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FOREWORD

This 2003 edition of *Key Indicators*—first published in 1970—is the 34th annual edition, testifying to the long and fruitful cooperation between ADB and the governments of its developing member countries and international agencies. *Key Indicators* has become a flagship publication of ADB, aiming to disseminate information on the social and economic development of the Asia and Pacific region, with a new focus on poverty reduction and steps toward the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals. The large number of Internet users accessing its on-line version every month from ADB's web site demonstrates the usefulness and relevance of the publication, and the role of ADB as a clearinghouse for statistical information on the region.

Since the 2001 edition, the *Key Indicators* has included a special theme chapter. Feedback from our readers shows that the previous chapters, *Growth and Change in Asia and the Pacific* (2001) and *Population and Human Resources Trends and Challenges* (2002) were highly appreciated. This year, the special chapter addresses the topic of education.

Education is a vital need not only for the individual within society, but also for society as a whole. Knowledge has become a major asset in the increasingly globalized economy. Sustainable economic growth requires a more flexible and easily trainable labor force. This, in turn, requires higher-quality, more adaptable education that can provide young people and adults with the knowledge and life skills required to function effectively in the new economic environment. However, despite considerable—but uneven—progress made in the last decades in expanding and improving education systems, and despite repeated national and international commitments, millions of children in the region are still out of school, millions of adults remain illiterate, and increased enrollment ratios often hide issues related to the quality of education. Education reforms are needed, driven by concerns of social mobility and equity, economic growth, and productivity. To achieve sustainable economic growth, poverty reduction, and catch-up with the more developed countries inside and outside the region, planners in ADB developing member countries must constantly rethink and adjust their national education systems to provide their economies with a skilled and productive labor force. These are the issues that the special chapter addresses, from a long-term perspective.

As in previous years, the special chapter also serves a role in highlighting data limitations. Gaps, inconsistencies, lack of harmonization, and age of data are revealed. Internationally comparable data on inputs, outputs, and outcomes of education and training systems are needed for planning, monitoring, and assessing education strategies. The traditional set of indicators performs poorly for these purposes, and there can be little debate on the need for investing in better education-related data. Governments must include such investments in their strategies for development. A priority for multilateral development banks and other aid agencies should be to share a common long-term vision for the development of the statistical systems in developing countries. Reinforcing the links between users and producers, and fostering cooperation among agencies, will lead to a clearer vision of what the statistics systems of developing countries must be and what needs to be done to strengthen them.

Improving the relevance and quality of the *Key Indicators* is our constant preoccupation. This 2003 edition provides additional tables and data series, including a new section dedicated to the Millennium Development Goals. To allow this expansion of the scope of data, a new layout has been adopted, with fewer years covered. Users who appreciated the publication for the long time series it used to provide will still find them on our web site (www.adb.org/statistics). Readers' comments and suggestions on both the content and presentation of *Key Indicators* are most welcome, and can be addressed to statistics@adb.org.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tadao Chino". The script is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of "T" and "C" being capitalized and prominent.

Tadao Chino
President

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Ifzal Ali
Chief Economist

STATISTICAL CONTACTS

Developing Member Countries

- Afghanistan – Central Statistics Office
 - Azerbaijan – National Bank of Azerbaijan
State Statistical Committee of Azerbaijan Republic
 - Bangladesh – Bangladesh Bank
Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics
 - Bhutan – Central Statistical Organization
Ministry of Finance
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
 - Fiji Islands – Bureau of Statistics
Reserve Bank of Fiji
 - Hong Kong, China – Census and Statistics Department
 - India – Central Statistical Organization
Reserve Bank of India
 - Indonesia – Bank Indonesia
Statistics Indonesia
 - Kazakhstan – Agency on Statistics of the Republic of Kazakhstan
National Bank of Kazakhstan
 - Kiribati – National Statistics Office
 - Korea, Republic of – Bank of Korea
National Statistics 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
 - Maldives – Ministry of Finance and Treasury
Ministry of Planning and National Development
-

- Marshall Islands – Office of Planning and Statistics
- Micronesia, Federated States of – Department of Economic Affairs
- Mongolia – Bank of Mongolia
National Statistical Office
- Myanmar – Central Statistical Organization
- Nepal – Central Bureau of Statistics
Nepal Rastra Bank
- Pakistan – Federal Bureau of Statistics
- Papua New Guinea – Bank of Papua New Guinea
National Statistical Office
- Philippines – Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas
National Statistical Coordination Board
National Statistics Office
- Samoa – Central Bank of Samoa
Treasury Department
- Singapore – Department of Statistics
Economic Development Board
International Enterprise Singapore
Ministry of Finance
Ministry of Manpower
Monetary Authority of Singapore
- Solomon Islands – Central Bank of Solomon Islands
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 Finance
- Tajikistan – National Bank of Tajikistan
State Statistics Committee
- Thailand – Bank of Thailand
National Economic and Social Development Board
National Statistical Office
- Tonga – Ministry of Finance
National Reserve Bank of Tonga
Statistics Department
- Turkmenistan – Central Bank of Turkmenistan
Ministry of Economy and Finance
National Institute of State Statistics and Information
-

Tuvalu – Central Statistics Division
Uzbekistan – State Department of Statistics
Vanuatu – Reserve Bank of Vanuatu
Statistics Office
Viet Nam – General Statistics Office
State Bank of Viet Nam

International Organizations

Data were also obtained from the following international organizations:

Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)
Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)
Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)
International Energy Agency (IEA)
International Labor Organization (ILO)
International Monetary Fund (IMF)
International Telecommunication Union (ITU)
National Center for Development Studies (NCDS)
Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)
Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC)
Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC)
United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)
United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)
United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)
United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
United Nations Population Division
United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)
United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD)
United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS)
World Bank (WB)
World Customs Organization (WCO)
World Health Organization (WHO)
World Resources Institute (WRI)

INTRODUCTORY NOTES

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 15 May 2003.

Eighteen 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:

Developing Member Country	Fiscal Year	Year Caption
Afghanistan	21 March 2002 to 20 March 2003	2002
Cook Islands (before 1990)	1 April 1989 to 31 March 1990	1989
Cook Islands (after 1990)	1 July 2001 to 30 June 2002	2002
Hong Kong, China India Myanmar Singapore	} 1 April 2002 to 31 March 2003	2002
Indonesia (until 1999)	1 April 1999 to 31 March 2000	1999
Bangladesh Bhutan Pakistan Samoa Timor-Leste Tonga	} 1 July 2001 to 30 June 2002	2002
Taipei, China (until 1999)	1 July 1998 to 30 June 1999	1999
Nepal	16 July 2001 to 15 July 2002	2002
Lao PDR Marshall Islands Micronesia, Fed. States of	} 1 October 2001 to 30 September 2002	2002

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/Estimates/Budget figure
I	Marked break in series

Measurement Units

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

Abbreviations and Acronyms

ADB	Asian Development Bank
ADO	Asian Development Outlook
AIDS	acquired immunodeficiency syndrome
ASEAN	Association of Southeast Asian Nations
BOP	balance of payments
CAP	country assistance plan
CER	Country Economic Review
CFC	chlorofluorocarbon
CIF	cost, insurance and freight
CSPU	country strategy and program update
DAC	Development Assistance Committee
DMC	developing member country of ADB
ECCE	early childhood care and education
EFA	Education for All
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
FC	factor cost
FOB	free on board
GCF	gross capital formation
GDI	gross domestic investment
GDP	gross domestic product
GDS	gross domestic saving
GIDAPC	Gender Indicators of Developing Asian and Pacific Countries

GNI	gross national income
GNP	gross national product
GVC	global value chain
HSC	harmonized system classification
HIV	human immunodeficiency virus
ICP	International Comparison Program
ICT	information and communications technology
IEA	International Energy Agency
ILO	International Labour Organization
IMF	International Monetary Fund
IMR	infant mortality rate
ITU	International Telecommunication Union
ISIC	international standard industrial classification
Lao PDR	Lao People's Democratic Republic
MDG	Millennium Development Goal
MP	market prices
MPS	material product system
NCDS	National Center for Development Studies
NCHS	National Center for Health Statistics
NIE	newly industrialized economy
NMP	net material product
ODA	official development assistance
ODP	ozone depleting potential
OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
OPEC	Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries
PC	personal computer
PISA	Programme for International Student Assessment
PPP	purchasing power parity
PRC	People's Republic of China
SDR	special drawing rights
SESC	Socio-Economic Survey of Cambodia
SITC	standard international trade classification
SNA	system of national accounts
SOTL	Special Office in Timor-Leste
SPC	Secretariat of the Pacific Community
TFR	total fertility rate
TIMSS	Third International Mathematics and Science Study
UN	United Nations
UNCTAD	UN Conference on Trade and Development
UNDP	UN Development Programme
UNFPA	UN Population Fund
UNEP	UN Environment Programme
UNESCO	UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNSD	UN Statistics Division
UNAIDS	UN Programme on HIV/AIDS
UNICEF	UN Children's Fund
WB	World Bank
WCO	World Customs Organization
WHO	World Health Organization
WRI	World Resources Institute