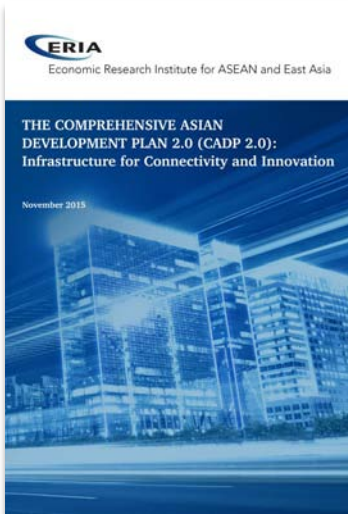


Narrowing Development Gaps





The Comprehensive Asian Development Plan 2.0: Infrastructure for Connectivity and Innovation

By ERIA CADP Research Team

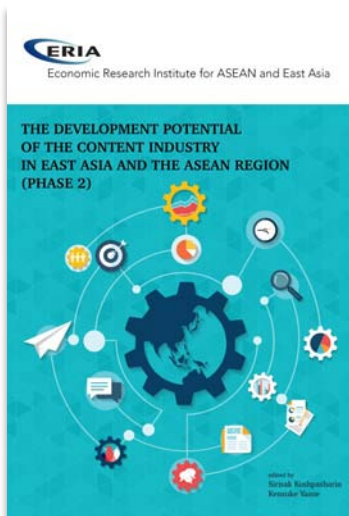
202 pages

ISBN: 978-602-8660-88-4

The original version of the Comprehensive Asia Development Plan (CADP), which was submitted to the East Asia Summit in 2010, presented a grand spatial design of economic infrastructure and industrial placement in ASEAN and East Asia and claimed to pursue both deepening economic integration and narrowing development gaps.

This publication, which was submitted to the 10th East Asia Summit in 2015, expands the framework of the original version of CADP to a new development strategy that guides the prioritisation and selection of hard and soft infrastructure projects for connectivity and innovation. CADP 2.0 also highlights the importance of 'the quality of infrastructure' and 'the quality of infrastructure projects'.

CADP 2.0 connects the conceptual framework with actual hard and soft infrastructure projects. It lists 120 projects by tier, sector, and target outcome (i.e. connectivity or innovation), which are selected from 761 prospective projects. CADP 2.0 makes the quantitative assessment of hard and soft infrastructure development in the horizon of 2030 with the Geographical Simulation Model of the Institute of Developing Economies and the Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (IDE/ERIA-GSM).



The Development Potential of the Content Industry in East Asia and the ASEAN Region (Phase 2)

By Sirisak Koshpasharin and Kensuke Yasue

284 pages

ISBN: 978-602-8660-87-7

Policymakers and experts from China, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, and Thailand who comprised the ERIA working group on content industry conducted a two-year research project to propose policy recommendations for developing the content industry in Asia.

Through interviews, questionnaire survey, and discussions among the members, the working group conducted a SWOT (strength-weakness-opportunity-threat) analysis of the content industry in each country and in the Asian region as a whole, and further evaluated policies for promoting the industry based on 'necessity' and 'effectiveness' of policies.

The study proposes the following policy recommendations: (i) communicate industrial development visions, master plans, statistics; (ii) establish international agreements; (iii) introduce incentive schemes to encourage investments; (iv) establish governmental financing schemes to promote private financing; and (v) introduce and review the management of intellectual property rights protection, and anti-piracy measures.

National Public-Private Partnership Framework in ASEAN Member Countries

By ERIA

ERIA Research Project Report

Public-private partnership (PPP) has been an important issue in ASEAN in recent years. It is viewed as one alternative modality to fulfil the massive infrastructure demand in the region.

The major part of the report is a set of individual country profiles that summarise PPP policy, regulatory and institutional frameworks, and recent developments in each member country. The report also compares PPP in the 10 ASEAN member countries, and contains an introductory essay and case studies. This publication, together with ERIA's *ASEAN PPP Guidelines*, will hopefully serve as an introduction for policymakers or practitioners.

Reforming the Intellectual Property System to Promote Foreign Direct Investment in ASEAN

By ERIA

ERIA Research Project Report 2013-16

ASEAN adopted the 'ASEAN Intellectual Property Rights Action Plan 2011-2015' in 2011, where ASEAN recognises the need to ensure the protection and enforcement of intellectual property rights of trading partners to encourage foreign direct investment (FDI) in the region.

Through interviews and a survey questionnaire, this study investigated the current status of the intellectual property (IP) regime and IP policy of ASEAN member states (AMS), and how they could and should develop their IP-related policies to promote investments by multinational companies by clarifying the kinds of protection and enforcement of intellectual property rights essential for FDI. Selected multinationals considering expansion into, and those that have already expanded to, the AMS were interviewed, to identify the opportunities and challenges of the IP landscape in said states.

Evolving Informal Remittance Methods of Myanmar Migrant Workers in Thailand

By Koji Kubo

ERIA Discussion Paper 2015-45

This paper focuses on the diverse informal remittance methods of Myanmar migrant workers in Thailand. It examines the determinants in migrant workers' choice of informal remittance methods. Results indicate that accessibility of payment points in Myanmar is an important determinant. Migrants sending money can choose potentially more efficient operators who employ bank branches as payment points. Assuming that informal operators' use of bank branches stimulates competition among them, the paper argues that expanding the branch network of Myanmar banks adds to the efficiency of the informal remittance market.

Improving the Regulatory and Support Environment for Migrant Workers for Greater Productivity, Competitiveness, and Social Welfare in ASEAN

By Naomi Hatsukano

ERIA Discussion Paper 2015-76

Migration between ASEAN member states will increase when the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) stimulates economic development within the region and demand for labour grows. The majority of migrant workers in ASEAN member states are lower-skilled workers; however, the free flow of lower-skilled workers is not addressed in the AEC. The ASEAN Declaration on the Protection and Promotion of the Rights of Migrant Workers in 2007 and its Work Plan in 2008 aim to promote regional cooperation to protect the lower-skilled migrant workers. To reduce the waiting time and cost associated with the unclear and inefficient administration, and to add more value to regular migration, it is important to promote the use of official channels. Securing workers' welfare will also lead to increased productivity.

Investing in Higher Education, and Its Potential Impact on Research and Development for Technology Upgrading, Innovation, and Competitiveness

By Robin Sakamoto

ERIA Discussion Paper 2015-52

This paper aims to review the state of higher education development in ASEAN and to formulate how research and development should proceed post 2015 to ensure technological upgrading, innovation, and competitiveness.

Investing in Workers and Firms as Learning Centres for Industrial Upgrading

By Hank Lim

ERIA Discussion Paper 2015-84

Investing in workers and firms as learning centres for industrial upgrading is important for economic, social, and cultural development in the context of the ASEAN Economic Community and the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community. The critical question is how best to impart learning and training of relevant skills in a rapidly changing and dynamic global environment. A collective approach of the government, firms, and workers as major stakeholders holds the key to this issue. This must be done proactively and should involve active participation by the stakeholders on a lifelong and sustained basis. Special programmes must be established for small and medium enterprises as they face structural constraints, including learning and training processes. Indeed, some ASEAN member states (AMS) have developed an effective and workable system for investing in workers and in firms for economic restructuring and industrial upgrading. In this context, AMS should seriously consider publicly funded workers' training and upgrading through various empirically tested schemes, initiated and supported regionally. For example, an ASEAN Academy for Human Resource Development and an ASEAN Labour Exchange initiative could be established for skills training and upgrading and as a platform for region-wide recognition of industries and firms with outstanding performance in investment in workers and firms as learning centres for industrial upgrading.

Market Concentration and Risk-Prevention Incentives:

The Case of the Hard Disk Drive Industry

By Hiroyuki Nakata, Yasuyuki Sawada, and Kunio Sekiguchi

ERIA Discussion Paper 2016-07

This paper studies the impact of market concentration on risk-prevention incentives by closely observing the changes in the price and quantity of hard disk drives before and after the 2011 Thailand floods. The combination of high price and low quantity persisting after the floods indicates that the floods triggered the formation of a de facto cartel, and a shift in demand for hard disk drives alone is unable to explain the observed combination. The findings of this study have profound implications for Southeast Asia, since some firms may have perverse risk-prevention incentives at the expense of other parties; consequently, the region's reputation being prone to natural disasters may discourage foreign direct investment.

Neutralising the Advantages of State-Owned Enterprises for a Fair Playing Field

By Nguyen Anh Tuan

ERIA Discussion Paper 2015-79

The attempts of Viet Nam's competition authorities to control state monopolies in domestic markets appear to be the key challenge of the country's competition regime. As the country transitions from a centrally planned economy to a market economy, the state-owned enterprises (SOEs) sector is perceived to ensure the socialist orientation of the economy and to preserve national economic goals. Thus, the government has offered SOEs several advantages—ranging from tangible incentives to latent conveniences—over privately owned enterprises. In this context, competition laws and policies should be able to neutralise the advantages of SOEs to level the playing field; otherwise, these would just be used to protect SOEs from their private rivals.

This paper looks into the issues of the SOE sector in Viet Nam's political economy and identifies the factors inhibiting the country's effort to control state monopolies in the last 10 years of competition law enforcement. It comments on the implementation of the country's competition laws and policies from the perspective of economic integration, particularly the ongoing Trans-Pacific Partnership negotiations.

Technology Transfer in ASEAN Countries: Narrowing Development Gaps Some Evidence from Buyer-Provided Training Network Data

By Fukunari Kimura, Tomohiro Machikita, and Yasushi Ueki

ERIA Discussion Paper 2015-40

Technology transfers are important for firms in developing countries to access new technology and initiate innovation. This paper examines the geographical pattern of technology transfers in the form of buyer-provided training in domestic and international production networks. The analysis reveals the following: (i) The probability of training provided by the main buyer presents a U-shaped quadratic pattern with respect to the geographical distance between the respondent firms and the main buyers; geographical proximity to the main buyer seems to be particularly important for local firms. (ii) Training is likely to be provided to both local and non-local firms when the main buyer is a multinational located in the same country. (iii) The probability of the main buyer providing training is high when it conducts research and development. (iv) Local and non-local firms whose training is provided by their main buyers are likely to provide training to their main suppliers. (v) Non-local firms that have upstream/downstream training are more likely to have product innovation with production partners. However, such links seem to be weaker in the case of local firms.

ASEAN PPP: From Institutional Development to Streamlined Implementation

By Norihiro Kawasaki

ERIA Policy Brief 2015-03

There is a growing momentum to set ambitious infrastructure development targets across ASEAN member states. ASEAN member states, aiming to mobilise private resources, have begun to put in a great deal of efforts to upgrade their enabling frameworks for public-private partnership (PPP). Yet, evidence suggests that implementation of PPP projects on the ground has fallen far behind expectations. This policy brief emphasises the importance of realistic and consistent project planning, preparation, and offering in streamlining the implementation process to accelerate PPP market development in ASEAN.