



Cambodia
Development Resource
Institute (CDRI)

Asia-Pacific Research
and Training Network on Trade
Short-Term Study No. 1, November 2005



Trade Research Institutions in Asia-Pacific: Capacity-Building Needs in Developing Countries

Hing Vutha, Larry Strange and K.A.S Murshid

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**Cambodia Development Resource Institute (CDRI)
Phnom Penh, April 2006**

* Hing Vutha, Larry Strange and K.A.S. Murshid are researcher, executive director and former research director, respectively, at the Cambodia Development Resource Institute (CDRI). The views presented in this paper are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of ARTNeT members, partners or the United Nations. The full text of this study is available electronically at: www.artnetontrade.org.

CDRI's Mission Statement

As an independent Cambodian development policy research institute, the mission of the Cambodia Development Resource Institute (CDRI) is to contribute to Cambodia's sustainable development and the well-being of its people through the generation of high quality policy-relevant development research, knowledge dissemination and capacity building.

CDRI works to achieve this mission in partnership with Cambodian public institutions and civil society, and their regional and international development partners, with respect for the capacity of the Cambodian people and their institutions, for the value of local knowledge and experience and for Cambodia's history and culture.

This work was conducted as part of the implementation of the Asia-Pacific Research and Training Network on Trade (ARTNeT) research programme (for details, see <http://www.artnetontrade.org/>). It was carried out with the aid of a grant from the International Development Research Centre, Ottawa, Canada, and the technical support of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific. The views presented in this paper are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the United Nations or of other ARTNeT members and partners.

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Responsibility for the ideas, facts and opinions presented in this research paper rests solely with the authors. Their opinions and interpretations do not necessarily reflect the views of the Cambodia Development Resource Institute.

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Foreword

The Cambodia Development Resource Institute (CDRI) is pleased to publish its study on *Trade Research Institutions in Asia-Pacific: Capacity-Building Needs in Developing Countries*, completed in 2005. This is the first publication emerging from CDRI's partnership with ARTNeT, the Asia-Pacific Research and Training Network on Trade, an initiative of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP), with support from the International Development Research Centre (IDRC), Canada.

CDRI has been an enthusiastic founding member of ARTNeT since its establishment in 2004. ARTNeT is an innovative and effective model for the promotion of collaboration and capacity building between research institutes in the Asia-Pacific region. This is particularly important for institutes in least developed countries (LDCs) like Cambodia, which have much to gain from research collaboration and information sharing with other, stronger, institutes in the region, and from the regular trade research skills training opportunities for its researchers offered by ARTNeT through the combined resources of UNESCAP, IDRC and UNCTAD.

The lead researcher and writer of this study was Mr Hing Vutha, a researcher in CDRI's Economy, Trade and Regional Cooperation Programme, with input and assistance from myself and CDRI's former research director, Dr K.A.S. Murshid. The study produced several important findings about the nature of the capacity-building needs of research institutes dealing with trade in the region. One important finding concerns the nature of effective capacity building itself; namely, to be really effective, capacity building must be based on careful and genuine needs analysis, tailor-made to institutional and individual needs. Such a process is complex, long term and resource intensive, and the experts involved must have the proven capacity to transfer skills and build capacity in different cultural and institutional environments. For LDCs such as Cambodia, capacity building must also be designed to meet the needs of government trade officials, who are often poorly resourced in reliable policy-relevant research that can underpin complex trade policy making and negotiations. The Cambodia case study included here provides more detail on these issues.

CDRI would like to express its appreciation to all the research institutes that participated in the study as well as to our colleagues in ARTNeT and the Trade and Investment Division of UNESCAP for their critical feedback and support. CDRI would especially like to thank our colleagues in Cambodia's Ministry of Commerce for their input concerning the needs of government trade policy makers and negotiators. We look forward to a continuing productive future partnership with ARTNeT and its member institutes.

Larry Strange

Executive Director CDRI

March 2006

Executive Summary

The informal meeting of core Asia-Pacific Research and Training Network on Trade (ARTNeT) research institutions organised by UNESCAP and IDRC in June 2004 in Bangkok highlighted the need for capacity building of research institutions from least developed countries in the region. However, little research or information is available on what the needs of these research institutions are, their existing trade research capacity and how this varies across countries. This study sets out to address the following key issues: What are the existing trade research capacities of research institutions in LDCs and low-income developing countries in the Asia-Pacific region? What are their capacity-building needs in trade policy research?

Research institutions in the Asia-Pacific region have good capacities in trade research in terms of education, experience and skills. Research institutions in LDCs have less capacity than those in developing countries, and research institutions in countries with lower per capita GDP have less capacity than those in countries with higher per capita GDP. In addition to some skill limitations, research institutions commonly face various impediments in conducting trade research of high quality and policy relevance. These range from lack of funding and trade data to lack of links with trade research institutions in other countries and limited availability of relevant IT hardware and software. It is also generally recognised that research institutions need to develop further professional capacity in trade research. Such needs range from long-term trade research training programmes to long-term access to technical advisers and trade experts and wider access to trade data and literature.

The responses to these needs have varied from technical and financial support to institutional collaboration. The most dynamic and helpful programme for capacity development in trade research would be a long-term and ongoing training programme. In addition, other significant capacity building measures in trade research are: greater financial assistance and support for trade-related research; more lasting partnership programmes with governmental institutions, research institutions, development agencies and academia; long-term access to trade experts; and greater institutional facilitation and coordination to manage specialised research networks.

Much greater resources need to be devoted to supporting capacity development in trade research, especially for institutes in post-conflict LDCs like Cambodia, whose research institutions are inadequately equipped with human and capital resources, capacities and skills, whose policy makers remain relatively weak, and whose research has limited linkage with policy making.

Trade Research Institutions in Asia-Pacific: Capacity-Building Needs in Developing Countries

1. Introduction

In 2005, the Cambodia Development Resource Institute (CDRI), with support from the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP), undertook a survey of research institutions in the least developed and low-income developing countries of the Asia-Pacific region to identify their capacity building needs in international trade research. The survey was designed to assist the Asia-Pacific Research and Training Network on Trade (ARTNeT), an open network initiative of UNESCAP, to develop additional services and activities for the benefit of trade research institutions in the region, to ensure that they have the capacity to conduct high-quality policy-relevant research studies on international trade issues. This study analyses the results of that survey.

The international trade environment has become increasingly complex, posing huge challenges to developing countries and least developed countries (LDCs) in terms of globalisation, increasing regional and global integration and a rapidly emerging new division of labour that is reshaping societies. The new/emerging international economic order comes with the potential for huge benefits as well as with the risk of failure—especially for poor countries that may find themselves left far behind in the race for “export-led growth” and a fair share of global markets. It is therefore imperative for policy makers, especially in LDCs and low-income developing countries, to devise coherent and sound trade policies that can assure sustainable economic growth and development.

Given human capacity limitations, policy makers in many countries operate at a great disadvantage in trying to ensure that their countries are able to obtain a fair deal during intense and often technical negotiations, e.g. in drafting FTAs or meeting WTO conditionalities. Many, therefore, look to research institutions to provide the analytical and technical support that is lacking within the relevant government department. However, research institutions themselves frequently face a severe capacity constraint and are not able to play this role as effectively as would be desirable. Little research or information is available on what the needs of these research institutions are, their existing trade research capacity and how this differs across countries.

This study sets out to address the following issues: What are the existing trade research capacities of research institutions in LDCs and low-income developing countries in the Asia-Pacific region? What are their capacity-building needs in trade policy research? Specifically, the objective of the study is to assess the need for trade research capacity building of research institutions in LDCs and low-income developing countries in the Asia-Pacific region, and to identify innovative ways in which some countries or organisations in the region have addressed or are addressing these needs.

2. Trade Research and Capacity Building—Literature Review

2.1. Trade Research Capacity Building—Rationale

Quality research and analysis, and associated capacity, are fundamental to effective trade policy making and negotiations. As Gloria Pasadilla, of the Philippines Institute for Development Studies, concludes in her recent ARTNeT Policy Brief:

If good preparation is key to successful trade negotiation, adequate research capacity is its locksmith.¹

This section briefly examines the recent literature on effective capacity building or development in general, more specifically on trade research capacity building in the Asia-Pacific region, and the key principles that influenced the design of this survey.

2.2. Capacity Building and Capacity Development—Key Concepts

The term “capacity building” has been commonly used in the international development community since the early 1990s, and more recently used interchangeably with the term “capacity development”. The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) defines capacity development as “the process by which individuals, organizations, institutions and societies develop abilities: to perform functions, solve problems and set and achieve objectives; to understand and deal with their development need in a broader context, and in a sustainable manner”.² It has three cornerstones—a continuing process of learning and changing; better use and empowerment of individuals and organisations; systematic approaches to devising capacity-development strategies and programmes. It includes elements of institution building, institutional development, development management and institutional strengthening. This approach promotes indigenous control, local knowledge and participation, building on local capacities and dynamic interrelationships among various actors and levels of national programmes, groups and organisations.

A 2003 World Bank report,³ drawing on a decade of experience in Africa, concluded that effective capacity development requires a demand-driven approach; is a long-term process, rarely amenable to quick results through shortcuts; occurs in a context in which it can be sustained; is focused on retention and effective use of existing capacities and assets; is not merely a technical exercise but is rooted in the political economy of the country; takes root where incentives—monetary and non-monetary—are favourable; must nurture a continuous dialogue which puts the onus on the demand side to make the difficult policy choices on what truly matters and demonstrably works; must have a good fit with the country context.

In practical terms, effective capacity building or development involves a combination of institutional needs analysis, institutional design and strengthening, the upgrading of educational and professional qualifications and skills by means of postgraduate education, professional development and training programmes, the provision of expert technical advice and skills transfer and institutional collaboration, thematic study tours, personnel exchanges or internship

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1. Gloria O. Pasadilla, *Strengthening Trade Research Capacity for Policymaking and Negotiations*, ARTNeT Policy Brief, UNESCAP, 2005.
 2. UNDP Bureau for Policy Development, Management Development and Governance Division, *Technical Advisory Paper 2: Capacity Development*, 1997.
 3. H. Sutch, *Towards a more strategic approach to capacity building in Africa*, World Bank, 2003.

schemes. The challenge of capacity building for research institutes in developing countries is usually located within this broader institutional context, but particularly so in LDCs, where institutions are often weak, and one of the major objectives of development assistance is their strengthening. This is well described by Degnbol-Martinussen and Engberg-Pedersen:

Most poor countries have too few qualified researchers, insufficient funds to finance even these few researchers' work, and too few independent research institutions. This applies in general within all research areas. This means that development problems in these many countries are thoroughly researched only to the extent they can attract international attention. It also means that these countries often lack capacity to keep abreast of international research and are hence prevented from taking independent positions about whether and how they will use the results of this research. It is therefore most welcome that in recent years several donors have increased support for building and strengthening independent research capacity in the South.⁴

2.3. Trade Policy Making and Trade Research Capacity Building

In her recent ARTNeT policy brief on the strengthening of trade research capacity for policy making and negotiations,⁵ Pasadilla identifies the critical elements for efficient trade policies as government leadership, institutional capacity and the inclusion of all actors—both state and non-state, including the private sector, think-tanks, universities and other civil society organisations. Such institutional capacity includes the ability to prepare technical backgrounds, research and analysis, the capability to carry out negotiations and adequate knowledge of the relevant trade laws and their implications.

In summary, the policy brief argues three propositions that underpin the rationale for and design of this survey:

- (i) Effective trade policy and trade negotiations must begin with solid research and analysis.
- (ii) In developing countries, but particularly in LDCs, the major actors, such as government and the private sector, often lack the capacity for both macro and sectoral trade-related research.
- (iii) If LDCs and developing countries are to participate in trade negotiations “less lopsidedly”, then building national trade research capacity, both for government and for policy-oriented research institutes and think-tanks, needs particular attention from the governments of the Asia-Pacific region.

4. John Degnbol-Martinussen and Poul Engberg-Pedersen, *Aid: Understanding International Development Cooperation*, 2003.

5. Pasadilla, *op. cit.* The policy brief also draws on Homi Kharas, “Economics Education and Research in the East Asia Pacific Region”, paper presented at the World Bank Conference on Scaling Up Capacity Building in Economic Education and Research, Budapest, 2005; and Ponciano S. Intal Jr., “Thanks to Smart Research Capacity Building, There is a Need for Smarter Research Capacity Building”, paper delivered at workshop on Trade Negotiations and Trade Policies in Developing Countries: What Role for Capacity Building and Research?, International Development Research Centre, Ottawa 2001.

3. The Survey of Trade Research Capacity-Building Needs

3.1. General Information about Survey Research Institutions

Twenty-four research institutions from 13 countries—Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, Fiji, Indonesia, Laos, Mongolia, Nepal, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Vietnam—were surveyed. Of the research institutions, 12 are independent non-profit institutes/centres, five are governmental institutes/centres, two are university-affiliated institutes/centres, four are academic institutes/centres and one is an independent profit-making institute/centre. Major sources of funding for these institutions are bilateral donors, international development agencies and national governments, research contracts or grants and consulting services. They have good relations with government and policy makers through regular interaction and participation in joint task forces and provision of trade-related services, such as trade research studies, trade policy dialogues, policy briefs, fact-finding surveys and training on trade-related issues.

3.2. Current Trade Research Capacity of Research Institutions

The educational level, research experience, knowledge, abilities and skills in areas such as qualitative analysis, quantitative analysis, research proposal writing, policy brief writing, international and national trade issues and Computable General Equilibrium (CGE) and other trade modelling and simulation methods are key components in measuring research institutions' current capacity in trade research. The so-called Capacity 1 is measured by the average level of education and research experience of trade researchers, while Capacity 2 is measured by knowledge, abilities and skills in qualitative analysis, quantitative analysis, research proposal writing, policy brief writing, international and national trade issues and CGE and other trade modelling and simulation methods.

3.2.1. Education and Research Experiences

The average level of education and research experiences of trade researchers among research institutes is notably high. Twenty-five percent of research institutions have trade researchers with educations at mostly PhD level, 50 percent have trade researchers with education from master to PhD level, and 12.5 percent each have trade researchers with education at mostly master level and at bachelor to master level. Thirty-three percent of research institutes have researchers with trade research experience of more than 10 years, 25 percent have researchers with trade research experience of five to 10 years, 29.2 percent have researchers with experience of two to five years and 12.5 percent have researchers with experience of less than two years.

The research institutions' education and research experience is closely related to country status and level of income, but it is not necessarily reflected in the level of trade openness of the country. The survey suggests that there is significant difference in Capacity 1 between research institutions in LDCs and those in other developing countries, as well as between research institutions in countries with low GDP per capita and countries with high GDP per capita, at significance levels 5 percent and 10 percent respectively. In other words, research institutions in LDCs have significantly lower Capacity 1 than those in other developing countries, and research institutions in countries with higher GDP per capita have stronger Capacity 1 than those in countries with lower GDP per capita. However, there is no significant

difference in Capacity 1 among research institutions from countries that are less open to trade and countries that are more open to trade.

Table 1: Capacity 1–Country Status Cross Tabulation

| Capacity 1 | Country Status | | Total |
|--------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|-------------|
| | Least developed countries | Other developing countries | |
| Weak | 8 | 3 | 11 |
| Strong | 3 | 10 | 13 |
| Total | 11 | 13 | 24 |
| Chi-Square Tests | | | |
| | Value | Df | Asymp. Sig. |
| Pearson Chi-Square | 5.916 | 1 | 0.015 |

Table 2: Capacity 1–GDP per Capita Cross Tabulation

| Capacity 1 | GDP per Capita (US\$) | | | Total |
|--------------------|-----------------------|----------|-------------|-------|
| | <500 | 500–1000 | >1000 | |
| Weak | 8 | 3 | 0 | 11 |
| Strong | 5 | 3 | 5 | 13 |
| Total | 13 | 6 | 5 | 24 |
| Chi-Square Tests | | | | |
| | Value | Df | Asymp. Sig. | |
| Pearson Chi-Square | 5.564 | 2 | 0.062 | |

Table 3: Capacity 1–Level of Trade Openness Cross Tabulation

| Capacity 1 | Level of Trade Openness | | | Total |
|--------------------|-------------------------|-------|-------------|-------|
| | <50 | 50–90 | >90 | |
| Weak | 6 | 3 | 2 | 11 |
| Strong | 5 | 2 | 6 | 13 |
| Total | 11 | 5 | 8 | 24 |
| Chi-Square Tests | | | | |
| | Value | Df | Asymp. Sig. | |
| Pearson Chi-Square | 2.139 | 2 | 0.343 | |

3.2.2 Abilities and Skills

Most research institutions are strong in qualitative analysis, quantitative analysis, research proposal writing, policy brief writing and knowledge of international and national trade issues. However, there seem to be crucial gaps in modelling expertise, e.g. with respect to CGE and other trade modelling and simulation methods. About 21 percent of research institutions are *very strong* in quantitative analysis and 46 percent are *strong* in quantitative analysis. Twenty-five percent of research institutes have *very strong* and 50 percent have *strong* qualitative analysis skills. About 17 percent of research institutions each have *very strong* research proposal writing and policy brief writing skills, and 46 percent are good. However, only 37 percent of research institutions have relatively strong knowledge of CGE and other modelling and simulation methods.

General abilities and skills in qualitative and quantitative analysis, research proposal and policy brief writing skills, knowledge of international and national trade issues and knowledge

of CGE and other trade modelling and simulation methods—defined as Capacity 2—vary among research institutions and are significantly related to country status and GDP per capita. Statistical analysis shows that there is significant difference in Capacity 2 between research institutions in LDCs and those in other developing countries, and between research institutions in countries with low GDP per capita and countries with high GDP per capita at significance levels 10 percent and 5 percent respectively. This means research institutions in LDCs have significantly lower Capacity 2 than those in other developing countries and research institutions in countries with low GDP per capita have greatly lower Capacity 2 than those in countries with high GDP per capita. However, it appears that there is again no significant difference in Capacity 2 among research institutions in countries that are less open to trade and countries that are more open to trade.

Table 4: Capacity 2–Country Status Cross Tabulation

| Capacity 2 | Country Status | | Total |
|--------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|-------------|
| | Least developed countries | Other developing countries | |
| Weak | 8 | 5 | 13 |
| Strong | 3 | 8 | 11 |
| Total | 11 | 13 | 24 |
| Chi-Square Tests | | | |
| | Value | Df | Asymp. Sig. |
| Pearson Chi-Square | 2.818 | 1 | 0.093 |

Table 5: Capacity 2–GDP per Capita Cross Tabulation

| Capacity 2 | GDP per Capita (US\$) | | | Total |
|--------------------|-----------------------|----------|-------------|-------|
| | <500 | 500–1000 | >1000 | |
| Weak | 9 | 4 | 0 | 13 |
| Strong | 4 | 2 | 5 | 11 |
| Total | 13 | 6 | 5 | 24 |
| Chi-Square Tests | | | | |
| | Value | Df | Asymp. Sig. | |
| Pearson Chi-Square | 7.475 | 2 | 0.024 | |

Table 6: Capacity 2–Level of Trade Openness Cross Tabulation

| Capacity 2 | Level of Trade Openness | | | Total |
|--------------------|-------------------------|-------|-------------|-------|
| | <50 | 50–90 | >90 | |
| Weak | 7 | 3 | 3 | 13 |
| Strong | 4 | 2 | 5 | 11 |
| Total | 11 | 5 | 8 | 24 |
| Chi-Square Tests | | | | |
| | Value | Df | Asymp. Sig. | |
| Pearson Chi-Square | 1.361 | 2 | 0.506 | |

In general, the capacity of research institutions, which is measured by education, research experience and abilities and skills in trade research, greatly depends on countries' status as LDCs or other developing countries, and level of income measured by GDP per capita, but it cannot be explained by level of trade openness.

3.3. Key Impediments to Trade Research

Research institutions face various constraints in conducting international trade research of relevance to policy makers, including lack of financial assistance and access to trade data and literature, limited availability of skills and IT resources and limited links with government and other international institutions. Among these major constraints, lack of funding for trade research is seen as the most important, followed by lack of skills and lack of access to trade data. Lack of links with trade research institutions in other countries and limited availability of relevant IT hardware and software are seen as the fourth and fifth most important impediments. Most of these impediments are beyond the capacity and authority of research institutions to overcome. They are determined by the capacity and policy of international organisations, government and well-established research centres. Efforts and policy interventions by relevant organisations aiming at addressing these constraints will be a major contribution to the trade research capacity development of research institutions.

Table 7: Key Impediments Facing Research Institutions in Conducting Trade Research (%)

| | Most Important | Important | Somewhat Important | Less Important | Least Important |
|---|----------------|-----------|--------------------|----------------|-----------------|
| | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) |
| Lack of funding for conduct of trade research | 75 | 12.5 | 12.5 | 0 | 0 |
| Lack of skilled human resources | 26.3 | 21.1 | 31.6 | 10.5 | 10.5 |
| Lack of access to trade data | 5.9 | 29.4 | 41.2 | 11.8 | 11.8 |
| Lack of links with trade research institutions in other countries | 0 | 23.8 | 28.6 | 38.1 | 9.5 |
| Limited availability of relevant IT hardware and software | 0 | 31.3 | 6.3 | 31.3 | 31.3 |
| Lack of access to trade literature | 0 | 11.1 | 0 | 33.3 | 55.6 |
| Lack of awareness of important trade issues | 0 | 0 | 16.7 | 33.3 | 50 |
| Limited links with government and policy makers | 0 | 12.5 | 0 | 25.0 | 62.5 |

3.4. Capacity-Building Programmes for Trade Research

All research institutions have undertaken actions and programmes to build capacity in trade research. These range from participation by researchers in short-term training and regional and international conferences and postgraduate study, to development of research exchange programmes and research fellowships and active involvement in specialised trade research and training networks.

Among these activities, participation in regional and international conferences is the most frequent, followed by encouragement to pursue advanced degrees, coaching and mentoring of junior researchers by senior trade researchers and participation in specialised trade research and training networks. For these activities, around 70 percent of research institutions have received financial assistance from international development agencies, 29 percent from bilateral government agencies and 25 percent and 12 percent from academia and international foundations respectively. Eight percent of research institutions have not received any assistance for development of capacity in trade research.

3.5. Trade Research Capacity-Building Needs

Although research institutions have strong capacity and skills in trade research, almost all of them report the need to develop their trade research capacity further; only 4 percent of research institutions believe they do not need to build their trade research capacity because other research institutes in their country already conduct such research. Research institutions have a strong need to develop both quantitative and qualitative trade research as well as their trade research proposal writing capacity and trade policy paper/brief writing skills.

Research institutes also named other urgent capacity-building needs in trade research, ranging from technical and financial assistance to institutional arrangements for wider access to trade data and literature. The most important and highest priority need among most research institutions was access to long-term skills training on trade policy analytical techniques—CGE, Global Trade Analysis Project (GTAP) and other trade modelling and simulation methods. Other urgent and important capacity-building needs are funding for trade-related research projects, wider and free access to trade literature and trade data of international organisations such as COMTRADE⁶ and WITS⁷ and government statistical offices and long-term access to technical advisers and trade experts.

The needs for capacity development vary among research institutions, but do not depend much on country status, income level or trade openness. The survey suggests that research institutions in LDCs have greater need to develop capacity in trade research than those in other developing countries, but those needs do not vary significantly. It also appears that research institutions in countries with low and middle level per capita GDP have greater need to build capacity in trade research than those in countries with high per capita GDP, but the difference in capacity-building needs is not significant. Similarly, there is no significant difference in capacity-building needs among research institutions in countries having different levels of trade openness, although it appears that research institutions in countries that are less open to trade have a stronger need to build capacity in trade research than those in countries that are more open to trade.

Table 8: Capacity-Building Needs–Country Status Cross Tabulation

| Capacity-Building Needs | Country Status | | Total |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|-------------|
| | Least developed countries | Other developing countries | |
| Limited Need | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Some Need | 5 | 7 | 12 |
| Strong Need | 6 | 4 | 10 |
| Total | 11 | 12 | 23 |
| Chi-Square Tests | | | |
| | Value | Df | Asymp. Sig. |
| Pearson Chi-Square | 1.693 | 2 | 0.429 |

6. United Nations Commodity Trade Statistics Database (UN Comtrade).

7. World Integrated Trade Solution (WITS) is software developed by the World Bank, in collaboration with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development.

Table 9: Capacity-Building Needs–GDP per Capita Cross Tabulation

| Capacity-Building Needs | GDP per capita (US\$) | | | Total |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|----------|-------------|-------|
| | <500 | 500-1000 | >1000 | |
| Limited Need | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Some Need | 6 | 4 | 2 | 12 |
| Strong Need | 7 | 2 | 1 | 10 |
| Total | 13 | 6 | 4 | 23 |
| Chi-Square Tests | | | | |
| | Value | Df | Asymp. Sig. | |
| Pearson Chi-Square | 5.863 | 4 | 0.21 | |

Table10: Capacity-Building Needs–Level of Trade Openness Cross Tabulation

| Capacity-Building Needs | Level of Trade openness | | | Total |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------|-------------|-------|
| | <50 | 50-90 | >90 | |
| Limited Need | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Some Need | 6 | 2 | 4 | 12 |
| Strong Need | 5 | 3 | 2 | 10 |
| Total | 11 | 5 | 7 | 23 |
| Chi-Square Tests | | | | |
| | Value | Df | Asymp. Sig. | |
| Pearson Chi-Square | 3.154 | 4 | 0.532 | |

3.6. Solutions to Address Research Capacity-Building Needs

The responses to capacity-building needs for trade research range from technical and financial support to institutional arrangements for strengthening research networks and linkages with well-established research institutions. On technical aspects, it is widely suggested that there need to be long-term and ongoing trade research training programmes. Such programmes can include long training courses on trade policy, short-term training on trade policy analytical techniques and two to 10-day training workshops on focussed issues or methods. Long-term provision of technical advisers and trade experts to research institutions was also seen as very helpful to trade research capacity building.

On financial aspects, research institutions suggested that development agencies, international foundations and well-established research institutes provide more financial assistance and support for trade-related research projects, as well as financial support for short and long training courses and postgraduate studies.

As for institutional aspects, there should be stronger cooperation and support to strengthen partnership programmes among research institutions and with international organisations and academia. Arrangements such as regional multi-institutional research projects, research exchange programmes and research fellowships are considered very helpful to trade research capacity building. Furthermore, research institutions also asked for help in institutional coordination and assistance from international development agencies and international research institutions to establish and manage specialised research networks more effectively. Specialised research networks would serve not only as platforms for closer coordination among research institutions, international organisations and policy makers, but also as forums for mutual consultation and information sharing. They would also create many opportunities for research institutions to obtain training on focused issues and funds for research projects.

4. Case Study of Linkage between Research Institutions and Trade Policy Makers in Cambodia

4.1. Context: Cambodia's Development, Trade and the WTO

Cambodia has achieved remarkable political and economic development for a decade, after emerging from civil war and international isolation during the 1970s and 1980s. Peace and stability have been restored; a democratic political system has been introduced; democratic institutions are emerging; and administrative reforms, judicial reforms and a decentralisation programme are making progress.

Macroeconomic stability and high economic growth have been maintained. Cambodia has rapidly integrated its economy into regional and global economies, and its economy has been gradually liberalised. It became a member of the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) in 1999 and then a member of the World Trade Organisation (WTO) in 2004. Cambodia has also reached various bilateral trade agreements with the United States, European Union and Canada as well as participating in regional trade agreements such as the ASEAN Free Trade Area (AFTA) and ASEAN-China Free Trade Area.

As a result of this rapid liberalisation and integration, Cambodia's external trade has increased and has played a vital role in economic development. Cambodia's experience with garment exports illustrates the role that trade plays in achieving faster economic growth, increasing employment and reducing poverty. Because of its significance, trade has become a critical component in government strategies for promoting growth, development and poverty reduction, such as the Second Socio-Economic Development Plan (2001–2005), the National Poverty Reduction Strategy and the Governance Action Plan.

These favourable developments mask several challenges, such as a shortage of financial and human capital, vulnerability to changes in the international trade environment, difficulties in reducing poverty, implementing reform programmes and complying with the commitments of WTO accession. Cambodia is obligated to have a sound legal infrastructure conducive to a fair and predictable business environment and economic activity. This will be achieved by a proposed broad range of reforms, including strengthening the judicial system in regard to commercial activities, protecting intellectual property rights, ensuring the safety of manufactured and agricultural products, facilitating trade, ensuring conformity with WTO requirements and complying with the principles and provisions of the General Agreement on Trade in Services.

Implementation of these requirements is very demanding for small developing countries like Cambodia, given the lack of profound understanding of WTO requirements among legislators, governmental institutions, the private sector, research institutions and civil society organisations. Technical assistance and capacity development are badly needed in areas such as legislation, valuation procedures, trade policy evaluation and reporting and assessing the impact of trade protection and liberalisation.

4.2. The Development, Capacity and Capacity-Building Needs of Research Institutions in Cambodia

4.2.1. The Historical Development of Research Institutions in Cambodia

Research institutions in Cambodia evolved only as recently as the early 1990s, as Cambodia emerged from more than two decades of war and international isolation. A few research institutions initially emerged as independent non-profit organisations with the primary objective of strengthening the capacity of Cambodians and civil servants to manage national development and economic reconstruction.

The first of these, the Cambodia Development Resource Institute (CDRI), was established to respond to Cambodia's needs in making the transition from a centrally planned to a market economy and the normalisation of relations with international donors. It first operated as a training facility, located in the government's Ministry of Planning, for government officials to acquire English language and computer skills. Only later, in 1993, was it reconstituted as an independent development research and policy institute.

The Cambodian Institute for Cooperation and Peace (CICP) was founded in 1994 as a non-government organisation, but working closely with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, to enhance the ability of government officials to promote regional and international cooperation. Its primary activities were providing a range of national and regional seminars, workshops and conferences, with a research and policy underpinning, on regional and international cooperation issues, with a particular focus on Cambodia's role in ASEAN.

The roles and functions of research institutions have evolved since the mid-1990s in response to political and economic developments. These institutions have shifted their focus from training and capacity building alone to research and policy programmes, generating knowledge and information and disseminating it to government policy makers, multilateral and bilateral development agencies, the private sector and civil society organisations. Since then, research institutions in Cambodia have functioned as an independent source of input and policy options for policy makers and government as well as an independent source of advice and support for development practitioners working for or in cooperation with multilateral and bilateral development agencies and non-government organisations. They provide research studies, policy briefs, development reviews, fact finding and surveys on a wide range of topics. These include economy and trade, regional economic integration, globalisation and the WTO, governance and decentralisation, agriculture and rural development, poverty, natural resources, the environment and international cooperation. Some research institutions have also functioned as platforms for policy dialogue. In general, research institutions have made a very significant contribution to social and economic development in Cambodia through training and education and by acting as knowledge and information centres for policy makers and civil society.

Despite these positive developments, research institutions in Cambodia remain nascent and relatively poorly equipped with limited human and capital resources. The lack of skilled people with substantial research expertise and lack of funds to conduct research are still common constraints. Most research institutes depend on external financial assistance from international and bilateral development agencies, international foundations and international NGOs to support operations and to fund research. This makes their research programmes more reactive than proactive or more supply/donor-driven than demand-driven, and means that very limited resources are available for longer term capacity development.

4.2.2. *Trade-Related Research Institutions in Cambodia*

Trade is a relatively new area for research institutes in Cambodia, although CDRI has done trade-related research since the late 1990s. Trade issues have become a higher priority for the government and its development partners in recent years, particularly because of Cambodia's accession to the WTO in 2004. The number of independent research institutes that dedicate resources to trade research is still very small, while government institutes conducting policy-relevant trade research and analysis are virtually non-existent. There are currently three independent research institutions undertaking trade-related research and associated activity—CDRI, the Economic Institute of Cambodia (EIC) and CICP. Of the higher level government bodies, the Supreme National Economic Council also dedicates some resources to trade policy and research. The Department of International Trade within the Ministry of Commerce is responsible for government trade policy and its implementation, including WTO negotiations and compliance, but has a very limited research capacity and largely relies on the research and policy outputs of others.

(i) CDRI was established in 1990 as non-profit independent institute to improve capacity in Cambodia and to undertake research and analysis contributing to sustainable development policies and strategies. CDRI provides research and analysis of socio-economic and development issues in such areas as macro-economy, trade and SME, governance and decentralisation, agricultural and rural development, natural resources and environment and peace building and conflict resolution. Ten to 25 percent of CDRI's research activity is focused on aspects of export competitiveness, regional trade arrangements, agricultural trade, trade and environment, trade and poverty and trade research capacity-building needs.

There are currently four Cambodian researchers working on trade issues, of whom one dedicates full time to trade research, while the others devote 30–50 percent of their time to it. All trade researchers have a masters degree from abroad and average research experience of less than two years, and work under the direct supervision of the research director, who generally holds a PhD in economics.

Over the next year, CDRI expects to publish at least three major trade-related publications covering different aspects of regional trade, FTAs and the economic impacts of China on Cambodia. CDRI will also focus on Cambodia's accession to the WTO, its impacts and compliance programme and trade facilitation, which are issues receiving greater attention in government plans and strategies. However, none of CDRI's trade researchers has profound knowledge and skills in conducting comprehensive analytical studies on these themes.

(ii) EIC was established in 2003 as a non-government organisation to provide better understanding of the economy through socio-economic research and to participate critically in formulating economic policies and strategies. The major activities of EIC are developing Cambodia's socio-economic database and modelling; conducting policy-oriented research on trade, investment, poverty reduction, private sector development, social justice and economic governance; and organising dissemination workshops and conferences.

There are currently four Cambodian researchers working on trade issues, all with master degrees and with average research experience of less than two years. Two researchers spend most of their time on trade studies, while two others spend less time on trade-related research. EIC trade research focuses on export competitiveness, regional trade arrangements, WTO negotiations/accession, trade in services, trade and investment and trade and poverty. EIC has

not produced a working paper on trade, but has produced project reports and articles in its bi-monthly *Economic Review*.

(iii) CICIP was established in 1994 as non-government organisation to enhance the abilities of government officials, to promote regional and international cooperation and to conduct policy research on development issues. CICIP has concentrated on six main programme areas: civil society, civil-military relations, economic development, foreign policy and international relations, the Greater Mekong Sub-region (GMS), ASEAN and the WTO. CICIP is more involved in organising conferences and roundtables on regional economic integration and WTO issues, mostly in the context of international relations, and is less active in research. There is currently one researcher who works on trade issues, with a master degree and research experience of less than two years. It has no periodical review of trade-related studies, but it produces working and conference papers, although relatively fewer trade-related articles or papers than other trade research institutes in the country.

4.2.3. The Current Capacity of Trade-Related Research Institutions in Cambodia

Research institutions in Cambodia face severe capacity limitations in trade research, which is a relatively new area. The limited trade research capacity is constrained by a lack of advanced education, research experience and core research skills. The average educational level of trade researchers is mostly master degree, which is relatively low compared to Vietnam, Thailand, Indonesia, the Philippines, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka. Although research institutions have increasing access to a “talent pool” as more and more Cambodians obtain postgraduate degrees overseas, the lack of persons who have a good understanding and knowledge of international trade is widely recognised. The average level of experience of trade researchers is less than two years, again much less than in some neighbouring countries.

The scarcity of experienced trade researchers is compounded by a lack of funding for trade-related research and by the brain drain of experienced researchers to international organisations, which usually provide better remuneration. It appears that most trade researchers have good qualitative analytical skills, research proposal writing skills and knowledge of international and national trade issues. However, there seems to be a crucial shortage of quantitative analytical skills and modelling expertise, e.g. with respect to simulation or CGE, which are important tools for quantifying and assessing social and economic impacts of trade policies. The shortage of such skills has hampered the production of trade research of high quality and relevance to policy makers.

4.2.4. The Need for Capacity Development in Trade-Related Research in Cambodia

It is generally agreed that there is an urgent need to build the capacity for trade research among research institutes in Cambodia. This means increasing advanced education in trade, enhancing research experience and improving research methodologies and related skills. The most important and urgent need is ongoing and long-term access to research skill training with a focus on analytical techniques that are commonly used to assess trade policy, i.e. CGE modelling, partial equilibrium models, GTAP and other simulation methods. An improvement in such analytical skills is very necessary for research institutions to be able to produce quality policy-relevant trade research in response to the constantly growing demands of policy makers for analysis of rapid developments in regional and international trade.

In addition, trade research institutions in Cambodia need long-term access to technical advisers or trade experts who can assist in constructing analytical tools or models that fit Cambodia, and in designing research frameworks for trade-related sectoral studies, such as regional trade agreements, agricultural trade and WTO-related subjects. Research institutions are also keen to enhance their research capacity and expertise through joint research projects, research fellowships and access to experienced mentors, and through short-term training courses (typically three to six months) and scholarships for postgraduate study.

4.3. The Linkage between Research Institutions and Trade Policy Makers in Cambodia

A many-layered relationship exists between research institutions and trade policy makers in Cambodia, from top policy makers and senior management to middle and lower level officials and research staff, in both formal and informal ways.

First, senior policy makers are active members of the boards of directors of some research institutes. While independent in both its charter and operations, CDRI, for example, has four board members who are senior policy makers from the Ministry of Commerce, Ministry of Economy and Finance, the Council for the Development of Cambodia and the Ministry of Women's Affairs. Most of CACP's board members are senior policy makers from the Ministry of Economy and Finance or the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. This type of linkage is very useful to ensure that strategic directions are consistent with and supportive of the government's development strategies.

Second, various senior management and research staff are involved in policy consultation, e.g. through participation in technical working groups that devise government policy and strategy and provide comments on draft strategy and policy documents.

Third, a linkage exists through research institutes providing services to trade policy makers, ranging from trade research studies, fact-finding, surveys and trade policy briefs to trade policy dialogues or forums. Research institutes have produced regular monthly, quarterly and annual trade-related articles and policy briefs, and these publications are widely distributed among governmental institutions, including the Senate and National Assembly and various ministries. Trade-related issues have been substantially researched as background information for trade negotiations, policy formulation and implementation.

Fourth, policy makers and senior government officials regularly interact with research institutions by participating in seminars and workshops. Research findings are broadly disseminated to the public and to key stakeholders, in particular senior government officials and policy makers.

Although research institutes and policy makers have increased their mutual interaction, there is still a considerable gap in research and policy linkages, especially at middle and lower levels. The major factors to which this gap is attributed are lack of mechanisms and institutional arrangements for communication between middle and lower level government officials and research staff, lack of formal regular consultations between top, middle and lower officials and research staff and capacity limitations among researchers and policy makers.

To bridge this gap, ongoing joint capacity-building programmes need to be designed and implemented to strengthen the skills of researchers and policy makers. The programmes should include short courses on trade policy, research skills training and participation in relevant

international conferences or meetings. There should also be regular formal consultations between middle and lower level trade officials and research staff in order to improve understanding of emerging trade issues and challenges and to find ways to work more cooperatively and effectively in dealing with these challenges.

A long-term partnership between research and government institutions at high and middle levels should be further strengthened. Research institutions should be provided adequate access to policy consultation and dialogues on many aspects, such as trade policy and legal and implementation challenges, as well as wider access to trade policy documentation and trade data.

4.4. The Challenges and Needs of Trade Policy Makers in Cambodia

Trade policy makers in Cambodia currently face a number of challenges, including bilateral and regional trade arrangements, elimination of quotas on trade in textiles and clothing, WTO implementation and legal obligations, market access, cross-border economy and trade facilitation. These constantly changing and growing trade issues stimulate further demands for research as input to trade negotiations and policy formulation. The major difficulty facing trade policy makers in the Ministry of Commerce, the institution primarily responsible for trade negotiations and trade policy formation and implementation, is the non-existence of policy-relevant in-house research. Negotiation teams usually consult with relevant ministries, the private sector and importers and exporters before beginning negotiations, but often without any detailed research underpinning or feasibility/impact assessment of particular negotiating positions or policies. Having neither finances nor skills to develop in-house research, trade policy makers have faced increasing challenges in formulating policy and have described a great need for specialist trade studies from credible research institutions in at least the following areas: trade facilitation (implementation strategies, institutional set-up and socio-economic impact assessments), regional trade agreements, market access and trade preferences, building supply-side capacity and export competitiveness, trade remedies under WTO and cross-border economy.

4.5 Cambodia Case Study: Key Findings

- Trade plays a key role in Cambodia's economic development and, with accession to the WTO, Cambodia currently faces a very demanding compliance programme.
- Cambodian policy makers, particularly in the Ministry of Commerce, and influencers of policy such as the private sector and civil society organisations, have an urgent need for access to ongoing reliable, high quality, policy-relevant research from institutions that are able to cooperate effectively with them.
- Existing Cambodian trade-related research institutions have great potential, but very limited current capacity to provide policy-relevant input to policy makers and others.
- To build real mutual capacity in policy-relevant trade research, research institutions and policy makers need a deep, long-term and well-resourced programme of capacity development that is based on institutions and programmes rather than short-term projects.

4.6. Cambodia Case Study: Conclusion

Linkages and partnerships between research institutes and trade policy makers in Cambodia have been improving significantly, but are still limited. The poor capacities of research institutions and policy makers, and their respective institutional limitations, are the major determinants of this gap. Negotiators and policy makers have in the past often outsourced trade studies to research institutes and international organisations without having conducted preliminary in-house research.

It is widely accepted among Cambodian policy makers that research institutes still have an important role to play in trade policy formulation. However, the capacity and resources of trade research institutions to conduct high quality, relevant trade research are very limited. Therefore, initiatives or programmes to develop jointly the capacities of policy makers and researchers are an urgent priority. International organisations, development agencies, established research institutions and other providers of development assistance and capacity development should strengthen long-term programmes that will build important capacities and skills of researchers and policy makers, and help bridge the trade research and policy gap in Cambodia.

5. General Conclusion

Research institutions in the Asia-Pacific region have good education, experience and skills in trade research, but research institutions in LDCs have less capacity than those in developing countries. Research institutions in countries with lower per capita GDP also have less capacity than those in countries with higher per capita GDP. It is also generally recognised that research institutions need to develop further capacity in trade research; their needs range from long-term trade research training programmes to long-term access to technical advisers and trade experts and wider access to trade data and literature. In addition to some skill limitations, research institutions commonly face various impediments in conducting trade research of high quality and policy relevance. These range from lack of funding to lack of trade data, lack of links with trade research institutions in other countries and limited availability of relevant IT hardware and software.

Another major constraint on trade research capacity building is the irregular involvement of research institutions in trade negotiations and high-level international trade policy meetings. Many research institutions agree that they are leading policy research that has great influence on trade policy, but they are not often invited to high-level trade policy meetings. There is an inconsistency between the influence and role of research institutions in policy formulation and their participation in trade policy meetings and negotiations.

The responses to these articulated needs have varied from technical and financial support to institutional collaboration. The most dynamic and helpful programme for capacity development in trade research would be a long-term and ongoing training programme. To build capacity in policy-relevant trade research in LDCs, research institutions and policy makers need a long-term, well-resourced programme of capacity development that is based on institutions and programmes rather than on short-term projects. Additional measures of significance to capacity building in trade research are: greater financial assistance and support for trade-related research; more lasting partnership programmes with governmental institutions, research institutions, development agencies and academia; long-term access to trade experts; and greater institutional facilitation and coordination to manage specialised research networks.

More resources and policy intervention need to be directed to develop the capacity for trade research and to address impediments facing research institutions. International organisations, government, international and bilateral development agencies, established research institutions, international foundations and academia should play a more dynamic and supportive role in this regard. Also, international organisations deeply involved in international trade policy and government should involve research institutions in trade policy via a regular presence in trade negotiations and high-level trade policy meetings. More importantly, much greater resources need to be devoted to supporting capacity development in trade research, especially for institutes in war-ravaged LDCs like Cambodia, whose research institutions are inadequately equipped with finances, capacities and skills, whose policy makers remain relatively weak, and whose research has limited linkage with policy making.

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Appendix A

Detailed Survey Findings

Table A-1: Research Institutions by Category and Region

| Category | Region | | | | Total |
|--|-----------------|------------|------------|---------------|-----------|
| | South-East Asia | South Asia | North Asia | South Pacific | |
| Independent profit-making institute/centre | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Independent non-profit institute/centre | 7 | 4 | 1 | 0 | 12 |
| Governmental institute/centre | 3 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 5 |
| University-affiliated institute/centre | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| Academic institute/centre | 2 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 4 |
| Total | 14 | 7 | 1 | 2 | 24 |

Figure A-1: Types of Services Provided by Research Institutions *(Percentage of institutions involved in each activity)*

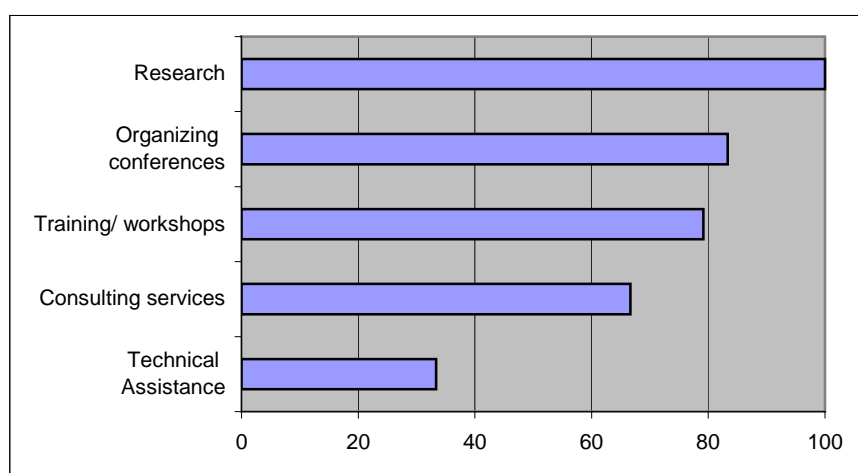


Table A-2: Main Sources of Funding

| | Most important | Second most important | Third most important |
|---|----------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Bilateral donor/development agencies | 53.30 | 26.70 | 20 |
| National government | 43.75 | 43.75 | 12.50 |
| Research contracts/grants and consulting services | 31.82 | 36.40 | 31.82 |
| Training fees/tuition fees | 33.33 | 0 | 66.67 |
| Private foundation/NGOs | 11.11 | 33.33 | 55.56 |
| Sales of publications | 0 | 16.67 | 83.33 |

Figure A-2: Degree of Specialisation in Trade Research

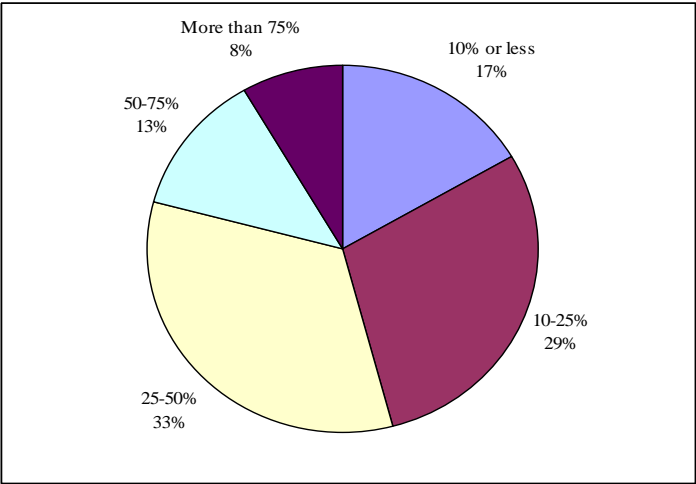


Figure A-3: Focus of Ongoing Trade Research (Percentage of institutions engaging in each area)

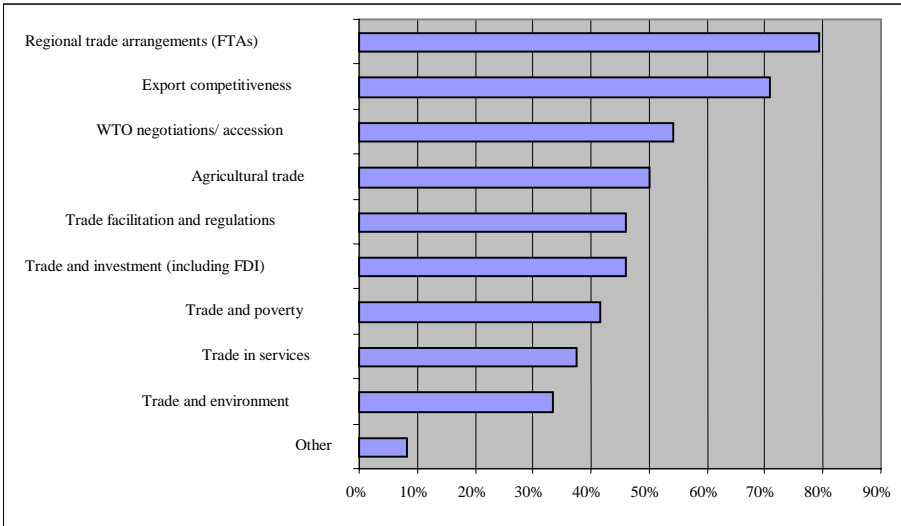


Figure A-4: Type of Trade-Related Services Provided to Policy Makers (Percentage of institutions engaging in each activity)

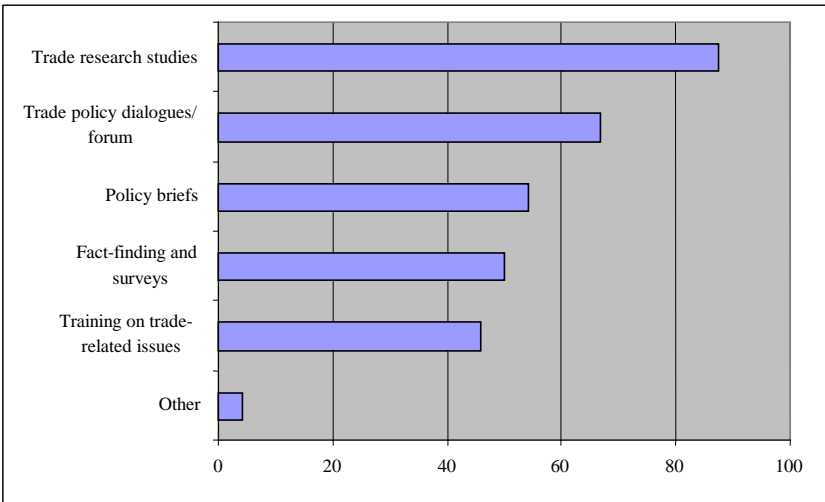


Table A-3: The Status of Research Institutions in National and Regional Environment

| | Strongly agree | Agree | Disagree | Strongly disagree |
|---|----------------|-------|----------|-------------------|
| My institution is a leading policy research institute in the country | 75 | 16.7 | 8.3 | 0 |
| My RI is a leading trade policy researcher in the country | 37.5 | 37.5 | 25 | 0 |
| My RI is a leading trade policy researcher in Asia-Pacific | 0 | 29.2 | 54.2 | 16.7 |
| Trade policy makers and advisers regularly use trade research studies | 37.5 | 41.7 | 20.8 | 0 |
| Researchers have regular interaction with trade policy makers | 50 | 33.3 | 16.7 | 0 |
| Staff of my RI are regularly invited to join trade task force | 37.5 | 29.2 | 29.2 | 4.2 |
| Researchers of my RI regularly publish articles in regional or international journals | 8.3 | 37.5 | 37.5 | 16.7 |
| Board or steering group of my RI includes senior trade officials | 29.2 | 25 | 29.2 | 16.7 |

Table A-4: Average education level of trade researchers

| | Frequency | Percentage |
|--------------------|-----------|------------|
| Bachelor to master | 3 | 12.5 |
| Mostly master | 3 | 12.5 |
| Master to PhD | 12 | 50 |
| Mostly PhD | 6 | 25 |
| Total | 24 | 100 |

Table A-5: Research Experience of Trade Researchers

| | Frequency | Percentage |
|--------------------|-----------|------------|
| Less than 2 years | 3 | 12.5 |
| 2 to 5 years | 7 | 29.2 |
| 5 to 10 years | 6 | 25 |
| More than 10 years | 8 | 33.3 |
| Total | 24 | 100 |

Table A-6: Abilities and Skills

| | Very weak | Weak | Moderate | Strong | Very strong |
|--|-----------|------|----------|--------|-------------|
| Quantitative analysis | 4.2 | 8.3 | 20.8 | 45.8 | 20.8 |
| Qualitative analysis | 0 | 4.2 | 20.8 | 50 | 25 |
| Research proposal writing | 0 | 0 | 37.5 | 45.8 | 16.7 |
| Policy brief writing | 0 | 8.3 | 29.2 | 45.8 | 16.7 |
| Knowledge of CGE and other trade modelling | 29.1 | 16.7 | 16.7 | 12.5 | 25.0 |
| Knowledge of international and national trade issues | 0 | 0 | 29.2 | 37.5 | 33.3 |

Table A-7: Trade Research Capacity Building Needs

| | No need | Limited need | Some need | Strong need |
|----------------------------------|---------|--------------|-----------|-------------|
| Quantitative trade research | 4.35 | 4.35 | 30.43 | 60.87 |
| Qualitative trade research | 4.35 | 13.04 | 30.43 | 52.17 |
| Trade research proposal writing | 0 | 21.74 | 47.83 | 30.43 |
| Trade policy paper/brief writing | 0 | 17.39 | 52.17 | 30.43 |

Figure A-5: Trade Capacity Building Activities Undertaken by Research Institutions
(Percentage of institutions that have undertaken each capacity building activity)

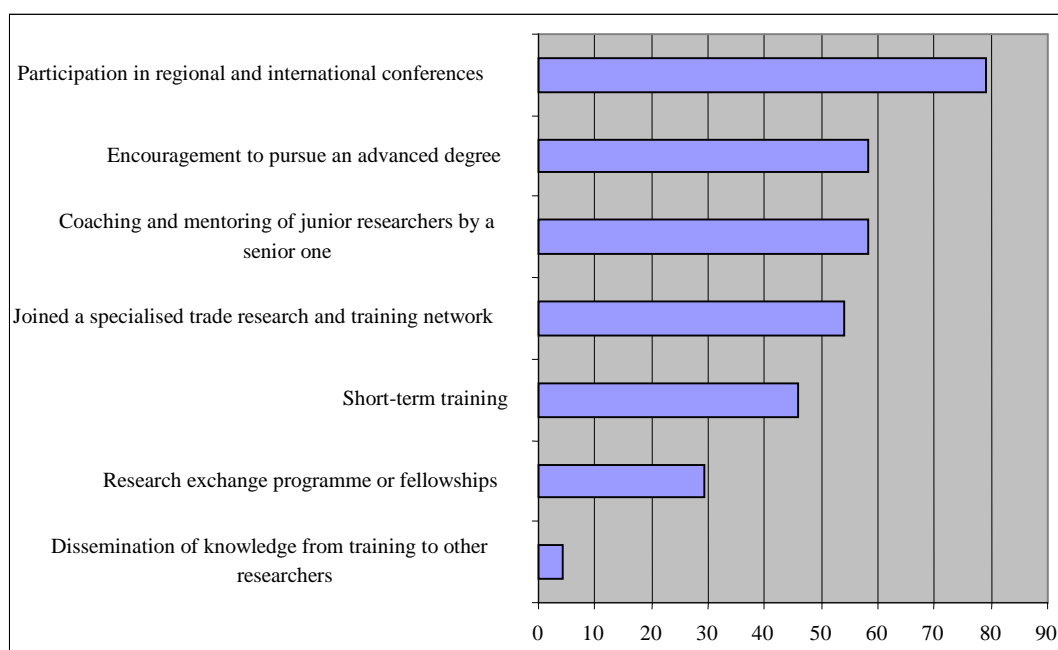


Figure A-6: Sources of Assistance for Capacity Development (Percentage of institutions receiving assistance from each source)

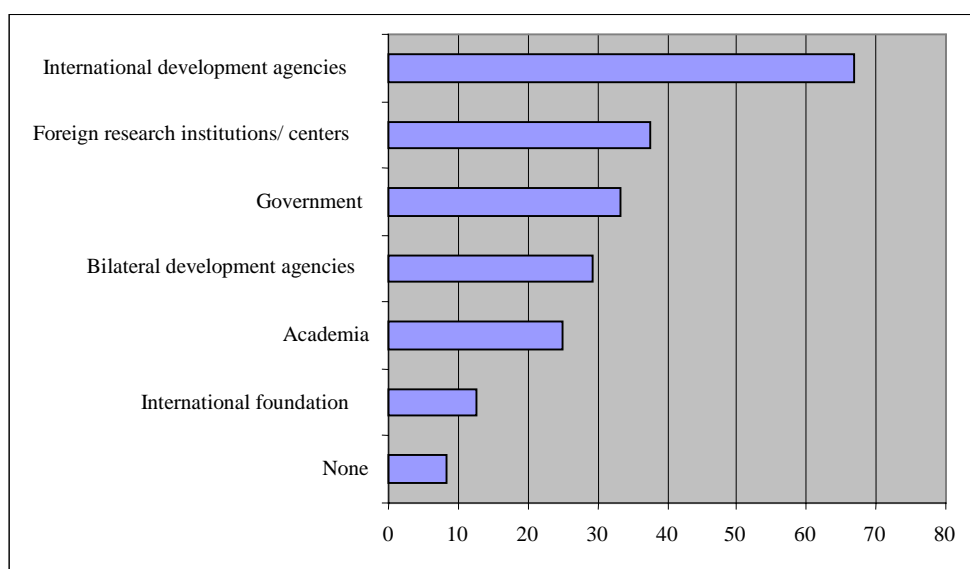


Table A-8: Activities Helpful to Capacity Building

| | Not helpful | Less helpful | Somewhat helpful | Helpful | Most helpful |
|---|-------------|--------------|------------------|---------|--------------|
| Regional consultative meeting for trade researchers and policy makers | 0 | 4.35 | 17.39 | 26.09 | 52.17 |
| Regional team (multi-institutional) research projects | 0 | 4.35 | 17.39 | 30.43 | 47.83 |
| Research exchange programmes | 0 | 8.70 | 13.04 | 30.43 | 47.83 |
| Online access to literature reviews, surveys and working papers on trade issues | 0 | 8.70 | 17.39 | 30.43 | 43.48 |
| Research fellowships | 0 | 4.35 | 8.70 | 30.43 | 56.52 |
| 3–6 month trade policy course | 4.35 | 0 | 34.78 | 13.04 | 47.83 |
| Access to technical adviser and/or trade expert | 0 | 4.35 | 30.43 | 26.09 | 39.13 |
| 2-10 day training workshop on focused issues/methods | 0 | 8.70 | 30.43 | 21.74 | 39.13 |

The Definition of Capacity 1 and Capacity 2

Capacity 1 is measured by the average level of education and research experience of trade researchers. It is defined as weak or strong based on the following assumptions:

- A research institution that has researchers with average education at any level except PhD degree and with research experience of less than five years is assumed to be weak.
- A research institution that has researchers with average education at mostly master or from master to PhD or mostly PhD and with research experience of more than five years is assumed to be strong.

Here is the education-research experience matrix that maps the level of Capacity 1 based on all observations in the survey.

| | Less than 2 years | 2 to 5 years | 5 to 10 years | More than 10 years |
|--------------------|-------------------|--------------|---------------|--------------------|
| Mostly bachelor | | | | |
| Bachelor to master | Weak | Weak | | |
| Mostly master | Weak | Weak | Strong | Strong |
| Master to PhD | Weak | Weak | Strong | Strong |
| Mostly PhD | | | | Strong |

Capacity 2 is measured by abilities and skills in qualitative analysis, quantitative analysis, research proposal writing and policy brief writing, and by knowledge of international and national trade issues and of CGE and other trade modelling and simulation methods (question No. 9 in the questionnaire). These abilities and skills are scored from 1, representing very weak, to 5, representing very strong, and are aggregated. Thus Capacity 2 is derived from the average score of all the above abilities and skills, and is considered weak or strong based upon the following assumption:

- A research institution that has an aggregated average score of less than 3.5 is assumed to have weak Capacity 2.
- A research institution that has an aggregated average score of more than 3.5 is assumed to have strong Capacity 2.

Table A-9: Capacity 1 by Country

| | | Capacity 1 | | Total |
|----------------------------|------------------|------------|--------|-------|
| | | Weak | Strong | |
| Least Developed Countries | | | | |
| Country | Bangladesh | 2 | 0 | 2 |
| | Bhutan | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| | Cambodia | 3 | 0 | 3 |
| | Lao PDR | 2 | 0 | 2 |
| | Nepal | 0 | 3 | 3 |
| Other Developing Countries | | | | |
| | Fiji | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| | Indonesia | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| | Mongolia | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| | Papua New Guinea | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| | Philippines | 0 | 2 | 2 |
| | Sri Lanka | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| | Thailand | 0 | 2 | 2 |
| | Vietnam | 0 | 2 | 2 |
| Total | | 11 | 13 | 24 |

Table A-10: Capacity 2 by Country

| | | Capacity 2 | | Total |
|----------------------------|------------------|------------|--------|-------|
| | | Weak | Strong | |
| Least Developed Countries | | | | |
| Country | Bangladesh | 0 | 2 | 2 |
| | Bhutan | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| | Cambodia | 3 | 0 | 3 |
| | Lao PDR | 2 | 0 | 2 |
| | Nepal | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| Other Developing Countries | | | | |
| | Fiji | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| | Indonesia | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| | Mongolia | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| | Papua New Guinea | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| | Philippines | 0 | 2 | 2 |
| | Sri Lanka | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| | Thailand | 0 | 2 | 2 |
| | Vietnam | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Total | | 13 | 11 | 24 |

Appendix B

Methodology of the Study

This study used three different approaches—desk /internet research, survey and case study—to understand the concept of capacity building, to identify various capacity-building needs of different categories of research institution across the region and to investigate in depth the links between research and policy makers in one particular country.

- Desk/internet research reviewed existing literature on concept of capacity building. Numbers of publications on capacity development and strengthening research capacity from development organisations such as UNDP, OECD, CIDA, RAWOO and KFPE as well as relevant documents in www.capacity.org, were widely reviewed and cited.
- A survey was the most important part of this study; it attempted to learn the current capacity and capacity-building needs in trade research of research institutions in the Asia-Pacific region. A questionnaire was used to collect primary data from research institutions to test the following important hypotheses:
 - a. The research institutions are in need of capacity building for trade research.
 - b. Institutions already specialising in trade research need to build their trade research capacity further.
 - c. Institutions that are well connected with government officials have a good understanding of trade.
 - d. The degree of perceived need for capacity building is affected or explained by institution and country characteristic.;
 - e. Institutions in countries less open to trade (as measured by total trade/GDP) do less trade research and have fewer trade research capacity-building needs.

The questionnaire consisted of three sections: existing trade research capacity and policy linkages; impediments to trade research and capacity-building needs; and general information. They were sent via electronic mail to research institutions listed in the directory of selected trade and investment-related research institutions and universities in the Asia-Pacific region compiled by UNESCAP and NIRA's world directory of think-tanks. Follow-up was done through email, telephone calls and airmail. First, follow-up emails were sent a few days after the questionnaire to check whether the directors of all research institutions had received it. Second, if confirmation still was not received within a few days, phone calls were made. If an institution could not be contacted by email, the documents were sent via airmail and followed up by telephone. It took much longer than expected to collect the questionnaires, and in some cases we did not receive any response from the institution.

Sampling method

Only research institutions in LDCs and selected low-income developing countries in the sub-regions south-east Asia, south Asia, north Asia and South Pacific islands were covered in the survey. Low-income developing countries with populations over 100 million or countries with no research institutions were excluded. Based on these criteria, the 15 countries from which sample research institutions were chosen were Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, Fiji, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Samoa, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Vietnam. Seven are from south-east Asia, four from south Asia, one from north Asia and three from the South Pacific. Seven are LDCs and eight are low-income developing countries.

| | South-east Asia | | South Asia | | North Asia | South Pacific | |
|------------------------------------|-----------------|---------------|--------------|-------------|------------|---------------|--------------------|
| | LDC | Low Income | LDC | Low Income | Low income | LDC | Low Income |
| WTO Member | . Cambodia | . Indonesia | . Bangladesh | . Sri Lanka | . Mongolia | | . Fiji |
| | . Myanmar | . Philippines | . Nepal | | | | . Papua New Guinea |
| | | . Thailand | . Bhutan | | | | |
| In process of WTO accession | . Laos | . Vietnam | | | | . Samoa | |

The sampling of research institutions from these countries was based on the directory of selected trade and investment-related research institutions and universities in the Asia-Pacific region compiled by UNESCAP and NIRA's world directory of think-tanks. We tried to select an appropriate proportion of research institutions in different categories: independent profit-making institutes, independent non-profit institutions, governmental institutes, university-affiliated institutes or academic institutions or departments. Thirty-seven research institutions were selected for the sample, of which 20 were from south-east Asian countries, 12 from south Asian countries, two from North Asia and three from South Pacific countries. However, we eventually received 24 responses from 13 countries, none from Myanmar or Samoa.

- The case study explored in depth the current capacity of trade research institutions, their capacity-building needs and their relations with trade policy makers in a particular country. Cambodia, an LDC that has emerged from civil war and international isolation in the past decade, was selected as a case study. On the supply side of policy research, semi-structured interviews were conducted with directors and relevant management staff of two independent research institutions, CDRI and EIC. On the demand side, we had meetings with policy makers and groups of senior government officials of the Ministry of Commerce, seeking their perceptions on needed trade policy research, and on links between trade research institutions and policy makers. The information they provided enabled us to understand the existing linkages between research institutions and policy makers as well as their respective needs.

Appendix C



with the support of IDRC, Canada

A Survey of Trade Research Capacity Building Needs of Research Institutions in Asia-Pacific

The objective of this survey is to identify the capacity building needs of research institutions in least developed and low-income developing countries in the Asia-Pacific region in the area of international trade research. **Responses will assist the Asia-Pacific Research and Training Network on Trade (ARTNeT), an open network initiative of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP), to develop additional services and activities for the benefit of trade research institutions in the region, to ensure that they have the capacity to conduct high-quality policy-relevant research studies on international trade issues** (for more information on ARTNeT, please visit: <http://www.unescap.org/tid/artnet.asp>)

Who should complete the questionnaire? The questionnaire should preferably be completed by the Director of the research institution, or a senior staff with extensive knowledge and a comprehensive view of the institution (e.g., research director; department head responsible for trade and/or economic research). The time required for completion is estimated at 15-20 minutes.

Confidentiality: This survey is administered by the Cambodia Development Resource Institute (CDRI, <http://www.cdri.org.kh/>), under contract with UNESCAP. Your responses to the questionnaire are confidential. They will be used only by CDRI to compile aggregate survey results to assist in the preparation of an ARTNeT study entitled *Trade Research Institutions in Asia-Pacific: Capacity Building Needs in Developing Countries*.

Please return completed questionnaire to: Dr. K. Murshid, Research Director, Cambodia Development Resource Institute [Email: murshid@cdri.forum.org.kh, Fax: (855-23) 880-734] and/or to Dr. Yann Duval, Economic Affairs Officer, Trade and Investment Division, UNESCAP [Email: duvaly@un.org; Fax: (66-2) 288 1027].

Please do not hesitate to contact CDRI or UNESCAP if you have any question. Thank you for your cooperation.

Please Highlight or Tick Answers that Are Applicable

Section 1: Existing Trade Research Capacity and Policy Linkages

1. What percentage of the research produced by your institution focuses on trade issues?

- a. 10% or less b. 10-25% c. 25-50% d. 50-75% e. More than 75%

2. What is the focus of your on-going trade research, if any? (please select more than one answer when applicable)

- a. Export competitiveness b. Regional trade arrangements (RTAs)
 c. WTO negotiations/accession d. Agricultural trade
 e. Trade in services f. Trade and investment (including FDI)
 g. Trade facilitation and regulations h. Trade and poverty
 i. Trade and environment j. Other (please specify): ____

3. Please indicate the extent to which you agree with each of the following statements: (please indicate your choice with an X in one of the four categories for each statement)

| | strongly agree | agree | disagree | strongly disagree |
|---|----------------|-------|----------|-------------------|
| a. My institution is a leading <u>policy research</u> institution <u>in the country where it is located</u> | | | | |
| b. My institution is a leading <u>trade policy research</u> institution <u>in the country where it is located</u> | | | | |
| c. My institution is a leading <u>trade policy research</u> institution <u>in Asia-Pacific</u> | | | | |
| d. Trade policy makers and advisors <u>regularly use</u> trade research studies and other publications produced by my institution | | | | |
| e. Senior managers and/or researchers have <u>regular</u> interactions with trade policy makers | | | | |
| f. Staffs of my institution are <u>regularly</u> invited to participate in trade policy-related task forces setup by the government | | | | |
| g. Researchers of my institution <u>regularly</u> publish trade-related articles in <u>regional or international peer-reviewed journals</u> | | | | |
| h. Board or steering group members of my institution include senior <u>trade officials</u> | | | | |

4. How many research staff does your institution employ (in full-time equivalent)?

____ full-time equivalent research staff

5. Of those, how many are specialized in or dedicated to trade research (in full-time equivalent)?

____ full-time equivalent trade researchers

6. Please specify the average level of education of the researchers conducting trade research in your institution (select one only)

- a. Mostly Bachelor level b. Bachelor to Master level
c. Mostly Master level d. Master to PhD level
e. Mostly PhD level f. Other (please specify): ____

7. Please specify the average level of trade research experience of researchers conducting trade research in your institution (select one only)

- a. less than 2 years experience b. 2 to 5 years experience
c. 5 to 10 years experience d. More than 10 years experience

8. On average, how many trade-related papers and book chapters does your institution produce annually?

____ trade-related papers / book chapters

9. How would you rate the ability and skills of trade researchers in your institution at this time? (Please indicate your choice with an X in one of the 5 categories for each of the skills)

| | Very Weak | Weak | Moderate | Strong | Very Strong |
|---|-----------|------|----------|--------|-------------|
| a. Quantitative analytical skills | | | | | |
| b. Qualitative analytical skills | | | | | |
| c. Research proposals writing skills | | | | | |
| d. Policy briefs writing skills | | | | | |
| e. Knowledge of CGE and other trade modeling and simulation methods | | | | | |
| f. Knowledge of national and international trade issues | | | | | |
| g. Other (please specify): ____ | | | | | |

10. What type of trade-related services, if any, does your institution provide to policy makers and government? (please select all that apply)

- a. Trade research studies b. Trade policy dialogues/Forum
c. Fact-finding and surveys d. Training on trade-related issues
e. Policy briefs f. Other (please specify): ____

11. Do you think trade policy makers in your country need further trade research from your institution?

- a. No need b. Limited need c. Some need d. Strong need

Section 2: Impediments to Trade Research and Capacity Building Needs

12. What are the main impediments faced by your institution in conducting international trade research of relevance to policy makers? (Please rank the five main impediments in order of importance, 1: most important impediment; 5: least important)

| | Rank |
|--|------|
| a. Lack of funding opportunities to conduct trade research | ____ |
| b. Lack of access to trade literature | ____ |
| c. Lack of access to trade data | ____ |
| d. Limited availability of relevant IT hardware and software | ____ |
| e. Limited links with government and policy makers | ____ |
| f. Lack of links with trade research institutions in other countries | ____ |
| g. Lack of skilled human resources | ____ |
| h. Lack of awareness of important trade issues | ____ |
| i. Other (please specify): ____ | ____ |

13. Does your institution need to build its capacity in the area of trade research?

- a. Yes (please go to question No. 15) b. No (please go to question No. 14)

14. If No, why not? (please go to Section 3 after answering this question)

- a. Because it already has sufficient capacity
b. Because it is not an area of interest to us
c. Because it is not an area of interest to our main clients or government
d. Because other research institutions in the country already conduct trade research
e. Other (please specify): ____

15. If Yes, which of the following capacities would your institution need to further develop (Please indicate your choice with an X in one of the four categories for each capacity)

| | No need | Limited Need | Some Need | Strong need |
|--|---------|--------------|-----------|-------------|
| a. Quantitative trade research capacity | | | | |
| b. Qualitative trade research capacity | | | | |
| c. Trade research proposals writing capacity | | | | |
| d. Trade policy paper/brief writing capacity | | | | |
| e. Other (please specify): ____ | | | | |

16. What has your institution done to build its capacity in trade research? (please select more than one answer when applicable)

- a. Short-term training
b. Participation in regional and international conferences
c. Coaching and mentoring of junior researchers by a senior trade researcher
d. Encouragement to pursue an advanced degree
e. Research exchange programme or fellowships
f. Joined a specialized trade research and training network
g. Other (please specify) : ____

17. From which agencies has your institution received assistance to develop its capacity in trade research, if any? (please select as many as applicable)

- a. International development agencies b. Government
c. Bilateral development agencies d. Foreign research institutes/centres
e. Academia f. Other (please specify): ____

18. To what extent would the following activities help your institution develop its capacity in delivering policy-relevant trade research? (please indicate your choice with an X in one of the 5 categories for each of the proposed activities)

activities)

| | Not ----- | | Somewhat | ----- Most | |
|---|-----------|---|----------|------------|---|
| | helpful | | helpful | helpful | |
| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| a. 2 to 10-day training workshops on focused issues/methods | | | | | |
| b. 3 to 6 month trade policy courses | | | | | |
| c. Access to technical advisor or/and trade expert | | | | | |
| d. Regional team (multi-institutions) research projects | | | | | |
| e. Regional consultative meetings for trade researchers and policy makers | | | | | |
| f. Online access to literature reviews, surveys, and working papers on key trade issues | | | | | |
| g. Research exchange programme | | | | | |
| h. Research fellowships | | | | | |
| i. Other (please specify): | | | | | |

19. Please identify your most urgent/important capacity building needs for trade research? *(please be as specific as possible)*

20. Please provide comments on the preferred means/ solutions to address those needs? *(please be as specific as possible)*

SECTION 3: General Information

21. Your institution is best described as:

- | | |
|---|--|
| a. Independent profit-making institute/centre | b. Independent non-profit institute/centre |
| c. Governmental institute/centre | d. University-affiliated institute/centre |
| e. Academic institution/department | f. Other <i>(please specify)</i> : ____ |

22. Your main sources of funding are *(please rank the 3 main sources in order of importance, 1 being the most important)*

- | | Rank |
|--|------|
| a. National government | ____ |
| b. Bilateral donors / development agencies | ____ |
| c. Private foundations / NGOs | ____ |
| d. Research contracts / grants and consulting services | ____ |
| e. Sales of publications | ____ |
| f. Training fees / tuition fees | ____ |
| g. Other <i>(please specify)</i> : ____ | ____ |

23. What kind of services does your institution offer? *(please select more than one answer when applicable)*

- | | |
|---------------------------|---|
| a. Research | b. Consulting services |
| c. Training/Workshops | d. Technical assistance |
| e. Organizing conferences | f. Other <i>(please specify)</i> : ____ |

24. What is the total number of employees in your institution *(in full-time equivalent)*?

Approximately ____ full-time equivalent employees

25. Please list the three main areas of research of your institution:

- a. _____
b. _____
c. _____

26. Would you like to receive a summary of the results?

a. Yes

b. No

27. Contact details:

Full name of institution: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ Country: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

Website: _____

Contact Person: _____

Email: _____

Thank You

Appendix D

Profiles of Selected Research Institutions Surveyed

Cambodia Development Resource Institute (CDRI)

56 Street 315, Tuol Kork, Phnom Penh, Cambodia

E-mail: cdri@camnet.com.kh ; URL: <http://www.cdri.org.kh>

| | |
|--|--|
| Organization Status | : - Established in 1990 - Independent non-profit institute overseen by Board of Director. |
| Background | : - The Cambodia Development Resource Institute was established in July 1990 as an independent Cambodian institute working to enhance human resource capacity in Cambodia and to undertake research and analysis contributing to sustainable development policies and strategies. CDRI established by a sub-decree of Cambodian government and overseen by a Board of Directors, is well known within Cambodia and internationally for its commitment to the highest standards of governance, including accountability and transparency in both management and finance and to the genuine involvement of stakeholders in setting priority and planning, implementing and evaluating programmes. - In all its activities, the Cambodia Development Resource Institute acts from a basic respect for local capacity, emphasising the importance of building on existing experience, working in partnership with local institutions in planning and implementing activities to ensure that they respond to real needs. CDRI's research and analysis of socio-economic and development issues form the core of training programmes, workshops, conferences and policy discussions |
| Mission | : CDRI strives to build on local knowledge and experience, working in partnership with public institutions and civil society in planning and implementing its activities. It is dedicated to empowering Cambodians to manage the complex process of reconstruction and development after almost three decades of war. |
| Areas of Research | : Agriculture and rural livelihoods, macro-economy, trade and the private sector, natural resource and environment, governance and decentralisation, capacity building for regional research cooperation (the Development Analysis Network), peace building, trust building and conflict. |
| Major Activities | : - Research and analysis of socio-economic and development issues. - Training and workshop |
| Staff | : Total staff: 67; Researchers: 26; trade researchers: 3 |
| Major sources of funding | : Bilateral donors/development agencies, private foundations/NGOs, and research contracts/grants |
| Partners | : - <i>Local Partners</i> : Royal government of Cambodia and civil society organisations including NGOs, research and education institutions and the private sector. - <i>International Partners</i> : Multilateral and bilateral development assistance agencies and international research and education institutions. |
| Periodicals | : <i>Cambodia's Annual Economic Review</i> , quarterly <i>Cambodia Development Review</i> , monthly <i>Flash Report</i> , working papers, conference papers and monograph |
| Selected Trade and WTO-related publications | : - <i>Regional Economic Integration for Sustainable Development in Cambodia</i> . September 1998. By Toshiyasu Kato, Chan Sophal & Long Vou Piseth - <i>Cambodia: Challenges and Options of Regional Economic Integration</i> . By Chan Sophal, Toshiyasu Kato, Long Vou Piseth, Jeffrey Kaplan, Kun Nhem, James - <i>Fish Exports from the Great Lake to Thailand: An Analysis of Trade Constraints, Governance, and the Climate for Growth</i> . October 2003. By Yim Chea and Bruce Mckenney - <i>The Cross-Border Economies of Laos, Cambodia, Thailand and Vietnam</i> . 2004. By K.A.S Murshid, Tuot Sokphally - <i>The Enabling Environment for Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises in Cambodia</i> . By Dr. Kang Chandararot - <i>The Impacts of International Integration on SMEs Development—In the Case of Cambodia</i> . By Tong Kimsun - <i>Agricultural Competitiveness</i> . By Chan Sophal & Nou Keosothea - <i>Improving the marketing system for maize and soybeans in Cambodia</i> . By Nou Keosothea |

Economic Institute of Cambodia (EIC)

Room #234, Phnom Penh Centre, Phnom Penh, Cambodia.

E-mail: eic@eicambodia.org ; URL: <http://www.eicambodia.org>

| | |
|--|--|
| Organization Status | : <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Established in 2003- Independent non-profit institute |
| Background | : Registered in February 2003 as a Non Governmental Organization, the EIC is a think tank institute that is committed to enhance the awareness of Cambodian stakeholders on development issues and to participate in the formulation of sustainable economic development policies and strategies that will equitably benefit most, if not all, Cambodians. |
| Objectives | : <ul style="list-style-type: none">- To provide a better understanding of the economy with socio-economic research- To actively and critically participate in formulating economic policies and strategies.- To satisfy the need of policy makers and decision makers for accurate and relevant information in their quest to secure a sustainable economic development for Cambodia. |
| Areas of Research | : Trade, investment, poverty reduction, private sector development, social justice, economic governance, and others. |
| Major Activities | : <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Developing Cambodia's socio-economic database and modelling.- Conducting policy oriented research on issues of relevance in trade, investment, poverty reduction, private sector development, social justice, economic governance, and others. |
| Staff | : Total staff: 32; Researchers: 21; Trade research: 3 |
| Major sources of funding | : Bilateral donors/ development agencies, research contracts/ grants |
| Partners | : |
| Periodicals | : EIC <i>Cambodia Economic Report</i> (annually), EIC <i>Cambodia Economic Watch</i> (annually), quarterly <i>Economic Review</i> , and quarterly <i>EIC Review</i> . |
| Selected Trade and WTO-related publications | : <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Cambodia's garment industry in 2005 and beyond: A quantitative analysis of the critical challenges. <i>Economic review</i>. Volume 1, No.5. July-September, 2004. By Sok Hach- The long-term prospects of Cambodian economy: A quantitative assessment of the WTO membership. <i>Economic Review</i>. Volume 1, No.3. January-March, 2004. By Sok Hach- Removing Trade Constraints to Improve Competitiveness and Reduce Poverty. <i>Economic Review</i>. Volume 1, No2. November-December, 2003. By Touk Khy- WTO's Accession for Cambodia: Opportunities and Challenges. <i>Economic Review</i>. Volume 1, No1. September-October, 2003. By Chea Samnane and Sok Hach- Implications of GATS on the Cambodian Economy. <i>Economic Review</i>. Volume 1, No 4. April-June, 2004. By Chea Samnang, Saren Dorena and Sok Hach |

Cambodia Institute for Cooperation and Peace (CICP)

Phum Paung Peay, Sangkat Phnom Penh Thmei, Khan Ruessei Keo

E-mail: cicp@everyday.com.kh ; URL: <http://www.cicp.org.kh>

| | | |
|--|---|---|
| Organization Status | : | - Established in 1994 |
| | : | - Independent non-profit institute |
| Background | : | - The CICP was founded in 1994 and registered as a non-governmental organization with the Royal Government of Cambodia. At the time of CICP's formation, Cambodia was emerging from more than two decades of war, although still grappling with internal conflicts throughout the country. Cambodia was also emerging from almost twenty years of isolation from the international community. In this context, the founders of CICP foresaw a role for the institution with respect to providing various inputs into public policy formulation. Cambodia's new presence regionally and internationally, also meant that the country would be presented both with new opportunities and new complexities |
| | : | - In 1997, CICP became affiliated with a regional association of similarly oriented think tanks known as the ASEAN Institutes of Strategic and International Studies (ASEAN-ISIS), which is now made of eight leading institutes from Southeast Asia. |
| Mission/Objectives | : | The institute's mission is twofold: 1) to enhance the ability and capacity of government officials and the public to make informed decisions about public policy by increasing dialogue and 2) to participate in and promote national, regional and international cooperation. |
| Areas of Research | : | CICP has concentrated on six main program areas—civil society, civil-military relations, economic development, foreign policy and international relations, the Greater Mekong Sub-region (GMS), ASEAN and the WTO |
| Major Activities | : | Research and organizing conference |
| Staff | : | Total staff: 20; Researcher: 5; Trade researcher: 1 |
| Major sources of funding | : | Foundations (65%), self-generating income (22%), national government (5%), international organizations (5%), sales of publications (3%) |
| Partners | : | |
| Periodicals | : | <i>Perspectives</i> (English/Khmer, 4/yr), <i>Working Paper</i> (English, occasional), <i>Distinguished Lecture Series Report</i> (English, occasional), <i>Policy Paper</i> (English, occasional) |
| Selected Trade and WTO-related publications | : | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Economic Development of Cambodia in the ASEAN Context: Policies and Strategies</i>. 1997. Research Publication. By Keat Chhon and Aun Porn Moniroth. - <i>The Development of Cambodian Investment: Policy and Practices</i>. 2002. Research Publication. By Hing Thoraxy - Acceleration of AFTA and Its Implications for Cambodia¹ 1998. Conference Paper. By Keat Chhon and Aun Porn Moniroth - Cambodia and WTO: Opportunities and Challenges. Conference Paper. Edited by Dr. Chap Sotharith - <i>Cambodia's Prospective Membership in ASEAN: Opportunities, Challenges and Prospects</i>. 1999. Conference Working Paper Series. By Kao Kim Hourn |

Centre for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS)

Jalan Tanah Abang III/27, Jakarta 10160, Indonesia

E-mail: csis@csis.or.id ; URL: <http://www.csis.or.id>

| | |
|--|---|
| Organization Status | : - Established in 1971 - Independent non-profit institute overseen by Board of Trustees. |
| Background | : - Founded in 1971, the Centre for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) has won recognition as an important research and policy institution both within Indonesia and internationally focusing on policy-oriented studies on domestic and international issues. - CSIS undertakes research in economics, politics and social change, and international relations, with topics selected on the basis of their relevance to public policy. Interdisciplinary studies are encouraged. In the area of foreign policy CSIS's research is complemented and strengthened by its relations with an extensive network of research, academic, and other organizations worldwide. - In the wider Asia-Pacific region, CSIS is actively involved with regional and international networks of "track-two" institutions and think-tanks that interact with intergovernmental activities. Through its active participation in "track-two" activities, CSIS takes part in efforts to promote regional cooperation (ASEAN, Asia Pacific) and intra-regional cooperation (ASEM). |
| Mission & objectives | : - CSIS's mission is to contribute to improved policy making through policy-oriented research, dialogue, and public debate. - CSIS research and studies are channelled in various forms as independent input to government, universities and research institutions, civil society organizations, media, and business. |
| Areas of Research | : - Economics (macroeconomic policies, trade and industrial policies, finance and banking policies, social, labour, gender and environmental policies, and institutional economic policies). - Politics and social changes (Indonesian political system, democratisation, constitutional and legal reform, decentralisation, gender-related problems, education, pluralism, and social problems). - International relations (strategic and security issues, the political economy of international relations, non-traditional security issues, and area studies). |
| Major Activities | : - Conduct research in three major fields on the basis of their relevance to public policy. - Public education through seminar programmes, lectures and conferences, and bookstore. |
| Staff | : Total Staff: 80; Trade Researchers: 5 |
| Major sources of funding | : Research contracts/ grants and consulting services; private foundations/ NGOs , and sales of publications |
| Partners | : - Regional Partners: Council for Asia Europe Cooperation (CAEC), Council for Security Cooperation in Asia Pacific (CSCAP), Pacific Economic Cooperation Council (PECC). |
| Periodicals | : Books and monographs, working papers, quarterly journal, clippings, bulletin of Indonesian Economic studies. |
| Selected Trade and WTO-related publications | : - <i>Towards a U.S.-Indonesia free trade agreements</i> . Working Paper. May 2004 By Hadi Soesastro - <i>Economic crisis and trade liberalization: A CGE analysis on the forestry sector</i> . Working Paper. February 2004. By Tubagus Feridhanusetyawan and Yose Rizal Damuri - <i>Building an East Asian community through trade and investment integration</i> . Working Paper. April 2003. By Hadi Soesastro - <i>Challenges to APEC trade policy: The Doha development agenda and RTAs/FTAs</i> . Working Paper. March 2003. By Hadi Soesastro - <i>Indonesia's textiles and apparels industry: Taking a stand in the new international competition</i> . Working Paper. February 2003. By Haryo Aswicahyono and Imelda Maidir - <i>Towards a liberalized trade regime: Indonesia trade policies review</i> . Working Paper. September 2001. By Haryo Aswicahyono and Titik Anas - <i>Towards an ASEAN strategy of globalization</i> . CSIS, Jakarta, 2001. |

Philippine Institute for Development Studies (PIDS)
 NEDA sa Makati Bldg., 106 Amorsolo St., Legaspi Village, Makati City, 1229, Philippines
 E-mail: jyape@mail.pids.gov.ph ; URL: <http://www.pids.gov.ph>

| | |
|--|--|
| Organization | : - Established in 1977 |
| Status | : - Governmental institute |
| Background | : PIDS has a mandate to provide analyses of socio-economic problems and issues to support the formulation of plans and policies for sustained social and economic development in the Philippines; to establish a continuing channel of communication between policy makers and planners on one hand, and researchers on the other; and to promote the utilization of research results. Its mission is to provide rigorous analyses of policy issues that can guide policy makers and leaders in their decision-making. |
| Objectives | : - To develop and implement a comprehensive and integrated research program that will provide the research materials and studies required for the formulation of national development plans and policies; - To serve as a common link between the government and existing research institutions; - To establish a repository for economic research information and other related activities. |
| Areas of Research | : Development studies, economic issues, education, environment and natural resources, health and welfare, industry policy, labor and human resource development, regional studies, science and technology, social issues, agricultural policies, communications and information. |
| Major Activities | : Research, organizing conferences, and provide technical assistance |
| Staff | : Total staff: 95; Researchers: 56; trade researchers: 6 |
| Major sources of funding | : Endowment fund (58%), national government (41%), sales of publications (1%). |
| Partners | : International Development Research Centre (IDRC), Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC), US Agency of International Development (USAID), The World Bank. |
| Periodicals | : <i>Journal of Philippine Development</i> (English, 2/yr), <i>Development Research News</i> (English, bimonthly), <i>Policy Notes</i> (English, occasional), discussion papers, Economic issues of the day, Research paper series, and books. |
| Selected Trade and WTO-related publications | : - <i>Exploring the Philippine FTA Policy Options</i> . Policy Notes. September 2004 - <i>Trade and Investment in a Globalized Setting: The Philippine Experience in Muslim Areas</i> . Discussion Paper. 2004. By Macaayong, Habib W. - <i>A Comparative Study of Bilateral FTA/CEP Arrangements</i> . Discussion Paper. 2004. By Avila, John Lawrence V. - <i>East Asian Cooperation: The ASEAN View</i> . Discussion Paper. 2004. By Pasadilla, Gloria - <i>Prospects of Services Trade Liberalization in Japan-RP Bilateral Agreement</i> . Discussion Paper. By Pasadilla, Gloria - <i>Strengthening Bilateral Trade and Investment Relationship Between Latin America and the Philippines: Beyond Economic Diplomacy</i> . Discussion Paper. 2003 - <i>The Philippines in the Global Trading Environment</i> . PIDS Book. 2004. By Austria, Myrna S. - <i>Trade Reforms, Income Distribution and Welfare: The Philippine Case</i> . 2002. Research Paper Series. - <i>Trade Policy Reforms in the 1990s: Effects of EO 470 and the Import Liberalization Program</i> . 1994. Research Paper Series - <i>Textiles and Garment Industry</i> . 1994. Research Paper Series - <i>China's WTO Entry: Effects on Its Economy and Implications for the Philippines</i> . 2004. Discussion Paper - <i>Philippines-Japan Free Trade Agreement: Analyzing Its Potential Impact Using a Computable General Equilibrium Model</i> . 2004. Discussion Paper - <i>Toward a Philippine-Japan Economic Cooperation in Agriculture</i> . 2004. Discussion Paper - <i>A Comparative Study of Bilateral FTA/CEP Arrangements</i> . 2004. Discussion Paper - <i>East Asian Cooperation: The ASEAN View</i> . 2004. Discussion Paper - <i>Two Essays on Regional Economic Integration in East Asia</i> . 2004. Discussion Paper - <i>Prospects and Problems of Expanding Trade with Japan: A Survey of Philippine Exporters</i> . 2004. Discussion Paper - <i>Prospects of Services Trade Liberalization in Japan-RP Bilateral Agreement</i> . 2004. Discussion Paper - <i>Philippine-Japan Bilateral Agreements: Analysis of Possible Effects on Unemployment, Distribution and Poverty in the Philippines Using CGE-Micro simulation Approach</i> . 2004. Discussion Paper. - <i>China's Economic Growth and the ASEAN</i> . 2003. PIDS Book - <i>ASEAN Economic Cooperation</i> . 1992. PIDS Book |

The Thailand Development Research Institute (TDRI)
 565 Ramkhamhaeng 39 (Thepleela 1), Wangthonglang, Bangkok 10310, THAILAND.
 E-mail:publications@tdri.or.th ; URL:http://www.info.tdri.or.th

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| Organization Status | : | - Established in 1984 - Independent institute governed by Boards of Trustees and Board of Directors. |
| Background | : | The Thailand Development Research Institute (TDRI) was established in 1984 to conduct policy research and disseminate results to the public and private sectors. TDRI is Thailand's first policy research institute; it was conceived, created and registered as a non-profit, non-governmental foundation and is recognized as such by the Royal Thai Government. The Institute provides technical and policy analysis that supports the formulation of policies with long-term implications for sustaining social and economic development in Thailand. TDRI is governed by a Council of Trustees and a Board of Directors. The President, as Chief Executive of the Institute, is responsible to the Council and the Board for decisions on Institute finances, operations, and direction. |
| Objectives | : | 1). Conduct and promote policy research; 2). Establish an information centre containing updated information on relevant policy issues; 3). Create research networking; and 4) Disseminate the results of policy research to the public. |
| Areas of Research | : | Human resources and social development, international economic relations, macroeconomic policy, natural resources and environment, sectoral economics, and science and technology development. |
| Major Activities | : | Research, training and workshops, organizing conferences, and consulting services. |
| Staff | : | Total staff: 120; Researchers: 100; Trade researchers: 10 |
| Major sources of funding | : | Research contracts/ grants and consulting services, sales of publications, and interest income. |
| Partners | : | Office of the Civil Service Commission, National Counter Corruption Commission, Thailand (2000 Year-end Conference on 'Transparent and Uncorrupt Society'; joint conference) Office of National Economic and Social Development Board, National Research Council of Thailand (1999 Year-end Conference on 'Sufficiency Economy'; joint conference) National Institute of Development Administration, Thailand (1999 Year-end Conference on 'Sufficiency Economy'; joint conference) World Bank (East Asia Development Network and Poverty Reduction Partnership) United Nations Development Program (Good Governance Project) |
| Periodicals | : | <i>Quarterly Review</i> (English, quarterly), <i>Thailand Economic Information Kit</i> (English, annual), Report Series (Thai, occasional), Research monograph and policy study, Research reports and year-end conference paper. |
| Selected Trade and WTO-related publications | : | - <i>Thailand's Export-Led Growth: Retrospect and Prospects</i> . Policy Study No. 3, June 1991. By Narongchai Akrasanee, David Dapice, and Frank Flatters - <i>Trade in Manufactured Goods and Mineral Products</i> . December 1989 By Paitoon Wiboonchutikula, Rachain Chintayarangsarn, and Nattapong Thongpakde - <i>Trade in Services</i> . December 1989. By Thammanun Pongsrikul, and Somchai Ratanakomut - <i>Export Barriers of the Shoe Industry in Thailand</i> . July 1987. By Paitoon Wiboonchutikula - <i>An Analysis of Foreign Barriers to Thailand's Exports</i> . April 1987. By Juanjai Ajanant, and Paitoon Wiboonchutikula - <i>The Trade Development Strategy for Thailand During the Seventh Plan 1992-1996</i> . October 1990. By Suthiphand Chirathivat, and Tanasak Wahawisan - <i>Regional Trade Liberalization in Southeast Asia: Some Implications of AFTA for Thailand</i> . September 1995. By Andrew Maule - <i>World-Trade Patterns and Contemporary Issues in International Trade Policy</i> . March 1999. By Tony Wirjanto - <i>GATT Law, Agricultural Trade, and Developing Countries: Lessons from Two Case Studies</i> . By Surakiart Sathirathai and Ammar Siamwalla - <i>The Trade and Industrialization Policy Incentives for Implementation Through Private-Public Sector Cooperation</i> . October 1990. By Paitoon Wiboonchutikula, Jeerasak Pongpisanupichit, and Chongrak Rarueysong - <i>An Analysis of Foreign Barriers to Thailand's Exports</i> . April 1987. By Juanjai Ajanant, and Paitoon Wiboonchutikula - <i>Exports, Structural Change and Thailand's Rapid Growth</i> . November 1992. By William E. Brummitt and Frank Flatters. - <i>The Impact of the External Sector on the Thai Economy and Its Determinants</i> . December 1989. By Atchana Wattananukit, and Teerana Bhongmakapat. - <i>Trade in Manufactured Goods and Mineral Products</i> . December 1989. By Paitoon Wiboonchutikula, Rachain Chintayarangsarn, and Nattapong Thongpakde - <i>The Structure of the Textile Industry and Government Policy in Thailand</i> . November 1992. By Suphat Suphachalasai, |

Chulalongkorn Economics Research Center (CERC)
Faculty of Economics- Chulalongkorn University
Phaya Thai Road, Bangkok 10330, Thailand.
E-mail: Chaydom.s@chula.ac.th ; URL: <http://www.econ.chula.ac.th/>

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| Organization Status | : | - Established in 1982 - Academic institution/department |
| Background | : | The Chulalongkorn Economics Research Centre, established on 1 April 1982, is a key research centre organization of the Faculty of Economics, Chulalongkorn University. Its mission is to provide the best economic research in order to benefit our society. |
| Objectives | : | - Facilitate the economic research for faculty members. - Support and develop economic research skills and capacities. - Disseminate the new knowledge to community. |
| Areas of Research | : | <i>Research Project:</i> Research project administration, Economic and financial project, Economic seminar project, Research forum/ workshop project and CU-World Bank project. |
| Major Activities | : | Research, training and workshop, organizing conferences |
| Staff | : | |
| Major sources of funding | : | Training fees/ tuition fees, national government and research contract/ grants |
| Partners | : | |
| Periodicals | : | |
| Selected Trade and WTO-related papers/ publications | : | |

National Economic Research Institute (NERI)

Vientiane, Lao PDR
Phone: 856-21-7111-181; Fax: 856-21-711-181
E-mail: leeberleebouapao@yahoo.com

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| Organization Status | : | - Government Institute |
| Background | : | - NERI is a research institute and an inter-ministerial body based in Vientiane, Lao PDR. NERI or the National Economic Research Institute is a governmental think tank under the Committee for Planning and Cooperation (CPC) of Lao PDR. - NERI has a good network of co-operation and partnership with various ministries, institutes and universities in the country, as well as international organizations like UNDP, SIDA, and JICA etc. NERI is implementing many projects supporting by these donors and making promising progresses. For example, they are focusing on many micro-economic projects, giving sectoral approach on Agricultural and rural development, Economic integration, SMEs development And Finance and on other issues. - NERI is providing research based policy recommendations and advocacy at the macro level in globalization context. They are following a country-specific tailor-made advocacy methodology so as to make the best use of the potentiality of the country in competition with neighbouring countries like China, Thailand. |
| Mission/Objectives | : | |
| Areas of Research | : | - Macroeconomic monitoring and forecasting division - Policy research and analysis - Development |
| Major Activities | : | Research, training and workshop and organizing conference |
| Staff | : | Total staff: 33; Researchers: 17; Trade researchers: 5 |
| Major sources of funding | : | Research contracts/grants, national government, bilateral donors/ development agencies, and sales of publications. |
| Partners | : | |
| Selected Trade and WTO-related papers/ publications | : | |

Center Institute for Economic Management (CIEM)

Ministry of Planning and Investment- Vietnam

Phone: 84-4-8456254; Fax: 84-4-8456795

E-mail: vxnhong@ciem.org.vn ; URL: http://www.ciem.org.vn

- Organization Status** : - Established in 1978
- Governmental Institute
- Background** : Under the leadership of the minister of planning and investment and in coordination with other ministry departments, state agencies and provincial authorities, on the basis of the economic realities and the situation pertaining to economic management in Vietnam and of international experience concerning macro- and microeconomic management, CIEM must formulate proposals on economic policies, economic management and planning mechanisms; draft laws, ordinances and bylaws in the field of economic management as ordered by the state; and research, work out and then implement on a trial basis new economic policies, mechanisms and economic management models that meet the socio-economic realities and requirements. The institute is also tasked with the following duties: to research theories and methodologies on economic management that will contribute to the gradual development of a program on economic reforms and to the development of economic management science in Vietnam; to cooperate with domestic and foreign organizations and agencies in the field of economic management; to perform consulting work on economic management; to provide training and retraining to officials (including postgraduate training when possible); to organize and manage the activities of the Central Club of Enterprise Directors; and to carry out other tasks as assigned by the minister of planning and investment.
- Mission & Objectives** :
Areas of Research : Economic reform, economic policies, economic planning and management mechanisms.
Major Activities : Research, fact-finding and survey, arrange conference and seminars, Provide consultancy and training, and dialogue forum
- Staff** : Total Staff: 80; Researchers: 60
- Major sources of funding** : Bilateral donors/ development agencies, national government, and research contracts/ grants
Partners : UNDP
Australian Agency for International Development (improving the regulatory environment for business)
Stockholm School of Economics, Sweden (international experience on the financial reform and liberalization and capital market adjustment after the crisis; joint research)
Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit (GTZ), GmbH, Germany
Nordic Institute of Asian Studies (NIAS), Demark
Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA)
- Periodicals** : Journal (Economic Management Review), working papers and books
- Selected Trade and WTO-related papers/ publications** :
- *International economic integration and the process of Industrialization and mordenization in Vietnam*. By Dr. Dinh Van An
- *Vietnam's international economic integration- opportunities and challenges*. (International workshop report)
- *Vietnam's active preparation for WTO accession: Trade in services*. 2004.
- *National Competitiveness Enhancement*. 2004.
- *Economic integration, market competitive pressure and counter-tactics of some countries*. 2004. By Le Xuan Ba
- *Accelerating and enhancing performance of international economic integration*. 2005. Working Paper No. 2

Vietnam Institute of Economics

477 Nguyen Trai, Thanh Xuan District, Hanoi

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| Organization Status | : - Established in - Academic institution/ department |
| Background | : - The Institute of Economics (IE) belongs to the Vietnam National Center for Social Sciences and Humanities, founded on February 6th, 1960 under Prime Ministerial Decision No. 37-TTg of the state of Vietnam. - As a research organization at national level, the IE is assigned to do research on fundamental theoretical and practical problems in the Vietnamese economy and to provide the necessary scientific basis for making policies and drawing up plans on economic development, and also to promote economic science in Vietnam. The IE is also appointed to be a training center for post-graduate education programmes at master and Ph.D degree level in some economics fields. - The IE has a wide co-operation with institutions, organizations, universities and individuals inside and outside Vietnam, on research development programmes related economics. In recent years, the IE has focused its research activities on a summing up of Vietnamese economic reforms, of structural changes in the economy, development of key economic sectors and regions, renovation of mechanisms for economic management, development of the agricultural economy and rural areas, industrialization and modernization, Vietnam's integration into the world economy, economic theories and models in the region and other countries |
| Mission/Objectives | : The Institute of Economics has set an ambitious objective of becoming a leading research institution not only in Vietnam, but also in the region |
| Areas of Research | : Macroeconomics, regional and global economics, development studies |
| Major Activities | : - Organization of international seminars and workshops on socio-economic problems - Research and survey - Post-graduate training |
| Staff | : |
| Major sources of funding | : National government, research contracts/ grants, and private foundations/ NGOs |
| Partners | : - <i>International Organizations</i> : IDRC, CIDA, SIDA - <i>Research Institutions</i> : National Institute for Research Advancement (Japan), Institute of Southeast Asian Studies (China, Singapore) |
| Periodicals | : Books, monographs, monthly <i>Economic Studies Review</i> (in Vietnamese), quarterly <i>Socio-economic development</i> (in English) |
| Selected Trade and WTO-related papers/ publications | : |

Bangladesh Center for Advanced Studies (BCAS)

House-10, Road- 16A, Gulshan-1, Dhaka-1209, Bangladesh.

E-mail: atiq.rahman@bcas.net URL: <http://www.bcas.net>

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| Organization Status | : | - Established in 1986 - Independent non-profit institute |
| Background | : | Bangladesh Centre for Advanced Studies (BCAS) is an independent, non-profit, non-government, policy, research, and implementation institute working on sustainable development (SD) at local, national, regional and global levels. BCAS addresses sustainable development through four interactive themes: (a) environment-development integration, (b) good governance and people's participation, (c) poverty alleviation and sustainable livelihoods, and (d) economic growth and public-private partnership |
| Objectives | : | BCAS envisions to promote people-centred sustainable development by applying and advancing scientific, technical and local knowledge through research, by developing models, demonstration, policy advocacy and project implementation |
| Areas of Research | : | Environment and sustainable development, socio-economic research and trade and environment. |
| Major activities | : | Research, training / workshops, organizing conferences, and consultation. |
| Staff | : | Total staff: 60; Researchers: 40; Trade researchers: 4 |
| Major sources of funding | : | Research contracts/ grants, bilateral donors/ development agencies, national government, and private foundations/ NGOs |
| Partners | : | International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED), UK, International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD), Canada, Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI–Boston, York), USA, Centre for the Economics and Management of Aquatic Resources (CEMARE), University of Portsmouth, UK, Centre for Water Policy and Development, School of Geography, University of Leeds, UK, The Jane Goodall Institute, London, UK, Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, Tufts University, Boston, USA, and more others. |
| Periodicals | : | |
| Trade and WTO-related publications | : | |

Center for Policy Dialogue (CPD)

House- 40/C, Road- 11 (New), Dhanmondi R/A, Dhaka-1209, Bangladesh.

E-mail: cpd@bdonline.com URL: <http://www.cpd-bangladesh.org>

- Organization Status** : - Established in 1993
- Independent Institution governed by Board of Trustees
- Background** : The Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD), established in 1993 by Professor Rehman Sobhan with support from leading civil society institutions in Bangladesh, is mandated by its *Deed of Trust* to service the growing demand that originates from the emerging civil society of Bangladesh for a more participatory and accountable development process. CPD seeks to address this felt need by way of organizing multi-stakeholder consultations, by conducting research on issues of critical national and regional interests, through dissemination of knowledge and information on key developmental issues, and by influencing the policy making process in the country. In the process, CPD strives to bridge the gap between empirical research and policy advocacy through a sustained effort in public policy analysis. CPD endeavors to create a national environment conducive to open public discussion on important policy issues with a view to ensuring domestic ownership over the policy agenda and also building a broad-based support for such policies. Over the past six years, CPD has emerged as Bangladesh's premier think-tank and has established its credibility as one of the very few places in Bangladesh where the government and opposition political parties agree to sit around the dialogue table and conduct an informed discussion with the civil society.
- Mission/Objectives** : The principal objectives guiding the work of the Centre for Policy Dialogue is to contribute towards people's awareness about policy issues affecting their lives and the future of their country, and to create a national climate for public discussion of important policy issues with a view to building up broad-based support for such policies
- Areas of Research** : Agriculture, environment and rural development, development financing, energy, governance and economic reforms, population, health, education and gender, WTO, trade and globalization.
- Focus** : - CPD focuses on frontier issues which are critical to the development process of Bangladesh in the present context, and which are expected to shape and influence the country's development prospects in the mid-term.
- CPD's current programme portfolio includes research activities, holding of dialogues, publication and dissemination as well as networking related initiatives.
- Staff** : Total staff: 51; Researchers: 35; Trade researchers: 15
- Funding Sources** : Members of Board of Trustee; Foundations such as Ford Foundation and bilateral and multilateral agencies (for core institutional activities).
- Partners** : - *Local Partners*: ministry and government agencies, professional bodies, business bodies and non-governmental organizations
- *Regional Partners*: some research institutes in India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Nepal.
- *Global Partners*: various UN and multilateral agencies
- Periodicals** : CPD quarterly newsletters, *Independent Review of Bangladesh's Development* (IRBD), CPD-IRRI Policy Brief, occasional papers, dialogue reports
- Selected Trade and WTO-related papers/publications** : - *Future of the Textiles and Readymade Garments Sector* September, 1997.
- *Setting the Agenda for WTO Ministerial Meeting: The Bangladesh Perspective*. December, 1999.
- *The Textile and Clothing Industry of Bangladesh in a Changing World Economy*. December, 1999
- *Implementation of WTO-ATC: Current Status and Implications for Bangladesh*. December, 2000
- *WTO Doha Ministerial: Advancing Bangladesh's Interest*. May 2002
- *WTO and Negotiation on Agriculture*. May 2002
- *Coping With Post-MFA Challenges: Strategic Response for Bangladesh RMG Sector*. January, 2003
- *Doha Declaration on WTO-TRIPS and Public Health What is in it for Bangladesh?* March 2003
- *Environmental Debates in the WTO: Defining Bangladesh's Interests*. July 2004
- *Surviving in a Quota Free World: Will Bangladesh Make It?* September 2004 Dialogue reports No. 72
- *Transforming Eastern South Asia: Building Growth Zones for Economic Cooperation*. 1999.
- *USA Trade and Development Act 2000: A Response from Bangladesh Perspective*. July 2000. Occasional paper No. 6
- *Seeking Fair Market Access for Bangladesh Apparels in the USA: A Strategic View*. November 2000. Occasional paper No. 11
- *The Ongoing WTO Negotiations On Agriculture: Issues and Options for Bangladesh*. February 2002. Occasional paper No. 15
- *China's Accession to the WTO: Consequences for Bangladesh's Export-Oriented RMG Sector*. January 2003. Occasional paper No. 19
- *Bangladesh's Access to the Canadian Market: Implications to the New Canadian LDC Initiatives and Prospects for Export Diversification*. April 2003. Occasional paper No. 25
- *Trade Facilitation Negotiations in the WTO: Implications for Bangladesh and Other Least Developed Countries*. December 2003. Occasional paper No. 30
- *The New Japanese GSP Schemes for LDCs and Bangladesh's Export Opportunities*. October 2004. Occasional paper No. 44

Himalayan Institute of Development (HID)

Ram Shah Path GPO Box 6052, Kathmandu, Nepal

Tel: 977-1 423 287 fax: 977-1 429 433

E-mail:hid_nepal@hotmail.com

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| Organization Status | : | <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Established in 1992- Independent non-profit institute |
| Background | : | HID is a broad-based, nonpartisan public policy research institute at the non-governmental level. It focuses on policy research at the national level and on regional and community development at the local level. HID conducts mainstream economics research, such as applied general equilibrium analysis, and multidisciplinary research to disentangle the complex social and economic issues facing society today. |
| Mission/Objectives | : | |
| Areas of Research | : | Trade and poverty, trade and environment, and construction of Social Accounting Matrices and CGE policy simulation |
| Major Activities | : | Research, training/ workshops, organizing conferences, consultation. |
| Staff | : | Total Staff: 25; Researchers: 15; Trade researchers: 5 |
| Funding Sources | : | Contract research (65%), local or state government (10%), private donations (10%), membership fees (10%), sales of publications (5%). |
| Partners | : | <ul style="list-style-type: none">- International Development Research Centre, Canada (micro impacts of macro policies (MIMAP) imitative, general equilibrium modelling of Nepalese economy; joint research, technical assistance)- Laval University, Canada (MIMAP, general equilibrium modelling of the Nepalese economy; joint research, technical assistance) |
| Periodicals | : | |
| Selected Trade and WTO-related papers/ publications | : | |

Institute of Policy Study (IPS)
99, St. Michael's Road, Colombo 03, Sri Lanka.
E-mail: ips@ips.lk ; URL: http://www.ips.lk/

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| Organization Status | : - Established in 1988 - Independent institute overseen by Board of Governors. |
| Background | : - The Institute of Policy Studies of Sri Lanka (IPS) was established as an autonomous research institute in Sri Lanka with an emerging role of an independent source of long-term policy advice to policy makers and development planners in Sri Lanka and the wider region. - The IPS was envisaged as a policy "think tank" that would have the operational freedom and resources to engage in socio-economic research requiring long term commitment, and be geared to provide informed analysis to national planners and policy makers in the country and the wider region. An emerging role of the Institute has been that of an independent source of long-term policy advice. This role has been strengthened by the Institute's financial and administrative independence, which enables it to be both constructive and critical. Today, the IPS has evolved to be the most respected independent economic policy research centre in Sri Lanka operating outside the formal government sector. |
| Mission | : The Institute's mission is to contribute to the economic development of a democratic Sri Lanka and enhance the quality of life of its people by informing policy-makers and contributing to the public debate through timely, independent, and high quality research-based analysis of medium and long-term national policy issues. |
| Areas of Research | : - Principal Research Units: Macroeconomic Policy Unit, International Economic Policy Unit, Labour, Employment and Industry Policy Unit, Public Enterprise Reform, Competition, and Regulatory Policy Unit, Poverty and Social Welfare Unit, Health Policy Programme Unit, and Agricultural Economic Policy Unit. - In addition to the core research activities, the Institute also carries out research activities on issues of sectoral policy, governance, environment, energy, gender, human resource development |
| Major Activities | : Research, organizing conferences, and consultation |
| Staff | : Total staff: 50; Researcher: 25; Trade researchers: 6 |
| Major sources of funding | : Royal Netherlands government, Government of Sri Lanka, IPS Endowment Fund, Sales of Publication and Research Contracts. |
| Partners | : - <i>Research Link</i> : South Asia Network of Economic Research Institutes (SANEI), South Asia Centre for Policy Studies (SACEPS), SAARC Network on Global Financial and Economic Issues, The Indian Rim Association for Regional Cooperation (IOR-ARC), The Research & Information Systems for Non-aligned and Other Developing Countries (RIS), Indian Council for Research in International Economic Relations (ICRIER), Indian Council for South Asian Cooperation (ICSAC), Coalition for Action on South Asian Cooperation, South Asia Watch on Trade, Economics, and Environment (SAWTEE), Asia-Pacific Health Economics Network (APHEN), Alliance for Health Policy and Systems Research, Chronic Poverty Research Centre (CPRC) based in the University of Manchester, U.K., International Development Research Centre (IDRC), Centre on Regulation and Competition (CRC), University of Manchester, U.K., Consumer Unity & Trust Society, Jaipur, India. - The IPS also has close links with the ESCAP, Bangkok, Thailand; ILO, Geneva, Switzerland, CII (Confederation of Indian Industries); and many other international organizations |
| Periodicals | : IPS Publications series, South Asia Economic Journal, Sri Lanka Economic Journal (biannual) and State of Sri Lanka Economy. |
| Selected Trade and WTO-related papers/publications | : - <i>Policy Issues on Promoting Backward Linkages from the Garment Industry in Sri Lanka</i> . August, 1996. By Saman Kelegama and Fritz Foley - <i>The Uruguay Round and MFA Quota: The Textiles and Garment Industries in Sri Lanka: The next 10 years</i> . May 1996. By Chris Edwards - <i>Export Processing Zones in Sri Lanka – Costs, Benefits, Profits and Policy Issues</i> . May 1997. By Chris Edwards - <i>Regional Economic Cooperation in South Asia: A Sri Lanka Perspective</i> . November 2001 . By Dushni Weerakoon and Janaka Wijayasiri. - <i>Adaptation to Changing Trade Patterns in the Global Trading System</i> . April 1991. By Robert M. Stern - <i>Ready-Made Garment Industry in Sri Lanka: Facing the Global Challenge</i> . August 2004. By IPS and edited by Dr. Saman Kelegama - <i>WTO-ATC: Implications for the garment industry</i> . By Dushni Weerakoon and Janaka Wijayasiri - <i>WTO and South Asia: From Doha to Cancun. Economic and Political Weekly</i> , Vol. XXXVIII, No. 37. 2003. - <i>The Report on the India-Sri Lanka Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA)</i> |

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The National Research Institute
P.O. Box 5854, Boroko, NCD, Papua New Guinea.
E-mail: nri@global.net.pg ; URL: <http://www.nri.org.pg/>

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| Organization Status | : - Established in 1975 - Governmental institute |
| Background | : - The National Research Institute was established in 1975 after country independence under the name as <i>Papua New Guinea Institute of Applied Social and Economic Research (LASER)</i> . In 1989, Cabinet approved a name change, from IASER to the National Research Institute (NRI). The National Research Institute was confirmed by the <i>Papua New Guinea LASER (Amendment) Act</i> in May 1993, and is now an independent statutory authority - The Institute continued its practical, policy-oriented research programs, and expanded the scope of its reports to include monographs, discussion papers, special reports, bibliographies, and indexes. |
| Objectives | : - Prepare and produce high quality reports in theoretical and applied research, and consultancies - Assist with, advise on, and independently appraise, monitor, and evaluate public sector and private sector development initiatives and policies. - Provide expert technical, advisory, and training services through consultancies in policy and program development, facilitating human resource development and institutional capacity building.....and more others. |
| Major Research Areas | : Economic studies, education research, politics and legal studies, social and environmental studies |
| Major Activities | : Research, training/ workshops, organizing conferences, and consultation |
| Staff | : Total staff: 60; Researchers: 31; Trade researcher: 1 |
| Major sources of funding | : National government, research contracts/ grants, and training fees/ tuition fees |
| Partners | : |
| Periodicals | : Monographs, discussion papers, special publications, educational reports, bibliographies, PNG Post-Courier Index, PNG Times Index, additional publications. |
| Selected Trade and WTO-related publications | : - <i>A Policy Approach to Import Substitution for Papua New Guinea</i> . By J. Wyeth - Economic Policy Review. Submission by NRI to the Government of Papua New Guinea, February 1997. By A. Mawuli and C. Kannapiran |

This is the first publication emerging from CDRI's partnership with ARTNeT, the Asia-Pacific Research and Training Network on Trade, an initiative of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP), with support from the International Development Research Centre (IDRC), Canada.

The informal meeting of core Asia-Pacific Research and Training Network on Trade (ARTNeT) research institutions organized by UNESCAP and IDRC in June 2004 in Bangkok highlighted the need for capacity building of research institutions from Least Developed Countries in the region. Little research or information is, however, available on what the needs of these research institutions are, their existing trade research capacity and how this differs across countries. This study sets out to address the key following issues: What are the existing trade research capacities of research institutions in LDCs and low-income developing countries in the Asia-Pacific region? What are their capacity-building needs in trade policy research?

Hing Vutha, Larry Strange, and K.A.S. Murshid are researcher, executive director and former research Director, respectively, at the Cambodia Development Resource Institute (CDRI).

Cambodia Development Resource Institute

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