

**CAREC Digital Curtain Raiser: Startup Map and Innovation Network Launch,**  
30 June 2022 15:00 – 17:30 (Manila)



**15:20 - 16:25 Session: Role of Multilateral and Development Organizations in the Growth of Startup Ecosystems**

**Moderator: Mr. Arndt Husar, Senior Public Management Specialist (Digital Transformation), ADB**



Arndt facilitates the effective use of digital technology, advising ADB clients, regional departments, as well as sector and thematic groups on digital transformation. He is a member of ADB's Digital Technology for Development Unit and serves on the Innovation Task Force, supporting the bank's futures thinking and foresight activities.

**PANELISTS' BIOS**

**A. World Bank**



Aneliya Muller has been working with the World Bank over the past six years on a range of investment and analytical engagements, targeting the development of digital connectivity and digital economies across Central Asia and Western Africa. Prior to that she worked for strategy consulting, covering Eastern Europe. Aneliya holds a dual master's degree in Economic Policy from National University of Singapore and Public Administration and Management from London School of Economics. She is a recipient of the 2017 McKinsey Next Generation Women Leaders Awards.

**B. Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB)**

## 1. Mr. Paul Lam, Strategy & Policy Officer, Digital and Technology



Paul Lam, CFA, FRSA, joined AIIB in 2018 first in the investment department; and now he is a Strategy & Policy Officer for Digital & Technology) He has developed and is responsible for executing the Digital Infrastructure Strategy and thematic priority of Technology-enabled Infrastructure, which guides AIIB's engagements and investments in technology and its applications in infrastructure sectors ("Infra-tech"). Paul is responsible for operationalizing AIIB's Infra-tech platform, which builds conducive ecosystems, creates insights, interconnects stakeholders, and finances the development and applications of Infra-tech.

## 2. Mr. Kishlaya Misra, Investment Officer, Private Equity



Kishlaya has a cumulative 14 years of experience, of which 11 years have been in the infrastructure sector. This includes the experience at Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) for the past 6 years, working as a Project Team Leader (Deal Lead) for sourcing, preparation, approval, documentation, and implementation of Private Equity / Venture Capital funds projects in Asia. In his current role, he is responsible for investments in Private Equity / Venture Capital funds which are investing in various digital initiatives / technology-enabled infrastructure across various countries in Asia.

## C. European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD)

Mr. Holger Wiefel, Regional Head, SME Finance & Development Group, Central Asia and Mongolia



Holger Wiefel is the Regional Head, SME Finance & Development Group, Central Asia and Mongolia at EBRD, took up his post in 2021. Mr. Wiefel is an experienced project manager and financial sector development expert specialising on Small & Medium sized Enterprises. He coordinated the EBRD Ukraine Micro Lending Programme (UMLP) and the EBRD Micro and Small Enterprise Financing Facility in Kyrgyzstan. Holger, a trained public economist, holds an MBA from Mannheim Business School, Germany and from Tongji University Shanghai, China

## D. The Islamic Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture (ICCIA)

Mr. Syed Saad Ali Pasha, Business Development Manager



Syed Saad Ali Pasha is heading the business development department at the Islamic Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture, where he is a leading project and business development focused on building climate resilience, food security, and developing the entrepreneurial ecosystem in ICCIA member countries. Mr. Pasha has experience in designing and implementing economic development and poverty alleviation projects while working at ICCIA and in previous engagements with UNDP. Additionally, Mr. Pasha is an Erasmus scholar and co-author of the book Global Issues, Local Alternatives exploring global socio-economic challenges, their local manifestations, and responses.

## E. Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)

Mr. TANABE Hideki, Deputy Director General, East and Central Asia and Caucasus Department



Mr. TANABE Hideki is the Deputy Director General for East and Central Asia and the Caucasus Department. He studied at Waseda University, Department of Science and Engineering. And he has worked for JICA since 1998, almost 24 years. And he is a chief in the TAJ office.

## F. United States Agency for International Development (USAID)

Mr. Filip Stoyanovich, Director, USAID Future Growth Initiative



Filip Stoyanovich has been involved in economic development in Europe and Eurasia, and now Central Asia for over 25 years. Since 2019, is the Chief of Party for USAID's Future Growth Initiative (FGI) covering Central Asia. From 2007 to 2019, Filip was the Chief of Party for two regional programs, the Regional Competitiveness Initiative (RCI) and the Regional Economic Growth (REG). In this role, he developed continuous professional relationships with stakeholders throughout the region, including donors, private sector, think tanks, and business associations.

He has collaborated with international donors and organizations such as the European Union, EBRD, IFC, CBI, SIDA, Swiss, UNDP, World Bank, GIZ, ADB, UNWTO, and UNESCO. Before that, he served as a Deputy Chief of Party and cluster and enterprise development expert in Bulgaria for various USAID projects (until that country's graduation from USAID) and an EU funded project.

Filip specializes in enhancing competitiveness and clusters, IT, start-up ecosystems, agribusiness, tourism, textile sector development and promotion, investment facilitation, Government relations, national policy development, management and administration of international development programs, regional trade and business cooperation, business

associations, public – private sector cooperation and SME development. Filip has engaged consultants and subcontractors in different countries of the region, always giving priority to local, regional expertise, as well as utilizing USAID legacy organizations and people. Filip holds a B.S. – Business Administration degree from Berea College, Berea, Kentucky, USA, (1991).