

February 2024

Greetings from the American Committee on Asian Economic Studies.

ASSA 2025: Digitalization in Asian Economies

ACAES will organize a session on "Digitalization in Asian Economies" at the 2025 Allied Social Science Association Annual Meeting to be held in San Francisco, January 3-5.

We invite paper proposals as well as expressions of interest to serve as discussants. The deadline is April 30. Preference will be given to more developed work. Proposals may be sent to Reid Click, rclick@gwu.edu.

Digitalization is the single biggest structural transformation of the post-COVID global economy. While information and communication technology (ICT) has been around a long time, in the digitalization era its use has been extended and intensified, as evident, for instance, in working from home and online shopping. Asia is a leading player in digitalization. The region is home to major e-commerce firms such as Alibaba and innovative digital public service platforms such as India Stack. This session will explore the potential of digitalization to serve as an engine of economic growth for Asia. A balanced and nuanced perspective that considers both costs and benefits, opportunities and challenges, of digitalization will help Asia leverage ICT for inclusive growth. Empirical papers with policy implications are especially welcome. Topics may include, but are not limited to:

- productivity improvement
- governance efficiency
- corruption fighting
- financial inclusion
- trade facilitation
- digital services trade
- environmental sustainability
- entrepreneurship
- health services
- education

Asia Economics Blog

We take this opportunity to call your attention to new posts on our blog:

- [China's Pain in the Ass for Africa](#), on the donkey trade ban, by Lauren Johnston.
- [Child Penalty amid Korea's Declining Fertility](#), by Jisoo Hwang and Inkyung Yoo.
- [Health Capacity to Work among Older Malaysians](#), by Donghyun Park, Norma Mansor, and Halimah Awang
- [Nudging Asian Economists toward Open Access](#), by Calla Wiemer

Got an idea for a post? Send it to calla.wiemer@acaes.us.

New Executive Board Member: Shaienne Osterreich

Finally, we would like to publicly welcome a new member to our Executive Board: Shaienne Osterreich of Ithaca College. Her research pertains to globalization, feminist economics, and poverty with a focus on Southeast Asia and Indonesia in particular.

All best,

Calla Wiemer

President, [American Committee on Asian Economic Studies](#)

Moderator, [Asia Economics Blog](#)

Author, [Macroeconomics for Emerging East Asia \(China site\)](#)

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