



AWS FINANCIAL INCLUSION REPORT LAUNCH

Enabling financial inclusion in APAC through the cloud

Wednesday 25 November 2020

Virtual launch



OVERVIEW

Financial inclusion is an important enabler for the United Nations' 2030 sustainable development goals. Along with the introduction of financial technology and democratisation of financial services, financial inclusion helps reduce costs for citizens and fosters the development of innovative services.

Cloud-based services can enhance financial inclusion and the accessibility of digital financial products. As regulatory institutions and central banks attain a better understanding of cloud platforms and implement appropriate safeguards, the benefits of cloud to financial inclusion will only increase. This report highlights the main areas in which digital financial services can improve financial inclusion policy goals in Asia Pacific, the role of cloud architecture in financial inclusion and what regulators and policy-makers must consider to overcome cloud adoption challenges.

OMFIF and AWS are organising an on-the-record virtual launch for their joint report on Wednesday 25 November 2020. This includes a presentation of findings and a panel discussion featuring policy-makers and practitioners from across Asia Pacific.

MEETING AT A GLANCE

25 November 2020

AWS Financial inclusion report launch Singapore

15:00 – 15:05	Welcome remarks
15:05 – 15:20	Keynote address
15:20 – 15:40	Presentation of report findings
15:40 – 16:55	Panel discussion and Q&A

ENABLING FINANCIAL INCLUSION IN APAC THROUGH THE CLOUD

15:00 – 15:05

WELCOME REMARKS

Tamara Singh, Head of Asia Pacific, OMFIF

15:05 – 15:20

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

Speaker:

Benjamin Diokno, Governor, Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas

15:20 – 15:40

PRESENTATION OF REPORT FINDINGS

Brandon Chye, Economist, OMFIF

Bhavin Patel, Senior Economist, Head of Fintech Research, OMFIF

15:40 – 16:55

PANEL DISCUSSION AND Q&A

Topics for discussion:

- Financial innovation and its impact on financial inclusion
- Current state of policy frameworks for financial inclusion
- The beneficial implications of cloud adoption and challenges to scale its usage
- Best practices and regulatory frameworks to encourage adoption of cloud

Moderator:

Tamara Singh, Head of Asia Pacific, OMFIF

Speakers:

Serey Chea, Assistant Governor, National Bank of Cambodia

Nandini Harihareswara, Senior Adviser, Inclusive Digital Economies, United Nations Capital Development Fund

Agne Makaускаite, Head of Public Policy for Regulated Industries, Asia Pacific, Amazon Web Services

Lotte Schou-Zibell, Regional Director, Pacific Liaison and Coordination Office, Asian Development Bank

SPEAKERS

**SEREY CHEA, ASSISTANT GOVERNOR, NATIONAL BANK OF CAMBODIA**

Serey Chea is assistant governor of the National Bank of Cambodia. She has helped introduce innovative policy instruments to develop interbank markets and promote the use of local currency. As chair of the NBC's clearing house operation committee, she leads the Bakong Project, dedicated to the creation of a blockchain-based payment system.

**BRANDON CHYE, ECONOMIST, OMFIF**

Brandon is an economist at OMFIF. He focuses on the sustainability and environmental, social and governance investment landscape for global public investors. Chye previously worked at the Oxford Technology and Management Centre for Development, and the World Bank Urban Development and Infrastructure Hub.

**BENJAMIN DIOKNO, GOVERNOR, BANGKO SENTRAL NG PILIPINAS**

Benjamin Diokno is governor of the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas. From 2016-19, he was the Philippines' budget secretary, a role he also held from 1998-2001. Between 1986-91, Diokno was budget undersecretary. Throughout his career, he has contributed to important policy reforms, including the 1986 tax reform programme to simplify the income tax system.

**NANDINI HARIHARESWARA, SENIOR ADVISOR, INCLUSIVE DIGITAL ECONOMIES, UNITED NATIONS CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT FUND**

Nandini Harihareswara is senior adviser on inclusive digital economies and lead focal point on gender equality for the United Nations Capital Development Fund's IDE division. She was previously digital finance regional technical specialist, responsible for the creation and implementation of the UNCDF digital economy strategy in Zambia and Malawi.

SPEAKERS

AGNE MAKauskaite, HEAD OF PUBLIC POLICY FOR REGULATED INDUSTRIES, ASIA PACIFIC, AMAZON WEB SERVICES



Agne Makauskaite is head of public policy for regulated industries, Asia Pacific at Amazon Web Services. She focuses on cloud computing and broader information and communications technology policy issues for telecommunications, financial services, healthcare and energy. Before joining AWS in 2019, Makauskaite was Asia Pacific business partner and senior regulatory manager for Vodafone Business.

BHAVIN PATEL, SENIOR ECONOMIST, HEAD OF FINTECH RESEARCH, OMFIF



Bhavin Patel is senior economist and head of fintech research at OMFIF. He works on the organisation's research and analysis on a wide range of subjects relevant to central banks, sovereign funds and public pension funds. Patel's specialist research interests include the economic structure and environment of the Middle East, and the digital economy including fintech and central bank digital currencies.

LOTTE SCHOU-ZIBELL, REGIONAL DIRECTOR, PACIFIC LIAISON AND COORDINATION OFFICE, ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK



Lotte Schou-Zibell is regional director of the Asian Development Bank's Pacific liaison and coordination office. She works on improving the quality, reliability, and availability of critical infrastructure in both rural and urban areas to boost economic growth, create jobs, and provide access to public and financial services. Schou-Zibell is a vice-chair of the Global Impact Fintech Forum.

TAMARA SINGH, HEAD OF ASIA PACIFIC, OMFIF



Tamara Singh is head of Asia Pacific at OMFIF. A multi-disciplinary business manager, her experience spans energy, financial services and fund management, covering trading floors in London, New York and across Asia. Tamara left GIC, Singapore's sovereign fund, to launch a start-up aimed at reducing the costs of compliance for financial institutions.



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