



Regional Cooperation and Integration Policy Open Dialogue (RCI-POD)
Webinar Series #38

FDI Facilitation and Aftercare Services in the Republic of Korea: Lessons for Asia and the Pacific

27 November 2024 (Wednesday), 14:00–15:30 (Manila time, GMT+8)
Hybrid: Room 7C104/ Microsoft Teams Meeting

Investment aftercare services are increasingly important for foreign direct investment (FDI) promotion and facilitation. The Republic of Korea's (ROK) Foreign Investment Ombudsman has gained recognition among the investment community for its role in assisting foreign investors and domestic companies in resolving grievances and for strengthening institutional mechanisms to improve the investment climate. The Ombudsman's role in grievance resolution in areas such as taxation, incentives, and labor relations has been instrumental for ensuring reinvestments but also minimizing investor-state disputes. This experience highlights the importance of addressing information asymmetries, ensuring neutrality and building trust between investors and firms for enhancing foreign investment. This seminar will introduce ROK's efforts to become an investment hub through active FDI inducement and effective aftercare services. It will also discuss current efforts in other Asian economies to strengthen the role of the Ombudsman as part of their investment facilitation strategies.

AGENDA

- 14:00 — 14:05 **Introduction**
Moderator: Rolando Avendano, Economist, Regional Cooperation and Integration Division, Economic Research and Development Impact Department, Asian Development Bank
- 14:05 — 14:35 **Presentation: *Republic of Korea and Foreign Direct Investment—Policy Dynamics and the Aftercare Ombudsman***
Choong Yong Ahn, Professor Emeritus, School of Economics, Chung Ang University, Republic of Korea; Former President, Korea Institute for International Economic Policy
- 14:35 — 15:00 **Discussion:**
Jami Solli, Consultant, Finance Sector Office, Asian Development Bank
Martin Dietrich Brauch, Lead Researcher, Columbia Center on Sustainable Development
- 15:00 — 15:30 **Open Floor Discussion**