

Asia-Pacific Research Resources

"The boom in emerging Asian economies and the challenges these present has led to an increased demand for information both from inside and outside of the region. ... These demands are being met by publishers and aggregators located within Asia-Pacific countries, as well as those based in the West."



Part of the FUMSI Regional Research Series

Contents

3	Author Profile
4	Introduction
7	Chapter I: Overview of Issues of Interest
10	Chapter II: Company Information
27	Chapter III: Country and Industry Analysis
46	Chapter IV: Economic and Time Series Data
52	Chapter V: News Sources
61	Chapter VI: Consumer Markets and Industries
71	Appendices:
71	Appendix 1: Index to URLs cited in this report
77	Appendix 2: Index to products cited in this report
86	Appendix 3: Other resources of interest
90	Appendix 4: Extracts from VIP product reviews

Author Profile



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Jenny regularly contributes to the LiveWire (<http://web.vivavip.com/forum/LiveWire/>), an offering of VIP with commentary on the information industry. Many of her contributions to the LiveWire relate to her expertise in China research and business.

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Introduction

Edited and with Original Content By Jenny Zhan



While many developed economies in the West are slowing down, those in the Asia-Pacific region are continuing to boom. India, and China, which together with fellow BRIC countries Brazil and Russia currently make up 43% of the world's population, are expected to be a dominant source of global economic growth in the next 20 years.

Business Monitor International, a research firm known for tracking the latest developments in emerging markets with well-written analysis and commentary, last year upgraded its *Sovereign Risk Ratings* for several Asian countries.

Similarly, Global Insight, an economic and financial analysis and forecasting company, has recently upgraded its *Sovereign Risk* for several Asian countries <http://www.globalinsight.com/sovereignrisk>. The company's *Fourth Quarter Sovereign Risk Review*, covering July to November 2006, shows that the total number of upgrades has continued to outpace downgrades by 5 to 1, extending the positive pattern of the last six years. Asia leads global upgrades through strengthened exports and finances, a trend exemplified by China's foreign exchange reserves surpassing \$1 trillion. Other key upgrades have been triggered by Vietnam joining the WTO, India's continued two-way globalisation and Indonesia's further debt reduction. Macau's prominence as China's only gambling 'Las Vegas' and progress in East Timor's oil project also contributed to Asia's rating improvement.

The rise of the developing economies and in particular that of China and India are seen by many as presenting a threat to the West; others believe that such fears are misplaced and that western countries can benefit from the growth of the new economic superpowers, as long as businesses and governments act now, and adopt the appropriate strategies. According to *Opportunities and Challenges for the UK*, a report published by the UK's Advanced Institute of Management Research <http://www.aimresearch.org/publications/asiancentury.pdf>, global investment bank Goldman Sachs estimates that China will overtake the US as the world's largest economy by 2039. India will be close behind. The figures are impressive:

China and India produced 125,000 computer science graduates in 2004; the UK just 5,000

India is second to the US in software production/database design and management

China is the world's manufacturing hub, producing over 50% of the world's cameras, 30% of air conditioners, and 25% of washing machines.

Introduction

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“The boom in emerging Asian economies and the challenges these present has led to an increased demand for information both from inside and outside of the region.”

Rupert Harrison, AIM Research Fellow at the Institute of Fiscal Studies, said, 'Understandably many in business and government, at a local, regional, national and multinational level, see the rise of China and India as a challenge and threat. Yet while such rapid growth undoubtedly presents many challenges to the developed economies, we must not overlook the many benefits and opportunities it offers.'

For example:

Growth in China and India increases demand for goods produced in the UK

China and India provide investment opportunities for UK companies and individuals

Sourcing goods and services from China and India enables UK companies to become more competitive in global markets

China and India provide opportunities for innovation and scientific collaboration that can benefit the UK.

The boom in emerging Asian economies and the challenges these present has led to an increased demand for information both from inside and outside of the region. As part of this economic growth, the region is also experiencing an expansion of communications infrastructures and an accompanying demand for electronic content services. These demands are being met by publishers and aggregators located within Asia-Pacific countries, as well as those based in the West.

This overview considers the products that are currently available for obtaining news, company financials, filings, credit reports, economic and political risk data, and market research in the Asia-Pacific region. It primarily looks at products and services provided by established publishers and producers in the West, as well as those produced locally. For some of the larger producers we have sought comment from the companies themselves in terms of product development and corporate strategy in the region. On the whole, the overview avoids including large aggregators, concentrating instead on more specialist products and their producers. There are some exceptions, however, and the likes of 'The Big Three' – Factiva, LexisNexis and Thomson - are included because of their overall importance.

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Extract URLs for saving and further exploration

Add annotations for more customised information

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Add annotations for more customised information

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The countries that go to make up the Asia-Pacific region vary according to source. For the purposes of this overview, the following countries were considered when examining coverage of business information sources:

Eastern Asia:

People's Republic of China
Hong Kong (PRC)
Japan
Macau (PRC)
Mongolia
North Korea
South Korea
Taiwan.

Southern Asia:

Afghanistan
Bangladesh
Bhutan
India
Maldives
Nepal
Pakistan
Sri Lanka.

South-East Asia:

Brunei
Cambodia
East Timor (Timor-Leste)
Indonesia
Laos
Malaysia
Myanmar (Burma)
Philippines
Singapore
Thailand
Vietnam.

Oceania:

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Fiji
Micronesia
New Caledonia
New Guinea
New Zealand
Papua New Guinea
Polynesia
Solomon Islands
Vanuatu.

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Edited and with original material by Jenny Zhan, this report also draws on research conducted by VIP Editor Pam Foster for a special issue of VIP Magazine (<http://www.vivaVIP.com/>) featuring products covering the region. The Asia-Pacific Research Resources report is a comprehensive introduction to online sources providing valuable information on various elements of the region's economy, population and government.

View a sample from this report, including table of contents, introduction and one tool kit activity:
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