

Research

The JICA Research Institute Links Research and Practice in Development Work and Contributes to the World's Development Agendas

The JICA Research Institute (JICA-RI) carries out research activities with two main objectives. The first objective is: conducting analysis of development issues in developing countries and contributing to JICA's operation strategies. The second is contributing to constructive discussion on the development agenda by sharing research evidence widely and leading international policy dialogue. With these two objectives, JICA-RI conducts studies that build on the operational experiences and know-how it has accumulated as a development assistance organization.

The results of the researches are published in the form of working papers, policy briefs and books, released broadly through websites and other means, and shared in international conferences and seminars as well.

● Basic Policy for Research Activities

1. Incorporating a Comprehensive Perspective

JICA-RI will incorporate a comprehensive perspective in its cross-field research and analysis of development issues, encompassing individuals, society, the state and the market.

2. Integrating Past and Future

JICA-RI will conduct studies based on the past experiences and analytic results of development aid organizations worldwide, including JICA, and make these studies available for use in future aid activities.

3. Sharing Experiences in Japan and East Asia

JICA-RI will analyze the growth experiences of Japan and its East Asian neighbors and explore the applicability of these experiences to other regions.

4. Sharing Information with the International Development Community

JICA-RI aims to be a research institute that is open to both Japanese and international partners, including researchers, aid-implementing organizations, governmental bodies, private-sector corporations and NGOs.

● Key Domains of Research Activities

1. Peace and Development

JICA-RI conducts comparative analysis of past experiences to uncover ways to effectively prevent and manage armed conflict, and promote post-conflict peacebuilding.

2. Growth and Poverty Reduction

Japan and its East Asian neighbors are considered economic development success stories, having realized growth and reduced poverty. JICA-RI studies these cases from the multifaceted perspectives of individuals, state, market and society, and conducts comparative analysis with economic development in African countries.

3. Environment and Development/Climate Change

Regional and global environmental deterioration are major threats to human security in developing countries. JICA-RI conducts research to devise policies for evaluating environmental damage, effective means to manage natural resources, and ways to mitigate or adapt to climate change.

4. Aid Strategies

JICA-RI pursues rigorous academic analysis of the effectiveness of various approaches to international development assistance, utilizing Japan's experience and knowledge. Research is based on principles such as the "capacity development" approach aimed at enhancing multilevel capabilities covering individuals, organizations, governments, and society, and the concepts of "human security" and "dynamic development that benefit all people."

● Outcomes of Research Activities

Based on the policies and domains, JICA conducted 19 research projects in 2013 and published the outcomes.

1. Publications of Research Outcomes

In fiscal 2013, JICA-RI released 16 working papers that present findings of the research projects. Research outcomes are also compiled as publications by JICA-RI. JICA-RI released six English-language publications and four in Japanese in 2013.

Publications released from professional publishers include "AFRICA 2050 — Realizing the Continent's Full Potential" (Oxford University Press) that discusses the future of African development and "Preventing Violent Conflict in Africa: Inequalities, Perceptions and Institutions (Palgrave Macmillan)," which summarizes the research outcomes by analyzing the factors of violent conflict in the region from the perspective of "structure" and "process."

Books released from JICA-RI are such as "For Inclusive and Dynamic Development in Sub-Saharan Africa" and "Tackling Global Challenges through Triangular Cooperation: Achieving Sustainable Development and Eradicating Poverty through the



Published a book on the future of African development and the South-South Cooperation, based on research outcomes

Green Economy.” Both of them were introduced at the Fifth Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD V) held in Yokohama in June and the Global South-South Development Expo 2013 hosted by the United Nations in Kenya in October, respectively.

Furthermore, four books were released in Japanese, including “*For Reconstruction of Sudan, a Conflict-Ridden Country in Africa,*” and “*Polio is Gone from My Village — International Cooperation of ‘Scientific Hands-on Approach’ from Shandong Province, China.*” These books are published in the series “Project History,” which aims at analyzing Japan’s contribution to developing countries from a long-term perspective.

In addition, most of the outcomes of research projects are widely shared among scholars, as articles of academic journals, books and conference presentations.

2. Collaboration with International Organizations and Research Institutions

For these research activities, JICA-RI promotes joint research

with other research and aid organizations in Japan and the world building partnerships and networks.

One such example is the collaborative research with Initiative for Policy Dialogue (IPD) led by Dr. Stiglitz, professor at Columbia University. The outcomes of the collaboration were presented at a side event held during TICAD V and sparked the discussion on challenges for structural shift of the African economy [→ see the **Case Study**]. The third phase of the collaborative research with IPD was launched on the theme of industrial policy.

Other institutions that JICA-RI continues to collaborate with include, but are not limited to: World Bank, Asian Development Bank, German Development Institute (DIE), Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA), Institute of Development Studies (IDS) at the University of Sussex, U.K, and Brookings Institution in U.S.

*JICA Research Institute website: <http://jica-ri.jica.go.jp/>

Case Study

A Side Event at the Fifth Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD V)

Presented the Outcomes of the Collaborative Research with IPD Led by Professor Stiglitz

On June 2, 2013, JICA-RI hosted a side event at TICAD V in Yokohama, under the theme of “Structural Shift of African Economy” in collaboration with Columbia University Initiative for Policy Dialogue (IPD). This event was aimed at discussing issues of development policies with policymakers from Africa based on the research outcomes.

At the side event, Professor Joseph Stiglitz, head of Columbia University IPD, delivered a keynote speech, following the opening address by JICA President Akihiko Tanaka.

The theme was “How Industrial Policy Can Help Africa Meet the Challenges of the 21st Century.” With regard to the theme, Dr. Stiglitz stated, “The 21st century witnessed economic growth over five percent per annum in Africa. Now is the time to address concerns about the quality of this growth to put Africa on a path of sustained and inclusive growth, not only economically, but politically, socially, and environmentally.”

For Sustainable Development of Africa

In panel discussion following Dr. Stiglitz’s speech, there was a dialogue, under the moderation by Hiroshi Kato (Director of JICA-RI), by Akbar Noman (IPD member and Professor



Professor Joseph Stiglitz



Hiroshi Kato, JICA-RI Director

at Columbia University), Sakiko Fukuda-Parr (Professor at the New School), Yau Ansu (Chief Economist at African Center for Economic Transformation/ACET), and Akio Hosono (Senior Research Advisor/SRA at JICA-RI).

In the dialogue, Professor Noman indicated that Africa should prioritize industrial and technology policies for all the sectors besides the manufacturing industry to achieve sustained development. He also pointed out that the Washington Consensus reform neglected the success in East Asia, including Japan.

As a successful case of various economic transformations, SRA Hosono stressed the

importance of a comprehensive approach through accumulation of capabilities and knowledge, introducing a variety of successful cases of economic transformation, including the garment industry in Bangladesh, an example of success in early industrialization, and the automobile industry in Thailand, a successful case in higher skill and technology.

JICA-RI also organized the side event that presented interim results of the report on forecasting the outlook and challenges of Africa for 2050.

JICA-RI will continue to work on linking research and practices in development.