

IX. Supporting Activities for ERIA

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

1. Objective of Activities

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 FY2013

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

(1) Research Projects

Under one of ERIA's three research pillars, 'Narrowing the Development Gaps', JETRO, under contract with ERIA, conducted a policy research project focusing on East Asian economic integration along with three other independent research projects in Bangkok, etc., to support ERIA's research activities related to Japan's national interests.

IDE-JETRO also conducted a three-year joint research project titled 'Green Growth in Asia' with ERIA and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), which had started in FY2011 to suggest appropriate policy options based on its research

results for the Asian region and countries facing and tackling environment- and energy-related concerns.

< ERIA Policy Research Projects

Contracted with ERIA >

"Entrepreneurship and Local Technological Capacity in the East Asian Natural Resource-Based Production Network"

< Independent Research Projects

Related to Japan's National Interests >

1. Actual Management Condition and Business Risk of Small and Medium-sized Parts Suppliers in Asian Countries
2. Myanmar's Integration with Asian Economies: Challenges and Prospects
3. Comprehensive Analysis on Consequence of Trade and Investment Liberalization in East Asia
 - FTA working group
 - Inequality working group

< ERIA/IDE-JETRO/UNIDO

Joint Research Project 'Green Growth in Asia' >

1. Impact of Production-Related Environmental Regulations on International Trade and Technological Spillover through the Supply Chain in Asia
2. How to 'Green' the Demand in Developing Economies? Empirical Industrial Organization Analysis on Diffusion of Energy Saving Appliances
3. Development of Green Industries in the Asian region: The Needed Factors and What Policies Can Do

(2) Capacity Building

A number of programs were carried out with the aim of improving the policy-research and policy-proposing capacity of local policymakers and researchers, in particular in the CLMV countries (Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar and Vietnam). JETRO Bangkok (Research

Section) assisted ERIA in conducting a program titled 'Dispatch of Lecturers in CLMV Countries' with the above-mentioned aim. A total of 1,540 individuals from the CLMV countries participated in the program.

In addition, in FY2013, JETRO helped ERIA's activities, inviting 14 government officers to Thailand. JETRO organized seminars and field trips such as visiting industrial parks and companies.

(3) Seminar/Symposium

To disseminate the results of studies conducted by JETRO Bangkok (Research Section), seminars about the Analysis on the Result of the Cambodian General Election in 2013 were held in Bangkok, Thailand. (Total participants at those seminars: 27.)

(4) 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 ERIA as well as offering advice concerning 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 RIN and with JETRO Bangkok (Research Section) serving as RIN's administrative office. Meetings were held twice, on July 14, 2013 in Bangkok and on January 11, 2014 in Brunei Darussalam. At the second meeting, the RIN Statement 'the Role of the WTO' was drafted and reported to ERIA.