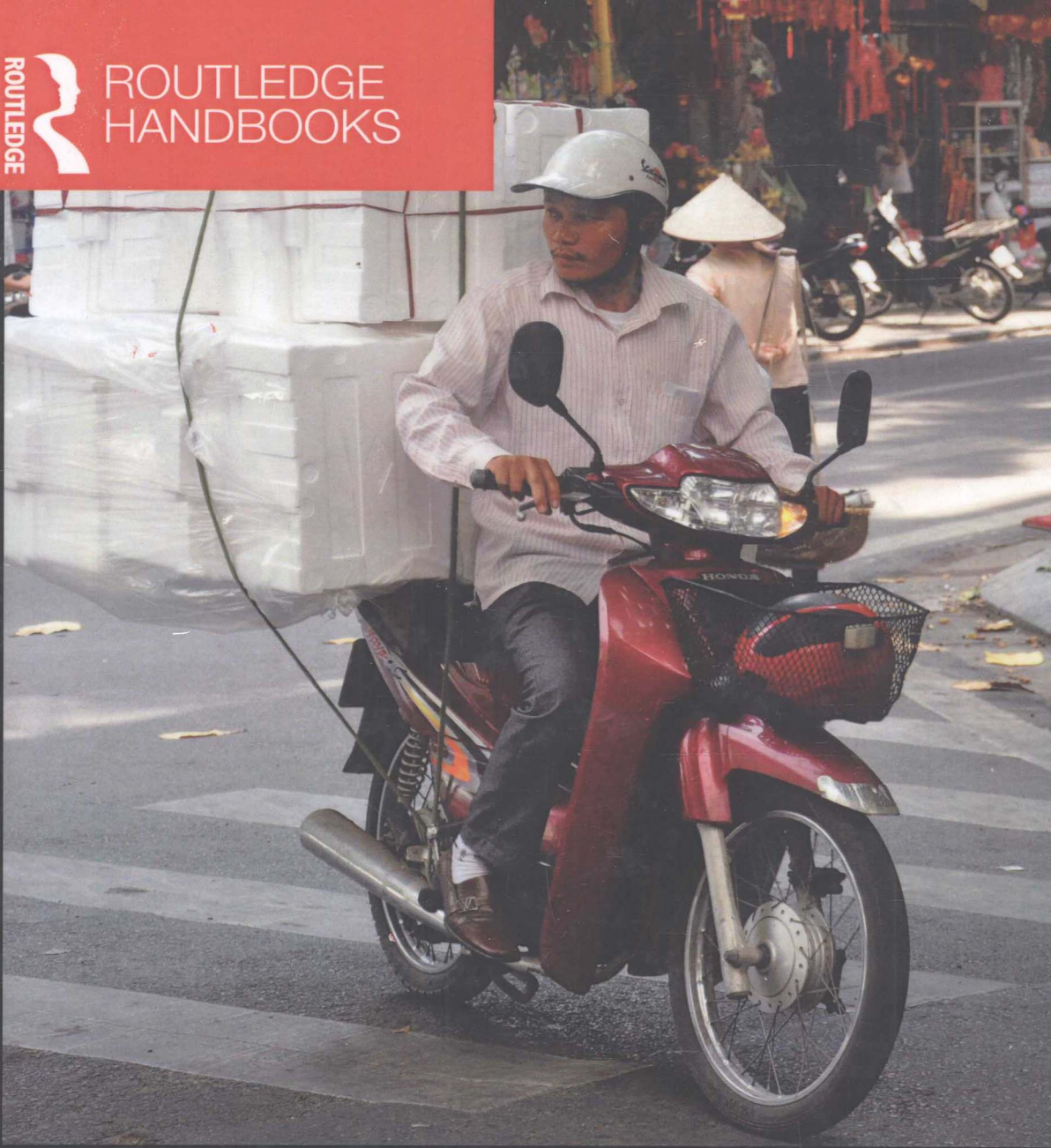


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# Routledge Handbook of Southeast Asian Economics

Edited by Ian Coxhead

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*Edited by Ian Coxhead*



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# Routledge Handbook of Southeast Asian Economics

The *Routledge Handbook of Southeast Asian Economics* offers new insights into the rapidly developing economies of Southeast Asia. Despite widespread initial deprivation, Southeast Asia has achieved and sustained a remarkable rate of growth, in the course of which tens of millions have successfully escaped severe poverty. Though the economies of the region vary in many dimensions, integration into the wider East Asian network of production and trade is a notable common feature, one that continues a centuries-long history of engagement with global trade. A second striking feature is the pace and extent of transformation in the structure of production and in sources of household income in the region, which has undergone remarkably rapid industrialization and urban growth. However, the search for sustained and sustainable growth through and beyond middle-income continues to confront pressing economic and policy challenges.

This Handbook offers a timely and comprehensive overview of Southeast Asian economic development. Organized according to the logic of chronological and thematic unity, it is structured in these parts:

- Growth and development over the long term
- Food, agriculture, and natural resources
- Trade, investment, and industrialization
- Population, labor, and human capital
- Poverty and political economy
- Twenty-first-century challenges

This original Handbook, written by experts in their fields, is unique in the breadth and depth of its coverage. Its forward-looking perspective renders it relevant both now and in the future. This advanced-level reference work will be essential reading for students, researchers, and scholars of Asian Studies, Economics, and Southeast Asian Studies.

**Ian Coxhead** is Professor and Chair of the Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, USA. He is a specialist in economic growth and development, international trade, labor markets and human capital, and household welfare and income distribution, with a strong regional emphasis on Southeast Asia.

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**Thee Kian Wie** devoted his entire professional life to research, teaching, and public affairs in Indonesia. He was a staff member of the Indonesian Institute of Sciences (LIPI) for 55 years. His academic output was prodigious: he authored or edited over 20 books and monographs, and more than 80 book chapters and journal articles. He served for several years as chairman of the Board of Governors of the SMERU Research Institute, Indonesia's leading academic think tank for research on poverty and social issues. Dr. Thee passed away in February 2014.

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# Foreword

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On reading the email inviting me to edit a *Handbook of Southeast Asian Economics*, my first reaction was “delete.” Too much work, too little reward. After more thought, however, I decided that the benefits of a project like this could be substantial under some conditions. A volume structured as a set of thematic studies might create an opportunity to obtain insights that are not normally accessible in a set of single-country chapters. Involving a top-class set of contributing authors would help ensure high quality analyses. Finally, bringing the authors together to present and discuss their work in draft form would surely generate synergistic interactions and so help make the whole book more valuable than the sum of its component chapters. With some effort, a lot of cooperation, and a pinch of luck all three conditions were ultimately met.

Bringing this volume to completion has been an enormously satisfying experience. Thanks are due to many for their help along the way.

Above all else, this volume owes its existence and the quality of its contents to the enthusiastic participation of a terrific set of contributing authors. All have been very gracious, constructive and cooperative. These qualities—along with an equally desirable dose of sharp-edged attention to scholarly rigor—were all on display when we convened in Bangkok, Thailand in March 2013 for a mini-conference. I am very grateful to the Henry Luce Foundation and in particular to Helena Kolenda, its Asia program director, for a generous grant making that meeting possible. Bhanupong Nidhiprabha, Dean of the Faculty of Economics at Thammasat University and his staff gave very generously of their time and energy to provide a conference secretariat and logistical support. In addition to the authors themselves, several discussants and participants also deserve thanks for contributing to a lively interaction, notably Corbett Grainger, Sisira Jayasuriya, Mingsarn Kaosa-ard, Sirilaksana Khoman, and Yoko Niimi.

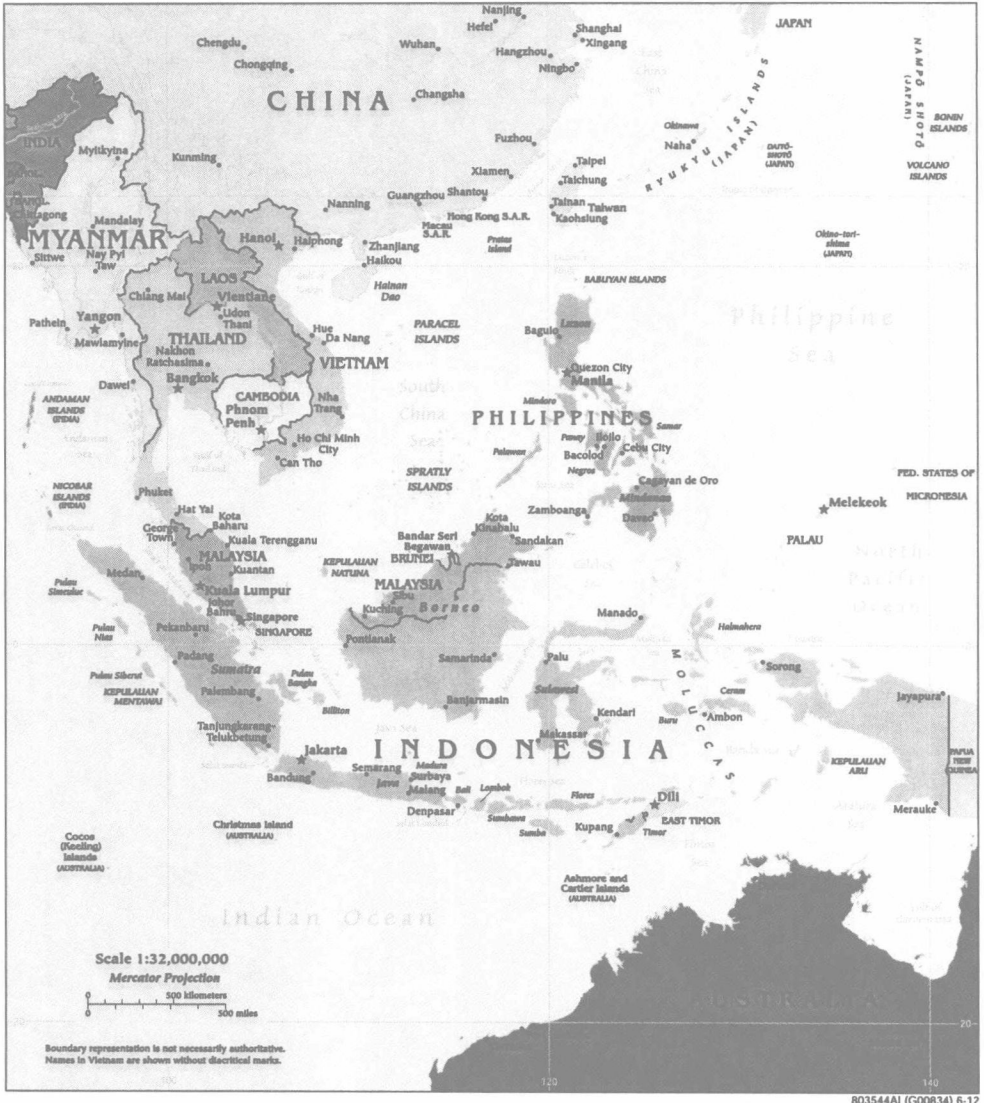
At the University of Wisconsin, Tracy Phung did a great job of building and maintaining the project website. Mary Jo Wilson at the Center for Southeast Asian Studies managed the conference grant, and both she and the Center's Associate Director, Mike Cullinane, provided valuable moral support. In the UK, the Routledge editorial team (Dorothea Schaefer, Jillian Morrison, and Becky Lawrence) have provided abundant guidance and encouragement, and I speak for all the authors in expressing our sincere gratitude to copy editor Liz Dawn.

This volume is dedicated to the memory of our colleague Thee Kian Wie (1935–2014). Kian Wie was an observer, commentator, analyst and participant in Indonesian economic life for over half a century, during which time his native country emerged from the chaos of war and decolonization to become the world's 16th largest economy. With his intellect, experience, insight and sly wit he guided and inspired a generation of scholars of economic development in

Indonesia and the region. We were fortunate to have him participate in the Bangkok conference and to have his input as contributor to a chapter in this volume. His passing leaves an empty chair at all such meetings in the future.

Ian Coxhead  
Madison, Wisconsin, USA  
Summer 2014

# Map



Map of Southeast Asia  
Source: University of Texas Libraries.

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