



**International workshop on
Gender, Economic Integration, and Cross-border Road Infrastructure
Development:
Poverty and Mobility in the Context of Asia**

June 11-12, 2010

At

AIT Conference Center, Thailand

Organized by

Asian Institute of Technology

Asia Pacific Regional Secretariat of the

International Forum for Rural Transport and Development (IFRTD)

Supported by

Japan-ASEAN Solidarity Fund, ASEAN Foundation

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global Transport Knowledge Partnership (gTKP)

As Saskia Sassen noted, globalization is a process of differentiation. This workshop discusses how regional economic integration strengthened by cross-border road networks has differentiated effect based on gender, ethnicity and class.

Asia has historically experienced high intra-mobility of goods and people, but in the recent years, the quantum of such mobility has increased dramatically. Various factors have contributed to this increase, including economic disparity within the region; differences in economic/ employment/ business opportunities; transportation and communication infrastructure development, education opportunities, and a wider network of migrants in major cities and industrial areas in the region.

One of the largest factors is the heavy investment in the construction and renovation of road networks. Road networks are considered important for regional economic integration, and especially considered critical for the less developed countries in the Greater Mekong Subregion (GMS). Recognizing this, large investment has been put on improving connectivity through Asian Highways.

The fact that people move both within and out of the region has implications not only for the well-being of migrants themselves, but also for the sending and receiving communities.

Although there have been studies on regional economic integration with the improved mobility of goods and capital, how this has impacted on the socio-economic condition and cultural practices among the local people along the road as well as at the border regions are still under-studied, especially from the perspective of gender and ethnicity.

Some of the aspects that need to take note of are:

- Changes in agriculture production, such as changes induced by increase in contract farming and plantation with cross-border investment in agriculture
- Changes in people's livelihoods, which can occur through cross-border tourism, cross-border trade, cross-border transportation and investments.
- Changes in cross-border migration and daily mobility of people, and how mobility is used by local women and men to cope with or take advantage of economic integration.
- Changes in access to social services such as health and education
- Changes in land use and land ownership under contesting demand for land

The workshop explores how mobility of goods and people are changing as a result of road infrastructure development and economic integration policies, how such changes affect the livelihoods of the people along the road, and how such changes further affect the way of life and practices of local women and men, especially in terms of gender-based power relations. The effects can be varied for different communities, ethnicity, gender and age, and their coping/ adaptation strategies will also be different.

Convenors:

Kyoko Kusakabe, Asian Institute of Technology, Thailand

Shinya Hanaoka, Tokyo Institute of Technology, Japan

Ranjith de Silva, International Forum for Rural Transport and Development, Asia Pacific Regional Secretariat, Sri Lanka.

For information and registration, please contact:

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TENTATIVE AGENDA

June 11

Time		
8:30-9:00	Registration	
9:00-9:50	<p><u>Opening speeches</u></p> <p>Dr. Filemon A. Uriarte, Jr., Executive Director, ASEAN Foundation Representative from the Embassy of Japan</p> <p>Ms. Sonomi Tanaka, Principal Social Development Specialist (Gender & Development), ADB</p> <p>Ms. Nathalie Pereira, Project Manager - Road Safety and Social Development, gTKP</p> <p>Mr. Ranjith de Silva, Regional Coordinator of the IFRTD Asia and the Pacific Secretariat</p> <p>Prof. Said Irandoust, President, AIT</p>	
9:50-10:10	Objective of the workshop and framework of understanding gender and transportation linkages by organizers	
10:10-10:20	Group photo	
10:20-10:40	Break	
10:40-12:10	<p>Panel 1:</p> <p>Regional economic integration and transportation development <i>Chair: Jun Hada</i></p> <p>H. Detlef Kammeier “Rural-urban –global linkages and the development of the Greater Mekong Region”</p> <p>Takafumi Iwata, Hironori Kato and Ryuichi Shibasaki “How much does interregional transportation infrastructure development influence on freight traffic flow patterns in the Greater Mekong Subregion?”</p>	<p>Panel 2:</p> <p>Transportation development and its social and gender impact Session 1 <i>Chair: Ngin Chanrith</i></p> <p>Madan B. Regmi “Current state of international road transport in the GMS and its impact on communities”</p> <p>Shinya Hanaoka and Tianxing Ba “The influences of highways on economic activities in medium and small sized cities in China”</p>

	<p>Magnus Andersson “Challenges and opportunities associated with increased regional integration: A case study of the Lao freight transport sector”</p>	<p>Jhabindra Bhandari “Social impacts of increasing road networks on rural livelihoods in Nepal”</p>
12:10-1:30	Lunch	
1:30-3:00	<p>Panel 3: Transportation development and gendered mobility Session 1 <i>Chair: H. Detlef Kammeier</i></p> <p>Md. Ghulam Murtaza “Mobility pattern of the women depending on the resources of the Sundarbans, Bangladesh: A study of the impact zone”</p> <p>Sri Maryati and Nia K. Pontoh “Travel behavior of men and women in the periphery of Indonesian region: Case study of Margacinta, Bandung”</p> <p>Sri H. Rachmed, Dendi Handiyatmo and Ardi Adji “The changes factor affects destination of urban commuter into Jakarta Megapolitan on gender – Indonesia”</p>	<p>Panel 2 (contn’d) Session 2 <i>Chair: Jhabindra Bhandari</i></p> <p>Soimart Rungmanee “Transnationalisation in the GMS and the reconfiguration of agrarian structures: A case study at Thai-Laos borders”</p> <p>Allan Beesey “Vulnerable populations and ethnicity in infrastructure projects”</p> <p>Michal A. Roy “Construction of village roads by villagers in Sunamganj”</p>
3:00-3:30	Break	
3:30-5:00	<p>Panel 3: (contn’d) Session 2 <i>Chair: Sri Maryati</i></p> <p>Nite Tanzarn “Reflections on the potential impact of the proposed east African community (EAC) regional cooperation on women relative to men’s economic mobility”</p> <p>Wijitbusaba Ann Marome “A gendered mobility of working women’s agency in space: A reflection of gendered division of labor and decision making in the household”</p>	<p>Panel 2 (contn’d) Session 3 <i>Chair: Allan Beesey</i></p> <p>Maria Rebecca Campos “Poverty and social analysis of the Bongao Port Improvement Project, Philippines</p> <p>Binjwala Shrestha “Mobility and health in rural Nepal”</p> <p>Bandana Sharma “Inter-linkages through road connectivity and its impact on poverty and gender”</p>

	Kyoko Kusakabe “Gender, mobility and road construction in Greater Mekong Subregion”	
6:00	Conference dinner	

June 12

Time		
9:00-10:30	<p>Panel 3 (contn'd) Session 3 <i>Chair: Wijitbusaba Ann Marome</i></p> <p>Upali Pannilage “Access and mobility of rural women; Role of transport infrastructure in changing gender relations: A case study from rural Sri Lanka”</p> <p>Jun Hada “Extending road infrastructure potentials for cross border mobility and poverty reduction in Nepal”</p> <p>Vincent Darlong “Gender impact of rural road infrastructures: the case of IFAD supported NERCORMP Project in Northeast India”</p>	<p>Panel 2 (contn'd) Session 4 <i>Chair: Binjwala Shrestha</i></p> <p>Wang Yunxian and Zhao Qun “Gender impact of road infrastructure and changing land use: A case study of Kunming- Bangkok highway”</p> <p>Saykham Thammanosouth, Viengnam Duangphachanh and Thongphout Chanthaphone “The impact of NR3 to gender and poverty alleviation: Income generation, changes in livelihoods and gender relations: A case in Houayxai district, Bokeo province, Lao PDR”</p> <p>Win Myo Thu and Si Thu Kyaw “Impact of cross border road construction from Kengthung-Tachilek, Mynamar on the livelihoods of women and men”</p>
10:30-10:50	Break	
10:50-12:20	<p>Panel 4: Cross border trade and transportation development Session 1 <i>Chair: Upali Pannilage</i></p> <p>Samuel E. Sapuay and José Edgardo Gomez, Jr. “Bridging the divides – enabling border crossing facilities as facilitators of growth”</p>	<p>Panel 2 (contn'd) Session 5 <i>Chair: Wang Yunxian</i></p> <p>Le Thi Thanh Huyen “Change in people’s livelihood within the strategic economic triangle of Hanoi-Haiphong-Quangninh”</p>

	<p>Deny Hamdani “The social and economic impact of ‘Muludan’ tradition”</p> <p>Nittana Southiseng and John Walsh “Constrasting male and female entrepreneurs’ cross border trading experiences prior to and after the construction of the second Lao-Thai friendship bridge”</p>	<p>Giovanni Velez “Accessible public transportation for the aging population in Southeast Asia: Challenges and prospects”</p>
12:20-13:50	Lunch	
13:50-15:20	<p>Panel 4 (contn’d) Session 2 <i>Chair: José Edgardo Gomez, Jr.</i></p> <p>Kunthea Keat “Impacts of road infrastructure improvement on women small-scale fish traders: Case study of fish border trade in Svay Rieng Province, Cambodia”</p> <p>Ngin Chanrith “Gender analysis of highways development, cross border mobility and trade in GMS: Cambodia Road Improvement Project, Srisophon to Poipet”</p> <p>Diem Hang “Effects of cross-border activities at Lao Bao border gate on the local people’s livelihoods from a gender perspective”</p>	
15:20-15:50	Break	
15:50-17:00	<p>Concluding panel discussion on gender and transportation development in Asia <i>Summary of the workshop: Kyoko Kusakabe</i> <i>Moderator of panel discussion: Ranjith de Silva</i> <i>Panelists: TBA</i></p>	
17:00-17:15	Closing	