

SANEM-World Bank
North America Discussion Forum 2018

Quality of Economic Growth in South Asia

Friday, September 7, 2018

9:00 am – 5:30 pm

Venue: MC C1-200, The World Bank, Washington, D.C., USA.

09.00am-09.20am: Registration

09.20am:

Welcome: Dr. Selim Raihan, Executive Director, SANEM and Professor,
Department of Economics, University of Dhaka, Bangladesh

Dr. Robert Carl Michael Beyer, Economist, the World Bank

09.30am-10.45am:

Session 1: The pattern of economic growth in developing countries in recent decade: Why does quality of growth matter?

Moderator: Dr. Robert Carl Michael Beyer, Economist, the World Bank

Paper presentations/Panelists:

- “The quality of economic growth: evidence from cross-country analysis” by Dr. Selim Raihan, Executive Director, SANEM and Professor, Department of Economics, University of Dhaka, Bangladesh
- “Accounting for Revealed Comparative Advantage” by Mingzhi Xu, Peking University and NBER, Ph.D. Candidate, Department of Economics, University of California, Davis, USA
- “Exports to Jobs: Boosting Trade in South Asia” by Dr. Erhan Artuc, Senior Economist, Development Research Group at the World Bank.

10.45am-11.00am: Tea break

11.00am-12.30pm:

Session 2: Growth and employment in South Asia

Moderator: Dr. Selim Raihan, Executive Director, SANEM and Professor, Department of Economics, University of Dhaka, Bangladesh

Paper presentations/Panelists:

- “Jobless Growth? Employment and Growth in South Asia”. Dr. Robert Carl Michael Beyer, Economist, the World Bank
- “The Quality of Employment in Afghanistan: A Microeconometric Analysis”. Dr. Rohin Anhal, Assistant Professor, Dr. Anirban Dasgupta, Associate Professor, South Asian University, New Delhi South Asian University, New Delhi, and Apurva Bhatnagar, Ph.D. Candidate, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi

- “Green Job Creation: A Way to Tackle Jobless Growth in South Asia”. Dr. Shaikh Moniruzzaman, Macroeconomist, Inclusive Budgeting and Financing for Climate Resilience (IBFCR), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), Bangladesh

12.30pm-01.30pm:

Keynote address: “Toward Great Dhaka: A New Urban Development Paradigm Eastward”. Dr. Martin Rama, Chief Economist for the South Asia region, the World Bank

01.30pm-02.15pm: Lunch break

02.15pm-03.45pm:**Session 3: Challenges of human capital formation in South Asia**

Moderator: Ms. Tayaba Batool, Trade and Policy Advisor, USAID Pakistan Regional Economic Integration Activity (PREIA)

Paper presentations/Panelists:

- ‘Efficiency of Public Sector Spending on Health and Education in South Asia’, Asanka Wijesinghe and Thadchaigeni Panchalingam, Ph.D. Candidate, Department of Agricultural, Environmental and Development Economics, The Ohio State University, USA
- “Human Capital and Sustainable Development: The Challenges for Bangladesh” Dr. Abu Eusuf, Professor, Department of Development Studies, University of Dhaka, Bangladesh
- “The Precocious Period: Menarche and Gender Gap in School Enrollment”. Madhulika Khanna. Ph.D. Candidate, Georgetown University, USA
- “The Effects of Making Prenatal Sex Determination Illegal”. Divya Pandey, Ph.D. Candidate, University of Virginia, USA

03.45pm -04.00pm: Tea break

04.00pm-05.30pm:**Session 4: Political economy of quality growth in South Asia**

Moderator: Dr. Syed Akhtar Mahmood, Lead Private Sector Specialist in the Macroeconomics, Trade and Investment Global Practice of the World Bank Group

Paper presentations/Panelists:

- “Political economy of trade reforms in South Asia”. Dr. Sanjay Kathuria, Lead Economist and Coordinator, South Asia Regional Integration, in the World Bank’s Trade & Competitiveness Global Practice
- “Dishonest politicians and public goods provision”, Moogdho Mahzab, Ph.D. Candidate (Economics), University of Virginia, USA
- “State Capacity and Economic Development: Bangladesh Experience”, Dr. Kazi Maruf Islam, Professor, Department of Development Studies, University of Dhaka, Bangladesh
- “Parachuters vs. Climbers: Economic Consequences of Barriers to Political Entry in a Democracy”. Aaditya Dar, Ph.D. candidate, the George Washington University, USA

05.30pm: Closing