AMRO-HKMA-ADBI-SEACEN Financial Leadership Training Program

August 25-28, 2026 | Hong Kong, China

AMRO, in partnership with the Hong Kong Monetary Authority (HKMA), the Asian Development Bank Institute (ADBI), and the South-East Asian Central Banks Research and Training (SEACEN) Centre, successfully hosted the Financial Leadership Training Program (FLTP) 2026 in Hong Kong, China, from August 25 to 28, 2026.

Building on the three editions held since 2023, this annual flagship course has become a highly recognized platform for officials currently serving in or moving into management roles to strengthen their strategic perspective and leadership capabilities while deepening their understanding of key macroeconomic and financial issues. The 2026 iteration brought together around 40 senior officials from ministries of finance, central banks, and financial regulatory authorities, which is most diverse ever with representatives from ASEAN+3 member economies, including Timor-Leste, as well as Mongolia, Nepal, and Sri Lanka.

As Director/CEO Yasuto Watanabe noted in his opening remarks, the program was held at a time when financial policymakers faced an increasingly complex environment. Responding effectively to challenges requires not only strong technical expertise, but also sound judgment under uncertainty, clear communication, adaptability, trust, and the ability to bring people together around a shared purpose. The program was therefore designed to provide financial officials a practical and forward-looking perspective on issues central to their leadership development. Beginning with updates on regional focus of AI transformation and bond market development, participants were led into panel discussions on the risks and regulatory challenges associated with stablecoins and the growing importance of adaptation and transition finance.

The leadership component focused on strengthening core leadership capabilities in the age of AI, such as strategic orientation, risk awareness, adaptability, and stakeholder management, followed by role-play games and simulation scenarios to apply the skills. The SEACEN Leadership Competency Framework provided an additional perspective on leading through complexity, change, and innovation. The course concluded with a networking tour in the Hong Kong Palace Museum.

Capacity development is an integral part of AMRO's efforts to support its members and contribute to a stronger and more resilient region. The FLTP is fulfilling this mandate by helping financial officials build the leadership and professional networks needed to navigate risks and uncertainties within their institutions and through regional cooperation.

The FLTP is financially supported by the People's Republic of China Technical Assistance Trust Fund and the Japan-AMRO Special Trust Fund at AMRO. AMRO also appreciated the partnership with HKMA, ADBI and the SEACEN Centre in delivering this course.

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