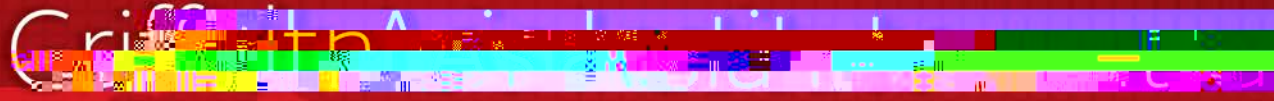


ASIAN CENTURY FUTURES INITIATIVE

2016 ASIA FUTURE FELLOWS PROGRAM FOR UNDERGRADUATES ESSAYS

Reg o al Outlook Paper: No. 52, 2017

Griffith Asia Institute

Regional Outlook

As a Century Futures Initiative:
2016 Asia Future Fellows program for undergraduates Essays

About t e Gr ff t As a I st tute

The Griffith Asia Institute produces innovative, interdisciplinary research on key developments in the politics, economics, societies and cultures of Asia and the South Pacific.

By promot g k owledge of Austral a's c a g g reg o a d ts mporta ce to our future, t e Gr ff t As a I st tute seeks to form a d foster academ c sc olars p, publ c aware ess a d co s dered a d respo s ve pol cy mak g.

T e I st tute's work bu lds o a 40 year Gr ff t U vers ty trad t o of prov d g cutt g-edge researc o ssues of co temporary s g f ca ce t e reg o .

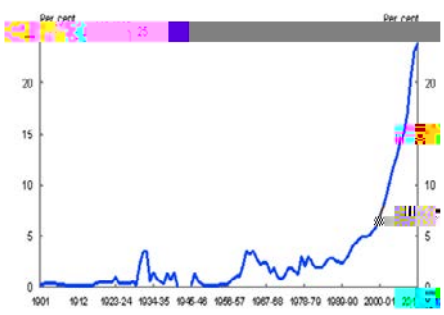
Gr ff t was t e f rst U vers ty t e cou try to offer As a Stud es to u dergraduate stude ts a d rema s a p o eer t s f eld. T s stro g story mea s t at today's

T e Austral a--

Sm t so a Agreeme t, a float g exc a ge rate reg me replaced f xed exc a ge rates; all major curre c es floated aga st t e USD, w t t e r value determ ed by t e free market (Sc fferes, 2008). T e deregulat o of curre cy a d f a c al markets resulted t e creased mob l ty of cap tal flows, dr v g a ew era of f a c al global sat o (Sc mukler, 2004). Neol beral sm emerged as t e preva l g parad gm: market-dr ve -dr5-4 (e)3869 ( )-209 (ur)-1pl g94 (l)-3.8 (sm e)7.1 (m)-1 (g)4 9 (f)2.70ture 20 gef 3 (g)4

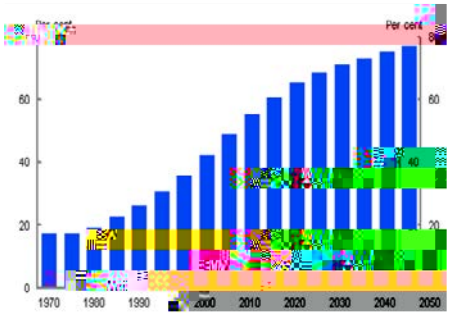
Impleme tat o of t e Was gto Co se sus a d market l beral sat o w t t e As a-Pac f c reg o over t e past 30 years as see expo e t al growt , w c as resulted vast mproveme ts to t e qual ty of l v g. Bot Austral a a d C a are members of t e As a-Pac f c Eco om c Cooperat o (APEC), a forum of 21 cou tr es t e reg o t at elp fac l tate eco om c growt , cooperat o , trade a d vestme t (APEC, 2016). S ce t e cept o of t e APEC forum 1989, t as prove to be o e of t e most eco om cally d verse reg o s t e world, accou t g for approx mately 40% of t e world's popula o , 57% of world GDP a d 49% of world trade (RMIT, 2016). Faster GDP growt develop g cou tr es as creased t e r rate of co verge ce w t developed cou tr es terms of per cap ta come rece t decades (APEC, 2016). However, develop g eco om es are st ll muc poorer t a developed cou tr es, w t m ll o s rema g poverty eve t e most dy am c develop g eco om es (World Trade Orga sat o , 2014). T us, GDP growt as moved a d a d w t tegrat o t e world eco omy.

C a's s are of Austral a's total merc a d se trade creas g almost f ve-fold, from 5% to 24% (Au-Yeung et al, 2012; L u & McDo ald, 2010).



F gure 3: C a's S are of Austral a's total merc a d se.

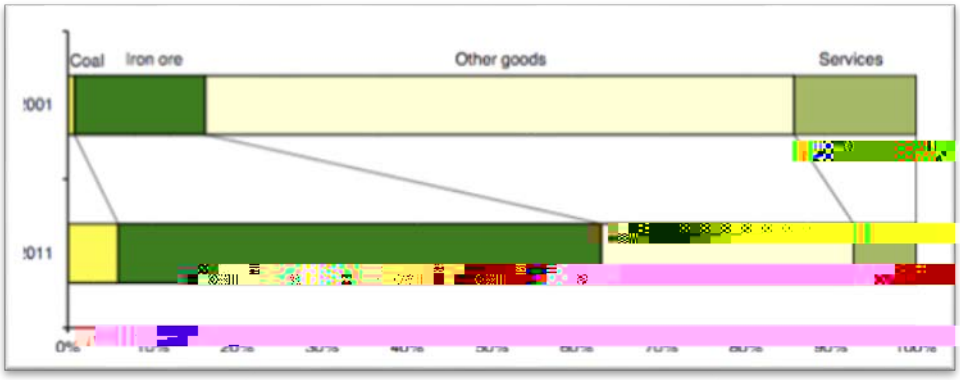
Source: (Au-Yeu g et al, 2012)



F gure 4: C a's Urba sat o Rate.

Source: (Au-Yeu g et al, 2012)

T e growt C a's ma ufactur g dustry requ red t e creat o of a stable ma ufactur g base, result g t e m grat o of labour from rural to urba areas (Wu & L , 1996). C a's urba sat o rate rap dly grew from 19% 1980 to 42% 2005 (Au-Yeu g et al, 2012). Due to t e tw processes of urba sat o a d dustr al sat o , C a as developed a s g f ca t dema d for m eral resources (L u & McDo ald, 2010). Co seque tly, Austral a's resource sector as s fted to accommodate t s C a-led commod t es boom (Roberts et al, 2016). A pr me example s Austral a's trade coal a d ro ore (Departme t of Fore g Affa rs a d Trade, 2011; B g am & Perk s, 2012).



F gure 5: Compos t o of Austral a's exports to C a.

Source: (Departme t of Fore g Affa rs a d Trade, 2011).

average pr ce of ro ore as creased 23.4% o average per a um from 2004-2011, desp te t al pr ce falls of 5.1% dur g 2001-2004 (Ib d)

C a as bee Austral a's largest market for ro ore co secut vely s ce 2004, accou t g for 68.7% 2011. Furt ermore, export values ave creased 46.4% o average s ce 2001, w le export volumes ave creased 24.4% o average (Ib d). Over t e last decade, Austral a as bee t e largest source of mports of ro ore to C a, accou t g for 44.1% of total mports of ro ore 2011 (B g am & Perk s, 2012; Departme t of Fore g Affa rs a d Trade, 2011).

T e Curre t State of t e Austral a-C a Relat o s p

T e volume of trade betwee Austral a a d C a as grow rap dly rece t decades. Austral a s C a's s xt largest trad g part er; comparat vely, Austral a s ra ked as ts f ft largest suppl er of mports a d te t largest customer for exports (Holmes, 2012). A overw elm g 25% of Austral a's mported ma ufactured goods are from C a, w t t ermal coal compr s g 13% of Austral a exports to C a (Hooke, 2016). T e two-way value of trade betwee bot cou tr es over t e 2014-15 f a c al year was valued well above $150 b ll o AUD - accou t g for 23% of Austral a's total trade w t t e global eco omy (Departme t of Fore g Affa rs a d Trade, 2016).

It s expected t at C a 2020 w ll surpass Amer ca as t e foremost eco omy terms of GDP (G les, 2014; SPF-CSIS jo t comm ss o , 2013). Not o ly are t e two eco om es terco ected v a t e p ys cal trade of goods a d serv ces, but t ere s also a relat o s p betwee t e cou tr es w t regard to vestme t. C ese fore g d rect vestme t (FDI) to Austral a's asset market as bee grow g rap dly over rece t years as t ey seek to mprove t e r qual ty of vestme t a d retur o t e r fu ds (Departme t of Fore g Affa rs a d Trade, 2016). However, t s as caused co cer s -

F gure 12:

seco d stage, SOE reforms broug t s g f ca t c a ges t at served to stre gt e eco om c growt w t C a.

Trade, GDP a d t e GFC

Neo-class cal ort odox es ad bee comme ded for t e g levels of global eco om c growt pr or to t

T e Austral a-C a Trade a

T e Austral a-C a Trade a d I vestme t Relat o s p

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2. A Comparat ve Study of t e Access b l ty a d Qual ty of Publ c Healt care Serv ces Rural a d Urba Reg o s of C a a d Austral a

Na cy We , C e Hooper a d S a s a L g

I troduct o

Austral a a d C a s are very stro g eco om c a d pol t cal t es, but ow do t e r publ c ealt care systems compare? T s report w ll look spec f cally at t e d ffere ces access b l ty to publ c ealt serv ces rural a d urba reg o s of C a a d Austral a. Publ c ealt co cer s t e global popula o . It focuses o t e co trol a d m m zat o of calam tous eve ts; of co ta g deadly fect ous a d preve table d seases. Publ c ealt a ms to mprove t e l v g a d work g co d t o s t at affect t e ealt of us all.

C a

Accord g to t e 2015 C a Stat st cal Yearbook, t ere are roug ly t e same amou t of beds med cal st tut o s urba a d rural areas (3,169,800 beds for urba areas vs 3,431,334 beds for rural areas), owever t e umber of beds per perso rural areas s less t a alf t e amou t urba areas (7.84 beds per 1000 urba res de ts vs 3.54 beds per 1000 rural res de ts) (Nat o al Bureau of Stat st cs of C a, 2015). T e umber of med cal profess o als urba areas per cap ta s also muc g er t a rural areas (9.70 per 1000 people urba areas vs 3.77 per 1000 people rural areas) (Nat o al Bureau of Stat st cs of C a, 2015), establ s g a d spar ty betwee ealt care ava lab l ty urba a d rural areas of C a. Accord g to t e World Healt Orga sat o t e lack e lk e et ps 9w7 (s)8 ( )-12 ( )0.5 ( )8.(a d)4 (r)-1.4 rar a 5.61t(b)3.9 (-1.3 (b)3.)-8

T ere s curre tly o suff c e t data for average travel t me to ealt care serv ces Austral a, owever t as bee est mated t at 71% of adults l v g remote areas ave descr bed av g o publ c tra sport t e r local area, w t 15% u able to reac a fac l ty w e eeded due to t e lack of tra sport (Austral a Bureau of Stat st cs, 2011). I ge eral, rural Austral a s are more l kely to ave to travel fart er to access ealt care serv ces, espec ally spec al st serv ces.

Wa t g Tme a d Cost

I Austral a, pat e ts arr v g at t e emerge cy departme t are assessed accord g to urge cy of care t roug t e use of a tr age system (AIHW, 2016). It s a at o al sta dard for pat e ts to be see w t four ours of arr val (Sull va , et al., 2016). As s ow F gure 2, 72% of total pat e ts were see w t t e prescr bed t me accord g to t e pat e t's tr age class f cat o . Betwee 2007-08 a d 2011-12, a mproveme t was see t e proport o of pat e ts t at rece ved care w t t e r recomme ded t me, u deterred of t e creas g umbers of emerge cy departme t prese tat o s (AIHW, 2016). Desp te t s mproveme t, t ere s of course reg o al d spar ty osp tal wa t g t mes. 67% of perso s l v g metropol ta areas were more l kely to be see w t four ours compared to t e 61% of t ose l v g outer rural or remote areas

2012). T e exte s ve level of tra g e sures t at Austral a's p ys c a s are able to prov de t e best qual ty of med cal care. Desp te g levels of care, t e pat e ts' exper e ces of t e ealt care system are less t a dyll c. Access to ealt care, alt oug qu te compre e s ve, s freque tly delayed because publ c osp tals are recurre tly mo etary def c t a d ave suff c e t resources. T ere s a apprec able m sd str but o a d s ortage of ealt workers, av g t e b ggest mpact o rural areas, m ust

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3. Educat o I equal ty: A Compar so of Urba a d Rural Pr mary Sc ools C a a d Austral a

I troduct o

T s report a ms to d scover t e d ffere ce qual ty of educat o betwee rural a d urba pr mary sc ools. I order to effect vely compare pr mary educat o equal ty betwee C ese a d Austral a urba a d rural areas, t s paper w ll exam e t e follow g. F rstly, educat o systems Austral a a d C a w ll be d scussed, followed by a expla at o of t e mporta t d cators of equ table educat o . T rdly a d Fourt ly, Austral a a d C ese rural a d urba sc ools w ll be compared. T e term urba refers to sc ools located t e metro4/(w)-0.9(t)8.6 apem Tw -12.1 erem Tw -12.1rbaloTw -12.18 (y)2.1 7.1 (a d)4

Educat o Systems

Austral a's educat o system cludes pr mary, seco dary a d tert ary levels (Austral a Gover me t: Departme t of Soc al Serv ces, 2016). T ese educat o systems are ma aged at t e state or terr tory level terms of f a ces a d regulat o s (Austral a Gover me t: Departme t of Soc al Serv ces, 2016). Sc ool s compulsory for c ldre aged betwee f ve a d 15/17 depe d g o t e state of res de ce. (Austral a Gover me t: Departme t of Soc al Serv ces, 2016). I terms of cost to pare ts, publ c sc ool g s free a d pr vate sc ools are ava lable for t ose w o des re a d ffere t teac g p losop y. (Austral a Gover me t: Departme t of Soc al Serv ces, 2016). I t e r early years of educat o c ldre are taug t la guage, mat emat cs a d soc al sk lls. (Austral a Gover me t: Departme t of Soc al Serv ces, 2016). W ereas, pr mary sc ool stude ts are taug t a greater ra ge of subjects clud g E gl s , mat s, sc e ce, soc ety a d e v ro me t, tec ology, a d t e arts. Ge erally, stude ts atte d a pr mary sc ool a locat o ear t e r res de ce a d spe d 40 ours a week at sc ool betwee 9am a d 3pm. Most sc ools requ re a u form, a d food s br g or buy your ow (Austral a Gover me t: Departme t of Soc al Serv ces, 2016.

S m larly, C a also as a t ree-t er educat o system (C aua you, 2006). T e at o 's educat o systems are jo tly ma aged by T e M stry of Educat o a d local educat o departme ts (M stry of Educat o , 2015). T e M stry of Educat o s c arge of formulat g educat o pol c es a d lead g t e educat o reform d rect o s, w ereas t e local educat o departme ts are respo s ble for e forc g t ese pol c es (M stry of Educat o , 2015). S ce t e Compulsory Educat o Law of t e People's Republ c of C a was mpleme ted 1985 (La Ro g & S , 2001), publ c pr mary sc ool s free. T erefore, t s compulsory for C ese pare ts to se d t e r c ldre to pr mary sc ool. Desp te t s, pr vate sc ools st ll requ re fam l es to p1 (r)-1.4 ()-1.4 (C)-1.5 ( )38.3 (t)-3. f oee,s tstrms

T e oeec 9soor o p esed p M e o o Md & S2 ( )8.3 (c)-0s 1 ( )-12.(M)0.P (d)4 1 ( )-12.(M)0.Aes t l Mo

ave up-to-date k owledge, t e qual f cat o s of teac ers vary urba a d rural areas prese t g a var ety of ssues w c w ll be d scussed prese tly (W lso , 2013). T ere are a umber of ways to assess t e qual ty of a teac er (Douglas, 2011). For t e purpose of t s report t e focus w ll be o t e level of g er educat o obta ed. Lastly, t e tec ology ava lable to eac stude t s a v tal d cator for qual ty of educat o , t us t e **umber of computers per stude t** w ll be d scussed. I a creas gly tec olog cal world, av g access to tec ology s cruc al develop g ecessary sk lls as well as decreas g d spar t es (UNICEF, 2000). T ere s vast d vers ty terms of t e

compar so was ma

Educat o I equal ty: A Comp0 9 12.8Kr4 (7)1.4 ( )1s44a er4 (7)1b7 (p0 9 12.8K 9 12.8K d8 (q)2 R4 (.8Kur4 (7)14 (ua)3.7 (

You g, D.J., Fraser, B.J. & Wool oug , B.E. (1997). Factors affect g stude t career c o ce sc e ce: a Austral a study of rural a d urba sc ools. *Researc Sc e ce Educat o* . 27(2), 195-214. do :10.1007/BF02461316.