The Belt & Road: Bridging the gaps for sustainable transport and growth in Eurasia

22 May 2019, 11:00-12:30, Hall 4, Level +1

SPEAKERS

Kiran K. Kapila, P.E., a Chartered Civil Engineer registered with the American Society of Civil Engineers is a well accomplished person. Apart from leading a renowned infrastructure Consultancy Organization in India, employing over 1,500 professionals, he also co-chairs the Infrastructure Committee at the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI). He was a Member of the Board of Directors at FIDIC – a global association of Consulting Engineering Associations, till September 2017.

Mr. Kapila believes that safety is the hallmark of sustainable and robust infrastructure – be it road, railways, airports, ports, metros, etc. ICT under Mr. Kapila’s leadership is highly focused on undertaking technical feasibility studies, masterplan for development and redevelopment of railway stations, Surveys, designs and consultancy services for railway infrastructure. A number of projects in India and abroad have been successfully undertaken, notable ones being the feasibility studies and development of redevelopment of Habibganj, Chandigarh railways stations and technical feasibility studies in Nepal, Mongolia, etc.

Mr. Kapila pursues his conviction through the International Road Federation (IRF) in his capacity as its Chairman. The IRF is a not-for-profit, non-governmental organisation pursuing the objective of “Safe Roads and Safe Road Mobility” across the World. His passion is to fulfill the UN Decade of Action which envisions 50% reduction in road fatalities, especially in the developing world of Africa and Asia, amongst others.

Mr. Kapila has authored a number of papers published in various journals and is recipient of a number of national and international awards. For Mr. Kapila, growth of consultancy services in India is a matter of deep commitment. His vision is to put in place a quality based procurement mechanism to ensure that safety is an integral and inbuilt part of any infrastructure.
Mr. Chen oversees the formulation and implementation of World Bank strategy and programs for sustainable road, urban, rail, logistics, water and air transport, as well as key cross-cutting agendas such as road safety, climate adaptation/mitigation, gender, human capital development, disruptive technologies and financing. He leads a team of some 250 specialists from over 80 nationalities, based in more than 40 countries, and manages a portfolio of roughly $40 billion in over 180 projects in more than 100 countries.

Prior to this position, Mr. Chen was the Senior Director for the World Bank’s Water Global Practice, from October 2016 to October 2018. Before that he served as World Bank country director in Ethiopia, and then in Southern Africa covering Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia, South Africa, Swaziland, Zambia and Zimbabwe, based in Pretoria.

Mr. Chen has over 25 years of international experience in sustainable development, infrastructure finance and management with the World Bank Group and the Asian Development Bank. He joined the World Bank as a transport economist in 1997.

A Chinese national, Mr. Chen holds a graduate degree in Economics from Harvard University, USA, and B.A. in Economics from Zhongshan (Sun Yat-Sen) University, Guangzhou, China.

Ambassador Michael B. CHRISTIDES is the Secretary General of the Permanent International Secretariat (PERMIS) of the Organization of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation (BSEC), headquartered in Istanbul, Turkey.

Born in Thessaloniki, Greece in 1949, Ambassador CHRISTIDES joined the Hellenic MFA in 1976 as first in his Class and served with distinction until his retirement in August 2014. Among other assignments he served as Ambassador of Greece to Bulgaria, to Turkey and to Argentina and held senior posts in the Hellenic MFA. After his retirement Ambassador CHRISTIDES was elected by the BSEC Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs as Secretary General of the BSEC PERMIS, assuming his duties on 1 July 2015. Following the unanimous endorsement by all BSEC Member States, the same Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs reappointed on 15 December 2017 Ambassador CHRISTIDES for a second three year term-in-office, as of 1 July 2018.
Nicolas Beaumont’s 25 years within the Michelin Group enabled him to hold different positions in the USA, in India and in Europe.

Prior to assuming his current role, Nicolas Beaumont served as:
- CEO of Michelin Travel Partner (Michelin leisure, food and travel related activities)
- President and Managing Director of Michelin India TamilNadu Tyres Pvt Ltd located in Chennai. He was responsible for setting up Michelin Operations in India.
- Worldwide Supply Chain Manager of Michelin’s Earthmover Tyre Product Line

Since joining the Michelin Group, he has held other positions in Research, Development and Production management.

He graduated from The Ecole Polytechnique in France and holds a PHD degree in Mechanical Engineering from the Ecole des Mines de Paris.

Adefunke Adeyemi was recently honoured as one of the 200 globally Most Influential People of African Descent (MIPAD) in affiliation with the United Nations Decade for People of African Descent. An alumnus of the University of Cambridge, she is a catalyst of change, a transformative thought leader and influencer, positively impacting lives and the business environment through her passion, work and initiatives. She is focused on bringing value, best practices and international standards to sectors, industries, businesses and government, through her work and career spanning 20 years. She is a lawyer, advocate and global aviation expert.

In her current role as Regional Director, Advocacy & Strategic Relations for Africa at the International Air Transportation Association (IATA), Adefunke advocates for the sustainability and growth of the aviation industry across the region, highlighting its value to economies and societies as an enabler and catalyst for development and growth, and a force for social good.

Adefunke is passionate about Leadership and Innovation. In IATA, she was part of the core senior management group tasked with revising the strategic direction of the global aviation industry and the re-organisation of IATA to better meet member and industry needs. Until last year, Adefunke headed the Diversity & Inclusion initiative of IATA in Africa Middle East, also leading its Women in Leadership program in the region, and has mentored several women and men, both within and outside her organisation.
Dr. Supee Teravaninthorn oversees sovereign-backed financing projects at AIIB. Dr. Teravaninthorn main responsibility is to strengthen the capacity of the Investment Operations Department and build up the AIIB portfolio, with particular emphasis on ensuring portfolio diversity and quality. Prior to joining AIIB, Dr. Teravaninthorn served in the management team of the World Bank. Her experience in infrastructure planning and development in East Asia, Southeast Asia and Africa is long and well-established.

Her goal at AIIB is to support the planning and financing of high priority economic infrastructure development in greater Asia. Her development perspective goes beyond the country specific boundary, expanding to the regional development corridor concept. She believes that the right kind of infrastructure investment will effectively become an engine of growth to stimulate and bring the hidden development potential to reality. Dr. Teravaninthorn holds a PhD in economics from Hitotsubashi University in Tokyo, Japan.

Julien is a PwC Luxembourg audit partner, with a primary focus on Real Assets (Real Estate & Infrastructure) and commercial companies. Through his audits and research & advisory services, Julien developed a strong expertise in the Real Assets industry, assisting his clients all along the investment cycle.

From 2010 to 2013, Julien has been seconded to PwC Tokyo in order to assist the Japanese office in the development of the real estate practice.

Professional experience
- Julien is currently the PwC Luxembourg leader for the:
  - Eurasian Infrastructure strategy
  - Business relationship China, Hong Kong & Taiwan – Luxembourg for Real Assets.

Julien graduated from the University of Aix-en-Provence (France) and is an ACCA fellow member and Luxembourg chartered accountant.
In her capacity as Director General of the International Road Federation (IRF) in Geneva, Switzerland, Susanna Zammataro is responsible for developing and implementing strategic plans for the organization. Established in 1948, IRF is a membership-based organisation, representing leading corporate and institutional players drawn from the road and mobility sectors worldwide. Its mission is to promote the development of roads and road networks that enable access and sustainable mobility for all (www.irfnet.ch).

As in-house expert on Environment and Climate change, she is also responsible for the overall environmental programmes and activities run by the IRF. These include the Greenhouse Gas Calculator for road infrastructure (CHANGER), the Green Public Procurement Initiative and Innovative Practices for Greener Roads. Susanna represents IRF in several Technical Committees relating to Sustainability: she’s a member of the UNECE Climate Change Expert Group on Adaptation and the accredited IRF representative for the COP negotiations in between others.

Mrs Zammataro is a member of the Advisory Board of the FIA High Level Panel on Road Safety. She’s serving since 2012 as the Co-Chairperson of the “Safer Roads and Mobility” Pillar of the United Nations Road Safety Collaboration Group (UNRSC).

She has recently joined the Board of the Total Foundation to support and lend her expertise to the Sustainability and Road Safety work streams of the Foundation. She serves as Steering Committee Member in the Sustainable Mobility for All initiative (SuM4All) led by the World Bank and as expert in the WGs on Efficiency, Safety and Gender.

She has represented the Federation at high-level meetings all over the world. She is regularly invited to speak on a variety of topics at international fora and conferences.