



2017 CALL FOR PAPERS

Dear ATTN Members,

Urbanization is a mega trend. Rapid urbanization exerts huge pressure on basic services and infrastructure in cities (such as education, public health, water supply, sewage, housing, energy, and transportation). As Asian countries quickly urbanize, the challenges need to be addressed in ways that allow the cities to continue to thrive and grow, while improving resources used and reducing pollution and poverty.

Mobilizing funds to support sustainable urbanization remain a big challenge in Asia. According to Asian Development Bank's (ADB) recent publication "Meeting Asia's Infrastructure Needs", developing Asia will need to invest US\$26 trillion in infrastructure from 2016 to 2030, or US\$1.7 trillion per year, if the region is to maintain its growth momentum, eradicate poverty, and respond to climate change.

As announced in the 2016 ATTN development forum in New Delhi, the 2017 ATTN development forum will be held in Colombo, Sri Lanka, to be cohosted by the Institute of Policy Studies (IPS). To foster deeper degree of knowledge sharing, the 2017 Colombo forum will maintain "promoting sustainable urbanization in Asia and the Pacific" as its overarching theme. Particularly, we will deepen our discussions by focusing on the financing dimension of sustainable urbanization, built on the findings of the 2016 New Delhi forum.

In this regard, we would like to ask you to submit papers related to financing the provision of basic services and the development of infrastructure in urban areas. The papers can cover, but not limited to, any of the following topics:

- Strategies, legal and regulatory framework
- Different financing instruments
- Public financing and/or private sector financing
- Public-Private Partnership
- Inter-governmental fiscal relationship, fiscal reforms, and the alignment of financing obligations with financing options
- Internal and/or external financing
- Any other topics that are relevant to financing for sustainable urbanization

The paper can be either theoretical or empirical. It is encouraged that the papers will be policy-oriented, focusing on knowledge that can be shared or replicated, such as lessons, experiences, good practices and innovations. The papers can analyze specific issues from the perspective of a country, cross-country, a sub-region, or region-wide. Papers on non-regional or global developments and trends are also welcome.

Timeline:

Submission of abstract: May 5, 2017

Submission of paper: July 31, 2017

Forum dates: September 20–21, 2017 (Wednesday–Thursday)

Submission:

Please submit your abstracts and papers to Aleli Rosario (arosario@adb.org) and Sharon Dela Torre (sdelatorre.consultant@adb.org) before the deadlines as mentioned above.

Selection:

All the papers submitted will be evaluated by an Organizing Committee which is composed of ADB and IPS staff, based on criteria such as originality, significance, quality and relevance. The selected papers will be presented on the 2017 Colombo forum, and other papers will be shared during the forum.

The authors will be notified whether their papers have been selected by August 15, 2017, by the ADB-Asian Think Tanks Network (ATTN) Secretariat.

Reimbursements:

ADB will provide US\$1,000 per paper if a paper is selected for presentation on the 2017 Colombo Forum. Other papers will be provided US\$500 per paper.

Contact:

Please address any queries you may have to one of the following organizers:

Sharon Dela Torre – (For administrative and logistics matters)

Aleli Rosario – (For other queries)