

ADB Lecture Series on International Development

Spring 2018 Syllabus

Introduction

This semester-long lecture series will address important topics concerning international development, drawing on ADB's experience with developing member countries in Asia, primarily in the People's Republic of China (PRC). The PRC's extraordinary progress over the past thirty years and ADB's evolving partnership with the PRC offers important experiences and lessons for other developing countries. The lecture series will emphasize challenges, approaches, and case studies based on development projects, featuring experts from the Asian Development Bank (ADB). 2018 topics will include:

- ADB's Operations and Portfolio in the PRC
- The Gender Dimension of Development: Theory and Practice
- The Future of Energy Systems: Challenges and Opportunities to Developing Countries in Asia
- ADB's Work in Law and Policy Reform
- ADB Climate Change Operation in China
- Comprehensive Transformation Approach to Revitalize the PRC's Northeast
- Role of Cross-border Economic Zones in Economic Corridor Development: ADB's Experience
- ADB's Approach to Promoting Sustainable Food Security in Asia and the Pacific
- Framing Governance Reforms in Real-World Conditions
- An Overview of Principles for Public Financial Management
- Middle-Income Countries in Asia and the Pacific: Challenges and Opportunities
- Green Urban Development and Green Financing
- Financing Low-Carbon and Climate Resilient Development: the ADB's approach to the Climate Change Challenge
- Prospects of Decent Work in Services

At the end of the course students are expected to have gained familiarity with: (i) the institutional arrangements concerning international development and cooperation; (ii) the approaches and processes that development assistance is delivered by multi-lateral development banks; (iii) current thinking and best practices in key sectors that ADB is engaged in, especially current and future cooperation priorities with the PRC government. The course also provides a forum for interaction with ADB development practitioners.

Course Website and Materials

All materials will be posted on the course website, including the syllabus, presentations and reading material. The course website is hosted on the ADB-PRC RKSI website (<http://rksi.org/event/international-development-lecture-series-spring-2018>).

COURSE OUTLINE

1. Asian Development Bank's Operations and Portfolio in the People's Republic of China (13 April, 9:30-11:30) **Xinning Jia, Deputy Country Director, PRCM**

This lecture session will give a snapshot of ADB's operations in PRC over past 30 years, its portfolio, and the evolving sectoral and geographical interventions over the time. The lecture will provide an overview of ADB's operational cycle in terms of programming, project preparation and implementation. The lecture will briefly touch upon the implementation challenges of projects. The lecture will also give a quick brief of ADB in general, who we are, how we help, and opportunities for collaboration.

References:

- ADB-PRC Country Partnership Strategy 2016-2020
<https://www.adb.org/countries/prc/strategy>
- Road to 2030: ADB's New Strategy
<https://www.adb.org/multimedia/roadto2030/>

2. The Gender Dimension of Development: Theory and Practice (16 April, 9:30-11:30) **Hyun Son, Principal Evaluation Specialist, IED**

Governments and development organizations around the world have reached a consensus: gender equality matters for development. But how can development strategies, policies and programs appropriately incorporate a gender dimension not only in principle but also in practice? This lecture will discuss how gender equality is considered in the design, implementation and monitoring of development strategies and interventions, with the Asian Development Bank as a case study. It will build on the recent thematic evaluation of ADB support for gender and development. Specifically, the lecture will: (i) discuss the five dimensions of gender equality (human development, time poverty, economic empowerment, voice and decision-making, and resilience to risks and shocks), which provides a framework for developing gender strategies, policies and programs, and for evaluating their gender results; (ii) identify persistent and emerging gender challenges in Asia and the Pacific based on the five dimensions; (iii) review how these persistent and emerging gender challenges in the region are taken into account in the design and formulation of gender strategies, policies and programs; (iv) assess how gender strategies and interventions are implemented and their results monitored; and (v) discuss key issues and lessons that can help advance the region's gender equality agenda.

3. The Future of Energy Systems: Challenges and Opportunities to Developing Countries in Asia (19 April, 13:30-15:30) **Yongping Zhai, Chief of Energy Sector Group, SDCC**

The future of energy systems is evolving towards diversified, decentralized, deregulated, digitalized, and decarbonized systems. Such trend is disrupting the "old energy order" that has been well established since the industrial revolution. The energy planners, investors, banks, utilities and consumers in Asian developing countries must understand, adapt and

embrace these challenges, and leapfrog to the “new energy order” for sustainable development.

**4. ADB’s Work in Law and Policy Reform (24 April, 13:30-15:30)
Fiona Connell, Principal Counsel, OGC**

ADB considers that sound legal systems contribute to inclusive and sustainable growth, and ADB has a long tradition of assisting countries’ legal development. In the PRC, which joined ADB in 1986, our early technical assistance helped the PRC prepare laws and legal institutions for the PRC’s accession to the World Trade Organization. Recently ADB has engaged with PRC law reform through work with the Supreme People’s Court and in cooperation with government agencies seeking international expertise on specialized areas such as PPP law and financial regulation. This work in PRC is part of ADB’s “Law and Policy Reform” initiative, which supports ADB member countries’ legal development in areas as diverse as gender equality, alternative dispute resolution and insolvency. ADB focuses on environmental law throughout Asia, particularly in facilitating cooperation among environmental judges and tribunals. This lecture will discuss ADB’s work in the PRC and in other member countries under ADB’s Law and Policy Reform vision: “An Asia and Pacific region governed by the rule of law, comprising comprehensive legal frameworks and effective judicial, regulatory and administrative institutions that implement and enforce laws and regulations fairly, consistently, predictably and ethically across the range of human interactions.

**5. ADB Climate Change Operation in China (3 May, 13:30-15:30)
Xuedu Lu, Lead Climate Change Specialist, EARD**

ADB supports its developing member countries to address climate change while developing their society and economy. This lecture will discuss ADB’s climate change operational framework, climate change programs and climate financing. In addition, the lecture will also review the cooperation with PRC on climate change, introduce ADB’s climate change operation in PRC, including technical assistance projects and lending projects, covering low carbon technology promotion, emission trading system, carbon capture, utilization and storage, and urban adaptation.

**6. Comprehensive Transformation Approach to Revitalize the PRC’s Northeast: Supporting Non-Coal Diversification, SME Development, Environmental Cleanup from Mining Impact, and Attractive Green and Clean Cities in Eastern Heilongjiang (7 May, 9:30-11:30)
Stefan Rau, Senior Urban Development Specialist, EARD**

This lecture will introduce the challenges resource-based cities face and the response by ADB in strategically supporting local governments with much needed transformation and economic, social and environmental recovery of four cities in East Heilongjiang. International best practices will be shown i.e. from the United States, Germany and the United Kingdom to demonstrate that long-term strategic and multidimensional support programs with bold visions for a transformed future can result in positive impacts. However, transformation takes a generation or two and significant financial and personal support by various government agencies, institutions, as well as private sector leaders to show results. Hence mining and heavy industry regions do have a choice of embarking on a bright journey as opposed to suffering symptoms ghost cities in many other rust belts around the world felt. The lecture will show how ADB’s holistic approach to supporting the

transformation in East Heilongjiang is expected to change cities from dirty coal cities to livable clean and green cities and promote private sector development and jobs in a variety of industries, applying lessons from the international cases.

**7. Role of Cross-border Economic Zones in Economic Corridor Development:
ADB's Experience (15 May, 13:30-15:30)
Yuebin Zhang, Principal RCI Specialist, EARD**

The lecture will review the history and modalities of border economic zones, focusing on their roles in developing cross-border economic corridors. A specific case of cross-border economic zone development will be presented, based on ADB's experience in supporting PRC-Viet Nam cooperation.

**8. ADB's Approach to Promoting Sustainable Food Security in Asia and the Pacific (16 May, 9:30-11:30)
Marzia Mongiorgi, Head of Programs, RCI and Knowledge Integration Unit,
PRCM**

ADB has long experience in helping its developing member countries to improve the productivity and sustainability of agriculture, strengthen their natural resources management, and achieve sustainable rural development. The Operational Plan for Agriculture and Natural Resources: Promoting Sustainable Food Security in Asia and the Pacific in 2015–2020 guides ADB's operations in the agriculture and natural resources (ANR) sector and capitalizes on the wealth of accumulated knowledge in ADB and its member developing countries. The plan has four priority areas of activity corresponding to the critical factors that influence the food value chain:

1. Increasing Productivity and Reducing Losses of Food.
2. Improving Market Connectivity and Value Chain Linkages.
3. Enhancing Food Safety, Quality, and Nutrition.
4. Enhancing Management and Climate Resilience of Natural Resources.

**9. Framing Governance Reforms in Real-World Conditions (29 May, 13:30-15:30)
Gambhir Bhatta, Advisor and Head, Knowledge Sharing and Services Center
Concurrently Chief of Governance Thematic Group, SDCC**

Countries around the world have embarked on, and often struggled with, instituting systemic governance reforms. And while 'good governance' has turned out to be an effective slogan, what has been remiss is a concerted focus on reforms that are practical, incremental, and that take the reform agenda forward in a conscious manner. This lecture will focus on the difference between 'governance' and 'good enough governance' – a distinction that must be analyzed from the perspective of the space of reforms in real conditions as exist in the developing countries. This distinction has been aptly highlighted by the work of, among others, Grindle (2004), and which needs to be in the toolbox of every government that wishes to initiate governance reforms. The lecture will frame these issues emerging from the lessons from developing countries of Asia.

10. An Overview of Principles for Public Financial Management (1 June, 13:30-15:30)

Hans Van Rijn, Principal Public Management Specialist, EARD

Public financial management plays a central role in macroeconomic management and fiscal policy. In this lecture, we'll present a discussion of the objectives of PFM and we'll discuss what the key characteristics of prudent PFM are. We then go into a discussion of principles for strategic budgeting; the first part of the lecture will be concluded with a discussion of budget cycle management. Throughout the discussion, we will emphasize the political and institutional underpinnings of PFM. In the second part of the lecture, we will present an overview of internationally accepted tools and instrument that can be used to assess the quality of PFM systems.

References:

- Strengthened Approach to Public Financial Management Reform
<http://www1.worldbank.org/publicsector/pe/StrengthenedApproach/>
- Public Financial Management: An overview
<http://www.oecd.org/dac/effectiveness/pfm.htm>
- Government Finance Statistics Manuals and Guides
<http://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/gfs/manual/gfs.htm>
- The Open Budget Survey 2017
<http://internationalbudget.org/opening-budgets/open-budget-initiative/open-budget-survey/>

11. Middle-Income Countries in Asia and the Pacific: Challenges and Opportunities (5 June, 9:30-11:30)

Jose Antonio Tan III, Advisor, IED

Over the past four decades, the Asia and Pacific region has seen how rapid growth led to many economies attaining middle-income status. Yet, these middle-income countries (MICs) continue to face development challenges. About half of the world's poor live in these countries. Several face problems like rapid unplanned urbanization and environmental degradation. With opportunities for easy productivity gains become exhausted, improving productivity to hurdle the middle-income transition remains a challenge. Likewise, maintaining macroeconomic and financial stability has also become important. Some MICs will also need to achieve more economic diversification and product sophistication to sustain growth. Newer challenges are arising from greater competition, rapid technological change, more integrated global trade and financial systems, and climate change. At the same time, we are seeing new development opportunities, such as fostering development through South-South cooperation, investments in infrastructure and connectivity, and mobilizing new resources for development. Further, with increased sophistication and capacities, more innovative solutions can be tested in these countries.

Understanding the dynamics of these rapidly evolving challenges and opportunities is important. The lecture will: (i) review the evolution of MICs in Asia and the Pacific; (ii)

discuss the challenges they face; and (iii) identify new opportunities for further growth and development for these economies. The lecture will also discuss the engagement of ADB with MICs and how it has and may change over time.

12. Green Urban Development and Green Financing (15 June, 13:30-15:30)
Jenny Hubert, Principal Infrastructure Specialist, EARD

The urbanization ratio in China increased from 19% in 1978 to 54% in 2013. The number of cities rose from 193 in 1978 to 658 in 2013. Continued rural–urban migration is expected to lead to a projected urban population of 816 million by 2020. In 2014, the government set-up a Green Finance Task Force, which issued a series of recommendations to set-up a green finance system. The understanding is that a country based green finance model requires strong national policies, supported by financing, addressing the specific risks of urban infrastructure investments and catalyzing large scale Private and Commercial Funding into green urban infrastructure. The China Development Research Foundation estimates that the China needs to invest CNY24 trillion (\$3.8 trillion) in urban infrastructure by 2020 to meet the needs with public funding capped at 15%, resulting in a massive gap. Challenges for local governments include increased debt, a limited tax base, and limited options to finance infrastructure. The lecture will first look at planning strategies to green urban master plans addressing infrastructure gaps and institutional bottlenecks and then review funding options to finance green urban infrastructure.

13. Financing Low-Carbon and Climate Resilient Development: the ADB’s approach to the Climate Change Challenge (25 June, 9:30-11:30)
Maria Pia Ancora, Climate Change Specialist, EARD

Syllabus will include:

- (i) Risks in the Asia-Pacific Region,
- (ii) International architecture for climate change; and
- (iii) ADB’s climate change operational framework: development vs climate finance

14. Prospects of Decent Work in Services (3 July, 9:30-11:30)
Sameer Khatiwada, Economist, ERCD

Becoming rich through industrialization has become increasingly more difficult. Manufacturing employment in large parts of Asia have peaked at much lower levels than it did in the advanced world. Given this so called “pre-mature deindustrialization”, can services be the new source of good jobs? Sameer Khatiwada, Economist at the ADB’s Economic Research and Regional Cooperation Department, will present preliminary findings from an ongoing research on services led development in Asia. Fraction of employment that is in tradable sector is growing, but it is not clear whether it will be able to create sufficient employment opportunities to absorb new entrants to the labor market. However, new technologies (through digital platforms and e-commerce) have the potential to raise productivity, employment and wages in the services sector.

15. Wrap up (3 July, 13:30-15:30)
Amy Leung, Director General, EARD