Preface

In January 2012, an international workshop was held at Griffith University’s Asia-Pacific Centre for Sustainable Enterprise (APCSE) to brainstorm the ideas around the theme of the twenty-first century as ‘the Asian century’. The aim of this workshop was to identify the major areas of policy shifts needed now to make the Asian century a reality. The workshop was attended by invited speakers with expertise on Asia’s socio-economic and political developments, and subsequently they were approached to develop chapters for this volume. After going through a review process the respective papers were selected for publication, ranging from the examination of demographic conditions in Asia to mining resources and their potentials in the future. More than ten nations have been investigated.

This edited monograph was made possible by the financial assistance extended by APCSE of the Griffith Business School. We would like to acknowledge the support extended by the Director of APCSE, Professor Malcolm McIntosh. All of the chapters have undergone a rigorous review process by experts in the field. In this regard, the assistance by Professor Tom Nguyen, Adjunct Professor Adil Khan, Professor Peter Zingle, Professor Yukinobu Kitamura, Professor Jem Bendell, Adjunct Professor Harun Rashid and Dr Karen Vella is highly appreciated. Valuable logistical support was extended to us by Karen Brindley. We appreciate her hard work and commitment towards the holding of the International Workshop on 10 January 2012 which provided the basis of this volume.

Robyn White of the Department of International Business and Asian Studies of the Griffith Business School applied her usual publishing skills to fine-tune the draft and format the manuscript for Edward Elgar Publishing Limited. We are grateful to Robyn for her unconditional commitment to this project. Finally, we would like to congratulate the contributors who took time from their busy schedules to participate in the project, and thank them for their full cooperation in meeting various deadlines over the course of more than twelve months.

Moazzem Hossain
Tapan Sarker
Malcolm McIntosh
Brisbane, November 2012