



**2<sup>nd</sup> ASEAN+3 Finance Think-tank Network (AFTN) Seminar  
Hong Kong, China, May 2025**

**Call for Papers**

***“Technology: Redefining Economic Paradigms for ASEAN+3.”***

**Abstract submission deadline: December 1, 2024**

**Paper submission deadline: January 15, 2025**

The ASEAN+3 Macroeconomic Research Office (AMRO), with the support of its member authorities and together with the Hong Kong Institute for Monetary and Financial Research (HKIMR) and other AFTN partners, is pleased to announce the 2<sup>nd</sup> ASEAN+3 Finance Think-tank Network Seminar to be held in Hong Kong, China in May 2025. The seminar will focus on the economic and financial implications of technological change and corresponding policy recommendations, with particular emphasis on their impact on ASEAN+3 economies.

**Seminar theme**

ASEAN+3 is a global leader in innovation and technology, accounting for more than half of patents and hosting the largest number of science and technology clusters worldwide. Technologies such as automation, digitalization, robotics, and AI are increasing manufacturing productivity and reconfiguring the region’s supply chains as efficient and cost-reducing smart logistics systems. Digitalization is streamlining operations and fostering new business models, including e-commerce and fintech, while facilitating financial inclusion and expanding local currency transactions. In addition, progress in cutting-edge life sciences is accelerating, which could improve the quality of life in ASEAN+3.

Technological advances could unlock potential solutions to problems associated with structural headwinds. These concerns include a rapidly aging population, climate change, and the fragmentation and reconfiguration of global trade, among many others. Substantial heterogeneity in labor force skills, research and development, and the extent of infrastructure investment, however, has limited the positive impact of technology to selected industrial sectors in a handful of economies in the region. A major policy challenge is how to accelerate the pace of technological implementation, adoption, and diffusion while addressing the risk of potential disruptions to labor markets and the existing commercial and industrial infrastructure.

This seminar aims to address the issues outlined above, among others. It will provide a platform for researchers, practitioners, and policy makers to discuss the economic and financial implications of technological change in the region, share insights on policy frameworks conducive to prudent adoption of technological innovation, and identify strategies that can harness technological innovations for supporting growth and equity in the region. By encouraging knowledge exchange and regional cooperation, the seminar seeks to illuminate pathways for leveraging technology to drive sustainable economic development and growth in ASEAN+3.

## Topics of interest

We invite submissions of papers on macroeconomic and financial issues of importance arising from the rapid pace of technological change in the region. Economy-specific, regional, and global perspectives are welcome but not limited to:

- Generative AI and its impact on growth, productivity, and labor markets
- Technological innovation in supply and value chains
- Digitalization implications for financial intermediation and monetary policy
- CBDCs and cryptocurrencies: opportunities and challenges
- E-commerce and the platform economy
- Cybersecurity: economic challenges and opportunities
- Data Privacy and Its economic implications
- Green technology and sustainable finance Initiatives
- Drivers of technological innovation and diffusion
- Technological disruption of traditional Industries
- Cross-border digital payments and international trade
- Regulatory frameworks for Fintech and GenAI Innovations

The seminar will prioritize contributions that propose and guide actionable policy recommendations useful to ASEAN+3 member economies.

## Submission guidelines

The seminar will accept papers written in English that are original, unpublished work that has not been submitted or accepted for publication. Each paper should be accompanied by a cover letter with the name(s) and contact information of the author(s), and a brief description of the research.

The submission deadlines are:

- Abstract submission: no later than December 1, 2024
- Full paper submission: no later than January 15, 2025

Please send all submissions to Mr. Lucky Belotindos ([Edmund.Belotindos@amro-asia.org](mailto:Edmund.Belotindos@amro-asia.org)).

## Review process

All papers will be reviewed by a panel of experts. Authors will be notified of the decision on their papers by **end-February 2025**.

## Conference Registration

Details on registration and other deadlines will duly be announced on the conference website.

## Contact Information

For any query, please contact Mr. Lucky Belotindos ([Edmund.Belotindos@amro-asia.org](mailto:Edmund.Belotindos@amro-asia.org)).