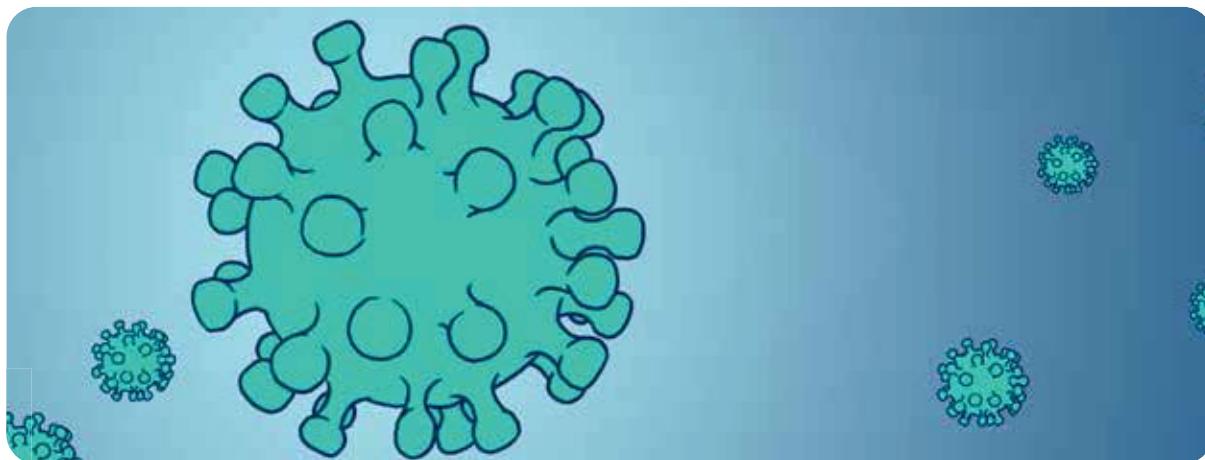


COVID-19 Related Projects



1. COVID-19 in Indonesia

The main long-term effect of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) in developing and least developed countries is rising poverty and unemployment. Governments around the world have launched major fiscal and monetary stimuli to overcome the pandemic. Still, implementation needs to be improved. The most important issue is how to revive trade and investment to maintain levels of employment. The Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA) carried out a study on COVID-19 in Indonesia. The study will address the impacts of COVID-19 on the economy, how to mitigate the economic impacts of the pandemic, and the kind of fiscal and monetary stimuli that can revive trade and investment and maintain pre-pandemic levels of employment. The Routledge co-publication, titled

COVID-19 in Indonesia: Impacts on the Economy and Ways to Recovery, was published in early April 2022. This book assesses the impacts of COVID-19 on the Indonesian economy, particularly on employment, education, poverty, trade, and the macro economy.

The study explains how fiscal and monetary stimuli work and the roles of local governments in managing such stimulus. It also presents paths to recovery and lessons learnt from countries that have found success in mitigating the economic impacts of the pandemic (China, Germany, Singapore, and Viet Nam). It will be a useful reference for policymakers, scholars, students, and the public audience working or having an interest in the fields of development economics, trade, health economics, economics, and East Asia.

2. A New Challenge of Urban Structural Change in the Post COVID-19 Era

COVID-19 has led many people, companies, and governments to recognise that it is becoming increasingly difficult to continue living and working the way we used to. The widespread use of telework and various measures to avoid crowding are giving people room to reconsider where they live and where their companies operate. This trend could continue even if vaccines are widely available and the impact of COVID-19 is reduced.

The widespread use of telework adds to the debate on the concentration of cities. Will these changes in the economic environment lead to a reduction in urban concentration? Or, conversely, will they accelerate it? If policymakers do not like the concentration of cities, especially the largest economic centres, what policies can be adopted to make them less concentrated? The dramatic changes in the economic environment brought about by COVID-19 may also change the tone of the long-running debate on the economy of agglomeration and the development of information and

communication technologies (ICTs). Indeed, in parallel with the development of ICTs, a debate has ensued about whether urban agglomeration will proceed or be moderated. In Asia, the problem of concentration in the largest economic centres is common and is part of the vulnerability of large cities, as evidenced through COVID-19, where infections were spread by the movement of people. This is why sharing best practices and developing appropriate policies in response to changes in the economic environment are essential for economic development and the improvement of people's lives in the medium to long term. As COVID-19 will semi-compulsorily promote telework in many countries and have a major impact on industrial structures, it makes sense to study and analyse the changes and the latest policies at this time.

This project summarises the economics and diseconomies of agglomeration, and analyses the policies of remote work, industrial policy, and the new capital initiative to ease the concentration of power in different countries. The study combines a review of theories with case studies of specific cities. Using available data, we analyse data on post-2020 changes in specific cities.