In 2006 and 2007 the Chinese government invited to tender for the establishment of Overseas Special Economic Zones, whereby Chinese developers are financially encouraged to set up such zones, and thus facilitate Chinese SME’s internationalization. This policy is analyzed under the framework of the developmental state and the international business theory with the aim of identifying both the motivations for Chinese firms to invest and settle in those zones, and the role the Chinese government played within that process. Initial results from fieldwork conducted in the “Thailand-China Rayong Industrial Zone” and the “Sihanoukville Special Economic Zone” show that the role of the government in both cases varied significantly by diplomatic relations and ownership of the Chinese developer. While the Chinese government was strongly involved during the process of establishing the zone in Cambodia (developer has strong ties to the local Chinese government), it did not play such a significant role in Thailand (developer is a privately owned company).

Curriculum Vitae (English):
https://www.sinologie.uni-freiburg.de/Mitarbeiterinnen/wiss%20mitarbeiterinnen/stapornwongkul

More information:
http://web.iss.u-tokyo.ac.jp/kyoten/activities/