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The secretariat of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) is the regional development arm of the United Nations and serves as the main economic and social development centre for the United Nations in Asia and the Pacific. Its mandate is to foster cooperation among its 53 members and 9 associate members. It provides the strategic link between global and country-level programmes and issues. It supports Governments of countries in the region in consolidating regional positions and advocates regional approaches to meeting the region’s unique socioeconomic challenges in a globalizing world. The ESCAP secretariat is in Bangkok. Please visit the ESCAP website at <www.unescap.org> for further information.

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Editorial statement

The Asia-Pacific Development Journal is published twice a year by the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific.

Its primary objective is to provide a medium for the exchange of knowledge, experience, ideas, information and data on all aspects of economic and social development in the Asian and Pacific region. The emphasis of the Journal is on the publication of empirically based, policy-oriented articles in the areas of poverty alleviation, emerging social issues and managing globalization.

Original articles analysing issues and problems relevant to the region from the above perspective are welcomed for publication in the Journal. The articles should have a strong emphasis on the policy implications flowing from the analysis. Analytical book reviews will also be considered for publication.

This special issue contains five selected discussion papers, from the Asia-Pacific High-level Consultation on Financing for Development, which was held in Jakarta on 29 and 30 April 2015. It highlights the importance of raising substantial financial resources through various sources, including from new innovative sources of finance to invest in the social sector and infrastructure development and efforts to tackle climate change in order to ensure a transformative change to bring about inclusive growth and sustainable development in the Asia-Pacific region. The papers provide an opportunity for Asia-Pacific policymakers and stakeholders, and those from the private sector, academia and civil society organizations, to actively engage with the regional dialogue process for a follow-up to and review of the financing for development outcomes and the means of implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals in the Asia-Pacific region. Sudip Ranjan Basu has co-edited this special volume on financing for development.

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Explanatory notes

References to dollars ($) are to United States dollars, unless otherwise stated.

References to “tons” are to metric tons, unless otherwise specified.

A solidus (/) between dates (e.g. 1980/81) indicates a financial year, a crop year or an academic year.

Use of a hyphen between dates (e.g. 1980-1985) indicates the full period involved, including the beginning and end years.

The following symbols have been used in the tables throughout the journal:

Two dots (..) indicate that data are not available or are not separately reported.

An em-dash (—) indicates that the amount is nil or negligible.

A hyphen (-) indicates that the item is not applicable.

A point (.) is used to indicate decimals.

A space is used to distinguish thousands and millions.

Totals may not add precisely because of rounding.

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