

The Bangladesh Miracle and Challenges

Yasuyuki Sawada

Faculty of Economics, The University of Tokyo, Japan

Abstract

In this talk, Professor Sawada will discuss Bangladesh’s impressive economic and social progress, often regarded as a ‘miracle,’ achieved despite numerous challenges. The country has made remarkable advancements under difficult conditions, including weak governance, political instability, inequality, rapid urbanization, and severe disaster risks. As such, this talk will explore the factors driving this success and the challenges it brings, such as pandemic recovery, with the goal of identifying effective policy interventions that other developing countries might adopt.



About:

Professor Dr. Yasuyuki Sawada is a prominent scholar at the Faculty of Economics, The University of Tokyo, specializing in development economics, empirical microeconomics, disaster economics, and field-based surveys and experiments. His extensive academic contributions have advanced understanding in these critical areas of research. Professor Sawada previously served as the Chief Economist and Director General of the Economic Research and Regional Cooperation Department at the Asian Development Bank (ADB), where he led key research and policy initiatives across Asia. His expertise has also shaped collaborations with leading institutions, including JICA, RIETI, ERIA, IDE-JETRO, Pakistan Institute of Development Economics (PIDE), Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies (BIDS),

International Rice Research Institute (IRRI), International Water Management Institute (IWMI), BRAC Bangladesh, and the World Bank. His work is widely recognized for its focus on addressing challenges in economic development, disaster resilience, and social progress, providing valuable insights into policy-making and sustainable development strategies.