



## Asad Alam

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### Summary Profile

Mr Asad Alam is the Regional Director for Eastern and Southern Africa for the Equitable Growth, Finance and Institutions (EFI) Vice Presidency of the World Bank. In this position, he is responsible for the design, development, and delivery of World Bank's programs in about 25 countries in eastern and southern Africa. These include low income, fragile and conflict affected countries, as well as middle and higher income countries. He currently oversees a portfolio of development programs and projects of about \$10 billion, a staff of over 270, and provides thought and operational leadership on a range of issues including inclusive development strategies, macroeconomics, trade and exchange rates, fiscal policies, financial sector, private investment, competitiveness, governance, and poverty and inequality.

Mr. Alam has wide experience of engaging in policy and institutional reforms in many countries in sub-Saharan Africa, Middle-East and North Africa, and in Europe and Central Asia. Prior to his current assignment, Mr Alam served as Chief of Staff to the President of the World Bank Group. He has earlier also served in various positions including as Country Director for Egypt, Yemen and Djibouti; Country Director for Southern Africa (South Africa, Botswana, Lesotho, eSwatini, and Namibia); Country Director for the South Caucasus (Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia); Sector Manager in Eastern Europe and Central Asia, and country economist for various countries including Ghana, Uzbekistan, and Russia.

Mr Alam has written on various subjects including growth, productivity, governance, poverty, inequality, trade, and fiscal issues. Some of his World Bank publications include: *Making it Happen: Selected Case Studies of Institutional Reform in South Africa (2015)*, *Fighting Corruption in Public Services: Chronicling Georgia's Reforms (2012)*, *Unleashing Prosperity: Productivity Growth in Eastern Europe and the Former Soviet Union (2008)* and *Growth, Poverty and Inequality in Eastern Europe and the Former Soviet Union (2005)*.

### EDUCATION

1992	<i>Ph.D. in Economics</i> , Columbia University, New York.
1987	<i>B.Sc. in Economics</i> (First Class Honors), The London School of Economics and Political Science, London.

## WORLD BANK PROFESSIONAL ASSIGNMENTS

2019-	<i>Regional Director, Equitable Growth, Finance and Institutions, Africa East Region, Washington, DC.</i>
2018-19	<i>Chief of Staff, Office of the President, The World Bank Group, Washington, DC.</i>
2015-18	<i>Country Director, Egypt, Yemen and Djibouti, Cairo, Egypt</i>
2012-15	<i>Country Director, Southern Africa (Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia, South Africa, Swaziland), Pretoria, South Africa</i>
2009 –12	<i>Country Director, South Caucasus (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia), Tbilisi, Georgia</i>
2003-08	<i>Sector Manager, Poverty Reduction and Economic Management Department, Europe and Central Asia Region, Washington, DC. Responsibility for Poverty and Gender for ECA and from 2004 for Macroeconomics for Russia, Ukraine, Moldova and Belarus.</i>
2002-03	<i>Lead Economist, Poverty Reduction and Economic Management Department, Europe and Central Asia Region, Washington, DC</i>
1999-02	<i>Senior Economist, Poverty Reduction and Economic Management Department, Europe and Central Asia Region. Responsibilities primarily on Russia and Poland, Washington DC</i>
1998-99	<i>Country Economist for Uzbekistan, Poverty Reduction and Economic Management Department, Europe and Central Asia Region, Washington DC</i>
1994-98	<i>Country Economist for Ghana, Poverty Reduction and Economic Management Department, Africa Region, Washington DC</i>
1993-94	<i>Young Professional, Africa and East Asia regions, Washington DC</i>
1992-93	<i>Consultant, Private Sector, Trade and Finance Division, Latin America Region, Washington DC</i>

## AWARDS AND DISTINCTIONS

2012	Order of the Golden Fleece by the President of Georgia
1987- 89	President's Fellow, Columbia University
1987	Fellow of the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, Columbia University
1986	Lady Mountbatten Scholarship, The London School of Economics and Political Science
1984-87	ICIC Foundation Scholarship, The London School of Economics and Political Science
1978	Certificate of Merit, The Government of India

## SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Alam, A. and co-authors, 2016, *Making it Happen: Selected Case Studies of Institutional Reform in South Africa*, Directions in Development, The World Bank.

.....and co-authors, 2015, *Fighting Corruption in Public Services: Chronicling Georgia's Reforms*, Directions in Development, The World Bank.

....., P Mitra and S. Zaidi, 'Key Factors Affecting Satisfaction with Life in Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union', 2008, *World Bank Working Paper* No. 162, The World Bank.

....., P. Anos Casero, F. Khan, C. Udomsaph, 2008, *Unleashing Prosperity: Productivity Growth in Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union*, The World Bank.

....., M. Murthi, R. Yemtsov, E. Murrugarra, N. Dudwick, E. Hamilton, and E. Tiongson, 2005, *Growth, Poverty and Inequality in Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union*, The World Bank.

..... with co-authors, 2003, *Poland: Towards a Fiscal Framework for Growth*, Grey Cover Report, The World Bank.

..... with co-authors, 2003, *Russia: Development Policy Review*, Grey Cover Report, The World Bank.

....., M. Sundberg, A Decade of Fiscal Transition, 2002, *Policy Research Working Paper Series* No. 2835, The World Bank.

..... with co-authors, 2001, *Russia: Towards Improving the Efficiency of Public Investment Expenditures*, Grey Cover Report, The World Bank.

..... and A. Banerji, 2000, 'Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan: A Tale of Two Transition Paths', *Policy Research Working Paper Series* No. 2472, The World Bank.

..... with co-authors, 1999, *Uzbekistan: Social and Structural Policy Review*, Grey Cover Report, The World Bank.

..... with co-authors, 1995, *Ghana Country Economic Memorandum: Growth, Private Sector and Poverty Reduction*, Grey Cover Report, The World Bank.

.....1995, 'The New Trade Theory and Developing Countries', *The World Economy*, Vol. 18, No. 3, The World Bank.

.....with co-authors, 1994, 'A Review of the Social Security System in the Philippines', The World Bank.

.....and S. Rajapatirana, 1993, 'Trade Policy Reform in Latin America and the Caribbean in the 1980s', *Policy Research Working Paper Series* No. 1104, The World Bank.

.....and G. Psacharopoulos, 1991, 'Earnings and Education in Venezuela: An Update from the 1987 Household Survey', *Economics of Education Review*, Vol. 10, Issue 1, Elsevier.