



# Asia-Pacific Rural Development and Food Security Forum 2022

22-24 March (Virtual)

Battling Climate Change and Transforming Agri-Food Systems




## SPEAKERS' PROFILE Day 1: 22 March 2022

Speaker	Profile
<b>Leaders' Roundtable: The Future of Food and Agriculture</b>	
	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Introduction</b></p> <p><b>Moderator: Shiulie Ghosh</b>, Director, Aero Productions Ltd.</p> <p>Shiulie Ghosh is an award-winning journalist and TV anchor and has worked for some of the best-known names in the news industry including the BBC, ITV, TRT World and Aljazeera. As one of the main faces of Aljazeera English, she launched the international channel in Qatar in 2006, and over the next decade helped it expand to over 100 countries. In a career spanning more than thirty years, Shiulie has covered some of the world's top stories and interviewed decision-makers and global leaders. She is also the owner and director of a media services company, Aero Productions Ltd. As a professional moderator, Shiulie has chaired high-level events for organisations including the UN and the WHO, and hosted conferences for industries as diverse as pharmaceuticals, health, agriculture, construction and finance.</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Welcome Address</b></p> <p><b>Qingfeng Zhang</b>, Chief, Rural Development and Food Security (Agriculture) Thematic Group; Concurrently, OIC, Chief, Environment Thematic Group, Sustainable Development and Climate Change Department, Asian Development Bank</p> <p>Mr. Zhang is providing leadership to the formulation and implementation of the Bank's strategy and knowledge in agriculture, natural resources and food, oversees the operationalization of the Bank's vision on agriculture, natural resources and food in regional and country programs. Each year the Rural Development, Natural Resources and Food has \$3-4 billion investment across the Bank (investments, results-based lending and policy-based lending). There are about 135 staffs in this sector across the Bank.</p>

During his last 16 years with the Bank, Mr. Zhang processes and administers loan and technical assistance projects in green agricultural value chain, efficient use of natural resources (land, soil, water as well as agricultural wastes), climate resilient agriculture, rural renewable biomass energy, healthy agriculture-ecosystems, food safety, and internet plus agriculture. He published over dozens of knowledge products, Opeds and blogs on agriculture, natural resources and environment. Prior to serving as this role, Mr. Zhang was the Director for Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture in East Asia Department in the Bank for which report to this Prior to joining ADB, he was a Senior Environment Specialist at the World Bank in Washington; a Director at the State Environmental Protection Administration in Beijing; and a Research Fellow at the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology.

Mr. Zhang is a Chinese national. He holds a doctoral degree in environmental engineering from the Tsinghua University; and a master's degree in water resources management, and a bachelor's degree in hydrology from the Sichuan University. He was also trained at the Harvard Business School through its Executive Development Program.

**Opening Remarks**



**Roberta Casali**, Vice-President, Finance and Risk Management, Asian Development Bank

Roberta Casali is the Vice President, Finance and Risk Management at the Asian Development Bank. She has more than 30 years of executive experience in central banking and the financial sector. She held senior positions in the area of payment systems at the Bank of Italy, in both national and international roles. She also had significant private sector banking experience, including more than 10 years at leading Italian international banking group Intesa Sanpaolo SpA. From 2017 to 2021 she served on a number of boards of listed and private companies as an independent chair and non-executive director. She has a degree in Economics and Business Administration from La Sapienza University of Rome, a Master in Business Administration from University of Rochester (USA) and a Certificate in Corporate Governance from INSEAD (France).



**Donal Brown**, Associate Vice-President, Programme Management Department, International Fund for Agricultural Development

He is responsible for developing and managing the operations that IFAD supports through its loans and grants. He oversees the programme of work of the department, which is undertaken by five Regional Divisions and the Operational Policy and Results Division.

Brown previously worked at the United Kingdom's Department for International Development (DFID) in a number of senior positions, lastly as the Africa Director, managing 550 staff across the continent. In 2014-2015, he led the UK's task force to Sierra Leone in support of the government's efforts to fight Ebola. Brown worked at DFID headquarters and in field offices in Africa, Asia and Latin America, covering all of DFID's areas of interest.

Brown holds a Master's degree in Tropical Animal Health and Production from the University of Edinburgh, a Postgraduate Diploma in Public Leadership and Management from the University of Warwick and a Bachelor's in Veterinary Science from the University of Bristol, as well as an Honorary Doctorate in Social Justice from the University of Winchester.

#### **Panelists**



**Shenggen Fan**, Chair Professor, China Agricultural University

Dr. Shenggen Fan is currently Chair Professor and Dean of Academy of Global Food Economics and Policy (AGFEP) at China Agricultural University (CAU). Prior to joining CAU, Dr. Fan served as director general of the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) from 2009 to 2019.

He currently serves as a member of the United Nations' Lead Group for the Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) Movement. He was a member, vice chair and chair of food and nutrition council of the World Economic Forum.

He is a Fellow of Agricultural and Applied Economics Association(AAEA), and a Honorary Life Member, International Association of Agricultural Economists (IAAE).

Dr. Fan received a PhD in applied economics from the University of Minnesota and bachelor's and master's degrees from Nanjing Agricultural University in China.



**Yutaka Arai**, Vice-Minister for International Affairs, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Government of Japan

NAME : ARAI Yutaka

DATE OF BIRTH : September 14, 1962

PLACE OF BIRTH : Saitama Prefecture

EDUCATION : Graduated from the University of Tokyo, Faculty of Law

**PROFESSIONAL CAREER:**

- Vice-Minister for International Affairs, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Japan
- April 1987 Joined Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries(MAFF)
- October 2006 Director, Labelling and Standards Division, Food Safety and Consumer Affairs Bureau
- May 2009 Director, Food Industry Policy Division, General Food Policy Bureau
- September 2011 Director, Food Industrial Innovation Division, Food Industry Affairs Bureau
- January 2012 Director, Policy Planning Division, Fisheries Policy Planning Department, Fisheries Agency
- April 2014 Director, Administration Division, Fisheries Policy Planning Department, Fisheries Agency
- July 2015 Vice Governor, Yamanashi Prefecture;
- July 2017 Deputy Director-General for Export Promotion, Food Industry Affairs Bureau;
- July 2018 Director-General, Food Industry Affairs Bureau; April
- 2019 Director-General, Food Safety, and Consumer Affairs Bureau; and
- July 2021 Vice-Minister for International Affairs



**Cao Đức Phát**, Vice Chair, Board of Trustees, International Rice Research Institute

Mr. Cao Đức Phát is currently a Member of the Central Council for Theoretic Studies, Vice Chair of the Board of Trustees of Vietnam Agriculture University, and Vice Chair of the Board of Trustees of the International Rice Research Institute.

From 2016-2021, he was the Permanent Deputy Chair of the Central Economic Commission after having served as Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development of Vietnam from 2004-2016. In 2003, he was Deputy Secretary of An Giang Provincial Committee of CPV.

Prior to this, Mr. Phát served as Vice Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development of Vietnam from 1999-2002, and Director General of the Department of Policy, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, Vietnam from 1995-1998.

He graduated from the Agricultural Academy of Belorussia (1973-1982) and Harvard University (1992-1995).





**Zafar Khashimov**, Chief Executive Officer, Korzinka Supermarket Chain, Uzbekistan

**Technical Session 1: Digital Technology for Agriculture**



**Moderator: Thomas Panella**, Director, EARD, Asian Development Bank


As Director in East Asia, he is responsible for managing operations including strategy; project development, management, and programming; policy dialogue; and knowledge management. As Chair of the Water Sector Committee, he provides oversight for the ADB-wide Water Sector Group for policy development, institutional engagement in water issues, and strategic direction of lending and non-lending water operations. He served as ADB's Chief of Water Sector Group from 2017-20, Afghanistan Country Director from 2014-17, and joined ADB in 2003. He led water operations in Central, South, and Southeast Asia including postings in Indonesia directing the water and climate change programs and in Uzbekistan as operations head. He worked at World Bank from 2000 to 2002 as a Water Resources Management Specialist. He was the Southern California Regional Director for Tabors, Caramanis and Associates from 1989 to 1993 and served as the Convener of the California Urban Water Conservation Council in 1997 (now the California Water Efficiency Partnership). He is a member of the AGWA Board of Directors, GWP Technical Committee, and Advisor to the HELP. He has a PhD and MPP in Public Policy and MSc from the Energy and Resources Group from the University of California, Berkeley.


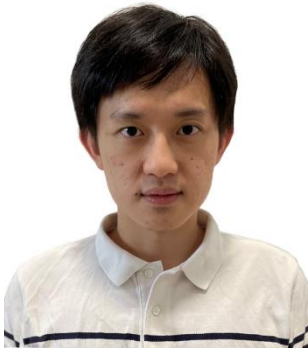



**Keynote Address**

**Paul Teng**, Managing Director & Dean, NIE International Pte Ltd | Nanyang Technological University, Singapore

Professor Teng is Adjunct Senior Fellow, Centre for Non-Traditional Security Studies, Nanyang Technological University Singapore and concurrently Managing Director, NIE International Pte. Ltd. He is also Senior Adviser (AgriFood) to A\*STAR Singapore. Paul previously held leadership positions in the Worldfish Centre, the International Rice Research Institute, Monsanto Company and U.S. universities. Professor Paul Teng is experienced in tropical agrifood systems and food security. He has researched and taught in North America, Africa and Asia, and has published eleven books and over 240 papers. Paul has been recognized for his work through the Eriksson Prize in Plant Pathology, election as Fellow of The World Academy of Sciences

	<p>and by professional societies, and conferred an Honorary D.Sc. from Murdoch University, Australia. Professor Teng is also adviser to several startups in the agritech space.</p>
 <p>A photograph of Dr. Sah Gitanjali, a woman with long dark hair, wearing a colorful patterned top, speaking into a microphone at a podium. A nameplate in front of her reads 'Dr Speranza Ndege'.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Panelists</b></p> <p><b>Sah Gitanjali</b>, Strategy and Policy Coordinator, International Telecommunication Union</p> <p>Ms. Gitanjali Sah is an experienced International Civil Servant and has worked with several United Nations Organizations like ITU, UNESCO and UNDP in the field of ICT on Development related policy and implementation issues at an international, regional, and national level. At present she is working with the International Telecommunication Union as the Coordinator of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) Process. Since 2015, one of the core activities is to strengthen the alignment of the WSIS Process with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development to ensure that ICTs play the enabling role in advancing the Sustainable Development Goals.</p> <p>She has an MPhil in Development Studies from the University of Cambridge, UK and a Masters from the Jawarhar Lal Nehru University, India.</p>
 <p>A portrait of Dr. Elliott Grant, a man with short grey hair and a beard, wearing a blue button-down shirt, looking slightly to the left against a blurred outdoor background.</p>	<p><b>Elliott Grant</b>, General Manager, X</p> <p>Dr. Elliott Grant is a recognized business leader and innovator in food and agtech. He is the General Manager of Mineral at X, Alphabet’s “Moonshot Factory.” Mineral is using machine learning (ML) and robotics to scale sustainable agriculture globally. He was the founder and CEO of HarvestMark, the world leader in fresh food traceability (acquired by Trimble); the CEO of ShopWell, a personalized nutrition company; and served as the Vice Chair of the Produce Marketing Association, a global industry organization, and chaired its Science &amp; Technology Committee. Elliott was a consultant at McKinsey &amp; Company. He earned his PhD and MEng in Engineering from Cambridge University and is the author of covering topics ranging from cryptography and food traceability, to satellite image analysis and plant phenotyping. He lives in California with his wife and daughter.</p>

	<p><b>Vikas Choudhary, Senior Economist, World Bank</b></p> <p>Vikas Choudhary is Senior Economist at the World Bank, based in Jakarta, and leading the agricultural work program in Indonesia and Timor Leste. Prior to this, he was based in Ethiopia and led the agriculture team working on Ethiopia, Sudan, South Sudan and Eritrea. His interest areas are food systems approach, climate smart agriculture, value chains and agribusiness development, digital disruption in agriculture, resilience, and agriculture and rural development policy reforms. Prior to joining the Bank, he was Director, Global Economic Development at the Centre of High Impact Philanthropy at University of Pennsylvania (UPenn). He started his career with the Government of Rajasthan, India and subsequently worked with CARE-India; set up a USAID agribusiness project; and co-founded a felt export business. He holds a PhD in Development Anthropology and Master's in Public Administration from Syracuse University, USA and a Management degree from Indian Institute of Forestry Management, India.</p>
	<p><b>Revisit and Reflect for Revision: Experience Sharing, Voices from Development Practitioners, Startups, Farmers, and Youth</b></p> <p><b>Don Tan, Director-Corporate Affairs, Pinduoduo Inc.</b></p> <p>Don is Director of Corporate Affairs at Pinduoduo. He has prior experience in international affairs, and is a graduate of Sciences Po, HEC Paris, and the University of Oxford.</p>
	<p><b>Otini Mpinganjira, Program Lead, PxD</b></p> <p>Otini Mpinganjira is PxD's Programme Lead in Bhubaneswar, Odisha. Otini holds a Master in Public Policy degree from the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy at the National University of Singapore. Prior to joining PxD, he worked with One Acre Fund as its Malawi Systems Lead.</p>



**Jawoo Koo**, Sr. Research Fellow, IFPRI

Koo, Senior Research Fellow at the International Food Policy Research Institute, / (Interim) Lead, CGIAR Research Initiative on “Harnessing digital technologies for timely decision-making across food, land, and water systems.



**Takeshi Ueda**, Principal Natural Resources and Agriculture Economist, Asian Development Bank

Mr. Takeshi Ueda is a national of Japan.

He obtained his Doctorate degree in Agricultural Economics from the Pennsylvania State University; Master’s degree in Economics from the Michigan State University, the US, and Soka University, Japan.

Mr. Ueda has 20 years of professional experience. He joined ADB in 2008 as a Natural Resources Economist, Environment, Natural Resources, and Agriculture Division, East Asia Department, then progressed to Senior Natural Resources Economist, same division and has managed various projects of the agriculture and natural resources (ANR) sector 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 and been handling the ANR sector projects with a particular focus on agriculture value chain development for Southeast Asian countries. Prior to ADB, he worked for the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations as Policy Officer, Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific, Bangkok, and as Project Expert, Bangladesh Country Representative, Dhaka. Also worked for Japan International Cooperation Agency as an Adviser for Private Sector Development at its Bangladesh Country Office.


### **Synthesis: Day 1 Activities and Sessions**



**Shingo Kimura**, Senior Natural Resources and Agriculture Specialist, Asian Development Bank

Shingo is responsible for ADB’s operation on sustainable rural development and food security in East Asia. Prior to joining ADB, he was Economist and Agricultural Policy Analyst at the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) in Paris, where he conducted a series of policy research for productive, sustainable and resilient food and agricultural sector in Europe, North America and Asia. He also served at Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of Japan in Tokyo,



	responsible for policy planning and implementation in the areas of rural development, farmland regulations and food safety.
 A portrait photograph of Navin K. Twarakavi, a man with short dark hair, wearing a dark suit jacket, a light blue shirt, and a red tie. He is smiling slightly and looking directly at the camera.	<b>Navin K. Twarakavi</b> , Senior Digital Agriculture Specialist, Asian Development Bank