

## IN THIS ISSUE:

### Hot Issue

## Joint Conference on Security and Development Explores Further Potentials of Euro-Japan Cooperation

JICA-RI cohosted a conference titled “Addressing Local Conflicts before They Turn Global” with the Konrad Adenauer Stiftung (KAS) and the European Japan Advanced Research Network (EJARN) in Tokyo on February 21.

[READ MORE](#)



### Review

## JICA-RI Conducts Research for an Upcoming Book on the Cerrado in Brazil

Akio Hosono, director of JICA-RI, and Yutaka Hongo, visiting senior advisor, traveled to Brazil from February 4 to 19 to conduct a second field survey for their forthcoming book *The Agricultural Development Miracle*.

[READ MORE](#)



### Review

## JICA-RI Convened Symposium on "East Asian Economic Recovery"

JICA-RI organized an open symposium "The Second East Asian Miracle? : Political Economy of Asian Responses to the 1997/98 and 2008/09 Crises" in Tokyo on February 27.

[READ MORE](#)



### Review

## JICA and KOICA's Joint Workshop: An Opportunity of Mutual Learning for Delivering Impact in Development Cooperation

JICA and KOICA held an all-day workshop titled “Mutual Learning for Effective Development Cooperation after Busan” in Seoul on February 16, and over 100 people turned out to join the event.

[READ MORE](#)



# Joint Conference on Security and Development Explores Further Potentials of Euro-Japan Cooperation

JICA-RI cohosted a conference titled “Addressing Local Conflicts before They Turn Global” with the Konrad Adenauer Stiftung (KAS) and the European Japan Advanced Research Network (EJARN) in Tokyo on February 21, 2012. KAS is a German political



Research Fellow  
Mari Katayanagi

foundation and a think-tank that conducts studies and education programs globally, while EJARN, a group of European scholars on Japan, engages in policy research on Japanese politics, economy, and security as well as Euro-Japanese relations. The conference, which about 150

researchers, practitioners, diplomats and students attended, was part of a KAS-EJARN joint project that examines obstacles and potentials for cooperation between Europe and Japan in areas such as post-conflict reconstruction, stabilization and development of conflict-affected countries.

JICA-RI Director [Akio Hosono](#) opened the conference with welcome remarks, and JICA President Sadako Ogata and H.E. Hans Dietmar Schweisgut, Ambassador of the European Union to Japan, each gave an opening speech.

Subsequently, Paul Midford, Norwegian University of Science and Technology, and Michito Tsuruoka, National Institute for Defense Studies, provided their analysis on “Linkage between Micro Security and Development and Global Stability” from European and Japanese perspectives, respectively.



Marie Soderberg

In the following session, Axel Berkofsky, University of Pavia, talked about the case of Mindanao, and Jun Honna, JICA-RI visiting fellow and Ritsumeikan University professor, made a presentation on maritime crimes in Southeast Asia. Honna is the leader of a

project “[Mainstreaming Human Security in ASEAN Integration](#)” at JICA-RI. He told the audiences there is a variety of maritime crimes besides piracy and

recommended effective counter measures including non-militaristic regional cooperation between each enforcement agency at sea and tackling poverty problems in coastal areas.

In Session 3 on Africa, Marie Soderberg, Stockholm School of Economics presented the findings and suggestions for EU-Japan cooperation based on her recent visit to South Sudan, and Research Fellow [Mari Katayanagi](#) introduced the study “[Prevention of Violent Conflict in Africa](#)”. Katayanagi described the structural problems of African societies by analyzing them with the concept of Horizontal Inequalities (HIs) and the measures taken to address the issues in some countries. To prevent recurrence of a conflict that can cause cross boarder damages, it is important for development actors to plan their activities with a possibility of a gap of local people’s perceptions in account, and to assist the recipient country’s government in development through sensitive planning, Katayanagi stressed.

In the final session, panelists reviewed major discussion points and proposed ways of furthering an EU-Japan contribution to global security, stability and development. Research Associate [Ryutaro Murotani](#), as a discussant, emphasized



Research Associate  
Ryutaro Murotani

the significance of understanding a comprehensive approach to nature of security agendas from non-traditional (such as human security) to traditional security (military security, for example). He noted that, given the difference in their preferences on aid modalities, it is necessary to identify where EU-Japan cooperation can maximize its effect, either on the ground level or policy level.

According to Murotani, the conference turned out to be an opportunity to exchange information and views from both Europe and Japan. He also said, “The discussion reminded us of the width of the security agendas and the importance of operationalizing the concept of human security in the Japanese development assistance.”

# JICA-RI Conducts Research for an Upcoming Book on the Cerrado in Brazil

Akio Hosono, director of JICA-RI, and Yutaka Hongo, visiting senior advisor, traveled to Brazil from February 4 to 19 to conduct a second field survey for their forthcoming book *The Agricultural Development Miracle*. This is the fifth volume of the Project History series which analyzes the success factors of the past JICA projects, and describes the transformation of the Cerrado into the world's top granary.

The sites the team visited this time include the capital Brasilia and the regions in the Tocantins and Mato Grosso states where the PRODECER (Japan-Brazil Agricultural Development Cooperation Program) had been carried out.

Here are some facts Hosono and Hongo could confirm through the field surveys:

## 1) Prudent environmental consideration

PRODECER has long been engaged in agricultural development in the Cerrado with consideration for environment, about 15 years ahead of the 1992 Rio "Earth Summit." This fact was confirmed through interviews with many of the people involved including Carlos Magno, former director of the Agricultural Research Center for the Cerrado (CPAC) and former director-president of the Brazilian Agricultural Research Corporation (EMBRAPA). In addition, PRODECER was carried out with an even greater emphasis on environmental protection after the Earth Summit, which the team reconfirmed with information provided by Dr. Edson Eyji Sano of the Brazilian Institute of Environment and Renewable Natural Resources (IBAMA).

The city of Lucas do Rio Verde, located in the Cerrado region, presents an example of successful environmental preservation endeavor. The most outstanding achievements of the city include, among others, the promotion of Cadastro Ambiental Rural (CAR), a farmland registration program created with GPS data as part of their social environment project.

With these efforts the city was commended by *Jornal do Brasil*, one of Brazil's major newspapers, as the most accomplished environment-friendly city of the country in 2006.

## 2) Promoted regional value chain

The team also confirmed PRODECER contributed to diversification of agriculture in the region as well as the creation of vast value-chains in and around the Cerrado through the development of agro-livestock-industry-related manufacturing sector. And these changes initially started with the construction of colonies (settlements) by farmers, who ventured into the region as members of cooperative unions. These developments have resulted in the increased employment opportunities and improved incomes in the region.

Consequently, those cities that served as centers of PRODECER are now placed at the top of the country's Human Development Index ranking (UNDP measures that show the quality and degree of development of peoples' life).

For example, Lucas do Rio Verde is ranked 8th out of more than 5,000 municipalities in Brazil, and top within the state of Mato Grosso. Director Hosono said, "The mayor, city officials, and farm producers all agreed that PRODECER was the starting-point

for the success of Lucas do Rio Verde."

In Tocantins, the state governor stressed that PRODECER has been invaluable for the agricultural development of the state.



Lucas do Rio Verde, Mato Grosso state and its suburban soy field



# JICA-RI Convened Symposium on “East Asian Economic Recovery”

JICA-RI organized an open symposium "The Second East Asian Miracle? : Political Economy of Asian Responses to the 1997/98 and 2008/09 Crises" in Ichigaya, Tokyo on February 27. Some 80 people were in attendance at the event.

East Asia achieved economic growth which has been dubbed “the East Asian Miracle.” Despite the Asian currency crisis in 1997-98, the region made a V-shaped recovery, and also overcame the 2008-09 global financial crisis. [JICA-RI's research project](#), which the title of the symposium was named after, aims to analyze the mechanism of the economic recovery from the most recent crisis – possibly referred to as the "Second East Asian Miracle" -- from a political-economy perspective. Nine experts involved in the project shared their analyses.

Three JICA-RI researchers – senior research advisor [Keiichi Tsunekawa](#) (professor at the National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies), research fellows [Yasunobu Okabe](#) and [Jean-Claude Maswana](#) – gave presentations, titled respectively: "Japan: Political Economy of Long Stagnation;" "Financial Restructuring after the 1997 Crisis and Impact of the Lehman Shock: Path Dependence of Financial System in Korea and Thailand;" and "Reflections on the Role of the Banking Sector in China and Korea's Export-led Growth."

In his presentation, Tsunekawa, who believes that the lack of policy coherence in Japan has become an impediment to its economic recovery, showed a concern that economic development in democratizing Asia's middle-income countries might stagnate due to incoherent industrial and welfare policies.

Okabe analyzed different approaches Korea and Thailand took for financial restructuring through examining the historical path of the financial system in each country. In Korea, restructuring of the financial sector progressed comparatively fast after the 1997 crisis, but the country suffered again from the 2008-09

financial crisis. Meanwhile, Thailand, where financial restructuring process moved at a slower pace, was able to avert the latter crisis.

Maswana compared China and Korea and reported that while the banking sectors in both countries contributed to export-driven economic growth, their functions began to differ after the 1997-98 crisis, reflecting their ties with the state and foreign capitals.

Below is the list of presentations made by researchers outside of JICA-RI.

- "Global Finance and Two Asian Crises", T.J. Pempel (University of California, Berkeley, USA)
- "The Politics of Economic Upgrading in Export-Oriented Southeast Asia", Richard Doner (Emory University, USA)
- "Between Economic and Political Crises: Thailand's Contested Free Trade Agreements", Thitinan Pongsudhirak (Chulalongkorn University, Thailand)
- "99 Problems (But A Crisis Ain't One): Political Business and External Vulnerability in Island Southeast Asia", Thomas Pepinsky (Cornell University, USA)
- "Unraveling the Enigma of East Asian Economic Resiliency: The Case of Taiwan", Yun-han Chu (Academia Sinica, Taiwan)
- "Roads to Privatization: Strategic Privatization in the Korean Public Sectors", Whasun Jho (Yonsei University, South Korea)

Some of their research outcomes will be published as JICA-RI Working Papers in late March.



# JICA and KOICA's Joint Workshop: An Opportunity of Mutual Learning for Delivering Impact in Development Cooperation



Deputy Director  
Hiroshi Kato

JICA and its Korean counterpart Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) have been closely collaborating in various ways. In furthering this partnership, two agencies held an all-day workshop titled “Mutual Learning for Effective Development Cooperation after Busan”

in Seoul on February 16,

and over 100 people, including practitioners involved in ODA work, academics and college students turned out to join the event. KOICA's Vice President Sungmog Hong, Director of ODA Research Office You-ah Chung and other officials were among those who attended. From Japan, JICA-RI's Deputy Director Hiroshi Kato, Senior Advisor to Deputy Director Koji Yamada and Research Associate Shunichiro Honda as well as JICA's Daiki Kunitake (deputy director of Development Partnership Division) participated.

Out of diverse topics, the workshop focused on three agendas: research and practice linkage, public-private partnership (PPP), and programme based approaches (PBAs, for



Senior Advisor to  
Deputy Director Koji  
Yamada



Research Associate  
Shunichiro Honda

short, is a concept that stands on the principle of coordinated support for recipient-country-led national development programs among donors and other actors), and speakers from JICA and KOICA each made a presentation on these issues.

In the closing speech, Deputy Director Kato said that the workshop had become a fruitful occasion for both to share each other's experience (especially thanks to the hard work of KOICA research office staff), and expressed his wish to continue the mutual learning opportunities, hopefully for jointly disseminating the knowledge of the two agencies globally in the future.

[More on this workshop [here](#).]

