



Regional Cooperation and Integration Policy Open Dialogue (RCI-POD)  
Webinar Series #41

## The ASEAN Green Future: Innovative Approaches to Facilitating Sustainable FDI

20 May 2025 (Tuesday), 14:00–15:15 (Manila time, GMT+8)  
[Hybrid] HQ 7A 107 Meeting Room / Microsoft Teams Meeting

Facilitating sustainable foreign direct investments (FDI) has become an important objective for economies across Asia and the Pacific. Existing approaches governing the economic, legal and institutional frameworks of investment are gradually adapting in this direction. Investment governance, including investment treaties, national investment laws and investor-state dispute mechanisms, are being revisited, while investment promotion agencies (IPAs) are also re-oriented to enhance investment quality.

In Southeast Asia, countries are ramping up regional cooperation efforts through the ASEAN Power Grid (APG), which constitutes 18 interconnection investment projects and will require approximately \$16 billion of investments by 2040. How can ASEAN economies facilitate sustainable FDI for the APG projects going forward? In what way can they improve their investment governance to raise investment quality for the APG projects in the region?

This seminar will host Lisa Sachs, Director, Columbia Center for Sustainable Investment (CCSI) and Bradford Willis, Senior Associate, CCSI, who will present the work of CCSI for assessing the impact and potential reforms for international investment frameworks and explore implications for ADB's support to APG.

### AGENDA

- 14:00 — 14:05 **Introduction**  
**Jong Woo Kang**, Director, Regional Cooperation and Integration Division (ERCI), Economic Research and Development Impact Department (ERDI), Asian Development Bank (ADB)
- 14:05 — 14:25 **Presentation: *Facilitating Sustainable FDI in Asia: Challenges and Opportunities***
- **Lisa Sachs**, Director, CCSI
  - **Bradford Willis**, Senior Associate, CCSI
- 14:25 — 15:05 **Discussion**  
**Moderator: Christina Pak**, Principal Counsel & Team Leader, Law and Policy Reform, Office of the General Counsel, ADB
- Panelists:**
- **Annette Magnusson**, Independent Expert, Climate Change Counsel
  - **Len George**, Principal Energy Specialist, Energy Sector Office, Sectors Department 1, ADB
  - **Rolando Avendano**, Economist, ERCI, ERDI, ADB
- 15:05 — 15:15 **Open Floor Discussion**