

## News

### ADBIs world's best regional studies center



ADBIs was ranked the best regional studies center, second best government-affiliated think tank, and seventh best for international development, according to the University of Pennsylvania's latest report on the world's leading think tanks. The annual [Global Go To Think Tank Index](#) uses nominations from 1,500 think tanks and experts to identify and recognize the leading centers of excellence worldwide. [Download the report](#).

### Postal networks can promote financial inclusion



Many Asian countries have an extensive postal network, which can be leveraged to promote postal financial inclusion. Existing post offices can extend their services and offer basic financial services to underserved areas and communities, which would greatly reduce the number of people in Asia that remain unbanked. At the same time, postal financial inclusion can help collect national savings, which can be put to good use. At a recent conference at ADBI, leading experts discussed how to develop strategies to promote postal financial inclusion, the necessary

## THINK-ASIA<sup>SM</sup>

Go to knowledge from Asia's top think tanks »

## Events

- [ADBIs/Green Climate Fund Climate Finance Seminar: Innovation in Climate Finance](#)  
1 February; Tokyo, Japan
- [OECD-ADBIs Roundtable on Capital Market and Financial Reform in Asia](#)  
2 - 3 March 2017; Tokyo, Japan
- [The Effectiveness of Government Social Security Programs in Developing Asia](#)  
7 - 9 March 2017; Jakarta, Indonesia
- [Global Think Tank Summit 2017](#)  
2 - 3 May 2017; Yokohama, Japan

[>> More ADBIs events](#)

## Call for papers

- [Asia and the Pacific Economies](#)
- [World Economy Workshop on Globalization and Environment](#)

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## Job opportunities

- [Postdoctoral Scholars/Visiting Researchers/Visiting Fellows](#)

## The latest from Asia Pathways

The Asian Development Bank Institute blog

- [The Water Challenge: International Trade to the Rescue](#)

regulatory framework, as well as the challenges stemming from new technologies. [Read more.](#)

## Ultra-low and negative interest rates for Asia examined at ADBI Annual Conference



ADB President Takehiko Nakao delivered the keynote speech at ADBI's Annual Conference on the implications of ultra-low and negative interest rates for Asia on 1 December in Tokyo. He exchanged views with parliamentary members in Japan on Asian development issues and updated about 60 journalists on the region's economic outlook and ADB's role in Asia and the Pacific. [Read more.](#)

## [Inaugural ADB–ADBI forum on governance and institutions held in Tokyo](#)

Senior officials from selected developing member countries, together with experts from ADB and elsewhere, discussed governance and domestic resource mobilization at a forum on governance and institutions held on 10–11 November at ADBI. Japan Finance Vice Minister Masatsugu Asakawa and Global Forum Head of Secretariat Monica Bhatia helped put the issues in perspective. ADB Vice-President Bambang Susantono welcomed participants by video. [Read more.](#)

## [Financial education needs to start early.](#)

To avoid a financial crisis, people must be encouraged to save and invest in financial products such as insurance, investment trusts, mutual funds, stocks, and bonds, said ADBI Dean Naoyuki Yoshino at a recent international seminar, Financial Literacy for Youth, in Bangkok. He added that schools should offer financial education to better equip young people to make the right investment choices later in life. [Read more.](#)

## [Weak legal and regulatory frameworks hinder infrastructure investment](#)

Weak legal and regulatory frameworks, poorly structured projects, and lack of capacity are some of the key challenges to building infrastructure in Central Asian economies, said ADBI Deputy Dean Bokhwan Yu at a seminar in Bishkek, Kyrgyz Republic. [Read more.](#)

- [Promoting the Sustainable Development Goals with “win–win” Regulations in Food and Agricultural Trade](#)
- [Benefits of Education and Training for SMEs in Asia](#)
- [Trading for Sustainable Fisheries](#)
- [Inclusive Development: Can Trade be Good for Women?](#)

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## Video

- [The Housing Challenge in Emerging Asia: Options and Solutions](#)
- [Asian Development Bank Institute Annual Conference 2016: Day 1](#)
- [Asian Development Bank Institute Annual Conference 2016: Day 2](#)

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## Publications

[SMEs in Developing Asia: New Approaches to Overcoming](#)

[The Asian ‘Poverty Miracle’: Impressive Accomplishments or](#)

[Impacts of Universal Health Coverage: Financing, Income](#)

## [Market Failures](#)

A vibrant stratum of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) is critical for the growth and development of Asian economies.

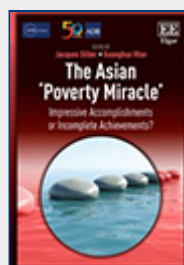
These enterprises generate employment, contribute to investment, participate in value chains, and support innovation.

[Read more and download.](#)



## [Incomplete Achievements?](#)

Following rapid economic growth in recent decades, Asia and the Pacific experienced an impressive reduction in extreme poverty, but this drop was not uniform and achievements are still incomplete. [Read more and download.](#)



## [Inequality, and Social Welfare](#)

Universal health care coverage financed by labor income tax revenue can reduce income inequality. This paper studies the impact of tax-financed universal health coverage schemes on macroeconomic aspects of labor supply, asset holding, inequality, and welfare, while taking into account features common to developing economies. [Read more and download.](#)



## [Financial Inclusion, Financial Regulation, and Education in Bangladesh](#)

Education and financial literacy levels mainly determine financial inclusion. Like in many other countries, inclusive finance for inclusive growth has become a policy issue in Bangladesh following the global financial crisis in 2008. Over the past 10 years, intensity of financial deepening and access to financial services has increased. [Read more and download.](#)



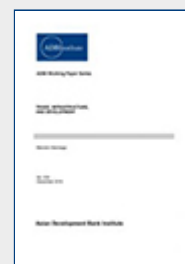
## [Poverty and Ethnicity in Asian Countries](#)

Disadvantaged ethnic groups are poorer because of inequalities in education, regional development, and urban-rural gaps. The extent and the nature of the higher prevalence of poverty among disadvantaged ethnic groups in six Asian countries are compared using demographic surveys. [Read more and download.](#)



## [Trade, Infrastructure, and Development](#)

When national infrastructure is poor, governments should prioritize investment in it over international infrastructure. This paper surveys the literature on trade and development, especially on complementarities associated with trade infrastructure. [Read more and download.](#)



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