



## **EVENT ANNOUNCEMENT: ADB Southeast Asia Development Symposium**

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) will hold the *Southeast Asia Development Symposium (SEADS) 2021: Innovation through Collaboration: Planning for an Inclusive Post-COVID-19 Recovery* on 17-18 March 2021.

This year, SEADS will explore how Southeast Asian nations can most effectively revitalize businesses, create sustainable job opportunities, and position themselves for robust recovery in the wake of COVID-19. It will also examine how countries can harness “Big Data” and new technology to support growth and how they can better ensure widespread vaccine access.

A power-packed lineup of global thought-leaders and decision-makers will share insights to help countries fast-track post-pandemic recovery. [Registration is free.](#)

For more information, visit the [SEADS website](#), and the [2021 Symposium page](#). Follow #SEADS2021 on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [LinkedIn](#) for regular updates.

### **Featured Plenary – 17 March**

#### ***Opening Keynote Addresses, 17 March, 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. (Manila time, GMT +8)***

How can innovation and collaboration accelerate Southeast Asia’s post-COVID-19 recovery? Hear from Masatsugu Asakawa, President, ADB; Carlos Dominguez, Governor for the Republic of the Philippines in the Asian Development Bank and Secretary, Department of Finance, Philippines; Armida Salsiah Alisjahbana, Under-Secretary General, United Nations and Executive Secretary, UNESCAP; Jacqueline Fuller, President, Google.org and Vice-President, Google; Dr. Jerome Kim, Director General, International Vaccine Institute; and Melati Wijsen, Founder, Bye Bye Plastic Bags.

#### ***Plenary Panel Discussion: New Solutions for New Challenges, 17 March, 11:05 a.m. to 12:05 p.m. (Manila time, GMT +8)***

What new solutions can be harnessed to foster a smart, green, and digital post-COVID-19 “new normal”? Join our distinguished panelists: Ahmed M. Saeed, Vice-President, ADB; Indranee Rajah, Minister in the Prime Minister’s Office, Second Minister for Finance, and Second Minister for National Development, Singapore; Ming Maa, Group President, Grab; and Audrey Choi, Chief Marketing Officer and Chief Sustainability Officer, Morgan Stanley.

#### ***Launch of ADB Policy Briefs on COVID-19 Response 17 March, 12:10 p.m. to 12:30 p.m. (Manila time, GMT +8)***

Ramesh Subramaniam, Director General, Southeast Asia Regional Department, ADB, will officially launch four hot-off-the-press policy briefs that set forth a blueprint for Southeast Asia’s medium-term recovery.

## **Featured Plenary – 18 March**

### ***Opening Keynote Addresses, 18 March, 10:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. (Manila time, GMT +8)***

How can countries in Southeast Asia enhance their health response to the COVID-19 crisis and lay the groundwork for recovery? Hear from Bambang Susantono, Vice-President, ADB; Budi Gunadi Sadikin, Minister of Health, Indonesia; Dr. Richard J. Hatchett, CEO, Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations; and Dr. Ayesha Khanna, Co-Founder and CEO, ADDO AI.

### ***Plenary Panel Discussion: Immunization for All, 18 March, 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. (Manila time, GMT +8)***

What measures are required to provide COVID-19 vaccines across Southeast Asia? Join this leading group of experts: Patrick L. Osewe, Chief, Health Sector Group, ADB; Myrna Cabotaje, Undersecretary, Department of Health, Philippines; Dr. Ruth Karron, Professor, Department of International Health, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health and Director of the Center for Immunization Research; and Dr. Suresh Jadhav, Executive Director, Serum Institute of India Pvt. Ltd.

### ***Plenary Panel Discussion: Recovery for All, 18 March, 11:35 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. (Manila time, GMT +8)***

How can countries ensure that the post-COVID-19 recovery is human-centered and does not leave the most vulnerable behind? Hear from this distinguished group of experts: Robert Guild, Chief Section Officer, Sustainable Development and Climate Change Department, ADB; Ketsuda Supradit, International Economic Advisor, Fiscal Policy Office, Ministry of Finance, Thailand; Janti Soeripto, President and Chief Executive Officer, Save the Children US; Sherry Madera, Chief Industry and Government Affairs Officer, London Stock Exchange Group; and Magnus Ekbohm, Chief Strategy Officer and Co-Founder, Lazada.

## **Other Key Events**

### ***Afternoon ADB/Partner Special Sessions, 17 March (Manila time, GMT +8)***

- Post-COVID-19 Policy Responses to Support Recovery (ADB)
- The Role of Taxation in the Crisis Response and Recovery Session (ADB & OECD)
- Reinventing Smart Cities after COVID-19 (ADB)
- Leave No One Behind: Harnessing Technology for Post-Pandemic Recovery and Resilience (ADB/UNESCAP)
- Financing Post-Pandemic Green Growth and Green Recovery (ADB, OECD, and European Union-SWITCH-Asia)
- An Ecosystem Approach for Economic Recovery in Southeast Asia (Google)
- Road to Recovery with Tech: Building the Foundation for Resilient Growth (Grab)

### ***Afternoon Partner Deep Dive Workshops, 18 March (Manila time, GMT +8)***

- Applying Futures Thinking and Foresight to Transport (ADB)
- Clean Energy Transition as an Engine for Green Recovery (ADB)
- Invitation Only: Reimagining the future: COVID-19's Impact on Youth's Jobs and Livelihoods Aspirations (ADB's Youth for Asia)
- Scaling up SMEs Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP) Actions (SWITCH-Asia Programme)
- Open Source and Government Digital Transformation – Perfect Storm of Opportunity (Amazon Web Services Institute)

***SEADS Hackathon, 18 March, 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. (Manila time, GMT +8)***

Re-Establishing Tourism Confidence through Innovative Digital Solutions Hackathon: “Shark Tank” pitches and announcement of winner

***Save the Children’s Global Centre of Excellence Launch, 18 March, 1:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. (Manila time, GMT +8)***

Inger Ashing, Chief Executive Officer, Save the Children International

**About SEADS**

SEADS provides a forum for leaders from governments, the private sector, academia, and development organizations to discuss innovative approaches and solutions to development challenges, including the current COVID-19 pandemic.

Join ADB and our partners at #SEADS2021 as we collectively zero in on strategies and policy responses that countries can adopt to lay the groundwork for post-COVID-19 recovery.

For additional information, please contact: [seads@adb.org](mailto:seads@adb.org).