

DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES IN
EAST ASIA AND LATIN AMERICA

Development Strategies in East Asia and Latin America

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First published in Great Britain 1998 by

MACMILLAN PRESS LTD

Houndmills, Basingstoke, Hampshire RG21 6XS and London
Companies and representatives throughout the world

A catalogue record for this book is available from the British Library.

ISBN 978-1-349-26569-5

ISBN 978-1-349-26567-1 (eBook)

DOI 10.1007/978-1-349-26567-1



First published in the United States of America 1998 by

ST. MARTIN'S PRESS, INC.,

Scholarly and Reference Division,
175 Fifth Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10010

ISBN 978-1-349-26569-5

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Development strategies in East Asia and Latin America / edited by Akio
Hosono and Neantro Saavedra-Rivano.

p. cm.

Includes bibliographical references and index.

ISBN 978-1-349-26569-5

1. East Asia—Economic policy. 2. Latin America—Economic policy.

I. Hosono, Akio. II. Saavedra Rivano, Neantro, 1946–

HC460.5.D479 1997

338.95—dc21

97-40503

CIP

Selection, editorial matter and Chapter 1 © Akio Hosono and Neantro Saavedra-Rivano 1998

Chapters 2 and 12 © Akio Hosono 1998

Chapters 3 and 11 © Neantro Saavedra-Rivano 1998

Chapters 4–10, 13 © Macmillan Press Ltd 1998

Softcover reprint of the hardcover 1st edition 1998

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This book is printed on paper suitable for recycling and made from fully managed and sustained forest sources.

10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1
07 06 05 04 03 02 01 00 99 98

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Preface

This book originated in a research project at the University of Tsukuba, funded by the Ministry of Education of Japan, that was developed between 1992 and 1995. The aim of the project was to provide a fresh perspective on the development issues being faced by East Asia and Latin America, one that would draw strongly on the experience of researchers from these regions. To that end we drew on the knowledge and expertise of a network of counterparts from Brazil, Chile, Korea, Malaysia, and Mexico, in addition to Japan and the United States. The original papers resulting from this multinational collaboration were presented at an international conference in Tsukuba on November 1994. The chapters that follow are the successors to those papers.

The period during which this research took place witnessed (of course) many other efforts to grasp the significance, from the point of view of development theory and policy, of the East Asian experience, surely the best known of them being the World Bank project on *The East Asian Miracle*. Several other projects examined also the development experience of Latin America in the aftermath of the 'lost decade'. In addition, this period saw further theoretical and empirical advances in several areas of development economics, such as an understanding of the role of institutions, the relation between social and economic development, and the concept of governance. We were lucky to pursue our work in such an environment and owe an intellectual debt to many other endeavours.

Throughout this work we were fortunate to receive the assistance of institutions in several countries. First of all, we gratefully acknowledge the financial support of the Ministry of Education of Japan, which funded the original research leading to this book, and also the Special Research Project on the New International System at the University of Tsukuba. The University of Chile and the United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, both in Santiago de Chile, provided generous hospitality to both of us on different occasions. We also thank the University of Santiago (Santiago de Chile) and Columbia University (New York), which received, respectively in 1994 and 1996, Neantro Saavedra-Rivano as a Visiting Professor. In addition, we want to extend our heartfelt thanks to the many private

and official institutions in various countries in Asia and Latin America which spared some of their precious time to receive us and answer to our queries.

Engaging in this kind of multilateral and multinational research has been an arduous task. However, its rewards amply offset the difficulties in communication that existed at times. It was, undoubtedly, a most exhilarating experience from which we emerged richer in knowledge and more hopeful. We take this opportunity to express our deepest thanks to our counterparts, without whom this book would have never seen the light. We also owe a large debt of gratitude to several other people who, at different points, helped us with the many tasks associated with the preparation of a book. We are particularly grateful to two of our research assistants at Tsukuba, Mr Jonathan Kushner and Ms Marcia Lissa Aida, as well as to Mr Tim Ennis of Santiago de Chile.

Akio Hosono and Neantro Saavedra-Rivano
Tsukuba, May 1997

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