

Abstract

This paper investigates diversity in official development assistance by examining the existence of a unique identity in the development assistance provided by the Asian Development Bank (ADB). World Bank lending is used as a benchmark. The study covers lending from 1985 up to 2002, and the countries of China, Indonesia, Republic of Korea, Malaysia, the Philippines, and Thailand. Comparative analysis shows that even though it shares broad similarities with the World Bank, the ADB has apparent operational differences in terms of the discretion over and actual movement of its major types of financing, and in terms of the variables associated with its loan accumulations.