

## VII. SUPPORTING ACTIVITIES FOR ERIA

JETRO continues to conduct activities supporting the Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA).

### 1. Activity Objective

The objective of these activities is to contribute to policy efforts to promote both comprehensive development of the Asian economy and growth of the Japanese economy through collaboration with relevant organizations such as the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI) by supporting the Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA), an international organization established in June 2008 by the 16 East Asia Summit member countries to conduct policy research and formulate policy recommendations towards greater East Asia.

### 2. Activities in FY2016

Through close ties with 15 regional research institutes, and in consultation with METI, JETRO has been working on a variety of activities, including research and dissemination of research findings, with the Institute of Developing Economies (IDE), serving as secretariat for the Research Institute Network (RIN), and JETRO Bangkok, serving as a local administrative office for such activities, in cooperation with JETRO's Overseas Research Department and overseas offices.

#### 2.1. Research Projects

Under ERIA's three research pillars, "deepening economic integration", "narrowing development gaps" and "achieving sustainable development", JETRO conducted research projects as follows:

##### (1) ERIA/JETRO Collaborative Research Project

- 1) Human Resource Management and Coordination for Innovative Activities in Production Networks: Towards Effective Uses of Internal and External Resources

##### (2) Supporting Research Projects for ERIA

- 1) Comprehensive Development Strategy to Meet TPP
- 2) "Industrial Clustering and Production Fragmentation in East Asia: The Case of the Automotive Industry"
- 3) "Industrialization through Servicification in Lao PDR"
- 4) "Human Resource Development and Mobility of Skilled Labour in Southeast Asia"

##### (3) Independent Research Project Related to Japan's National Interests

- 1) Studies on Labor Environment in ASEAN and Southwest Asia

#### 2.2. Seminar/Symposium

To disseminate and maximize the results of studies, IDE-JETRO and ERIA held an international conference as follows:

## VII. ERIA

Title: New Normal, Integration and Inequality

Date: March 6 and 7, 2016

Venue: Jakarta, Indonesia

In addition, seminars and a symposium were organized by JETRO Bangkok (research section) as follows:

(1) Title: Foreign Exchange Market Reform and Informal Currency Exchange in Myanmar

Date: July 8, 2016

Venue: Yangon, Myanmar

(2) Title: How Do Migrants Support Development in the Mekong Sub-Region?

Date: August 10, 2016

Venue: Bangkok, Thailand

(3) Title: Sharing Experiences of Malaysia and Vietnam to Meet TPP

Date: October 14, 2016

Venue: Bangkok, Thailand

(4) Title: ASEAN's Trade and Investment under the TRUMP's "America First Policy"

Date: February 8, 2017

Venue: Bangkok, Thailand

Co-Organizer: Thailand Development Research Institute (TDRI)

### **2.3. Secretariat for the Research Institutes Network**

The Research Institutes Network (RIN) was formed by research institutes from 16 countries with the objective of supporting ERIA activities by providing research results and information to the ERIA as well as offering advice concerning the ERIA's research agenda and policy recommendations. JETRO has played a leading role in organizing RIN meetings, with IDE-JETRO acting as the Japanese representative to the RIN and with JETRO Bangkok (Research Section) serving as the RIN's administrative office. Meetings were held on March 7, 2016, in Jakarta.