



APO ASIA-PACIFIC PRODUCTIVITY DATA AND ANALYSIS 2004

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This is the fourth year that the APO is publishing this important collection of economic and productivity data on its member countries. Eighteen countries are covered in this report. A unique feature is the inclusion of an analysis report on each country's data, with the exception of Fiji and Sri Lanka, by one of its own experts. This publication is beginning to have a definitive framework with a specific core substance that will prove invaluable to public policymakers and business executives in the participating countries as well as to researchers interested in socioeconomic growth and development in the Asia-Pacific region.

In each edition, conscientious efforts were made to enhance further the book's value and usefulness. This 2004 edition is no exception. The new inputs include:

1. The number of indicators for which data were collected increased substantially. It started with 42 in the first edition in 2001. This was increased to 71 in 2002 and 77 in 2003. This volume contains 94. For the first time, some data are provided in absolute terms to make it possible to compute economic productivity.
2. A special feature is an introduction to the economic productivity concept by Dr. Melkote R. Ramsay. He is not only an acknowledged authority on the subject but also passionate about it. His article will generate even more interest in enterprise productivity measurement.
3. An integrated analysis by the chief expert, Dr. Noriyoshi Oguchi.
4. The scope of the country analysis reports was expanded by including the special theme of human resources development (HRD) for in-depth analysis based on the data collected.

Writing on this theme in his Introduction, Dr. Oguchi said: "HRD is one of the most important factors in improving productivity and many countries have given it special attention. In many Asian countries, education and job training have been developing rapidly. However, there still remains plenty of room for improvement. This special feature was included to provide additional information."

The book comes with a CD-ROM of the complete text.

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