

PATTNAYAK, SATYA R., Professor, Sociology and Political Science, Villanova University, UNITED STATES

Governance, Political Participation, Female Empowerment and Sustainable Growth in Asia and Latin America, 1990-2012

Panel: Economics and Development

Over the past two decades, efforts to create sustainable and environment friendly societies have varied in the countries of Asia and Latin America. Previous studies have pointed to the importance of globalization, state policies, and labor issues as main determinants of the types of economic growth observed in these countries. However, the importance of variables such as governance, political participation, and female empowerment has often been under emphasized in these studies. To fill that void in the literature, this paper seeks to examine the extent to which governance, political participation, and female empowerment have played a role in determining sustainable growth rates in Asian and Latin American countries. By examining cross-national and comparative data for Asia and Latin America during 1990-2012, this paper hopes to uncover patterns of state-society interaction that may better explain the divergent rates of sustainable growth in both regions.