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Shedding light on “aid fragmentation,” JICA-RI and German Development Institute (DIE) co-organized a Workshop “The Politics and Impact of Non-Coordination in International Aid” on February 21, 2014.

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The book was published in October 2013. To mark the launch of the book, public seminars were held in Boston and New York on March 11 and 13, 2014.

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Review

JICA-RI Representative Lectures Based on New Structural Economics at Peking University

On February 26, JICA-RI's Senior Research Advisor Akio Hosono gave a lecture entitled “Industrial Strategy and Economic Transformation from a New Structural Economics Perspective” at Peking University.

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Review

JICA-RI Releases Working Papers: its latest Research Results

Nine Working Papers are newly released, presenting the results of JICA-RI's research projects.

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“Aid Fragmentation” is Discussed at Joint Workshop between JICA-RI and DIE

JICA-RI has conducted research on general budget support (GBS) in the “aid strategies,” one of its four research areas. As part of GBS, JICA-RI has been studying the current status and impact of “aid fragmentation.” “Aid fragmentation” prevents aid-receiving countries from building its aid implementation system. It also thwarts the effect of donors’ initiative approaches in development aid. Shedding light on “aid fragmentation,” German Development Institute (DIE) and JICA-RI co-organized a Workshop “The Politics and Impact of Non-Coordination in International Aid” on February 21, 2014.

In session 1, JICA-RI Executive Senior Research Fellow [Mitsuaki Furukawa](#) first introduced how “aid fragmentation” influences the development outcomes. He stressed the need to centralize project aid in accordance with aid dependence. Next, Dr. Stephan Klingebiel, Head of Department “Bi- and Multilateral Development Cooperation” explained that aid coordination should be considered at the policy level, the programming level, and the implementation level in order to address “aid fragmentation.” He pointed out that aid coordination will save a large amount of cost, while European aid actors need to harmonize and to cut transaction costs. Mr. Stefan Leiderer, Visiting Scholar from DIE, gave a presentation on his colleagues Svea Koch’s and Jörg Faust’s paper. Based on discussions among EU members, he pointed out that budget support (BS), which was introduced with the aim of enhancing aid effectiveness, is difficult due to differences in selections and approaches to aid recipient countries. He further stated that domestic political factors in European donor countries explain the variance of governments’ preferences on BS.



[Mitsuaki Furukawa](#)



[Stephan Klingebiel](#)

In session 2, Mr. Leiderer, giving another presentation, introduced three types of aid modalities: Project Aid; Budget Support; and Aid on Delivery/Results-based Aid, which is a new type of aid. He compared the three with a focus on fiduciary risks, using a formal model. He concluded that aid modalities don’t differ fundamentally with regard to fiduciary risks. Next, JICA-RI Senior Research Fellow [Satoru Mikami](#), drawing on the water supply system in Uganda, compared a project-based aid which is a donor-initiative aid modality that Japan advocates with that of a recipient-based country-system. He concluded that both aid modalities should be aligned with the sector policy and plan of the recipient government.



[Stefan Leiderer](#)



[Satoru Mikami](#)

At the end of each session, Professor Juichi Inada of International Political Economy at Senshu University commented on the significance of discussion to promote aid effectiveness in light of the debate on Japanese BS, while JICA-RI Senior Research Advisor [Akio Hosono](#) pointed out that it is important to set inclusive and sustainable development goals, by utilizing the benefits of and complementing the three aid modalities.



[Akio Hosono](#)



[Juichi Inada](#)

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* [JICA-RI Working Paper No.64](#)

Launch of a Book “*Preventing Violent Conflict in Africa: Inequalities, Perceptions and Institutions*” was Held in the US

An English publication entitled *Preventing Violent Conflict in Africa: Inequalities, Perceptions and Institutions*, which was published by Palgrave Macmillan in October 2013, is a compilation of findings of JICA-RI project “*Prevention of Violent Conflict in Africa*.” To mark the launch of the book, public seminars were held in Boston and New York, the US on March 11 and 13, 2014.

The seminar in Boston on March 11 was co-hosted by the University of Massachusetts Boston, McCormack Graduate School of Policy and Global Studies Department of Conflict Resolution, Human Security and Global Governance, and Educational Divide Reform (EDR). This event brought together researchers and students who specialize in international relations or conflict resolutions. They expressed their great interest and appraisal to the presentations of the research outcomes by JICA-RI Visiting Fellow [Yoichi Mine](#), the chief editor of the book, and former Senior Research Fellow Mari Katayanagi, one of the authors.

Professor Craig Murphy (University of Massachusetts Boston and Wellesley College), who acted as a commentator, highly valued the research framework of the book which closely linking three factors—Horizontal Inequalities (HIs), people’s perceptions, and political institutions, analyzes their relationship from both the qualitative and quantitative perspectives. He also pointed out that while respecting the decisions of the governments of conflict-affected countries, the international community should serve as an active agent for those governments to advance better directions. The participants in the seminar voiced their opinions such as the importance of impact of resource allocation on violent conflicts in Africa, and the need to support non-governmental organizations besides governments.

The seminar in New York on March 13 was co-hosted by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and Permanent Mission of Japan to the United Nations, assembling Ambassador Jun Yamazaki, Deputy Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations, and Mr. Adonia Ayebare, Ambassador and Senior Adviser for Peacebuilding and Development, Office of the Permanent Observer for the African Union (AU) to the United Nations.

In the discussion session where Mr. Jordan Ryan, Assistant Administrator and Director Bureau for Crisis Prevention and Recovery of UNDP moderated, Professor Sakiko Fukuda-Parr (New School), one of the editors of the book as well as a panelist, first explained that the issue of peace-building and conflicts is one of the most pressing challenges under the internationally on-going debate of the new development framework after the Millennium Development Goals (post-2015). Touching on the active discussion especially on democratic governance and rule of law, she stressed the significance of the detailed comparative case analyses with a focus on the social stability or instability, HIs, and political institutions.

Mr. Ozonnia Ojielo, another panelist, who is Head of Conflict Prevention Unit, Bureau for Crisis Prevention and Recovery of UNDP, commented that the outcomes of the research are highly suggestive from the perspective of practitioners who are engaged in peace-building and development in Africa; he explained that the vision of HIs is effective in conflict prevention and resolution in Africa and that the recommendations which place importance on the establishment of political institutions are essential to enhance cooperation and consensus among in-country groups.

JICA-RI Representative Lectures on “Industrial Strategy and Economic Transformation” based on NSE at Peking University

New Structural Economics (NSE), a concept that the effective route for developing countries' learning and development is to exploit the advantage of backwardness and upgrade and diversify into new industries according to the “changing comparative advantages” determined by changes in their endowment structure. According to NSE, it is useful to add both hard and soft infrastructure as components in an economy's endowment.



Justin Lin (left), Akio Hosono (right)

On February 26, JICA-RI's Senior Research Advisor [Akio Hosono](#) gave a lecture entitled

“Industrial Strategy and Economic Transformation from a New Structural Economics Perspective.” at National School of Development of Peking University. Drawing on the concept of NSE, he emphasized the importance of the roles that infrastructure and technological innovation play, while explaining the process that each country attains the “changing comparative advantage,” using case studies: agriculture in the Cerrado region of Brazil; automobile industry in Thailand; the salmon farming industry in Chile; apparel industry in Bangladesh; rice industry in Tanzania; and industrial policies in Singapore. “In order to achieve the changing comparative advantage, public institutions should take initiative in market failure-prone areas such as infrastructure and technological innovation,” Hosono pointed out.

This lecture was given at the invitation of Professor Justin Lin of Peking University, who has advocated NSE. He is a former Senior Vice President and Chief Economist of the World Bank.



JICA-RI Releases Working Papers: its latest Research Results

The Working Papers to be released in March 2014 are as follows.

"Inter-Ethnic Hostility and Mobility of Political Power: Changing Influences of Perceived Horizontal Inequalities"

Author: Satoru Mikami

"Access to Infrastructure and Human Development: Cross-Country Evidence"

Author: Jeet Bahadur Sapkota

"To What Extent Does the Adoption of Modern Variety Increase Productivity and Income ? A Case Study of the Rice Sector in Tanzania"

Authors: Yuko Nakano, Kei Kajisa

"Political Origins of the Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers, 1960–1965: Why the State Sends Young Volunteers Abroad?"

Author: Yasunobu Okabe

"Challenges of Quality of Learning Outcomes for Countries with the Unfinished Agenda of Universal Primary Education and Gender Parity: the Case of Yemen"

Authors: Takako Yuki, Yuriko Kameyama

"Effects of Transport Corridor Development on Firms' Locational Choice and Firms' Perception of Business Environment: a Preliminary Analysis of Transport Corridors in Mozambique"

Authors: Yasuo Fujita, Asami Takeda

"Happiness in Thailand: The Effects of Family, Health and Job Satisfaction, and the Moderating Role of Gender"

Authors: Kalayanee Senasu, Anusorn Singhapakdi

"Property Restitution and Return—Revisiting the Case of Bosnia and Herzegovina"

Authors: Mari Katayanagi, Satoru Mikami

"Analysis of Poverty between People with and without Disabilities in Nepal"

Authors: Kamal Lamichhane, Damaru Ballabha Paudel, Diana Kartika

