

Asia Pacific Co-operative Research Partnership

Reducing inequality and advancing regional integration and sustainable economic activity

Mainstreaming Co-operatives Across Asia



THE UNIVERSITY OF
NEWCASTLE
AUSTRALIA



Foundation of Asia Pacific Co-operative Research Partnership



- Founded at a meeting in Bali at the International Co-operative Alliance Regional Conference 2014.

- Governing and Editorial Board:
 - Dr. Anthony Jensen. University of Newcastle. Australia. (Chair)
 - Professor Yashavantha Dongre. University of Mysore. India
 - Professor Akira Kurimoto. Hosei University. Japan
 - Professor Morris Altman. University of Newcastle. Australia
 - Professor Seungkwon Jang. Sungkonghoe University
 - Mr Robby Tulus. Karl Albrecht Foundation

- Founding member:
 - Mr. Bien Nito. University of Asia and the Pacific. Philippines

- Endorsement :
 - ICA Research Committee

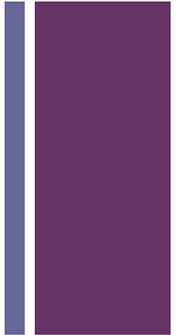
+ APCRP: An idea whose time had come

Broad agreement on an Asia Pacific regionalism:

- The greater contribution of co-operatives across the Asia Pacific is hampered by a lack of research and data into their contribution to society and the solving of social and economic problems
- Co-operatives are not visible in the Asian political, academic and business scene as governments lack statistics and case studies of successful co-operatives relating to the contribution of co-operatives to national economies
- There is a need to explore the prospects for a uniquely Asian scholarship separate from the hegemony of European influence.
- Asian business systems cannot be understood through categories identified in the West. We find five major business systems in Asia. (Witt and Redding, 2013)

+ APCRP research mission

- Contribute to the elimination of poverty in the Asia Pacific
- Professor Yashavantha Dongre of Mysore University argued that the ICA Blueprint had provided critical insights and a new research agenda for Asia.
- Professor Kurimoto outlined five key research objectives which are needed to build visible and viable co-operatives in the Asian region. These were adopted by the APCRP:
 - Solid basis of research and development activities at national and regional levels to overcome a lack of statistics and cultural barriers
 - Map and showcase best practice case studies in the region - notwithstanding there are failures there are many positive examples
 - Strengthen the liaison between institutions, subsectors at national and regional level
 - Contribute to enabling ASEAN policy and legislative development in member countries





Research design



APCRP brought 11 universities together in 11 countries with 34 academics and advisors, connected by a Memorandum of Understanding to the University of Newcastle.

APCRP agreed to the comparative research of successful co-operatives across these 11 countries in the Asia Pacific Region. These would be compared as follows:

- **Finance Co-operatives** – Philippines, Indonesia, Sri Lanka, Australia and Nepal
- **Consumer Co-operatives** – Japan, India, South Korea, Vietnam and Singapore
- **Agricultural** – India, South Korea, Nepal, Japan, China, Australia and Vietnam
- **Worker co-operatives** – Australia, South Korea, Philippines, India and Japan

APCRP chose a methodology which uses a theoretical explanatory model consisting of macro and micro factors that explain co-operative emergence and evolution, success and failure in different socio economic and political contexts.



Context - Varieties of Capitalism



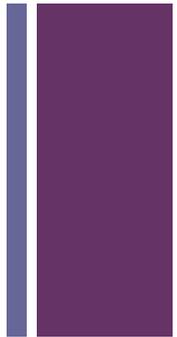
- Asian Business Systems (Witt and Redding. Socio Economic Review: 2013) – Five major business clusters identified in Asia Pacific using ten analytical factors.
- Post Socialist
 - China
 - Vietnam
 - Laos
 - India
- Advanced Cities
 - Hong Kong
 - Singapore
- Emerging South East Asia
 - Indonesia
 - Philippines
 - Thailand
 - Malaysia
- Advanced North East
 - Korea
 - Taiwan
- Co-ordinated Market Economy
 - Japan
 - Australia



Stage 1 Book“ Co-operatives in the Asia Pacific -Waking the Slumbering Giant”

APCRP/Elsevier

Part 1 Analytical Frameworks		
Introduction	Grasping the Potential of Asian Pacific co-operatives	
	Policy, Performance potential, Historical perspective, Youth and Gender issues.	Seven policy chapters
Part 2 Case Studies		Twenty three case studies
Agriculture co-operatives	China, India, Vietnam, South Korea, Nepal, Japan and Australia	
Consumer cooperatives	India, Singapore, South Korea, Japan	
Credit co-operatives	Australia, Philippines, Indonesia, Sri Lanka, Nepal,	
Worker co-operatives	Philippines, India, Australia, South Korea and Japan	
Part 3 Integration		
	Toward an Asian Scholarship on Co-operatives	
Conclusion	Lessons learnt and the way forward for Asian integration and prosperity through co-operation.	





Stage 2 - Research

APCRP Comparative research to support ASEAN Regional Integration.

“The principle of ‘subsidiarity’ and Asian integration” Chaocheng.Y in *The Asia-Pacific, Regionalism and the Global System*. Ed. Dent and Dosch. 2012.
Co-operatives are a bottom up democratic community building process as used in the creation of European unification.

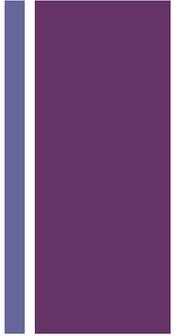
ASEAN	ASEAN + 6
Indonesia	Australia
Thailand	China
Vietnam	India
Singapore	Japan
Malaysia	New Zealand
Philippines	South Korea
Cambodia	
Myanmar	Also
Laos	Nepal
Brunei	Sri Lanka



Conclusion



- The APCRP welcomes new members interested in comparative co-operative research.
- The APCRP plans a five year research project and is currently seeking to raise funds from a number of sources.
- Contact:
 - Dr. Anthony Jensen
 - University of Newcastle
 - anthony.jensen@newcastle.edu.au
- Website: <https://www.newcastle.edu.au/research-and-innovation/centre/business-law/workshop-on-institutions-and-socio-economic-development-wised/research/asia-pacific-co-operative-research-partnership>



■ Co-operatives and Work in Transition

■ A participant action research project

■ Dr. Anthony Jensen. University of Newcastle ■

+ The Evolving Worker

- **Old Work** – pluralist. Neoclassical conception. Work a negative choice. Work constructed identity. Centrality of full time wage labour. Unionised.
- **Changing Work** – unitarist. Increasingly individualised, casualised, unregulated, feminised, part time. Flexibility for employer
- **New Work** – big capital dominates – liberated from identity through work becomes – entrepreneurs of own business, portfolio worker, construct own career, architects of own destiny
- **New Work** – ILO worker co-operative - collective entrepreneurs, architects of own destiny. Developmental individualism = takes on additional tasks. Eliminate level of management. Work and control merged.



Worker Co-operative Buyout

C-Mac Industries Co-operative Limited

- **What do workers want – job security, job satisfaction and say in running their own business. Share of profits.**
- What happens when ownership is transferred. Staff replied:
 - More productive
 - More influence
 - Better place to work
 - Participate more
 - More stress
- What happens to work
 - See work as their career and
 - See work as a way of earning a living
 - Alienation overcome
- Jobs are satisfying – interest and control are about right
- Democracy is extended in the presence of conventional hierarchy.

