## Acknowledgments

Since he joined the Institute of Developing Economies in 1980, the author has been conducting research on income distribution as well as on economic development policies in Asian countries, especially in Thailand. parts of this study were already published elsewhere. Chapter 1 is largely based on "An Overview of Thai Economic Growth in the Post-War Period" in Wonghanchao and Ikemoto [69]. The first half of chapters 2, 3, and 4 are an updated revision of "Income Inequality and Regional Disparity in Thailand, 1962-81" published in The Developing Economies, vol. 25, no. 3, (September 1987), which is itself a revised edition of Limskul and Ikemoto [34]. The latter half of chapter 2 is translated from my article "Economic Growth and Income Distribution in East and Southeast Asian Countries" which was published in Japanese in Ajia Keizai [Asian Economies] 28, no. 5 (May 1987). The remaining part of this study shows the results of research carried out during my stay in Thailand as a visiting research fellow of Socio-Economic Policy and Forecasting Unit (SEPF), Chulalongkorn University Social Research Institute (CUSRI) for the period from March 1987 to March 1989.

I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to Dr. Kitti Limskul, Director, Socio-Economic Policy and Forecasting Unit (SEPF), Chulalong-korn University Social Research Institute, who gave me the opportunity to begin study on income distribution in Thailand as a member of the joint-research program of the Institute of Developing Economies, and then kindly invited me to SEPF as a visiting research fellow and helped me in various ways. If I had not been allowed to use the data tape of the Socio-Economic Survey, I could not have finished this study. I would therefore like also to express my thanks to the National Statistical Office of Thailand.

I am also very grateful to Professor Toshiyuki Mizoguchi of Hitotsu-bashi University who has been kindly advising me since I started to study income distribution. He also kindly read through the manuscript of this book and commented on many points. Unfortunately, I could not rewrite some of these points because of a lack of time as well as of data. But still I believe that his comments were very helpful in improving this book.

I am also indebted to many people, particularly Dr. Snoh Unakul and

Dr. Chalongphob Sussangkarn of the Thailand Development Research Institute (TDRI), Dr. Medhi Krongkaew of Thammasat University, Dr. Harry T. Oshima of the University of the Philippiness, Mr. Somphong Dimichai of the National Statistical Office of Thailand, and the staff of the Institute of Developing Economies for their helpful comments.

I also express my gratitude to Mr. Wirat Wattanasiritham of the National Economic and Social Development Board and Dr. Warin Wonghanchao who were my counterparts during my stay in Thailand.

I would like to express my sincere appreciation for the editorial work by Ms. Akiko Akemine and Mr. Yukio Saito of the IDE editorial staff. I am also grateful to Mr. David Askew of Kyoto University who helped me in refining my English manuscript.

Lastly, I would like to express my sincere thanks to the Institute of Developing Economies where I worked for ten years from 1980 to 1990 for giving me the opportunity to conduct research on income distribution. The author is solely responsible for the ideas expressed in this study and their shortcomings.