





Nancy Lewis is director of the EWC Research Program.

## 2006 Highlights

### U.S. MILITARY IN THE ASIA PACIFIC

The cross-national study, "Shifting Terrain: The Domestic Politics of the U.S. Military in Asia," directed by EWC Fellow Sheila A. Smith, concluded that the United States may have to change its approach toward alliance partners in Asia concerning the deployment and basing of forces in the region. Between 2004 and 2006, Smith and a multinational team

conducted in-country workshops exploring the impact of the U.S. military presence on citizens in Japan, South Korea, and the Philippines, where U.S. forces are situated.

Democratic transitions in these three countries have spawned domestic citizen interest groups that are unifying and speaking out. Growing attention over the future of the U.S. military presence has put domestic pressure on the central governments in these countries to address the related concerns of their local governments and citizens. The study advocates that new policies for managing the presence of American forces in each of these societies should conform to domestic law and meet public expectations for government accountability. This project was funded by the Japan Foundation Center for Global Partnership and the Japan-U.S. Friendship Commission.

The East-West Center Research Program addresses issues of policy significance to the United States and the Asia Pacific region in a comparative, multi-national context. The research activities aim to increase understanding of regional challenges and policy responses by providing conceptual tools and examining underlying dynamics. Research collaborations have been forged with experts from institutions in the U.S., Asia, the Pacific, Canada, and Europe. The Research Program is organized into four broad areas: Politics, Governance and Security; Economics; Environmental Change, Vulnerability, and Governance; and Population and Health. Themes explored by resident and visiting fellows change depending on research and policy needs.



(Clockwise): a) EWC Fellow Sheila A. Smith, Shifting Terrain project director with team member Naoki Kamimura, Hiroshima City University professor, in Korea; b) Smith with Okinawans opposing a new U.S. military base; c) The research team meets with Deputy Minister Chong Sang Yu at the Special Commission on USFK Affairs in Seoul; d) Smith with Governor Benjamin Loong (center) and General Braganza, commander of the Southern Philippines Armed Forces, on Jolo Island in Mindinao.

## TACKLING ASIA'S HIV/AIDS EPIDEMIC

A decade ago, the East-West Center began developing computer models for tracking and projecting the spread of HIV, including both the Asian Epidemic Model (AEM) and the UNAIDS Estimation and Projection Package (EPP). Today, EWC-developed software enables national health programs throughout the region to analyze their local HIV epidemics and develop effective policy responses.

EWC Senior Research Fellow Tim Brown and teams of regional counterparts in Bangladesh, China (Yunnan and Guangxi provinces), Thailand and Vietnam have implemented the project “Integrated Analysis and Advocacy to Improve HIV Responses in Asia” (A2). Making use of available data, country teams develop local models for HIV spread using the Asian Epidemic Model (AEM), conduct locally relevant policy analyses using the GOALS model from the Futures Group, and then use these models and analyses to advocate for more effective and comprehensive responses. One outcome of this project has been the close integration of the AEM and GOALS models creating a powerful tool for policy analysis in Asian settings.

Applying these models, the A2 teams have identified ongoing sources of new infections in Thailand leading to a focus on aggressive prevention programs to reduce HIV infections among key populations. In 2006, the Thailand A2 team helped build support for Thailand’s adoption of a national prevention goal aimed at an additional 50% reduction in the



*EWC Senior Fellow Tim Brown (right) discusses his research with Philip Estermann, EWC grants officer, and Tadashi Yamamoto, member, EWC Board of Governors.*

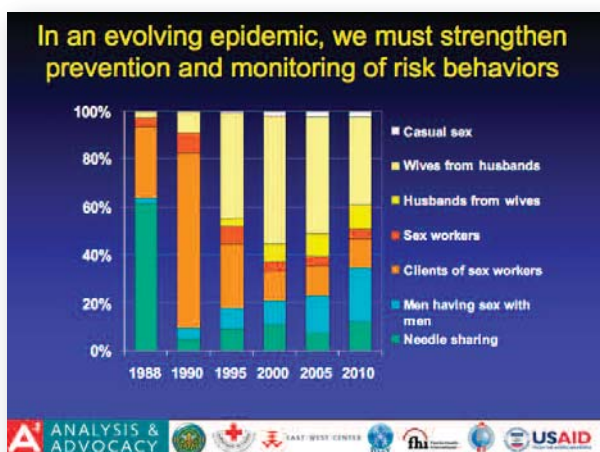
number of new HIV infections by 2010. Other in-country A2 teams have promoted changes in the Ho Chi Minh City action plan for AIDS, provided inputs to donor programming in Bangladesh, and highlighted major resource gaps in Guangxi and Yunnan in China.

In January 2006, Brown presented on Thailand’s Response to the HIV Epidemic at a World Bank sponsored AIDS Strategic Action Plan meeting to provide support for improving national HIV/AIDS strategies. In the summer, Brown met with Hong Kong government health officials to discuss his report on expanding responses to

Hong Kong’s HIV epidemic and presented on the A2 project at the International AIDS Conference in Toronto. Trainings on the GOALS/AEM software were conducted for the national A2 teams in January and February, on AEM for UNAIDS monitoring and evaluation officers in Bangkok in July, and on AEM for China’s National Center on AIDS in September. A2 research continues with the support of USAID, Family Health International, USAID’s Health Policy Initiative and the East-West Center.

*“[In Asia] HIV prevention efforts need to be focused to be most effective.”*

**J.V.R. PRASADA RAO**  
DIRECTOR OF THE UNAIDS  
REGIONAL SUPPORT TEAM FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC





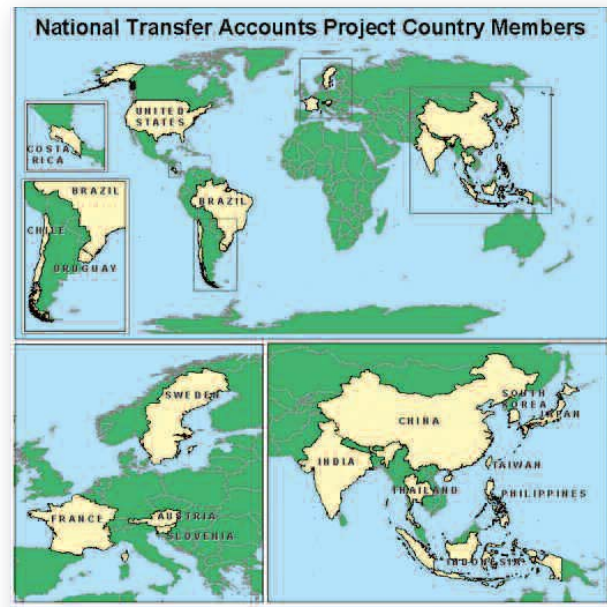
## ECONOMICS OF AGING

The population age structure of virtually every country is changing with important implications for economic growth, development, and standards of living. Children and the elderly are economically dependent, consuming more than they produce through labor. The way this lifecycle of dependency interacts with population age structure to influence the economy depends on the social and economic systems by which resources are transferred from the working to the dependent.

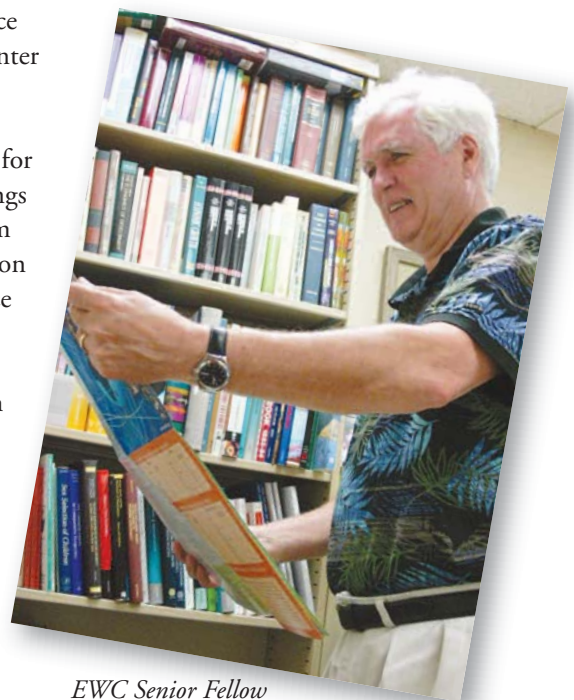
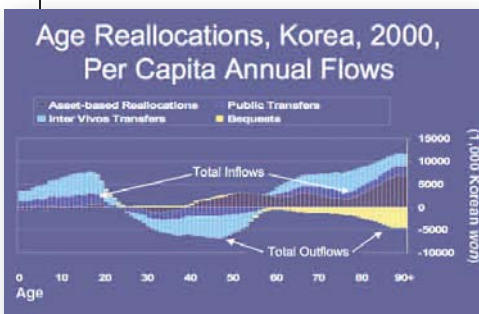
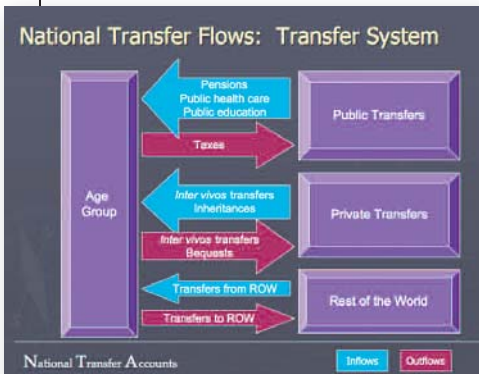
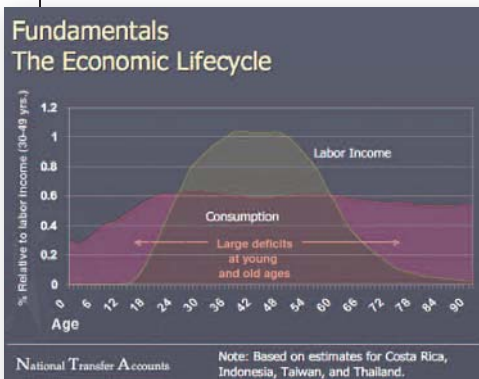
EWC Senior Fellow Andrew Mason and Professor Ronald Lee of U.C. Berkeley's Center on the Economics and Demography of Aging are co-directing a comparative international project, "National Transfer Accounts" (NTA), funded primarily by the National Institute of Aging and involving researchers from more than 20 countries throughout Asia, the Pacific, Europe, North America, and Latin America. They are developing a comprehensive approach to measuring and studying the systems countries use to meet the economic needs of children and the elderly. When completed, NTA will be used to study the evolution of familial support systems, public pensions, health care, and education systems and their influence on economic growth, generational equity, and other features of the macroeconomy.

As many developing nations face rapid population aging, they encounter challenges in sustaining strong economic growth and establishing effective economic support systems for the elderly. The study's initial findings stress the importance of early reform aimed at promoting the accumulation of pension assets rather than reliance on family. The establishment of financial systems that are sound, trusted, and accessible is essential in fostering more prosperous societies.

The research is already generating considerable interest in policymaking circles. Key results have been featured in *Finance &*



*Development* published by the International Monetary Fund and distributed in six languages to over 100,000 researchers and government officials worldwide, and in a briefing paper on global aging for U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice. Findings will also be highlighted in forthcoming UN publications including the Secretary General's report on population and development and the *World Social and Economic Survey*.



*EWC Senior Fellow  
Andrew Mason*



*“This is pragmatic research that can have a great influence on similar issues affecting indigenous peoples of the world.”*

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION PANEL REVIEW



livelihoods, cultural traditions, biodiversity, and watershed hydrology. Both projects involve regional partners including: Chiang Mai University, National University of Laos, Kunming

Institute of Botany, University of Hawai'i, and University of Arizona.

## TRANSPORTATION AND CHANGING LANDSCAPES

EWC Senior Fellow Jefferson Fox and a team of Center researchers are studying changes in land-use practices and land cover along a highway corridor being built from Chiang Mai in northern Thailand, through north-west Laos to Kunming, China. Shifting cultivation, the traditional land-use practice found in the remote valleys of the region, is rapidly giving way to commercial agriculture driven by demand, money, and labor from China. Entrepreneurs have contracted farmers to grow corn, bananas and sugar cane for the Chinese markets.

In order to meet the booming demand for rubber, highlanders (usually ethnic minorities) are planting rubber trees on family plots, and turning to relatives in China for advice and to merchants for seeds, grafts, and tools.

The researchers, funded by the (U.S.) National Science Foundation's Human and Social Dynamics initiative, found that almost all suitable land in Yunnan has been converted to rubber cultivation. Similarly, northern Laos is being transformed at an alarming pace.



*EWC Senior Fellow Jefferson Fox (middle photo, right) and John Vogler, EWC Spatial Information Technology Specialist (middle photo, left), with research team members in northern Laos.*

Fox leads a related NASA funded project, which found that rubber production decreases water storage within watersheds and that rubber evaporates water from the subsurface weeks before the end of the dry season, in contrast to the balance created by the native vegetation. The dramatic changes the researchers are observing in land cover and land use have significant implications for rural

## THE EWC – NOAA PARTNERSHIP

In October 2006, EWC Adjunct Fellow Eileen Shea was appointed director of the NOAA IDEA Center. Shea served with EWC's climate research fellows in 2004 as part of an innovative team that worked with NOAA (the U.S. National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration) in developing the Pacific Region Integrated Data Enterprise (PRIDE) program. This team then saw an opportunity for the EWC to serve as an institutional incubator for a center focused on the development of data

*“The East-West Center was instrumental in the formation of the NOAA Integrated Data and Environmental Applications (NOAA IDEA) Center and continues to play a vital role in the implementation of this exciting new activity.... I expect our partnership to continue to benefit NOAA, the EWC and the region in the coming years.”*

THOMAS R. KARL  
DIRECTOR, NOAA NATIONAL CLIMATIC DATA CENTER





*EWC Adjunct Fellow Eileen Shea (left), was appointed as director of the NOAA IDEA Center.*

products and environmental applications used to assist decision making in the Pacific. Subsequently, NOAA's National Climatic Data Center initiated efforts to establish the NOAA IDEA (Integrated Data and Environmental Applications) Center in partnership with the EWC and Riverside Technology Inc.

NOAA IDEA Center programs focus on providing support for regional and global observing systems; developing new integrated data products and environmental applications; and educating users about these new tools. The IDEA Center also oversees the PRIDE program, which was established to meet critical regional needs for ocean, climate, and ecosystem information to protect lives and property, support economic development and enhance the resilience of Pacific island communities.

Another main priority of the NOAA IDEA Center is The Pacific Region Integrated Climatology Information Products (PRICIP) project, which works to improve understanding of Pacific island vulnerability to tropical storms and other climate related extreme events. Access to accurate and timely coastal storm information is crucial for decision-makers in order to respond effectively. To meet this need, information products are being developed for emergency managers, mitigation planners, government agencies and other decision-makers in key sectors including water and natural resource management, agriculture and fisheries, transportation and communication, and recreation and tourism.

## INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE AND THE RULE OF LAW

The Asian International Justice Initiative (AIJI) is a collaborative project that combines the Asia Pacific regional expertise of the East-West Center and the transitional justice research and training capabilities of the War Crimes Studies Center at the University of California, Berkeley. AIJI is carrying out a range of human rights, rule of law, and international justice projects in the region.

Current activities include capacity-building programs for key contributors involved in human rights and international humanitarian law cases in Indonesia and Cambodia and a regional monitoring program for the Khmer Rouge trials.

Since 2003, AIJI has partnered with the Supreme Court of Indonesia to develop programs that enhance the effectiveness of the Indonesian Human Rights Courts and promote judicial independence and the rule of law. Four training



*EWC AIJI Director David Cohen (left) facilitates the NGO training seminar in Phnom Penh.*



*The East Timor Lessons Learned conference steering team in Bangkok including EWC Research Program Director Nancy Davis Lewis (front row, center), EWC AIJI Director David Cohen (back, center), and Francis Wang, AIJI funder (back, 4th from right).*

*“The ‘Lessons Learned’ conference sponsored by AIJI was an important opportunity for dialogue between judges and other key contributors at the Cambodian tribunal and participants from other international courts. The initiative provided a forum for exchanging essential information and for examining the specific challenges of delivering international justice in Asia.”*

**THE HONORABLE PHILLIP RAPOZA**  
 CHIEF JUSTICE OF THE MASSACHUSETTS APPEALS COURT AND FORMER COORDINATING JUDGE OF THE SPECIAL PANELS FOR SERIOUS CRIMES IN EAST TIMOR

workshops were conducted for judges, prosecutors and investigators of the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), and NGOs involved in human rights cases.

The July 2006 advanced “train-the-trainer” workshop, held in Indonesia, included judges from the Central Jakarta Judicial District and the Indonesian Supreme Court, prosecutors from the Attorney General’s Human Rights Directorate, and NHRC investigators. They received training to serve as instructors of basic training at regional human rights courts in Indonesia.

The October 2006 workshop in Macassar involved a faculty of AIJI-trained Indonesian judges and EWC AIJI Director David Cohen (director of U.C. Berkeley’s War Crimes Studies Center). Financial support for these workshops has come from the Wang Family Foundation, the East-West Center, the Open Society Institute, and the Canadian and Danish governments, and other sources.

AIJI is also developing collaborative initiatives for the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia (ECCC) in Phnom Penh. AIJI’s engagement with the ECCC began with a “Conference on Lessons Learned from East Timor,” held in Bangkok, in May 2006. This conference brought ECCC judges and administrators together with key participants from the East Timor trials as well as experts from the Special Court for Sierra Leone and the Working Group for an Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) Human Rights Mechanism. In June, AIJI then brought international experts with experience in hybrid tribunals to Phnom Penh to advise the ECCC and work with Cambodian NGOs. This visit was organized in cooperation with the Documentation Center of Cambodia and the Open Society Justice Initiative, with funding provided by the British Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

## OTHER EAST-WEST CENTER RESEARCH

### Politics, Governance and Security

***China’s Capitalist Transition***—social, political, and economic changes accompanying China’s transition to an open market economy.

***Domestic Political Change and Japan’s Foreign Policy***—changing institutions shaping Japan’s foreign policy.

***Rise of Private Business in China***—localized production networks and *guanxi* capitalism.

### Economics

***Asia-Pacific Energy Outlook***—assessing energy issues; energy-economic links; the outlook for oil demand, supply, and trade; natural gas markets and future developments; and energy and environmental security.

***China’s Integration into Global Production Networks***—addressing the question: Will China become a leading world technology power?

***China’s New Economy***—effects of China’s surging international trade, fulfillment of commitments under the World Trade Organization, and its emerging role in the Asia region.

***Effects of New Cross-border Road Infrastructure***—social and economic effects of road links intended to increase economic integration in the Mekong region.

***Future of Tourism in Asia and the Pacific Islands***—implications of increasing international tourism in the Asia Pacific Region and the sector’s role in developing economies.

***LNG Market in Asia***—assessing liquefied natural gas supply prospects for the U.S.



Participants from EWC’s 37th Summer Seminar on Population visit the Hawai‘i State Capitol.

### Environmental Change, Vulnerability, and Governance

***Air Pollution and Poverty***—developing air quality management policies that consider the impact of air pollution on the poor.

***Climate Risk Management***—integrating considerations of climate variability and change in disaster management and development planning.

***Natural Resources and Violent Ethnic Conflict in the Asia Pacific***—interdisciplinary study involving scholars who focus on ethnic conflict and access to resources.

***Role of Land-Cover Change in Montane Mainland Southeast Asia in Altering Regional Hydrological Processes***—understanding the relationships between land-cover/land-use change, hydrologic processes, and global climate change.

***Risk and Vulnerability***—protecting vulnerable populations.

### Population and Health

***Family Change in Asia and the United States***—new patterns of family formation and the relationship between work and family life.

***Policy Issues in the Demography of Youth***—social and demographic dimensions of Asia’s urban youth explosion.

***Population and Health in China***—estimating fertility change in China during the last 20 years.

***Interdisciplinary Approaches to Emerging Infectious Disease***—integrated biomedical, ecological and social science approaches.