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# Measuring Trends and Inequality: Monitoring Country Progress in Asia

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## Introduction

- Background and development of Monitoring Country Progress (MCP) system
  - Methodology and method of analysis
  - Integration of monitoring and M&E
- Applications of MCP and other monitoring systems
- Examples of visualization of data from RDMA analysis



## Background

- MCP system tracks country progress along five dimensions:
  1. economic reforms
  2. governing justly and democratically
  3. macro-economic performance
  4. investing in people
  5. peace and security
  
- Developed in-house in the Europe and Eurasia Bureau and expanded to a global dataset in support of new USAID strategy (CDCS/RDCS) policy



## Methodology

- MCP draws on publicly available, cross-country data from a variety of sources
- Data are converted to a 1 to 5 scale
- MCP uses visual analytical tools:
  - the development profile chart
  - trend analysis
  - the development gap (web) chart
  - scatterplots



## Types of Analysis using MCP Data

- Gap Analysis
  - Country, Region, Year
  
- Phase Out Analysis
  - Graduation from US assistance
  
- Department of State
  - Resource allocation planning

## Practical Applications

- Facilitates resource allocation decisions
- Key component of the analysis phase of strategic development
- Used to develop goal level indicators for a results framework
- Identify macro-level indicators for monitoring
- Identify development gaps and inequalities
- Supports evidence-based policy making



## Example: MCP Asia

### Note on Regional Groupings

**ASEAN:** Brunei, Burma, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam

**Southeast Asia:** ASEAN countries plus Papua New Guinea and Timor Leste

**LMI:** Burma, Cambodia, Laos, Thailand, Vietnam

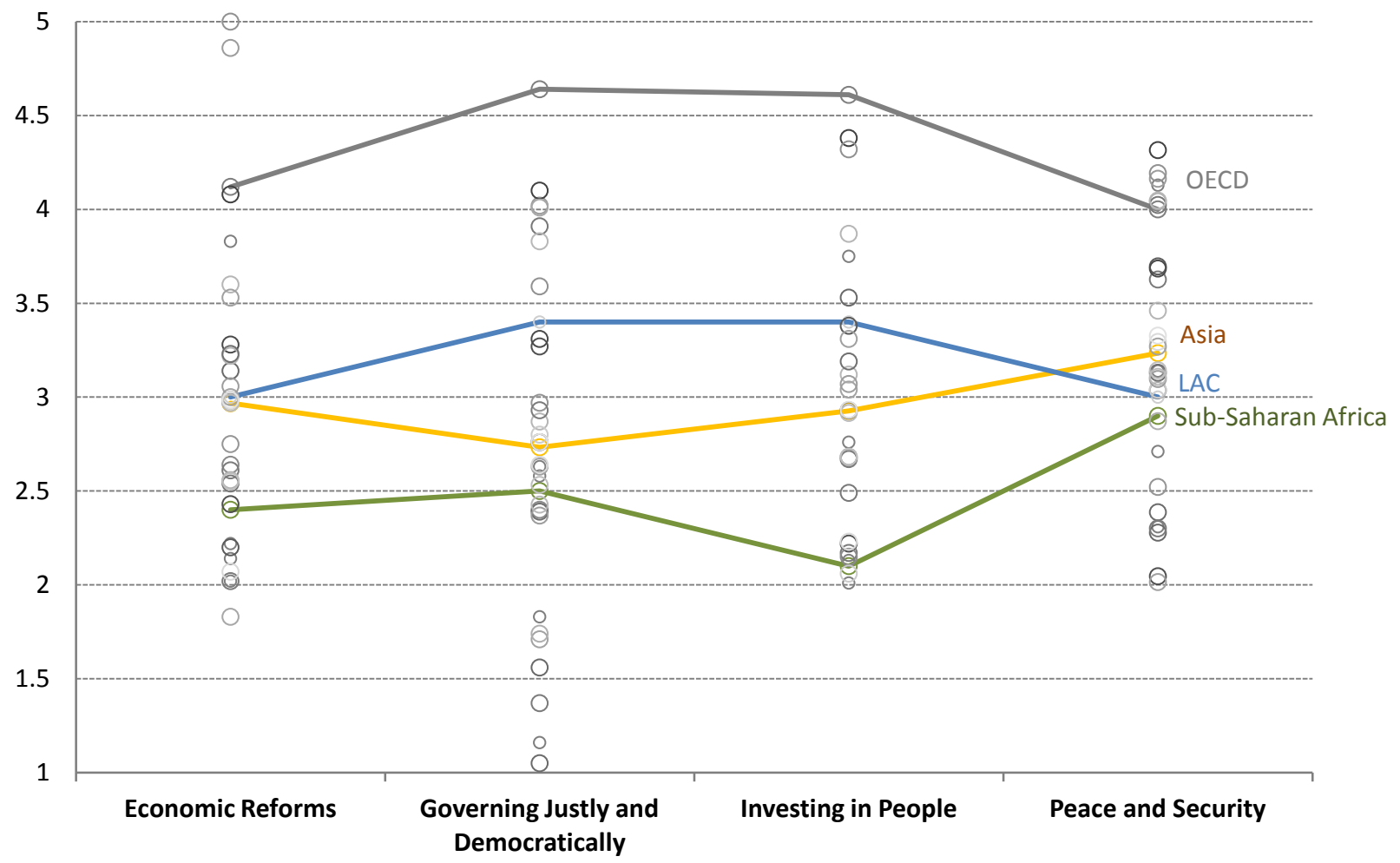
**East Asia:** Hong Kong, South Korea, Mongolia

**South Asia:** Bangladesh, Maldives, Nepal, Sri Lanka

**Pacific Islands:** Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Samoa

Data have been collected for China and India but are not included in the averages.

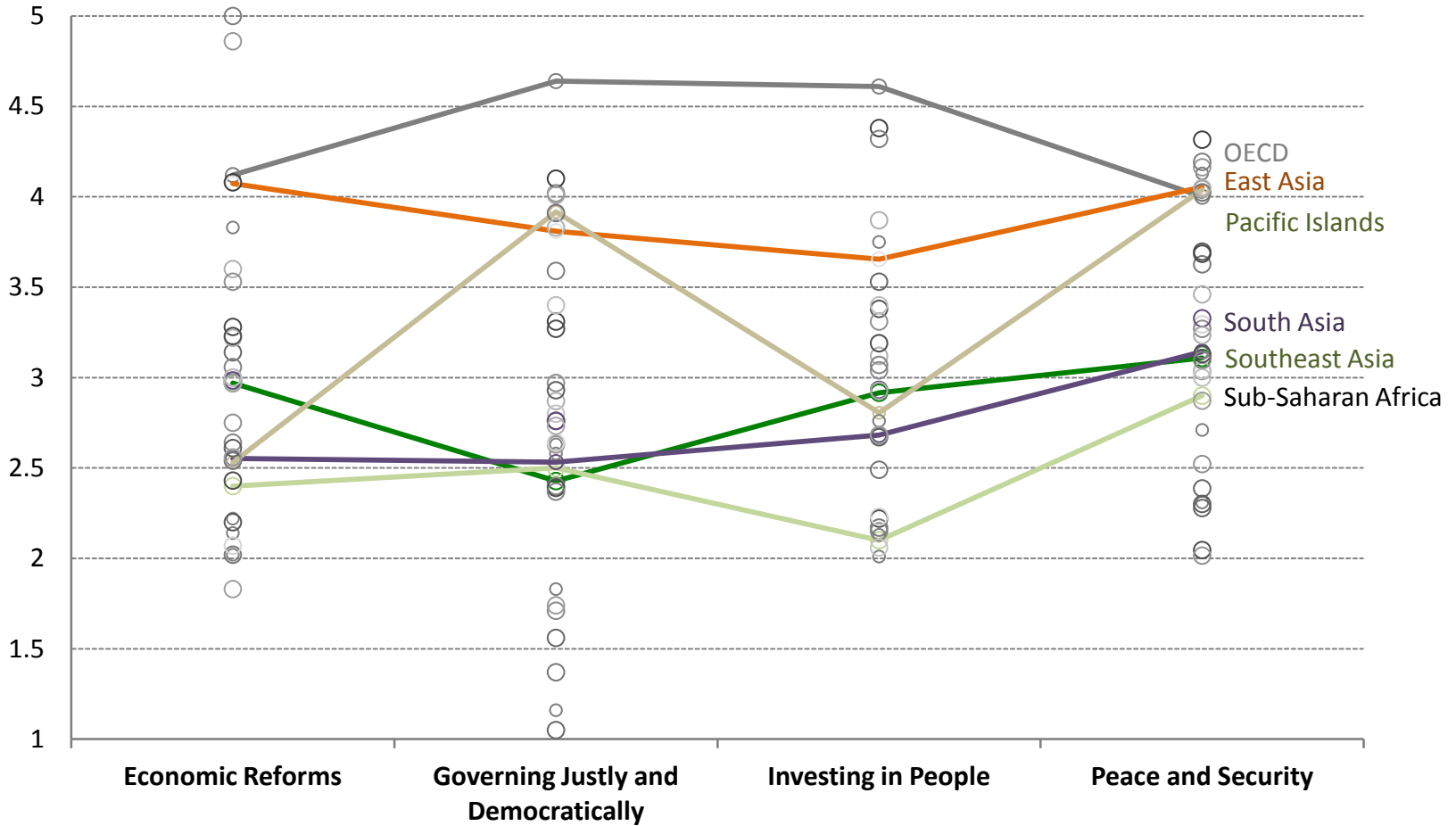
# Development Profile of Asia in the World



Note: Asia average does not include China or India. USAID/EE, MCP Global.



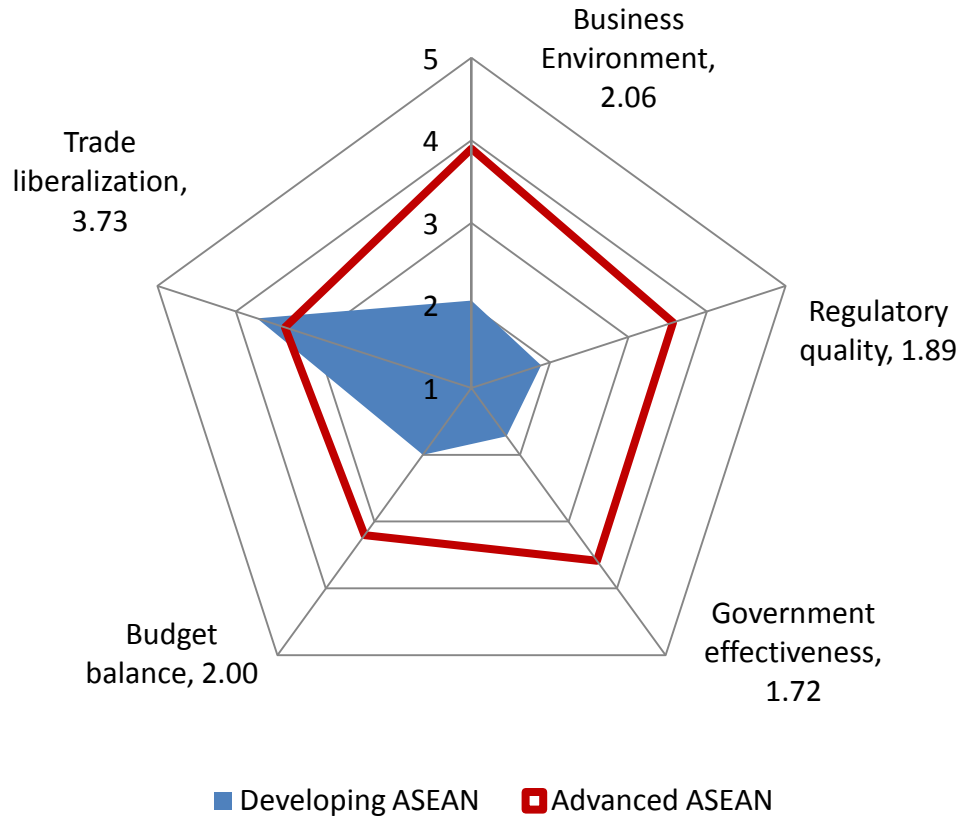
# Development Profile of Asian Regions versus OECD



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# Economic Reforms Index

## Developing ASEAN versus Advanced ASEAN

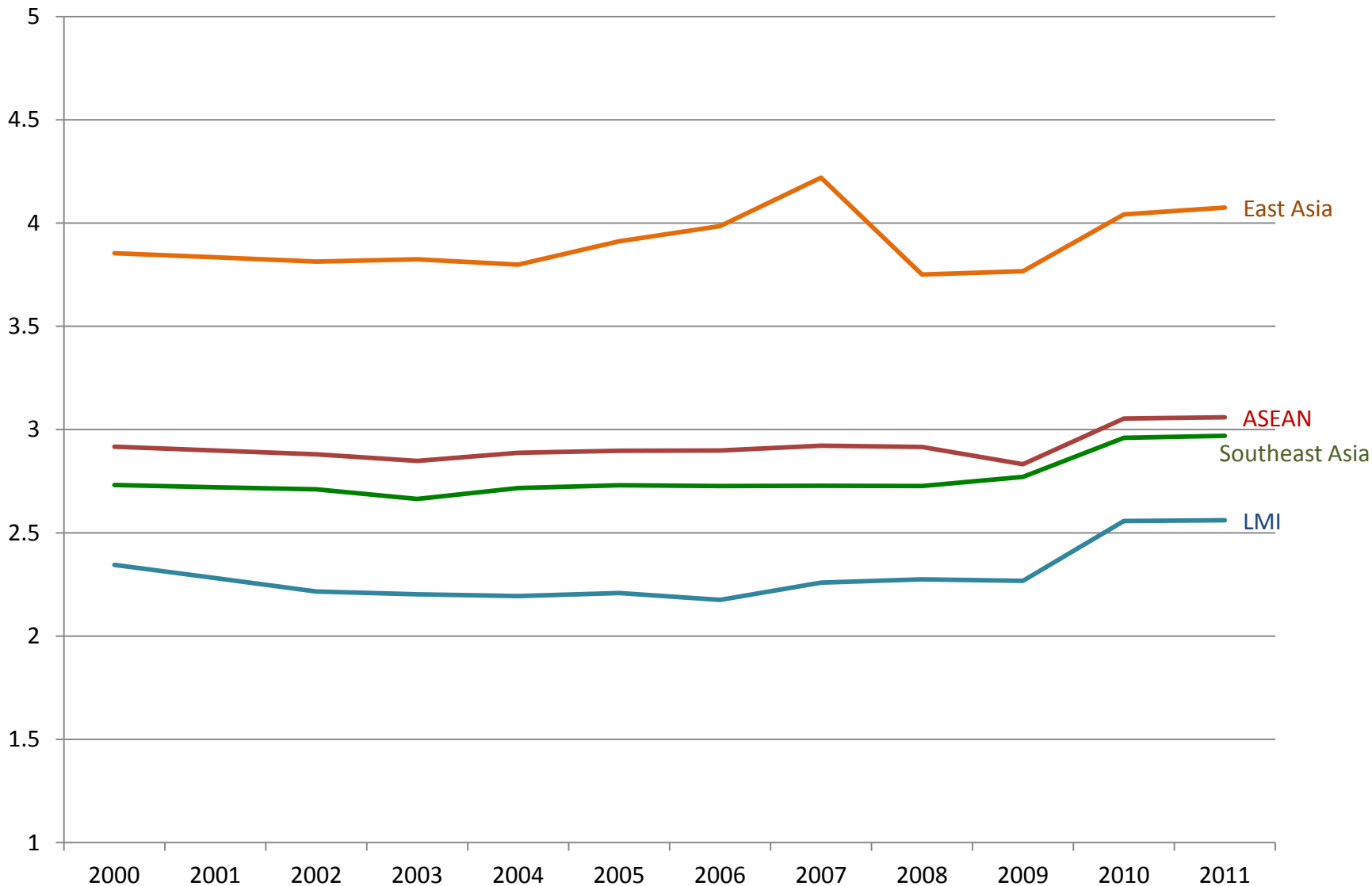


Developing ASEAN = Burma, Cambodia, Laos, Vietnam; Advanced ASEAN = Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand.  
 Indicator sources: World Bank, *Doing Business*, *Worldwide Governance Indicators*, and *World Development Indicators*; Heritage Foundation, *Index of Economic Freedom*. USAID/EE, MCP Global.



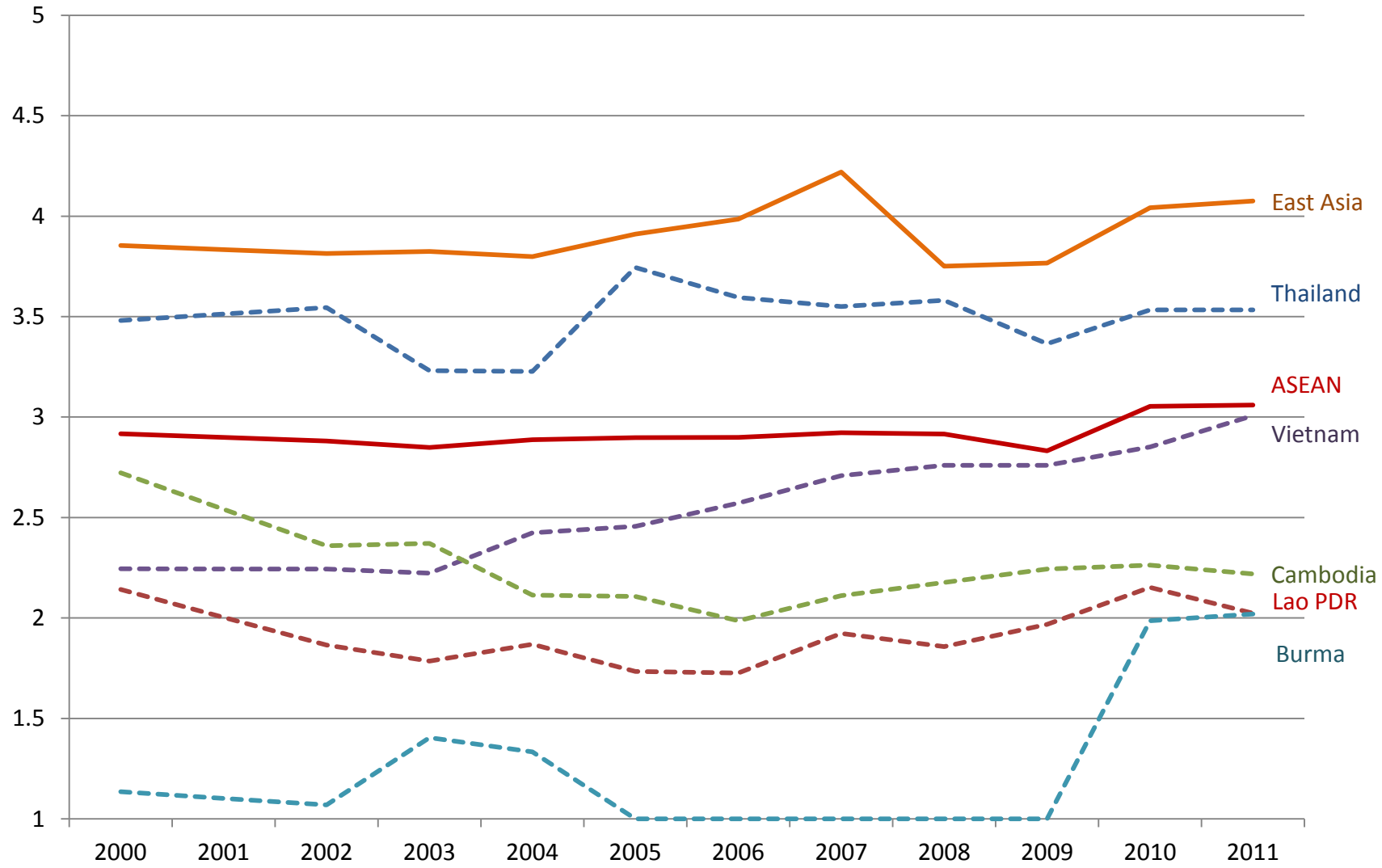
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# Economic Reforms in Asia, 2000-2011



Ratings are based on a 1 to 5 scale, with 5 representing the most advanced worldwide. World Bank, Governance Matters, and Heritage Foundation, Index of Economic Freedom. Five indicators comprise economic reforms in this chart: business environment, regulatory quality; government effectiveness; budget balance; and trade liberalization. Note: Regional averages do not include China and India.

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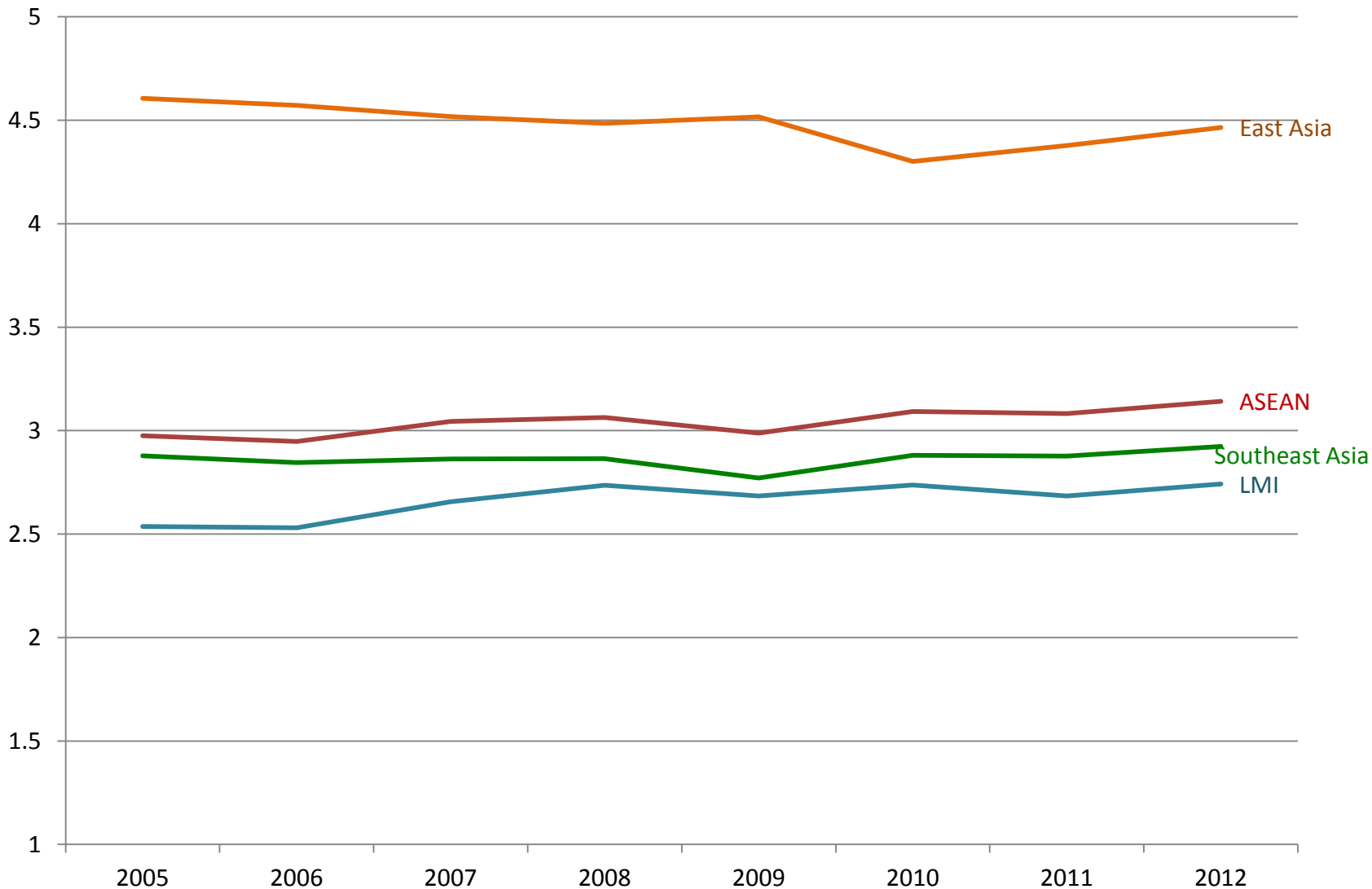


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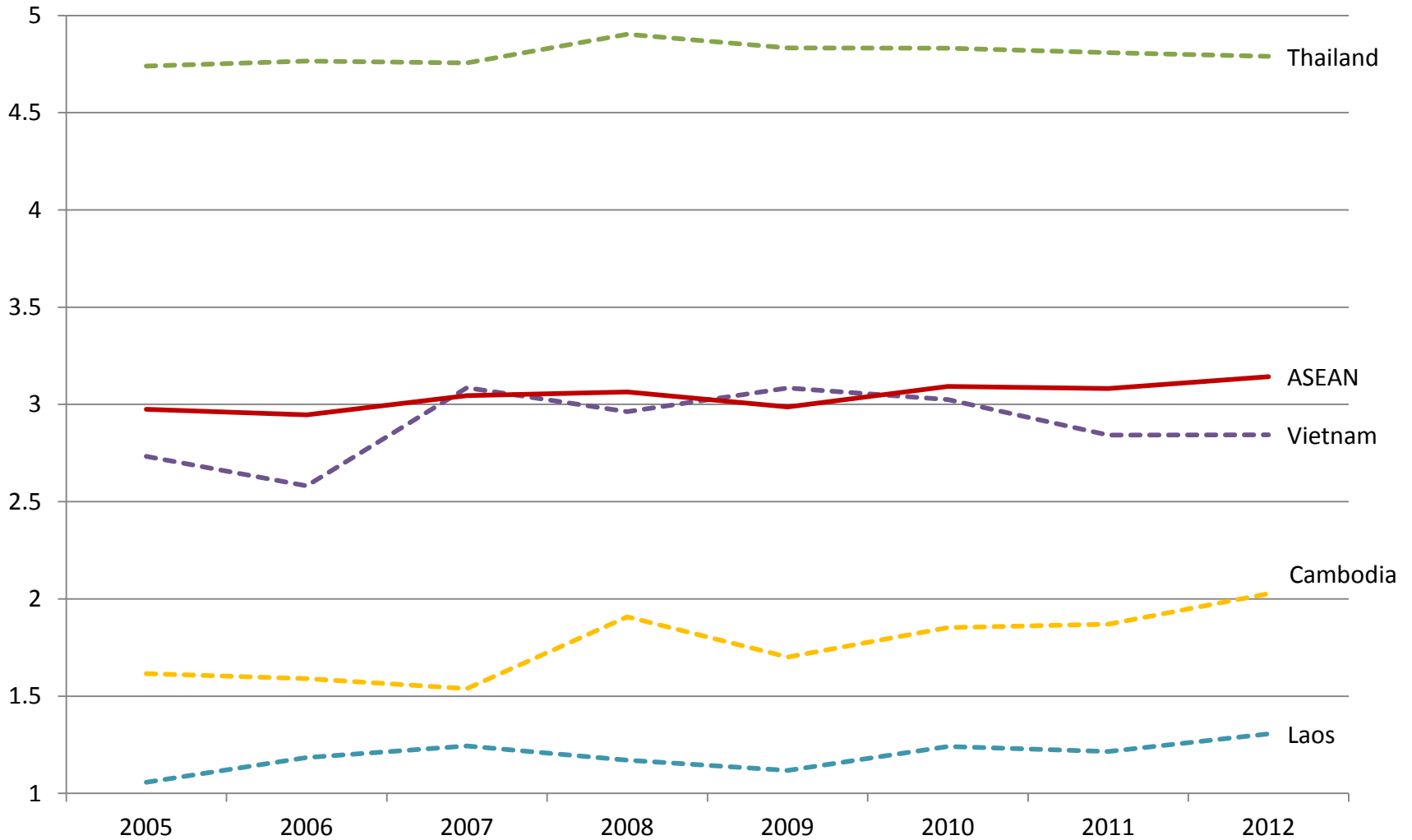
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# Business Environment in Asia, 2005-2012



Note: Regional averages do not include China and India. Calculated from World Bank, *Doing Business* (various years).

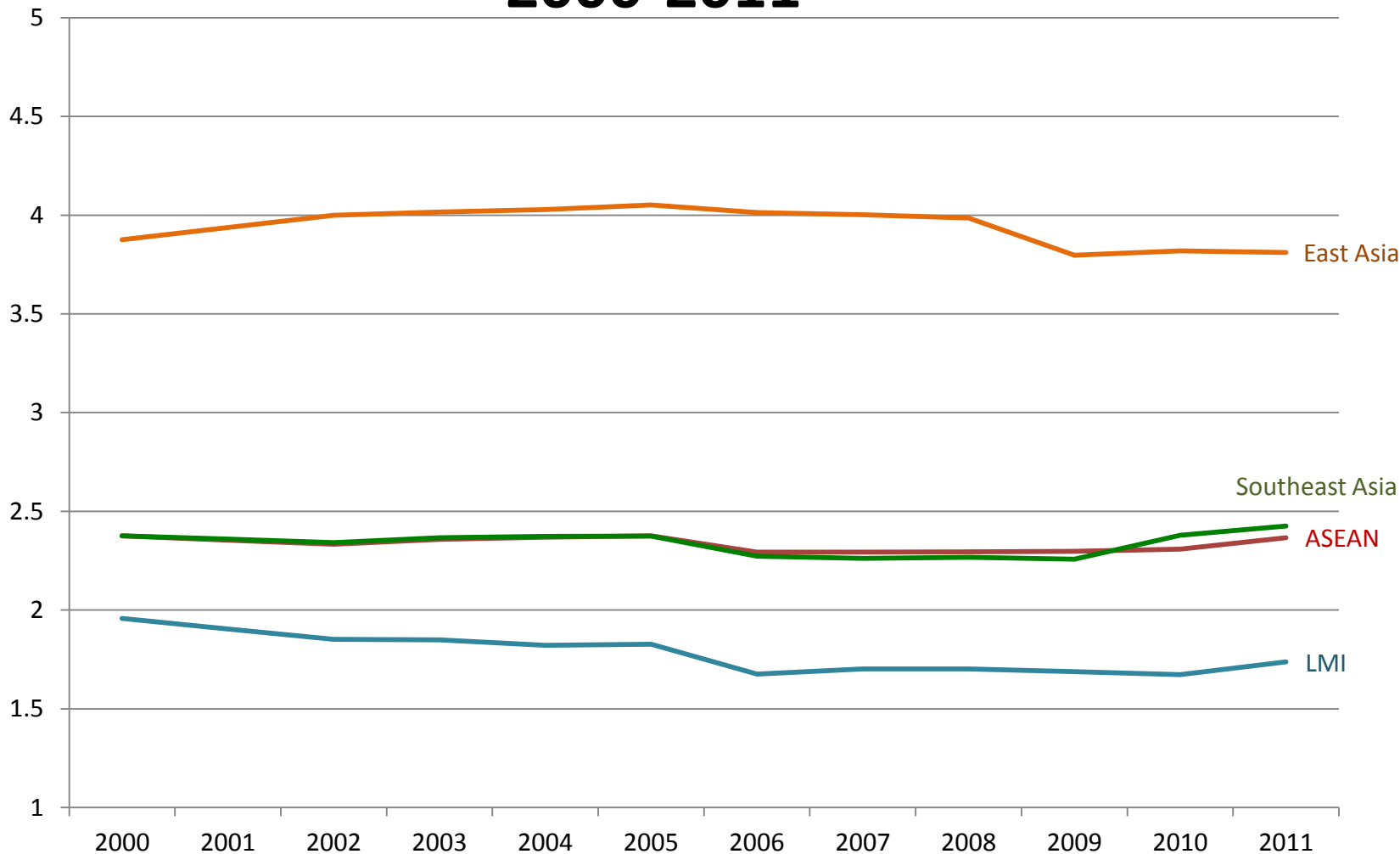
# Business Environment in LMI Countries, 2005-2012





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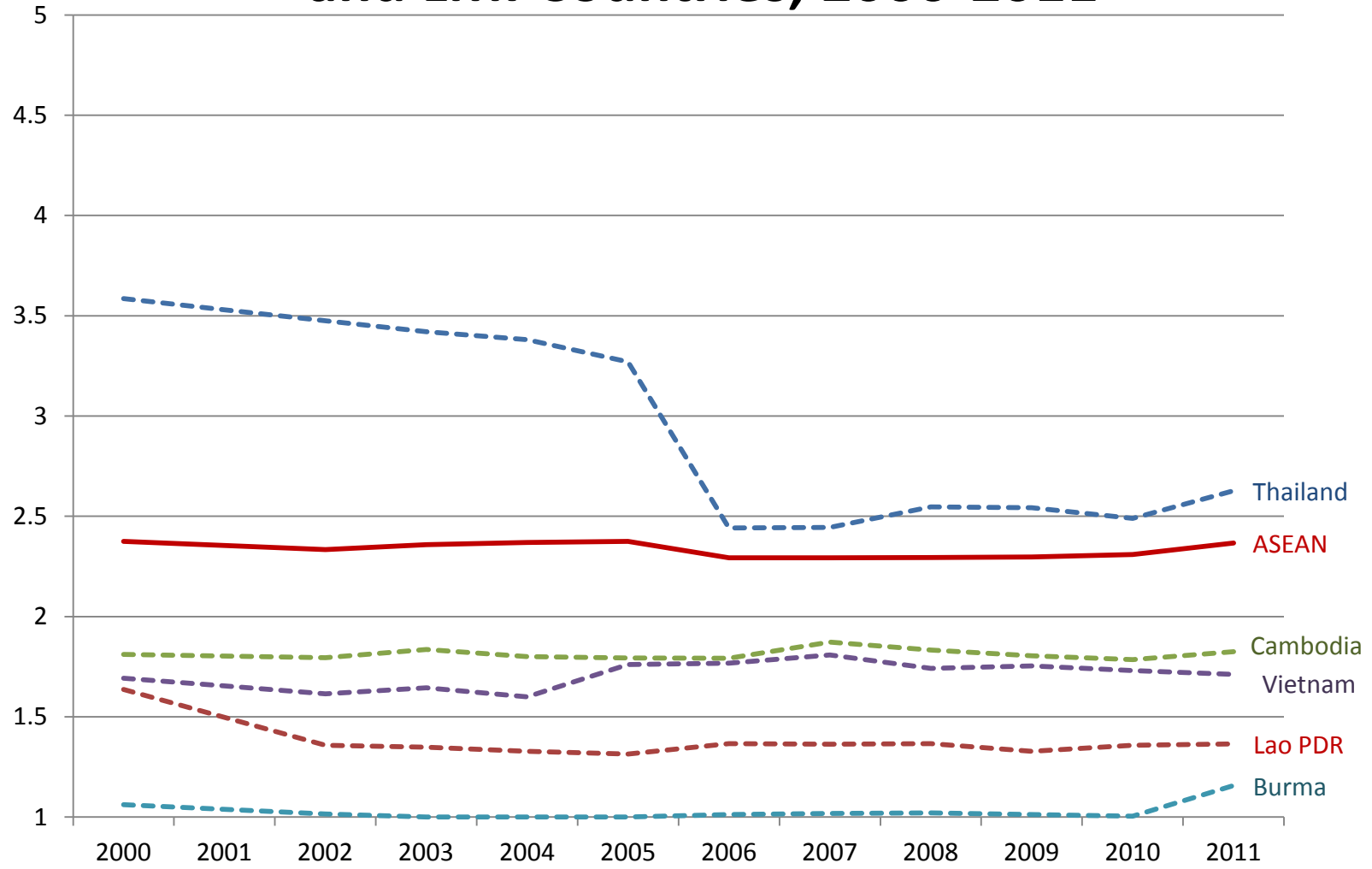
# Governing Justly & Democratically in Asia 2000-2011



Ratings are based on a 1 to 5 scale, with 5 representing most advanced. Hong Kong scores for political rights and civil liberties begin in 2009. Freedom House, *Freedom in the World* and *Freedom of the Press*; and the World Bank, *Governance Matters*, various years. Note: Regional averages do not include China and India.



# Governing Justly & Democratically in ASEAN and LMI Countries, 2000-2011

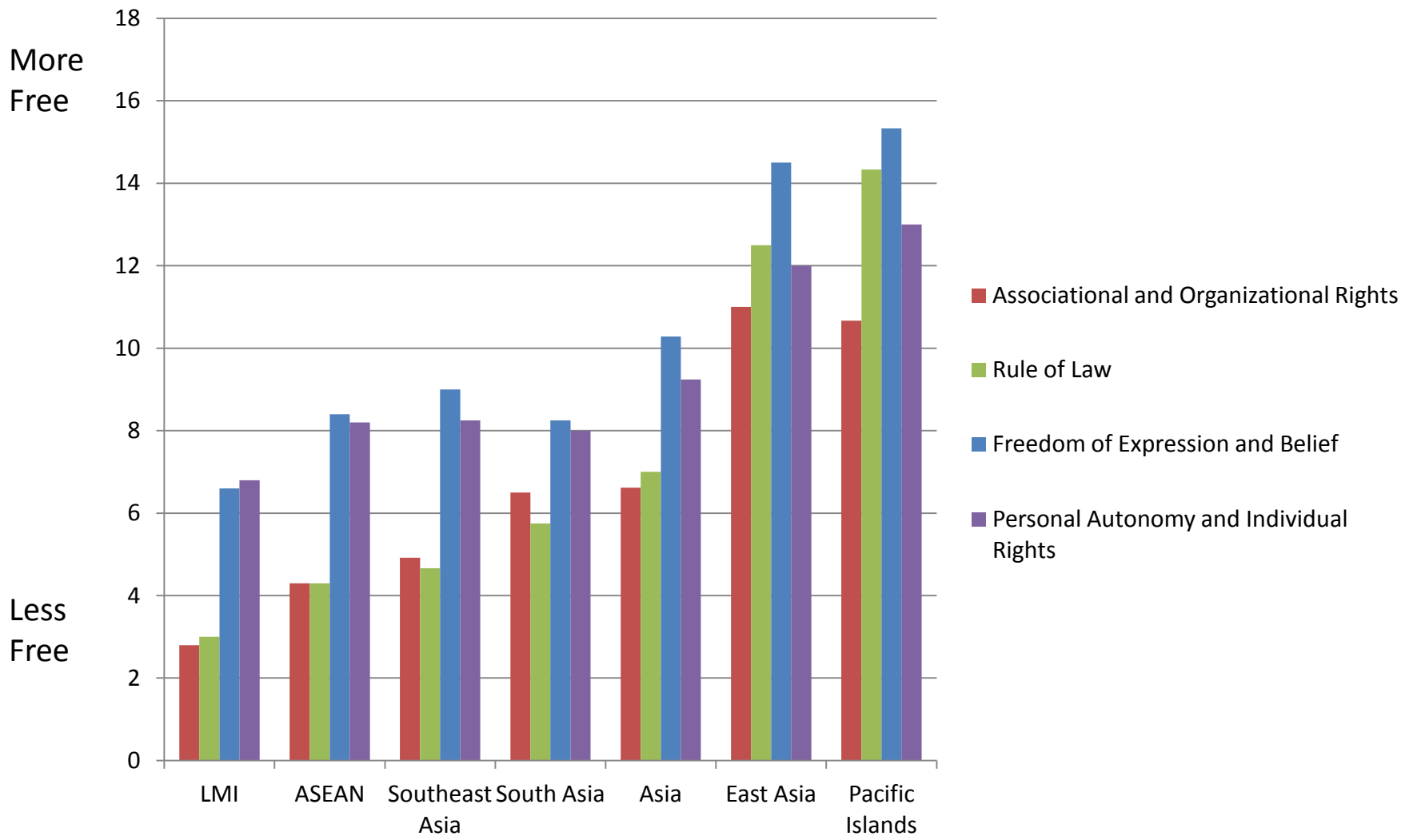


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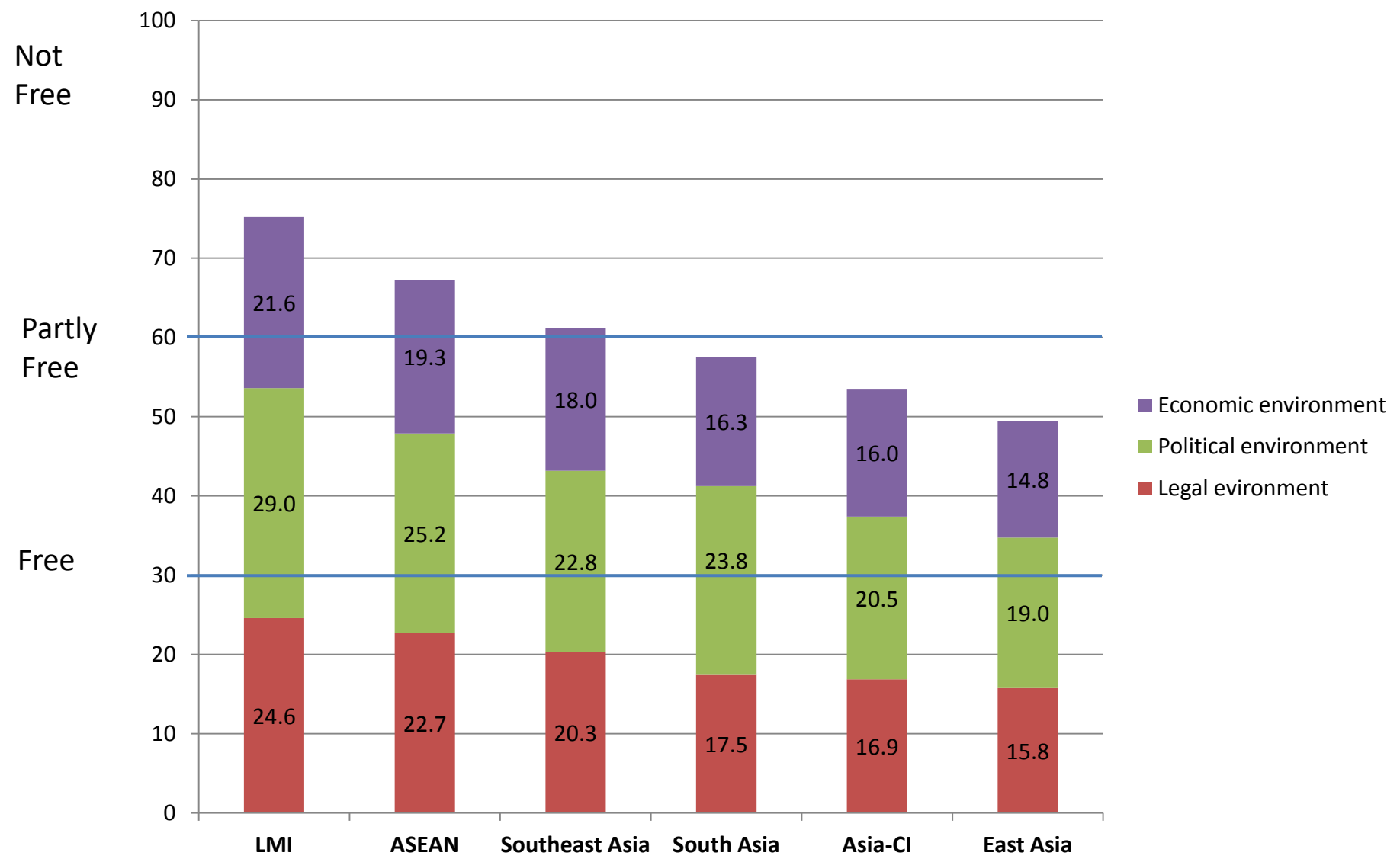
# Freedom in the World, 2012

## Civil Liberties



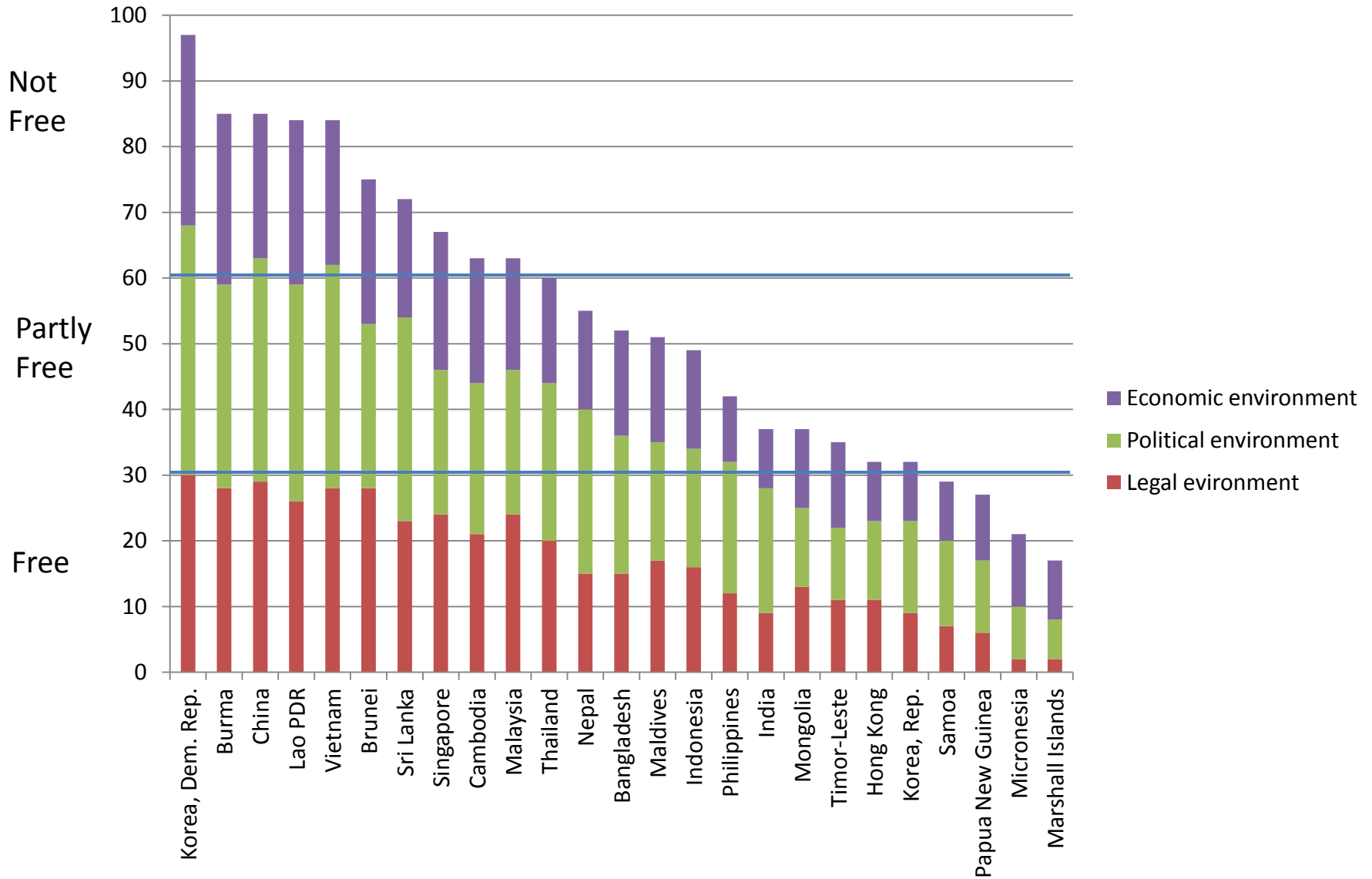
For the last 39 years of the survey, each country and territory has been assigned two numerical ratings—one for political rights and one for civil liberties—based on a 1 to 7 scale. Underlying those ratings are more detailed assessments of country situations based on a 40-point scale for political rights and a 60-point scale for civil liberties. Freedom House, *Freedom in the World* (2013). Note: Asia and regional averages do not include China or India.

# Freedom of the Press



Countries are given a total score from 0 (best) to 100 (worst) on the basis of a set of 23 methodology questions divided into three subcategories. Assigning numerical points allows for comparative analysis among the countries surveyed and facilitates an examination of trends over time. The degree to which each country permits the free flow of news and information determines the classification of its media as “Free,” “Partly Free,” or “Not Free.” Countries scoring 0 to 30 are regarded as having “Free” media; 31 to 60, “Partly Free” media; and 61 to 100, “Not Free” media. Freedom House, *Freedom of the Press* (2011-2012). Note: Asia and regional averages do not include China or India.

# Freedom of the Press

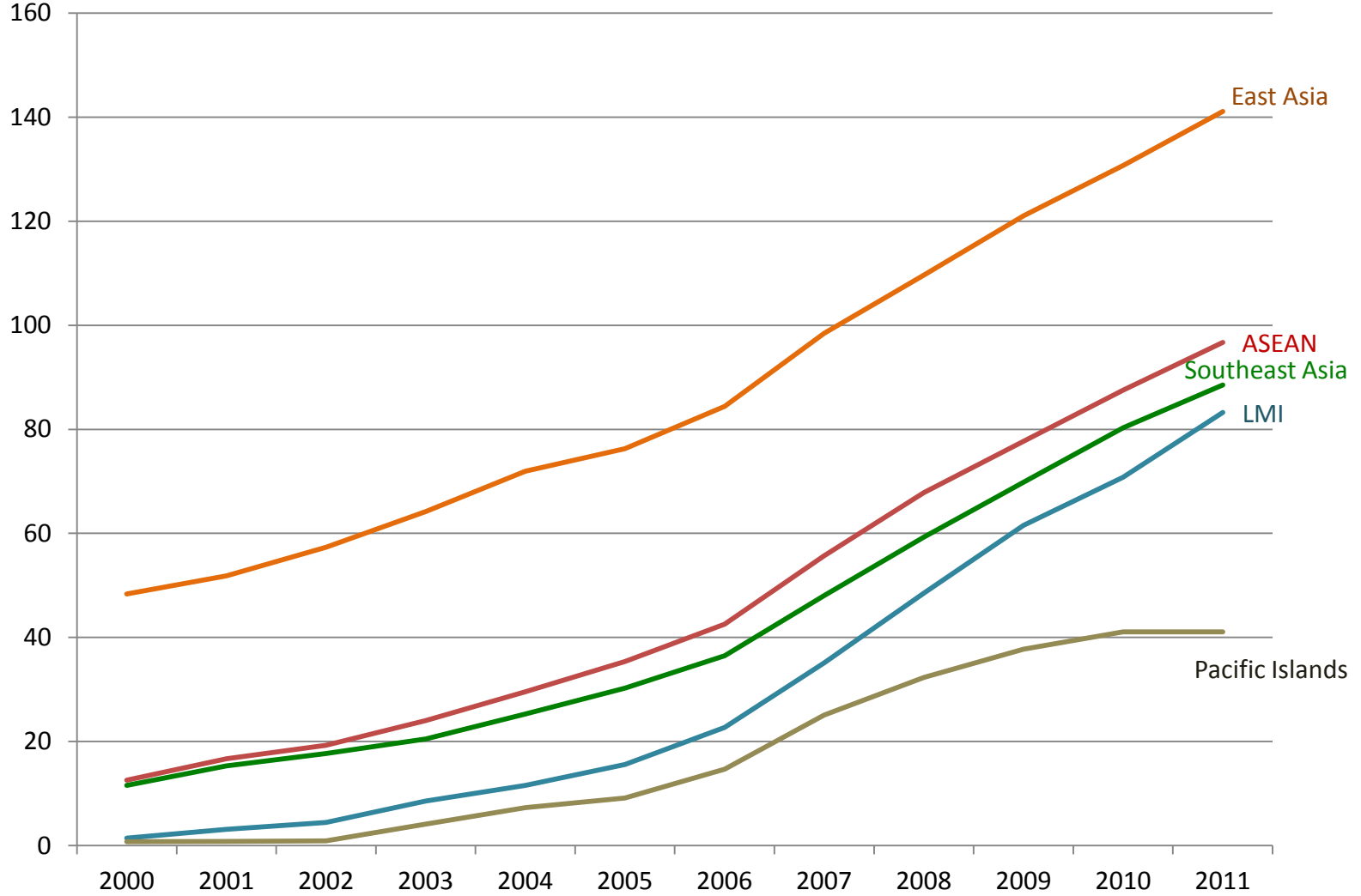


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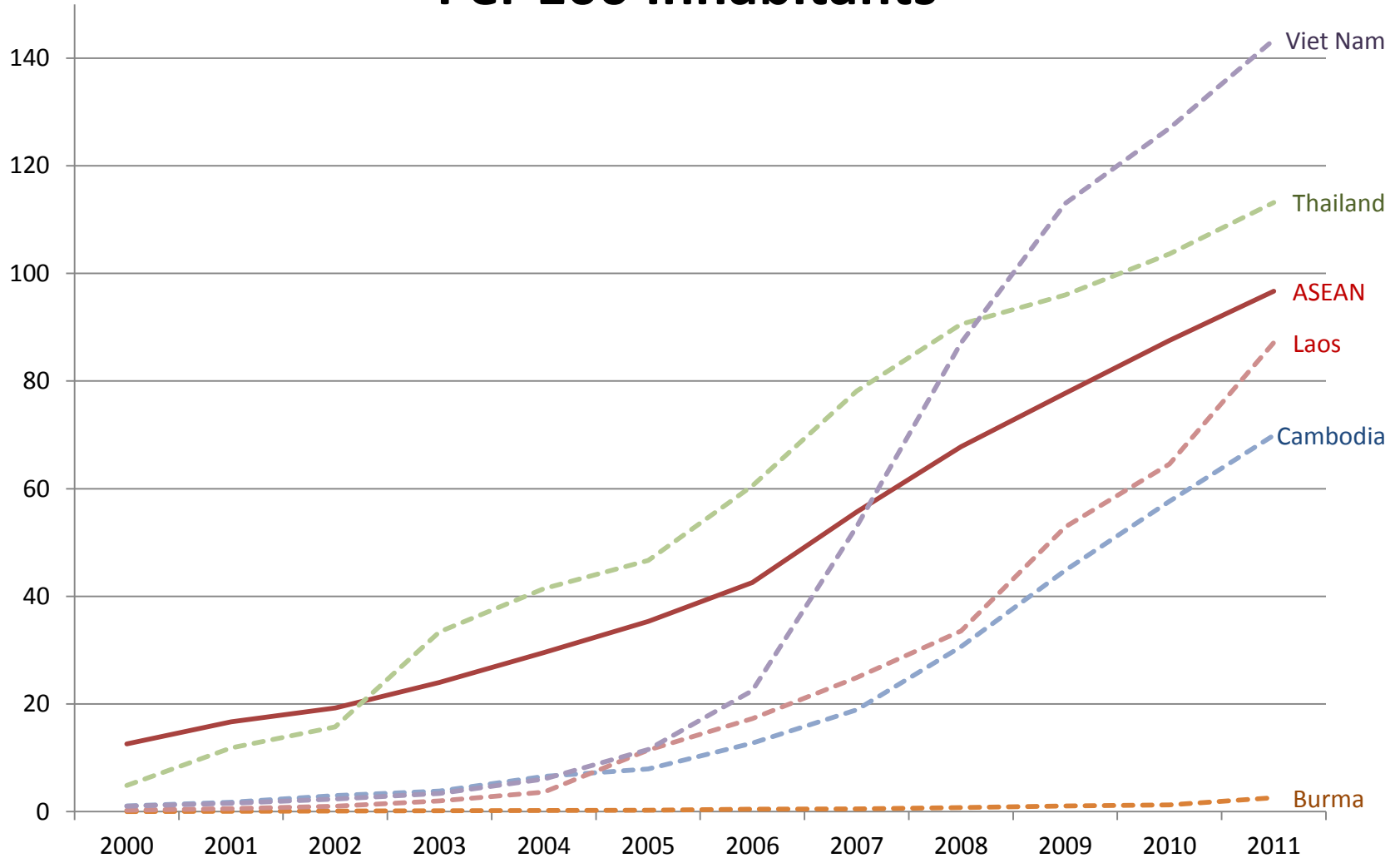
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# Mobile Cellular Telephone Subscriptions Per 100 Inhabitants



Note: Asia and regional averages do not include China or India. International Telecommunication Union/ICT Indicators Database, June 2012.

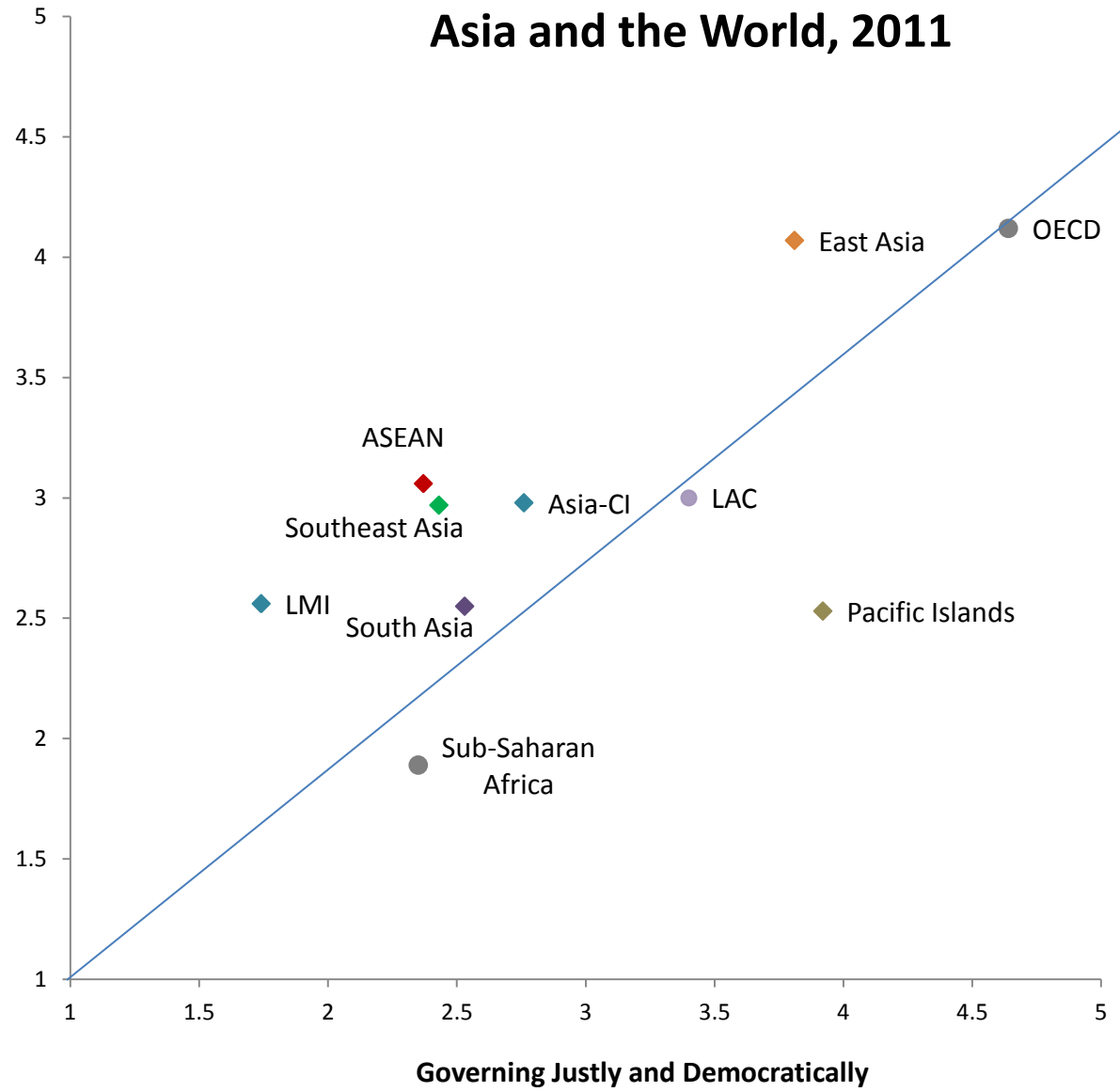
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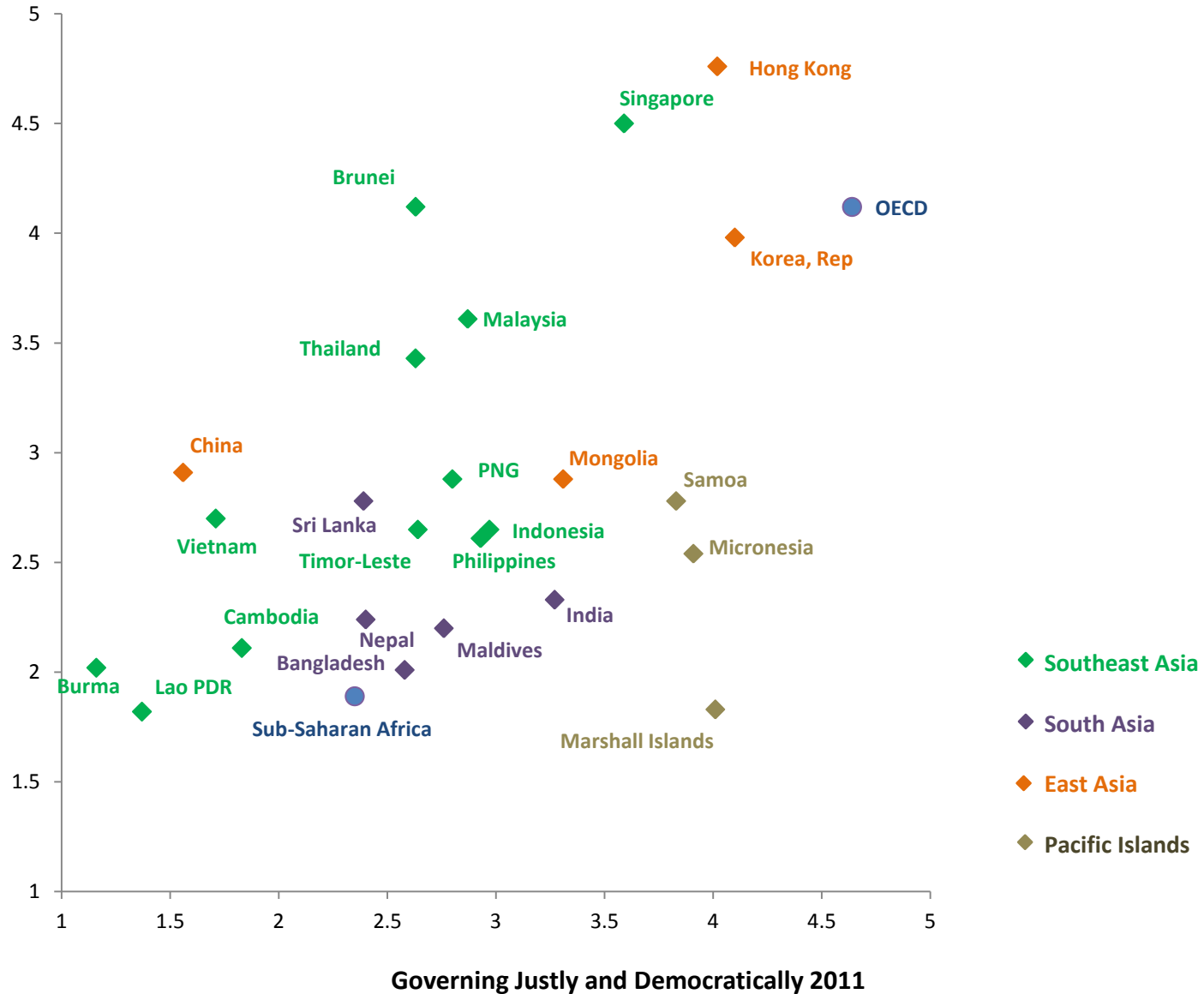
# Economic Reforms and Governing Justly and Democratically in Asia and the World, 2011

Economic Reforms



# Economic Reforms and Governing Justly and Democratically

Economic Reforms 2011





## Take Aways

- Macro-level: integrate a robust and reliable monitoring system into strategic planning
- Sector-level: dig deeper, beyond regional averages
- Micro-level: visual presentation adds depth to analysis that may otherwise be missed

<http://www.usaid.gov/results-and-data/progress-data/mcp>

[http://transition.usaid.gov/locations/europe\\_eurasia/wp/](http://transition.usaid.gov/locations/europe_eurasia/wp/)