

2020 GSPP Online Conference Program

15 October, 2020

Day 1

10:30 – 11:00 – Opening ceremony of 2020 GSPP Conference

Welcome speech from Nazarbayev University Provost, Dr. Ilesanmi Adesida

Welcoming from the Dean of the Graduate School of Public Policy, Nazarbayev University Dr. Weng Tat Hui

Welcome speech from Mr. Alikhan Baimenov, Chairman of the Steering Committee of the Astana Civil Service Hub

11:00 – 11:50 – Keynote speech, Dr. Vinod Thomas, Visiting Professor in Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, National University of Singapore, Former Director General of Independent Evaluation at the Asian Development Bank (ADB)

11:50 – 12:00 – Conference Break

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12:00 – 14:00 – Panel 1: Climate, Environment and Human Development, chaired by Dr. Stefanos Fotiou, Director of the Environment and Development Division in the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia-Pacific (UNESCAP)

Moderator/Chair:

- Dr. Stefanos Fotiou, Director of the Environment and Development Division in the UN ESCAP

Introductory presentation:

- Dr. Nicole de Paula, Founder- Women Leaders for Planetary Health| Klaus Töpfer Sustainability Fellow at IASS-Potsdam, Germany

Speakers/Panelists:

- Dr. Riyanti Djalante, Academic Programme Officer, United Nations University, Tokyo
- Ms. Solene le Doze, Environmental Affairs Officer, United Nations ESCAP, Thailand
- Dr. Cecilia Tortadaja, Senior Research Fellow, Institute of Water Policy, Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, Singapore
- Dr. Barbara Janusz-Pawletta, Vice Rector on International Cooperation and Public Relations at Kazakh-German University, Kazakhstan

14:00 – 15:00 – Lunch Break

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15:00 – 17:00 – Panel 2: Towards a water secure and sustainable recovery, chaired by Dr. Guy Bonvin, Swiss Special Envoy for Water in Central Asia at Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation – Ambassador.

Moderator/Chair:

- Dr. Guy Bonvin, Swiss Special Envoy for Water in Central Asia at Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation – Ambassador

Introductory presentation:

- Dr. André Wehrli, Regional Water Advisor Central Asia at Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation
- Dr. Stefanos Xenarios, Associate Professor, Graduate School of Public Policy, Nazarbayev University

Speakers/Panelists:

- Ms. Lilia Burunciuc, Regional Director for the Central Asia Region, World Bank
- Mr. Johannes Stenbaek Madsen, Head of Cooperation at the EU Delegation to Kazakhstan, European Union
- Ms. Rabab (Ruby) Shamayleh, Foreign Service Officer, USAID
- Mr. Marton Krasznai, Scientific Director of Central Asia Center, Corvinus University, Hungary

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15:00 – 17:00 – Panel 3: Governance and Trust in the New Reality, organized in collaboration with Astana Civil Service Hub (ASCH), chaired by Dr. Riccardo Pelizzo, Vice-dean for Research, Associate professor, Chair of GSPP Conference, Graduate School of Public Policy, Nazarbayev University

Moderator/Chair:

- Dr. Riccardo Pelizzo, Vice-dean for Research, Associate professor, Chair of GSPP Conference, Graduate School of Public Policy, Nazarbayev University

Welcoming Remarks:

- Mr. Alikhan Baimenov, Chairman of the Steering Committee of the ACSH
- Ms. Anar Zhailganova, Chairperson of the Agency of the Republic of Kazakhstan for Civil Service Affairs
- Mr. Yakup Beris, UNDP Resident Representative in the Republic of Kazakhstan

Speakers/Panelists:

- Ms. Catherine Kardava, Head of the Civil Service Bureau of Georgia
Governance and Trust in New Reality in Georgia
- Mr. Fadi Farra, Co-founder and Global Managing Partner, Whiteshield Partners
Resilience and Trust in Times of Crises

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- Mr. Vitalis Nakrosis, Professor of Public Administration and Policy Analysis Center, Vilnius University
The Impact of COVID-19 on Public Management in the EU: Adaptation and Resilience
 - Ms. Christine Leitner, Senior Advisor and co-founder of the Centre for Economics and Public Administration
Rising to the Challenge: Could the Covid-19 Crisis Become a Catalyst for Transforming Governance?
 - Ms. Karine Badr, Policy Analyst, Open Government Unit, OECD
Communicating for Trust, Transparency and Participation: Good Practices and Lessons Learned during Covid-19
 - Mr. Rupinder Singh, Policy Advisor Economics/Budget Support/Aid and International Affairs
The New Economic Normal & Implications for Public Policy and Democratic Governance
 - Mr. Paul E. M. Reynolds, Independent International Adviser on Economic and Governmental Reforms
Institutional Challenges in Closing the Perennial 'Trust Gap'
 - Mr. Mahammadali Khudaverdiyev, Head, Protocol Division, State Agency for Public Service and Social Innovations under the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan
The Role of Public Service during the COVID-19: Case of Azerbaijan
- 17:00 - 17:30 - Conference Break
- 17:30 - 18:10 - Closing Remarks, GSPP Conference organizing Committee
- Dr. Riccardo Pelizzo, Vice-dean for Research, Associate professor, Chair of GSPP Conference, Graduate School of Public Policy, Nazarbayev University
 - Dr. Stefanos Xenarios, Associate Professor, Graduate School of Public Policy, Nazarbayev University

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Day 2

9:30 – 10:00 – Opening ceremony of 2020 GSPP Conference

10:00 – 11:30 – Panel 4: Poverty reduction and economic development, chaired by Dr. Peter Howie, Associate professor, Graduate School of Public Policy, Nazarbayev University

Moderator/Chair:

- Dr. Peter Howie, Associate professor, Graduate School of Public Policy, Nazarbayev University

Speakers/Panelists:

- Dr. Simeon Nanovsky, Assistant professor, Graduate School of Public Policy, Nazarbayev University
The Exchange Rate and the Trade Balance after Controlling for the Oil Price
- Dr. Kuat Akizhanov, Teaching Fellow in Public Policy and Management in International Development Department, School of Government, University of Birmingham
SDGs and further embeddedness of neoliberal economic agenda in Kazakhstan

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Day 2

- Dr. Ferhat Karaca, Associate professor, Civil and Environmental Engineering Department, Nazarbayev University

Critical review of how COVID-19 experience transforms the sustainability requirements of residential buildings

- Dr. Kanat Abdulla, Post-doctoral Scholar, Graduate School of Public Policy, Nazarbayev University

Regional convergence in resource rich countries: case of Kazakhstan

- Mr. Ruslan N. Yakovlev, 3rd year student of the faculty of International Economics and Management University of World Economy and Diplomacy

Poverty in Uzbekistan: Measurement. Poverty reduction policy before and during the Covid-19 pandemic

11:30 - 11:45 - Conference Break

11:45 - 13:00 – Panel 5: Policies, reforms, and natural resources in Central Asia, chaired by Dr. Iftikhar Lodhi, Graduate School of Public Policy, Nazarbayev University

Moderator/Chair:

Dr. Iftikhar Lodhi Assistant professor, Graduate School of Public Policy, Nazarbayev University

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Speakers/Panelists:

- Dr. Rita Kasa, Assistant Professor, Graduate School of Education, Nazarbayev University
University funding in a time of crises: Kazakhstani approach to ensure access to affordable and quality higher education
- Ms. Aalia Rebekah Khan, Master student at Claremont Graduate University in Claremont, Southern California, editor in the Higher Education Abstracts
Lost Generation- A Comparative Study of the Efficacy of Emergency Education Centers in the Global North and the Global South towards the Advancement of the 2030 Agenda
- Dr. Aliya Tankibayeva, Assistant Professor, Chair of Public Administration and International Development, KIMEP University, College of Social Sciences
Financing of Irrigation: Designing a Policy Mix for the Implementation of Sustainable Development Agenda
- Ms. Aliya Assubayeva, Ph.D.Candidate, Graduate School of Public Policy, Nazarbayev University
Delphi Evaluation of Experts' Perspective on Water Security in Central Asia
- Dr. Angelos Alamanos & Dr. Qingming Zeng, Water Institute, University of Waterloo
Water scarcity, conflicts, and the role of Integrated Water Resources Management: the case of Urumqi River Basin, China
- Dr. Joost Buurman, Senior Research Fellow at the Institute of Water Policy, Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, National University of Singapore
Water-Security-of-Cities

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13:00 - 14:00 – Lunch Break

14:00 - 14:30 – Keynote speech, Professor Phoebe Koundouri, Athens University of Economics and Business, President-Elect, European Association of Environmental and Resource Economists

14:30 - 15:45 – Panel 6: Climate action, energy transition and labor markets: Public policies and sectoral implications, chaired by Dr. Stella Tsani, University of Ioannina, Greece

Moderator/Chair:

- Dr. Stella Tsani, Assistant Professor at the Department of Economics, University of Ioannina

Speakers/Panelists:

- Professor Yelena Kalyuzhnova, Director of the Centre for Euro-Asian Studies at the University of Reading, University of Reading, UK

Will COVID-19 Change Oil Markets Forever?

- Dr. Gerhard Toews, Assistant Professor at the New Economic School in Moscow

Energy Transition Goals and Spatial Inequality

- Dr. Dharish David, Associate Faculty, University of London, SIM-Global Education, Singapore.

The Geoeconomics of Renewable Energy Development in South and Central Asia: Scope for Inter-Regional Energy Cooperation

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- Dr. Iftikhar Lodhi, Assistant Professor, Graduate School of Public Policy, Nazarbayev University
Economic Transformation-and-Structural-Unemployment

- Dr. Peter Howie, Associate Professor, Graduate School of Public Policy, Nazarbayev University and Dr. Zauresh Atakhanova, Associate Professor, School of Mining and Geosciences, Nazarbayev University
An Evaluation of Kazakhstan's Emissions Trading Scheme: Lessons for Emerging Economies

14:30 – 16:00 – Challenges of COVID-19 and Health management in Central Asia, chaired by Professor Kai Hong Phua, Visiting Professor of Nazarbayev University and Adjunct Senior Fellow, National University of Singapore

Moderator/Chair:

- Dr. Kai Hong Phua, Visiting Professor, Graduate School of Public Policy, Nazarbayev University and Adjunct Senior Fellow, Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy

Speakers/Panelists:

- Dr. Yik Ying Teo, Dean and Professor, Saw Swee Hock School of Public Health, National University of Singapore
A Systems Level Approach to COVID-19 Policies

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- Dr. LG Goh, Professorial Fellow, Division of Family Medicine, University Medicine Cluster, National University Medical System, National University of Singapore
COVID-19 – A Multidisciplinary Clinical Problem
- Dr. Byron Crape, Director, Master of Public Health Program, School of Medicine, Nazarbayev University
Primary Health Care in the Control of COVID-19 in Kazakhstan and Central Asia
- Dr. Colin Knox, Professor, Graduate School of Public Policy, Nazarbayev University
Consolidating authoritarianism: policy responses to Covid-19

15:45 - 16:00 - Conference Break

16:00 - 17:15 – Panel 8, part 1: Young Researchers, emerging research on SDGs – Policy and Governance, chaired by Dr. Dina Sharipova, Graduate School of Public Policy, Nazarbayev University

Moderator/Chair:

- Dr. Dina Sharipova, Graduate School of Public Policy, Nazarbayev University

Speakers/Panelists:

- Ms. Zhanar Ashikbayeva, Ph.D.Candidate, Graduate School of Public Policy, Nazarbayev University

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- Mr. Daulet Akhmetov, Ph.D.Candidate, Graduate School of Public Policy, Nazarbayev University
Green growth of business as usual Kazakhstan case
- Ms. Akbikesh Mukhtarova, Ph.D.Candidate, Graduate School of Public Policy, Nazarbayev University
Land Commissions in Kazakhstan: Understanding Policy Change in “homeostatic” Policy Systems
- Mr. Bakhytzhan Kurmanov, Ph.D.Candidate, Graduate School of Public Policy, Nazarbayev University
Limits of Open Government in Central Asia: Evidence from Uzbekistan
- Ms. Balzhan T. Serikbayeva, Ph.D.Candidate, Graduate School of Public Policy, Nazarbayev University
Job mismatches in the Kazakhstani labor market: implications for public policy

16:00 - 17:15 – Panel 8: Young Researchers, emerging research on SDGs - Health and Educational perspectives, chaired by Dr. Serik Orazgaliyev, Graduate School of Public Policy, Nazarbayev University

Moderator/Chair:

- Dr. Serik Orazgaliyev, Graduate School of Public Policy, Nazarbayev University

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Speakers/Panelists:

- Ms. Guldana Khamzina, Ph.D.Candidate, Graduate School of Public Policy, Nazarbayev University
Implications of COVID-19: provision of services for people with psychosocial needs A Systems Level Approach to COVID-19 Policies
- Mr. Meirat Omarov, Candidate of political sciences, Director at Mireia LLP
Pandemic COVID 19 as a factor in the transition of the Kazakh civil service to telecommuting
- Ms. Jenny Jenish kyzy, (Ensi Tszie), Founder of "New Schools Foundation", Community Champion for Central Asia & Azerbaijan, nominated by Global Shapers Community (initiative of the World Economic Forum)
- Mr. Ozhet Shegirbayev, MIR, MPA alumni, Graduate School of Public Policy, Nazarbayev University
Case-Study: Kazakhstanian export during State of Emergency, the efficiency of state restrictions and bans

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17:15 - 17:45 - Closing Remarks. GSPP Conference organizing Committee

- Dr. Riccardo Pelizzo, Vice-dean for Research, Associate professor, Chair of GSPP Conference, Graduate School of Public Policy, Nazarbayev University
- Dr. Stefanos Xenarios, Associate Professor, Graduate School of Public Policy, Nazarbayev University

19:00 – 21:00 – Networking event at the Spatial Chat Platform.

Please click [here](#) on order to enter the networking event.

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