



Regional Cooperation and Integration Policy Open Dialogue (RCI-POD)
Webinar Series #30

Building Forward Better: Tourism in Post-COVID-19

4 April 2022 (Monday), 15:00–16:30 (Manila time, GMT+8)
Microsoft Teams Meeting

The COVID-19 pandemic has wrought unprecedented devastation on tourism, upon which economy of many of ADB's developing member countries heavily depend. On the other hand, tourism in the region is rapidly transforming, with new demands on health and safety protocols. There is now a unique window of opportunity to assess the lessons and put in place reforms that enable tourism to contribute to more green, inclusive, resilient, and sustainable development pathways. The webinar aims to share the findings from ADB's two recent studies on [Sustainable Tourism After COVID-19: Insights and Recommendations for Asia and the Pacific](#) and [COVID-19 and the Future of Tourism in Asia and the Pacific](#), reflect on their operational relevance, and discuss operational challenges and opportunities in project context.

AGENDA

- 15:00 — 15:05 **Welcome Remarks**
Cyn-Young Park, Director, Regional Cooperation and Integration Division (ERCI), Economic Research and Regional Cooperation Department (ERCD), Asian Development Bank (ADB)
- 15:05 — 15:30 **Presentation: *Sustainable Tourism after COVID-19: Insights and Recommendations for Asia and the Pacific***
Matthias Helble, Scientist and Senior Economist, World Health Organization
- Presentation: *Future of Tourism in Asia and the Pacific***
Sanchita Basu Das, Economist, ERCI, ERCD, ADB
- 15:30 — 16:10 **Panel Discussion: *Reflecting on operational relevance of tourism reports and discussing operational challenges and opportunities in project context***
- Moderator**
Ronald Antonio Butiong, Chief of Regional Cooperation and Integration Thematic Group (RCI-TG), Sustainable Development and Climate Change Department (SDCC), ADB

Panelists

- **Sandra Carvão**, Chief, Tourism Market Intelligence and Competitiveness, World Tourism Organization (UNWTO)
- **Mark Bezuijen**, Principal Environment Specialist, Environment, Natural Resources & Agriculture Division, East Asia Department, ADB
- **Steven Schipani**, Principal Tourism Industry Specialist, Urban Development & Water Division, Southeast Asia Department, ADB
- **Ashish Narain**, Principal Economist, Social Sectors & Public Sector Management Division, Pacific Department, ADB

16:10 — 16:25 **Q&A**

16:25 — 16:30 **Concluding Remarks**
Manoj Sharma, Chief, Urban Sector Group, SDCC, ADB

Host:

Yuebin Zhang, Principal Regional Cooperation Specialist, RCI-TG, SDCC, ADB

The **RCI-POD Webinar Series** aims to provide a venue for casual and open policy dialogue on regional cooperation and integration issues.