



The 2nd YAU-JICA TCP Special Lecture



Economic Development of East Asia Global Value Chains and Agriculture: Lessons for Myanmar

Speaker: Shigeyuki Abe
(Professor, Faculty of Policy Studies, Doshisha University)

Date & Time: 9:00 am, Tuesday, March 8, 2016

Venue: Auditorium, YAU

Abstract

The multinational supply chains for intermediate goods are widespread across Asia and constitute an important part of the global production system. Two natural disasters in 2011 – a tsunami in Japan and floods in Thailand – revealed the chains' weaknesses, as disruptions of parts production in one locality disrupted production of finished goods and of trade across Asia and beyond. Major affected consumer products include automobiles and digital cameras. We outline how the supply chains developed and explore its major problems by analysing detailed trade data for key export goods. When one part of the chain is cut, the entire chain will necessarily be affected. Factory visits to the flood affected factories in Thailand and emerging economies like Vietnam and Indonesia made our study more practical and policy oriented. The recent development of trade data by OECD, in particular those of value added trade, make it possible to re-examine how the situation is about value chains constructed in the past decade or so in East Asia. We will try to delineate how East Asian countries have tried to upgrade and to add more value added to shift their stages in the value chains. At the same time we try to clarify the role of agriculture in the development of East Asia. We conclude the presentation by remarks on possible lessons for Myanmar.

Short Biography of Shigeyuki Abe



Shigeyuki Abe is a Professor of Economics at Doshisha University. He serves currently a chief editor of *Asian Economic Journal*. He is also a senior research fellow at Asia Pacific Institute of Research. He received Ph.D. from the University of Hawaii at Manoa. He started his career as an economist at the United Nations ESCAP. His former university appointments include Kyoto University and Kobe University while he visited such institutions as OECD, SOAS, Brandeis University, Peking University, University of Hawaii, East West Center, Thammasat University, and Chulalongkorn

University as visiting faculty. His current research agenda focuses on trade, FDI, and economic integration in Asia. A short list of his publications follows.

A. BOOKS AND MONOGRAPHS:

1. *Japan: Why It Works, Why It Doesn't*, co-authored with James Mak, Shyam Sunder and Kazuhiro Igawa, University of Hawaii Press, 1997, pp.1-219
2. *Asian Economics(Ajia Keizai Kenkyu)*, Monograph Series No. 48, Research Institute for Economics & Business Administration, Kobe University March 1998, pp.1-245 (in Japanese)
3. *Asia-Pacific Economic Linkages*, Shigeyuki Abe, M. H. Kreinin and M. G. Plummer (eds.), Oxford: Pergamon, 1999, pp.1-221
4. *East Asian Economies and New Regionalism*, Shigeyuki Abe and Bhanupong Nidhiprabha (eds.), Kyoto University Press and Trance Pacific Press, March 2008, pp. 1-304.
5. *Borderless-Ka suru Sekai de Ima Naniga Okotteiruka (What is happening in the borderless world?)*, Shigeyuki Abe (ed.), *Seisaku Booklet No.2, Gakugei Shuppansha, 2014.*

B. JOURNAL AND OTHER PUBLICATIONS:

1. "The Trade-Investment Nexus" (with M. Kreinin and M. Plummer) in Farok Contractor (ed.), *Economic Transformation in Emerging Countries: The Role of Investment, Trade and Finance*, London: Pergamon Elsevier, 1998, pp.59-70
2. "On the Myth of Asia's Miracle" (with Michael G. Plummer) in Shinichi Ichimura and Gerry Adams (eds.), *East Asian Economic Growth*, London: Praeger, 1998, pp.84-104
3. "Economic Development and Malaysian Public Policies" (with Azmi Setapa) in Gerald Adams and William E. James (eds.), *Public Policies in East Asian Development: Facing New Challenges*, London: Praeger, 1999, pp.163-172
4. "Motives for Japanese DFI: Survey, analysis, and implications in light of the Asian crisis" (with M. E. Kreinin and M. G. Plummer), *Journal of Asian Economics*, Vol.10, 1999, pp.385-394
5. "Economic Development in China and Its Implications to Japan" (with Chung H. Lee) in Magnus Blomstrom, Byron Gangnes, and Sumner La Croix (eds.), *Japan's New Economy: Continuity and Change in the Twenty First Century*, Oxford University Press, 2001, pp.307-322
6. "Population and Globalization," *Southeast Asian Studies*, No.40, Vol.3, 2002, pp.240-267
7. "Is 'China Fear' Warranted? Perspectives from Japan's Trade and Investment Relationships with China," *Asian Economic Journal*, Vol.2, No.2, 2003, pp.106-144 1535-3516
8. "The Thai Economy: A Picture from the Past" (with Srawooth Paitoonpong), *TDRI Quarterly Review*, Vol.3, No.12, 2004, pp.3-12
9. "Philippines' Competitiveness and Global Financial Meltdown: A Question of Japan's Role," *The Philippine Review of Economics*, June 2009, Volume XLVI No.1, pp.103-123.
10. "Natural Disasters and Asia: Introduction" (with Shandre M. Thangavelu) Special Issue on Natural Disasters and Asia, *Asian Economic Journal*, Vol. 26, No.3, September 2012, pp. 181-188.
11. "Special Issue: Asia After the Crisis" *Journal of Asian Economics*, Vol. 23, 2014 (with Michael G. Plummer)
12. "Rationality and Heterogeneity of Survey Forecasts of the Yen-Dollar Exchange Rate: A Re-examination" Chapter 43 in *Handbook of Financial Econometrics and Statistics*, Lee, Cheng-Few, Lee, John C. (ed.) Springer Science and Business Media in New York, 2014.
13. "Fragile Supply Chains and the Challenge of Natural Disasters" in Pongsak Hoontrakul (ed.) *The Global Rise of Asian Transformation: Trends and Developments in Economic Growth Dynamics*, Palgrave MacMillan Publishers, 2014 (with Pongsak Hoontrakul)
14. "Impacts of the Great Thai Floods on the International Supply Chain" *Malaysian Journal of Economic Studies*, 51, 147-55, 2014.