



# PROGRAM IN ECONOMIC AND PUBLIC POLICY

Graduate School of Business Sciences,  
Humanities and Social Sciences  
University of Tsukuba



IMAGINE THE FUTURE.

# Honing Skills and Knowledge to Contribute to Society.

## PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

Program in Economic and Public Policy (PEPP) aims to provide training and the necessary skills for the conception, design, and implementation of development policies with emphasis on quantitative skills with modern technologies. Faculty members of PEPP work on a variety of issues of development, including economic growth, poverty reduction, enhancing agricultural production efficiency, human capital accumulation, international trade policies and environmental issues in developing countries. We endeavor to contribute to the creation of an international

community of highly trained professionals addressing the daily challenges of economic and social development. Participants from previous cohorts have taken up prestigious positions back in their home countries, some as high-ranked government officers and policy managers, others as researchers or scholars in academic institutions. We expect many more talented and motivated professionals will join us to apply their newly enhanced knowledge and skills to help accelerate the pace of economic and social development in their countries.

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**PEPP Alumni: 2009 graduate Tatevik Poghosyan employs the skills and knowledge she gained whilst at PEPP in her current position as Policy Advisor and Economist for Social and Economic Development Canada**

# SKILL FORMATION

We target mid-career professionals with a solid university education, and work experience in areas related to policymaking. Our program is designed to transform students, upon graduation, to become well-trained mid-career professionals or government economists who have sufficient knowledge to design, analyze and implement policy. For this purpose, in our program, we emphasize both quantitative skills to analyze policy, and skills to communicate to policy makers. In the program, students are required to write a master's thesis based on solid quantitative analysis, and to periodically present their progress to faculty members and other students.



## CAREER PROSPECTS

PEPP was established with the purpose of building strong analytical skills useful for a wide range of professionals in developing countries. The program invites those candidates who need sound knowledge of economics in making policy decisions. While a majority of the student body of the program are young professionals in the public sector in developing countries, the program also accepts students applying directly after completing their undergraduate study from any country in the world. The skills acquired through the program should prove highly valuable when applied in positions

related to policy development and assessment as well as other research-oriented positions in the public sector, or educational institutions. PEPP is integrated into the curriculum of the Master's Program in International Public Policy within the Graduate School of Business Sciences, Humanities and Social Sciences of the University of Tsukuba.

It offers the students opportunities to develop their abilities in economic and public policy analysis, while at the same time providing an environment where they can be exposed to a wide range of academic subjects in the humanities and social sciences.

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### Harold Irumba (Uganda)

#### *"My experience during the "Research Workshop (Lunch Seminar)"*

The Research Workshop will always bring great memories of my academic life at University of Tsukuba. I found it an exceptional contribution to my knowledge of research methods in Economics, and

## Student testimonial

for this, I commend PEPP for this incredible initiative. It is an important avenue for motivating and exposing students to experienced professors, building simple research ideas into great and interesting projects, preparing scholars to present their research work in a professional and precise manner, and enhancing their ability to handle challenging questions. I will forever be grateful for the commitment and selfless advice from all faculty professors to my research work during the weekly Lunch Seminars. Indeed, this was a thrilling and practical platform where I learnt vital skills including preparation, presentation, and time management when discussing my research project. I am confident that I can now apply the knowledge achieved to deal with real Economic Policy issues.

# A Curriculum with Quantitative and Qualitative Skills in Economics at its Heart

PEPP approaches public policy, and economic and social issues principally through the discipline of economics. In accordance with the stated objectives of the program, the curriculum is designed to provide advanced academic and research skills in economics. Students on the program are required to complete 30 credits from the list of subjects offered. On top of a solid base of compulsory subjects, which provide a firm grounding for participants to go on to become thorough and accurate economists, students are also able to choose from a broad selection of elective courses offered by both PEPP and the wider Graduate School of Business Sciences, Humanities and Social Sciences.

## Courses Available & the Two Semester Academic Year

An academic year at the University of Tsukuba is organized into two semesters: the **FALL** semester from October to March and the **SPRING** semester from April to September. Courses are normally offered for a duration of 10 weeks or 15 weeks, with the exception of some intensive courses lasting for a shorter period. Most courses meet once or twice a week, with sessions of 75 minutes each.

- List of Courses offered in 2022 (may be subject to change)

## Compulsory

### Foundation Subject for Major (lecture-based):

Econometrics I, Econometrics II, Social Development

### Major subject (seminar-based):

Research Workshop on International Public Policy A

Research Workshop on International Public Policy B

## Compulsory (with some elective element)

### Major subject (lecture-based)

Statistics, Intro-intermediate Macroeconomics, Intermediate Microeconomics, Microeconomics, Development Economics I & II, Public Economics, International Trade, International Finance and Policy, Economics of Development, Data Management, Advanced Data Management

### General Foundation Subjects

Courses under the 'Global Issues and Global Society' heading: Food Security, Social Issues, Marine Environmental Change, The Social Brain, Infection Health and Medical Issues

## Elective

### (examples of just some of the courses available)

Microfinance and Public Policy, Applied Microeconomics I, Policy Analysis and Programme Evaluation, The Fundamentals of Public Policy and Management, Geographic Information System and Satellite Data analysis for Economists, Internship I & II, Field Work Project etc.

# Applying to PEPP

Pepp offers two admission tracks, or paths, to enter the Program:

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## Scholarship Track

Applications for applicants who wish to have their studies funded by either of the following:

- The Asian Development Bank-Japan Scholarship Program (ADB-JSP)
- The Joint Japan World Bank Graduate Scholarship Program (JJ/WBGSP)



A previous PEPP cohort celebrate arriving on campus following their matriculation ceremony

## General Track

Applications for self-funded applicants and applicants who wish their studies to be funded by MEXT or JICA

- Self-funded  
(details on a range of different financial support available for self-funded students to apply for are available online in the university's student guidebook: keyword search "*International Students' Guidebook*")
- Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT)  
(contact your country's Japanese Embassy or Consulate directly for details)
- Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)  
(details available via JICA's website and via keyword search "JICA"+"scholarships"+"your country name")

## Scholarship Track: Alumni Voices



**Syed Zulqernain Hussain**  
(Pakistan) graduated in AY 2018  
Deputy Director, Economic  
Policy Review Department,  
Central Bank of Pakistan

**ADB: Syed Zulqernain Hussain:** The 18 months I spent at the University of Tsukuba is the most memorable time of my life – from both an academic and personal perspective. Firstly, I am grateful to ADB for providing me the opportunity to pursue my dream of getting quality education in one of the world's best countries. When I was about to land in Japan for the first time, I thought I knew all about Economics and my journey at PEPP would be very easy as I was working at the Central Bank for six years. But I was wrong. The bundle of knowledge and education I got here in University of Tsukuba was beyond my expectations. The professors were so educated and knowledgeable and there was not a single question which remained unanswered. The professors made sure we ran that extra mile to get a better understanding of topics we studied. The university also provided me with the opportunity to explore the culture of Japan. The home-stay with a traditional Japanese family is the memory which I will cherish for the rest of my life. In the end, I would like to highly recommend this course for all students and professionals related to economics. The treasure of knowledge I discovered at the University of Tsukuba will last for a very long time.



**Sabina A. Savoy** (Guyana)  
graduated in AY 2018 Economic  
and Financial Analyst, Economic  
Policy Analysis Unit, Ministry of  
Finance, Guyana

**JJ/WB: Sabina A. Savoy:** I am fortunate to have been provided the opportunity to pursue my Master's Degree at the University of Tsukuba, through a Joint Japan/World Bank funded scholarship for the Program in Economic and Public Policy (PEPP). Being a PEPP scholar was one of the most rewarding experiences I have ever had. The M.A. at PEPP is a very well structured and challenging program that offered me a great opportunity to deepen my knowledge of Economics, with guidance from exceptional professors. PEPP targets international students and this shifted me towards a more metropolitan outlook, to experience different cultures and to establish a broad alumni social network. I particularly enjoyed my homestay experience with a wonderful Japanese family and the many field trips that gave me a fascinating glimpse into Japanese culture and way of life. Having my own independence and benefiting from rich cultural experiences while doing diverse assignments made PEPP the right program for me. Through PEPP, I have developed a relevant toolbox of skills, experiences and references which enable me to create lasting impact in Guyana, my home.

# Skills for your Future or Continuing Career

The Program in Economic and Public Policy (PEPP) aims to provide training and the necessary skills for the conception, design, and implementation of development policies with an emphasis on quantitative skills with modern technologies. Our program is designed to transform students, upon graduation, to become well-trained mid-career professionals or government economists who have sufficient knowledge to design, analyze and implement policy. For this purpose, in our program, we emphasize both quantitative skills to analyze policy, and skills to communicate to policy makers.



**ECONOMICS KNOWLEDGE**

**LEARNING ECONOMICS  
COURSEWORK**

**KNOWLEDGE OF DATA SCIENCE**

**STATISTICAL ANALYSIS  
USE OF GIS  
USE OF STATA**

**COMMUNICATION SKILLS**

**PRESENTATION OF COMPLEX IDEAS  
INTERPERSONAL COMMUNICATION SKILLS  
LOGICAL REASONING**

**DIVERSE EXPERIENCE**

**STUDY TRIP  
INTERNSHIP**

**LEARN WITH PEERS FROM DIVERSE BACKGROUNDS**

**PROBLEM SOLVING SKILLS**

**DISTINCTIVE RESEARCH PROJECT  
THESIS WRITING  
JOINT WORK WITH PROFESSORS**

**Regional Breakdown of PEPP's Students**

Region	Percentage
Sub-Saharan Africa	35.9%
South Asia	23.3%
East Asia & the Pacific	19.3%
Latin America & the Caribbean	10.3%
Europe & Central Asia	8.1%
MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA	3.1%

And much, much more (not to mention the exciting challenge of adapting to life in Japan)...

## Extensive Student Support

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Tsukuba's student support is second to none. Our International Student Center provides a wide range of services to international students. Center staff understand the unique needs of students, and are dedicated to helping international members of the university community enjoy a comfortable life in Tsukuba. Services offered include: pre-departure visa application assistance, a variety of orientation events to help students familiarize themselves with university facilities, language training, cultural events, multilingual counseling, scholarship and tuition-waiver advice, etc.

### Financial Support

- **Enrollment and tuition fees exemption:** Applicable to all self-funded international students. Exemptions range from the full amount to 1/3 reduction.
- **Extramural Scholarships for Self-funded Students (University Recommendation):** Opportunities for application are offered equally to all self-funded international students. Scholarships are provided by JASSO, MEXT, Toyota, Mitsubishi, Rotary Yoneyama, Ajinomoto, Docomo, Yamaha, Asahigarasu etc.
- **Emergency support:** Various financial supports are provided to students if they experience financial difficulties due to natural disasters in Japan, accidents, or pandemics arising from transmitted diseases.
- **Short term loan:** Up to 100,000 yen (interest free) per person.

### Scholarship for Research Activities & Study Abroad

- **Habatake Scholarship:** Offers scholarships to students who wish to participate in overseas conferences, or conduct group research trips.

### Career Support

- **Division of Career Services:** Offers a variety of programs useful for career development.

### Medical Services

- **Health Center:** The University's Health Center provides health care at a low cost for students and faculty members. Services include medical treatment, health consultations (for internal medicine, orthopedics, psychiatry, dentistry), a free annual health examination, and first-aid assistance. Psychiatric and mental health counseling are also available by appointment. Since the Health Center is closely connected to the University of Tsukuba hospital, specialist follow-up consultations can be easily facilitated, if necessary.
- **International Student Counseling (Multilingual):** Professional counselors are available to discuss various problems with students. Students can either walk in when a consultant is available or make appointment by email.

# Experiences that Live on



## Japanese Language Class (Exclusive to PEPP students)

All PEPP students new to the Japanese language are provided with 60 hours of exclusive Japanese language classes to help them adapt to life in Japan. There is no credit for these special Japanese classes. 50 class hours are scheduled for the first fall semester, with the remaining 10 hours taking place in the Spring semester. Students without previous Japanese language learning experience are required to attend classes regularly and complete assignments on time. Those who pass the course standard will be awarded a Japanese language certificate. Classes are free, and textbooks are provided for individual use.

## Short-Term Homestay

Along with providing Japanese classes, we offer students the opportunity to live with local Japanese families and learn more about the culture, customs and lifestyle of Japan. After Japanese classes finish in July, the Short-Term Homestay takes place the first weekend of August for 3 days and 2 nights. Past students almost always comment that the stay is one of the most enduring experiences of their time in Japan.



## Internship Opportunities

Students who wish to undertake an internship are more than welcome to do so on the condition that it does not conflict with the regular academic schedule of the Master's Program, and receive one course credit for the period. Internships provide a practical perspective on public policy issues and complement formal instruction received in the classroom. Most students choose to complete their internship during the 1st year spring or summer recess. The duration of an internship depends on the host institution, and periods typically range from a few weeks to two or three months.

## Study Trip

In addition to providing an advanced curriculum taught by the professors with cutting-edge expertise, PEPP provides extracurricular activities including a domestic research trip, often highlighted by past students as a unique source of academic inspiration. The study trip is usually arranged for the summer recess and lasts around a week. In the past, students, together with PEPP professors, have visited Okinawa, Hiroshima, Nagoya, and Hokkaido, amongst other destinations. During the trip, students and professors also visit local universities and attend study seminars held by local scholars. The purpose of the study trip is to enable students to learn more about Japan's economic system.

All students are invited to participate, with the cost of the trip for scholarship students covered by their scholarship provider.



# Tsukuba Facts



## The City

- Also known as Tsukuba Science City
- Just 45 minutes from downtown Tokyo by train
- 1 in 20 residents holds a PhD
- Around 1 in 20 residents are international residents
- Residents services in English
- Home to an unrivalled selection of national research institutions: JAXA (Japanese Space Agency), National Institute for Environmental Studies, National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology (AIST), National Research Institute for Earth Science and Disaster Resilience (NIED)



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## The University

- Originally established in 1872 as an institution to educate academic trainers of teachers, otherwise known as a 'Normal School'
- Ranked 285<sup>th</sup> in QS World University Rankings (2022)
- A 16000-strong student body
- 17% of the student population are international students from 55 different countries
- 3 Nobel Prize laureates: Dr. Shinichiro Tomonaga, Dr. Leona Ezaki, Dr. Hideki Shirakawa



# Facilities

## #3: Space to Breathe: The third largest campus in Japan

One of the largest campuses in Japan with facilities to match.



### Libraries

There are five libraries on campus: the Central Library, the Art and Physical Education Library, the Medical Library, the Library of Library and Information Science, and the Otsuka Library (Tokyo area). The university's libraries hold approximately 2.71 million volumes and about 31,000 periodicals. In addition, they provide access to about 37,000 e-books and about 32,000 e-journals.

### Health & Medical Services



Students have easy access to the University of Tsukuba's healthcare facilities. The health center provides regular health checkups and treatments for common diseases, while the university hospital offers cutting-edge medical services for more serious conditions should they arise.



### Shopping

Shopping is convenient with a wide range of stores situated on campus, including chain grocery market Kasumi, coffee shops, book stores, stationary shops, convenience stores, second-hand stores, a bicycle shop, bakeries, and restaurants and cafeterias, which also provide vegetarian and Halal food.

### Personal Support



Every new international student is assigned a personal student assistant, known as a 'Tutor', to help ease the transition to living everyday life here in Tsukuba. Charged with the responsibility of ensuring new students settle in smoothly, tutors are available to help with tasks such as opening a bank account, registering at the city hall, applying for a mobile phone contract etc.



### Transport

Buses run regularly on a loop around the university campus connecting the major facilities of the university with Tsukuba Center Bus station. The bus station is just a 60 second walk from Tsukuba train station, the first stop on the Tsukuba Express line, from where it is possible to travel to Akihabara (Tokyo) in just 45 minutes.

### Accommodation



On-campus accommodation is guaranteed for all incoming international students. Residence fees start from just 15,000 yen per month.



### Sports

The University of Tsukuba has some of the best sports facilities in Japan. Our sports science department has numerous internationally recognized staff members. Since 1973, we have sent over 60 athletes to the Olympics, who have won an impressive 21 Olympic medals.

### Cultural



There are a wide selection of Club activities available within the university, which offer a variety of cultural experiences unique to Japan: Japanese pottery, Japanese flower arranging, kendo, judo, Japanese comics (Manga Club) etc.

# Program management

**DIRECTOR:** Hisahiro Naito

**DEPUTY DIRECTOR:** Yuko Nakano

## PEPP OFFICE

Tel: +81-29-853-6785

+81-29-853-6613

Fax: +81-29-853-6797

Email: [wbgsp@dppe.tsukuba.ac.jp](mailto:wbgsp@dppe.tsukuba.ac.jp)

Url: (General Track) [pepp-cepge.hass.tsukuba.ac.jp](http://pepp-cepge.hass.tsukuba.ac.jp)

(Scholarship Track) [pepp.hass.tsukuba.ac.jp](http://pepp.hass.tsukuba.ac.jp)

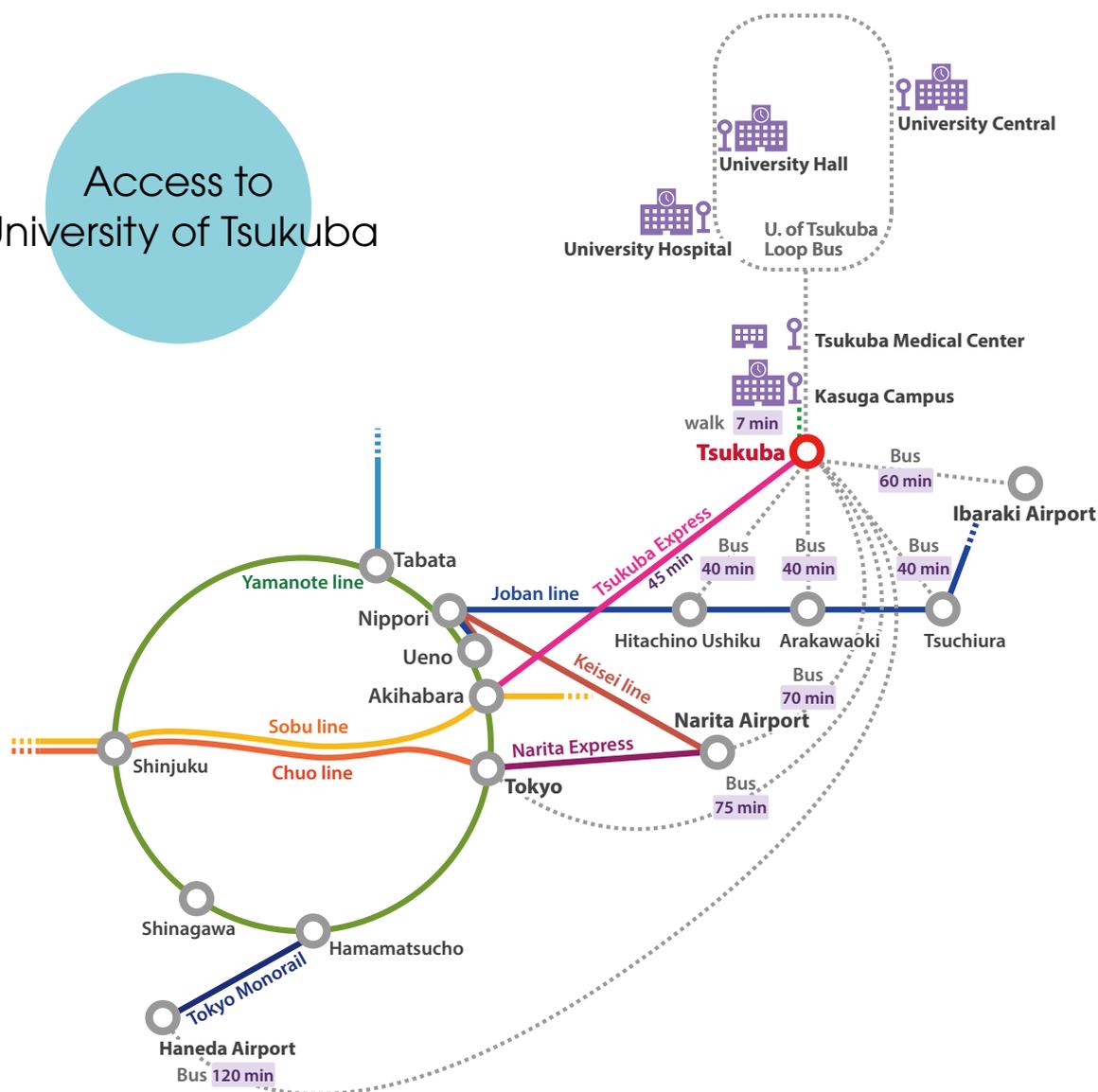
## UNIVERSITY OF TSUKUBA

1-1-1 Tennodai, Tsukuba

Ibaraki-ken, Japan 305-8571

[www.tsukuba.ac.jp/en/](http://www.tsukuba.ac.jp/en/)

## Access to University of Tsukuba



# Notable Roles and Continuing Contributions to Development by PEPP Alumni\*

*\*includes alumni of PEPP when the program, in its earlier form, was known as 'DPIPE' and 'PEPPM'*

## Country and year of graduation in brackets

- Ms. Stergomena Tax (Tanzania, 1997): Permanent Secretary (highest ranked officer in the organization) of SADC (South African Development Community)
- Mr. Ngosa Chisupa (Zambia, 1999): Former Permanent Secretary (highest ranked officer in the organization) of Ministry of Labor, Permanent Secretary of ministry of Information and President Adviser
- Mr. Paul Anthony Austin (Guyana, 1997): Senior economist at IMF
- Mr. Hang Sochivin (Cambodia, 2001): Deputy Director, Department of International Cooperation, Ministry of Commerce, Cambodia
- Ms. Astghik Mavisakalyan (Armenia, 2005): Associate Professor, Curtin University, Australia
- Mr. Brighton Shayanewako (Zimbabwe, 2005): Director of Division of Foreign Aid, the Ministry of Finance, Zimbabwe
- Ms. Quynh Ngoc Nguyen (Vietnam, 2005): United Nation Population Fund Social Protection and Inclusive Growth Program officer
- Mr. Damaru Ballabha Paudel (Nepal, 2007): the first director from Nepal in BIMSTEC (Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation)
- Mr. Marco Antonio Fernandes Quadros (Brazil, 2005): Former Director, PWC, Brazil
- Mr. Hidayat Ullah (Pakistan, 2007) Khan: Department Head of the Department of Economics, Kohat University of Science and Technology (KUST), Kohat, Pakistan
- Ms. Ryoko Sato (Japan, 2007): Associate Researcher, School of Public Health, Harvard University
- Mr. David Kolitangane (Fiji, 2007): Permanent Secretary (highest ranked officer in the organization) for Rural and Maritime Development and Disaster Management in the government of Fiji
- Mr. Edwin Makamba (Tanzania, 2009): Minister of Finance, Private secretary, Tanzania
- Mr. Sakeasi Waikere (Fiji, 2009): Acting Permanent Secretary of Office of Prime Minister in Fiji and Deputy Secretary of Office of Prime Minister in the government of Fiji
- Mr. Carlos S. Guevara (Ecuador, 2011): First Secretary of Mission of Ecuador to the World Trade Organization (WTO)
- Ms. Reshmi Kumar (Fiji, 2011): Director of Planning, Policy and Research, Ministry of Sugar Industry, Fiji
- Ms. Fozia Kiani (Pakistan, 2018): Deputy Director of Planning Commission, Pakistan
- Ms. Sabina Savory (Guyana, 2019): Chair of the Board of Directors, Guyana Water Inc. (water utility company)
- Mr. Digafe Tufa Maru (Ethiopia, 2019): executive external adviser of the President of the Central bank of Ethiopia
- Mr. Eskindur Worku Yitayew (Ethiopia, 2019): executive external adviser of the President of the Central bank of Ethiopia
- Mr. Alamagir Hossain (Bangladesh, 2020): Deputy Director of Central Bank of Bangladesh

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**IMAGINE THE FUTURE.**

University of Tsukuba, Ibaraki, Japan