

Editorial Preface

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Issue 1 of Volume 18 of the *Journal of Comparative Asian Development* collects four substantive articles about contemporary development in China and India in relation to Africa and Belgium. The articles for enhancing the comparative approach to Asian development are the following.

- Backward and Forward Linkages: Evidence From China's Infrastructure Investment in Africa – Infrastructure Development in Africa-China Ties
- Working Poor in Decommodification Between Belgium and China
- Capital Account Liberalization and Capital movement in China
- Decision Making as a Contributor for Women Social Status: A Study in Indian Context

The article on backward and forward linkages elaborates the linkages with a focus on Tazara railway, Mombasa-Nairobi railway, and Ghana Bui hydropower dam. As such, the article this paper investigates the roles of the linkages in these three Chinese-led infrastructure projects play in African infrastructure development. The article also reveals what the infrastructure investment engenders in relation to creating new opportunities and businesses for Africa. The article reveals the discovery that these three Chinese-led infrastructure projects have multiple gains and linkages for and beyond the three various projects areas.

The article on the working poor establishes a comparative framework to interpret multiple decommodification processes for the working poor. The framework consists of two research tropisms: from a macro-sight system, and from the internal mechanism and proceeding course of the social security system. Based on this framework, the article erects an ideal type for revealing the impact of cross-national diversity in social security systems on the decommodification process among poor working women.

The article on capital account liberalization investigates the particular influence that capital control has on foreign direct investment in China. This investigation concludes with theoretical understanding that full liberalization of the current account in China benefits the economy. The investigation also suggests that there is no significant bearing of current account liberalization on foreign direct inflows.

The article on decision making reports a study measuring the status of women's decision-making power in different areas like household, economic freedom, children, society, and awareness of their rights. This study employs data from a survey of 278 women, from the lower economic stratum in urban India. The findings in the Indian context are compared with other parts of the world.