

The Lao-Nippon Friendship Bridge, built with Japanese assistance, is an integral segment of the East-West Economic Corridor. © Jiji

COVER STORY

# Toward an East Asian Community

*In a November 2009 address titled "Japan's New Commitment to Asia," Prime Minister Yukio Hatoyama outlined his vision for an East Asian Community, with the countries concerned promoting cooperation in various sectors to establish a multilayered network of functional communities. This month's cover story explores the significance and various dimensions of this vision.*