

Think tanks and Policy Advice: Research and Policy for Sustainable Post-Covid Recovery

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The role of think tanks

Shape local and global policy agendas

Generate policy ideas and provide evidence-based assessment of policies

Pool policy knowledge and provide discussion platform

Serve as an informed and independent voice in policy debates

Transform ideas and emerging problems into policy issues

Bridge the gap between research and policy making



ADB I Research at a Glance



Identify research needs and offer relevant knowledge sharing opportunities



Deliver high quality and highly relevant evidence-based research



Provide platform for policymakers to share insights and policy lessons

ADB I Priority Research and CBT Themes

1. Addressing Remaining Poverty and Inequalities
2. Accelerating progress in gender equality
3. Tackling Climate Change, Building Climate and Disaster Resilience, and Enhancing Environmental Sustainability
4. Making Cities More Livable
5. Promoting Rural Development and Food Security
6. Strengthening Governance and Institutional Capacity
7. Fostering Regional Cooperation and Integration

ADBI CBT at a Glance

Vision: Prosperous, Inclusive, Resilient, and Sustainable Asia and the Pacific with informed policy making and comprehensive capacity building frameworks

Mission: Effective knowledge-sharing and learning platform for development of Asia and the Pacific



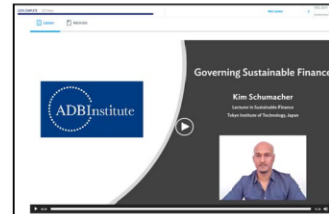
Importance of Technology in Think Tank Operations

Statistics of increasing audience

<u>Video Views</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>
Facebook	943	138,056 (+14,540%)
YouTube	928	5,691 (+513.2%)
Twitter:	2,174	7,617 (+250.3%)
LinkedIn:	4,313	9,572 (+121.9%)
Combined:	8,358	160,936 (+1,825.5%)

High Demand, High Growth E-learning platform

- Tuition-free, certificate-issuing e-learning platform
- Officially launched in Nov 2019
- 14 video-based development courses and counting
- **41,775 registered users** as of 17 Mar 2021
- **43,432 course completion certificates** issued
- Added quiz requirement in 2020
- Piloted Policy Maker E-Training in Q4 2020
- Cross-marketing 35 ADBI webinar recordings



Research

Since the beginning of 2021 ADBI has published:

- Over 70 policy papers and briefs
 - Over 20 articles through ADBI's 'Asia Pathways blog'
 - 15 podcasts
 - 5 books
- 'Leveraging SME Finance through Value Chains in CAREC Landlocked Countries'

Complex and Shifting Challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic

- Fewer opportunities for spontaneous informal meetings and in-person networking
- Digital medium limits depth of policymaker training, discussion interactivity and poses constraints on attentional resources
- Increased emphasis on digital outreach excludes some audiences due to:
 - Poor internet connectivity
 - Language barriers
 - Fewer policymakers with the event-specific expertise
- Oversaturation of webinars creates competition between Thinktanks for time, attention and lasting impression
- Lack of inter-Thinktank coordination on world's most pressing agendas

Steps Forward

1. Greater Thinktank collaboration on international and regional/local level
2. Increase emphasis on access to digital infrastructure as a key research theme as ADBI continues to expand its digital outreach
3. Leverage medium- to long-term perspective of a Thinktank to ease anxieties and help countries navigate Post-Covid recovery
4. Maintain an organizational perspective flexible enough to meet the challenges of changing situation

Thank you