

15TH ISDB GLOBAL FORUM ON ISLAMIC FINANCE

THEME: THE ROLE OF ISLAMIC FINANCE IN POST-COVID-19 ECONOMIC RECOVERY OF ISDB MEMBER COUNTRIES

Date: Saturday, 28 August 2021, **Time:** 4pm (Uzbekistan, GMT +5),

Registration: https://idbgbf-org.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_T3BEwGkvQ3SIOTXam_xmtg

BACKGROUND

The world economy has taken an unprecedented hit because of the Covid-19 crisis. As nations take steps towards the recovery of their economies, huge financial resources will be required. Islamic finance has prospects in helping to mobilize the resources needed to support the recovery of IsDB Member Countries. The 15th IsDB Global Forum on Islamic Finance will discuss how IsDB Member Countries could unleash the potential of Islamic finance to help their economies and address extreme poverty post Covid-19.

KEY ISSUES TO BE ADDRESSED

- a) How has Covid-19 affected the economies of IsDB Member Countries?
- b) What are the prospects of Islamic finance in helping Member Country efforts to restart their economies in an inclusive, sustainable, and resilient way?
- c) How have acute poverty trends changed over time and how will Covid-19 transform the fight against multidimensional poverty in IsDB Member Countries?
- d) What lessons of successful Member Countries could be of use to others in the fight against poverty?
- e) What are the opportunities for leveraging Islamic finance PPP as a tool in the development of Member Countries and achievement of the SDGs?

Dr. Bambang Susantono (Keynote Speaker) is the Vice President of the Asian Development Bank (ADB) for Knowledge Management and Sustainable Development. Dr. Susantono is responsible for management of ADB's Sustainable Development and Climate Change Department, Economic Research and Regional Cooperation Department, and Department of Communications. Prior to this, Dr. Susantono was the Vice-Minister of Indonesia's Ministry of Transportation and Deputy Minister for Infrastructure and Regional Development. He served as the President of Indonesia Intelligent Transport Society; Vice President of East Asia Society of Transportation Studies based in Tokyo, Japan; and a member of the Board of Trustee of the South South North Foundation in Johannesburg, South Africa. Dr. Susantono holds a PhD in Infrastructure Planning and master's degrees in Transportation Engineering, and City and Regional Planning from the University of California, Berkeley.



Mr. Imad N. Fakhoury (Keynote Speaker) is the Global Director of the Infrastructure Finance, PPPs & Guarantees Group at the World Bank. Mr. Fakhoury was previously the Senior Adviser for Private Sector Solutions at the IFC. Before joining the World Bank Group, he served in successive Jordanian governments as Minister of Planning and International Cooperation, Minister of Public Sector Development, and Minister of State for Mega-projects. He served as Senator in the Jordanian Parliament and as Chief of Staff/Director of Office of His Majesty King Abdullah II. Mr. Fakhoury has a Master's degree in Engineering Management from Case Western Reserve University, a Master's in Public Policy from the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University, and an executive MBA from Kellogg Business School at Northwestern University.



Mr. Norkulov Ilkhom Ibrokhimovich (Panelist) is First Deputy Minister of Economic Development and Poverty Reduction of the Republic of Uzbekistan. Prior to joining the Ministry of Economic Development and Poverty Reduction in 2020, Mr. Ibrokhimovich worked in the Central Bank of Uzbekistan for 10 years, rising through the ranks from Chief Economist to First Deputy Chairman of the Central Bank. He had earlier worked in the industry as a Supply Manager of the Department of Construction Machinery and Mechanization of the Joint Venture "Neftegazmontaj" LLC. He has rich experience in economic and human development. Mr. Ibrokhimovich holds a master's degree in International Economic Relations, Economic Development from the University of Glasgow, United Kingdom.



Dr. Sabina Alkire (Panelist) is the Director of Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative. She is an Associate Professor of Development Studies in the Oxford Department of International Development at the University of Oxford. Previously, she worked at the Global Equity Initiative at Harvard University, the Human Security Commission, and the World Bank's Poverty and Culture Learning and Research Initiative. Together with Professor James Foster, Sabina developed the Alkire-Foster (AF) method for measuring multidimensional poverty, a flexible technique that can incorporate different dimensions, or aspects of poverty, to create measures tailored to each context.



Ms. Matilda Dimovska (Panelist) is the Resident Representative of United Nations Development Program in Uzbekistan. Prior to this, she led the Country Office Support Team at UNDP Istanbul Regional Hub for Europe and the CIS as of July 2016. She also served as Deputy Resident Representative of UNDP in Turkey (2012-2016), Deputy Resident Representative of UNDP in Moldova (2008-2012) and Assistant Resident Representative of UNDP in Georgia (2006 -2008). Prior to UNDP, she served as Representative to UNIDO Investment Promotion Service in Vienna, worked for the Macedonian Privatization Agency and the private sector in Skopje.



Mr. El Yass Ould Didi (Panelist) is the Director of Demographic and Social Statistics, Office of National Statistics, Mauritania. He has been with the national statistics office since 2004, rising through the ranks to become the director of the office in 2014. In addition, he has been the focal point of Sahel Women Empowerment and Demographic Dividend (SWEDD) Project WEDD since 2015. Mr. Didi has great wealth of knowledge in population and human development, and he holds an M. Phil in population and demographics.



Ms. Fatouma Toure Ibrahima (Panelist) is the Practice Manager of the PPP Group for the World Bank's Infrastructure Finance, PPPs and Guarantees (IPG) Department. Ms. Ibrahima previously served as Operations Adviser of the Infrastructure and Urban Development Hub in Singapore. She has worked in several sectors, including finance and energy. She served as Senior Financial Sector Specialist and Task Team Leader in the Africa region and was also the Regional Representative for the Public Private Partnership Infrastructure Facility (PPIAF). She also served as Special Assistant in the offices of the Vice President and Corporate Secretariat and the World Bank Group Managing Director and Chief Financial Officer. Fatouma holds an MBA from the University of Quebec in Montreal.



Mr. Khemais El-Gazzah is the Senior Advisor to the Director General of the Islamic Solidarity Fund for Development, the poverty alleviation arm of the Islamic Development Bank (IsDB) Group which he joined in 2016. He is in-charge of developing poverty reduction programs, partnerships and mobilizing resources for projects in OIC member countries. Prior joining ISFD, Mr. El-Gazzah was the Chief Operating Officer of the Islamic Corporation for the Insurance of Investment and Export Credit (ICIEC), a multilateral organization member of the IsDB Group which he joined in 1995. He had also spent several years with COTUNACE the Tunisian national ECA and taught classes in the Maghreb Financial Institute IFID and the University of Tunis. Mr. El-Gazzah attended Harvard Business School, INSEAD and London Business School Global Management Programs. He holds a Master's Degree in Economics from the University of Tunisia.



Mr. Sohail Kashif (Panelist) is Chief Financial Officer, Foundation Wind Energy Limited, Pakistan. He is an associated member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Pakistan (ICAP). Mr. Kashif has more than 14 years of experience working with different entities in Pakistan especially in the power sector. Previously, he served in a senior finance position in a firm managing a thermal power plant of 225 MW. More recently, he is working as the Joint CFO of two wind power projects of the Fauji Foundation, one of the largest business conglomerates in Pakistan. Mr. Kashif is a certified director from the ICAP and is included in the database of the Pakistan Institute of Corporate Governance for the Independent Directors, and is a member of the ICAP's Committee for Professional Accountants in Business for 2021-2022.



Mr. Nadir Nuritdinov has been the Deputy Director of the PPP Development Agency of Uzbekistan since November 2019. He previously served as the Deputy Director in State-owned Enterprises Transformation and Public Investments Departments. Mr. Nuritdinov is also a board member of the JSCB Asia Alliance Bank. He has previously worked in the United Kingdom, gaining experience in PPP projects with Deloitte, Bouygues, Infrared serving clients such as Balfour Beatty, Interserve, Serco amongst others. Mr. Nuritdinov has a Bachelor's in Economics from the Manchester Metropolitan University and an ACA from the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales.



Mr. Hassan Idris (Panelist) is a Senior Legal Counsel with the Islamic Corporation for the Insurance of Investment and Export Credit (ICIEC), IsDB Group, having experience and advisory roles in infrastructure finance, credit and political risk insurance, corporate services and alternative dispute resolution. He has handled PPP and project finance transactions in MENA, Asia, and Africa regions across different sectors. Mr. Idris has extensive experience in international development finance, banking, dispute resolution, corporate law, Islamic finance and public-private partnerships (PPPs). He holds a Master of Laws from the University of London, Chattered Islamic Finance Professional, CP3P credential and Associate Fellowship of AAOIFI.



Dr. Areef Suleman (Moderator) is Director of Economic Research and Statistics, IsDB Institute. His career is marked by consistent advancement through positions of increased responsibility and impact with leading international development organizations. Prior to joining the IsDB, Dr. Suleman functioned as CEO of a Government Fund to foster innovation in South Africa. He was also responsible for jointly establishing and managing the consulting arm of South Africa's premier development finance institution wherein he managed their consulting services on the African continent. He has a PhD in Economics along with double master's degrees in Business Leadership in Commerce.



Mr. Yahya Rehman (Moderator) is the Global Lead Islamic Finance Advisory at the IsDB Institute. He has extensive experience in Islamic finance, strategy and business development, capacity building and project management. Prior to joining the IsDB Group, Mr. Rehman was Vice President of Development Management Services at Capitas Group International (CGI). He also served in management positions at KPMG Saudi Arabia, Ernst & Young Bahrain and Accenture in the UK. He is a Rhodes Scholar with a Masters in Development Management from the London School of Economics (LSE), UK, a Masters in Politics and Economics from the University of Oxford, UK and MSc. in Economics from the International Islamic University, Pakistan. He is also an AAOIFI Certified Islamic Banker and a Certified Expert in Climate and Renewable Energy Finance from the Frankfurt School of Finance and Management, Germany.



Dr. Muhammad Jameel Yusha'u (Master of Ceremony), is a Lead Strategic Coordinator at the Islamic Development Bank (IsDB). He was a Lead Crowd Engagement Specialist and Lead Communications Specialist at IsDB. He has served as the Managing Editor of Africa Policy Journal at Harvard Kennedy School. Before joining IsDB in 2012, he was a Senior Lecturer in Media and Politics, and Programme Leader of the Masters Programme in Mass Communication/Business at Northumbria University, Newcastle, UK; formerly a journalist with the BBC World Service, London, and British correspondent of the Hausa Service of Deutsche Welle, Germany. He holds an M.A in Political Communication and PhD in Journalism Studies from the University of Sheffield, UK. In 2015 he completed an MBA with I.E Business School. He is the author of the book *Regional Parallelism and Corruption Scandals in Nigeria*, and Co-editor of the *Palgrave Handbook of International Communication and Sustainable Development*.

