

IN THIS ISSUE:

Household consumption expenditure in Thailand during the first COVID-19 lockdown  
Oudom Hean and Nattanicha Chairassamee

Estimating the effects of Internet exchange points on fixed-broadband speed and latency  
Siope Vakataki 'Ofa

Securing green development:  
Can Asia-Pacific central banks and financial supervisory authorities do more?  
Xiang-li Lim and Vatcharin Sirimaneetham

Digital economy integration in Asia and the Pacific:  
insights from DigiSRII 1.0  
Witada Anukoonwattaka, Pedro Romao, Preety Bhogal,  
Thomas Bentze, Richard S. Lobo and Arushi Vaishnav

Addressing sovereign debt challenges in the era of  
COVID-19 and beyond: the role of the United Nations  
Alberto Isgut





# ASIA-PACIFIC SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT JOURNAL



**United Nations**  
New York, 2022

# ASIA-PACIFIC SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT JOURNAL

Vol. 28, No. 2, December 2021

United Nations publication

Sales No. E.22.II.F.4

Copyright © United Nations 2022

All rights reserved

Printed in Thailand

ISBN: 9789211208368

e-ISBN: 9789210013611

ISSN (print): 2617-8400

ISSN (online): 2617-8419

ST/ESCAP/2991

Cover design: Nina Loncar

This publication may be reproduced in whole or in part for educational or non-profit purposes without special permission from the copyright holder, provided that the source is acknowledged. The ESCAP Publications Office would appreciate receiving a copy of any publication that uses this publication as a source.

No use may be made of this publication for resale or any other commercial purpose whatsoever without prior permission. Applications for such permission, with a statement of the purpose and extent of reproduction, should be addressed to the Secretary of the Publications Board, United Nations, New York.

## **Editorial Advisory Board**

Kaushik Basu

Professor of Economics and C. Marks Professor of International Studies  
Department of Economics, Cornell University

Martin Ravallion

Edmond D. Villani Professor of Economics  
Georgetown University

Sabina Alkire

Director of the Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative (OPHI)  
Oxford Department of International Development, University of Oxford

Naila Kabeer

Professor of Gender and Development, Department of Gender Studies  
London School of Economics and Political Science

Li Xiaoyun

Chief Senior Advisor at the International Poverty Reduction Centre in China, and  
Director of OECD/China-DAC Study Group, Chair of the Network of Southern  
Think Tanks (NeST) and Chair of China International Development Research Network

Shigeo Katsu

President, Nazarbayev University

Ehtisham Ahmad

Visiting Senior Fellow

Asia Research Centre, London School of Economics and Political Science

Myrna S. Austria

School of Economics, De La Salle University

## **Chief Editors**

Srinivas Tata

Director, Social Development Division (SDD) of ESCAP

Hamza Ali Malik

Director, Macroeconomic Policy and Financing for Development Division (MPFD)  
of ESCAP

## **Editors**

Patrik Andersson

Chief, Sustainable Socioeconomic Transformation Section, SDD

Cai Cai

Chief, Gender Equality and Social Inclusion Section, SDD

Sabine Henning

Chief, Sustainable Demographic Transition Section, SDD

Alberto Isgut

Acting Section Chief, Financing for Development Section, MPFD

Oliver Paddison

Chief, Countries in Special Situations Section, Office of the Executive Secretary

Sweta Saxena

Chief, Macroeconomic Policy and Analysis Section, MPFD

## **Editorial Assistants**

Pannipa Jangvithaya

Gabriela Spaizmann

## **EDITORIAL STATEMENT**

The *Asia-Pacific Sustainable Development Journal* (APSDJ) is published twice a year by the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific. It aims to stimulate and enrich research in the formulation of policy in the Asia-Pacific region towards the fulfillment of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

APSDJ welcomes the submission of original contributions on themes and issues related to sustainable development that are policy-oriented and relevant to Asia and the Pacific. Articles should be centred on discussing challenges pertinent to one or more dimensions of sustainable development, policy options and implications and/or policy experiences that may be of benefit to the region.

### **Manuscripts should be sent to:**

Chief Editors  
Asia-Pacific Sustainable Development Journal

Social Development Division and  
Macroeconomic Policy and Financing for Development Division  
United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

United Nations Building, Rajadamnern Nok Avenue  
Bangkok 10200, Thailand  
Email: [escap-apsdj@un.org](mailto:escap-apsdj@un.org)

For more details, please visit [www.unescap.org/publication-series/APSDJ](http://www.unescap.org/publication-series/APSDJ).

The Editorial Board of the *Asia-Pacific Sustainable Development Journal* wishes to express its gratitude and appreciation to all of the reviewers for their invaluable contributions to the 2021 issues of the *Journal*.

Shahid Ahmed

Sajid Amin

Chaiti Sharma Biswas

Hui Chen

Prabir De

Yann Duval

Martina Francesca Ferracane

Nick Freeman

Daniel Gay

Zorikto Gomboin

Reiko Hayashi

Wassana Im-em

Ajay Jagannath

Zheng Jian

Olga Joos

Mahmood Khan

Kishore Kulkarni

Bram Peters

Monica Pinilla-Roncancio

Govinda Rao

Napaphat Satchanawakul

Tanja B. Sejersen

Vatcharin Sirimaneetham

Ermina Sokou

Vanessa Steinmayer

Abid Suleri

Felix Suntheim

Bishwa Nath Tiwari

Paul Vandenberg

Upali Wickramasinghe





# ASIA-PACIFIC SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT JOURNAL

Vol. 28, No. 2, December 2021

## CONTENTS

		<i>Page</i>
Oudom Hean and Nattanicha Chairassamee	Household consumption expenditure in Thailand during the first COVID-19 lockdown	1
Siope Vakataki 'Ofa	Estimating the effects of Internet exchange points on fixed-broadband speed and latency	39
Xiang-li Lim and Vatcharin Sirimaneetham	Securing green development: Can Asia- Pacific central banks and financial supervisory authorities do more?	69
Witada Anukoonwattaka, Pedro Romao, Preeti Bhogal, Thomas Bentze, Richard S. Lobo and Arushi Vaishnav	Digital economy integration in Asia and the Pacific: insights from DigiSRII 1.0	113
Alberto Isgut	Addressing sovereign debt challenges in the era of COVID-19 and beyond: the role of the United Nations	149

## **Explanatory notes**

References to dollars (\$) are to United States dollars, unless otherwise stated.

References to “tons” are to metric tons, unless otherwise specified.

A solidus (/) between dates (e.g. 1980/81) indicates a financial year, a crop year or an academic year.

Use of a hyphen between dates (e.g. 1980-1985) indicates the full period involved, including the beginning and end years.

The following symbols have been used in the tables throughout the journal:

Two dots (..) indicate that data are not available or are not separately reported.

An em-dash (—) indicates that the amount is nil or negligible.

A hyphen (-) indicates that the item is not applicable.

A point (.) is used to indicate decimals.

A space is used to distinguish thousands and millions.

Totals may not add precisely because of rounding.

The designations employed and the presentation of the material in this publication do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the Secretariat of the United Nations concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.

Where the designation “country or area” appears, it covers countries, territories, cities or areas.

Bibliographical and other references have, wherever possible, been verified. The United Nations bears no responsibility for the availability or functioning of URLs belonging to outside entities.

The opinions, figures and estimates set forth in this publication are the responsibility of the authors and should not necessarily be considered as reflecting the views or carrying the endorsement of the United Nations. Mention of firm names and commercial products does not imply the endorsement of the United Nations.