Asian Demography on Crossroads: Future Implications of Demographic Change

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List of paper

1. A methodological note on human capital projections, a comparative illustration from selected Asian countries
Samir KC[1] (ADRI/Shanghai University and IIASA) and Markus Wurzer (IIASA)

Understanding population dynamics and heterogeneity within a country provides important insights for explaining social and environmental changes. It also helps to identify vulnerable sections of the population that are affected most by these changes. Projections of population dynamics and heterogeneity can serve as a prediction that assists policymakers and other stakeholders in visualizing an alternative future, to assess what-if scenarios, or to simulate sensitivity tests of single or multiple variables. While demographers are interested purely in population dynamics, the users of population projections are spread in many disciplines, among them development studies with a focus on Sustainable Development Goals (SDG).
The incomparability of data produced by national statistical agencies due to quality issues and different methods and the moderate use of data produced by international agencies that apply a supra-national approach motivated us to develop a consistent method for studying population dynamics across and within countries by collaborating with local partner institutions.

We have developed multi-dimensional/multi-state models (MSDem, an R package) to study population dynamics at the global, regional, national and sub-national level. Currently, an initiative to disseminate the methodology is underway in collaboration with institutional partners in eleven Asian countries/regions (Bangladesh, China, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Iran, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Sri Lanka, and Thailand).
We will present the overview of our approach, including the MSDem package, and show some results from selected Asian countries. We will also list common and country-specific issues and then share our solutions for discussion.

2. On the Future of Ageing in Asia: Understanding Ageing society within the context of Educational Change
KS James (Jawaharlal Nehru University) and *Jinjing Wu* (Asian Demography Research Institute(ADRI), Shanghai University)

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Asia's recent demographic changes have significant implications for a rapidly changing age structure as well as the future of ageing in different countries. What signifies the demographic scenario in Asia is its considerable heterogeneity across countries in demographic patterns. Not only in demographic terms but even in socio-economic characteristics Asia represents considerable diversity. Therefore, the future ageing scenario and its implications will be considerably different across these countries. This paper brings together different ageing indicators for future in the context of educational changes in these countries. It depicts how ageing will evolve within the context of changing educational achievements in Asian countries. It compares and contrasts the ageing measures across major Asian countries and brings out the similarities and differentials and the lessons that can be learned from Asia based on the multistate population projections in each of these countries.

3. A Comparative Study in assessing the effectiveness of pronatalist measures for Some Asian Countries
Paul Yip (University of Hong Kong)

Many East Asian societies are characterized by ultra-low fertility. Many Governments have already taken some pronatalist actions and its impacts at most are modest if not ineffective. However, whom to target and what specific measures should be taken still remain very elusive. Here we first identify the potential target groups that are most influential in changing the total fertility rate, based on a stochastic model and fertility elasticity analyses. Then, we investigate different population subgroups' perception of various pronatalist measures. The differences and similarities among these countries will be discussed.

4. Migration in Asia and it's interlink with education: Case studies from India and Indonesia
Salut Muhuddin (Macquarie University) and Rakesh Mishra (Jawaharlal Nehru University)

Asian countries today have witnessed many changes in its demographic and socio-economic characteristics. Over the last few decades, the fertility rates have declined to low rates and the life expectancy have increased to moderate or even high levels. At the same time, the educational attainments in many Asian countries have also increased as indicated by a significant increase in their school enrolment rates at basic education as well as higher education levels. In response to such significant changes, and the concomitant developments in regional and global economic conditions, population mobility and migration patterns in Asian countries have also changed considerably.

Using the case study from India and Indonesia (among the most populous country in Asia and in the world), this study aims to incorporate educational elements into migration patterns and profiles in these two countries. The results from the analysis indicate that there are complex relationships between internal migration and education in both nations. The analysis is based on the censuses data wherein profiles of migration and corresponding changes in the level and pattern have been analysed since 1980 to 2015. Also, for the understanding the determinants of the education specific migration in both the countries the large-scale surveys like Indonesia Family Life Survey (IFLS) and National Sample Survey (India) has been taken into consideration.