

Housing issues in developing Asian countries

I am pleased to put together the special issue of housing issues in developing Asian countries. A total of eight papers have been selected for publication in this special issue of the *International Journal of Housing Markets and Analysis*. The papers range widely in their choice of topics, including housing affordability, interdependence of housing markets, affordable housing policies and housing price modelling.

The first paper examines the linkages between five housing markets in Mainland China and Taiwan by Mei-Se Chien, Neng-Huei Lee and Chih-Yang Cheng. They found that these 5 housing markets are interrelated. This can be attributed to the rising economic integration. The interrelation of housing markets is further demonstrated by the paper of Arash Hadizadeh, in which Arash uses a Fourier quantile unit root test to examine the stationarity of 15 regional markets in Iran.

Nevertheless, it is also critical to consider the unique characteristics of different housing markets. Recognising the unique characteristics of Taiwan, Ti-Ching Peng uses the ratio of part-time staff to measure the quality of school, and assess to what extent the quality of school and housing prices are related. Further, the study of Yu Fah Chang, Wei Cheng Choong, Sin Yan Looi, Wei Yeing Pan and Hong Lip Goh models the behaviour of housing price from a housing submarket perspective using a functional relationship model.

In Christopher Feather's paper, a solution of affordable housing in South Korea is discussed. Xian Cai and Wei-Ning Wu also assess the affordable housing policy from the perspective of China. Both papers highlight the role of housing policy in providing affordable housing. In addition, Safar Ghaedrahmati and Foad Shahsavari investigate the affordable housing issue for female-headed households in Tehran, Iran.

Lastly, the paper of Gary Rangel, Jason Wei Jian Ng, Thangarajah Thiyagarajan Murugasu and Wai Ching Poon propose the use of a lifetime income approach to measure housing affordability in Malaysia. They assert that this approach would gauge housing affordability more accurately.

Chyi Lin Lee

University of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia

