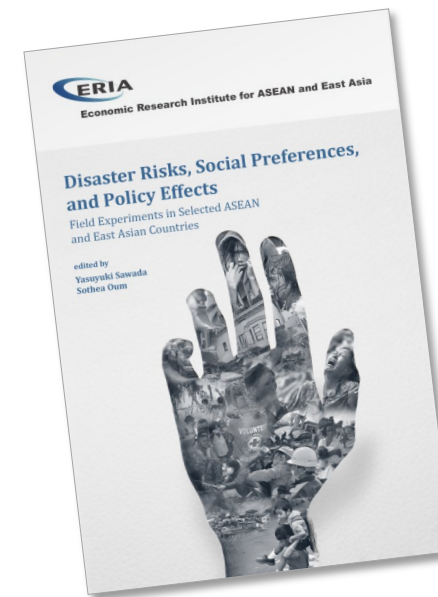


# Sustainable Development

The issues on environment, disaster management, and food security all affect the sustainability of the economic and social well-being of the peoples of ASEAN and East Asia. As such, studies on these areas remain high on the list of ERIA's research. For disaster management, in particular, ERIA is looking at potential insurance mechanisms at the regional level to help address and manage post-disaster effects.



## Disaster Risks, Social Preferences, and Policy Effects: Field Experiments in Selected ASEAN and East Asian Countries

By Yasuyuki Sawada and Sothea Oum  
ERIA Research Project Report 2013-34

In preparing for, or after, a disaster, various market and non-market mechanisms are indispensable for people to maintain their livelihood. Market insurance mechanisms include mechanisms through direct insurance markets and indirect mechanisms based on credit, labour, and other market transactions. Since market insurance mechanisms are still weak, especially against damage caused by disasters, governments and communities can play important roles in strengthening overall insurance mechanisms. The state can provide public insurance schemes and social protection programmes. Community-based informal insurance mechanisms can also make up for a lack of formal insurance schemes.

Strengthening market, state, and community insurance mechanisms requires a strong grasp of the roles of individual and social preferences. This report aims to produce the academic foundations of the nexus between a disaster and individual/social preferences, and to fill in the remaining large gap in the literature on behavioural impacts of disasters by investigating whether and how a disaster affects preferences, and how preferences determine the vulnerability and resilience against damage caused by a disaster. Findings from this study provide important policy implications for better insurance mechanisms at the community, national, and regional levels, generating inputs for high-level forums of ASEAN and East Asia.

## ASEAN Food Security: Towards a More Comprehensive Framework

By Barry Desker, Mely Caballero-Anthony and Paul Teng

ERIA Policy Brief 2014-03

This policy brief is based on the Issues Paper on ASEAN Food Security: Towards a More Comprehensive Framework. The key message is that food security is a priority agenda for the ASEAN Economic Community, and the issues to be addressed are (i) current impediments to agricultural trade and food production, (ii) standardisation mechanisms and regulatory frameworks, (iii) disjunctions between regional arrangements and domestic policies, (iv) public-private partnerships, and (v) crucial indicators for food security robustness.