

International Conferences

For Fiscal Year 2003

Toward ASEAN-Japan Comprehensive Economic Partnership

July 23, 2003

A symposium was held to present the above study results to the public and deepen our understanding of ASEAN-Japan Comprehensive Economic Partnership, commemorating the ASEAN-Japan Exchange Year 2003 (see also the research project, "ASEAN-Japan Comprehensive Economic Partnership: Vision and Tasks Ahead" on p. 13 and "ASEAN-Japan Research Institute Meeting (AJRIM) in Tokyo" on p. 35).

Participants: Hadi Soesastro (Centre for Strategic and International Studies, Indonesia), Kao Kim Hourn (Cambodian Institute for Cooperation and Peace), Simon Tay (Singapore Institute of International Affairs), Chalongsob Sussangkarn (Thailand Development Research Institute), Mario Lamberte (Philippine Institute for Development Studies), Haji Ismail Bin Haji Duraman (University of Brunei Darussalam), Dinh Van An (Central Institute for Economic Management, Vietnam), Mohamed Ariff (Malaysian Institute of Economic Research), Kan Zaw Rector (Yangon Institute of Economics), Sirivanh Khonthaphane (National Economic Research Institute, Laos), Ippei Yamazawa (IDE-JETRO)

Toward an East Asia Free Trade and Economic Zone

November 26, 2003

This symposium, which was held to commemorate JETRO's new start, provided useful insights into the business potential of East Asia and the formation of effective strategies for capitalizing on this potential.

With China rapidly solidifying its roles as a key factory and market for the global economy, the movement toward increased business partnerships is speeding up among companies in East Asia. Through such partnerships, it is hoped that these companies will optimize their resource deployment and pursue other strategies for greater competitiveness.

In the first of this symposium's two sessions, veteran executives from companies with active, nationwide operations introduced their strategies and views regarding business collaboration in East Asia. In the second session, prominent business experts discussed the significance and future prospects of increased partnerships within the region.

Participants: Shinji Takeuchi (DENSO International (Thailand) Co., Ltd.), Motoshige Itō (University of Tokyo), Janet Ang (IBM Singapore), Wong Siew Hai (INTEL Corporation), Lee Soo Chul (Samsung Corporation), Wei Shao Jun (Datang Telecom Technology Co., Ltd), Ippei Yamazawa (International University of Japan), Yoshihiro Otsuji (Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, Japan), Hank Lim (Singapore Institute of International Affairs), Kitti Limskul (Vice Minister for Finance, Thailand), Djisman Simandjuntak (Centre for Strategic and International Studies, Indonesia), Zhang Yun Ling (Institute of Asia-Pacific Studies, Chinese Academy of Social Science), Osamu Watanabe (JETRO)

Spatial Structure and Regional Development in China

November 26, 2003

In the 1990s, regional disparity in China became a major topic for researchers and policy-makers. With this in mind, we organized a research group with professionals in China and studied the regional disparities from the viewpoint of spatial structure, using the China multi-regional input-output model published by IDE in March 2003. In order to explore the above topics, participants from IDE and the China research group gave presentations on the following issues: "Interregional Input-Output Analysis in China," "Non-survey Method for Estimating Input-Output Multipliers," "Characteristics of Regional Development," "Differential Factors of Regional Development," "Spatial Linkages," "Agglomeration and Linkage," and "Spillover and Feedback Effects." The discussions at the conference made a contribution to improving the presented papers. The final papers were published as *Spatial Structure and Regional Development in China: Interregional Input-Output Approach* (I.D.E. Development Perspective Series No. 5, 2004).

Participants: Takeo Ihara (University of Kitakyushu), Takaaki Kanazawa (Wakayama University), Yaxiong Zhang (State Information Center, China), Kun Zhao (State Information Center, China), Shantong Li (Development Research Center for the State Council, China), Qiyun Liu (Renmin University of China), Wenqing Pan (Qinghua University), Nobuhiro Okamoto (IDE-JETRO)

The Growing Importance of China and the Restructuring of the Division of Labor in Asian Machinery-Related Industries

September 17, 2003

This international workshop examined the newly emerging image of the economic relationships between China and its Asian neighbors in the machinery-related industries. We placed particular emphasis on the rapid emergence of Chinese industrial development and the reactions by firms and governments of neighboring economies toward it. Our final aim was to grasp the overall image of the diverse and multilayered Asian manufacturing networks formed by firms in reaction to the new business opportunities and increased competitive pressure raised by China's rapid industrial development.

The workshop was held at the Overseas Vocational Training Association, Makuhari, Chiba, and had four sessions: "The Increasing Presence of the Chinese Economy and the Globalization of Machinery-Related Industries," "The Reaction of Japan," "The Reaction of Asian Countries and Firms, I—East Asia," and "The Reaction of Asian Countries and Firms, II—Southeast and South Asia." Thirteen researchers, including five foreign joint-researchers invited from China, Taiwan, Korea, and Thailand, made brief presentation on the above topics and carried out discussions.

In order to share and deepen the information and recognition of the issues discussed, participants went on a two-day field trip to Aichi (Toyota Motor Corporation) and Shizuoka (Nihon Vinyon and Honda Motor Corporation) on September 18–19, 2003.

Participants: Tomoo Marukawa (University of Tokyo), Hiroko Watanabe (Japan Society for the Promotion of Machine Industry), Kineko Kamo (Nihon University), Kyōko Yamashita

(GENDAI Advanced Studies Research Organization), Yūko Nikaidō (Hosei University), Fenglun Tian (Chongqing Academy of Social Sciences, China), Hong Lin (Shandong Institute of International Economy and Technology, China), Pyeong-Seob Yang (Korea International Trade Association), Wen-Thuen Wang (Chung-Hua Institution for Economic Research, Taiwan), Thamavit Terdudomtham (Thammasat University), Hiromi Hinata (JETRO), Moriki Ōhara (IDE-JETRO), Mitsunori Yokoyama (IDE-JETRO), Yūichi Watanabe (IDE-JETRO)

Family Business in Developing Countries: Cases of Asia and Latin America

January 16–17, 2004

It is quite common in firms in developing countries, including large corporate groups, for management to be firmly controlled by dominant owner families and passed down from one generation to the next within a family. We regard these firms as “family businesses.” The purpose of this workshop was to discuss the latest developments in studies on family business, and to share ideas and opinions among specialists on the theme. We invited four distinguished scholars from Korea, Thailand, Mexico, and Chile. The studies presented in the workshop were on *chaebol* restructuring in Korea (Dr. Kim), the ownership structure and market valuation of family groups in Chile (Dr. Lefort), the agency problem of family businesses in Thailand (Dr. Pananond), and changes in Mexican family businesses under competitive conditions (Dr. Garrido). Based on their presentations, we discussed such issues as the possibility of the further development of family businesses, the implications of their dominance for the economic development of the countries, and the prospects for the emergence of other forms of firm, such as firms controlled by managers. As a product of the workshop, we published *Family Business in Developing Countries* (International Workshop Proceedings, March 2004).

Participants: Kim Kywon (Korea National Open University), Pavidá Pananond (Thammasat University), Celso Garrido (Universidad Autónoma de Metropolitana, Azcapotzalco, Mexico), Fernando Lefort (Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile), Akira Suehiro (University of Tokyo), Yōichi Koike (Takushoku University), Tamio Hattori (University of Tokyo), Takashi Hikino (Kyoto University), Naofumi Nakamura (University of Tokyo), Watari Takeuchi (Tsukuba International University), Taeko Hoshino (IDE-JETRO), Kōichi Usami (IDE-JETRO), Yuri Sato (IDE-JETRO), Nobuaki Hamaguchi (IDE-JETRO), Kanako Yamaoka (IDE-JETRO), Aki Sakaguchi (IDE-JETRO), Kōichi Kitano (IDE-JETRO), Tatsuya Shimizu (IDE-JETRO), Shigeki Higashi (IDE-JETRO), Yurika Suzuki (IDE-JETRO), Izumi Chibana (IDE-JETRO), Emi Kōjin (IDE-JETRO), Ryōhei Konta (IDE-JETRO), Momoko Kawakami (IDE-JETRO), Makoto Abe (IDE-JETRO), Shin'ya Imaizumi (IDE-JETRO), Mariko Watanabe (IDE-JETRO)

Economic and Political Relations in Eastern South Asia: With Special Reference to Bangladesh and Bhutan

January 26, 2004

In this research project, we investigated and analyzed political, economic, and social relations among the countries and areas of Eastern South Asia. Our study covered the north-eastern part of India, Bangladesh, Nepal, Bhutan, and Myanmar. Bangladesh, Nepal, and Bhutan share borders with India and have strong political and economic relationships with it. A great deal of research has focused on the bilateral relationships between India and these countries. However, we have shifted the focus to regional rather than bilateral relations.

We began by collecting and examining the published materials. However, since there is a dearth of literature and information with respect to the research topic, conducting joint research projects with the leading research organizations of the region was an indispensable part of our project. As the counterparts of joint research, we selected Bhutan and Bangladesh: the former as a country where access to information is quite limited and the latter as a country located in the center of the eastern part of South Asia.

We held a workshop on January 26, 2004 inviting researchers from Bangladesh and Bhutan. The report was published as JRP Series No. 132, *Sub-Regional Relations in the Eastern South Asia: With Special Focus on Bangladesh and Bhutan*.

Participants: M. Rahmatullah (Centre for Policy Dialogue, Bangladesh), Tashi Choden (Centre for Bhutan Studies), Kyoko Inoue (Daito Bunka University), Hiroshi Sato (expert on South Asia), Masanori Koga (Nihon Fukushi University), Kei Nemoto (Tokyo University of Foreign Studies), Akinobu Kawai (University of the Air, Japan), Etsuyo Arai (IDE-JETRO), Mayumi Murayama (IDE-JETRO), Yoshiko Suzuki (IDE-JETRO)

Prospects for Economic Relationships among Asian Countries (Meeting for announcing the contract research results of research project)

February 12–13, 2004

The two study groups in this research project entrusted research activities to institutes in five countries (China, Thailand, Malaysia, Indonesia, and India). To gain an understanding of the present situation of the economic relationship between these countries and China, we held a meeting to announce the contract research results. After presentation by research officers from the six institutes, we discussed their results. The discussants from Southeast Asia pointed out the rapid increase of mutual trade and investment with China. They also emphasized the rising presence of China as a new market. In the trade with China, export and import of machinery and electrical appliance had increased. That points to the development of an international division of labor between China and Southeast Asian countries. The discussant from China introduced China's new policy to encourage Chinese enterprises to invest abroad. On the other hand, there are still few economic relations between China and South Asian countries. India has invoked safeguards against China many times. All the discussants agreed that China and India should reduce trade frictions in order to develop economic relations between them.

Participants: Chen Wen-jing (Chinese Academy of International Trade and Economic Cooperation), Haryo Aswicahyono (Centre for Strategic and International Studies, Indonesia), Sompop Manarungsan (Chinese Studies Center, Institute of Asian Studies, Chulalongkorn University), Toh Kin Woon (Socio-Economic and Environmental Research Institute, Malaysia), Tan Pek Leng (Socio-Economic and Environmental Research Institute, Malaysia), Uma Rani Amara (Gujarat Institute of Development Research, India), Yu Shu-hua (China Commerce Research Center), Huang Lin (Kobe University), Tomoo Marukawa (University of Tokyo), Katsuhiko Hama (Soka University), Sueo Kojima (Kokushikan University), Yasuo Ōnishi (IDE-JETRO), Mitsuo Fukushima (IDE-JETRO), Michio Kimura (IDE-JETRO), Kazuhisa Matsui (IDE-JETRO), Masami Ishida (IDE-JETRO), Shigeki Higashi (IDE-JETRO), Shūji Uchikawa (IDE-JETRO), Yoshie Shimane (IDE-JETRO), Yūko Tsujita (IDE-JETRO), Momoe Makino (IDE-JETRO), Takayuki Higashikata (IDE-JETRO), Yūko Sawada (IDE-JETRO)