



Asian Economic Integration Report 2018

OFFICIAL LAUNCH

23 October 2018, 9:15–11:15 a.m.
Lobby, Oei Tiong Ham Building, Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy,
469C Bukit Timah Road, Singapore 259772



AGENDA

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| 9:15–9:30 a.m. | Registration* |
| 9:30–9:40 a.m. | Opening Remarks
Ramkishen S. Rajan, Vice Dean (Research),
Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy (LKYSPP),
National University of Singapore

Yasuyuki Sawada, Chief Economist and Director General,
Asian Development Bank (ADB) |
| 9:40–10:00 a.m. | Presentation on the Key Findings of <i>Asian Economic Integration Report 2018</i>
Yasuyuki Sawada, Chief Economist and Director General, ADB |
| 10:00–10:40 a.m. | Panel discussion: Toward Optimal Provision of Regional Public Goods in Asia and the Pacific
Chair: Yasuyuki Sawada, Chief Economist and Director General, ADB

Panelists:

Ramkishen S. Rajan, Vice Dean (Research), LKYSPP

Pradumna Bickram Rana, Professor
S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies
Nanyang Technological University, Singapore

Siow Yue Chia, Senior Research Fellow
Singapore Institute of International Affairs

Jong Woo Kang, Principal Economist, ADB |
| 10:40–11:05 a.m. | Open Floor Discussion |
| 11:05–11:10 a.m. | Concluding Remarks
Yasuyuki Sawada, Chief Economist and Director General, ADB |



*Coffee and cookies will be served during registration. Other refreshments available after the event.

SYNOPSIS

The *Asian Economic Integration Report 2018* special chapter on regional public goods (RPGs) “Toward Optimal Provision of Regional Public Goods in Asia and the Pacific” examines how collective actions among countries can help find solutions to growing transnational development challenges. RPGs such as cross-border infrastructure, sustainable management of shared natural resources, and cross-border disease surveillance and control offer benefits beyond a single nation’s territory. However, independent actions from each nation with different interests may not generate the adequate supply of RPGs to capture their transnational benefits and/or tackle these challenges at the regional level. The special chapter discusses appropriate modes of provision as for the type of RPGs to effectively cope with weak individual interests for cooperation that give rise to the so-called “collective action problem”, and reviews various case studies from Asia and the Pacific, Europe, and Latin America and the Caribbean that have facilitated RPGs, greater regional cooperation, and collective action. Finally, the Chapter suggests the key roles of multilateral development banks as an honest broker in enhancing mutual trust and facilitating regional cooperation for the RPG provision through knowledge, finance, and coordination in country efforts.

SPEAKERS AND PANELISTS



Yasuyuki Sawada is the Chief Economist of the ADB and Director General of its Economic Research and Regional Cooperation Department. Mr. Sawada is the chief spokesperson for ADB on economic and development trends, and leads the production and dissemination of ADB’s flagship knowledge products, as well as ADB’s support for various regional cooperation forums such as ASEAN+3 and APEC. Before joining ADB, Mr. Sawada was Professor of Economics at the University of Tokyo. He did research in a variety of institutions, such as the Japan International Cooperation Agency Research Institute and the World Bank, where he led a number of large-scale development policy evaluation projects in Asia and other developing countries. His key research areas are macro- and micro-development economics, microeconometrics, economics of disasters, and field surveys and experiments. Mr. Sawada obtained his PhD in Economics and his Master’s degree in International Development Policy from Stanford University.



Ramkishan S. Rajan is Vice Dean (Research) and Professor at the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, National University of Singapore. Prior to this, he was a Professor of Economics at ESSEC Business School, Asia-Pacific and before that he was a Professor of International Economic Policy at George Mason University in Virginia, USA. He has also taught at the University of Adelaide in Australia, Singapore Management University and Claremont McKenna College in California, among other places. He specializes in international finance with particular reference to the emerging Asian region and has published extensively on the subject. He has also been a consultant with the APEC Secretariat, Asian Development Bank, Development Bank of Singapore, UNESCAP, and the World Bank.



Pradumna Bickram Rana is Associate Professor and Coordinator of the International Political Economy Programme at the Centre for Multilateralism Studies (CMS) of the S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies (RSIS), Nanyang Technological University (NTU). Prior to this, he worked for 25 years at the Asian Development Bank. His last appointment at the ADB was Senior Director of the Office of Regional Economic Integration which spearheads ADB’s support for Asian economic integration. He obtained his PhD from Vanderbilt University where he was a Fulbright Scholar and a Masters in Economics from Michigan State University and Tribhuvan University. He has authored/edited 15 books, and published over 50 articles in peer-reviewed international academic journals.



Siow Yue Chia is Senior Research Fellow at the Singapore Institute of International Affairs. She has been active in research, publications, training, and consultancy on trade and regional economic integration, international labor mobility, and foreign direct investment with focus on Asia and the Pacific, particularly Singapore, ASEAN, and East Asia. Her consultancies have included World Bank, UNCTAD, WTO, UNESCAP, Asian Development Bank, Asian Development Bank Institute, ASEAN Secretariat, and ERIA. Her recent publications include “The Emerging Regional Economic Integration Architecture in East Asia”. *Asian Economic Papers*. Vol. 12, Issue 1, 2013.



Jong Woo Kang is Principal Economist at the Regional Cooperation and Integration Division in the Economic Research and Regional Cooperation Department of ADB. He was Senior Advisor to the Managing Director General of ADB and Senior Economist at Strategy and Policy Department at ADB. He has published articles in economics journals on such topics as regional integration, inclusive growth, macroeconomic and international trade policies and aid effectiveness. Before joining ADB, he was director at Ministry of Finance and Economy of Korea until 2006. He had got his BA in economics and MA in public administration from Seoul National University, and PhD in economics from University of Washington.