



Expert Workshop for AEIR 2019 Theme Chapter

Population aging, productivity and the role of technology in Asia

28 November 2018, ADB HQ, Manila (71018NW Meeting Room)

BACKGROUND

The Asia and the Pacific region is currently home to over half the world's population over 60 years of age and the number is expected to rise to nearly two-thirds or close to 1.3 billion by 2050. Rapid aging poses challenges for regional economies to maintain strong and inclusive growth, while having to provide adequate physical and social infrastructure for the elderly.

Tapping new technology presents opportunities to reignite productivity growth in rapidly aging Asia. Industrial robots and other modes of production automation offer solutions to firms faced with labor shortage while artificial intelligence and smart devices carry great potential to enhance efficiency and safety of tasks performed by the senior workforce. There is a growing number of studies on how new technologies transform jobs and employment, but little is explored on what these new development means to aging workforce, senior workers, and its productivity in Asia, or on how best we can promote and adopt these innovations to address growing challenge of aging population.

This workshop, which serves as a preparatory meeting for 2019 Asian Economic Integration Report theme chapter, brings together regional and international experts to share research and knowledge, to identify existing gaps in research and to discuss on the outline of the report.

- I. What are the effects of age, aging and demographic change on labor productivity and growth in Asia or other advanced aging economies, and how are innovations and technology adoptions relate to the effects?
- II. How do skills, occupations, workplace and the labor market respond to age, aging and demographic changes and how technologies can be instrumental to the response? and how technologies can be instrumental to the response?
- III. What are the effective policy measures to foster the virtuous cycle of population aging, technology adoption, and sustained productivity growth and development?
- IV. How can Asia, which consists of countries with diverse population profiles, cooperate to maximize the gains from demographic transitions and dividends as a region?

AGENDA

Wednesday, 28 November 2018

8:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.	Registration
Opening Session <i>Chair: Jong Woo Kang, Principal Economist, ERCD, ADB</i>	
9:00 a.m. – 09:10 a.m.	Welcome Remarks Yasuyuki Sawada, Chief Economist and Director General, Economic Research and Regional Cooperation Department (ERCD), Asian Development Bank (ADB)
9:10 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.	Introduction to Workshop Theme Cyn-Young Park, Director, ERCD, ADB Aiko Kikkawa Takenaka, Economist, ERCD, ADB
9:30 a.m. – 10:10 a.m.	Presentation 1: Demographic Change, Technological Advance and Growth: A Cross-Country Analysis (20 minutes) Presenter: Kwanho Shin, Korea University <i>Discussant: Peter Rosenkranz, Economist, ERCD, ADB (5-10 min)</i> <i>Open-floor discussion</i>
10:10 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.	<i>Coffee Break</i>
Session 1: Aging, Productivity and Growth in Asia <i>Chair: Cyn-Young Park, ADB</i>	
10:30 a.m. – 11:10 a.m.	Presentation 2: Aging and Labor Market in PRC (20 minutes) Presenter: Junsen Zhang, Chinese University of Hong Kong <i>Discussant: Fahad Khan, Economist, ERCD, ADB</i> <i>Open-floor discussion</i>
11:10 a.m. – 11:50 a.m.	Presentation 3: Aging, Labor Markets and the Adoption of Technology in Japan (20 minutes) Presenter: Kiho Muroga, University of Tokyo <i>Discussant: Bo Zhao, Economist, ERCD, ADB</i> <i>Open-floor discussion</i>
12:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.	<i>Lunch</i>
Session 2: Age, Aging and Skills <i>Chair: Aiko Kikkawa Takenaka, ADB</i>	
1:30 p.m. – 2:10 p.m.	Presentation 4: Aging, Automation and Productivity: A Case of Korea (20 minutes) Presenter: Kwanho Shin, Korea University <i>Discussant: Jong Woo Kang, ADB</i> <i>Open-floor discussion</i>
2:10 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.	Presentation 5: “Age, ageing and skills: Results from the Survey of Adult Skills” (30 minutes) Presenter: Marco Paccagnella, OECD <i>Discussant: Sameer Khatiwada, Economist, ERCD, ADB</i> <i>Open-floor discussion</i>
3:00 p.m. – 3:20 p.m.	<i>Coffee Break</i>
Session 3: Gaining from Demographic Dividend <i>Chair: Junkyu Lee, Principal Economist, ERCD, ADB</i>	
3:20 p.m. – 4:10 p.m.	Presentation 6: “Skills Upgrading in the Philippines” (30 minutes) Presenter: Claire Dennis Mapa, University of Philippines

Discussant: Aiko Kikkawa-Takenaka, ADB
Open-floor discussion

4:10 p.m. – 4:50 p.m. **Presentation 7: “Demographic Changes and Labor Market in India”**
(20 minutes)
Presenter: Radhicka Kapoor, Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations
Discussant: Elisabetta Gentile, Economist, ERCD, ADB
Open-floor discussion

4:50 p.m. **Closing Remarks**
