

Higher Education in Dynamic Asia



Higher Education in Dynamic Asia is a set of publications that draws on outputs of a regional study, a series of consultative workshops, and an international conference financed by the Asian Development Bank.

The publications provide

- an overview of the issues facing higher education across Asia,
- detailed suggestions for development priorities and possible solutions to the issues, and
- operational recommendations for support to governments and higher education institutions for implementation of the solutions.

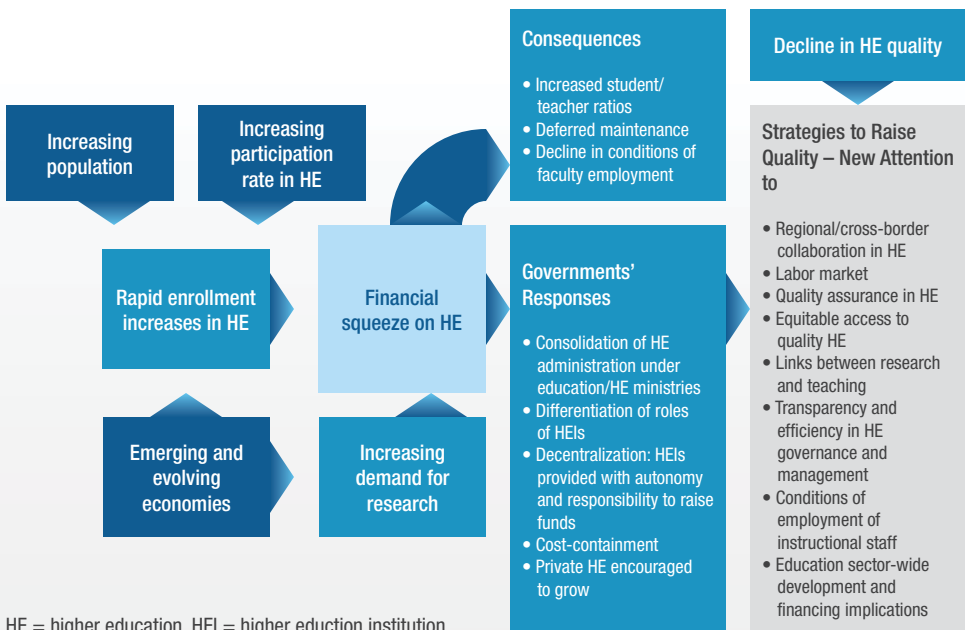


Higher Education Across Asia

Issues and Strategies

The situation now facing higher education systems across Asia has emerged, in large part, from a convergence of demographic trends, public preferences, policy decisions, and external economic circumstances over the last 20 years. While country contexts vary, there has been remarkable similarity across the region in the issues that higher education systems now confront and the main strategies governments are using to address those issues.

Flow of Pressures on Higher Education Across Asia



Four Challenges

As higher education systems across Asia look forward, they face four overarching challenges:

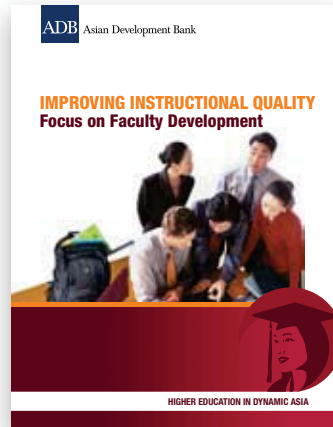
- maintaining and improving education **quality**, even in the face of serious financial constraints;
- increasing the **relevance** of curriculum and instruction at a time of rapid change in labor market needs;
- increasing and better utilizing the **financial resources** available to higher education; and
- balancing the continued expansion of access to higher education with greater attention to **equitable access** and **inclusiveness** of higher education systems to support inclusive economic growth.

Investing in higher education will help developing Asian countries build high-income economies, with the innovation, knowledge, and technology needed to thrive in an interconnected, competitive world.

Bindu N. Lohani

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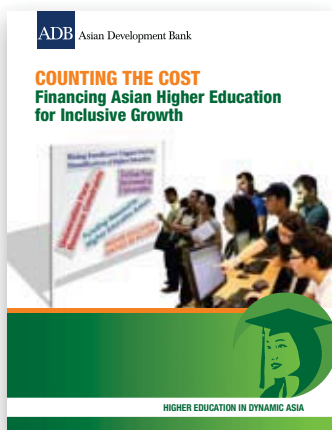


Higher Education Across Asia: An Overview of Issues and Strategies (November 2011)

Higher education (HE) is seen to have an ever more important role in human resource development and the movement of people, students, and the workforce in the region. The Asian Development Bank's developing member countries are increasing investment in HE to support social and economic development and growth. This publication discusses the issues and strategies for HE in Asia and why there is a need to invest in this subsector. It provides an overview on how governments, together with HE institutions and stakeholders, can improve HE through adequate policies and regulations, and how they can position their economies for further development.

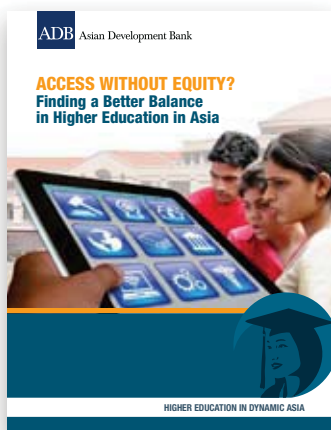
Improving Instructional Quality: Focus on Faculty Development (December 2011)

The rapid expansion of higher education in Asia has been accompanied by challenges with no easy solutions and by issues that require innovative thinking and policy decisions. This publication focuses on the challenges in improving the internal efficiency of higher education institutions (HEIs) in Asia, examining the quality of the work done within these institutions; the efficiency and effectiveness of that work; and the problems, dilemmas, and barriers that HEIs in Asia face in fulfilling their missions. Recommendations are presented on how the Asian Development Bank and possibly other development partners can target project support to help HEIs improve their internal efficiency.



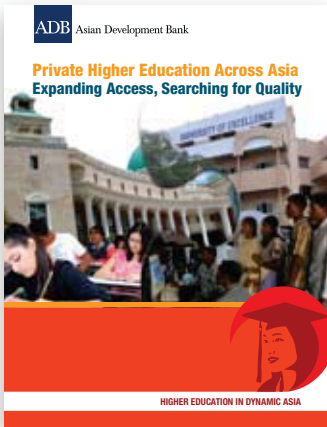
Counting the Cost: Financing Asian Higher Education for Inclusive Growth (January 2012)

Inclusive Growth (January 2012)
Higher education (HE) systems in Asia have expanded rapidly over the past decade. This includes the rise of private HE institutions (HEIs) and privatization of public sector HEIs. This HE massification has stretched the capacity of governments and agencies to address the cost, financing, equity, and quality implications of expansion. This publication reviews the key aspects of HE costs and financing, considering Asia's framework on inclusive growth from the perspective of disadvantaged students such as the poor, women, ethnic minorities, and students from rural areas.



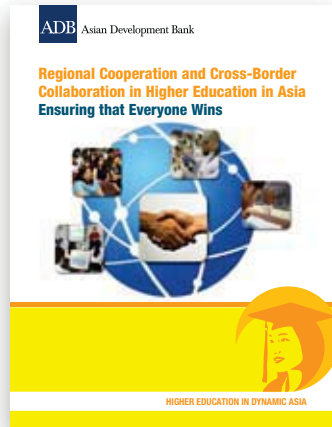
Access Without Equity: Finding a Better Balance in Higher Education in Asia (February 2012)

In Asia, the demand for higher education (HE) is on a relentless course in the near and medium term as reflected in current levels of participation. Governments planning to respond to this growth should have policy options to balance costs, sustainability, and ensuring fair and equitable access to HE, including to underrepresented segments of the society. This publication makes a strong case for shifting the development agenda from narrow perspective of access to widening participation and for strengthening inclusiveness in HE in Asia. It also discusses extensively developments in the use and potential of information and communication technologies in the delivery of HE.



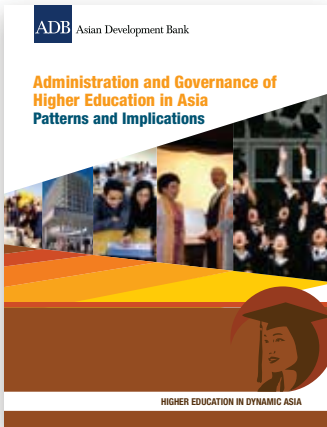
Private Higher Education Across Asia: Expanding Access, Searching for Quality (March 2012)

Private higher education (HE) growth in Asia has been much more rapid than in other parts of the world. This has led to a reduction in the burden on governments to finance HE with public funds; and diversification of the mission, scope, and role of private HE institutions in offering an alternative to public HE. While several Asian universities are highly ranked globally, Asia is also home to numerous private colleges of poor quality. This publication provides a timely analysis of policies governing private HE and presents operational recommendations for development partners in their support to this field in developing countries of Asia and the Pacific.



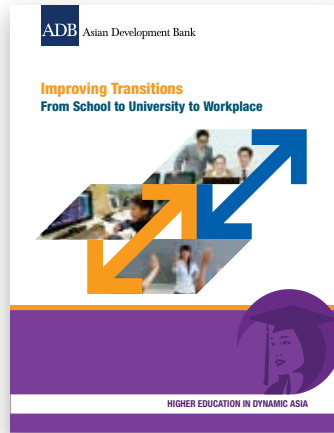
Regional Cooperation and Cross-Border Collaboration in Higher Education in Asia: Ensuring that Everyone Wins (April 2012)

Investments in higher education (HE) to promote competitiveness and economic growth have spurred HE leaders to seek ways of effectively utilizing the available resources to raise quality and efficiency in HE. One widely advocated strategy to accomplish this is through greater regional cooperation and cross-border collaboration among HE institutions. Such collaborations may include student and faculty exchanges, dual and joint degree programs, twinning between pairs of universities, and the formation of university networks. This publication provides operational recommendations for supporting governments and universities in the region in pursuing regional cooperation and cross-border collaboration in HE development.



Administration and Governance of Higher Education in Asia: Patterns and Implications (May 2012)

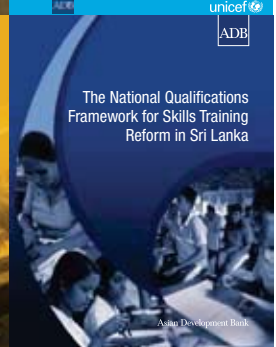
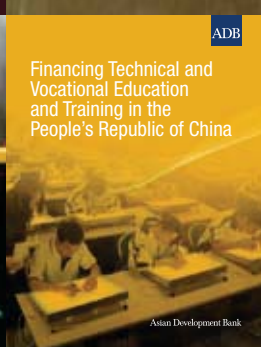
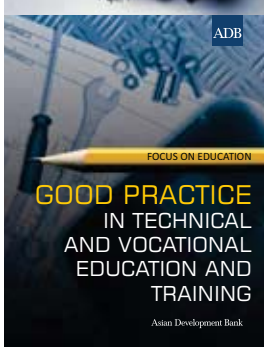
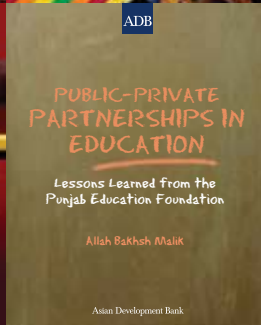
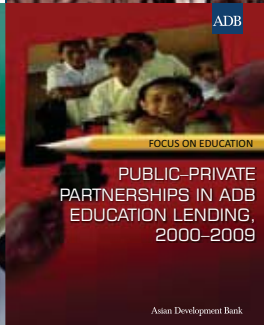
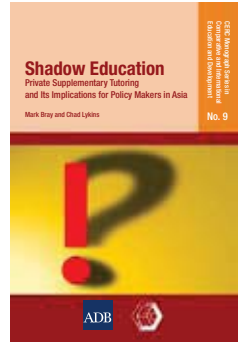
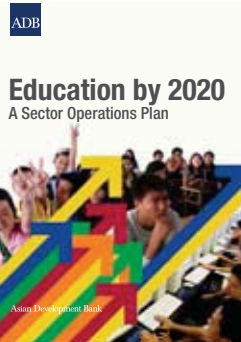
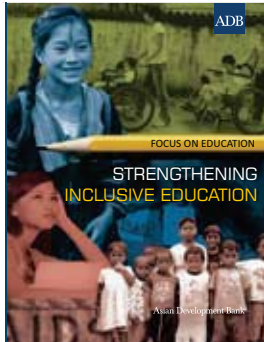
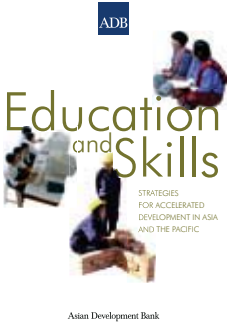
Asian countries, despite differences in their higher education (HE) systems and in their political and social structures, increasingly see the HE sector as a strategic lever for long-term sustainable development. Transforming the HE sector will depend very much on the capability of both national agencies and HE institutions to work together in creating more alignment, lessening tension, and achieving a balanced and efficient governance system for HE. This publication provides a timely analysis of administration and governance of HE and presents recommendations to improve this field in Asia.



Improving Transitions: From School to University to Workplace (June 2012)

The increasing number of higher education institutions (HEIs) in developing Asia can lead to improved prospects for development. However, the rapid expansion can undermine external efficiency—the alignment of higher education with the external environment. This publication focuses on tackling three key challenges in strengthening external efficiency: (i) improving students' readiness for higher learning; (ii) fostering in graduates knowledge and skills that meet the needs of labor markets; and (iii) pursuing fresh strategies for productive partnerships not only for top-tier HEIs but also for 2nd and 3rd tier HEIs, to bring the necessary diversity in the higher education scene and benefit local communities.

More Examples of ADB Knowledge Products in the Education Sector



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