

CSO Insights

A Listening and Dialogue Forum



Solving Complex
Challenges Together
for 60 Years



25 years of ADB and Civil Society

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AGENDA

21-22 September 2026
ADB Headquarters and online via Zoom

Register here: bit.ly/zoomcsoinsights

CSO Insights Session

Joint CSO Insights and Asia and the Pacific Youth
Symposium 6 (APYS6) Session

DAY 1 – Monday, 21 September 2026, Auditorium 1 & 2		
Date and Time	Session Title and Speakers	Objective of the Session
8:30 – 9:00	Part 1: Registration and Introductions	
9:15 (15 mins)	Registration Overall Moderator for Day 1: Emma Walters , Senior Social Development Specialist, NGO and Civil Society Center (NGOC), ADB	To set the scene and provide the rationale/ context of the program based on the new ADB Civil Society Approach.
9:15 – 9:20 AM (5 mins)	Part 2: Opening Plenary Session - Reflections on 25 years of ADB and Civil Society	
9:20 – 10:15 AM (55 mins)	- Opening Remarks by Ananya Basu, Deputy Director General, Climate Change and Sustainable Development Department, ADB - Panel Discussion: Moderator: Ananya Basu, Deputy Director General, Climate Change and Sustainable Development Department, ADB	
10:15 – 10:45 AM (30 mins)	Speakers: Takako Morita, Director, Office of Safeguards (OSFG) Trin Custodio, Executive Director, WWF Philippines Rayyan Hassan, Executive Director, NGO Forum on ADB (online) Dr. Faina Diola, Full Professor and Quality Assurance Officer, Faculty in Charge, Voluntary Sector and Growth of Civil Society courses, UP National College of Public Administration - Q&A with the audience	Candid reflections on ADB's engagement with CSOs in the last 25 years – what has changed (perception of impact), what needs to change, and key recommendations to ADB to strengthen engagement with CSOs.
10:45-11:00 AM	Coffee Break	
11:00 AM – 12:00 PM (60 mins)	Part 3: CSO Dialogue on the Review of ADB's Accountability Mechanism	

	Moderator: Sushma Kotagiri, Principal Secretariat Specialist, Office of the Secretary, ADB; Head, Accountability Mechanism Policy (AMP) Review Secretariat A status update with the Board-Management Working Group (BMWG) for CSOs to hear where the AMP review is headed and to understand the key policy choices under discussion and timelines for consultation. Speakers - BMWG Co-chairs: - Executive Director Satya Srinivas Lolla - Alternate Executive Director Helmut Fischer Q&A joined by: - AMP Representative, Ramanie Kunanayagam, Chair, Compliance Review Panel Takako Morita, Director, Office of Safeguards	To provide CSO participants with an update on the Accountability Mechanism Policy review and signal the key policy issues and options considered by the joint BMWG.
12:00 - 14:00 PM	Networking Lunch	
14:00 – 15:30 (90 mins)	Part 4: Business Opportunities for Civil Society, Academia and Nongovernment Organizations Moderator: Emma Walters, Senior Social Development Specialist, NGOC How does ADB engage with CSOs? How can CSOs bid for consultancy contracts with ADB? Tips from CSOs who were engaged by ADB as consultants? The following speakers will respond to these questions: Haidy Ear-Dupuy, Unit Head, NGO and Civil Society Center, ADB Steven Gillard, Principal Procurement Specialist, ADB Sabha Khawaja, Regional Director for Southeast Asia, Habitat for Humanity Edwin Horca, Senior Manager, Save the Children Philippines. - A hands-on session on navigating the ADB Consultancy Management System (CMS) follows the discussion. Parallel session at Sesame Street Room 3D310: From Safeguards to Clean Air: People-Centered Finance and Accountability under ADB's ESF by Fair Finance Pakistan and IBON International. Join online here.	To discuss consultancy opportunities with CSOs; cite experiences and feedback from CSOs who were engaged as consultants and quick walk-through of the CMS
14:00 – 15:30 (90 mins)	FFA and IBON International discuss air pollution's links to health, climate, and financing risk, followed by a dialogue with ADB's environment and safeguards specialists. Speakers: Asim Jeffrey, Country Lead, Fair Finance Pakistan Anthony Wexler, Professor and Director, UC Davis Air Quality Research Center Melanie Feranil, Research and Policy Coordinator, IBON International	To illustrate how ADB's Environmental and Social Framework goes from policy to measurable actions and practices during the project implementation cycle.

	• Rachel Junsay, National Coordinator, Youth Advocates for Climate Action Philippines • Karma Yangzom, Principal Environment Specialist, CCRE, ADB • Emma Frances Marsden, Principal Safeguards Specialist (Environment), OSFG, ADB	
Part 5: CSO Engagement with ADB Sectors and Themes		
15:45 – 17:00 (75 mins)	Asia Pacific Youth Symposium 6 (APYS6): Youth Engagement in Water and Urban Development Projects Supported by ADB Moderator: Haidy Ear-Dupuy, Unit Head, NGO and Civil Society Center (NGOC), ADB Panelists: • Dr. Mohsen Gul, ADB Consultant • Jezreel John Punsalan, ADB Consultant • Michaela Chan, ADB Young Professional • JLo Tanguilan Program Portfolio Manager - Humanitarian and Resilience, Plan International • Klaire Monique Cadayong – Youth speaker representing Eco Tayo Project	Give young people a genuine stake in shaping their water future by demonstrating how ADB's internal, client-centered engagement and CSO-led community action advance the same goal along complementary paths.
17:00-17:15 (15 mins)	Summary for the day Overall Moderator for Day 1: Emma Walters Day 1 summary and session overview for the following day.	To capture elements of success, areas for improvement, and recommendations on meaningful CSO engagement.

DAY 2 – Tuesday, 22 September 2026, Multi-Function Hall 2		
Date and Time	Session Title and Speakers	Objective of the Session
Part 5: CSO Engagement with ADB Sectors and Themes, continued		
8:30-9:00 AM (30 mins)	Arrival/Registration and Introduction of the Sessions Overall moderator for Day 2: Haidy Ear-Dupuy, Unit Head, NGOC, ADB	
9:00-10:30 AM (90 mins)	Driving Inclusive Transport: Entry Points for CSO Engagement This session will discuss ADB Transport Sector's priorities and entry points for CSO engagement in ADB-supported transport projects. Moderator: Jamie Leather, Director, Transport, ADB Panelists: • Alyssa Belda, Coordinator, Philippine Representative, Global Youth Coalition for Road Safety, and Coordinator, Make It Safer Movement - Philippines • Mikaela Patrick, Director of Research and Delivery, Global Disability Hub	Explore alignment with ADB Transport Sector priorities, what are the CSO experiences in the sector and how these can be taken forward on ADB-supported transport projects.

	• Antoni Tsaputra, Founder, Indonesian Disabled People's Association • Faela Sufa, Transport Specialist, ADB • Michelle Ramirez, Senior Social Development Officer, NGOC, ADB	
10:30-10:45 AM (15 mins)	Coffee Break	
10:45-12:15 AM (90 mins)	Designing Inclusive Projects: CSO Entry Points for Poverty Reduction and Disability Inclusion Explore how ADB's Poverty and Social Analysis tool and disability inclusion approaches help create more equitable and inclusive projects. Through practical examples and discussion with ADB specialists, learn where CSOs can engage to strengthen poverty reduction efforts and ensure the voices of vulnerable groups and persons with disabilities are reflected in project design and implementation. Speakers: • Gohar Tadevosyan, Senior Social Development Specialist (Poverty and Social Analysis), ADB • Bimbika Sijapati Basnet, Senior Social Development Specialist (Disability Inclusion), ADB • Mikaela Patrick, Director of Research and Delivery, Global Disability Hub • Antoni Tsaputra, Founder, Indonesian Disabled People's Association	Identify entry points for CSO engagement in enhancing poverty reduction and inclusive designs in ADB-supported projects.
12:15-13:15 PM (60 mins)	Lunch Break	
13:15-14:15 PM (60 mins)	Part 6: CSOs and their Roles in Implementing the ADB Environmental and Social Framework This session updates CSOs on ADB's progress implementing the Environmental and Social Framework (ESF), with a focus on the good practice notes, operational tools, and guidance instruments the Office of Safeguards has developed to support ESF implementation, including under Environmental and Social Standard 10 (ESS10) on Stakeholder Engagement and Information Disclosure. It provides a structured channel for CSOs to raise questions and recommendations directly with the Office of Safeguards on how the ESF is applied in practice. Moderator: Pinky Serafica, Senior Safeguards Officer, OSPT, ADB Office of Safeguards Speakers: • Lusha Francesca Maderal, Associate Safeguards Officer (Social), ADB OSFG • Saswati Belliappa, Principal Safeguards Specialist (Social), ADB OSFG • Ujala Sarfaraz, Global Advocacy Officer, Sight Savers (South Asia)	Provide updates on ESF implementation and discuss entry-points for CSO engagement in environment and social process
14:15-14:45 PM (30 minutes)	Coffee Break	
14:45 – 15:45 PM (60 mins)	Part 7: Roundtable Discussions: CSO Engagement for Development Effectiveness and Advancing the SDGs (in-person only)	ADB Representatives will share briefly about their department's priorities. They will

10 mins	Introduction and breakout of participants to 5 roundtable discussions (RTDs)	respond to policy, program, or project queries or recommendations from CSOs.
35 mins	RTDs: ADB Heads of Departments/Senior staff will share briefly about their departments' priorities and entry points for CSO engagement. They will listen and respond to CSO queries and recommendations: • SD1 – Energy and Transport – with Director General Hideaki Iwasaki • SD2 - Agriculture, Food, Nature and Rural Development; Digital Sector; Water and Urban Development - with Deputy Director General Norio Saito • SD3 - Finance; Human and Social Development; Public Sector Management and Governance – with Principal Social Development Specialist (Social Inclusion) Francesco Tornieri • Climate Change and Sustainable Development - with Director General Yevgeniy Zhukov • Office of Safeguards – with Head Bruce Dunn and Director Takako Morita	There will be 5 roundtable discussions, 1 per department/office. CSO participants will self-select the RTD they will join here .
15 mins	Rapporteurs report highlights of discussions to plenary (3 mins per group)	
15:45-16:45 PM (60 mins)	Inclusive Futures: ADB's Listening Session with CSOs (in-person only) Interactive Synthesis Workshop (Participating ADB Sectors and Themes Staff and CSOs) CSOs' key recommendations to ADB, based on prior sessions (guide questions for discussion will be prepared). Moderator: Haidy Ear-Dupuy, Unit Head, NGOC	To capture and analyze CSOs' feedback and recommendations to ADB based on Day1 and Day2 sessions.
16:45-17:00 (15 mins)	Key Takeaways, Next Steps, and Closing Message Speaker: Benjamin Graham, Director, Fragility and Engagement Division, CCSD, ADB	To summarize key takeaways from the 2-day event and identify immediate next steps.