



ADB-CIKD Webinar Series on Digitalizing Rural Areas, Cases from the PRC

Biography



Changwen Zhao is Senior Research Fellow of Development Research Center of the State Council (DRC). He was appointed as President of CIKD on May 6, 2021. Prior to joining CIKD, Dr. Zhao has served as Director General (DG) of the Department of Industrial Economy (2014-2021) and DG of the Enterprises Research Institute (2011-2014) at the Development Research Center of the State Council of the PRC. He was Vice President of Sichuan University from 2005 to 2011.

Dr. Zhao is member of the 14th Five-Year Plan Expert Advisory Committee in the PRC. He serves as Commissioner at the Energy Transition Commission, senior advisor to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the PRC for BIRCS-related matters and as member of the advisory boards for provincial governments of Guangdong, Gansu, Guizhou, and Sichuan.

His research interests include development issues, green development, digital economy, industrial policy, financial reform, and SOE reform. He has authored over 20 books, for instance, *New Industrial Policy in the PRC* (2016), *The PRC's Economic Growth Strategy in the New Normal* (2016), *The Financial Reform in the PRC: the Way from Extraction to Inclusion* (2017). Dr. Zhao has received more than 10 provincial and above level academic rewards. Dr. Zhao holds a Ph.D. degree in Economics from South-West University of Finance and Economics, and master's degrees in global public policy and economics.



Yolanda Fernandez Lommen is ADB's Country Director for the PRC. She assumed office in August 2019. As Country Director, Ms. Fernandez Lommen leads ADB's PRC Resident Mission (PRCM) that manages the portfolio of about \$14 billion in the country; maintains and strengthens strategic partnerships with clients, including central and local governments; assists in loan and technical assistance processing; formulates the country partnership strategy; manages external relations; and develops knowledge products.

Ms. Fernandez Lommen first joined ADB as a Country Economist in the Philippines Country Office in 2001. Later she held roles of increasing responsibility including Country Director for Mongolia before her current stint in the PRC.

Ms. Fernandez Lommen holds a Ph.D. in Economics on the sources of growth in the PRC (Autonoma University, Madrid); a Postgraduate Diploma on International Economics Policy Research (Kiel Institute of World Economics, Germany); a M.A. in International Relations (Ortega y Gasset Institute, Madrid); and a M.A. in Economic Science (Autonoma University, Madrid).



Xiheng Jiang is Senior Research Fellow of DRC and Vice President of CIKD. She joined the Department of International Cooperation of DRC in 2000. From April 2015 to April 2017, she served as the Deputy Director General of the Department. Since April 2017, she has been Vice President of CIKD.

Ms. Jiang is a member of the high-level panel of experts for the Multidimensional Vulnerability Index for Small Island Developing States, appointed by the UN General Assembly. She is also a co-leader for South-South Cooperation and sustainable development in Green Belt and Road International Coalition, a member of the advisory group for G20 development desk and sustainable infrastructure desk, a member of the consultative committee of New Industrial Revolution Partnership for BRICS. Ms. Jiang has master's degrees in public policy from the University of Oxford and the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences respectively. She is currently a doctoral candidate on development studies at Peking University.

Her research focuses on the UN 2030 Agenda and the Belt and Road Initiative. She leads the CIKD team in drafting the PRC's SDG progress report, and organizing the Sustainable Development Forum. She is the executive director for CIKD flagship program Carbon Peak and Carbon Neutrality: The PRC's Strategy and Global Outlook.



Liang Chen is Secretary of the Party Working Committee of Shaji E-commerce Transformation Demonstration Zone in Suining County, Jiangsu Province. He is also a first-level researcher and Distinguished Professor at Nanjing Vocational University of Industry Technology. He has been awarded the title of "Outstanding Promoter of Taobao Villages" and "Ten Outstanding People in 10 Years of Taobao Village". Prior to that he held several senior positions in the township party committee.

Mr. Chen has worked on the Shaji E-Commerce project ever since its birth in 2011. During this period, online retail sales in Suining county grew from nothing to reach CNY15.3 billion (US\$ 2.25 billion) in 2021. The model's success has received much attention from the central government and received widespread news coverage. It received the award of key contributor to the 40 years of reform and opening-up in Jiangsu Province held at the 6th Taobao Village Summit Conference.



Yoonee Jeong is a Senior Digital Technology Specialist with the Digital Technology for Development Unit at ADB. She is a public policy professional with nearly 20 years of international experience in digital technologies in Asia Pacific and Africa.

Before joining ADB, Ms. Jeong was the Director of Public and Regulatory Affairs with the Telenor Group, a global mobile operator. Previously, Ms. Jeong served as a senior consultant on digital economy policy and capacity building to the World Bank and UN-ESCAP and lead policy advocacy for tech companies as Director of Research and



Consulting with TRPC, an advisory firm.

A Korean native, Ms. Jeong obtained her master's degree in International Development Policy from Duke University as a Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) Scholar and her bachelor's from the Ateneo de Manila University of the Philippines.



Haihe Hu is General Manager, Commonwealth Dispatch Management Division, Alibaba Group Social Commonwealth Department. In June 2017, he joined Alibaba as deputy general manager of Hema Beijing, responsible for Hema Central Department and Beijing government affairs, contributing to the rapid development of Alibaba's new retail, Hema.

In July 2020, he was transferred to the Alibaba Group Social Commonwealth Department leading Alibaba's efforts to post special representatives to help in underdeveloped counties. In the process, he and his team has gained a wealth of experience in the development of industry, talent, science and technology, and social security in underdeveloped counties.