

SDG Localization Week 19 – 21 April 2021

Joint online event organized by ADB, DeLOG, OECD and UNDP/RBAP

Welcome Remarks by Mr. Jaco Cilliers, Manager, UNDP Hub for Asia and the Pacific

- Mr. Bambang Susantono, Vice President (Knowledge Management and Sustainable Development), ADB
- Mr. Junghun Kim, Chairman, OECD Network on Fiscal Relations and President of the Fiscal Policy Institute
- Ms. Xiaohong Yang, Chief, Thematic Cluster, Sustainable Development and Climate Change Department, ADB
- Distinguished Government officials, Mayors, Development partners, ladies and gentlemen,

Good afternoon...

- The COVID-19 pandemic reminds us on the important role that local governments play to provide services, inform citizens, mobilize resources and coordinate with central governments.
- For UNDP, development must be locally grounded and 'SDG localization' is our priority to uplift the most marginalized and to leave no one behind.
- This means, that we need to go beyond integrating the global goals into local development and investment plans. We must incentivize public and private stakeholders to participate, innovate, finance and co-design solutions for SDG localization.
- A 'whole of society' (at central and local level) is therefore needed but institutional partnerships, such as this joint event between ADB, DELOG, OECD and UNDP are also important to share experiences, take stock of national and local experiences and help accelerate SDG localization.
- I would also like to thank you for structuring this important event around the '4+1 Enablers' that the UNDP Regional Hub for Asia-Pacific developed in 2018 to support the SDG localization process in this region.
- Let me end by saying that I with Patrick Duong and Radhika Lal are proud to be associated to this 'SDG localization' week and we look forward to the discussions over the next 4 days and to the outcome document of this important event.