



Asia-Pacific Rural Development and Food Security Forum 2022




22-24 March (Virtual)


Battling Climate Change and Transforming Agri-Food Systems



SPEAKERS' PROFILE Day 3: 24 March 2022

Speaker	Profile
Recap: Day 2 Activities and Sessions	
	<p>Sangjun Lee, Natural Resources and Agriculture Specialist, Asian Development Bank</p> <p>Sangjun helps leverage the Republic of Korea's agricultural and rural development experience in ADB projects. Prior to his current role, he has worked for the Korean Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs for ten years.</p> <p>He has a bachelor's degree from Seoul National University and a master's degree from the University of Birmingham.</p>
Special Session: COVID-19 Impacts on Food Systems	
	<p>Moderator: Takashi Yamano, Principal Economist, Asian Development Bank</p> <p>Takashi Yamano is a Principal Economist at Economic Research and Regional Development at ADB. His current responsibilities include managing and conducting impact evaluation studies, reviewing Economic Analysis of project proposals, and producing economic diagnostic studies. Prior to joining ADB in 2017, he worked as Impact Assessment Specialist at the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) in 2011-2017. He taught post-graduate courses at the National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies (GRIPS) in Tokyo, Japan, in 2002-2011. He worked as a consultant at the World Bank in 2000-2002. He obtained a joint Ph.D. in Economics and Agricultural Economics at Michigan State University in 2000.</p>

	<p style="text-align: center;">Keynote Address</p> <p>Aziz Elbehri, Senior Economist and Stream Leader, Agri-food, Rural Development and Socio-economic Policies, FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific</p> <p>Aziz Elbehri is a senior economist at the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) since 2008. Currently, he leads the socio-economic development and policy group at the FAO Asia-Pacific Regional office in Bangkok. Aziz specializes in climate and food systems interactions, agricultural policy and development, trade and markets, water policy, and digital agriculture. Before FAO, Aziz was an agricultural economist specializing in trade policy and modeling at the USDA Economic Research Service from 1999 to 2008 before joining FAO. Aziz has a Ph.D. from Purdue University, a master's degree from the University of Minnesota in agricultural economics and two master degrees in agronomy from the University of Minnesota and from the Institute Agronomique Hassan II, Morocco</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">Panelists</p> <p>Yasmin Siddiqi, Director, Central and West Asia Department, Asian Development Bank</p> <p>Ms. Yasmin Siddiqi is a chartered civil engineer (UK) and has a post graduate degree in irrigation engineering (UK). She has over 25 years of experience in natural resources management, including integrated water resources management, irrigation, knowledge solutions and leading teams at Asian Development Bank (ADB). She is currently the operational director for agriculture and natural resources in the Central and West Asia Department of ADB</p>
	<p>Pavit Ramachandran, Country Director, Mongolia Residence Mission, ADB (To be confirmed)</p> <p>Mr. Ramachandran serves as the Country Director at the Mongolia Resident Mission with the Asian Development Bank. He is responsible for overall country program, operational portfolio and knowledge management. Leads operations in Mongolia managing an active portfolio of around \$2 billion. Supervises the implementation of the ADB's Country Operations Business Plan in line with the current Country Partnership Strategy, 2017-2020 and the next Country Partnership Strategy to be developed. Primary liaison for ADB with government, private sector, development partners, and civil society in Mongolia.</p> <p>He has a diverse and multifaceted background with more than twenty-three years of international development experience, covering over twelve countries in the Asia-Pacific region. His experience spans both public and private sectors in developing and managing complex country and regional programs. He is skilled in strategic visioning, program development, building partnerships, operational planning and delivery.</p>

	<p>Mr. Ramachandran possesses strong operational expertise including investment projects as well as policy and knowledge support covering rural development, environment, energy, agriculture, and water sectors. Mr. Ramachandran joined ADB in May 2009 and has progressed through different positions in charge of programming, processing and administration of projects and knowledge work.</p> <p>In his previous role, as a Principal Environment Specialist of ADB's East Asia Department, he was leading policy dialogue and program lending operations in Mongolia including the preparation of the Ulaanbaatar Air Quality Improvement Program. Mr. Ramachandran has led efforts to facilitate and enact policy reforms, mobilize financing, and promote capacity development across multiple countries in Asia and the Pacific.</p> <p>Educational qualifications include a Masters in Public Management from the University of Maryland, College Park and a Masters from the Delhi School of Economics.</p>
	<p>Jalil Pirzada, Director, Institute of the Economy, Analysis and Agriculture Development, Ministry of Agriculture, Tajikistan</p> <p>From 1986 to 2003 he worked at the Research Institute of Economics and Organization of Agricultural Production of the Tajik Academy of Agricultural Sciences; 2003 to 2007 as the Dean of the Faculty of Economics of the Tajik Agrarian University; 2007 to 2011 as Director of the Research Institute of Economics and Organization of Agricultural Production of the Tajik Academy of Agricultural Sciences; 2011 to 2014 as the head of the department of agriculture and land use of the Executive Office of the President of the Republic of Tajikistan; November 2014 to January 2017 as the Head of the Department of Agriculture and Environmental Protection of the Executive Office of the President of the Republic of Tajikistan; and from January 2017 to the present, working as the Director of the Institute for System Analysis and Agricultural Development of the Tajik Academy of Agricultural Sciences.</p> <p>Pirizoda J.S. is working on the problems of agrarian policy, improving the location of agricultural sectors of the Republic of Tajikistan and ensuring food security in the republic. Had prepared 34 candidates and doctors of economic sciences, supervises 5 graduate and doctoral students. Had published more than 125 scientific papers.</p>



PK Joshi, Former Head, International Food Policy Research Institute

Dr. P K Joshi superannuated as the Director-South Asia, International Food Policy Research Institute, Washington DC. Prior to this he was holding the positions of the Director, ICAR-National Academy of Agricultural Research Management, and the Director of the ICAR-National Centre of Agricultural Economics and Policy Research. After his superannuation, he is serving as the Policy Adviser to the World Bank, the Food and Agriculture Organization, Harvest Plus of the CGIAR; Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research; and the BAIF Development Research Foundation. He is also officiating as Honorary Director of the Agro-economic Research Centre-Delhi. He has extensively worked towards transforming agriculture and market integration in India, and many south and southeast Asian countries.

Dr Joshi has received the following awards: Dr M S Randhawa Memorial Award of the National Academy of Agricultural Sciences, Dr RC Agarwal Life Time Achievement Award of the Indian Society of Agricultural Economics for his outstanding contribution in social science and agricultural economics research and management; the Life Time Achievement Award of the Pantnagar Alumni Almamater Advancement Association; and the Global Leadership Award by the Indian Chambers of Food and Agriculture. He is the Fellow of the (1) National Academy of Agricultural Sciences, (2) Indian Society of Agricultural Economics, (3) Indian Society of Agricultural Engineering, and (4) International Society of Noni Research. He has published more than ten books and several journal articles in national and international journals of repute.

Dr Joshi was President-elect of Indian Society of Agricultural Economics; Conference President of Indian Society of Agricultural Marketing; Conference President of Agricultural Economics Research Association-India; Foreign Secretary, National Academy of Agricultural Sciences; and Secretary-General of the 4th World Congress on Conservation Agriculture. He is presently the President of the Agricultural Economics Research Association (AERA); and the Secretary of the National Academy of Agricultural Sciences (NAAS).

Dr Joshi has also served as the chairman of the SAARC Agricultural Centre's governing board in Dhaka, Bangladesh; chairman of the UN-CAPSA governing board in Bogor; member of the BRICS-Agriculture group; and member of the intergovernmental panel on the International Assessment of Agricultural Science and Technology for Development. He served as a member of the International Steering Committee for the Climate Change, Agriculture, and Food Security Challenge Program, led by the ESSP Science Community and the CGIAR. He was a member of the core group of the Indian government's "Right to Food" National Human Rights Commission. He was also a member of the 'Speaker's Research Initiative', a committee constituted by the Hon'ble Speaker of the Parliament, Government of India to regularly interact

with ministers and Members of Parliaments. Recently, he was also nominated as one of the four members committee constituted by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India to provide solutions on Farm Reforms 2020.

Dr. P K Joshi superannuated as the Director-South Asia, International Food Policy Research Institute, Washington DC. Prior to this he was holding the positions of the Director, ICAR-National Academy of Agricultural Research Management, and the Director of the ICAR-National Centre of Agricultural Economics and Policy Research. After his superannuation, he is serving as the Policy Adviser to the World Bank, the Food and Agriculture Organization, Harvest Plus of the CGIAR; Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research; and the BAIF Development Research Foundation. He is also officiating as Honorary Director of the Agro-economic Research Centre-Delhi. He has extensively worked towards transforming agriculture and market integration in India, and many south and southeast Asian countries.

Dr. Joshi has been receiving awards from different agricultural economic societies for his outstanding contribution in social science and agricultural economic research and management. He has published more than ten books and several journal articles in national and international journals of repute. He also holds Chairmanship of the SAARC Agricultural Centre's governing board in Dhaka, Bangladesh, the UN-CAPSA governing board in Bogor, and other committee memberships.

Deep Dive 3: Alternative Proteins to Meet the Growing Demand



Moderator: Kate Jarvis, Consultant, PSOD-AIT, Asian Development Bank

Kate is a food and agribusiness professional with 15 years' experience, and a passion for improving the sustainability of food production, distribution, and consumption. Prior to joining ADB, Kate worked with a UK-based startup that is developing technology to produce an animal feed ingredient using minimal water. She has a deep understanding of global agricultural markets and agribusiness investment, thanks to roles in commodities trading at Louis Dreyfus Company and Fonterra, and agribusiness private equity at Proterra Investment Partners. Kate has an MBA from University of Oxford, and has worked and studied in Australia, France, Singapore, Switzerland, and the UK.

Keynote Address

William Chen, Director, Food Science and Technology Programme, Nanyang Technological University

Prof. William Chen is the Michael Fam Endowed Professor and Director of Food Science and Technology Programme with Nanyang Technological University Singapore (NTU). He is also Director of Singapore Agri-food Innovation Lab (SAIL), and Co-



Director of Singapore Future Ready Food Safety Hub (FRESH). Prof. Chen's food tech innovations and his opinions on food security have been extensively covered by Singapore and international media. Prof. Chen is advisor/consultant to government agencies, international organizations, food industry, overseas universities on matters related to tech innovations and food security.

Panelists



Alan Shaw, Chief Executive Officer, Calysta

Alan Shaw, Ph.D., is President, Chief Executive Officer and Co-Founder of Calysta, and a member of the Board of Directors. He joined in 2012. Dr. Shaw is a veteran biotechnology entrepreneur and chemical industry executive, with more than 25 years of experience building and leading technology companies. Before joining Calysta, he was a Founder of Codexis, and served for ten years as President, Chief Executive Officer and a director. Codexis is a developer of cost-advantaged processes for production of biobased chemicals and pharmaceuticals. During his tenure, Codexis completed an IPO and expanded from a startup to a global industrial biotechnology company with operations in the United States, Europe and Asia.

In 2010, Dr. Shaw received the Ernst and Young Entrepreneur® of the Year Award in the life sciences category for Northern California. He is a member of the Board of Directors of BIO and the Governing Board of the BIO Industrial and Environmental Section. He also serves as a biotechnology advisor to the governments of the United Kingdom and Malaysia, and is a frequent speaker at leading business and industry conferences.

Prior to Codexis, Dr. Shaw held senior operating and business development positions in the United Kingdom for Chiroscience Group plc and for the chemical and biopharmaceutical units of Clariant and BTP plc from 1994-99. For the previous 15 years, he held management and scientific leadership positions for Imperial Chemical Industries plc (ICI)/Zeneca, including Business Head, Fine Chemicals and Marketing Manager, European Sales. He holds a bachelor's degree in chemistry from Teesside University and a Ph.D. in chemistry from the University of Durham, England. He is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Chemistry and a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Marketing.



Varun Deshpande, Managing Director, The Good Food Institute

Varun Deshpande serves as Managing Director at the Good Food Institute Asia, where he is focused on building the future of food by working with scientists, foundations, governments, entrepreneurs, and corporations to build the alternative protein sector across the continent. As the son of a cancer surgeon from Mumbai, Varun has been deeply immersed in healthcare and technology from a very young age. He spent several formative years studying Chemical and Biomedical Engineering at technology hub Carnegie Mellon University. He then went on to work on implementing digital health in India and the United States, helping vulnerable populations through care coordination, and a systems approach to healthcare. Varun is also a leader in the effective altruism movement, which seeks to investigate and target the world's most pressing problems. For his work leading GFI India and Asia, Varun has been named a leading young voice for climate solutions by India Climate Collaborative, one of Asia's Most Influential Tastemakers by Tatler Asia Group, and one of India's 25 most influential young citizens by GQ. He has spoken at conferences and universities all over the world ranging from the Indian Institutes of Technology to Harvard University, and his writing has featured in media including The Hindu, FirstPost, and The Daily Guardian. In dedicating his work to the future of food and combining his duty to human and planetary health, Varun aims to help build a more secure, sustainable, and just global food system, particularly across the developing world.



Neil Ian Lumanlan, Circular Bioeconomy Consultant

Ian is a circular bio-economy consultant providing technology advisory services to insect farming startups in Asia, Australia & Africa, and regenerative agriculture projects in the US & Pacific islands. He served as a resource person & vice-secretary of the Asian Food & Feed Insects Association from 2018 to 2020 and enhanced the production & quality control systems of one of the largest vertical insect farm in Thailand. Prior to this he was a university instructor of microbiology & environmental science, and an associate researcher on appropriate technologies for rural development where he designed biomass gasifier stoves & integrated food-water-energy systems. Ian is an advocate of healthy soils & healthy gut microbiome to prevent emerging diseases & to reverse global warming.



Isabelle Decitre, Founder and CEO, ID Capital

Isabelle is the Founder & CEO of ID Capital, a company incorporated in Singapore in 2012 and specialized in VC investments in agrifoodtech in Asia Pacific. In 2016, to accelerate the development of this nascent ecosystem, it launched the Future Food Asia Award, the 1st-of-its-kind regional start-up competition culminating in the annual Future Food Asia Conference.

In 2019 ID Capital was appointed as a co-investment partner in agrifoodtech start-ups by Singapore SEEDS Capital and is now further developing its venture capital investment activity.

In 2021 ID Capital opened a subsidiary in Shanghai to cover emerging opportunities in China.

The longest running company covering the entire Asia-Pacific agrifoodtech sector, ID Capital is in a privileged position to anticipate long term trends deemed to share the future of our food system.

Isabelle holds an Engineering degree from Ecole Polytechnique (France) and a degree in Chinese Language and Civilization.

Technical Session 4: Financing Green, Resilient and Inclusive Agriculture



Moderator: Mio Oka, Director, Asian Development Bank

Mio Oka is currently the Director of the Environment, Natural Resources, and Agriculture Division in the South Asia Department of the Asian Development Bank (ADB). Since 2015, she has been responsible in administering several climate adaptation projects including flood and coastal management, water use efficiency, rural connectivity improvement and agriculture value chain projects in the following ADB developing member countries: Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal and Sri Lanka.

Mio has over 20 years of experience in research, planning, designing, and implementing agriculture and rural development projects in South America, Southeast and South Asia, gained through her work with development organizations and ADB. She obtained her master's degree in Social Policy and Planning in Developing Countries and bachelor's degree in Development Studies and Politics from the University of London (London, UK).



Keynote Address

Gretchen Daily, Bing Professor of Environmental Science, Stanford University

TITLE: Co-founder and Faculty Director of the Stanford Natural Capital Project, Bing Professor of Environmental Science; Director of the Center for Conservation Biology at Stanford University; Senior Fellow in the Stanford Woods Institute

Gretchen C. Daily is co-founder and Faculty Director of the Stanford Natural Capital Project, a global partnership whose goal is to integrate the values of nature into planning, policy, finance, and

management. Its tools and approaches are now applied in 185 nations through NatCap's free, open-source InVEST Software Platform.

Daily's work is focused on understanding human dependence and impacts on nature and the deep societal transformations needed to secure people and Earth's life support systems. Her work spans fundamental research and policy-oriented initiatives to open inclusive and green development pathways. She co-develops pragmatic approaches, engaging with governments, multilateral development banks, investors, businesses, farmers and ranchers, communities, and NGOs.

Together with many colleagues, Daily has published several hundred scientific and popular articles, and a dozen books. Daily is a fellow of the U.S. National Academy of Sciences, the American Academy of Arts, and Sciences and the American Philosophical Society.

She has received international honors, including the 2020 Tyler Prize for Environmental Achievement, 2017 Blue Planet Prize, 2019 BBVA Frontiers of Knowledge Award, 2012 Volvo Environment Prize, 2010 Midori Prize for Biodiversity, and the 2009 International Cosmos Prize.

Panelists



Qingfeng Zhang, Chief, Rural Development and Food Security (Agriculture) Thematic Group; Concurrently, OIC, Chief, Environment Thematic Group, Sustainable Development and Climate Change Department, Asian Development Bank

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.

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

	<p>Environmental Protection Administration in Beijing; and a Research Fellow at the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology.</p> <p>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.</p>
	<p>Piet van Asten, Head Sustainable Production Systems Coffee , Olam Food Ingredients (ofi)</p> <p>Transforming agriculture to (re-)build, rather than exhaust, livelihoods and nature requires knowledge, resources and motivation from farmers. Piet focuses on innovating the sustainability of production systems at Olam Food Ingredients (ofi) and is based in Singapore. In early 2017, he joined Olam to jointly develop, adapt and apply technologies, approaches and services that improve the productivity, profitability, and carbon footprint of Olam's coffee plantations as well as its (smallholder) supply landscape. Piet holds a PhD in agricultural and environmental sciences from Wageningen University with a strong focus on soil science, crop production, farming systems, smallholder producers, innovation partnerships and sustainable development. Prior to his work at Olam, he worked for twenty years as an Africa-based CGIAR scientist on systems innovations from plant level to policy action.</p>
	<p>Joost Zuidberg, Management Board, AGR13 Fund</p> <p>Joost has been co-CEO of Cardano Development since January 2015 where his role is to oversee the growth of the group which now includes the management of 8 funds including TCX, GuarantCo, Frontclear, BIX Capital, ILX, AGR13 Fund, Nyala Venture and IMFact. Joost is also involved in the development of a number of incubations and start-ups.</p> <p>Joost was CEO of Cardano Development's first institutional management mandate, TCX, since its creation in 2007. Joost was the Director for Africa at the Dutch development bank, FMO between 2000 and 2005. He started FMO's capital market desk in anticipation of the TCX fund in 2006.</p>



Isaac Kofi Bimpong, Plant Breeder / Geneticist, Department of Nuclear Science and Applications

Name: Isaac Kofi Bimpong

Designation: Plant Breeder / Geneticist

Organization: Plant Breeding and Genetics Section | Joint FAO/IAEA Centre of Nuclear Techniques in Food and Agriculture | Department of Nuclear Sciences and Applications | Vienna, Austria |

He obtained both his MSc and PhD at the University of the Philippines Los Baños (UPLB) in collaboration with International Rice Research Institutes (IRRI) in the Philippines.

He worked at Africa Rice Centre (CGIAR organization) for almost 10 years and played a major part in optimizing breeding pipelines to increase genetic gains.

He led the High-throughput genotyping (HTPG) to support 'forward breeding' in Africa for marker assisted selection and quality assurance processes with the aim of increasing rates of genetic gain at AfricaRice.

He led the rice improvement for problem soils (salinity and sodicity) for STRASA project (Stress Tolerant Rice for poor farmers in Africa and South Asia) funded by Bill and Melinda Gate foundation.

He was the coordinator for Africa-wide Mangrove and lowland swamp breeding taskforce- a platform for 25 NARES-member countries in Africa.

At the Joint FAO/IAEA Centre, his leadership responsibilities include provision of technical leadership in project development & implementation to increase the pace of mutation breeding in 19 Member State and 3 Regional projects, and is leading a coordinated Research Project (CRP) on Development of Integrated Techniques for Induced Genetic Diversity and Improvement of Vegetatively Propagated and Horticultural Tree Crops



Reflect and Rethink for Revision: Experience Sharing, Voices from Development Practitioners, Farmers, Youth, and Women

Kisa Mfalila, Lead Environment & Climate Specialist-Asia & the Pacific Region, International Fund for Agricultural Development

Kisa Mfalila is Lead Climate and Environment Specialist for Asia and the Pacific Region (APR) with the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD). She oversees the climate and environment work program in the region. Under this capacity, she is responsible for delivering sustainability outcomes in IFAD investments through the application of Environment, Social and Governance (ESG) Standards and build climate resilience of smallholder farmers by integrating climate adaptation in operations.

She joined IFAD in November 2019 from the World Bank where she worked for six (6) years overseeing the application of ESG standards in operations aiming toward achieving sustainability outcomes in operations within the Southern region of Africa. Prior to joining the World Bank, Kisa worked as a Principal Environmental Specialist with the African Development Bank (AfDB) in Tunis, Tunisia where she managed the environment and climate aspects for the agriculture portfolio in the Africa region.

Her work with Multilateral Development Banks (MDBs) started in 2002 before joining the AfDB where she worked with the World Bank in Washington, D.C. managing environment and climate risks and impacts of large and complex water resources infrastructure investments.



Stephen Hart, Senior Loan Officer, European Investment Bank

Focal point for the Natural Capital Financing Facility. 26 years in environment, nature and finance.

Mr. Stephen Hart is the focal point for the Natural Capital Financing Facility, a joint EU LIFE-EIB financial instrument for biodiversity and nature-based climate adaptation. He began his career in municipal administration, followed by engineering consultancy in Eastern Europe and Russia. He joined EIB in 2005, preparing and appraising water and environmental projects worldwide for 10 years. He was Head of the EIB Copenhagen Office and covered Arctic affairs until 2019. He holds degrees in environmental engineering and finance.



Arnaud Heckmann, Principal Urban Development Specialist, Asian Development Bank

Arnaud Heckmann is a principal urban development specialist at the Asian Development Bank's East Asia Department. He designs, process, and administers integrated economic and urban development projects and technical assistances, that promote inclusive and green livable cities, climate change adaptation and mitigation, environmental sustainability, and green urban-rural development. He holds a master's degree in comparative development research from EHESS (Paris School of High Study in Social Science), a master's degree in human geography from Toulouse university, and a diploma in Chinese language and culture from Paris University.

Knowledge Product Showcase



Moderator: Sungsup Ra, Chief Sector Officer, Asian Development Bank

As the Chief Sector Officer, he leads the planning, implementation, and supervision of the Sector Advisory Service Cluster's (SDSC) vision, goals, and work plan. He joined ADB in 2001 as Economist. Since then, he worked in both Bangladesh and Nepal Resident Missions as Deputy Country Director, Senior Advisor to the Managing Director General, and Director for Pacific Operations Division. Before joining SDCC, he led the establishment and became Director of South Asia Human and Social Development Division, wherein he managed a portfolio of \$7 billion. He was also Chair of the Education Sector Group.

As a strategic and innovative leader, he has led high-level policy dialogue with developing countries and significantly contributed to ADB's recent expansion in the social sector. Prior to joining ADB, he worked with Samsung and Korean National Pension, and taught economics at leading universities—Korea University and International Christian University, Japan.


A national of the Republic of Korea, he holds a Doctorate and Master's degrees in Economics from the University of Illinois, United States, and Bachelor's degree in Economics from Korea University.



Knowledge Product Showcase



Shingo Kimura, Senior Natural Resources and Agriculture Specialist, Asian Development Bank; Name of the report: **"Financing Sustainable and Resilient Food Systems in Asia and the Pacific"**.

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

	<p>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.</p>
	<p>Takeshi Ueda, Principal Natural Resources and Agriculture Economist, Asian Development Bank; Name of the report: “Cambodia Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Rural Development Sector Assessment, Strategy, and Roadmap”.</p> <p>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 degree in Economics from the Michigan State University, the United States and Soka University, Japan. Mr. Ueda has 20 years of professional experience, including 14 years with ADB. He joined ADB in 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 administered and processed 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 has been administrating and processing the ANR sector projects with a particular focus on agriculture value chain development for 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.</p>

Actions and Recommendations

	<p>Moderator: Qingfeng Zhang, 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> <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</p>
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	<p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>
	<p>Yasmin Siddiqi, Director, Central and West Asia Department, Asian Development Bank</p> <p>Ms. Yasmin Siddiqi is a chartered civil engineer (UK) and has a post graduate degree in irrigation engineering (UK). She has over 25 years of experience in natural resources management, including integrated water resources management, irrigation, knowledge solutions and leading teams at Asian Development Bank (ADB). She is currently the operational director for agriculture and natural resources in the Central and West Asia Department of ADB.</p>
	<p>Thomas Panella, Director, East Asia Department, Asian Development Bank</p> <p>Tom Panella is the Director for Environment, Natural Resources, and Agriculture in the East Asia Department at the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and is Chair the Water Sector Committee/Group for ADB. 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 has led water operations in Central, South, and Southeast Asia including postings in Indonesia directing the water and climate change programs and in Uzbekistan as head of operations. He worked at the 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.</p>



Mukhtor Khamudkhanov, Director, Pacific Department, Asian Development Bank

Mr. Mukhtor Khamudkhanov is a Director of Energy Division of Asian Development Bank's (ADB) Pacific Department and is responsible for coordination of ADB's energy sector operations in the Pacific developing member countries. Prior to joining the Pacific Department in January 2021, he was a Country Director of ADB's Nepal Resident Mission (2017-2021) where he demonstrated knowledge and experience in policy dialogue, strategic and country operations planning, and worked on significant infrastructure projects, including hydropower and renewable energy, in Nepal. He served as Principal Energy Specialist, South Asia Energy Division (SAEN, 2011-2017), Senior Energy Specialist (SAEN, 2007-2011), Senior Planning and Policy Specialist (Strategy and Policy Department), and Portfolio Management Specialist in former Central Operations Services Office.

Mr. Khamudkhanov also possesses experience in teaching and research in electrical engineering. He has 33 scientific publications and one patent. Most of the publications deal with economics in power engineering, energy efficiency, renewable energy, and problems of optimal control and regulation of technical systems.



Mr. Khamudkhanov holds a Doctorate Degree in Technology (Electrical Engineering) from State Technical University, Uzbekistan, and Master's degrees in Financial Management from the University of London, United Kingdom, and in International Affairs (Economic Policy Management) from Columbia University, USA.



Martin Lemoine, Head, Agribusiness Investment Unit, Private Sector Operations Department, Asian Development Bank

Martin Lemoine is the Unit Head, Agribusiness at the Asian Development Bank (ADB). Martin has 20 years of professional experience, including 15 years of impact-oriented investment in Asia. Martin has led more than 50 equity and debt investments of a total value of around \$10 billion in the agribusiness and infrastructure sectors.

Martin joined ADB in 2009 as an Investment Specialist in the Private Sector Infrastructure Finance Division 1. Martin was promoted to Senior Investment Specialist in 2013 and Principal Investment Specialist in 2015. In the same year, Martin led the creation of the Agribusiness Investment Team to provide dedicated focus and expertise to agribusiness investing at ADB. As of 2021, Martin is leading a team of 15 bankers and analysts who deliver 5 to 8 loans and investments amounting to \$150 million to \$200 million every year. With his team, Martin has built an agribusiness portfolio of around \$670 million including companies involved in agricultural input distribution, greenhouse farming, livestock farming, food and beverage processing and distribution. These companies have positively impacted around 8 million smallholder farmers in 22 developing countries of Asia and the Pacific.

	<p>Prior to joining ADB, Martin was an investment banker with Macquarie’s infrastructure team in Singapore. Martin started his career as a McKinsey consultant in Paris. He holds an MBA from the Wharton School (Palmer Scholar), and master degrees from Essec and Sciences Po.</p>
	<p>Mio Oka, Director, South Asia Department, Asian Development Bank</p> <p>Mio Oka is currently the Director of the Environment, Natural Resources, and Agriculture Division in the South Asia Department of the Asian Development Bank (ADB). Since 2015, she has been responsible in administering several climate adaptation projects including flood and coastal management, water use efficiency, rural connectivity improvement and agriculture value chain projects in the following ADB developing member countries: Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal and Sri Lanka.</p> <p>Mio has over 20 years of experience in research, planning, designing, and implementing agriculture and rural development projects in South America, Southeast and South Asia, gained through her work with development organizations and ADB. She obtained her master’s degree in Social Policy and Planning in Developing Countries and bachelor’s degree in Development Studies and Politics from the University of London (London, UK).</p>
	<p>Jiangfeng Zhang, Director, Southeast Asia Department, Asian Development Bank</p> <p>Jiangfeng Zhang is the Director of Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture Division, Southeast Asia Department, concurrently Co-Chair, Environment Thematic Group, of Asian Development Bank (ADB). Since 2002 to date, he has been leading and supporting the development, design, and implementation of agriculture, natural resources, and rural development sector projects covering countries in Southeast Asia, South Asia, and Central and West Asia. His current focus is on policy, institutional, financing, and technological supports to inclusive, climate resilient, and environmentally sustainable agriculture and rural development for enhanced agriculture competitiveness and food security in Southeast Asia countries. He holds a Doctorate in Agricultural and Resource Economics and a Master’s degree in Statistics from the University of California, Berkeley, USA.</p>



Aziz Elbehri, Senior Economist and Stream Leader, Food and Agriculture Organization

Aziz Elbehri is a senior economist at the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) since 2008. Currently, he leads the socio-economic development and policy group at the FAO Asia-Pacific Regional office in Bangkok. Aziz specializes in climate and food systems interactions, agricultural policy and development, trade and markets, water policy, and digital agriculture. Before FAO, Aziz was an agricultural economist specializing in trade policy and modeling at the USDA Economic Research Service from 1999 to 2008 before joining FAO. Aziz has a Ph.D. from Purdue University, a master's degree from the University of Minnesota in agricultural economics and two master degrees in agronomy from the University of Minnesota and from the Institut Agronomique Hassan II, Morocco.

Closing Remarks and Future Direction



Sungsup Ra, Chief Sector Officer, Sustainable Development and Climate Change Department, Asian Development Bank

As the Chief Sector Officer, he leads the planning, implementation, and supervision of the Sector Advisory Service Cluster's (SDSC) vision, goals, and work plan.

He joined ADB in 2001 as Economist. Since then, he worked in both Bangladesh and Nepal Resident Missions as Deputy Country Director, Senior Advisor to the Managing Director General, and Director for Pacific Operations Division. Before joining SDCC, he led the establishment and became Director of South Asia Human and Social Development Division, wherein he managed a portfolio of \$7 billion. He was also Chair of the Education Sector Group.

As a strategic and innovative leader, he has led high-level policy dialogue with developing countries and significantly contributed to ADB's recent expansion in the social sector. Prior to joining ADB, he worked with Samsung and Korean National Pension, and taught economics at leading universities—Korea University and International Christian University, Japan.

A national of the Republic of Korea, he holds a Doctorate and Master's degrees in Economics from the University of Illinois, United States, and Bachelor's degree in Economics from Korea University.