



National Strategies for Regional Integration

South and East Asian Case Studies

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Description

Analyses the way Asian economies develop and implement effective approaches to regional cooperation and integration.

Regional integration is gathering momentum in Asia. This study examines the diverse experience of regional integration of South and East Asian economies during the last two decades and offers lessons for latecomers. The global economic crisis is expected to merely dampen rather than halt the pace of Asian integration. Global recovery will give renewed impetus to Asian integration. East and South Asia include the world's largest and most dynamic open economies alongside several least developed countries. Using a set of country cases based on a similar framework, the study addresses an important policy question: how can each country's integration with its neighbors and more distant regional economies be improved? Of the eight country studies, five are from South Asia (India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Nepal, and Sri Lanka) and three are from East Asia (the People's Republic of China, Thailand, and Singapore). The country cases—which differ by per capita income, country size and location—provide fascinating insights on the relationship between regional economic performance and strategies for regional integration at the country level.

Readership: Policy institutions, universities, and governmental and international organizations.

Contents

Introduction, Findings, and Policies; SOUTH ASIAN PERSPECTIVES; India; Pakistan; Bangladesh; Nepal; Sri Lanka; EAST ASIAN PERSPECTIVES; People's Republic of China; Thailand; Singapore; Index

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Ganeshan Wignaraja is Principal Economist at the Asian Development Bank, Philippines. His books include *Competitiveness Strategy in Developing Countries* (London, 2003), *Trade Liberalization in Sri Lanka* (Basingstoke, 1998), and *The Postwar Evolution of Development Thinking* (Basingstoke, 1991), with C. Oman.

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