

# International Research Exchanges Promotion Program

During Fiscal Year 2003

## ASEAN-Japan Research Institute Meeting (AJRIM) in Tokyo

In Singapore in January 2002, Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi proposed an Initiative for ASEAN-Japan Comprehensive Economic Partnership (AJCEP). Since then, AJCEP has been discussed at various international conferences. However, AJCEP has not yet been clearly conceptualized.

To support the AJCEP initiative, IDE-JETRO of Japan, along with research institutes of ten ASEAN member countries, met in Tokyo on July 22, 2003 to finalize the joint study report. At the AJRIM, two background reports were prepared: "ASEAN-Japan Comprehensive Economic Partnership: Vision and Tasks Ahead" and "ASEAN-Japan Competitive Strategy Report." These background reports provided a solid basis for discussions to finalize the joint study report. The finalized joint research report, "ASEAN-Japan Comprehensive Economic Partnership: Vision and Tasks Ahead" was submitted to the Consultation between ASEAN Economic Ministers and the Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry of Japan (AEM-METI) in Phnom Penh, Cambodia in September 2003.

## Global Development Network

The Global Development Network (GDN), established in 1999 by the World Bank, is a worldwide forum on development studies both in developed and developing countries. It currently has twelve regional hubs; the Japan Bank for International Cooperation maintains GDN-Japan website. GDN became independent in 2001, and will open a headquarters in New Delhi.

IDE held a session at the GDN Fourth Annual Conference in New Delhi on January 28–30, 2004. It also served as a reviewer for the trade and FDI section of the Global Development Award, which was presented at that conference.

More than seven hundred participants from around the world attended the conference, with eighteen including one from IDE coming from Japan. The conference was composed of seven plenary and twenty-five parallel sessions. In the IDE session, titled "Reform in Agriculture—Experiences of Asia," three presentations elaborated on different experiences of agricultural reform. Under the chairmanship of Prof. Chinnachamy Ramasamy, Ms. Ikuko Okamoto, an IDE researcher, reported on the agricultural marketing reform and rural economy in Myanmar. IDE also invited two speakers from Japan and India, who reported on the food policy and food security in India during the reform period, and on the long-term agricultural growth and agricultural policy in India and Pakistan.