



Book Launch event

“Economic and Social Development of Bangladesh : *Miracle and Challenges*”

August 27 (Mon), 2018 15:30-17:00

Venue: Asian Development Bank Institute Conference room

Organizer: JICA Research Institute (JICA-RI), Asian Development Bank (ADB)

Program

15:30-15:35

Opening remarks and brief introduction of the speakers by Dr. Nobuko Kayashima, Director, JICA Research Institute

15:35-15:40

Special Remarks from Her Excellency Ms. Rabab Fatima, Ambassador of People's Republic of Bangladesh in Japan

15:40-16:20

“Economic and Social Development of Bangladesh: Miracle and Challenges” by ADB Chief Economist Dr. Yasuyuki Sawada jointly with Dr. Minhaj Mahmud, Senior Research Fellow, BIDS and Visiting Scholar, JICA-RI

16:20-16:30

JICA's activities in Bangladesh by Mr. Shohei HARA, Director General, South Asia Department, JICA

16:30-16:40

"ADB's strategy for operations in Bangladesh to achieve higher inclusive and sustainable economic growth" by Mr. Manmohan Parkash, Country Director, ADB Bangladesh Resident Mission

16:40-16:55

Questions and Answers /Discussion session

16:55-17:00

Closing Remarks by Mr. Takashi Matsuo, Representative, ADB Japan

Profile of Presenters

Yasuyuki Sawada is Chief Economist of the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and Director General of its Economic Research and Regional Cooperation Department.

He is chief spokesperson on economic and development trends, and leads the production of ADB's flagship knowledge products and support for regional cooperation fora. Before joining ADB, Mr. Sawada was Professor of Economics at the University of Tokyo, and has led numerous large-scale development policy evaluation projects for various institutions. His key research areas are development economics, microeconometrics, economics of disasters, and field surveys and experiments. Mr. Sawada obtained his Ph.D. in Economics from Stanford University.

Minhaj Mahmud is a Senior Research Fellow of the Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies (BIDS) and Visiting Scholar of the JICA Research Institute (Tokyo). Earlier he has held academic and research positions respectively at Queens University Belfast, Keele University, BRAC University, Jahangirnagar University and BIDS and BRAC Institute of Governance and Development (BIGD). He has also held visiting academic appointments at Jawaharlal Nehru University, University of Tokyo, and University of Dhaka. His field of research is behavioral economics, development economics, experimental economics and political economy issues. He holds a PhD degree in Economics from the University of Gothenburg, Sweden.

Shohei Hara is Director General, South Asia Department at the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA). He has been playing various key roles within JICA, Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC), whose official development assistance wing was merged with JICA in 2008, and Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund (which became JBIC in 1999). He started his professional career by working with Bangladesh. Subsequently he was posted to India, and more recently to Iraq as the Chief Representative of the JICA Iraq Office. His other postings include Director for JICA's operations in India and Bhutan, Senior Advisor to the Director General of the General Affairs Department, Head of Office of Global Issues and Development Partnership, among other positions. He earned a master's degree in economics from London School of Economics.

Manmohan Parkash has 16 years of experience with ADB and currently heads ADB's operations in Bangladesh. Previously he also served as Advisor for ADB's Operations Services and Financial Management Department and Head for the Operations Management Unit. He has 32 years of experience in infrastructure development, project implementation and administration. Mr. Parkash is from India and has a Bachelor's degree in Engineering and a Postgraduate degree in Management from India. He has also completed executive education courses from Harvard University (Kennedy School), Cambridge University and University of Michigan (Ross School of Business).