The Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA) held the 10th Anniversary Symposium at the Imperial Hotel Tokyo, Japan on 18 October 2018.

In his opening remarks, President of ERIA Prof Hidetoshi Nishimura expressed his sincere gratitude to ERIA’s stakeholders and partners, especially the Government of Japan, that have made substantial contributions to the development of ERIA in the last ten years as an international organisation, the ‘OECD in East Asia’.

After the audience was presented with a video that showcased ERIA’s activities and accomplishments in the last decade, the panel session began. Tan Sri Datuk Dr Rebecca Fatima Sta Maria, Senior Policy Fellow of ERIA and former Secretary General of Malaysia’s Ministry of International Trade and Industry, moderated the panel discussion...
entitled ‘ERIA’s 10th Anniversary: Achievements and Future Prospects’. The three distinguished panellists were very familiar with ERIA’s activities and provided interesting points of discussion and suggestion for ERIA going forward.

The first panellist, Tan Sri Rafidah binti Aziz, Former Minister of International Trade and Industry of Malaysia, shed light on global- and regional level changes that happened in the last decade in the economic and social environments. The changes have altered the course of policies, steering many countries towards isolationism and protectionism, exemplified by looming trade war between great powers. She showed her intriguing view that ‘irrational decision making’ particularly of developed economies, which has not necessarily been based on sound economic principles, has currently generated economic distortions across borders and has negatively affected investment and trade of the world. Amidst such unanticipated events, she stressed the critical role of ERIA to promptly present well-considered policy recommendations regarding measures that can be taken to promote economic integration in cooperation with regional policymakers. She also described the necessity to start nurturing younger generations as soon as possible so that they can understand the importance of regional economic integration in East Asia.

The second speaker, Mr Adrian S. Cristobal Jr., is the Chairman of ERIA’s Governing Board and Former Secretary of Department of Trade and Industry, the Philippines. He expressed his admiration on ERIA’s strenuous efforts to expand its research horizon to energy, agriculture, health care, and other topics, while at the same time organising many high-level roundtables, symposiums, and workshops. ERIA’s efforts have resulted in its recognition as the 24th Top International Economic Think Tank according to the Global Go To Think Tank Index published by the Think Tanks and Civil Societies Program (TTCSP) of the Lauder Institute at the University of Pennsylvania. He emphasised ERIA’s unique ability to help form consensus of policies in East Asia through dialogue and discussion with leaders, ministers, and high-level officials. On the other hand, he pointed to necessary reforms that ERIA has to undertake in order to catch up with changes in intellectual and social situations. Concretely, he emphasised further work that ERIA needs to do in bridging various gaps between academic knowledge, practical policymaking, and people in general, as well as producing innovative policies that improve the whole society and reduce poverty.

Prof Fukunari Kimura, Chief Economist of ERIA, was the last person in the panel. He expressed his preparedness in cooperating with policymakers to resolve many economic and social problems in East Asia. As he explained, researchers of ERIA have put much academic input into real issues such as economic integration, non-tariff measures, technology spillovers, infrastructure connectivity, small and medium enterprise promotion, digital economies, energy, and health care; most of which are published as discussion papers, policy briefs, and newspaper articles. He showed his sense of pride in gradually enhancing the capacity of regional researchers who are involved with various ERIA projects over the years. Giving examples of possible cooperation with the countries that act as ASEAN Chair, he concluded that ERIA will need to continue working closely together with policymakers while improving the quality of its academic research.

H.E. Mr. Tadahiko Ito, Member of the House of Representatives in the Japanese Diet, Former Vice Minister of the Environment, and Former Minister of State for Disaster Management, delivered his special remarks after the panel discussion. He talked about his experience in proposing the Japan-ASEAN Environment Cooperation Initiative in 2017 in association with ERIA to address environmental issues such as air and water pollution, waste management, and urbanisation in ASEAN. He underlined the significance of encouraging ASEAN to realise the circular and sustainable society with the support of ERIA. In addition, he showed his determination to continue his commitment to ERIA as a member of the ERIA Parliament League.

In the discussion session, the panellists highlighted the importance of connectivity to develop the mindset of unity of ASEAN and East Asia. They stated that not only physical connectivity was needed, but also soft, institutional, and psychological connectivity. The Q&A
touched upon economic integration through bilateral free trade agreements, the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership, the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership, and the regional initiatives of China’s One Belt One Road.

Prof Nishimura concluded the event by announcing the winners of the 4th Asia Cosmopolitan Awards (ACA). He invited two winners of the Cultural Prize, which are the art collective teamLab and renowned glass artist Ms Mieko Noguchi as representatives. The Nara Forum will be held in Nara, Japan on 10 January 2019 to congratulate the laureates. Mr Shogo Arai, the Governor of Nara Prefecture who organised the Nara Forum, also delivered his remarks.

Following the Symposium, ERIA’s 10th Anniversary Dinner Reception was held at the Imperial Hotel Tokyo attended by around 250 people who supported ERIA. In the opening, Mr Hiroshi Seko, Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry of Japan, Mr Fujio Mitarai, CEO of Canon and Japanese Governor of ERIA, and Mr Toshihiro Nikai, Secretary-General of Liberal Democratic Party, Japan and Chairman of Parliamentary Leagues for ERIA gave congratulations for ERIA’s 10th anniversary. Tan Sri Rafidah binti Aziz and Mr Adrian S. Cristobal, Jr. also delivered their remarks, including praising ERIA’s contribution to ASEAN and their expectations for ERIA’s activities in the future.

During the Dinner Reception, Prof Nishimura held a presentation ceremony of three ERIA books: ‘ASEAN @ 50 Volume 1: The ASEAN Journey: Reflections of ASEAN Leaders and Officials’ translated into Japanese, ‘ASEAN Rising’ translated into Japanese, and ‘ERIA’s 10th Anniversary’ written in Japanese.

President of ERIA Prof Hidetoshi Nishimura gave an opening remarks during the 10th Anniversary Symposium at the Imperial Hotel Tokyo, Japan on 18 October 2018.

President of ERIA Prof Hidetoshi Nishimura expressed his sincere gratitude to ERIA’s stakeholders and partners, especially the Government of Japan, that have made substantial contributions to the development of ERIA in the last ten years as an international organisation, the ‘OECD in East Asia’.
ERIA Attends the 36th ASEAN Ministers on Energy Meeting and Associated Meetings

President of the Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA), Prof Hidetoshi Nishimura, and a high-level delegation of ERIA’s energy experts attended the 36th ASEAN Ministers on Energy Meeting (AMEM) and Associated Meetings in Singapore on 29 October 2018.

Prof Nishimura was accompanied by Prof Jun Arima, Senior Policy Fellow for Energy and Environment; Mr Shigeru Kimura, Special Advisor on Energy Affairs; Dr Venkatachalam Anbumozhi, Senior Energy Economist; Dr Yanfei Li, Energy Economist; and Mr Shigeki Kamiyama, Director General for Research and Policy Design Administration.

Prof Nishimura presented ERIA’s energy research activities at the 12th East Asia Summit Energy Ministers Meeting (EAS EMM) that was held as part of the 36th AMEM. Starting from 2017, ERIA has been conducting its various studies on energy policy based on the Mid-Term Energy Policy Research Roadmap.

‘Total number of energy research projects in the Roadmap is 26 each year. Among them, energy research projects related to Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy is dominant, followed by the Energy Security and the capacity building activities. Some of them are and will be launched with attendance of Ministers of Cambodia, Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Myanmar and Thailand,’ said Prof Nishimura.

He went on to highlight four research projects that ERIA has been working on. First, projects related to ASEAN Power Generation and Transmission System Planning Institution (AGTP) and ASEAN Transmission System Operator Institution (ATSO). Second, issues around natural gas market. Third, delivery of small and medium size LNG to islands in Philippines. Fourth, hydrogen potential study in the EAS region.

Moreover, he announced ERIA’s plan to hold the 2nd East Asia Energy Forum and ERIA Energy Research Institutes Network (ERIN) Meeting in New Delhi in March 2019. Last year, ERIA held the 1st East Asia Energy Forum in Bohol, the Philippines, in cooperation with the Philippines Department of Energy.

The high-level delegation from ERIA held several bilateral meetings on the sidelines of the 36th AMEM with the delegations from Myanmar, Thailand, and the United States of America to discuss ERIA’s recent projects and explore the possibilities for further cooperation.

In the Joint Ministerial Statement of
10. The Ministers noted the LNG Producer Consumer Conference on 22 October 2018 in Nagoya, Japan and the Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA)’s contributions towards policy analysis, research studies, roundtables and technical workshops conducted on natural gas and LNG markets.

13. Implementation of the EAS policy research roadmap. The Ministers welcomed the implementation of the EAS Mid-Term Energy Policy Research Roadmap following the adoption of the roadmap at the 11th EAS EMM in September 2017. The studies conducted by ERIA under the roadmap supported the work of the three (3) EAS ECTF work streams, including EAS energy outlook and savings potential, DES application, next generation biofuels and analysis of geothermal energy potential in response to the particular needs of EAS countries for economic analysis. During the EAS EMM, delegations from Japan, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, and Myanmar expressed their appreciation for ERIA’s research projects on energy. ERIA has conducted various research projects in collaboration with the Energy Ministry in several ASEAN countries, which has resulted in many publications, the notable ones include Cambodia National Energy Statistics 2016 and Lao PDR National Energy Statistics 2018.

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ERIA Participates in the 2nd World Circular Economy Forum

On 22-24 October 2018, the 2nd World Circular Economy Forum was held in Yokohama, Japan. Jointly hosted by the Ministry of the Environment of Japan and Sitra (the Finnish Innovation Fund), the three-day forum brought together around 1,000 people from governments, the private sector and academia.

ERIA partnered in organising the forum and contributed in four sessions. President of ERIA, Prof Hidetoshi Nishimura, gave his keynote speech at the plenary session on the first day, sharing the key findings of ERIA’s publication on Industry 4.0. Prof Nishimura discussed the drivers of circular economy transition in the context of Southeast Asia, the region’s prerogatives for the circular economy, and the circular economy initiatives which have been applied by ASEAN countries. Furthermore, he outlined possible approaches to accelerate the circular economy in the region and scale impact around existing initiatives. These approaches include strengthening production and innovation capabilities, partnering industry leaders in production and incremental innovation as well as in architectural and modular innovation, and assuming industry leadership.

Prof Nishimura concluded by suggesting that a comprehensive assessment to evaluate countries’ readiness to integrate the circular economy and a monitoring framework are needed. He further asserted that while the reduce, reuse, recycle (3Rs) approaches might be an effective entry point for moving towards a circular economy, innovations in technical and financial models are important for the success of the region-wide circular economy transition.

On the second day, Prof Nishimura moderated a high-level panel on ‘Mobility Revolution and Future Transportation for the Circular Economy,’ with panellists from Toyota, SoftBank, MaaS Global Oy and Nippon Steel & Sumitomo Metal Corporation (NSSMC).

Participating as one of the panellists in the ‘Circularity in Global Value Chains’ session, ERIA Senior Economist Mr Michikazu Kojima discussed the implications of the circular economy for international trade. He pointed out that trade regulations on recyclable waste and secondhand goods that are either too strict and too weak would potentially damage good businesses with environmentally sound technologies. In discussing the applicability of data traceability and digital tools to reduce regulatory barriers and harmonise trade, Mr Kojima referred to the potential use of GPS trackers hidden inside electronic waste to monitor the flow of e-waste from collection points to its final destination and at the same time, evaluate the performance of recycling programmes.

ERIA’s Senior Energy Economist Dr Venkatachalam Anbumozhi participated in the session titled ‘Circular Economy and Rural Development’ wherein he spoke about the circular advantage of eco-industrial clusters in the urban-rural fringe areas of Asia. Comparing four Asian countries where the circular economy initiative has been implemented, he brought into the discussion the role of technology, social capital and integrated policies as the common factors in meeting the goals of the circular economy.
ERIA President Delivers Keynote Speech at the 7th LNG Producer-Consumer Conference

President of the Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA), Prof Hidetoshi Nishimura, participated in the 7th LNG Producer-Consumer Conference held in Nagoya, Japan on 22 October 2018.

Jointly hosted by Japanese Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI) and the Asia Pacific Energy Research Centre (APERC), the conference took on the theme of ‘Collaboration between Producers and Consumers in 'the Second Gas Revolution’: Efforts by Producers and Consumers towards Ensuring the Security of LNG Supply in the New Environment’. It was attended by over 1,000 people from governments, international organisations, and business communities involved in the liquefied natural gas (LNG) industry from over 30 countries and economies.

With the aim of providing a platform for LNG producers, consumers, and other stakeholders to share their viewpoints on the opportunities and challenges of the global LNG market and to discuss emerging trends and future outlook, the conference was divided into six sessions comprising ministerial speeches, presentations, policy updates and panel discussions.

HE Mr Hiroshige Seko, the Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry of Japan and HE Dr Mohammed Bin Saleh Al-Sada, the Minister of Energy and Industry of Qatar delivered the opening remarks. In his remarks, Minister Seko explained Japan’s efforts to promote LNG market, notably through developing the necessary infrastructure to address growing Asian as well as global demand. Meanwhile, Minister Al-Sada discussed Qatar’s plan to expand domestic LNG production to meet its National Vision 2030 and to increase the overall consumption of natural gas due to its quality as one of the cleanest energy resources.

Prof Hidetoshi Nishimura was one of the speakers of the first session of the conference. He delivered a keynote speech titled ‘Natural Gas and LNG as the Transitional Fuel in ASEAN’, highlighting the role of natural gas in the future energy mix of ASEAN. He pointed out that in a Business-as-Usual (BaU) scenario, despite the foreseeable substantial increase in the absolute volume of demand for natural gas by 2040, its share in the energy mix would decline. In line with the region’s viewpoint of energy security and affordability, ASEAN countries would rather increase the use of coal.

Afterwards, Prof Nishimura presented three fuel substitution scenarios that estimate the costs and level of CO2 emissions of different assumptions of coal-to-gas switching depending on the degree of policy aggressiveness, outlining the expected economic and environmental benefit of replacing coal with natural gas.

Concluding his speech, Prof Nishimura offered several policy actions to promote sustainable natural gas market. First, developing and promoting competitive and transparent LNG markets. Second, addressing financial constraints in Asian markets through the provision of financial support and collaboration with multilateral development banks (MDBs). Third, assisting policy developments in Asia by setting regional energy mix targets, developing necessary regulatory frameworks and building the capacity of personnel in the public and private sector.
ASEAN Must ‘Move Boldly’: Amb Bilahari at the 7th ERIA Editors Roundtable

“...We are now in a period of transition to a more historically normal situation of a divided global and regional order and great power competition,” said Bilahari Kausikan.

On 6-7 October 2018, ERIA hosted the seventh edition of its ERIA Editors Roundtable (ERT) held in Singapore in partnership with Nanyang Technological University’s S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies. Taking on the theme of ‘ASEAN and Indo-Pacific: Challenges Ahead,’ the event brought together editors from prominent media companies, policymakers, and academics from across ASEAN and East Asia.

With the aim of providing a platform to discuss recent issues facing ASEAN leaders, the event offered four sessions: Economic and political/security implications of ASEAN and Indo-Pacific, updates on the ASEAN Economic Community, and an interactive dialogue session on “fake news.”

One of the event highlights was the Opening Remarks by Mr Bilahari Kausikan, the Chairman of the Middle East Institute, National University of Singapore and former Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for Singapore. In describing recent global politics - namely the China-US row, Mr Kausikan stated that ‘We are now in a period of transition to a more historically normal situation of a divided global and regional order and great power competition.’ The full text of the speech can be found at: http://www.eria.org/news-and-views/asean-must-move-boldly-amb-bilahari-at-the-7th-erai-editors-roundtable/.

The dynamic changes of global politics calls for East Asia, particularly ASEAN, to act in order to navigate through future challenges in that “Hedging against the long-term uncertainties and taking advantage of whatever opportunities may exist, requires ASEAN to move boldly on the second phase of economic integration which aims at creating a common market and common production platform in Southeast Asia.”

ERIA Editors Roundtable is an annual event hosted by ERIA in the country of the current ASEAN Chairmanship. This year’s edition was attended by 46 participants from each of the ASEAN member countries, Japan, Australia and Korea.
Announcement of the Winners of the 4th Asia Cosmopolitan Awards

According to Prof Hidetoshi Nishimura, President of ERIA, the ‘awards strive to become the East Asian Nobel Prize.’

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<th>Grand Prize</th>
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<td>Former Prime Minister, Japan</td>
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<td>Economic and Social Science Prize</td>
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<td>Professor of International Economics at the Graduate Institute in Geneva</td>
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<td>Cultural Prize</td>
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<td>Mieko Noguchi</td>
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<td>Memorable Prize</td>
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The Asia Cosmopolitan Awards Selection Committee is proud to announce the winners of the Grand Prize, the Economic and Social Science, the Cultural Prize, and the Memorable Prize of the 4th Asia Cosmopolitan Awards (ACA).

This award aims to recognise on a biennial basis individual(s) or organisation(s) that have made substantial and significant contributions to the development of a peaceful and stable East Asian Community, to narrow the developmental gaps in the region, as well as to establish the sustainable social growth towards cultural and economic integration within East Asia.

The Selection Committee of the ACA is composed of distinguished representatives of several East Asian countries from various backgrounds. According to Prof Hidetoshi Nishimura, President of the Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA), the ‘awards strive to become the East Asian Nobel Prize.’

The Nara Forum 2019 will be held on 10 January 2019 to congratulate the laureates. This event will feature awarding ceremony, commemorative keynote speech, and dialogues by the laureates. We cordially welcome your participation. Details will be announced later on Nara Prefecture website.
ERIA and Routledge Releases New Co-Publication on Social Protection in East Asia

The book combines development studies, social policy economics, and finance to assess social protection initiatives in East Asia.

Jakarta, 19 October 2018 – ERIA’s Senior Economist, Dr Fauziah Zen, along with fellow editors, Prof Mukul G. Asher and Ms Astrid Dita, recently released their latest publication ‘Social Protection Goals in East Asia: Strategies and Methods to Generate Fiscal Space.’ The book combines development studies, social policy, economics, and finance to assess social protection initiatives in East Asia. This latest milestone was celebrated with a book launch event at ERIA’s Annex Office in Jakarta, on Friday, 19 October 2018.

The launch was opened by Dr Ponciano S. Intal Jr, ERIA’s Senior Economist, who highlighted the importance of this work given the current social upheaval occurring in countries around the world. Dr Intal stated that the theory of ‘relative deprivation’ are one of the drivers of populist movements and other trends. Social protection is key to decreasing the sense of relative deprivation.

Following Dr Intal’s opening remarks, Prof Asher presented some of the book’s main themes and findings.

Ms Iene Muliati, Senior Social Protection Specialist in the Social Protection and Jobs Global Practice of the World Bank led the discussion with Prof Asher as well as moderated the question and answer session.

The book editors implemented three strategies in segmenting their publication. They first reviewed previous methodologies implemented by international agencies, such as the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the International Labour Organisation (ILO), on the minimum fiscal requirements of social protection programmes. According to Dr Zen, ‘Social protection policies should be an integral part of a country’s economic development strategies, backed up by adequate resources and strong policy focus.’

Taking the selected East Asian countries of China, India, Indonesia, the Philippines, Thailand, and Viet Nam, the book further reviews the improvements made by each respective country towards fulfilling the United Nations’ Sustainable Development Goals. The final section includes a framework which can be used by the designated East Asian countries as a means of supporting social protection programmes through fiscal space.

‘Social Protection Goals in East Asia: Strategies and Methods to Generate Fiscal Space’ is available in hardback and eBook versions which can be purchased through Routledge’s official website.

In addition to being a Senior Economist at ERIA, Dr Zen is a faculty member of the Faculty of Economics and Business, University of Indonesia and visiting professor at Hitotsubashi University in Japan. Her work focuses on Infrastructure Financing, ASEAN Connectivity, Social Security, and Disaster Risk.
ERIA Organises Two Sessions at the World Social Science Forum 2018

The Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA), in partnership with Nihon University (NU), organised two sessions at the 4th World Social Science Forum (WSSF) 2018 in Fukuoka, Japan.

Attended by Their Imperial Highnesses the Crown Prince and Crown Princess of Japan, the opening ceremony was held on the first day, 25 September 2018. ERIA-NU sessions took place on 27 September 2018.

Resilience in East Asia.

Prof Mukul G. Asher is a renowned Fiscal Economist and a retired Professorial Fellow of the National University of Singapore’s Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy. His core specialisations are on social security and public financial management issues in Asia.

Ms Astrid Dita is the Associate Director, Infrastructure & Capital Projects at Deloitte Indonesia. She also serves as a consultant to esteemed international organisations including the World Bank, AusAID, and the ADB while maintaining her role as an independent researcher in Indonesia.

Dr Osuke Komazawa, Special Advisor to the President for Healthcare and Long-term Care Policy, delivered the opening remarks before the commencement of the first session. On behalf of ERIA, Dr Komazawa welcomed all the participants in the venue with the gratitude to their support and explained what would be discussed in the two sessions.

Prof Koichi Ogasawara of Tohoku Fukushi University of Japan, Professor Emeritus of Saitama University, moderated the first session, ‘National policies, systems, and practices of long-term care in Asia’. He summarised Asia’s challenges on population ageing, considering the fact that Asia is the ‘world’s centre of ageing in terms of its speed and the number of older people’. He also talked about the institutionalisation process of Japan’s long-term care (J-LTC), concepts and tools of J-LTC, and the service provision system of J-LTC insurance.
Prof Ogasawara’s introductory presentation was followed by the five other panelists from the Republic of Korea, China, Singapore, Viet Nam and Thailand. The panellists were requested to talk about the policy response to increasing long-term care needs in an ageing population, institutional structures of care service provision systems, and policy consideration on the use of family-public-market resources of each country.

Prof Hyunsook Yoon, from Hallym University of South Korea, gave an overview of Korea’s long-term care insurance which was launched in 2008 and raised the policy issues on current long-term care system, especially how to improve the quality of care workforce and care facilities. Prof Yun Zhou, from Peking University, revealed the history of population policy of China, as it has affected the long-term care of the elderly. She also explained the ongoing five-year plan of the government of China, which promotes long-term care of the elderly, as well as the pilot project of long-term care insurance in big cities which started in 2016. Associate Prof Angelique Chan, Executive Director of the Centre for Ageing Research and Education, DUKE-NUS Medical School, talked about the reality of Singapore that the current long-term care services are not so preferred by foreign domestic workers. She also discussed several community-based pilot models of long-term care, and the structure of long-term care insurance of Singapore.

Dr Phan Hong Van of Health Strategy and Policy Institute, Ministry of Health of Viet Nam briefed the current status of the rapidly ageing population of Viet Nam. She stated that most of older people who need care in Viet Nam are taken care of by their families and she provided some policy recommendations, such as the development of long-term care system, increasing the awareness of long-term care system, and human resource development of long-term care.

The last panellist, Dr Puangpen Chanprasert, from Department of Health, Ministry of Public Health of Thailand, provided an explanation about the development of long-term care policy in Thailand, and the service provision system of long-term care depending on the level of administrative agencies from local to central government. She also talked about some pilot projects of long-term care and the budget allocation from National Health Security Office to long-term care services.

The second session, which was moderated by Dr Wako Asato from Kyoto University, entitled ‘Long-term care workforce in the era of population ageing – towards sustainable mobility of long-term care workforce’. Dr Asato began by explaining the aim of the session, followed by the estimate of foreign domestic workers in East Asia, several migration channels in elderly care to Japan, and the obstacles to making long-term care seen as a viable career choice. This session had four panellists from Japan, Indonesia, the Philippines, and Viet Nam.

Prof Noriko Tsukada, from Nihon University, Japan, presented the outcomes of her study where she interviewed the administrators of care facilities in Japan which accepted foreign caregiver candidates under the Economic Partnership Agreements (EPA) between Japan and Indonesia or the Philippines. The study revealed that the foreign candidates performed well overall in terms of language skills and their care practices in spite of a lot of difficulties raised by the administrators. She also briefed the recent expansion of visa status for foreign care workers; however, she emphasised that it’s just one of the measures by which Japan overcomes the shortage of care workforce. Prof Shelley Dela Vega, College of Medicine, University of the Philippines, stated that the Philippines is one of the major sources of domestic care and health care workers and raised the issues in relation to the Philippines’ condition as a sending country. The country’s lack of education of care for people with dementia was among of the issues raised. She offered suggestions to improve the curriculum of healthcare professionals and caregiver training courses with the inclusion of geriatrics and gerontology focusing on community-based care and to strengthen the regional cooperation to achieve mutual recognition agreements (MRAs) on nursing.

Ms Susiana Nugraha, Vice Chairperson of the Center for Ageing and Family Studies, University of Respati Indonesia, talked about the policies and practical procedures of Indonesian overseas workers deployment. She also talked about the EPAs between Indonesia and Japan, under which Japan accepts Indonesian candidates of registered
nurses and certified care workers. She pointed out some facts, such as the low passing rates of the national examination of EPA candidates and the cost to be shouldered by the candidates, and completed her presentation with the emphasis on creating a win-win relationship through capacity development.

Dr Khuat Thu Hong, the Director of Institute of Social Development Studies of Viet Nam, explained the structure of the programmes sending care workers to several advanced economies including Japan and Germany. She also talked about the challenges of overseas care worker programme, such as language proficiency, living cost abroad, or the fact that care work is not attractive to many people. Finally, she highlighted the importance of strengthening the legal framework of emigration to avoid illegal brokerage and to protect overseas workers.

After the two sessions, all participants agreed that they would submit papers for the compilation of the proceedings. They set the target time of the publication at the end of this year.

Note: *World Social Science Forum (WSSF) is a forum to gather researchers, policymakers, funders, and other stakeholders to discuss significant issues related to social science globally and determine future priorities for international social science. The theme of WSSF 2018 is ‘Security and Equality for Sustainable Futures’.

ERIA Contributes to the 12th Asia Europe Meeting (ASEM) Summit Discussions and the ASEM Chair’s Statement on Asia Europe Connectivity

Many of the recommendations of the Brussels Report have been included in the 12th ASEM Chair’s Statement.

Brussels, 20 October 2018 - The 12th Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) Summit was held in Brussels on 18-19 October, 2018. Fifty-one member countries from Asia and Europe, and two institutional members - the EU and ASEAN, participated in the summit.

As a deliverable of the Summit, ERIA presented the 'Brussels Report on Strengthening Asia Europe Connectivity: Drawing Synergy from Global Development and Governance Programmes' to the Asia Europe Pathfinders Group on Connectivity (APGC) Meeting.

The report presents a new paradigm of Asia Europe connectivity, suggesting interlinkages with the Sustainable Development goals 2030, the Paris Agreement, the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, and the Istanbul and Vienna Programme of Action. It lays out pathways for ASEM’s participation in global governance mechanisms like the G20 and the WTO as well as mechanisms to
ERIA and IDE JETRO Co-organise Working Session on Technology Transfer and Trade at WTO Public Forum

Prof Kimura delivered his presentation on the international division of labour, particularly about forms of technology acquisition in developing countries.

The Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA) and the Institute of Developing Economies, Japan External Trade Organization (IDE-JETRO) co-organised a working session on the sidelines of the WTO Public Forum in Geneva on 4 October 2018.

ERIA’s Chief Economist Prof Fukunari Kimura was one of the panellists in the working session, entitled ‘Who Should Control Technology Transfer for Trade and Economic Growth; Global Economic Integration and Industrial Policy in Emerging Asia’. The session was moderated by Dr Yasushi Ueki, Senior Research Fellow from IDE-JETRO.

The other panellists were Ram Upendra Das, Head & Professor, Centre for Regional Trade (CRT), Centre for Research on International Trade (CRIT), Department of Commer-
Prof Kimura delivered his presentation on the international division of labour, particularly about forms of technology acquirement in developing countries. He drew upon Richard Baldwin’s concept of unbundlings in discussing the development of division of labour.

‘In terms of the international division of labour in the manufacturing sector, and particularly the machinery industries, East Asia has led the so-called second unbundling where they have production-process-wise, or task-wise, international division of labour,’ said Prof Kimura, adding that ‘eventually we will have cross-border service division of labour,’ also known as the third unbundling.

He went on to talk about technology transfer and spillover, noting that there have been cases of ‘forced’ technology transfer in which companies are imitating or stealing technologies, and there are intentional technology transfers through transactions between foreign and local firms. ‘IDE-JETRO and ERIA have conducted micro studies on this continuously and found that foreign firms tend to have strong incentives for doing intentional technology transfer,’ he said.

Even though some foreign firms have incentives for improving the productivity of upstream local firms, some other firms may not want local firms to create product innovation. Furthermore, Prof Kimura warned of potential issues related to international technology transfer and digital economy, especially in international rule-making.

‘The issues in the digital economy include the values of data and program codes and how to discipline the government’s interventions. While there are clauses on forced program code disclosure in cyber security laws in some countries, the CPTPP and Japan-EU EPA have banned forced disclosure of program codes. And to achieve “free flow of data”, we need a series of back-up policies that would cover consumer protection, privacy, IPR, competition policies, taxation, culture and cyber-security. These are the policy environment we have to think about in the digital economy,’ said Prof Kimura.
Industry 4.0: Empowering ASEAN for the Circular Economy

Edited By Venkatachalam Anbumozhi and Fukunari Kimura

The transition to a circular economy is a unique opportunity for fast-growing Asian economies to be resource efficient, competitive, and innovative. The circular economy aims to eradicate wasteful use of raw materials and energy from the manufacturing process as well as systematically throughout the various life cycles, and to reuse the by-products. By creating an enabling policy framework for circular economy, government can also motivate corporate leaders to achieve greater benefits for sustainable development. This book investigates the challenges and opportunities of how countries and corporations are able to strike a better balance between economic growth and resource efficiency stewardship in the context of the emerging paradigm on circular economy policy. Through analysis of a number of case studies, this book also highlights immediate and relatively easy-to-implement circular thinking based on current policy approaches and market trends.

Integrated Space-Based Geospatial System: Strengthening ASEAN’s Resilience and Connectivity

Edited By Ryosuke Shibasaki, Takayoshi Fukuyo, Hiroyuki Miyazaki, Quentin Verspieren, and Venkatachalam Anbumozhi

In recent decades, regional organisations have become increasingly active in connectivity disasters. This reflects a broader growing trend of intensifying regional cooperation for building resilient communities. However, the potentials of space and geospatial technology and their role in sustainable development and strengthening resilience is not clear. They can improve the efficiency and resilience of industrial operations and effectively address issues in the regional economic integration of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN). This report examines the possibilities and models of transborder mechanisms to deliver geospatial and space-based information from data providers to end users in disaster-affected areas, and financial schemes involving the private sector or public–private partnerships to enable the collaborative integration of the technologies in practical ways. It provides vital information about what combinations of technologies have been applied and how they have contributed to the resilience of urban development, infrastructure planning and management, transportation management, and agricultural operations.
Brussels Report on Strengthening Asia Europe Connectivity: Drawing Synergy from Global Development and Governance Programmes

Edited By Anita Prakash

The European Union is hosting the 12th ASEM Summit in Brussels on 18-19 October, 2018, where the ASEM leaders will meet under the theme of “Global Partners for Global Challenges” to chart ASEM’s common response to global challenges. Leaders will also take stock of Asia – Europe cooperation and connectivity mechanisms and their contribution towards realisation of global development programmes.

Building on ASEM leaders’ resolve for sharing common goals and objectives of important global partnerships and cooperation programmes that add value to ASEM’s vision of connectivity, the “Brussels Report on Strengthening Asia Europe Connectivity: Drawing Synergy from Global Development and Governance Programmes” draws out Asia and Europe’s contribution towards the goals and objectives of important global partnerships and cooperation programmes. The Report suggests pathways for ASEM connectivity mechanisms to contribute to the global development programmes and to draw synergy for ASEM connectivity from the progress made in realizing the developmental goals. The Brussels Report brings out the importance of ASEM’s Voice in global development and governance programmes, and its important role in sustaining the spirit of consensus and multilateralism in global governance. The Brussels Report draws out the interlinkages that will help ASEM to fulfil these roles, strengthen ASEM connectivity across all its three pillars and also facilitate the tasks of ASEM Pathfinders Group on Connectivity.

Reducing Unnecessary Regulatory Burdens in ASEAN: Country Studies

Edited By Jeremy Gross and Ponciano S. Intal, Jr.

Reducing the costly and unnecessary burden of regulations on businesses is a key way government can support business competitiveness as well as attract investment. Yet in most countries, there is no systematic way to review regulations or assess whether the regulations are fulfilling their objective.

The Reducing Unnecessary Regulatory Burden (RURB) approach, as pioneered by the Malaysian Productivity Corporation, is one way to address this. This ERIA study looks to see how by applying RURB, problematic regulations can be identified, options to address regulations developed, and dialogue between regulators and business fostered. In this study of seven ASEAN Member States, each country report focuses on a priority growth sector for that country. The results, presented alongside a case history from the sewerage sector in Malaysia, shows the potential of RURB for reducing regulatory bottlenecks if adopted by ASEAN members.
Liquefied Natural Gas Demand in Asia

Edited By Yoshikazu Kobayashi and Yanfei Li

The global liquefied natural gas (LNG) market has been undergoing sustained and fundamental transformation since 2010. A combination of forces led by the revolution in shale gas production in the United States (US), rising global LNG use, diverging natural gas and crude oil prices, and demand shifts from traditional Northeast Asian countries (Japan, Republic of Korea, and Taiwan) to China, Southeast Asia, and South Asia present new challenges and opportunities for producing and consuming regions. The LNG market is already experiencing rising competition from the US and Australia in a market traditionally reliant on suppliers from Asia and the Middle East. While new competitive forces present challenges to producers, the development of a broad-based liquid and flexible LNG market can deliver substantial economic, environmental, and energy security benefits throughout the region. The challenge for policymakers in securing the widespread benefits of rising supplies of LNG is to transform potential LNG demand in Asia into real demand. This study delves deeply into these challenges and draws policy implications for supporting a growing market for LNG in this region.

Simulation Study on Energy Mix for Power Generation in Temburong Eco Town

Edited By Shigeru Kimura

The eco town development plan in Temburong district, Brunei Darussalam, is about applying energy efficient technologies to achieve lower energy demand, especially electricity, to be used by buildings, and renewable energy such as solar photovoltaic (PV). Using a computer simulation model, this study seeks to determine appropriate capacities for both solar PV and electricity storage based on solar radiation data in Brunei and estimated electricity demand of commercial buildings for the eco town in Temburong district. There is already a diesel power plant in Temburong that installs 4 units x 3 megawatts (MW) power generation system, which provides electricity to subscribers in the area. In addition, about 6MW solar PV system will be installed soon. After installation of the system, electricity generation by the diesel station will be reduced. However, once new buildings are constructed according to the Temburong district development plan, more solar PV will be needed. In 2015 and 2016, ERIA collected climate data – solar radiation and rainfall data – in Brunei Darussalam to check intermittency caused by PV system installation. ERIA applied a dynamic simulation approach to check the intermittency under the combination of diesel power generation, solar PV system, and electricity storage. After the simulation, ERIA extracted the best capacity mix of diesel power, solar PV, and storage at minimum cost.
An increasing demand for oil is one of Indonesia's top policy priorities as it is linked to many of the country's concerns, such as the deteriorating security of its oil supply, growing fiscal imbalances, and worsening air quality. Indonesia has announced that it aims to ban sales of internal combustion engine vehicles by 2040. The country also intends for alternative vehicles to account for 20% of all vehicles produced by 2025. The impacts of these targets are expected to transform the energy industry, with significant repercussions for electricity generation, transmission, and distribution; as well as for refineries, oil product retailers, and gas stations. This study aims to support policymakers in East Asia Summit countries by analysing the shift towards electric vehicles as a way to improve the efficiency of the transport sector and mitigate oil demand concerns. A quantitative analysis was carried out to present the magnitude of the impact of this shift on energy demand, carbon dioxide emissions, and investment requirements. Moreover, a qualitative analysis comparing international vehicle incentives was carried out to support policymakers in formulating similar incentives in Indonesia.

Potential of Oil Stockpiling at Oil Terminals in Southeast Asia

Oil demand in Southeast Asia has increased by 3% per year since 2000, which is faster than the world average, and regional oil production is struggling to keep up. This has resulted in dependency on oil imports from outside the region, which reached 44% in 2015. Import dependency is expected to be higher in the long term, raising concerns about oil supply security in Southeast Asia. Many Southeast Asian countries have been working on expanding oil stockpiling and introducing government stockpiling. While some countries have significant oil stockpiles, the stockpile in Southeast Asian countries is generally lower than the International Energy Agency (IEA) standard. A joint stockpiling scheme in the region is an even more distant target. This study analyses the current status and future prospects of oil stockpiling in selected Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) countries with considerable demand size and geographical proximity – Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, and Thailand. This study firstly describes the oil demand, supply, governance, and industry in these four countries. It then examines the current status of oil stockpiling in these countries and analyses various oil stockpiling options for the future.
Upcoming Events

Hongqiao Forum on International Trade
Date: 5 November 2018
Venue: Shanghai, China

ASEAN SME Finance Symposium and Joint Consultation with ACCMSME
Date: 7-9 November 2018
Venue: Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar

The Second General Assembly Meeting
International Tsunami Disaster Prevention Society
Date: 19 November 2018
Venue: Tokyo, Japan

National Workshop on Addressing NTM and NTR for Greater Asian Economic Integration
Date: 19-20 November 2018
Venue: Siem Reap, Cambodia

The First Workshop of Microdata 2018
Date: 9-10 November 2018
Venue: Jakarta, Indonesia

The 6th Asia Think Tank Summit 2018
Date: 21-23 November 2018
Venue: Bali, Indonesia

Economic Policy Modelling Workshop for Junior Economist in Cambodia Government Official
Date: 13-16 November 2018
Venue: Phnom Penh, Cambodia

JEF – RIS Joint Asia-Pacific Forum 2018 (APF2018)
Date: 22-23 November 2018
Venue: New Delhi, India

The Second Joint International Economic Symposium on New Horizons of East Asian Integration
Date: 16 November 2018
Venue: Tokyo, Japan

The Workshop on Trade in Services Agreement (Negative List Approach)
Date: 22-23 November 2018
Venue: Manila, Philippines

About Us

The Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA) is an international organisation based in Jakarta, Indonesia that conducts in-dept research on issues facing the people and governments of ASEAN and East Asia.

ERIA works closely with the ASEAN Secretariat and research institutes from across East Asia and beyond to provide innovative and analytical research and policy recommendations. Our projects are organised under three research pillars:

- Deepening Economic Integration
- Narrowing Development Gaps
- Achieving Sustainable Development