

# Rural Prosperity with Carbon Neutrality and Food Security

ADB

24 March 2021

2:00–3:30 pm

[Join via Zoom](#)  
Meeting ID: 993 8017 1680 Password: SDTCAR21

## Overview

Rural regions have the advantage of, not only the space for solar and wind as zero carbon energy, but also the potential to generate carbon neutral bio-energy. In this regard, Rural areas will lead the process towards carbon neutrality and contributes to net zero carbon in urban areas. However, rural carbon neutrality does have implications for food security as food-land-nexus complicates the interactions. In the meantime, carbon neutrality will bring opportunities for rural prosperity while food security has to be prioritized.

This webinar jointly organized with the Rural Development and Food Security (Agriculture); and Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management Thematic Groups; Energy Sector Group; and ADB-PRC Regional Knowledge Sharing Initiative will examine the nexus of carbon neutrality and food security in the rural areas with three questions in mind: (i) what are the opportunities and challenges for agriculture and rural areas to contribute to carbon neutrality with food security not undermined, (ii) what enabling environment is needed for agriculture and rural areas to lead the process, and (iii) what is the potential role of the government, business and development organizations in the process?

The webinar is part of ADB's *Sustainable Food Webinar Series*, which aims to provide a platform for sharing knowledge and experiences on taking integrated food system approach in addressing challenges in food security, environmental sustainability and rural development.

## Objectives

Webinar #2: Rural Prosperity with Carbon Neutrality and Food Security aims to discuss ways to the opportunities and challenges for achieving carbon neutrality agenda, while ensuring food security and boosting rural economy.

**Professor Jiahua Pan**, key expert engaging in the PRC's climate change policy and IPCC Working Group.

## Program

<b>Moderator: Qingfeng Zhang, Chief of Rural Development and Food Security (Agriculture) Thematic Group, Sustainable Development and Climate Change Department, ADB</b>	
2:00 – 2:05 pm	<b>Opening Remarks</b> James Lynch, Director General, East Asia Department, ADB
2:05 – 2:45 pm	<b>Presentation</b> Jiahua Pan, Member of the Academic Board, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (CASS)
2:45 – 3:15 pm	<b>Discussants</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Yongping Zhai, Chief of Energy Sector Group, Sustainable Development and Climate Change Department, ADB</li><li>• Preety Bhandari, Chief of Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management Thematic Group concurrently Director, Climate Change &amp; Disaster Risk Management Division, ADB</li><li>• Arthur Hanson, International Council Member for China Council for International Cooperation on Environment &amp; Development</li><li>• Kevin Chen, Qushi Chair Professor and International Dean, China Academy for Rural Development, Zhejiang University and Senior Research Fellow and Head of East and Central Asia Office, IFPRI</li></ul>
3:15 – 3:30 pm	<b>Q&amp;A and Next Steps</b>

## About the Speaker



**PAN Jiahua**, Member of the Academic Board, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (CASS), Director of the Institute of Eco-civilization Studies and Professor of Economics, Beijing University of Technology, Editor-in-Chief of the *Chinese Journal of Urban & Environmental Studies*. Received his PhD at Cambridge University in 1992. Areas of study include economics of sustainable development, energy and climate policy, world economy and environmental and natural resource economics. Worked for the UNDP Beijing Office as an adviser on environment and development; Lead author of the IPCC Working Group III 3rd, 4th and 5th Assessment Report on Mitigation; Ex-director-general, Institute for Urban and Environmental Studies, the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences. Member of China National Expert Panel on Climate Change; Member of National Foreign Policy Advisory Group; Adviser to the Ministry of Ecology and the Environment. President of Chinese Association for Urban Economy, vice president of the Chinese Society of Ecological Economists. Member of Independent Group of Scientists (15) appointed by the UN Secretary-General for drafting GSDR (Global Sustainable Development Report) 2023. Author of over 300 papers, articles and books in both English and Chinese. **First and Second prize of best research work**, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (2002, 2004 & 2013), **Sun Yefang Award of Economic Sciences**, 2011, **China Green Person of the Year 2010/2011**. **China Environment Prize (2016)**.