



REGIONAL OFFICE FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

IMF Asia-Pacific Regional Seminar on the South Asia region

Ranil Salgado, Assistant Director in the IMF Asia Pacific Department, will present the highlights from '[South Asia's Path to Resilient Growth](#)', a book published by the IMF in December 2022. Mr. Salgado will discuss the progress of economic development in South Asia, ways to tackle the aftermath of the pandemic, and steps to boost sustainable and inclusive growth in the region. A Q&A session will follow the 40-minute presentation.

Date & Time

April 19, 2023 (Wednesday) 10:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m.

Venue

Hibikoku Conference Square, Room 8C
8th floor, Hibiya-Kokusai Building, 2-2-3, Uchisaiwaicho, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo
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Speaker

Ranil Salgado, Assistant Director of the IMF Asia Pacific Department

Language

English

Format and Registration

In-person participation only. Please register [here](#) before 2 pm on April 18. No online participation available.

Overview

In past two decades, per capita income has doubled, and extreme poverty has more than halved in Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, the Maldives, Nepal, and Sri Lanka. These have led to improved health care, education, infrastructure, and financial services, including better access to the Internet, and mobile technology. However, the COVID-19 pandemic and the spillovers from the war in Ukraine have slowed progress and impeded growth and poverty reduction. The book, *South Asia's Path to Resilient Growth*, tackles these recent headwinds, by reviewing first South Asia's experience during the pandemic and the post-pandemic recovery. It discusses the way forward to boost sustainable and inclusive growth. The chapters address these issues by covering topics including expenditure needs to meet the Sustainable Development Goals; improving equity through labor market, social protection, and gender policy reforms; the benefits of digitalization; and policies to mitigate and adapt to climate change. Chapters also explore how trade liberalization and the resulting diversification have helped South Asia narrow the income gap compared to other regions and highlights the large potential for gains from reforms, including better integration into global value chains. Finally, chapters discuss the role of macro-financial management through improved quality of infrastructure investment, sound monetary policy frameworks, and financial development.