



Northeast Asian Perspectives on Sustainable Infrastructure Cooperation in the era of COVID-19:

Managing National and Regional Objectives in China, Japan, Korea, and Mongolia

Participant Bio

DECEMBER 1

Opening Ceremony



Kwang Kim

Country Representative / Former Regional Lead
The Asia Foundation Korea Office / IFC, World Bank Group

Mr. Kwang Kim is a global expert in innovative business solutions to poverty, including public-private approaches to development and responsible business models. He oversees the Foundation's office in Korea, covering both South and North Korea. Previously, Mr. Kim was the regional lead for International Finance Corporation (the private sector arm of the World Bank Group) in its Sustainable Business Advisory Services in Latin America & the Caribbean, in de-risking investments, impact investment, and mainstreaming Environmental Social Governance in the investment process through advisory services. He also served in advisory roles to the governments of Panama and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) on economic diversification strategies. In South Asia, he advised the public and private sectors on strengthening the competitiveness of the mining, tourism, and agribusiness sectors in the tribal areas of Pakistan. He was also a management consultant for Monitor Group in Cambridge, MA and São Paulo, Brazil. Kwang currently serves on the board of Conservatorio Urban Innovation, the strategy arm of a regional investment fund focusing in urban revitalization.



Jung Hun Cho

Member / Former Member

National Assembly of Republic of Korea/ Presidential Committee on Northern Economic Cooperation

Mr. Jung Hun Cho is currently a member of the National Assembly of Republic of Korea. He recently co-founded Transition Korea, a neither conservative nor progressive but rather allegedly pragmatic political party. Prior to his political career, he worked as a member of the Presidential Committee on Northern Economic Cooperation of Republic of Korea. Earlier, he was a professor at Graduate School of International Studies at Ajou University, Korea. Mr. Cho worked at the World Bank Palestine branch and helped a negotiation between Palestine and Israel and Cho worked under the Technical Advisory Team of the World Bank where he worked as a part of negotiations for Kosovo independence and fiscal decentralization from Serbia. He earned his B.A. in Business Administration at Yonsei University, Korea and M.A. in International Development at John F. Kennedy School of Government.

Speakers



Tae Yong Jung

Professor of Sustainable Development / Former Principle Climate Change Specialist

Yonsei University, Korea / ADB

Prof. Tae Yong Jung is currently a professor at the GSIS and Director of Research Center for Global Sustainability in Yonsei University. Before he joined GSIS, He was a professor at the KDI School of Public Policy & Management. Prior to the KDI School, he was a Principal Climate Change Specialist at the Asian Development Bank. He was seconded to the Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI) located in the Republic of Korea as the Deputy Executive Director. Before ADB, he was working at the World Bank as a senior energy economist. Prof. Jung was also formerly the Project Leader in Climate Policy Project at the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES) of Japan and Senior Fellow and Director at Korea Energy Economics Institute. Educated at Seoul National University (BA) and at Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey (MA and Ph.D.), he was a Visiting Researcher at the US National Energy Laboratory, the Joint Global Change Research Institute, University of Maryland and a Joint Research Fellow at the National Institute for Environmental Studies (NIES), and a Visiting Fellow at Kyoto University Japan.



Huaqing Tang
Deputy Section Chief
Foreign Environmental Cooperation Center, China

Ms. Huaqing Tang is Deputy Section Chief at Foreign Environmental Cooperation Center, China. Ms. Tang is currently working at Division of Asian, African, and Latin American Cooperation, Foreign Environmental Cooperation Center of Ministry of Ecology and Environment of China. The main mandates are implementing environment-related strategies, initiatives, and action plans under regional and sub-regional frameworks; conducting policy research over regional sustainable infrastructure.



Junichi Fujino
Programme Director
Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES), Japan

Dr. Junichi Fujino has joined Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES) as a Principal Researcher and Programme Director of City Taskforce since April 2019. He was a Senior Researcher, National Institute for Environmental Studies (NIES) and one of the main members to develop the Asia-Pacific Integrated Model (AIM) to assess policy options for stabilizing global climate since April 2000. He was a lead author of IPCC Special Report on Renewable Energy Sources and Climate Change Mitigation (SRREN) and has supported to develop Japanese climate actions using simulation models and INDC (Intended Nationally Determined Contributions) as a committee member, as well as an advisory committee member of “FutureCity” initiatives (Cabinet Office, Japan) and a senior advisor to ICLEI Japan. Dr. Fujino is also an expert member of Urban Planning and Sustainability Commission under The Tokyo Organising Committee of the Olympic and Paralympic Games (TOCOG) since June 2015. He received his B.S/M.S/Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering from the University of Tokyo. He has joined every UNFCCC/COP as NGO since COP11 and also Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development (APFSD) since 2017 and High Level Political Forum (HLPF) since 2018. His team launched the world first VLR (Voluntary Local Review) Report at HLPF2018 with Kitakyushu city, Toyama city, Shimokawa town, and VLR lab with UCLG ASPAC at APFSD2019. Nowadays he has visited many Asian countries/cities to collaborate making low/zero carbon and sustainable development happens.



Yongduk Pak

Senior Research Fellow

Center for International Energy Cooperation, Korea Energy Economics Institute

Dr. Yongduk Pak is a Senior Research Fellow at the Korea Energy Economics Institute. His main fields are the international energy cooperation activities for IEA, ECNEA, WEC and the Korea-China Energy Cooperation. He has conducted studies on energy cooperation potentials in Northeast Asia and published several research reports focusing on energy cooperation project implementation. He has actively engaged in international energy cooperation activities since his participation in Northeast Asia energy cooperation initiatives in 2004. Also, he engaged into WTO DDA negotiation processes before 2004. Dr. Pak is a graduate of Yonsei University in Korea as B.A. and holds PhD degree in economics from Emory University in the United States.

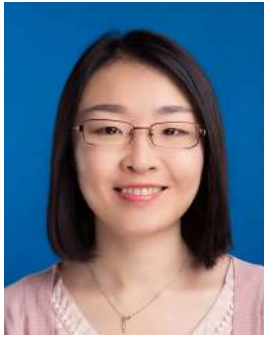


Suzanna Sumkhuu

Senior officer

Development Policy and Planning Department, National Development Agency, Mongolia

Ms. Suzanna Sumkhuu is the Senior Development Policy and Planning Specialist at the National Development Agency of Mongolia. She is a sustainability and development professional with a track record of designing systems thinking and policy coherence solutions for integrated development planning, developing legal framework for national development policy and institutional mechanisms, drafting long and medium-term national policies, localizing and mainstreaming the Sustainable Development Goals into national priorities. She is currently working with national and sub-national development policy planning units in providing methodological support on development planning. She is the technical focal point for the Mongolia Voluntary National Review 2019.



Ang Li
Researcher Director
Innovative Green Development Programme(iGDP)

Ms. Ang Li oversees the research in urban low-carbon development and green finance fields with the leadership role in the projects of “Policies and Practice in China’s Low-Carbon Pilot Cities”, ” Low-Carbon City Development: A Guidebook for Strategic Planning and Actions” and “Green Financing Case Studies in Low-carbon Cities”. She has more than 10 years’ experience in sustainable development. Prior to joining iGDP, she worked for Greenpeace, WWF and GIZ overseeing the renewable energy policies as well as other climate and energy projects. Ms. LI holds MSC in Energy Policy from University of Exeter as Chevening Scholar and a BA in Environmental Science Beijing University of Technology.



Soojeong Myeong
Senior Research Fellow
Korea Environment Institute

Dr. Soojeong Myeong is a Senior Research Fellow at the Korea Environment Institute. She received her Ph. D. in Environmental and Resource Engineering from State University of New York, U.S. She is currently in charge of Cooperative Research on North Korea, International Environmental Cooperation, and Climate Change at the Institute. She is a co-chair of Scientific Planning Group for the Asia-Pacific Network (APN) for Global Change Research. She has professional experiences in environment and climate change. She is also developing the international standard for climate change adaptation with ISO (International Standard Organization). She was one of the lead authors of the IPCC special report on extreme events and adaptation (SREX) in 2012 and the recent special report on land (SRCCL) in 2019. She is currently the review editor for IPCC 6th Assessment report.

Moderators



Kyung -sook Lee
Director of Programs
The Asia Foundation Korea Office

Ms. Kyung-sook Lee manages planning and implementation of the office's wide range of programs. Lee joined The Asia Foundation in 1984 as Executive Assistant to the Korea Country Representative and then served as Program Officer until 2000. From 2001 to September 2015, she served as Senior Program Officer. During her time with The Asia Foundation, she was responsible for women's empowerment programs, CSO programs, exchange/fellowship programs to and from Korea, the United States and other Asian countries, and international development cooperation programs. Ms. Lee also serves on the Allocation Committee of Community Chest of Korea.



Bold Magvan
CEO
Mongolia Green Finance Corporation

Mr. Bold Magvan is currently a CEO for Mongolia Green Finance Corporation. He has over 30 years of professional experience in finance of both private and public sectors. His main interest is environmentally and socially inclusive financial service. He has contributed to the evolution of Mongolia's financial sector reforms and economic transformation ever since Mongolia started its transition to a free market economy in 1990. In 1996-2000, as the Deputy Governor of the Central Bank of Mongolia, Mr. Magvan has overhauled the banking and financial sector in compliance with best international norms and practices. This was a result of a strong cooperation with the international financial institutions such as ADB, WB, IMF and other international development institutions. Leading XacBank as a founding member of the Global Initiative for Banking on Values (GABV), he has been advocating responsible finance principles adhering to a triple-bottom line mission, Planet, People, and Prosperity, and led the Mongolian banking sector in implementing sustainable finance initiatives centered around environmental and social impact. Mr. Magvan has been awarded with the highest honors by both the Mongolian State and the Mongolian Bankers Association. Honorary Council of Iceland in Mongolia since 2008 till present.



Seol Ah Bang

Associate Research Fellow

Korea Research Institute for Human Settlements

As an associate research fellow, Dr. Seol ah Bang has conducted studies on Overseas City Design, International Development, and ASEAN Smart City. She has served associate professor at the Department of Urban Science at the University of Seoul and council member of the Central Committee of Construction at the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport of Korea. She has also worked for the Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) as a construction manager and published research papers on SDGs and urban design. Dr. Bang has earned Bachelor's Degree for Architectural Engineering at Gachon University, Master's Degree for Advanced Green Urban Engineering at University of Seoul, and Doctor's Degree for Urban Engineering at University of Seoul.

Speakers



Ma. Fideles Sadicon
Economic Affairs Officer
UNESCAP

Ms. Ma. Fideles Sadicon is an Economic Affairs Officer at the East and North-East Asia Office of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific. Ms. Fideles has contributed to UNESCAP's subregional work in the policy area of regional connectivity, particularly, on trade and transport. Prior to her current work, Ms. Fideles was an Economist/Senior Officer at the ASEAN Integration Monitoring Directorate (AIMD) of the ASEAN Secretariat supporting the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) trade negotiations as well as conducting economic policy research on investment-related issues and regional economic integration monitoring. Ms. Fideles was a long-term consultant at the Asian Development Bank (ADB) under the Office of Regional Economic Integration (OREI) supporting OREI's policy research work through the Asia Regional Integration Center project. She also worked as an Economist for the General Secretariat for Development Planning of the Government of Qatar.



Taidong Zhou
Division Director
Development Research Center of the State Council of China

Dr. Taidong Zhou is a division director at the development research center of the state council of China. He previous has served as the Foundation's Program Officer for Law and Regional Cooperation in China where he was responsible for implementing projects related to good governance and open policymaking as well as different regional cooperation initiatives. Prior to this, he served as Deputy Division Director, Project Implementation Division of China Aid Program for General Goods at the Ministry of Commerce, where he was responsible for implementing overseas aid programs. He earned his Bachelor's degree in English at Beijing Foreign Studies University, Master's degree in Public Policy from the Australian National University, and L.L.M. from the School of International Law at the China University of Political Science and Law.



Kentaro Takahashi

Programme Manager of Climate and Energy
Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES), Japan

Mr. Takahashi obtained his master's degree from Graduate School of Agricultural and Life Sciences, The University of Tokyo in Japan on the monitoring of land cover change in East Kalimantan, Indonesia. After serving as a consultant at the consulting company which provided CDM development services etc, he joined IGES in 2009. He started his work on the CDM/JI capacity building programme in Asian countries. He currently engages MRV programs for Joint Crediting Mechanism and research on voluntary offset credit systems, emissions trading systems, and Article 6 of the Paris Agreement. So far, he has been in charge of China, Indonesia, Thailand, Bangladesh, Vietnam, Mongolia, Cambodia, Laos, Philippines and Myanmar. From 2013 to 2015, he gave lectures on global environmental issues and climate change as a part-time lecturer at College of Humanities and Sciences, Nihon University.



Hyung-Ju Kim

Director General
Green Technology Center, Korea

Dr. Hyung-Ju Kim is the Director-General of the Green Technology Center (GTC), Korea. GTC is one of twenty-five government research institutes under the Korean Ministry of Science and ICT (MSIT), the Korean focal point for the UNFCCC Technology Mechanism. Dr. Kim has been leading the Center's core work on climate technology R&D policy research, global technology cooperation on the basis of developing countries' needs and matching these to Korean expertise, as well as financial resources. In addition, he has been leading a number of global technology cooperation projects with developing countries, endorsed by UN and other international organizations. He holds a Doctoral degree in Mechanical and Production Engineering from the Technical University Berlin in Germany and worked as a research fellow at the Center for Sustainable Systems at the University of Michigan in the United States. He also worked as a Principal Consultant in Sustainability Consulting Team at Samsung SDS before joining the GTC. Dr. Kim has been serving in various advisory roles such as being a trainer, a reviewer and an expert panelist for international cooperation organizations.



Odgerel Ulziikhutag

Senior Officer/Associate Professor
Ministry of Road and Transport Development, Mongolia/
Mongolian University of Science and Technology

Dr. Odgerel Ulziikhutag is a Senior Officer of Ministry of Road and Transport Development, Mongolia and Associate Professor of Mongolian University of Science and Technology. Prior to his current position, he worked as an Adviser of Mongolia Telecom (2012-2015), Director of ICT & Post Authority (2009 –2012), Director General of the Ministry of Road, Transport and Tourism (2006-2009), Head of Division of ICT Development Center (2005-2006), Director of the Ministry of Infrastructure (1999-2003) and ICT officer of Ministry of Infrastructure Development (1995-1999). He received Ph.D Degree in ICT Policy Studies from Mongolian University of Science and Technology in 2008, Master of Philosophy in Infrastructure Management from Yokohama National University, Japan in 2005, and Bachelor degree in Electronics engineer from Mongolian Technical University in 1994. He published several research studies and articles on ICT, e-government and e-Voting issues on international research journals and books.



Xinkai Duan

Project Director
China Center for Urban Development

Ms. Xinkai Duan graduated from China's top research university, the Huazhong University of Science and Technology, and gained an MBA from the School of Economics and Management with the Tsinghua University. At present, Ms. Duan is a project director and senior planner in the International Cooperation Division of China Center for Urban Development (CCUD), a public institution directly under the National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC). Prior to this assignment, she served as an urban planner for AECOM (NYSE: ACM), which is a global provider of professional technical and management support services to a variety of markets, including transportation, facilities, environmental, energy, and water, as well as the government. She also served as a guest lecturer for the course “Sustainable Urbanization in an International Comparative Perspective” jointly offered by Tsinghua University and Stanford University. Ms. Duan has been engaged in top design for China's urbanization policy making, urban strategy planning and construction, sustainable planning and smart-cities construction with fruitful experiences.



Eric Zusman

Research Leader of Sustainability Governance Center
Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES), Japan

Dr. Eric Zusman is a senior policy researcher/area leader at the Institute for Global Environmental Studies in Hayama, Japan. For much of the past two decades he has conducted research on environmental issues in Asia. This has included working with China’s Yellow River Conservancy Commission, the Chinese Research Academy on Environmental Science, Woodrow Wilson Center’s China Environment Forum as well as Taiwan’s Academia Sinica. He has published books and articles on water scarcity, air pollution regulation, environmental law, multilevel governance, sustainability transitions, low carbon development and the Sustainable Development Goals. He is currently serving as a lead author for the the sixth assessment report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (Chapter 17). Dr. Zusman holds B.A. in Mandarin Chinese from Rutgers University, a dual M.A. in public policy and Asian studies from the University of Texas at Austin and a Ph.D. in political science from the University of California, Los Angeles.

Moderators



Nancy Kim

Former Country Representative / Former Deputy Country Representative
The Asia Foundation Laos Office / The Asia Foundation China Office

Ms. Nancy Kim was formerly country representative for The Asia Foundation in Laos. Previously, she was the Deputy Country Representative in China, and was responsible for assisting the Country Representative in managing the Foundation’s office in China and in the design, implementation, monitoring, and reporting of program activities in the areas of governance and law, disaster management, environmental protection, women’s empowerment, and international affairs. From 2006 to 2009, as Assistant Director and Technical Writer for the Public Sector Development Services Unit at the Foundation’s headquarters in San Francisco, she travelled throughout Asia to assist country offices design and develop new programs related to local governance, legal reform, and women’s empowerment. In addition, Nancy has extensive Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) experience; and an academic interest in development aid effectiveness. She earned her Bachelor’s degree in Political Science and Political Economy from Johns Hopkins University and Master’s degree in Foreign Service from Georgetown University.



Sungjin Kang

Professor of Economics / Head

Korea University / Institute for Sustainable Development, Korea University

Prof. Sungjin Kang is a professor of economics at Korea University. His research fields include economic growth and development, multinational enterprises, official development aid, and social security net. He has been the president of Institute of Sustainable Development, Korea University and a member of Research Advisory Committee, Korea Institute for Industrial Economics and Technology. He also has experiences in Climate Change Policy Research Institute and Korea Institute for Future Strategies. Prof. Kang has published research papers such as but not limited to “Personal remittances and Financial Development for Economic Growth in Economic Transition Countries”, “China and Sustainable Development Performance in Economic Transition”, “Price and Output Elasticities of Energy Demand for Industrial Sectors in OECD Countries”, “Low Carbon Scenarios and Policies for the Power Sector in Botswana”. He has earned his B.A. and M.A. in Economics at Korea University, and Ph. D. in Economics at Korea University and Stanford University.

Speakers

Taidong Zhou
Division Director
Development Research Center of the State Council of China

Dr. Taidong Zhou is a division director at the development research center of the state council of China. He previously has served as the Foundation's Program Officer for Law and Regional Cooperation in China where he was responsible for implementing projects related to good governance and open policymaking as well as different regional cooperation initiatives such as the Asian Approaches to Development Cooperation. Prior to this, he served as Deputy Division Director, Project Implementation Division of China Aid Program for General Goods at the Ministry of Commerce, where he was responsible for implementing overseas aid programs. He earned his Bachelor's degree in English at Beijing Foreign Studies University, Master's degree in Public Policy from the Australian National University, and L.L.M. from the School of International Law at the China University of Political Science and Law.



Yasuo Takahashi
Executive Director
Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES), Japan

Mr. Yasuo Takahashi completed the Graduate School of Engineering, the University of Tokyo and joined the Environment Agency of Japan (present Ministry of the Environment) in 1983. He served key positions in the Ministry including Director of Climate Policy Division, Director General of Headquarters for Environmental Restoration of Fukushima, Director General of Environmental Management Bureau, and Vice-Minister for Global Environmental Affairs. After retiring from the Ministry in 2019, he served as Senior Advisor for the Ministry, and joined IGES in January 2020 as Special Policy Advisor. He has served as Executive Director of IGES since November 2020.



Hong-Sang Jung

Adjunct Professor / former Executive Director

KDI School of Public Policy and Management / APEC Climate Center

Prof. Hong-sang Jung is currently an adjunct professor at Korea Development Institute School of Public Policy and Management. Prior to this, he was a director general for international economic cooperation at the Ministry of Economy and Finance of Korea and an executive director at APEC Climate Center. He also served as vice administrator at the Korea Meteorological Administration. Earlier, he worked as Controller at Asian Development Bank. He earned B.A. in Economics at Seoul National University, M.A. in Business Administration (MBA) at Seoul National University, and Ph. D. in Economics at Cornell University.

Gankhuyag Sodnom

Ambassador at Large, Director

Investment Research Center of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Mongolia

Amb. Gankhuyag Sodnom is Ambassador at Large and Director of the Investment Research Center at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Mongolia. He has served the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Mongolia for more than 20 years and he has professional experience working on law and treaty. He formerly served as Deputy Director, Department of International Law and Treaty, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Mongolia. Also, he worked as an Attaché, Law and Consular Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Mongolia. Amb. Sodnom earned Bachelor of Laws, International Law and Legal Studies at the Moscow State Institute of International Relations and pursued his Master's Degree for International Business/Trade/Commerce law at Kyushu University.

Moderator



Hyeon Park

Dean of International School of Urban Sciences / Former Senior Evaluation Specialist
University of Seoul / ADB

Prof. Hyeon Park is the Dean of International School of Urban Sciences at University of Seoul. Prior to this, he was a senior research fellow at Korea Development Institute for 13 years. He also served executive director Public and Private Infrastructure Investment Management Center (PIMAC), Korea Development Institute. Earlier, he worked as senior evaluation specialist at Independent Evaluation Department of Asian Development Bank. His research includes “G20 Agenda and Meeting the Challenge: Infrastructure Investment”, “Infrastructure Planning, Selection and Evaluation,” and “Infrastructure Development in Korea”. Prof. Park earned B.A. in Economics at Seoul National University, M.A. in City Planning at Seoul National University, and Ph. D. in City Planning at University of Southern California.