

IN THIS ISSUE:

Hot Issue

Findings on Water Management in Africa Presented at Symposium

On June 21 and June 27, JICA-RI held a two-day symposium "Sustainable Water Use and Management in Rural Africa," where senior research fellow [Atsushi Hanatani](#) and cooperating researchers presented the results of two research projects for poverty reduction in rural Africa.

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Review

Research on African Economies Nearly Completed: Final Workshop Held in France

[READ MORE](#)


Review

Impact Evaluation Outcome on Forest Management Planning Project in Ethiopia Published as Working Papers

[READ MORE](#)

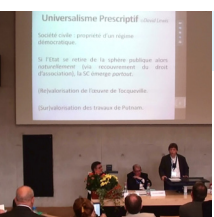

Review

Field Research on 'School for All' Project Conducted in Niger

[READ MORE](#)


Review

JICA-RI Convenes Group-wide Seminar on Education with World Bank Experts

[READ MORE](#)


Review

JICA-RI Research Fellow Participates in France's Academic Conference

[READ MORE](#)

Latest Findings on Water Management in Africa Presented at Symposium



Atsushi Hanatani

On June 21 and June 27, JICA-RI held a two-day symposium "Sustainable Water Use and Management in Rural Africa," where senior research fellow [Atsushi Hanatani](#) and cooperating researchers presented the results of two research projects for poverty reduction in rural Africa. A total of 128 people, mostly practitioners in

international development, attended.

The theme of the first day was: Sustainable Irrigation Management and Rural Society in Africa, for which Hanatani spoke on the sustainability of small-scale irrigation systems in Malawi. Supported by JICA's technical assistance, small-scale irrigation systems made with local materials have become popular among farmers in Malawi in the past few years. (They are referred as "temporary irrigation" as they are set up every year.) Hanatani analyzed the factors behind their popularization and the sustainability with a focus on the subjective rationality for the benefiting farmers.

While temporary irrigation has been widely accepted due to its rationality, Hanatani pointed out that new problems have arisen such as "enclosure" of land along rivers and competition for water because of disorderly popularization. Also, he added that more permanent irrigation facilities (simple concrete-made) built with donor aid could become a hindering factor for cooperative facility maintenance and management among farmers. Against this background, Hanatani said that there exist new issues for the sustainability of temporary irrigation, and merely promoting the spread of the technology in a conventional way may not be sufficient. Also, for supporting organization of farmers for irrigation in the future, he emphasized the importance of understanding farmers' livelihood strategies and their subjective rationality, as well as that of

applying appropriate resource and maintenance management systems according to the features of the resources as "goods" (i.e., private and public goods, common pool resources, etc.).

On the second day, Hanatani discussed a case study on community-managed water supply facilities in Senegal under the theme: [Sustainable Water Supply Management and Rural Society in Africa](#). People in Senegal adopted a community management system of rural water supply facilities called ASUFOR and Hanatani's research aimed to reveal the factors that influence community cooperation/collective action in maintenance management under this system.

For this research, his team regarded the proper payment of water tariff as an indicator of cooperation among community residents, and compared villages with common background to see whether the ASUFOR system was functioning. Mainly the team focused on changes regarding how the villagers paid the water tariff before and after the introduction of the ASUFOR system and what caused the changes. Results showed that the difference in performance of the targeted villages can be better comprehended by grasping various conditions of their degree of perception on things such as degree of resource dependency, predictability of the flow of benefit, applicability of sanction and mutual trust. The team also found out that diverse objective conditions and processes influence these perception factors.

As for policy implications for future water-supply-facility operations and organizational management assistance, Hanatani indicated the significance of understanding the following: villagers' perceptual factors related to collective action; individual situations that influence the degree of perception; and objective conditions of targeted villages. Some symposium participants said the presentation was meaningful as it was based on a comparison of several cases in the field, while others mentioned that the Commons Theory would provide development practitioners with useful insights in the actual operation and maintenance of water facilities.

Research on African Economies Nearly Completed: Final Workshop Held in France

JICA-RI's research fellow [Jean-Claude Maswana](#) and his co-researchers gathered in Paris for a workshop on June 17. Organized by JICA-RI, this was the final opportunity for five researchers, based at international institutions and universities in Japan, Europe and Africa, to share the updates on their research progress for the project: [Exploring Areas of Potentials Sources of Growth for African Economies](#), before publishing. [\[Go to the past article related to this research.\]](#) A total of six papers are currently being prepared, with particular focus on the region's growing economic interactions with Asia, and the authors exchanged comments and fine-tuned their papers.

After JICA France office representative Hitoshi Shoji opened the event with his welcome remarks, the participants presented their preliminary study results along with the current status of their papers whose titles include: "International Entrepreneurship in Africa and the Impact of Transport Costs," "Africa's Industrial Upgrading and the China-factor," and "East-Asian Drivers' Demand of African Commodity and Growth Potentials in Africa."

Among various findings discussed at the workshop, Maswana, who leads the project from Tokyo, points out several noteworthy facts based on a comparison of growth engines (components of economic growth) of Africa and of Asia, and another on trade compositions of Africa and developing Asia against China.

The analysis shows major growth engines of Asian economies, especially China's, are exports (manufacturing products) and investment, while those of African economies are exports and

domestic consumption. Africa's exports heavily depend on primary commodities such as oil, which require no advanced skills and promote little technical innovation. As it's also external-demand-driven, it would falter once this demand wanes. Domestic consumption is not sustainable in the long run as it needs a well-built financial system to support and push consumers' active spending, which is usually not the case in Africa.

A close look at the trade compositions tells a similar story. In the past 10 years, Africa's exports to China have increased dramatically. Yet, their composition remains the same with

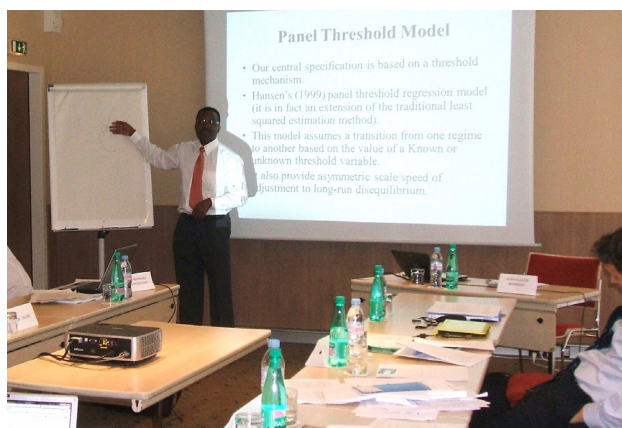
primary resources (such as minerals) high, whereas that of a country like Vietnam has evolved from high on primary resources to more on technology-intensive materials, consequently promoting technical spillover and further economic growth.

Maswana concludes: "These are troublesome findings as both show unhealthy patterns of economic growth,"

implying a departure from these patterns would need a shift of African economies' core to manufacturing products. In this way, there would be possibilities of improving skills of workforce and technical advancement, which may ultimately result in greater economic expansion.

As part of the overall research project, Maswana has also been working on China's special economic zones in Africa, particularly in Mauritius and Zambia, to assess their potentials for success and differences from the ones done by African countries themselves.

The project team aims to finish writing five papers by the fall of this year.



Maswana presenting at the workshop

Impact Analysis on Forest Management Planning Project in Ethiopia Published

Belete Gera region, located in the southwestern part of Ethiopia, is known as 'the birthplace of coffee.' However, the region confronts serious deforestation for some time and JICA has been conducting a project to preserve their forest since 2003. [Yasuyuki Todo](#), professor of Tokyo University and JICA-RI's new visiting fellow, carried out an impact evaluation on this project as a case study for his research: "[Impact Evaluation Analyses for the JICA Projects](#)." The evaluation examined the effect of the farmers' field schools on their income increase, as well as the effect of establishing forest management associations (called Waldaa Bulchinsaa Bosonaa, or WaBuBs) on forest area expansion.

Farmers' field schools were built in the areas where WaBuBs operate. Todo's research team looked into their impact on farmers' income, utilizing the data of the household surveys (on 431 farm families) that were implemented by JICA in 2008 and 2010. By employing 'propensity score matching (PSM)' method, the team learned that the income of the school participants had increased annually, by more than 5,000 yen per worker for the graduates of the inaugural class, for example.

In the observation of WaBuBs' influence on forest area preservation, Todo's team estimated the rate of change in forest area using satellite images taken by Landsat 7. They determined the size of the forest by referring to the degrees of sunlight reflection on leaves of plants, which was later verified in a field work. To deliver more accurate estimation, they adopted 'two stage least squares (2SLS)' approach. According to the data outcome, the area of the forest, where WaBuBs exist, grew by 1.5 percent on average in two years, suggesting the effect of forest preservation by the JICA's project.

For more details of this study, please refer to the newly-released [working papers No.30 & No.31](#).



Belete Gera region suffers serious deforestation



A meeting is held weekly at this farmers' field school



A training at the demonstration farm of the school

Field Research on the 'School for All' Project Conducted in Niger



Thatched elementary school built by COGES in Tahoua region

From June 11 to 25, [Shunichiro Honda](#), JICA-RI research associate, made a field trip to the Republic of Niger. This was to observe the current status of JICA's 'School for All' project, which he is currently investigating as one of the case studies for the research "[Revisiting the Capacity Development Approach through Comparative Case Analysis](#)." [\[Go to related publication\]](#) Developed through the collaboration between the Nigerien Government and JICA, this participatory approach of school management spread throughout the nation in three years and has been contributing to the improvement of Niger's primary education.

In the capital Niamey, Honda met a number of people engaged in the project such as top officials of the Ministry of National Education, staff at 'School for All' project offices, and representatives at local NGOs and research institutions. He also visited two regions of Tahoua and Dosso in southwestern Niger to interview members of COGES (school management committee) and local officials.

One of Honda's findings through this trip is that COGES is now playing an increasingly important role in the education of the country. Residents and officials at various layers -- from villagers and COGES members at local

communities to provincial, regional and central education administrators -- pointed out that the COGES system is indispensable for bettering primary education in the country.

Honda explains: "Niger has gone through a challenging few years due to the democratic transition process following the military coup in 2010 and other difficulties such as droughts. It is remarkable that school improvement activities through COGES mechanism has been sustained under such circumstances. It indicates the effectiveness of the bottom-up and community-led capacity development approach which the 'School for All' project" has been promoting."



Meeting with COGES (Second from right: Honda RA)

JICA-RI Convenes Group-wide Seminar on Education with World Bank Experts

On June 3, JICA-RI welcomed Dr. Elizabeth King, the World Bank's director of education at human development network, and Dr. Harry Patrinos, lead education economist, and organized a group-wide seminar at JICA Headquarters. Attendees included: JICA-RI's Director [Akio Hosono](#), research fellow [Yuki Takako](#) and other researchers; JICA headquarters' staff in charge of educational projects; and scholars from Japanese universities, while JICA project practitioners in Indonesia and Ethiopia participated by satellite.



Dr. Elizabeth King

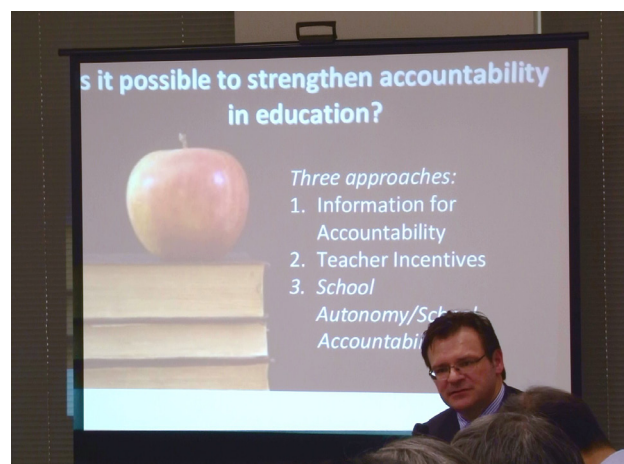
According to Dr. King, the last decade has seen positive signs of education and related development policies working effectively, yet they have not necessarily brought quality performance. For this, their Education Strategy 2020 calls for three actions; invest early, invest smartly, and invest for all, with a strong emphasis on

accountability and results. The same idea is presented in their recently published book *Making Schools Work: New Evidence on Accountability Reforms* – co-authored by Dr. Patrinos, who pointed out the “service failures” of conventional policies and discussed examples of school reform programs worldwide.

JICA has been engaged in various educational programs in developing countries like “School for All” project in Niger. [\[Go to JICA-RI Newsletter No.22 or related publication on “School for All”\]](#) Staff

including JICA-RI research associates [Eiji Kozuka](#) and [Shunichiro Honda](#), and JICA expert in Jakarta, Tomoko Masuda, while maintaining different philosophy and approach from the ones of the Bank, appreciated their presentations and shared comments referring to their projects.

Currently, JICA-RI and JICA's Human Development Department are in talks with the World Bank for a collaborative research, particularly on Systems Assessment and Benchmarking for Education Results (SABER) – the Bank's new assessment and benchmarking program to examine world's education systems and related policy domains, and build a knowledge base for raising learning achievements of children. Yuki of JICA-RI says SABER can be useful, but is not enough for diversified local projects like JICA's as it mostly addresses national level policies. Her expectations are high, though: “JICA has field-based knowledge, and can contribute to the SABER program by proposing critical indicators to be added towards raising this tool's quality.”



Dr. Harry Patrinos making a presentation

JICA-RI Research Fellow Participates in France's Academic Conference



Mari Katayanagi

From June 8 to 10, JICA-RI's research fellow [Mari Katayanagi](#) attended a conference of Association Tires-Monde – a French academic circle of international development and aid researchers – in Switzerland. Under the grand theme on civil society, she presented her paper on JICA's technical assistance

projects in Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH).

Since 2006, JICA has operated two projects to help build trust among multiethnic communities in the suburban Srebrenica. During the Bosnian War, over 7,000 Bosniacs (Muslim resident) were massacred there and the municipality still suffers from the emblematic image of lingering tension between the Bosniacs and the Serbs.

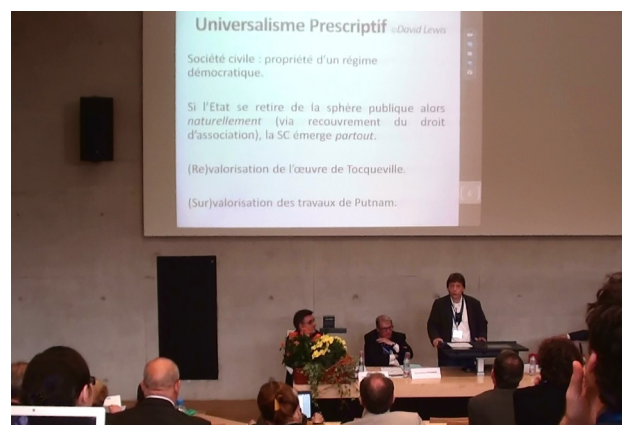
In response to the BiH Government's request, JICA has dispatched an agricultural expert to promote reconciliation and re-building of their society through activities like productions of herb and vegetables, and apiculture. They have succeeded in getting residents of both ethnicities and the municipality actively involved in the work, consequently leading to more communication between the two groups, voluntary formations of civic associations to jointly manage the produce, and income increase.

Katayanagi, who engaged in the country's peace-building for over eight years from 2001, has re-discovered JICA's accomplishments by closely analyzing the projects with a rights-based approach. Rights-based approach is

a development strategy to address situations from a spectrum of rights-holders (citizens) - duty-bearers (municipalities, governments) relationship, and to determine what's needed in aid. She was impressed with the outcomes, especially for their participatory feature, as people in BiH do not easily mingle outside of their closely-knit circle.

She points out a key was that JICA clearly set the main participants to returnees, single-mother families, and families with disabled veterans, of both ethnicities. Katayanagi explains: "This JICA's nondiscriminatory manner agrees with rights-based approach's principles such as equal right to development, and it resulted in aiming to secure rights regardless of ethnicity." She further elaborates: "The politics there is still ethnicity-based, but these communities are breaking free. It's symbolic that the civil society [once destroyed by an armed conflict] is being reconstructed in a place like Srebrenica."

As the only presenter from Asia, Katayanagi says it was meaningful to participate and learn the up-to-date trends in the development-related research of Francophone academia. The ATM welcomed her and urged JICA to join again.



French academic circle, Association Tires-Monde