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Hot Issue

JICA-RI Hosts Two Side Events at TICAD V

On June 2-3, JICA-RI organized two side events at the Fifth International Conference on African Development (TICAD V) held in Yokohama.

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JICA-RI Released the Seventh Volume of "Project History Series"

JICA-RI Released a book entitled "Afuganisutan ni Heiwa no Ishizue wo: Hitobito no Seikatsu Saiken ni Honso Suru Nihonjintachi" (Afghanistan and Japan: Working Together on State-Building and Development) on June 20.

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Review

JICA-RI Holds a Joint Workshop with KOICA

On May 23, JICA-RI convened the second joint workshop entitled "The Nexus of ODA Research and Practice" with the Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) at JICA Ichigaya.

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JICA-RI Hosts Two Side Events at TICAD V

JICA-RI and Professor Stiglitz-led IPD Present the Findings of the Joint Study

June 2, at the InterContinental Yokohama Grand Hotel

JICA-RI and the Initiative for Policy Dialogue (IPD) of Columbia University co-sponsored a TICAD V side event entitled "Economic Transformation of Africa." The event aimed to take up issues to policy makers in Africa through the findings of the joint research project.

In his keynote speech, Prof. Stiglitz spoke on the theme, "How Industrial Policy Can Help Africa Meet the Challenges of the 21st Century?" He raised a number of challenges confronting Africa: 1) the rapid growth of the population in the region; 2) the adverse effect of climate change and global warming on African countries; 3) the stagnation in exports; 4) financial destabilization; and 5) rapid urbanization. To tackle these issues, he introduced a few approaches, such as: to stabilize the capital flows necessary for sustainable development; to narrow a gap in knowledge between developed countries and African countries; and to introduce industrial policies with focus on 'learning.'

In the subsequent panel discussion where JICA-RI Director [Hiroshi Kato](#) served as a moderator, JICA-RI Senior Research Advisor [Akio Hosono](#) stressed the importance of 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.

* In parallel with the side event, JICA-RI and IPD organized the Africa Task Force Meeting entitled "Industrial Policy for the Economic Transformation of Africa" at JICA Yokohama on June 2 and 3. The gathering was a continuation of the Task Force Meeting held at Colombia University in November last year.

JICA-RI Organizes another Side Event "New Vision of Africa in 2050"

June 3, at the InterContinental Yokohama Grand Hotel

JICA-RI hosted a side event entitled "New Vision of Africa in 2050: Can Africa Achieve Inclusive and Dynamic Development?" The event aimed to forecast the economic and social structures in Africa towards 2050, and to discuss the specific policies that African governments and development partners ought to adopt for achieving better economy and society.

Dr. Theodore Ahlers, Senior Associate at the Centennial Group, gave a presentation, based on the JICA-Centennial joint interim report on Africa 2050. He stressed: "In light of different policies and growth strategies among African countries, they need leaders who are pragmatic, strong-willed, and results-oriented."

In the panel discussion chaired by JICA Vice President Hiroto Arakawa, JICA-RI Director [Kato](#), one of the panelists, listed three important policy areas that JICA can make a contribution to: agriculture transformation including food security; human resources development; and infrastructure development. To pursuit these policy goals, he introduced the JICA's project cases in Kenya and Mozambique, where the comprehensive approaches including infrastructure, agriculture, and social development are implemented.



JICA Vice-president Arakawa (left),
JICA-RI Director Kato (second from the right),
Dr. Ahlers, Centennial Group (right)

JICA-RI Director Gives Presentation at Triangular Cooperation Meeting in Portugal

The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Portugal co-hosted the meeting titled “Policy Dialogue on Triangular Cooperation” on May 16 and 17 in Lisbon, the capital of Portugal. JICA-RI Director [Hiroshi Kato](#) gave a presentation on the features of Triangular Cooperation (TrC) that Japan has been engaged in. TrC refers to an approach that a developed country offers support and cooperation for South-South Cooperation (SSC), in which comparatively advanced developing countries assist other developing countries.

In recent years, the United Nations and other international organizations have taken the lead in promoting dialogue on TrC. This event brought together about 60 participants, including Chair of the Development Assistance Committee (DAC). The meeting aimed to exchange opinions among practitioners of TrC, as part of OECD research to verify what constitutes ‘good TrC.’

The event was divided into five sessions; in the second session entitled “Sharing experiences on triangular co-operation,” Kato gave a speech on TrC for development result. He argued that an ideal TrC should strive to realize the development outcomes, explaining features and experiences of JICA’s TrC. He went on to say that it should support processes in which knowledge and skills that are hard to obtain through other aid approaches are shared

and created. He also stressed the importance to assist the process over the long-term in which developing countries, i.e., beneficiaries of TrC, apply and expand the newly-acquired knowledge in the field. His presentation was based on [JICA-RI’s efforts for systematically analyzing the cases of SSC/TrC](#) since last year.

The wrap-up session stressed the need of upgrading monitoring and evaluation systems of TrC, as well as organizing statistical data. During the session, it was announced that JICA-RI is working on a booklet, compiling cases of TrC for the occasion of the Global South-South Development Expo this October—co-sponsored by the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation and the United Nations Environment Programme headquartered in Nairobi. The idea of producing a volume, a compilation of diverse experiences of TrC from a wide range of agencies, attracted the participants’ attention.

Voices were also heard that TrC should be taken up for debate at the ministerial-level meeting of the Global Partnership scheduled early 2014. Japan stressed the significance of SSC in the revised ODA Charter 2003 and has a long-standing history of implementing TrC as a means to promote SSC. In light of this achievement, JICA-RI has placed the importance on the analyses of case examples of TrC as an important research theme since last year, to accumulate knowledge to contribute to future international debates.



[JICA-RI Director Kato \(center\)](#)

JICA-RI Released the Seventh Volume of Project History Series : “Afuganisutan ni Heiwa no Ishizue wo: Hitobito no Seikatsu Saiken ni Honso Suru Nihonjintachi”

The book, introducing the daily activities alongside the accomplishment of the Japanese who endeavored to help local Afghans, attempts to recapture the overall picture of Japan's support for Afghanistan. After the September 11 terrorist attacks in 2001, the international community has collectively supported a new state-building in Afghanistan. Japan, as part of the community, has been providing support, drawing on its unique expertise and experience. In preparing the volume, JICA-RI established a project team to compile the experiences and information from a variety of people—representatives of the Japanese government and the private sector, NGO members, staff of UN organizations and JICA—who have involved in the Afghan reconstruction in various positions. The project team reproduced a concrete picture of their activities in Afghanistan: the emergency humanitarian aid; the assistance for a new state institution building from scratch; the support to build foundation for people's livelihoods; and the human resource development for the future of Afghanistan. The volume also introduces a number of episodes on Japanese assistance in the 1970s. After the twenty-year absence during the war (in the 1980s and 1990s), their impacts still remain in various places even today. These episodes remind us of the importance of assistance to develop human resources and infrastructure that will serve as the foundation for state-building over decades.

(The book is available only in Japanese)

* Please visit [JICA-RI website](#) for the details.



JICA-RI Holds a Joint Workshop with KOICA

On May 23, JICA-RI convened the second joint workshop entitled “The Nexus of ODA Research and Practice” with the Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) at JICA Ichigaya. The meeting was organized as a continuation of the first workshop in Seoul last year that served as a follow-up to the Fourth High-Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness (HLF4) in Pusan.



Director Kato

From the Institute, Director [Hiroshi Kato](#), Deputy Director [Naohiro Kitano](#), Research Program Division Chief Hironobu Murakami, and Associate Professor Eiji Kozuka of Hiroshima University (formerly JICA-RI Research Fellow) attended the workshop, introducing JICA's experiences and researches, along with several cases of ties with project operations. The attendees from KOICA were Managing Director Han-Deog Cho of the Strategic Planning Department, Director Jiyeon Kim and Deputy Director Kyu-Hee Park of the ODA Research Team under the Strategic Planning Department. Both parties exchanged their views on topics, such as nexus of research and practice among aid implementing agencies, as well as the role in research and efforts to feedback of practices.



Deputy Director Kitano