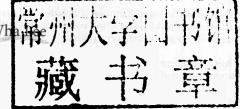


# Costs and Benefits of Economic Integration in Asia

Edited by Robert J. Barro and Jong-Whanise









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#### Foreword

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has long recognized that regional cooperation and integration is key to regional economic development. In fact, this is elucidated in the *Agreement Establishing the Asian Development Bank* (the Charter), where it is stated that the Bank's purpose is "... to foster economic growth and cooperation in the region ... and contribute to the acceleration of the process of economic development of the developing member countries in the region, collectively and individually." In 1994, ADB adopted for the first time a policy to articulate its approach in promoting regional cooperation. This was replaced in 2006 by the *Regional Cooperation and Integration Strategy*.

The changed global and regional economic landscapes, especially after the 1997–1998 Asian financial crisis, led to the feeling that a more comprehensive and effective way of channeling the ADB's support for ongoing and future initiatives of regional cooperation and integration would be essential. The Office of Regional Economic Integration (OREI), which has its roots in the Regional Economic Monitoring Unit created after the Asian crisis, is now the focal point for regional cooperation and integration initiatives undertaken by the ADB.

One of the key roles of OREI is to conduct research and serve as a knowledge hub for regional cooperation issues. In recent years, several monographs on Asian regional economic integration were published by OREI: in 2004, the two-volume Monetary and Financial Integration in East Asia; in 2005, Asian Economic Cooperation and Integration: Progress, Prospects and Challenges; in 2008, Emerging Asian Regionalism: A Partnership of Shared Prosperity; and

more recently in 2009, Pan-Asian Integration: Linking East and South Asia; and National Strategies for Regional Integration: South and East Asian Case Studies. In general, the focus of these publications was to assess the evolution and existing levels of integration and cooperation, and to recommend ways to promote closer ties. Apart from some short-term issues of concern, greater regional cooperation was viewed as inevitable and, through it, the region as a whole would benefit and global welfare would also be improved.

This book, however, pauses to ask whether quantifiable results from cooperation and integration can be substantiated in the areas of trade, investment, and finance in Asia. Selected prominent economists were offered the challenge of quantifying the costs and/or benefits of economic and financial integration in the region. This book will add insights to both the current consensus and differences regarding Asian economic integration. Readers will gain from having an objective and thorough analysis of a range of initiatives that promote regional economic integration and that are beneficial to countries individually. I greatly appreciate the efforts of the excellent team of authors, led by Robert J. Barro and Jong-Wha Lee.

Currently, the global economy appears to be recovering from the deep recession, pulled by the strong performance of developing Asian economies. In the aftermath of the global crisis, the global economic landscape will change dramatically, and Asia must play a constructive role in shaping its future. Asian countries must continue "open regionalism" and enhance regional and global cooperation. A regionally well-integrated and globally connected Asian economy will help in building a more vibrant and prosperous world.

Haruhiko Kuroda President Asian Development Bank

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The views expressed in this volume are those of the authors; they do not represent those of ADB or other institutions with which the authors are affiliated.

Robert J. Barro Jong-Wha Lee

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## Acronyms and Abbreviations

ACU Asian Currency Unit
ADB Asian Development Bank

ADBI Asian Development Bank Institute

AFTA ASEAN Free Trade Agreement and/or Area AIO Asian International Input-Output Tables

AMS Asian monetary system
AMU Asian monetary union

ASEAN Association of Southeast Asian Nations

ASEAN+3 ASEAN plus People's Republic of China, Japan, and

Republic of Korea

BCS business cycle synchronization
BEA Bureau of Economic Analysis
BEC Broad Economic Categories

BK Baxter-King filter

CAREC Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation
CEPR Centre for Economic and Policy Research

CIA Central Intelligence Agency

CIDER Center for International and Development Economics

Research

CIF cost, insurance, and freight

CIS Commonwealth of Independent States

CFA African French Franc zone (Coopération Financière en

Afrique Centrale)

CMIM Chiang Mai Initiative Multilateralization

COW Correlates of War

CPIS Coordinated Portfolio Investment Survey

CRRA constant relative risk aversion

CU customs union

CUSTA Canada–United States Free Trade Agreement

DOTS Direction of Trade Statistics
DVA domestic value-added

EAEC Eurasian Economic Community

EBRD European Bank for Reconstruction and Development

ECCA Eastern Caribbean Currency Area

ECU European Currency Unit EMS European Monetary System

EMU European Monetary Union and/or Economic and Monetary

Union

ER exchange rate

ERM exchange rate mechanism

EU European Union

FDI foreign direct investment

FOB free on board

FTA free trade agreement FVA foreign value-added

G3 Germany, Japan, and the Unites States

G7 G3 plus Canada, France, Italy, and the United Kingdom

GDP gross domestic product GE General Exceptions

GMM generalized method of moments

HKIMR Hong Kong Institute for Monetary Research

HP Hodrick-Prescott filter

IDE Institute of Development Economies

IL-FT Inclusion List-Fast Track
IL-N Inclusion List-Normal

IMF International Monetary Fund

IO input-output

IRIO interregional input-output

ISER Institute of Social and Economic Research

IT inflation targeting
IV instrumental variables

IZA Institute for the Study of Labor Lao PDR Lao People's Democratic Republic

LDC less developed countries

MERCOSUR Southern Common Market (Mercado Común del Sur)

MFN most favored nation MNE multinational enterprises MU monetary union

NAFTA North American Free Trade Agreement NATO North Atlantic Treaty Organization NBER National Bureau of Economic Research

NBS National Bureau of Statistics

NCCR National Centre of Competence in Research

NTB non-tariff barrier
OCA optimum currency area

OECD Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development

OLS ordinary least squares

OxCarre Oxford Centre for the Analysis of Resource Rich Economies

PPE property, plant, and equipment

PPI producer price index
PPP purchasing power parity
PRC People's Republic of China

PWT Penn World Tables

Q1 first quarter
Q4 fourth quarter
RMS root-mean-squared
RTA regional trade agreement

SL Sensitive List

TEL Temporary Exclusion List

UN United Nations
UK United Kingdom
US United States

UN BEC United Nations Broad Economic Categories

VAR vector autoregression VS vertical specialization

WDI World Development Indicators
WITS World Integrated Trade System
WTO World Trade Organization

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