

The AsiaBarometer: Questions and Answers

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Chuo University, Tokyo

presentation at the World Congress of the International Political Science Association,
Fukuoka, Japan, 9-13 July 2006

1. Geographical Scope

the entire area of East, Southeast, South and Central Asia

28 countries(including regions such as Taiwan and Hong Kong)

Afghanistan(2005)

Bangladesh(2005)

Bhutan(2005)

Cambodia(2003, 2007)

China(2003, 2004, 2006, 2008)

Hong Kong(2006)

India(2005, 2008)

Indonesia(2004, 2008)

Japan(2003, 2004, 2006, 2008)

Kazakhstan(2005, 2008)

Kyrgystan(2005)

Korea (South)(2003, 2004, 2006)

Laos(2004, 2007)

Malaysia(2003, 2004, 2007)

Maldieves(2005)

Mongolia(2005)

Myanmar(2003, 2004, 2007)

Nepal(2005)

Pakistan(2005)

Philippines(2003, 2004, 2007)

Sri Lanka(2005)

Taiwan(2006)
Tajikistan(2005)
Thailand(2003, 2004, 2007)
Turkmenistan(2005)
Uzbekistan(2003, 2005)
Vietnam (2003, 2004, 2006)

Those years indicated after the name of a country are years on which a national survey has been or is scheduled to be conducted.

The largest and comprehensive surveys as far as Asia.

2. Questions are focused on "Daily lives of ordinary people in Asia". Its questionnaire has nine clusters:

1. social infrastructure
2. patterns of economic life
3. patterns of daily life
4. values and norms in daily life
5. values and norms associated with social behavior
6. identities
7. Views on social and political issues and institutions
8. health conditions
9. sociological attributes of respondents

These questions require roughly 45-60 minutes for response. These questions constitute the common core of the questionnaire. They do not vary very much across years or across countries surveyed. Each year some questions are dropped whereas other questions are brought in.

The common core questions are all in English. Some 37 local languages in total are used in interviews.

The comparability of questionnaire is assured although those numbers attached to questions sometimes differ from year to year.

3. Sample and Sampling

National-wide samples are mostly used. However, the surveys done in 2003 in China, India, Indonesia, Vietnam, and Malaysia are urban samples. Similarly the surveys done in 2004 in China and Vietnam are urban samples. Indonesia focused on Java whereas Malaysia focused Eastern Malaysia. Otherwise, those samples are national samples. Sample sizes are 800 for the 2003 and 2004 surveys. They are 1,000 for the surveys from 2005 onward. The sample size for China in 2006 is 2,000. Random sampling methods of one kind or another are used uniformly in most cases except for Japan in 2003 when what is called the indirect placement method loaded onto an omnibus survey was used. As the 2003 and 2004 AsiaBarometer surveys were conducted with the immense constraint of funding, some exceptional practices were observed. But not thereafter since 2005.

4. Funding

It is a multiyear funding project, spanning from April 2005 to March 2009. It is funded by the Japanese Ministry of Education and Science for scientific research grant scheme. For 2003 it was based on donations of some dozen business firms. For 2004 it was funded by the Policy Division, Asia-Pacific Ocean Bureau, Ministry of Foreign Affairs. No conditions are attached to any one of these fundings.

5. Reaching Out

It is our policy for survey data to be made accessible through three schemes:

1. through website of the AsiaBarometer: <http://www.asiabarometer.org>
2. through the Inter-University Consortium for Political and Social Research, University of Michigan
3. through the Social Science Data Archives of the Institute of Social Science, University of Tokyo

It is also our policy to bring out (1) the questionnaire, field reports, other basic information and selective tables and figures and (2) country profile analyses and (3) thematic cross-national analyses in one annual volume in English. It takes

approximately 18 months after field work. Only after those annual volumes are published, we upload our survey data onto the three above schemes. The annual publications are as follows:

Takashi Inoguchi, Miguel Basanez, Akihiko Tanaka and Timur Dadabaev, eds., *Values and Life Styles in Urban Asia: A Cross-Cultural Analysis and Sourcebook Based on the AsiaBarometer Survey of 2003*, with Foreword by Ronald Inglehart, Mexico City: Siglo XXI Editores, 2005.

Takashi Inoguchi, Akihiko Tanaka and Shigeto Sonoda and Timur Dadabaev, eds., *Human Beliefs and Values in Striding Asia- East Asia in Focus: Country Profiles, Thematic Analysis and Sourcebook Based on the AsiaBarometer Survey of 2004*, with Foreword by Peter Katzenstein, Tokyo: Akashi shoten, 2006.

Besides those chapters included in those annual AsiaBarometer volumes, journal articles published using the AsiaBarometer Surveys are as follows:

Takashi Inoguchi, "Social Capital in Ten Asian Societies," *Japanese Journal of Political Science*, Vol.5, Pt.1 (May 2004), pp.197-212.

Takashi Inoguchi and Lucian Hotta, "Quantifying Satisfaction," *Japanese Journal of Political Science*, Vol. 6, Pt.3, forthcoming in 2007.

Takashi Inoguchi, "The AsiaBarometer: Its Aim, its Scope and its Prospect," *Japanese Journal of Political Science*, Vol.5, Pt.1 (May 2004), pp.179-196.

Takashi Inoguchi, "The AsiaBarometer: Its Origins, its Principles and its Prospects," *Participation (International Political Science Association)*, Vol.29, No.2 (Summer 2005), pp.16-18.

Takashi Inoguchi, "Regional Community Building in Northeast Asia," *Japan Spotlight*, March/April 2006, pp.32-33.

Takashi Inoguchi, "Is Japan No Longer a Law-Abiding Society?" *Japan Spotlight*, May/June 2006, pp.38-39.

Akihiko Tanaka, "Do You Think Country X Has Good or Bad Influences on Your Country? An Analysis," *Ajia Jiho*, May 2006, pp.20-45.

Shigeto Sonoda, "Get Out of the Vicious Circle of Nationalism," *Sekai Monthly*, July 2005, pp. 78-85.

Takashi Inoguchi, ed., *East Asian Community as Seen from the AsiaBarometer Surveys*, AsiaBarometer Project Series No 1, 2005.

Takashi Inoguchi, ed., *Has Asia's Striding Growth Put an End to Happy and Law-Abiding Asia?* AsiaBarometer Project Series, No 2, 2006.

In addition, Takashi Inoguchi appeared on a television program called *Perspectives and Arguments of the Japan Broadcasting Station channel three* on the following subjects:

What is the AsiaBarometer? July 15, 2005

When you seek government permission, November 7, 2005

Expectations parents entertain of their daughters, March 13, 2006

Furthermore, book reviews and other articles have also appeared.

Akio Kawato, "Book Review: Takashi Inoguchi et al, eds., *Values and Life Styles in Urban Asia: A Cross-Cultural Analysis and Sourcebook Based on the AsiaBarometer Survey of 2003*," *Asian Studies*, Vol.59, No.2. 2006.

Akio Kawato, "Book Review: Takashi Inoguchi et al, eds., *Values and Life Styles in Urban Asia: A Cross-Cultural Analysis and Sourcebook Based on the AsiaBarometer Survey of 2003*," *Social Science Japan Journal*, Vol. 9, No.2. 2006.

Nargis Kasenova, "Why Is It that Kazakhstanis Keep Themselves Inward and Feel

Happy? In Kazakhstan the Authoritarian System Destroys Social Capital," Business Review Respublika Online, March 24, 2006.

Tatu Vanhanen, "Book Review: Takashi Inoguchi et al, eds., Values and Life Styles in Urban Asia: A Cross-Cultural Analysis and Sourcebook Based on the AsiaBarometer Survey of 2003," Finnish Times, 2005.

Appendix: Tables of Contents of Annual AsiaBarometer Volumes

The 2003 AsiaBarometer Survey Volume

Foreword Ronald Inglehart

Acknowledgements

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Blurbs on the Cover are contributed by Lucian Pye and Robert Scalapino

The 2004 AsiaBarometer Survey Annual Volume

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Chapter Thirteen Hj Hamzah Sulaiman and Zen-U Lucian Hotta, Brunei: The Living Conditions, Preferences and Concerns

Chapter Fourteen Takashi Inoguchi and Zen-U Lucian Hotta, Quantifying Satisfaction: The Case of Urban ASEAN + 3 in AsiaBarometer 2004

Chapter Fifteen Kazufumi Manabe, The Culture of Happiness and Satisfaction in Asia

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