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Resource Constraints and Asia's Growth: Regional Cooperation for Enhancing Energy Security

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Abstract

Based on the recent historic trend of economic growth and the prospect of further growth in coming decades, profound economic transformation is expected to come with the realization of the "Asian Century" by around 2050, with Asia sharing 51 percent of world GDP (at market exchange rates) (ADB 2011). However, the prospect of the Asian Century depends heavily on the ability of Asian countries to navigate a resource constrained social, political and economic context. Resource constraint issues, both knowledge and financial, remain the most important consideration for Asia to realize the Asian century with serious implications for growth, as well as other factors including the environment, climate, peace, prosperity and harmony. Despite Asia's remarkable economic growth, the region's water, food and energy security is not ensured as a wide disparity still exists across regions and between and within countries. These interrelated aspects are critical for Asia's long-term growth and development because the future competitiveness and prosperity of Asian nations will largely depend on their level of efficiency in the use of natural resources and on their progress in the low carbon race (Asian Development Bank 2011).

The presenter:

Dr Sarker is a Research Fellow and Lecture at Griffith University (Australia) and Visiting Lecturer at Keio University. He has experience working in many countries as a consultant and lecturer for government and industry. His areas of research include:

- Strategy and corporate social responsibility;
- Climate change adaptation and policy;
- Sustainability and CSR accountability and reporting;
- Impacts of mining and extractive industries;