## **ASIA AND THE PACIFIC TRANSPORT FORUM 2024**

## **CLEAN TRANSPORT FOR ALL**

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## **Timothy John R. Batan**

Undersecretary for Planning and Project Development Department of Transportation, Philippines

**Undersecretary TJ Batan** has been working in the Philippine transportation department for seven years, first as a Senior Project Development Officer in 2015 working on several maritime, airport development, port modernization, and other mass transit projects, until he was eventually appointed as an Assistant Secretary for Rail in 2017, Undersecretary for Railways in 2018, and as Undersecretary for Planning and Project Development in 2022.

As the Undersecretary for Railways, he led the sector in implementing decades-delayed rail projects, expanding the rail network from 77 km to 1203 km, increasing number of awarded rail contracts, securing financing worth 1.5B pesos in Official Development Assistance, increasing disbursements, and fixing the degraded state of MRT-3, Metro Manila's metro rail backbone, back to design condition in record time. He has been pivotal in the fulfillment of the national government's promise of building the dream railway network for the Philippines and he is currently leading the DOTr's push towards BuildBetterMore under the current administration.