



14 March 2022

ASIA-PACIFIC RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND FOOD SECURITY FORUM 2022

“Battling Climate Change and Transforming Agri-food Systems” 22–24 March 2022

RATIONALE

Food security remains a major concern in Asia and the Pacific, a region in which 60% of the world’s population lives. The COVID-19 pandemic is exacerbating pre-existing challenges to food security such as: climate change impacts, disaster risks, shrinking natural resources and degraded environments, changing demographics and labor profiles, and infrastructure deficits, amongst others. These challenges, along with the evolving impacts of COVID-19, underline the need for rethinking of actions to recover, rebuild and reinforce the resilience of food systems. These actions will need to include innovative, nature-based, and integrated solutions which transform and build food system resilience, at the same time as they meet climate change targets and ensure a truly green rural recovery.

PURPOSE

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) and its partners are organizing the [Asia-Pacific Rural Development and Food Security Forum](#) on **22–24 March 2022** to bring together innovators, experts, and thought leaders to:

- Present their ideas on rethinking the future of agriculture amidst complex and evolving challenges;
- Explore new research, innovations, and technologies that can help build nature-positive food systems; and
- Forge partnership and collaborations which will mobilize finance for innovation, research, and business in order to promote food and nutrition security in the Asia and Pacific region

Discussions will focus on: the future of food and agriculture; digital technologies for agriculture; pathways to sustainable and inclusive food systems; an intersectoral approach to nutrition security; and financing green, resilient, inclusive systems of farming and food production, and other cross-cutting issues.

Three deep-dive sessions will be structured to enable discussion of critical issues on integrated rural-urban development, urban farming as a potential window for fresh and nutritious food, and alternative proteins that help meet growing global demand. A special session on COVID-19 will discuss its impacts on food systems and present ways to effectively respond, recover, and build resilience against future disruptions.



Asia-Pacific Rural Development and Food Security Forum (22-24 March 2022)
#RDFSForum2022 Secretariat
rdfsforum@adb.org

PROGRAM

Day 1: 22 March 2022

2:00–2:05 pm	Introduction 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
2:05–3:05 pm	Leaders' Roundtable: The Future of Food and Agriculture Climate change, the COVID-19 pandemic, shifts in dietary preferences, and economic and demographic transformations are among the factors influencing the future of food and agriculture. The session will discuss ways to rethink agri-food system transformation, while considering effective models of governance and collaboration, to meet the continuing demand for safe, nutritious, and affordable food. Global leaders will share their perspective on how to build a green, nature-positive, sustainable, and resilient food system. Moderator: Shiulie Ghosh , Director, Aero Productions Ltd. Opening Remarks Roberta Casali , Vice-President, Finance and Risk Management, Asian Development Bank Donal Brown , Associate Vice-President, Programme Management Department, International Fund for Agricultural Development Panel Discussion <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Shenggen Fan, Chair Professor, China Agricultural University 2. Yutaka Arai, Vice-Minister for International Affairs, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Government of Japan 3. Cao Đức Phát, Vice Chair, Board of Trustees, International Rice Research Institute 4. Zafar Khashimov, Chief Executive Officer, Korzinka Supermarket Chain, Uzbekistan
3:05–3:15 pm	Session Evaluation and Break
Technical Session 1: Digital Technology for Agriculture The COVID-19 pandemic promoted a surge in digital applications in agriculture, highlighting technology's potential to help modernize agriculture and transform food systems. The session will focus on the role of digital technologies in transforming food systems to offer increased profits for farmers and entrepreneurs in the value chain. Discussions highlight requirements to make digitalization of agriculture happen such as policy interventions, public-private partnerships, financing, infrastructure development, and capacity development, among others. Moderator: Thomas Panella , Director, EARD, Asian Development Bank	



Key Issues: precision agriculture, e-commerce, digital divide, inclusiveness, digital infrastructure, human capital, fiscal, monetary and regulatory framework for digital agriculture	
3:15–3:30 pm	Keynote Address Paul Teng Piang Siong , Managing Director & Dean, NIE International Pte Ltd Nanyang Technological University, Singapore
3:30–4:05 pm	Panel Discussion Panelists 1. Sah Gitanjali , Strategy and Policy Coordinator, International Telecommunication Union 2. Elliott Grant , General Manager, X 3. Vikas Choudhary , World Bank
4:05–4:35 pm	Revisit and Reflect for Revision: Experience Sharing, Voices from Development Practitioners, Startups, Farmers, and Youth 1. Don Tan , Director-Corporate Affairs, Pinduoduo Inc. 2. Otini Mpinganjira , Program Lead, PxD 3. Nikhil Toshniwal , VP-Digital and Network Initiatives, Dehaat, India 4. Takeshi Ueda , Principal Natural Resources and Agriculture Economist, Asian Development Bank
4:35–5:05 pm	Q&A and Open Discussion Session Evaluation
5:05–5:15 pm	Synthesis: Day 1 Activities and Sessions 1. Shingo Kimura , Senior Natural Resources and Agriculture Specialist, Asian Development Bank 2. Navin K. Twarakavi , Senior Digital Agriculture Specialist, Asian Development Bank

Day 2: 23 March 2022

11:35–11:40 am	Recap: Day 1 Activities and Sessions Md Abul Basher , Senior Natural Resources and Agriculture Specialist, Asian Development Bank
Deep Dive 1: The Role of Education in Reducing Rural-Urban Divide <p>To avoid the middle-income trap, countries must move from a low-cost to a high-value economy. This development, however, has the potential to create disparities including urban-rural inequality. Reducing the rural-urban divide is critical for more inclusive growth and necessary for sustainable economic growth. Discussions highlight how a rural-urban integrated development can assume a multidimensional focus that is geared towards delivering well-being and prosperity to rural dwellers which is comparable to that in urban areas.</p>	



<p>Moderator: Brajesh Panth, Chief, Education Thematic Group, Asian Development Bank</p> <p>Key Issues: rural and urban income disparity, integrated rural development, human capital investment, rural economic hub, and social and economic welfare</p>	
11:40 am– 11:55 am	<p>Keynote Address</p> <p>Scott Rozelle, Helen F. Farnsworth Senior Fellow and the co-director of the Rural Education Action Program, Freeman Spogli Institute for International Studies, Stanford University</p>
11:55 am– 12:55 pm	<p>Panel Discussion</p> <p>Panelists</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Meekyung Shin, Education Specialist, Asian Development Bank 2. [GIZ Speaker] 3. Clarissa Delgado, CEO, Teach for Philippines <p>Q&A and Open Discussion</p>
12:55–1:10 pm	Session Evaluation and Break
<p>Deep Dive 2: Urban/Controlled Environment Farming—New Window for Fresh and Nutritious Food</p> <p>Urbanization has been rapidly increasing in Asia and the Pacific over the last two decades. With more people now living in cities, the demand for food has become greater in urban areas. Urban farming presents an increasingly viable method of not only enhancing urban food security but also reducing the pressure on traditional agricultural land thereby contributing to a reduction in carbon footprint. Discussions focus on the growth of urban farming as a viable method to produce food, and how new farming approaches, appropriate urban design, and government policies can help propagate this concept.</p> <p>Moderator: Michiko Katagami, Principal Natural Resources and Agriculture Specialist, ADB</p> <p>Key Issues: increasing urbanization, new farming approaches (vertical farming), controlled-environment agriculture, appropriate urban design (e.g., community gardens, urban wastewater for irrigation, organic waste as compost, etc.), impact on food waste, food security in island nations</p>	
1:10–1:25 pm	<p>Keynote Address</p> <p>William Dar, Secretary, Department of Agriculture, Philippines</p>
1:25–2:25 pm	<p>Panel Discussion</p> <p>Panelists</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Elzandi Oosthuizen, Crop Science – Head of Regional Marketing for Asia Pacific, Bayer Group 2. Gloria Kraus, Chief Executive Officer, Holbium 3. Maria Tran, Senior Project Officer (Urban Development), Asian Development Bank <p>Q&A and Open Discussion</p>



2:25–2:40 pm	Session Evaluation and Break
<p>Technical Session 2: Pathways to Sustainable and Inclusive Food Systems</p> <p>Climate change and resource-intensive agricultural practices are causing stress and risks to the environment, affecting food production and its value chains. The session will emphasize the benefits of climate-smart approaches and practices across crop, fish and livestock production considering nature-based solutions and the One Health approach. Discussions will focus on innovations, on-the-ground experiences, and lessons learned, including feminization of agriculture and youth empowerment.</p> <p>Moderator: Jiangfeng Zhang, Sector Director, Asian Development Bank</p> <p>Key Issues: climate-smart agriculture, incentivization of climate-friendly production and consumption, fiscal, monetary and regulatory framework for climate-smart agriculture (crop, fish, and livestock subsectors), One Health, and planetary health</p>	
2:40–2:50 pm	<p>Opening Remarks</p> <p>Bruno Carrasco, Director General, concurrently Chief Compliance Officer, Sustainable Development and Climate Change Department, Asian Development Bank</p>
2:50 – 3:05 pm	<p>Keynote Address</p> <p>Eva (Lini) Wollenberg, Research Professor, Rubenstein School of Environment and Natural Resources, University of Vermont</p>
3:05–3:35 pm	<p>Panel Discussion</p> <p>Panelists</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Jean Balie, Director General, International Rice Research Institute 2. [Speaker] 3. Samantha Hung, Chief of Gender Equality Thematic Group, Asian Development Bank
3:35–4:00 pm	<p>Revisit and Reflect for Revision: Sharing of Experiences, Voices from Development Practitioners, Farmers, Youth, and Women</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Omer A. Zafar, Principal Natural Resources and Agriculture Specialist, Asian Development Bank 2. [PSOD Client, Sharing Harvest, PRC] 3. Romina Cavatassi, Lead Economist, International Fund for Agricultural Development
4:00–4:30 pm	Q&A and Open Discussion
4:30–4:40 pm	Session Evaluation and Break
<p>Technical Session 3: Intersectoral Approach to Nutrition Security</p> <p>One size does not fit all when addressing the double burden of malnutrition. Cross-sectoral approaches are needed but difficult to implement. This session will present on-the-ground experiences, lessons</p>	



<p>learned, and case studies on best practices to collectively work together on what can be done in terms of policy interventions, regulations, financing, food production innovations, and others to promote nutrition security.</p> <p>Moderator: Yasmin Siddiqi, Director, CWER, Asian Development Bank</p> <p>Key Issues: double burden of malnutrition, undernutrition, obesity integrated solutions addressing the double burden of undernutrition and obesity in developing Asia</p>	
4:40–4:55 pm	<p>Keynote Address</p> <p>Mandana Arabi, Vice President, Nutrition International</p>
4:55–5:30 pm	<p>Panel Discussion</p> <p>Panelists</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ladda Mo-suwan, Professor, Department of Pediatrics, Faculty of Medicine, Prince of Songkla University 2. Britta Schumacher, Senior Nutritionist, Regional Bureau for Asia-Pacific (Bangkok), World Food Programme 3. Victor Ochieng Owino, Nutrition Specialist, Division of Human Health, International Atomic Energy Agency
5:30–6:00 pm	<p>Revisit and Reflect for Revision: Sharing of Experiences, Voices from Development Practitioners, Consumers, and Women</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Kaz Maruyama, President & Representative Director, DSM Japan 2. Jody Harris, Lead Expert, World Vegetable Center 3. Ahmed Umair, Chief Executive Officer, Vital Agri Nutrients Ltd, Pakistan
6:00–6:30 pm	Q&A and Open Discussion
6:30–6:40 pm	<p>Synthesis: Day 2 Activities and Sessions</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Narayan Iyer, Senior Natl Resources and Agri Specialist (Agribusiness), Asian Development Bank 2. Kazuko Ogasahara, Senior Natural Resources and Agriculture Specialist (Health and Nutrition), Asian Development Bank <p>Session Evaluation</p>

Day 3: 24 March 2022

11:30–11:35 am	<p>Recap: Day 2 Activities and Sessions</p> <p>Sangjun Lee, Natural Resources and Agriculture Specialist, Asian Development Bank</p>
11:35 am–12:35 pm	<p>Special Session: COVID-19 Impacts on Food Systems</p> <p>Moderator: Takashi Yamano, Principal Economist, Asian Development Bank</p>



	<p>Keynote Address 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>Panelists</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Yasmin Siddiqi, Director, Asian Development Bank 2. Pavit Ramachandran, Country Director, Mongolia Residence Mission, ADB (To be confirmed) 3. Jalil Pirzada, Director, Institute of the Economy, Analysis and Agriculture Development, Ministry of Agriculture, Tajikistan 4. PK Joshi, Former Head, International Food Policy Research Institute
12:35–12:50 pm	Break
<p>Deep Dive 3: Alternative Proteins to Meet the Growing Demand</p> <p>With the pace of global population growth and improvement of dietary habits in emerging countries, protein supply requirements in 2050 will be twice as much as they were in 2005. As a result, the supply of protein will be insufficient as early as 2030. Alternative protein sources – such as plant-based, microbial-based and edible insects – are “eco-friendly” protein sources, offering potential solutions to the global problem of food shortage, over-farming, and depletion of natural resources. Discussions highlight issues related to expanding the consumption of alternative protein sources including consumer acceptance, food allergies, nutritional balance, cost and availability, and relevant regulations.</p> <p>Moderator: Kate Jarvis, Consultant, PSOD-AIT, Asian Development Bank</p> <p>Key Issues: GHG emissions, deforestation, water intensity, healthy alternatives, advances in agrifood tech and synthetic biology, price-parity, government initiatives /accelerators, regulatory guidelines</p>	
12:50–1:05 pm	<p>Keynote Address</p> <p>William Chen, Director, Food Science and Technology Programme, Nanyang Technological University</p>
1:05–2:05 pm	<p>Panel Discussion</p> <p>Panelists</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Alan Shaw, Chief Executive Officer, Calysta 2. Varun Deshpande, Good Food Institute 3. Neil Ian Lumanlan, Circular Bioeconomy Consultant 4. Isabelle Decitre, Founder and CEO, ID Capital <p>Q&A and Open Discussion</p>
2:05–2:20 pm	Session Evaluation and Break
<p>Technical Session 4: Financing Green, Resilient and Inclusive Agriculture</p> <p>Financing is key to promote the implementation and adoption of innovations and technologies on-the-ground. This session discusses innovative approaches to mobilizing finances for smallholder farmers</p>	



<p>while emphasizing the role of multilateral development banks, public development banks, blended financing, and community-led financing, among others. Discussions highlight natural capital financing, and knowledge sharing on green valuation, eco-compensation, and digitizing supply chains.</p> <p>Moderator: Mio Oka, Director, Asian Development Bank</p> <p>Key Issues: innovative financing tools and approaches, cross-country and international experiences, role of multilateral development banks and private sector, blended financing, community-led financing, green financing, innovative natural capital financing facility</p>	
2:20–2:35 pm	<p>Keynote Address</p> <p>Gretchen Daily, Bing Professor of Environmental Science, Stanford University</p>
2:35–3:10 pm	<p>Panel Discussion</p> <p>Panelists</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 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 2. Piet van Asten, Head Sustainable Production Systems – Coffee, ofi 3. Joost Zuidberg, Management Board, AGRI3 Fund 4. Giap Minh Bui, Principal Natural Resources and Agriculture Economist, Asian Development Bank
3:10–3:40 pm	<p>Reflect and Rethink for Revision: Experience Sharing, Voices from Development Practitioners, Farmers, Youth, and Women</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Kisa Mfalila, Lead Environment & Climate Specialist-Asia & the Pacific Region, International Fund for Agricultural Development 2. Stephen Hart, Senior Loan Officer, European Investment Bank 3. Arnaud Heckmann, Principal Urban Development Specialist, Asian Development Bank
3:40–4:10 pm	Q&A and Open Discussion
4:10–4:25 pm	Session Evaluation and Break
4:25–4:55 pm	<p>Knowledge Showcase and Partnerships</p> <p>Moderator: Sungsup Ra, Chief Sector Officer, Asian Development Bank</p> <p>Knowledge Product Showcase</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 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”. 2. 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”.



	Signing of Memorandum of Understanding 1. Carbon Credit Generation and Livelihood (tbc)
4:55–5:05 pm	Break
5:05–5:50 pm	Actions and Recommendations 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 Panelists 1. Yasmin Siddiqi, Director, CWER, ADB 2. Thomas Panella, Director, EAER, ADB 3. Mukhtor Khamudkhanov, Director, PAEN, ADB 4. Martin Lemoine, Head, AIT, PSOD, ADB 5. Mio Oka, Director, SAER, ADB 6. Jiangfeng Zhang, Director, SEER, ADB 7. Aziz Elbehri, Senior Economist and Stream Leader, FAO 8. Nigel Brett, Director of Asia and Pacific Region, IFAD
5:50 – 6:05 pm	Closing Remarks and Future Direction Xiaohong Yang , Chief Thematic Officer, SDCC, Asian Development Bank
6:05–6:15 pm	Credits and Note of Appreciation

