New Arrivals at the Public Information Center in Sri Lanka
October 2006

Japan, Moving Toward A More Advanced Knowledge Economy (Volume 1)
Assessment and Lessons
Tsutomu Shibata

Abstract
These two volumes analyze Japan from the Knowledge Economy perspective, covering a wide range of sectoral issues in development including the macro economic framework, education and skills training, the national innovation system, science and technology, information and communication technology, and infrastructure. While Volume 1 explores the four pillar of the "Knowledge for Development" framework, the second volume presents up-to-date case studies of outstanding Japanese private companies that each characterize different aspects of the Knowledge Economy. By combining economics and business, these volumes allow readers to grasp the full scope of today's knowledge economy.

Japan, Moving Toward A More Advanced Knowledge Economy (Volume 2)
Advanced Knowledge Creating Companies
Tsutomu Shibata; Hirottaka Takeuchi

Abstract
These two volumes analyze Japan from the Knowledge Economy perspective, covering a wide range of sectoral issues in development including the macro economic framework, education and skills training, the national innovation system, science and technology, information and communication technology, and infrastructure. While Volume 1 explores the four pillar of the "Knowledge for Development" framework, the second volume presents up-to-date case studies of outstanding Japanese private companies that each characterize different aspects of the Knowledge Economy. By combining economics and business, these volumes allow readers to grasp the full scope of today's knowledge economy.

Local Governance in Industrial Countries
Anwar Shah

Abstract
The information revolution, in recent years, has worked as a catalyst to create a globalized yet localized world with local governments playing an ever-increasing role in the domestic and global economy. How these governments will be able to shoulder their responsibilities especially the delivery of local services more effectively is the concern of this book. The book, edited by Anwar Shah, provides a comparative perspective on
international practices in local governance and draws lessons from these experiences to
guide future reform. Case studies include the following countries: Argentina, Bangladesh,
Brazil, Canada, Chile, France, India, Japan, Kazakhstan, New Zealand, the Nordic
countries, Poland, South Africa, Switzerland, Uganda, the United Kingdom, and the
United States. Contributors to this volume include Jose Afonso, Erika Araujo, Miguel
Asensio, Brian Dollery, Chris Heymans, Roy Kelly, David King, Leonardo Letelier,
Jorgen Lotz, Mereurt Makhamutova, Melville McMillan, Nobuki Mochida, Remy Prud
homme, Jerzy Regulski, Larry Schroeder, Kaniz Siddique, Jesper Steffensen, and Pawel
Swianiewicz. This important new series represents a response to several independent
evaluations in recent years that have argued that development practitioners and policy
makers dealing with public sector reforms in developing countries and, indeed, anyone
with a concern for effective public governance could benefit from a synthesis of newer
perspectives on public sector reforms. This series distills current wisdom and presents
tools of analysis for improving the efficiency, equity, and efficacy of the public sector.
Leading public policy experts and practitioners have contributed to the series.

Reforming Collateral Laws to Expand Access to Finance

Abstract

Most readers, especially those with car loans or home mortgages, know about
"collateral"—property that the lender can take away from the borrower in the
event that the borrower defaults. In low/middle income countries, it is understood that
conservative lenders exclude firms from credit markets with their excessive collateral
requirements. Usually, this is because only some property is acceptable as collateral:
large holdings of urban real estate and, sometimes, new motor vehicles. Microenterprises,
SMEs, and the poor have little of this property but they do have an array of productive
assets that could easily be harnessed to serve as collateral. It is only the legal framework
which prevents firms from using these assets to secure loans. In countries with reformed
laws governing collateral, property such as equipment, inventory, accounts receivable,
livestock are considered excellent collateral. This book aims to better equip project
managers to implement reforms to the legal and institutional framework for collateral
(secured transactions). It discusses the importance of movable property as a source of
collateral for firms, the relationship between the legal framework governing movable
assets and the financial sector consequences for firms (better loan terms, increased
access, more competitive financial sector), and how reforms can be put in place to change
the lending environment.

A reader In International Corporate Finance (Volume 1 & 2):

A Reader in International Corporate Finance offers an overview of current
thinking on six topics: law and finance, corporate governance, banking,
capital markets, capital structure and financing constraints, and the political
economy of finance. This collection of 23 of the most influential articles
published in the period 2000-2006 reflects two new trends: interest in international aspects of corporate finance, particularly specific to emerging markets, awareness of the importance of institutions in explaining global differences in corporate finance.

From Schooling Access to Learning Outcomes An Unfinished Agenda: An Evaluation of World Bank Support to Primary Education:

The Education for All (EFA) movement, launched in 1990, has resulted in an extraordinary mobilization of World Bank and country resources in support of basic education over the past 15 years. World Bank EFA financing, mostly focused on primary education, has become increasingly progressive, targeting the most disadvantaged countries and often the disadvantaged within countries. Over the years of Bank support for EFA and its world conferences in 1990 and 2000, the Bank's policy objectives for increased support to primary education have been simple and remarkably stable: universal primary school completion, equality of access for girls and other disadvantaged groups, and improved student learning outcomes. This Independent Evaluation Group (IEG) evaluation assesses the extent to which these objectives have been met in countries supported by the Bank and it provide lessons for countries in their development strategies and for the Bank in its support to those strategies.

Doing Business 2007
How to Reform

Abstract

Doing Business 2007 focuses on reforms, identifies top reformers in business regulation, and best practices in how to reform. This volume is the fourth in a series of annual reports investigating global regulations that enhance business activity and those that constrain it. Co-sponsored by the World Bank and the International Finance Corporation - the private sector arm of the World Bank Group - this year's report measures quantitative indicators on business regulations and their enforcement compared across 175 countries - from Afghanistan to Zimbabwe - and over time. Doing Business 2007 updates indicators developed in the three preceding reports. The ten indicators are: starting a business, dealing with licenses, hiring and firing, registering property, getting credit, protecting investors, trading across borders, paying taxes, enforcing contracts, and closing a business. The indicators are used to analyze economic and social outcomes, such as informality, corruption, unemployment, and poverty. This annually published report gives policymakers the ability to measure regulatory performance in comparison to other countries, learn from best practices globally, and prioritize reforms. This year's report covers 20 additional countries.
Postindustrial East Asian Cities
Innovation for Growth

Shahid Yusuf; Kaoru Nabeshima

Abstract
Post-Industrial East Asian Cities analyzes urban developments and policies responsible for the growth of producer services and creative industries. This study is based on the findings of firm surveys conducted in East Asia and a review of the data and literature on several key regional cities (Beijing, Shanghai, Singapore, Seoul, Bangkok and Tokyo) that are transitioning away from traditional manufacturing activities.

Reforming the Investment Climate
Lessons for Practitioners

Sunita Kikeri; Thomas Kenyon; Vincent Palmade

Abstract
Most people agree that a good investment climate is essential for growth and poverty reduction. Less clear is how to achieve it. Drawing from more than 25 case studies, this book shows that reform often requires paying as much attention to dealing with the politics and institutional dimensions as to designing policy substance. While there is no single recipe or "manual" for reform, the authors highlight three broad lessons. The first is to recognize and seize opportunities for reform. Crisis and new governments are important catalysts, but so is the competition generated by trade integration and new benchmarking information. The second is to invest early in the politics of reform. Public education can help gain wide acceptance for reform, while pilot programs can be valuable for demonstrating the benefits and feasibility of change. And the third is to treat implementation and monitoring as an integral part of the reform process and not merely as an afterthought. In the absence of public sector reform, reformers can draw on private sector change management techniques to revitalize institutions and put in place mechanisms to monitor and sustain reform. The book provides an emerging checklist for reformers and identifies areas for future work.

Overcoming Drought
Adaptation Strategies for Andhra Pradesh

Abstract
Using recent advances in modeling climate-related risks and adjusting state of the art catastrophic risk modeling techniques to drought, the study conducts an innovative long-term assessment of drought risks in Andhra Pradesh, India, and suggests strategies to reduce their impact, under several economic, drought management and climate change scenarios. The analysis deepens an understanding of climate risk adaptation strategies, including implications for agricultural and catastrophic risk insurance.
**Mining Royalties**
*A Global Study of their Impact on Investors, Government, and Civil Society*

James Otto; Craig B. Andrews; Fred Cawood; Michael Doggett; Pietro Guj; Frank Stermole; John Stermole; John Tilton

**Abstract**
This book contains a wealth of information and analysis relating to mineral royalties. Primary information includes royalty legislation from over forty nations. Analysis is comprehensive and addresses issues of importance to diverse stakeholders including government policymakers, tax administrators, society, local communities and mining companies. Extensive footnotes and citations provide a valuable resource for researchers.

**Small States – Making the Most of Development Assistance:**

**Abstract**
The Independent Evaluation Group (IEG) prepared this synthesis note as an input to the ongoing process surrounding the international agenda for Small States. Its purpose is to provide a perspective on some of the issues small states face through a review of World Bank experience with country and project assistance. The lessons and findings are drawn from IEG Country Assistance Evaluations and Project Performance Assessment Reports, as well as from IEG Reviews of Country Assistance Strategy Completion Reports and Project Implementation Completion Reports.

**Transforming Microfinance Institutions**
*Providing Full Financial Services to the Poor*

Joanna Ledgerwood; Victoria White

**Abstract**
In response to a clear need by low-income people to gain access to the full range of financial services including savings, a growing number of microfinance NGOs are seeking guidelines to transform from credit-focused microfinance organizations to regulated deposit-taking financial intermediaries. In response to this trend, this book presents a practical "how-to" manual for MFIs to develop the capacity to become licensed and regulated to mobilize deposits from the public. "Transforming Microfinance Institutions" provides guidelines for regulators to license and regulate microfinance providers, and for transforming MFIs to meet the demands of two major new stakeholders "regulators and shareholders". As such, it focuses on developing the capacity of NGO MFIs to mobilize and intermediate voluntary savings. Drawing from worldwide experience, it outlines how to manage the transformation process and address major strategic and operational issues inherent in transformation including competitive positioning, business planning, accessing capital and shareholders, and how to...
"transform" the MFI's human resources, financial management, MIS, internal controls, and branch operations. Case studies then provide examples of developing a new regulatory tier for microfinance, and how a Ugandan NGO transformed to become a licensed financial intermediary. This book will be invaluable to regulators and microfinance NGOs contemplating institutional transformation and will be of tremendous use to donors and technical support agencies supporting MFIs in their transformation.

**Global Issues for Global Citizens**
*An Introduction to Key Development Challenges*

Vinay K. Bhargava

**Abstract**
Written by 27 World Bank experts, this book draws on the Bank's unique global capabilities and experience to promote an understanding of key global issues that cannot be solved by any one nation alone in an increasingly interconnected world. It describes the forces that are shaping public and private action to address these issues and highlights the Bank's own work in these areas. Covering four broad themes (global economy, global human development, global environment, and global governance), this comprehensive volume provides an introduction to today's most pressing global issues -- from poverty, conflict, and migration to climate change, international trade, education, health, and corruption. With its straightforward presentation of complex topics, use of real world examples, and suggestions for further reading on-line and in the literature, this unique volume will be an invaluable resource for students in international relations, global business, public policy, international development studies, sociology as well as other interested readers.

**Local Governance in Developing Countries**

World Bank

**Abstract**
This book provides a new institutional economics perspective on alternative models of local governance, offering a comprehensive view of local government organization and finance in the developing world. The experiences of ten developing/transition economies are reviewed to draw lessons of general interest in strengthening responsive, responsible, and accountable local governance. The book is written in simple user friendly language to facilitate a wider readership by policy makers and practitioners in addition to students and scholars of public finance, economics and politics.
The Economics of Effective AIDS Treatment
Evaluating Policy Options for Thailand

Ana Revenga; Mead Over; Wiwat Peerapatanapokin; Sombat Thanprasertsuk; Emiko Masaki

Abstract
HIV is the leading cause of premature death in Thailand. Since the first case of AIDS was reported in 1984 more than one million Thais have been infected. The social, human and economic costs of this burden are enormous. The Thai government has shown a strong commitment to providing care and support to persons living with HIV/AIDS by launching the National Access to Care Program (NAPHA) in 2003, which provides for publicly financed antiretroviral therapy (ART) to all HIV-infected people. This book documents through interviews how ART has radically changed the lives of those living with HIV. In the words of an HIV positive 29-year old man, ART is a "miracle". The book then develops an innovative analytical framework and uses it to show how the future sustainability and cost-effectiveness of this ambitious program depend critically on Thai government choices of AIDS treatment policy, HIV prevention policy and AIDS drug pricing. For the most likely assumptions, the book estimates that ART will save years of healthy life at a cost of between $700 and $2,400 per year. Successful AIDS treatment accumulates ever-increasing numbers of patients who need subsidized ART. Despite the magnitude of the resulting fiscal burden, the authors judge this expenditure to be a worthwhile public health investment for Thailand. However, they show that the future sustainability of the program will hinge critically on how well the government manages the quality of ART service delivery, on whether it is able to sustain its past successes in HIV prevention and on its negotiations with multinational pharmaceutical manufacturers on the prices of new AIDS drugs.

The Little Data Book on Africa 2006

World Bank

Abstract
A pocket-sized reference on key development data for over 50 countries in Africa, this book provides profiles of each country with 54 development indicators about people, environment, economy, technology, infrastructure, trade and finance. A must have for anyone interested in today's development challenges in sub-Saharan Africa.
Infrastructure at the Crossroads
Lessons from 20 Years of World Bank Experience

World Bank

Abstract
Infrastructure at the Crossroads brings together lessons from the last two decades of World Bank engagement in infrastructure. It analyzes trends in the Bank's infrastructure lending, describes the evolution of the external environment and the Bank's own strategic priorities, and presents lessons about project design and appraisal, poverty focus, private sector participation, environmental and social sustainability, the issue of corruption, and stakeholder communications.

Development of Capital Markets and Institutional Investors in Russia
Recent Achievements and Policy Challenges Ahead

Michel Noel; Zeynep Kantur; Yevgeny Krasnov; Sue Rutledge

Abstract
This study reviews the recent developments in capital markets and institutional investors in Russia, and examines the policy challenges ahead for the development of the sector. The analysis covers key impediments for further development and policy challenges for securities markets, in particular legal and regulatory framework, market infrastructure, government bonds, sub-sovereign bonds, corporate bonds, and equities. The analysis also covers key impediments for further development and policy challenges for mutual funds, pension funds, and insurance companies.

East Asian Finance
The Road to Robust Markets

Swati R. Ghosh

Abstract
This study analyzes the key issues and constraints - in terms of efficiency, access and safety and soundness - faced by East Asian countries in developing their financial markets which are at different stages of development, drawing on global experience. The study takes stock of the initiatives being undertaken at the regional level to foster greater financial integration as a means of deepening and diversifying financial markets, and on the policy issues that need to be addressed at the domestic level to deepen and diversify financial markets and to actually benefit from the actions that are being taken at the regional level.
The Inspection Panel – (July 1, 2005 – June 30, 2006):

This Annual Report outlines Inspection Panel activities during the period July 1, 2005 to June 30, 2006. The inspection Panel aims to provide an effective forum for investigating the complaints of people who believe they have been harmed by Bank-financed projects or program due to non-compliance by the Bank with its policies and procedures.

The World Bank Annual Report 2006

Abstract

The World Bank Annual Report 2006 is the one place where you will find: a summary of the World Bank's major initiatives and activities this year; regional reports with lending to each region by theme and sector; the year's lending and advisory activities; a description of all new projects approved this year; the complete financial statements of the World Bank; and World Bank organizational information, including a list of all Country Offices. You'll find numerous references to Web sites where you can find in-depth information on every topic in the Annual Report.

Contact the Public Information Center in Colombo for free copies of this publication.