

## *Call for Papers*

# Rural and Agricultural Development in the Digital Age

### **Guest Editors**

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[Review of Development Economics](#) (RDE) will publish a special issue on “Rural and Agricultural Development in the Digital Age”. (RDE is an SSCI journal with a current impact factor of 1.170)

Information and communication technologies (ICTs) – broadly defined as the internet, phones, computers, tablets, platforms, networks, software applications, and databases – are ubiquitous and influence our day-to-day lives. The proliferation of ICTs has been transformational for markets, governments, and households. Access to and use of ICTs has increased considerably in recent decades in rural areas of developing and transition countries. These changes have underpinned a vast body of theoretical and empirical research on ICTs’ impacts and implications for agricultural production and marketing and on rural household well-being. Nevertheless, more research is needed to better understand how these digital technologies affect rural and agricultural development for making better-targeted development intervention programs.

With this special issue, we seek to expand our understanding of rural and agricultural development in the digital age in Asian countries. Contributions from other countries are also welcome. Contributions may consider (but are not limited to) research that investigates the relationships between the use and adoption of widely defined ICTs and the following themes:

- Adoption of agricultural technologies and productivity growth
- Transformation of sustainable agricultural and food systems
- Rural economic transformation
- Food security, nutrition, and dietary diversity
- livelihood strategies, poverty, income growth, and quality of life
- Inclusion, diversity, and socioeconomic inequality
- Rural migration and employment
- Rural-urban divide
- Empowering different demographic groups
- E-commerce and financial inclusion

## Submission Guidelines

- All submissions must be papers that are original and should not be under consideration for publication elsewhere. All manuscripts must comply with the author guidelines for [Review of Development Economics](#). There are no submission fees.
- Submission should be made through the journal's online system at: <https://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/rde>. When submitting your article, please select "SI: R&A development" when choosing submission type.
- All submissions will be subject to double-blind peer review and editorial processes following the policies of the RDE journal.
- The guest editors will first review papers submitted to the special issue. A paper may be rejected without being sent for review should the guest editors review the papers as unsuitable for the journal in terms of quality or aims and scope. The selected submissions will undergo an expedited review.
- The selected papers will be arranged for presentations at the conference organized by the [Asian Development Bank Institute](#) (ADBI). Other submissions that have good quality but are not relevant to the Special Issue will be transferred to be regular submissions.
- Accepted papers will be published online first, and then they will be listed together in a journal issue once all of the special issue papers are published online.
- The submission deadline is **30 June 2022**.

## ADBI Conference

Authors of selected papers will be invited to present at the **28-29 July 2022** conference organized by the ADBI. Should conditions allow the conference to take place in Tokyo, ADBI will provide travel support to one author per paper. The author must be a citizen of an [Asian Development Bank member economy](#).

Papers submitted to the Special Issue will undergo a normal journal review process, starting as soon as the paper is accepted for conference presentation. However, the final decision will be made after the conference. This will allow authors to incorporate feedback received during the conference into their manuscripts.

The conference will be held virtually in the event of COVID-19 travel disruptions.

## Enquiries

We look forward to receiving your submission and are happy to answer any questions you may have. For enquiries, you may directly contact Dr. Wanglin Ma at [Wanglin.Ma@lincoln.ac.nz](mailto:Wanglin.Ma@lincoln.ac.nz) or Dr. Dil Rahut at [drahut@adbi.org](mailto:drahut@adbi.org).