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Each Expert Shared Their Knowledge on the Agenda



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JICA Research Institute

Review

JICA-RI's Latest Outcomes Published

From the end of January to February 2012, JICA-RI released a working papers **Do Export Costs Matter in Determining Whether, When, and How Much African Firms Export?** and a policy brief **Aiming for Promotion of Climate Change Mitigation Policies in Developing Countries.**

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JICA-RI Convened a Seminar on "Climate Change Mitigation and International Development"



Each Expert Shared Their Knowledge on the Agenda

On February 2, JICA-RI held a public seminar titled "Climate Change Mitigation and International Development" at its premises in Ichigaya, Tokyo.

Climate change initiatives can be broadly divided into two types: mitigation measures, which aim to reduce greenhouse gases (GHG), and adaptation measures, which adapt socio-economic systems to ease the impact of climate change. Focusing on the latter, JICA-RI published the book *Climate Change Adaptation and International Development* (Earthscan) last year. As a follow-up to this, JICA-RI will publish a new book *Climate Change Mitigation and Development Cooperation* (Taylor & Francis) in April. The book outlines international efforts for climate change mitigation with specific case studies from Asia. At the seminar, which also marked the release of this volume, speakers reported on the trends of international mechanisms as well as cooperative efforts for climate change mitigation before the audience of about 100 people.

Project head [Ryo Fujikura](#), visiting fellow of JICA-RI and professor at the Faculty of Humanity and Environment of Hosei University, opened the event by presenting an outline of the new book. Yasuko Kameyama, head of Sustainable Social Systems Section at the National Institute for Environmental Studies, then gave a presentation titled "International Efforts in Tackling Climate Change and Mitigation Actions of Developing Countries" in a session about

the international trends of mitigation. Mitsuo Matsumoto, director of the Forestry and Forest Products Research Institute, reported on "Mitigation Actions for REDD+ and Related Issues," and Hidenori Nakamura, associate researcher at the Institute for Global

Environmental Strategies, described "The Potential of International Inter-city Collaboration for Low Carbon Development."



Visiting Fellow Ryo Fujikura

In the session on "Cases of Mitigation Measures in Developing Countries and International Cooperation," Taro Katsurai, permanent expert at International Development Associates, spoke about "The Effectiveness of Financial Intermediary Loans in Tackling Climate Change, with Case Studies of Indonesia and Vietnam," and [Tomoyo Toyota](#), research associate at



Research Associate
[Tomoyo Toyota](#)

JICA-RI, made a presentation titled "The Greenhouse Gas Reduction Effect of Yen Loans: Case Study of the Power Generation Sector." The above six speakers are all authors of the new book, and are involved in JICA-RI's research project "Mitigation of Climate Change

in Developing Countries."

Junko Morizane, officer of the Office for Climate Change, Global Environment Department, JICA, then shared information about JICA's efforts in promoting mitigation measures in developing countries from the perspective of an ODA implementing agency.

* Read more on the seminar at [JICA-RI website](#)

JICA-RI Released a Book on the History of Indo-Japanese Technical Cooperation in Tropical Bivoltine Sericulture in South India



Cocoon Market in South India

In January, JICA-RI published *Japanese Sericultural Technology That Changed The Silk- Producing India* (Diamond, Inc., 205 pp), the fourth volume of its *Project History* series** that presents JICA's successful past projects. The author is Koji Yamada, senior advisor to the deputy director at JICA-RI, who, before joining JICA-RI, spent three years in Delhi serving as deputy resident representative of the JICA India office.

This volume lays out the history of the sericulture technical cooperation project in south India to improve the quality of Indian-produced raw silk. JICA was involved in this operation for 16 years from the early 1990s.

Raw silk production helped Japan modernize in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, and it reached its peak in the 1920s-30s, but it declined after the end of the war. Yet few people know that the technical expertise and knowledge Japan gained during this period have been exported overseas, where they have played a major role in boosting farmers' income in south India.

For this book, Yamada interviewed Japanese

experts who were involved as well as 40 local silk farmers in India, who provided detailed information over the ways the transfer and training of sericulture techniques was done. His book discusses how the project had to surmount numerous hurdles, including serious cultural differences, and to create techniques and knowledge that were suited to the local climatic and socio-economic conditions, and could eventually start to produce high-quality silk thread.

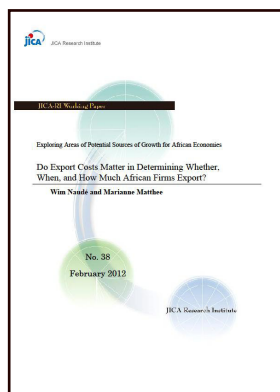
As a BRICS nation, India has been the focus of global attention as an emerging economy in recent years. This book will be of interest not just to specialists in sericulture or those involved in development assistance work, but to anyone who has an interest in contemporary India.

In eight chapters, the story is presented in a way so that it is easy to trace the way the project developed following the situations at the time. It is roughly divided into five parts: sericulture in India in the pre-project period, the early stages of the project, its expansion, subsequent developments after the end of the project, and what the Japanese specialists who are involved and their Indian counterparts are doing now.

*Available in Japanese only.

**The *Project History* series started with *The Japanese who Changed Chile into a Great Salmon-Exporting Country: A Record of International Cooperation that Created an Industry from Scratch* (Akio Hosono), which was followed by *Living More Independently with a Wheelchair in Asian Cities: A challenge by the Asia-Pacific Development Center on Disability* (Akiie Ninomiya), and then *Japan-original Technical Cooperation that Changed the West Africa's Education: The History of the Nigerian Schools for All project* (Masahiro Hara).

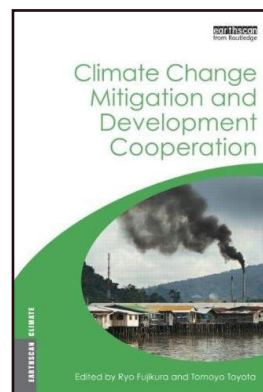
JICA-RI's Latest Outcomes Published



From the end of January to February 2012, JICA-RI released the following publications:

Do Export Costs Matter in Determining Whether, When, and How Much African Firms Export? sheds light on the diverse impact of export costs on

African firms' exports. The paper is put together by Professor Wim Naude (Maastricht School of Management, Maastricht Graduate School of Governance at University of Maastricht in the Netherlands) and Marianne Matthee (senior lecturer at School of Economics, North-West University in South Africa) – both are research collaborators of JICA-RI Research Fellow Jean Claude Maswana-led project: *Exploring Areas of Potential Sources of Growth for African Economies*. The two researchers analyzed the World Bank's survey data from 2002 to 2003 on nearly 50,000 firms in 71 countries, which include over 5,800 in Africa, and found that African firms face higher export costs on average than those in the rest of the world. Still, the paper also indicates, young firms tend to enter a global market than old ones while it implies firm size and corruption are not obstacles for starting export despite the common assumption that they are. Based on the results of their findings, Professor Naude and Matthee recommend policies to promote young and small enterprises gain competitiveness, improve quality of their product, and boost their share in a domestic market, which would eventually help future growth in Africa.



As mentioned in the previous article, JICA-RI will publish *Climate Change Mitigation and International Development* (scheduled release: April 2012). It focuses on issues over mitigation measures against climatic changes, specifically in developing Asia. In January 2012, its two editors Professor Ryo Fujikura at the Faculty of Humanity and Environment of Hosei University and JICA-RI's visiting fellow, and Research Associate Tomoyo Toyota (both are the main members of the research project "Mitigation of Climate Change in Developing Countries") co-authored a policy brief based on the book. Titled **Aiming for Promotion of Climate Change Mitigation Policies in Developing Countries**, it points out the key to successfully reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) and mitigate its damages to the environment lies in developing countries. It is critical the international community comes up with a global mechanism or framework that motivates developing countries to get engaged in mitigation measures, and helps promote their actions, the policy brief says. Toyota explains: "At the 17th United Nations Climate Change Conference in December 2011, participating countries, including developing countries, agreed to build a legally-binding GHG reduction framework. This means there will most likely be an international goal with set target for everyone. In order to succeed worldwide, we need to globally support developing countries' mitigation measures. So our policy brief focused on how international cooperation can contribute to this issue."

*To download, go to [JICA-RI website](http://www.jica-ri.org). The English translation of the policy brief will be available soon.