

# Preface

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GlobAsia was formed in the late 1990s as an IDS research group studying “Changing Global and Regional Conditions for National Economic Restructuring in Asia”. The project group was directed by the late IDS Professor John Degnbol-Martinussen. Degnbol-Martinussen intended to edit a GlobAsia book which was structured by a coherent state of the art development theory and analyses of globalisation and economic restructuring in Asia. These ambitions could not be fulfilled as Martinussen suddenly passed away in 2002. Instead the remaining research group decided to structure this volume in a less ambitious way. The theoretical section in the present volume is the result of common discussions in the group. It is used as a loose framework to present and discuss the empirical case studies and to develop a number of hypotheses. According to this framework, economic globalisation assumes the form of global webs, global flows and global regulations. Each of these forms of globalisation poses their own problems and opportunities for actors in developing countries. In the final chapter we attempt to sum up the lessons learned from the present case studies in terms of our initial hypotheses. Most contributions are written in the period 2002 – 2004. An appendix “GlobAsia – Asia between global and regional challenges” presents the 2005 research platform of the GlobAsia group with new major issues of research.