the Government of India to assess India's strategy for the UN climate change negotiations. She has also helped adjudicate for the Climate CoLab at MIT, which mobilizes and harnesses innovative ideas to address the challenge of climate change.

Panelists:



Bill Pazos, *Chief Operating Officer, AirCarbon Exchange*

Bill Pazos is a carbon market pioneer who has managed emerging market and high yield investments for more than 25 years. He is currently the COO of AirCarbon, a blockchain-based exchange centered on the trading of carbon credits eligible under the International Civil Aviation Organization's CORSIA regime. Previously, he was a Managing Director at Standard Bank. In this capacity he was the Global Head of Carbon Origination and Finance, as well as a member of the board and EXCO of Standard Merchant Bank Singapore. As the CEO and founding partner of Ecoinvest Carbon S.A., a joint venture company with Bunge S.A., he built what became one of the world's largest aggregators of carbon credits. In his early career he was a bond trader at JP Morgan Chase (MHTCo.) in New York as well as a partner at Dartley a large Emerging Markets Fixed Income Fund. He holds a Bachelor Degree in Economics with a concentration in Mathematics from The College of Wooster, Ohio, and an MBA in International Management from ASU's Thunderbird Graduate School of International Management.



Amy Leung, *Director General, East Asia Department, ADB*

As DG, EARD, Amy Leung leads the planning, implementation, and supervision of EARD's results-based work plan in support of ADB's overall goals, and ensure that the efficiency, relevance, and impact of ADB operations in the region is maximized.

Prior to her latest appointment, Ms. Leung was Director General, SDCC. As DG, SDCC she provided leadership on the integration of innovative approaches and high-level technologies in selected projects, strengthening of SDCC's linkage with the operations departments for future pipeline development, management of the Sector

and Thematic Group work plans, and leadership for SDCC on forging partnerships with centers of excellence and other development agencies.

Ms. Leung has three decades of experience in managing multistakeholder and multi-disciplinary projects in Asia and North America. She is an urban planner with expertise in urban development, water resources management, and project design and monitoring.

She holds a Master of Business Administration from the University of Singapore, a Master of Science from the University of Toronto, and a Bachelor's degree from the University of Hong Kong.



Sherwin Pu, *Principal Investment Specialist, ADB*

Sherwin Pu is currently the Head of Business Development Team within ADB's PSOD, which includes ADB Ventures Facility. He has 20+ years in investment banking, private equity, structured financing; and led dozens of landmark debt/equity finances covering a wide range of sectors - renewable energy, sustainable transportation, environmental protection, healthcare, modern agriculture and logistics. Having served in ADB for more than 15 years, his professional experience is pan-Asia Pacific. Sherwin's previous professional experience includes Banque Paribas and ABN Amro, and he graduated with an MBA from the University of Chicago.



Paolo Manunta, *Senior Infrastructure Specialist (Earth Observation), ADB*

Paolo has over 20 years' experience in the field of satellite Earth Observation and related applications. He has been contributing and managing public and private sector projects that make use of Earth Observation, spatial data infrastructure, and thematic exploitation platforms. At present, he is the European Space Agency (ESA) onsite expert at ADB.

Prior to working with ESA, he worked in the private sector as Director of a business unit handling contracts for ESA, EU Commission and Italian Space Agency covering application domains such as land use and urban mapping, coastal management and water quality, illegal cropping, waste management, food security, and external action (support for EU Foreign Policy). He also worked for the University of Amsterdam, Government of Alberta, Canada as analyst.

He is an Italian national. He graduated with degrees on Bachelor of Science on and Masters of Science from Kansas State University, US; Philosophical Doctorate (Ph.D.) on Water and Land Resources from the University of Alberta, Canada. During his studies he has been a member of Environmental Physics and Remote Sensing Application Laboratories and Climate Change Modelling team coordinated by Environment and Climate Change Canada Federal Agency.

DAY 2 - 4 September (Wednesday)

Operational Priority 4 Session: Making Cities More Livable



Moderator: Lara Arjan, *Urban Development Specialist, ADB*

Lara has over 20 years of experience in program management, monitoring and evaluation across a range of projects including urban planning, water resource management, environment, agriculture, peace building, youth civic engagement and governance. She is currently Urban Development Specialist at ADB and has previously worked with the US Department of State, Canadian DFID (now Global Affairs Canada), UNDP amongst others. Prior to joining ADB, Lara worked as a Senior Urban Planner for The City of Edmonton, Canada. She is familiar with both the international development and the municipal worlds. She is an Urban Planner and an environmental scientist by training.

Panelists:

**Katsumi Emura**, *NEC Fellow*

Dr. Katsumi Emura joined NEC in 1982 and has held senior leadership positions in planning, intellectual asset management, and research. He has been NEC's Executive Vice President, CTO and a Board Member since 2016. He earned a Ph.D. in electrical engineering from the University of Tokyo.

**Ramayya Krishnan**, *Dean, Carnegie Mellon University's Heinz College of Information Systems and Public Policy*

Mr. Krishnan is also Professor of Management Science and Information Systems. He is an INFORMS Fellow, a former member of the Global Agenda Council on Data Driven Development of the World Economic Forum, and a former President of the INFORMS Information Systems Society and Computing Society. He is the recipient of the prestigious Y. Nayuduamma award in 2015. He is recipient in 2017 of the Distinguished Alumnus Award from IIT (Madras).

**Derrek Murray**, *Digital Lead for Asia, Mott MacDonald*

Derek Murray is Asia Digital Lead and Global Practice Leader for BIM at Mott MacDonald. As a consulting civil engineer and technology leader with 23 years' global industry experience, he has served global and regional technology leadership and management roles for Mott MacDonald in the UK, Middle East and South-East Asia.

With first-hand experience in how to disrupt from within, in recent years Derek directed a global programme of digital transformation from the company's Asia headquarters in Singapore. This cuts across all of the company's infrastructure and development sectors and includes workstreams to connect design processes globally, incubate emerging technologies and build internal capability for delivering differently in the digital age.

Derek is currently shaping the next evolution of digital practices at Mott MacDonald as well as supporting major projects in the Asia Pacific region.

**Vijay Padmanabhan**, *Director, Southeast Asia Department, ADB*

An Engineer-Urban Planner, Vijay is the Operations Director for urban development and water in ADB's Southeast Asia Region and manages a \$3 billion portfolio. With 23 years of professional experience, he has led multi-sector teams in designing and delivering large and complex projects on urban development, water and sanitation across several countries in the Asia-Pacific Region. He has also led enterprise resource planning for urban local bodies; structured and financially closed private sector projects and helped issue infrastructure bonds in the water and sanitation sector; and structured and successfully implemented emergency and post-conflict assistance projects. He has also served as ADB's Technical Advisor for Urban and Water advising operations across the Region.

**Ye Yong**, *Director, Central and West Asia Department, ADB*

Ye Yong is the Director for the Urban Development and Water Division (CWUW), Central and West Asia Department (CWRD).

He is a national of the People's Republic of China who holds a Doctorate in Environmental Economics, a Master's degree in Economics and a Bachelor's degree in Physics from Tsinghua University. He joined ADB in November 2000 as a Young Professional. He was later promoted to Project Economist in the former MKSS in March 2002 and then transferred to the former BPHR as Training Specialist/Learning and Development Specialist in September 2005. He transferred to the former CWSS in October 2007 as Urban Economist and was later assigned to CWUS where he got his promotion to Senior Urban Economist in July 2009. He transferred to BPBM as Senior Budget and Management Services Specialist in June 2010 and was later promoted to Principal

Budget and Management Services Specialist. In November 2014, he transferred to CWUW as Principal Urban Development Economist. Yong Ye is an experienced project economist with good technical expertise in urban development particularly in water supply and sanitation. He has broad experience in ADB ranging from program and project processing and implementation to staff development and budget preparations. He is leading the CWUW team in promoting integrated urban planning and development approaches, improving urban services efficiency and sustainability with policy and institutional solutions, and piloting and demonstrating innovations and new technologies in the urban sector.



Alexandra Vogl, *Senior Urban Development Specialist, ADB*

Alexandra has about 20 years of experience in integrated urban planning, infrastructure and governance, and project management. She is a Senior Urban Development Specialist at ADB's South Asia Regional Department. She also worked with ADB's Climate Change and Sustainable Development Department managing the multi-donor Urban Climate Change Resilience Trust Fund. Prior to ADB, she was Managing Director of the City of Vienna's competence center on urban technologies and strategies, which also served as platform for the UN-HABITAT Best Practices and Local Leadership Program and as Vienna's Smart City Agency. She worked with the private sector and state-owned enterprise on urban infrastructure projects and capacity development programs. Alexandra holds a Master of Engineering degree in urban and regional planning, a Master of Science degree in urban strategies, and is a fellow of the Social Innovation Program by the Rockefeller Foundation and the University of Waterloo.

Operational Priority 5 Session: Promoting Rural Development and Food Security



Moderator: Donneth Walton, *Director, Central and West Asia Department, ADB*

Panelists:



Amit Vatsyayan, *Partner, Ernst & Young India*

Amit Vatsyayan leads the agriculture and rural development sector for Ernst & Young. Amit has worked across more than 20 countries on pressing issues ranging from climate change, women empowerment, livelihoods and agriculture sector transformation. He is passionate about disruptive change and has been involved in several initiatives such as Meso Flood Insurance in Bangladesh, Climate Smart E-Agriculture Platform in Cambodia. Amit has also served on the Board of Climate Actions Network South Asia.



Mahinakhon Suleymanova, *Executive Director, Neksigol Mushovir*

Mahinakhon Suleymanova is the executive director of the agricultural advisory company, Neksigol Mushovir, which is a member of the Central Asia and the Caucasus Forum for Rural Advisory Services, and the national representative of the World Summit Award Mobile Content in Tajikistan. At Neksigol Mushovir, Mahinakhon leads a team of software engineers and agronomists that introduce ICT-based tools to agribusiness, such as SMS-based agroconsulting systems, mobile applications, online agricultural maps, market pricing systems, e-trade platform and sensors and chips programming for agriculture. Mahinakhon joined Neksigol Mushovir from Save the Children, where she served as are program manager and led implementation of education projects, including the development of an education management information system. Prior to Save the Children, she was a lecturer of computer science at the Technological University of Tajikistan. Mahinakhon holds a software engineering degree from the Technological University of Tajikistan. Mahinakhon also interned at SIEMENS AG in Germany.



Takeshi Ueda, *Principal Natural Resources and Agriculture Economist, ADB*

Mr. Takeshi Ueda is a national of Japan. He obtained his Doctorate degree in Agricultural Economics from the Pennsylvania State University and his Master's degrees in Economics from the Michigan State University, the United States and Soka University, Japan. Mr. Ueda has 18 years of professional experience, including 10 years with ADB. He joined ADB in November 2008 as a Natural Resources Economist, in the Environment, Natural Resources, and Agriculture Division, East Asia Department. He has progressed to Senior Natural Resources Economist in the same division, and has successfully administered and processed various loans and grants related to Agriculture and Natural Resources Management for the People's Republic of China and Mongolia. He was appointed as Principal Natural Resources and Agriculture Economist, Environment, Natural Resources, and Agriculture Division, Southeast Asia Department in May 2017 to strengthen portfolio of agriculture and natural resources sector projects and process and administer the sector projects in Southeast Asian countries. Prior to joining ADB, Mr. Ueda worked for the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations as Policy Officer at its Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific in Bangkok and as Project Expert at its Bangladesh Country Representative in Dhaka. He also worked for Japan International Cooperation Agency as an Adviser for Private Sector Development at its Bangladesh Country Office.



Samjhana Shrestha, *Senior Economist, ADB*

Samjhana Shrestha has over 20 years of work experience in development issues from various organizational set-ups including governments, development partners and donors, universities and research institutes, philanthropic foundations, and various levels of non-governmental organizations, community based organizations in Asia and the Pacific. Her main work experience in development issues are on food security, access and quality issues pertaining to health and education sectors, and gender. Currently she specializes in the use of digital solutions and food safety to improve food security and strengthen agricultural value chains. She has two post-graduate degrees in Agriculture Economics and Economics from the University of New England, Australia.

Operational Priority 6 Session: Strengthening Governance and Institutional Capacity



Moderator: Bruno Carrasco, *Chief of Governance Thematic Group, ADB*

Bruno Carrasco first joined the Asian Development Bank in 1993 as a Young Professional. In 2003, he served as Principal Financial Economist in the South Asia Department. He became Director, South Asia Country Coordination and Regional Cooperation in 2008; Director, South Asia Public Management, Financial Sector and Trade Division in 2010; and was appointed Chief of Governance Thematic Group in 2019. During 2000-3, he was on leave and worked as Senior Economist at the European Central Bank. Mr. Carrasco has a Ph.D. in Economics from Essex University, United Kingdom, and a Masters in Economics from the University of British Columbia.

Panelists:



Nilaya Varma, *Partner and Lead, KPMG India*

Nilaya has over 22 years of national and international experience with various levels of government in 15 countries to drive transformation strategies. Through his leadership of teams lending support to programs, he is currently at the forefront of driving change towards the vision of a "New India." He completed his Master of Business Administration (Systems) – Management Development Institute.



Eduardo Araral, Jr., *Associate Professor and Co-Director, National University of Singapore*

Ed is both an academic and a practitioner, trained in politics, economics, institutions and governance. Ed has received numerous international and local awards and recognitions, including fellowships from the research centres of 3 Nobel laureates (in economics); the Ostrom Prize for the Governance of the Commons, a Fulbright PhD award, and the Pamana ng Lahi Presidential Award (2016) for Overseas Filipinos. He was a finalist for the Best Dissertation Prize awarded by the International Society for New Institutional Economics (now the Society for Institutional & Organizational Economics). He has 34 academic publications including those in top journals such as *World Development*, *Journal of Public Administration Research and Theory*, *Governance*, *Policy Sciences*, *Water Resources Research*, among others. His work has been cited by the NUS President as an example of research that advances knowledge and helps solve important problems for society.

As a practitioner, Ed has an active portfolio of government advisory, consultancy, executive education and media engagement. He is currently an adviser to the Commission to Review the Philippines Constitution. He has also served as adviser to the Deputy Prime Minister, Finance Minister, Central Bank Governor and the Vice chairman of the Civil Service and Anti-Corruption Agency of the Republic of Kazakhstan. Ed has undertaken 18 consultancy projects for the Asian Development Bank, World Bank, UNDP, local governments and NGOs. He has also lectured in 130 Executive Education Programs for more than 3,000 government officials from 27 countries in Asia including Ministers, Permanent Secretaries, Directors, City Commissioners and Mayors, NGO leaders, CEOs of multinationals and ranking military officers. He has advised senior government officials in Kazakhstan, Vietnam, Myanmar, Philippines, among others. He has served as a resource person for local and international media including BBC, CNBC, Bloomberg, Foreign Affairs, China Daily, Al Jazeera, Straits Times, Channel News Asia, Insight, South China Morning Post, Washington Post, Voice of America, Chicago Tribune, LA Times, among others.

At the LKYSPP, He has served as Vice Dean for Research (June 2015 to December 2017) and Assistant Dean for Academic Affairs (July 2009 to December 2011) at LKYSPP.

He represented the Dean at the University Senate, Dean's Meetings, University Committee on Education Policy and the Board of Graduate Studies. He is Faculty Director for the Nazarbayev University Graduate School of Public Policy. He is also a member of three Editorial Boards and as co-editor of two series from the Cambridge University Press and as a peer reviewer for journals.

Ed obtained his PhD Degree in Public Policy from Indiana University-Bloomington on a Fulbright Ph.D. Scholarship with Elinor Ostrom (2009 Nobel Laureate in Economics as his supervisor).

Stephanie Sy, *Founder and Data Scientist, Thinking Machines*

Stephanie Sy is the CEO and founder of Thinking Machines, a tech startup building artificial intelligence tools and data platforms to help organizations make better decisions. Their clients span the public and private sectors across Southeast Asia. They are part of the UNICEF Innovation Fund's 2018 cohort, and a Waze Research Partner.

Stephanie is a jury member for the GEN Data Journalism Awards, is a 2019 Asia Society Young Leader, and was on the 2018 Forbes Asia 30 Under 30 list for her expertise in Enterprise Technology. She has an undergraduate degree from Stanford University.



Chiara Bronchi, *Chief Thematic Officer, ADB*

Chiara Bronchi is the Chief Thematic Officer of ADB's Thematic Advisory Service Cluster under the Sustainable Development and Climate Change Department (SDCC). Chiara is responsible for the Cluster's vision, goals, and work plan of eight thematic groups: Digital Technology for Development, Environment, Gender Equity, Governance, NGO and Civil Society Center, Regional Cooperation and Integration, Rural Development and Food Security, and Social Development.

Chiara has over 25 years of experience in managing multi-stakeholders and multi-disciplinary projects gained in various international organizations namely the IMF, OECD, UN and the World Bank. She started her professional career as Economic Adviser at HM Inland Revenue (UK), and she joined the OECD in 1998 as Young Professional, then the IMF in 2003 to pursue her career as an economist. She was also the Head of the Fiscal Affairs Office at the UN Mission in Kosovo before joining the World Bank in 2008 as Country Manager for Tajikistan Country Office, then became Lead Public Sector and Governance Specialist in 2012 and later Practice Manager. She served as a board member of the Central Banking Authority of Kosovo as well as the Kosovo Trust Agency in charge of SOEs and privatization.

A national of Italy, she holds a PhD in Economics from Università degli Studi di Bologna, Italy, and a Master's degree in Economics from University College of London, UK.

Operational Priority 7 Session: Fostering Regional Cooperation and Integration

Moderator: Arjun Goswami, *Chief of Regional Cooperation and Integration Thematic Group, ADB*

Panelists:



Tengfei Wang, *Economic Affairs Officer, UNESCAP*

Tengfei Wang has been an Economic Affairs Office at the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP) since 2008. His work has been focused on promoting development of trade and transport facilitation, logistics, regional integration, technology and innovation, and sustainable development in Asia and the Pacific. He has extensive experience in working with countries in Asia and the Pacific through implementing projects, providing technical advice and capacity building, and supporting inter-governmental meetings and negotiations.

He is the author of nearly 100 publications. His publications have been cited over 2,700 times according to Google Scholar. Prior to joining UNESCAP, he worked in the United Kingdom as a research fellow at the Newcastle University and as a senior lecturer at the University of Plymouth. He earned his PhD from the Hong Kong Polytechnic University.



Masato Nakane, *Senior Economist, ADB*

Mr. Nakane completed his Doctorate and Master's degrees in Applied Economics from Cornell University, USA in 2010 and 2006, respectively. He also has a Bachelor's degree in International Relations from the University of Tokyo, Japan in 2000.

Prior to joining ADB, Mr. Nakane was an Economist in Food and Agriculture Organization, Italy where he was responsible for monitoring economic and trade policy development of different projects and proposing policy recommendations to the developing countries. He also worked as an Economist in the International Monetary Fund where he was responsible for conducting economic surveillance and providing policy advice to Asian countries to aid recovery from the recession. He also worked for the World Bank as a Consultant where he analysed the relationship between rural development and poverty in Nepal and suggested the aid strategy to enhance employment and reduce poverty. Earlier in his career, he worked as a Research Assistant in Cornell University, an Intern in the Asian Development Bank, and as a staff in Japan International Cooperation Agency. Currently, he is a Senior Economist of the Regional Cooperation and Operations Coordination Division (SARC) of the South Asia Department and country team leader for Maldives.



Rosalind McKenzie, *Senior Regional Cooperation Specialist, ADB*

Dr. McKenzie works with the Secretariat of ADB's Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation (CAREC) Program on the Integrated Trade Agenda 2030, specifically with the CAREC Customs Cooperation Committee to help achieve their goals of customs reform and modernization, in line with international commitments under the WTO. She also leads ADB efforts to engage the private sector in CAREC trade-related policy dialogue and activities. She supports EARD programming by processing RCI-related projects, currently in the People's Republic of China. She previously worked with the Secretariat of the South Asia Subregional Economic Cooperation Program, where she was responsible for the subregional trade facilitation agenda, as well as a country-level focus on Bhutan. She has worked with the Central West Regional Department and the Strategy, Policy and Partnerships Department on results management at the subregional and Asia-Pacific corporate levels; and with the Pacific Department on ADB's Fragile and Conflict-affected States program.



Matthias Helble, *Economist, ADB*

Matthias Helble is an economist in the Economic Research and Regional Cooperation Department of ADB in Manila. Previously, he was a Senior Research Fellow and Co-Chair of the Research Department of the Asian Development Bank Institute (ADBI) in Tokyo. His research interests include international trade, health and housing. His research has been published in numerous scientific journals as well as in flagship reports of international organizations. His publication record also includes eight books, including with Oxford University Press. His columns and policy work have been published and cited by prominent international media such as the Agence France Presse, Associate Press, Japan Times, and The Straits Times.

Matthias began his professional career in the trade team of the Development Research Group of the World Bank in Washington, DC, before joining the World Health Organization in Geneva, Switzerland. He then worked as an economist for the World Trade Organization as well as the United Nations before joining the Asian Development Bank. He holds degrees in economics from the University of Tübingen (BA, MSc) in Germany, the University of Wisconsin-Madison (MA) in the United States, and the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies (MSc, PhD) in Geneva. During his doctoral studies he was a research fellow at Yale University.