

Long-term Macro Economic Statistics of Asia:
A Plan for the Publication in Japanese of the Research Outcomes¹

by
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1. Introduction

It is my pleasure to announce that the editorial committee of the “project ASHSTAT” (explained below) has decided to engage itself with an ambitious plan of publishing the estimation results of the project and that Tōyō Keizai Shimpō Sha, a renowned publisher of the weekly journal, *Tōyō Keizai* (Oriental Express) and also the publisher of “Estimates of Long-term Economic Statistics of Japan since 1868 (in 14 volumes, jointly edited by Kazushi Ohkawa, Miyoehei Shinohara and Mataji Umemura)³,” has graciously agreed to undertake the plan.

ASHSTAT is the nickname for the project, originated in 1995 as a government grant-in-aid to financially support scientific researches. Its objective was simply to estimate and assemble “long-term ASian macro-economic Historical STATistics” in the twentieth century in as much a standardized format as possible. Under the auspice of the Ministry of Education (now Ministry of Education, Science and Culture), it had been chosen as one of the first six bunches of relatively large-scale, five-year projects with the aim of nurturing COEs (centres of excellence) in the country (grant number 07CE1001).

The above-mentioned COE project was succeeded in 2003 as a portion of a new grant-in-aid (called a 21st century COE) from the same Ministry, and was newly entitled as a Research Unit for Statistical Analysis in Social Sciences (Hi-Stat). The above-mentioned publication plan (at least its first volume on Taiwan) will be carried out under the wing of this new project, Hi-Stat. Following is a brief explanation of the publication plan.

2. Overview

¹ A moderately revised version of an article appeared on *Asian Historical Statistics Newsletter*, No. 17 (15 February 2002).

² Institute of Economic Research, Hitotsubashi University, and Research Institute of Economy, Trade and Industry, Tokyo.

³ An edited, abridged English version is: Kazushi Ohkawa and Miyoehei Shinohara, eds., with Larry Meissner, *Patterns of Japanese economic development, a quantitative appraisal*, New Haven, Ct.: Yale University Press, 1979.

a) General editors: Konosuke Odaka (Research Institute of Economy, Trade and Industry),
Osamu Saito (Institute of Economics, Hitotsubashi University), and
Kyoji Fukao (Institute of Economics, Hitotsubashi University).

b) Planned contents and editors of the series:

| Country/Region ⁴ | Editor(s) |
|---------------------------------|---|
| East Asia | |
| 1. Mainland China | Ryoshin Minami (Graduate School of Economics, Josai University) and Fumio Makino (Faculty of Education, Tokyo Gakugei University) |
| 2. Japan | Osamu Saito, Kyoji Fukao and Konosuke Odaka |
| 3. Korea | Toshiyuki Mizoguchi and Hak K. Pyo (School of Economics, Seoul National University) |
| 4. Taiwan | Toshiyuki Mizoguchi (Faculty of Economics, Hiroshima Keizai University) |
| Southeast and South Asia | |
| 5. Philippines | Yoshiko Nagano (Faculty of Foreign Languages, Kanagawa University) and Konosuke Odaka |
| 6. Indonesia | Pierre Van der Eng (College of Business and Commerce, Australian National University) |
| 7. Thailand | Akira Suehiro (Institute of Social Science, University of Tokyo) |
| 8. Vietnam | Jean-Pascal Bassino (Faculty of Mathematics and Social Sciences, Paul Valery University (Montpellier III),) |
| 9. India | Yukihiko Kiyokawa (Tokyo International University) |

⁴ In the beginning, the steering committee of the project discussed a plan to compile statistical volumes by specific topics of general interest (i.e., a volume on population, a volume on agriculture, a volume on GDP, etc.). The committee did not take up the plan again until its dissolution, however, as it can not be executed until all the country volumes are complete. Nonetheless, already published have been two-volume monographs on monetary system in Asia: Jūrō Teranishi, Shin'ichu Fukuda, Hidenobu Okuda, and Fumiharu Mieno, *Ajia no keizai hatten to kin'yū shisutemu* [Economic development and monetary system in Asia], Tokyo: Toyo Keizai Shimpō Sha, vol. 1 *Tōhoku Ajia hen* [North-east Asia], 2006; and vol. 2 *Tōnan Ajia hen* [South-east Asia], forthcoming.

Other Areas

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| 10. | Russia | Masaaki Kuboniwa (Institute of Economics, Hitotsubashi University) |
| 11. | Central Asia | Noriaki Nishimura (Vice Rector, Hitotsubashi University) |
| 12. | Egypt and Turkey | Hiroshi Kato (Faculty of Economics, Hitotsubashi University) |
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- Notes: i) Additional areas may be included if feasible.
- ii) It is expected that the publication of the series will take place at the pace of one to two volumes per year.

3. Format of the series

- a) Standard contents:
- (1) Brief outline of the institution of statistics compilation and its overtime changes, together with discussion on the accuracy of statistical information.
 - (2) Historical changes in the land area and in the country boarder, accompanied (if necessary) by historical map(s).
 - (3) Significance of the present volume in relation to similar research outputs in the past.
 - (4) Discussions on the methods and the outcomes of the annual time-series statistics on:
 1. Population, labor force and employment by major industries,
 2. Output and value added by two-digit industry groups, both nominal and real, which may be classified into four large groups, i.e. (i) agriculture, forestry and fishery, (ii) mining and manufacturing, (iii) facilitating industries (public utilities and transportation), and (iv) commerce and services,
 3. External trade by major commodity groups, and the balance of payments,
 4. Prices (retail and wholesale prices, and GDP deflator), wages by industry, the rate of interest (e.g. prime rate), and foreign exchange rates,
 5. Money supply (cash balance and M1),
 6. GDP, nominal and real (these series are indispensable),
 7. (If possible) GDE components (i.e. consumption, capital formation,

government expenditures, total export and total import), and

8. Other relevant series.

- (5) Statistical appendix (which may take up (say) 40-60% of the volume)
- (6) English abstract of major findings
- (7) Subject and author index

b) Each chapter of the item (4) above shall consist of discussions on

- (1) Original sources,
- (2) Method of estimation,
- (3) Major findings and their interpretation, and (if needed)
- (4) More detailed description of original sources.

A well-worked-out index shall be placed at the end of the volume.

c) Time period to be covered: the twentieth century, i.e. 1901-2000. Annual time series are expected, with missing values having been estimated as much as possible. It is encouraged that the earlier years be included if they provide especially valuable information.

d) The framework for, and the methodology of, estimating long-term macro economic time-series, as adopted by Kazushi Ohkawa, Miyohei Shinohara and Mataji Umemura (eds.), *Estimates of Long-term Economic Statistics of Japan since 1868*, 14 vols. (Tokyo: Toyo Keizai Shimpo Sha, 1965-88) is observed insofar as practicable. However, the current series are at variance with the work cited above in following two aspects: (i) *The 1968 System of National Accounts* (abbreviated as SNA) is taken as the basic framework for constructing the historical time-series data⁵; and (ii) the use of chain-index method is recommended, e.g. in constructing real GDP series, especially in economies that experienced wild structural changes and/or price fluctuations.

e) 1960 has been chosen as the reference year when such is needed. (This year has been chosen for two reasons, i.e. (i) the world economy had more or less recovered from the shock of W.W.II by then, and (ii) the year is close to the mid-point of the twentieth century,

⁵ In case consistency with the current, on-going time series is of utmost importance, reference to *The 1993 SNA* may be judged recommendable.

the period to be the target of estimation.

- f) Brief outlines of estimating procedures shall be presented both in the text and in respective appendix tables. All the statistical tables should be accompanied by English captions and English explanatory notes.
- g) In principle, major estimation results are made available via hardcopy (i.e. book of approximately 300 printed pages or less), whereas related, more detailed series may be stored in an accompanying CD-ROM.
- h)
- i) Utmost care shall be taken by the author(s) of each chapter to clear the copy right(s) of the original source materials, articles, books, etc., whenever such contributions are used and/or quoted extensively. Sufficient documentation needs to be provided regarding the nature of the original source materials and the place(s) of their holding(s).

4. Making the records of the public domain

- j) Principal estimated series will be made accessible on the homepage of an academic institution, pending on contractual matters cleared with the publisher in advance ⁶.
- k) The editorial committee regards it highly essential, for the benefit of future research, that a copy each of all the original source data be deposited with the Library of the Institute of Economic Research, Hitotsubashi University. (The original data will not be reproduced by the present series.) In addition, the worksheets of estimation processes shall be bound and kept in the same library in anticipation of future use for examination and/or revision of the present work.

5. Examples of volume contents

<1>

Taiwan

Introduction: The aims and composition of the present volume

⁶ Such an arrangement is currently being undertaken between the Institute of Economic Research, Hitotsubashi University and Groningen Growth and Development Centre, University of Groningen.

Part I: Sources and methods of estimation

- Ch. 1 Characteristics and development of statistical research in the government of Taiwan
- Ch. 2 Population
- Ch. 3 Labour force, employment, and labour compensation
(with an appendix on working hours)
- Ch. 4 Production activities of the primary industry
- Ch. 5 Production activities of the secondary industry
(Manufacturing; mining; electricity, water, and heat supply; and construction)
- Ch. 6 Production activities of the tertiary industry
- Ch. 7 Public finance, money supply, and prices
- Ch. 8 Private consumption and domestic capital formation
- Ch. 9 Balance of foreign trade
- Ch.10 National economic accounting

Part II: Statistical tables



The Philippines

Part I: National income accounting in the Philippines: a historical overview

- Ch. 1 The formation of a 'national economy' in the Philippines (incl. geographical transition)
- Ch. 2 The place of national income accounting in the study of Filipino economic history
- Ch. 3 The Filipino system of government statistical research and its products

Part II Sources, methods, and results of estimation

- Ch. 4 Population and labour force
- Ch. 5 Outputs of the primary industry
- Ch. 6 Outputs of the secondary industry
- Ch. 7 Outputs of the tertiary industry
- Ch. 8 The structure of domestic expenditures
- Ch. 9 Prices, wages, interest rates, and foreign exchange rates

Part III. Filipino macro economic history: an interpretation

- Ch. 10 National economic accounting: GDP and GDE
- Ch. 11 Environmental conditions and the living standard in the Philippines
- Ch. 12 Intra-Asian trade: the case of the Philippines
- Ch. 13 Tasks for future research

Part IV. Statistical tables

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Vietnam

Part I. Sources, methods of estimation, and interpretation

Introduction

- Ch. 1 Population and labour force
- Ch. 2 Agriculture, rice
- Ch. 3 Agriculture, other crops and animal husbandry
- Ch. 4 Forestry, fisheries, hunting, and gathering
- Ch. 5 Mining and manufacturing
- Ch. 6 Construction and utilities
- Ch. 7 Private services
- Ch. 8 Prices and wages
- Ch. 9 Government revenues and expenditures
- Ch.10 International trade
- Ch.11 GDP and GDP deflators

Part II. Statistical tables