

# Academic Collaboration in the Field of Development Cooperation

Sept. 29, 2017



Group photo of enumerators of survey on livelihood of people with disabilities in Manila, the Philippines, 2008.  
A tripartite collaboration among beneficiaries (the disabled) and Filipino and Japanese research institutes. See Mori, Reyes and Yamagata (2015).

**Tatsufumi Yamagata** (Institute of Developing Economies Advanced School)  
Vice President, Japan Society for International Development (JASID)

# Structure

1. Academic collaborations
  - Research collaborations
  - Teaching collaborations
2. Features of academic programme of the IDE Advanced School
  - Comparative study
3. Influences of academic works on policies
  - Justification of policies
  - Criticism of policies

# 1. Academic Collaborations

# The Institute of Developing Economies (IDE): My affiliation

- Semi-governmental / non-partisan research institute
- Coverage: Asia, Africa and Latin America
- Flagship journal: *The Developing Economies*
- Educational wing: IDE Advanced School (IDEAS)
  - Non-degree school
  - Half year training: 18 Asians and Africans
  - One year training: 14 Japanese
  - Japanese students are supposed to proceed to graduate schools in Europe and US after IDEAS.



# Types of Academic Collaborations #1

- Research Collaborations

- Vertical collaboration (tripartite cooperation)

| Topic                   | Japan | Partner                                      | Beneficiary  |
|-------------------------|-------|--|--|
| Apparel, Bangladesh     | IDE   | Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies  | Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association |
| Apparel, Cambodia       | IDE   | Economic Institute of Cambodia               | Garment Manufacturers Association of Cambodia              |
| Disability, Philippines | IDE   | Philippine Institute for Development Studies | Disabled People's Organizations                            |

- Horizontal collaboration

- A collection of articles into a book
- Conference with international scholars

# Types of Academic Collaborations #2

- Teaching Collaborations
  - Invitation of scholars to the IDE Advanced School for one-week long “Intensive Lecture”
  - Example:
    - Invited Scholar: Professor Taekyoon Kim (Seoul National University: a core member of KAIDEC)
    - Topic: Governing International Development: Challenges and Alternatives
    - Date: 6-9 June 2016
  - Other invited scholars
    - Michael Roberts (Aid for Trade Coordinator, WTO)
    - Ulrich Volz (Head, Dept. Economics, SOAS, U. London)

## **2. Features of Academic Programme of IDE Advanced School**

## **Features of IDE Advanced School (Overseas Fellows Programme)**

- Mid-career government officers specializing economy / diplomacy / administration in certain countries of Asia and Africa are invited for 6 months.
- A comparative study between fellow's mother country and a model country is requested for graduation:
  - Ex #1. South Africa with Indonesia on EPZ
  - Ex #2. Sri Lanka with Thailand on the fishery industry
  - Ex #3. East Africa with Mekong Sub-Region on regional transportation network



### **3. Influences of academic works on policies**

# Justification of Policies

- Policy makers want justification of their policies.

## 1. Evaluation

- OECD DAC member countries receive peer reviews.
- Academic experts are mobilized as a third party.
- For repeated nomination, even academic experts may compromise

## 2. Research

- Policy makers secure research grant for scholar to study policy related issues.
- Again, there are incentives for scholars to compromise for the sake of repeated grants.

# Criticism of Policies

## 1. Research-based Criticism: My own experience

- Criticism on Global Value Chain Approach
- GVC suggests specialization to high-value-added production process regardless of presence of competitiveness
- Suggestion of specialization to design / marketing of the garment industry to Bangladesh
- Fukunishi et al. (2006) and Fukunishi and Yamagata (2014) criticized GVC oriented policies.

## 2. Wisdom-based Criticism

- Criticism against strong nationalism: XX-First Approaches
- Support for reasonable multilateralism against unilateralism

## Final Remarks

- What kinds of academic collaborations are meaningful and feasible among 4 academic organizations?
- What kinds of collaborations are meaningful and feasible between the 4 academic organizations and UNESCAP?
- **Joint Statements (for future possibility)**
  - Example #1. Support for multilateralism.
  - Example #2. Concern about too strong nationalism.

# References

- Fukunishi, Takahiro; Mayumi Murayama; Tatsufumi Yamagata and Akio Nishiura (2006), *Industrialization and Poverty Alleviation: Pro-Poor Industrialization Strategies Revisited*, Vienna: UNIDO.
- Fukunishi, Takahiro and Tatsufumi Yamagata eds. (2014), *The Garment Industry in Low-Income Countries: An Entry Point of Industrialization*, Palgrave Macmillan.
- Mori, Soya; Celia M. Reyes and Tatsufumi Yamagata eds. (2015), *Poverty Reduction of the Disabled: Livelihood of Persons with Disabilities in the Philippines*, London and New York: Routledge.