

# **Regional Public Goods in Asia Pacific: Overview and Conceptual Framework**

Discussion

AEIR 2018 Theme Chapter Workshop

December 14, 2017

# Policy questions, and some answers

Q1 & Q3: Is a regional mechanism necessary for Asia and the Pacific economies? How should we form this regional mechanism? What aspects should be considered in forming the mechanism?

- A: No single mechanism; every RPG different, context-specific. Conceptual framework provides aspects to be considered: geographic scope and extent of spillovers, degrees of non-excludability and non-rivalry, distribution of benefits and cost across countries, aggregation of country contributions. Implication: individual analysis and different mechanisms for different RPGs.

# Policy questions, and some answers

- Q2: What are the main lessons from the other regions we can adopt?
- A: Carryover of lessons may be limited given different context (levels of integration, institutions)
- Q4: What is the role of MDBs in supporting a regional mechanism, or the provision of RPGs in general?
- A: ADB (esp. ERCI) should be thought leader on RPGs in Asia. Individual analysis of RPGs along lines of conceptual framework. Focus on most important RPGs. Big research agenda, kicked off by this AEIR. Okay to start with studies already underway, but indicating that these are just the first of several studies to be done.