February was an active month for AMRO. We commenced our Annual Consultation Visit to Lao PDR, held our first AP meeting of the year, and published Annual Consultation Reports on Korea; Hong Kong, China; and the Philippines.

The preparation of AMRO’s flagship report, ASEAN+3 Regional Economic Outlook (AREO) 2020, is in full gear. The report illustrates the economic outlook of the region which, at the beginning of the year, was cushioned by the conclusion of the US-China Phase One trade deal, but is now bracing for the effects of the COVID-19 outbreak. We will share more details on the event shortly. Meanwhile, Save the Date and join us on April 7, 2020!
After a moderation in 2019, Korea’s economic growth is expected to pick up to 2.2 percent in 2020, supported by a rebound of demand for memory chips led by 5G installation in many countries.

Read the report | Read the press release

Hong Kong’s growth in 2020 is expected to come in at -0.2 percent. The city’s solid macroeconomic fundamentals, a sound financial system, and ample fiscal reserves are expected to anchor its economic and financial stability.

Read the report | Read the press release

The Philippine economy slowed markedly in the first half of 2019 and rebounded from Q3 2019, reflecting the swing in government spending. GDP growth declined from 6.2 percent in 2018 to 5.9 percent in 2019. Led by an acceleration in government expenditure, the economy is expected to grow at 6.4 percent in 2020.

Read the report | Read the press release
The recent outbreak of a novel coronavirus (COVID-19) is expected to have a marked impact on China’s economy. This blog by AMRO economists, Anne Oeking and Simon Liu, seeks to ascertain its impact by comparing recent developments with the severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) epidemic in 2002/03.

Read the blog