

DISSEMINATION ACTIVITIES



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To ensure that the results and recommendations of its studies are properly channeled to and reach their intended audience, ERIA organises seminars and symposia, either on its own or jointly with other institutions, wherein highlights of its research findings and recommendations are presented to concerned officials as well as other important stakeholders in the various countries of the region. At the same time, the Institute maintains a close liaison with local and international media in having its studies and activities reported in the media within the region. In addition, ERIA regularly publishes Research Project Reports, Discussion Papers and Policy Briefs which are made available online for wider dissemination.

Recently, ERIA has also enhanced its dissemination function as it adopted a dual-pronged strategy of continuing to make its studies and publications available on its website and at the same time disseminating them through more focused and stratified distribution/ mailing lists. Moreover, the Institute also strengthened its Publications program in FY 2013 with the hiring of two editorial and publication staff to further enhance its capacity to produce more publications. In this regard, a new publication outlet – the *ERIA Frames* newsletter – has been introduced.

SEMINARS AND SYMPOSIA

ERIA has been conducting seminars and symposia which help nurture a sense of community in the region as it seeks inputs and feedback from stakeholders regarding the key results and recommendations of the ERIA studies. The seminars and symposia serve as the venue for presenting, disseminating and promoting the Institute's research results. In FY 2013, ERIA worked largely in cooperation with regional and multilateral institutions and academia such as the ASEAN Secretariat, Asian Development Bank, Harvard University and Singapore Institute of International Affairs in conducting said seminars and symposia. Annex H lists these major seminars and symposia.

ERIA IN THE NEWS

In FY 2013, ERIA activities were reported and published by a number of international media based in Asia such as *The Nation*, *Jakarta Post* and *East Asia Forum*. Interviews with ERIA key officials and researchers/economists as well as with members of the ERIA Governing Board and Academic Advisory Council on some of the findings and implications of ERIA's studies and activities likewise saw print in various major newspapers and magazines in the region. Annex I enumerates the media mileage that ERIA had in FY 2013.

PUBLICATIONS

Fiscal year 2013 proved to be bountiful in terms of publications as the Institute produced 12 Research Project Reports, 40 Discussion Papers and three Policy Briefs. In January 2014, ERIA also launched a new category to its list of publications – its bi-monthly newsletter called the *ERIA Frames*. Two issues came out during the fiscal year, namely, the maiden issue (January-February) and the March-April issue.

The complete list of publications released in FY 2013 is shown in Annex J.

Research Project Reports

Twelve Research Project Reports (RPRs) were published for the year, eight of which dwelled on energy-related issues such as the development of an energy security index for East Asia, strategic usage of coal in the EAS region, and international cooperation on nuclear safety management in East Asian countries. The focus on energy-related issues highlights the continuing importance of energy concerns in the ERIA research agenda. The other topics under the RPR series were on trade and integration matters (*The Road to Bali*), ASEAN and AEC beyond 2015, content industry in ASEAN and East Asia, and the ASEAN SME Policy Index.

Discussion Papers

In FY 2013, a total of 40 Discussion Papers (DPs) were released, a large number of which were outputs of the ERIA flagship project on “ASEAN Rising: ASEAN and AEC Beyond 2015”. This represents the biggest number so far in terms of DPs released since ERIA’s establishment in 2008. As seen in Figure 1, a total of 107 DPs have been issued since 2008, with 67 DPs released between 2008 and 2013, averaging 13 to 14 papers per year, and then followed by a spike in the number beginning April 2013 which led to a total of 40 DPs for FY 2013.



Figure 1. ERIA Discussion Papers Released (FY2008 – 2013)

Policy Briefs

Repackaged either from a Research Project Report or a Discussion Paper, Policy Briefs (PBs) look at specific aspects of a particular issue taken up in the ERIA studies and the implications for policy. They include the key policy issues and policy recommendations based on the results or findings of the studies.

For FY 2013, the Institute issued three Policy Briefs dealing with the ongoing reforms and economic transition in Myanmar. The first one revisits the role of the Dawei Project and reaffirms its importance in the era of reforms in Myanmar, emphasising that the project has significant additional benefits for the whole Mekong region. The second Policy Brief points to the need to restructure the Myanmar bureaucracy and transform it into a development agent of change. And the third one underscores the importance of Myanmar remaining on course in its program of reforms while pursuing its economic growth, and recommends a development model for Myanmar that is inclusive, people-centered and sustainable. The focus on Myanmar is in recognition of its Chairmanship role of ASEAN for 2014.

ERIA Frames

Launched in January 2014, the *ERIA Frames* newsletter is the latest in the Institute’s category of publications. The newsletter presents a bi-monthly picture of the Institute’s works and activities on ASEAN and East Asia issues. It describes recently completed and ongoing research projects as well as highlights of seminars, symposia, meetings and workshops, including feedback from capacity building workshops. Thoughts and perspectives on regional issues as written by ERIA scholars and other stakeholders in the region are also presented.

For its maiden issue (January-February), *ERIA Frames* presented highlights of the series of workshops held in four major cities in the ASEAN region in November 2013 on ERIA’s flagship project on ASEAN and AEC Beyond 2015. It also featured the insights of one of ERIA’s economists on “Why Indonesia should drive integration” in the newsletter’s Thoughts section.

The March-April issue, meanwhile, dwelled on partnership as a running theme as it took a glimpse at the collaborative work between ERIA and its Research Institutes Network (RIN) over the years and the promise of a closer working alliance between ERIA and the OECD in the Southeast Asian region with the setting up of the OECD Southeast Asia Regional Programme. It also presented excerpts from the meetings of the ERIA Executive Director with key officials and academics of well-known European development and knowledge institutions. For the newsletter’s Thoughts section, ERIA’s Senior Policy Coordinator presented his perspectives on why and how the AEC experiences should serve as a foundation for RCEP. ■

