

International Research Exchange Promotion Activities

During Fiscal Year 2005

Invitation of Visiting Research Fellows

In this program, academic or other specialists are invited exclusively from developing countries as Visiting Research Fellows (VRFs), for a period between three and ten months, in principle. This program offers VRFs opportunities, in addition to carrying out research, to exchange opinions and information on development issues with IDE researchers and learn about the Japanese development experience through activities such as study tours and seminars on Japan. In FY2005, 11 IDE-funded VRFs were invited, including three fellows in the project-participatory VRF program. The Institute also invited five self-supporting VRFs from abroad during the period (for each VRF's affiliation and research topic, see pp. 70–71).

Dispatching of IDE Staff Abroad

The Institute dispatches researchers abroad on two-year assignments, with a special emphasis on the experience of conducting research in developing countries or regions. Through this program, researchers are expected to cultivate their capacities for making in-depth analyses of economic, political, and social phenomena in those countries and to build overseas institutional networks. In FY2005, 11 researchers were sent abroad to be affiliated with research institutes, universities, and international organizations. Two senior research fellows organized research teams and conducted joint studies in Vietnam and Malawi, in collaboration with academics and experts in those countries (for each fellow's research topic and host institution, see pp. 72–75).

Networking Activities

The Institute has carried out various activities to contribute to its work as an intellectual center of development studies. Activities in FY2005 are summarized as follows.

- Invitation of an expert from Brazil.
- Acceptance of interns from the Netherlands, Bangladesh, and Zimbabwe.
- Acceptance of 123 visitors from abroad.
- Making presentations in international forums such as academic societies and international meetings, etc.

Support for the Global Development Network (GDN)

As a member of GDN-Japan, the Institute supports GDN activities, which include participation in annual conferences and review of papers for the GDN Development Award.

In FY2005, the Institute participated in the session entitled "Harnessing Social Capital for Poverty Reduction" at the annual conference held in St. Petersburg, Russia, in January 2006, in cooperation with Japanese and overseas experts.