
Editorial

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Biographical notes: Mike Fung is currently an Associate Professor of Economics at the School of Accounting and Finance, Hong Kong Polytechnic University. His interdisciplinary research interests span over economics, finance, accounting and operation research.

The papers published in this *IJEPEE* special issue were presented at the SIBR 2020 Conference on Interdisciplinary Business and Economic Research, which was held on June 5–6, 2020 in Seoul, South Korea. The conference was organised by The Society of Interdisciplinary Business Research.

The papers appearing in this special issue were peer reviewed following the procedure outlined as follows. The guest editor initially evaluated all manuscripts nominated for the special issues. Papers rejected at this stage were outside the aims and scope of the journal or were insufficiently original. Papers that met the minimum criteria were forwarded to at least two experts for further review. This special issue employed double blind reviewing, where both the referees and author(s) remained anonymous throughout the process.

This *IJEPEE* special issue strives to stimulate cross-disciplinary interest in risk management and policy analysis in emerging economies. The emergence and development of the following interdisciplinary business and economic issues is well celebrated throughout this thematic issue.

Several articles in the special issue address issues on financial market risks and policies. Specifically, Muzindutsi et al. analysed how JSE indices responded to changes in economic, financial, and political components of country risks under different market conditions. They showed that the Markov switching model was most appropriate for modelling such responses. Based on a sample of listed conventional banks from Malaysia, Wong empirically showed that conventional banks' dividend decision is positively affected by reserve funds and liquidity and at the same time it is negatively affected by non-performing loan and leverage. Moreover, based on a sample of ASEAN +6 stock indices, Suwannapak et al. found evidence for day-of-the-week Monday effects, month-of-the-year effects, and turn-of-the-month effects on return variance.

Economic and financial development policies are also thoroughly discussed in this special issue. Lerskullawat empirically showed that the impact of financial development, including banking and capital market development, strengthens asset prices' reaction to monetary policy in Thailand. Using the autoregressive distributed lag (ARDL)-bounds testing approach, Intharak et al.'s findings suggest that monetary policy and tightened macroprudential policy have both positive and negative impacts on the Thai banking

sector development. Vijiwrannont et al. studied the adoption and diffusion of new farming technologies in Thailand and found that problem recognition, perceived benefits, perceived barriers, motivations and self-efficacy are important factors. Their findings provide guidelines for the formulation of technology policies. Turing to Indonesia, Raharja found that leadership affects volunteer performance, which suggests that government incentives should be given to enhance community commitment. According to a study by Ariani and Setyaningrum on 75 cities in Indonesia, local governments' e-procurement does not reduce corruption, which suggests that the central government should enhance the monitoring of e-procurement implemented by local governments. Moreover, Ananda et al. investigated the major causes of stunting and found that poor nutritional quality, parents' educational background, and the smoking culture are dominant factors. Therefore, government policies should aim at solving these social problems. In addition, Kusumawati and Abiyu's survey-based study reveals that brand image, perceived quality, and celebrity perceived trustworthiness increase purchase intention, while the effects of country-of-origin image and celebrity perceived trustworthiness are statistically insignificant. Their findings imply the importance of risk management on international marketing. Using the three-step feasible generalised least square method, Duangkaew estimated the vulnerability of households to poverty in Thailand and found that education, occupation, and indebtedness are important determinants.

This special issue also includes two articles on financial literacy. In Indonesia, Rahadi et al. found that the financial literacy of micro, small and medium enterprises have positive effects on their ROA, ROE and net profit margins, suggesting that proper financial training and products should be provided to these enterprises. Damayanti et al. studied the financial literacy rates of 389 workers in Bandung, Indonesia, and found that financial ability in terms of planning and budgeting is the major determinant. Their findings have implications on the long-term sustainable financial development of an emerging economy.