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FOREWORD

This edition of the *Key Indicators of Developing Asian and Pacific Countries* is the thirty-second in a series of annual statistical publications of the Asian Development Bank (ADB). The current edition, containing economic, financial, environmental, and social data for ADB's 40 developing member countries (DMCs), departs from previous editions by incorporating two changes.

To enhance the value of the data and to aid readers in their informed analysis of the document, a brief technical note has been added highlighting the underlying concepts and definitions employed in the compilation of the statistics.

The second innovation introduced in this edition is the inclusion of a broad analysis of the numbers. Our goal has been to add value to the data and to draw certain general conclusions. The analysis highlights the great diversity of country circumstances and the development experience of groups of countries in the region. Several major themes emerge. Most countries in the region have experienced growth, but the growth performance has varied considerably from one country to another. Living standards for many Asians continue to be at unacceptable levels despite perceptible improvements. The quality of life remains low, and poverty continues to be intolerably and unacceptably high.

In the process of the analysis, other lessons have been learned. A key lesson is that large data gaps exist in some countries, and there is no strict comparability of data across countries. These limitations point to the past underinvestment in national information services, and to continuing underfunding of statistical operations. Although ADB has provided DMCs with technical assistance for capacity building in statistics, their governments must be responsible for devoting additional resources to the systematic gathering of information and its dissemination.

As we embark on the new millennium and information becomes a major driving force, countries will need to focus on the availability of and access to statistical data. The costs associated with poor data are amply demonstrated by the experience of countries devastated by the economic crisis of 1997. The lessons from that crisis were that market failures can be linked to the lack of key data sets; that markets can be punishing when data are less than transparent and that markets react favorably to country circumstances when credible data are available. Building upon these lessons, it is imperative that governments and their development partners take a fresh look at the role information plays in the evolution of effective development strategies. In an endeavor to contribute to that effort, Chapter II offers pointers for establishing policy-driven statistical systems. ADB remains committed to supporting country efforts at strengthening national statistical systems, especially for improving their capacities to compile indicators of poverty and living standards. Such indicators are critical both for designing projects and programs and for monitoring progress.



Tadao Chino
President

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The Key Indicators of Developing Asian and Pacific Countries, conceptualized and launched in 1969, serves as an annual compendium of statistics. It has become an authoritative source of economic and social data pertaining to the developing member countries (DMCs) of the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and serves the data needs of development specialists, academic researchers, and the private sector. Its popularity and usefulness are acknowledged by the fact that the data contained in this volume, available on the ADB's website, www.adb.org, since May 2001, was accessed and downloaded 25,000 times in May alone. To enhance its value, this edition of the *Key Indicators* incorporates innovative features. These include the addition of a set of Technical Notes, a Chapter analyzing broad socio-economic trends in the region and a further Chapter reviewing the current challenges faced by statistical systems in the region and highlighting the availability and underlying quality of data.

This *Key Indicators 2001* has had the benefit of many contributions from both within and outside of the ADB. I would like to thank the officials of statistical offices, central banks, and other government offices in our DMCs for having provided the data incorporated in this volume. Without the cooperation of these statistical offices, central banks, and other government offices, the production of this *Key Indicators 2001* would not have been possible. A special word of thanks is also due to the staff of the ADB's Resident Missions who liaised with national agencies to facilitate the submission of data. To our development partners in the other international agencies, I wish to express the ADB's thanks for allowing the use of their data.

Staff in the Statistics and Data Systems Division of the ADB's Economics and Development Resource Center prepared the *Key Indicators 2001* under the overall guidance of V.N. Gnanathurai. The preparation was supervised by Bishnu Dev Pant, Abuzar Asra, Dalisay Maligalig, and Olivier Dupriez. Data compilation and processing were undertaken by Belen Villaflor, Fernanda Fernandez, Gina Marie Umali, Barbara Carreon, Modesta de Castro, Concepcion Cecilia Javier, and Edith Lavina. Aleli Rosario and Georginia Nepomuceno were staff consultants who assisted with data processing and computer graphics. Datuk Chander, who was also a staff consultant, drafted the two chapters and the technical notes. A special word of thanks is due to the Printing and Graphics section for providing typesetting and printing services.

With the objective of further enhancing future editions of *Key Indicators*, I invite readers to offer comments and suggestions.



Arvind Panagariya
Director and Chief Economist
Economics and Development Resource Center

29 August 2001

WORDS OF APPRECIATION

We are deeply grateful to our statistical contacts in the following agencies of the DMCs for their continued cooperation and support in reviewing, updating and revising the country tables.

Afghanistan	–	Central Statistics Office Ministry of Planning
Azerbaijan	–	National Bank of Azerbaijan State Statistical Committee of Azerbaijan Republic
Bangladesh	–	Bangladesh Bank Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics Ministry of Finance
Bhutan	–	Central Statistical Office Royal Monetary Authority of Bhutan
Cambodia	–	National Bank of Cambodia National Institute of Statistics
China, People's Republic of	–	National Bureau of Statistics People's Bank of China
Cook Islands	–	Statistics Office, Ministry of Finance and Economic Management
Fiji Islands	–	Bureau of Statistics Reserve Bank of Fiji
Hong Kong, China	–	Census and Statistics Department Hong Kong Monetary Authority
India	–	Central Statistical Organization, Department of Statistics, Ministry of Planning and Program Implementation Ministry of Finance Reserve Bank of India
Indonesia	–	Bank Indonesia Central Bureau of Statistics
Kazakhstan	–	Agency on Statistics of the Republic of Kazakhstan National Bank of Kazakhstan
Kiribati	–	Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning Statistics Office
Korea, Republic of	–	Bank of Korea National Statistical Office

Kyrgyz Republic	–	National Bank of Kyrgyz Republic National Statistical Committee of Kyrgyz Republic
Lao People's Democratic Republic	–	Bank of the Lao PDR National Statistical Center
Malaysia	–	Bank Negara Malaysia Department of Statistics Ministry of Finance
Maldives	–	Department of External Resources Maldives Monetary Authority Ministry of Finance and Treasury Ministry of Planning and National Development Ministry of Planning, Human Resources and Environment
Marshall Islands	–	Office of Planning and Statistics
Micronesia, Federates States of	–	Department of Economic Affairs Office of Planning and Statistics
Mongolia	–	Bank of Mongolia National Statistical Office
Myanmar	–	Central Bank of Myanmar Central Statistical Organization Ministry of National Planning and Economic Development
Nauru	–	Bureau of Statistics
Nepal	–	Central Bureau of Statistics Ministry of Finance Nepal Rastra Bank
Pakistan	–	Federal Bureau of Statistics Ministry of Finance and Economic Affairs
Papua New Guinea	–	Bank of Papua New Guinea Department of Finance and Treasury National Statistical Office
Philippines	–	Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas Bureau of the Treasury National Economic and Development Authority National Statistical Coordination Board National Statistics Office
Samoa	–	Central Bank of Samoa Department of Statistics Treasury Department of Samoa

Singapore	–	Department of Statistics Economic Development Board Ministry of Manpower Monetary Authority of Singapore Singapore Trade Development Board
Solomon Islands	–	Central Bank of Solomon Islands Ministry of Finance Statistics Office
Sri Lanka	–	Central Bank of Sri Lanka Department of Census and Statistics
Taipei,China	–	Central Bank of China Directorate-General of Budget, Accounting and Statistics Ministry of Economic Affairs Ministry of Finance
Tajikistan	–	National Bank of Tajikistan State Statistical Committee of Tajikistan
Thailand	–	Bank of Thailand National Statistical Office Office of the National Economic and Social Development Board
Tonga	–	Ministry of Finance National Reserve Bank of Tonga Statistics Department
Turkmenistan	–	National Institute of Statistics of Turkmenistan
Tuvalu	–	Central Statistics Division, Ministry of Finance, Economic Planning, Commerce and Industry
Uzbekistan	–	Ministry of Macroeconomics and Statistics State Department of Statistics of Uzbekistan
Vanuatu	–	Ministry of Finance and Economic Management Reserve Bank of Vanuatu Statistics Office
Viet Nam	–	General Statistical Office Ministry of Finance State Bank of Viet Nam

For this issue, the assistance of colleagues in the following intergovernmental agencies is likewise gratefully acknowledged: Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), International Monetary Fund (IMF), Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC), UN Development Programme (UNDP), UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), UN International Labour Office (ILO), UN Statistical Division (UNSD), and the World Bank (WB).

INTRODUCTORY NOTES

Concepts, Definitions and Estimation Methodology

The data series are compiled from two major sources, namely, the developing member countries (DMCs) of ADB and international statistics agencies. The data obtained from the DMCs are comparable to the extent that the individual countries follow the standard statistical concepts, definitions and estimation methods recommended by the United Nations and other applicable international agencies. However, countries invariably develop and apply their own concepts, definitions and estimation methodology to suit their individual conditions and these may not necessarily conform with the recommended international standards. Hence, although attempts are made to present the data in comparable and uniform format, they are subject to variations in the statistical methods used by individual countries. These variations are reflected in the footnotes of the country tables.

General Guidelines

The cut-off date for the data to be included in this issue was 13 July 2001.

Sixteen countries have varying fiscal years not corresponding to the calendar year. Whenever the statistical series, e.g. national accounts or government finance, are compiled by fiscal year, these are presented under single year captions corresponding to the period in which most of the fiscal year falls, as follows:

Country	Fiscal Year	Year Caption
Afghanistan	21 March 2000 to 20 March 2001	2000
Cook Islands (before 1990)	1 April 1989 to 31 March 1990	1989
Cook Islands (after 1990)	1 July 1999 to 30 June 2000	2000
Hong Kong, China	1 April 2000 to 31 March 2001	2000
India		
Indonesia		
Myanmar		
Singapore		
Bangladesh	1 July 1999 to 30 June 2000	2000
Bhutan		
Pakistan		
Samoa		
Taipei, China		
Tonga		
Nepal	16 July 1999 to 15 July 2000	2000
Lao PDR	1 October 1999 to 30 September 2000	2000
Marshall Islands		
Micronesia, Fed. States of		

Key Symbols

...	Data not available at cut-off date
–	Magnitude equals zero
0 or 0.0	Magnitude is less than half of unit employed
*	Provisional/Preliminary/Estimate/Budget figure
I	Marked break in series

Measurement Units

bbl	barrel
bn	billion
c	cent
cu m	cubic meter
ha	hectare
kg	kilogram
kgoe	kilogram of oil equivalent
kl	kiloliter
km	kilometer
kWh	kilowatt-hour
lb	pound
m	meter
mn	million
m t	metric ton
pc	piece
sq m	square meter
'000	thousand
toe	ton of oil equivalent

Abbreviations and Acronyms

ADB	Asian Development Bank
AIDAB	Australian International Development Assistance Bureau
CAP	Country Assistance Plan
CAR	Central Asian Republics
CER	Country Economic Report
cif	cost, insurance and freight
CSP	Country Strategy and Program Update
DAC	Development Assistance Committee
DMC	developing member country of the ADB
ERBOP	Economic Review and Bank Operations
ERIOS	Economic Report and Interim Operational Strategy
ESCAP	Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
FSU	former Soviet Union
fc	factor cost
fob	free on board
GDI	gross domestic investment
GDP	gross domestic product
GDS	gross domestic saving
GNP	gross national product
HSC	Harmonized System Classification
IEA	International Energy Agency
ILO	International Labour Office

IMF	International Monetary Fund
LDC	least developed country
LT	long term
mp	market prices
NCDS	National Centre for Development Studies
NIEs	Newly Industrialized Economies
NMP	net material product
ODA	Official Development Assistance
OECD	Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development
OPEC	Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries
PPP	purchasing power parity
SDRs	Special Drawing Rights
SEA	Southeast Asia
SITC	Standard International Trade Classification
UN	United Nations
UNCTAD	UN Conference on Trade and Development
UNDP	UN Development Programme
UNEP	UN Environment Programme
UNESCO	UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
WB	World Bank
WRI	World Resources Institute

Publications

ADB, ESCAP,	GIDAPC	Gender Indicators of Developing Asian and Pacific Countries
	APF	Asia-Pacific in Figures
FAO, ILO, IMF,	SIAP	Statistical Indicators for Asia and the Pacific
	SYAP	Statistical Yearbook for Asia and the Pacific
	PY	Production Yearbook
	YLS	Yearbook of Labor Statistics
	BOPS	Balance of Payments Statistics
	DOTS	Direction of Trade Statistics
	GFS	Government Finance Statistics
NCDS, OECD,	IFS	International Finance Statistics
	SPESD	South Pacific Economic and Social Database
	EDS	External Debt Statistics
	FEDDC	Financing and External Debt of Developing Countries
UN,	FSM	Financial Statistics Monthly
	GDFAR	Geographical Distribution of Financial Flows to Aid Recipients
	CSISW	Compendium of Statistics and Indicators on the Situation of Women
	DY	Demographic Yearbook
	ESY	Energy Statistics Yearbook
	MBS	Monthly Bulletin of Statistics
	SY	Statistical Yearbook
	WES	Yearbook of World Energy Statistics
	WISTAT	Women's Indicators and Statistics Database
	WPP	World Population Prospects
UNCTAD, UNDP, UNESCO,	HITDS	Handbook of International Trade and Development Statistics
	HDR	Human Development Report
	SY	Statistical Yearbook

WB,	WER	World Education Report
	GDF	Global Development Finance
	PPMC	Price Prospects for Major Commodities
	SID	Social Indicators of Development
	WDI	World Development Indicators
	WDR	World Development Report
	WDT	World Debt Tables
	WT	World Tables

Notes

1. Data on GDP estimates converted through purchasing power parities (PPP) under the International Comparison Program (ICP) coordinated by the United Nations are not shown in this publication, mainly because of the lack of continuous series and more current data for many of the Bank's developing member countries.

2. Data on Direction of Trade contained in most country tables are based on data shown in the Direction of Trade Statistics (DOTS) yearbooks and CD-ROMs of the IMF, which in turn are reported by the respective countries. However, such data may not be fully consistent with those reported by their trading partners.

3. Data on Germany in the Direction of Trade refer to those of the former Federal Republic of Germany through June 1990. As from July 1990, data cover the area of united Germany.