In 1998, the Chinese government restructured the petrochemical industry in developing Asia: a review of the current situation and prospects for development in the 1990s. Additional funding and resources were allocated to the downstream petrochemical industry, particularly in the developing markets. The Chinese government aimed to upgrade production processes and increase competitiveness. However, downstream prospects differ for developed and the developing markets.

Energy in China: Development and Prospects was a key publication that discussed the current situation and prospects for the petrochemical industry in developing Asia. The study highlighted the importance of developing countries in terms of energy production and consumption. The Chinese government had taken significant steps to improve energy efficiency and reduce reliance on imported oil.

The relevance of Operational Research OR in developing countries in terms of energy production and consumption was discussed, emphasizing the need for a data-driven approach to planning and decision-making. The study indicated that OR techniques could help in optimizing resources and improving sustainability in the petrochemical industry.

The current status of and future prospects for the downstream petrochemical industry in developing Asia were analyzed, considering the impact of market trends and policy orientations. The study highlighted the significance of developing countries in terms of energy production and consumption, emphasizing the need for a data-driven approach to planning and decision-making. The study indicated that OR techniques could help in optimizing resources and improving sustainability in the petrochemical industry.