

International Conferences

for Fiscal Year 2002

Emergent Actors in African Society and Economy

March 14–15, 2003

Political and economic changes gave rise to many entities of action, and these emergent actors became the driving forces that furthered overall transformation of society and economy in post-structural adjustment Africa. Research topics were spread among researchers who participated in a collaborative research project “Emergent Actors in African Political Economy.” Prof. Ayodeji Olukoju focused on some emergent business actors operating in Nigeria’s stagnated economy. He examined the role of a new umbrella organization that has emerged as an effective mouthpiece for the private sector in Nigeria. Dr. Cyril Obi argued that women’s movements in Nigeria’s oil-producing communities are an emergent social force in popular struggles. His paper also sought to redress the gender-blind shortfall in the analysis of social struggles. Following the discussion on women’s movements in Nigeria, Katsuya Mochizuki read a summary of Dr. Hussaina Abdullah’s working paper that argued the competition among Nigerian women’s movements that accompanied the differing and differentiated responses toward the structural adjustment and political reform programs.

Participants: Ayodeji Olukoju (Professor, University of Lagos), Cyril Obi (Senior Research Fellow, Nigerian Institute of International Affairs), Enisan A. Akinlo (Visiting Research Fellow, IDE-JETRO), Makiko Toda (Associate Professor, Tenri University), Takehiko Ochiai (Associate Professor, Ryukoku University), Toshiaki Hayashi (Executive Vice President, IDE-JETRO), Sadashi Fukuda (IDE-JETRO), Katsumi Hirano (IDE-JETRO), Katsuya Mochizuki (IDE-JETRO)

Economic Development through Industrial Agglomeration: Factors which Attract Firms

December 9–10, 2002

Industrial agglomeration has attracted interest as a strategy for local economic development. On the theoretical side, spatial economics endeavors to explain some aspects of agglomerations. On the practical side, there is a hot debate whether firms can choose their location without geographical considerations due to the development of information and communication technology (ICT). However, there are, in fact, several agglomerations in some industries in addition to the ICT industry such as Silicon Valley as well as traditional clusters of local industries.

We made a comparative study of locations and industrial agglomerations, and drew certain practical and policy implications for small and medium-sized enterprises in developing economies. To do this, we organized three study teams—Japan, the EU, and the United States—and analyzed not only developed but also developing countries including Japan, Italy, East Asia, and North America.

We held this international workshop on December 9–10, 2002. Each team made presentations and discussed advantages and disadvantages of economic development through industrial agglomerations. We concluded that the success of industrial agglomerations depends on (1) infrastructure, (2) institutional frameworks, and (3)

government support (or foreign assistance) in terms of laws, taxation, and finance. Based on the presentations at this workshop, we published a report in March 2003 entitled *Industrial Agglomeration: Facts and Lessons for Developing Countries* (IJRP Series No. 7).

Participants: Emanuele Giovannetti (Department of Public Economics, University of Rome “La Sapienza”), Enrico Santarelli (Department of Economic Science, University of Bologna), Andrew Schrank (Department of Sociology, Yale University), Clemente Ruiz-Durán (Faculty of Economics, National Autonomous University of Mexico), Masatsugu Tsuji (Osaka School of International Public Policy, Osaka University), Takuo Imagawa (Osaka School of International Public Policy, Osaka University), Masashi Ueda (Faculty of Informatics, Graduate School of Kyoto University), Yumiko Okamoto (Graduate School of International Development, Nagoya University), Tetsushi Sonobe (Department of Economics, Tokyo Metropolitan University), Ichiya Nakamura (Stanford Japan Center-Research), Kazuhiko Odaki (Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry), Yasunari Miyauchi (JETRO), Mitsuhiro Kagami (IDE-JETRO), Akifumi Kuchiki (IDE-JETRO), Kōji Nishikimi (IDE-JETRO), Kōichirō Kimura (IDE-JETRO)

Law, Development, and Socioeconomic Changes in Asia

October 21–22, 2002

The evolution of market-oriented economies and the increase in cross-border transactions have brought about an urgent need for research and comparisons of judicial systems and the role of law in the development of Asian countries. This workshop was intended to present the results of the joint research projects for three years (April 2000–March 2003) with seven Asian countries and to obtain feedback and comments.

Presentations and discussions were made on the following topics: (1) the role of law in social and economic development, (2) the reforms of political and administrative systems that were required after democratic movement succeeded; (3) the reforms of judicial systems and ADR; and (4) the methods and problems of Asian law studies.

Participants: Nobuyuki Yasuda (Professor, Nagoya University), Shin'ichi Agō (Professor, Kyushu University), Tsuneo Matsumoto (Professor, Hitotsubashi University), Kittisak Prokati (Professor, Kyushu University), Raul C. Pangalangan (Professor, University of the Philippines), Surinder Kaur Verma (Director, Indian Law Institute), Masaki Ina (Professor, Asia University), Nobuo Kōchū (Professor, Kansai University), Dao Tri Uc (Director, Institute of State and Law, Vietnam), Liu Junhai (Professor, Institute of Law, Chinese Academy of Social Science), Vichai Ariyanuntaka (Judge, Central Intellectual Property and International Trade Court, Thailand), Tatsuo Ikeda (Professor, Osaka University), Naoyuki Sakumoto (IDE-JETRO), Masayuki Kobayashi (IDE-JETRO), Shin'ya Imaizumi (IDE-JETRO), Miwa Yamada (IDE-JETRO), Izumi Chibana (IDE-JETRO)

Analysis of Asian Industrial Economic Development: The Case of China

September 16, 2002

The IDE China group conducted joint research with the Development Research Center (DRC) of China's State Council in an inquiry with an appropriate filed of Japanese government's official aid. The joint study examined financial issues affecting small and medium-sized enterprises and rural area financial systems. It also studied problems in overall financial regulations. During this fiscal year the group held a workshop in Beijing for exchange views and the findings of their joint studies. Although China has massive financial assets, small and medium-sized enterprises, rural farmers, entrepreneurs, and small individual investors suffer from poor service and insufficient protection of their interests. In order to explore the areas where institutional improvement is needed and to promote institutional reform, participants from the IDE and DRC gave presentations on the following issues: "Profit Manipulation by Listed Companies in China," "Experiences of Inappropriate Liberalization in Vietnam's Financial System," "Trade Credit in China: Its importance and Implication," "In Search of Equal Opportunity for Enjoying the Fruits of National Development," "What Is Causing the Credit Problem in China—Data from DRC-IDE Surveys 2001," and "Policy Implications for Rural Financial Systems and the Rural Economy."

Participants: Qiao Yu (Professor, Fudan University), Shin'ichi Watanabe (Professor, International University of Japan), Jianbo Chen (Research Fellow, Development Research Center of State Council, China), Xiwen Chen (Vice Director, Development Research Center of State Council, China), Noriyuki Yanagawa (Associate Professor, University of Tokyo), Mariko Watanabe (IDE-JETRO), Hisatoshi Hoken (IDE-JETRO)

The Machinery Industry in Asia: Business Chances and Industrial Cooperation from the Automotive Industry's Viewpoint

November 25, 2002

This workshop was held as a part of the research project, "Research on Supply and Demand in the Asian Machinery Industry." Until recently the international competitiveness of the machine tool and the die and mold industries in Japan was strong. However, this situation has changed. Korea and Taiwan have been catching up as they exploit recent technological innovation, and China has also been growing rapidly. Japanese manufacturers will have to ally themselves with overseas partners for production, technical tie-ups, sales, and so forth. This workshop brought together Japanese and overseas researchers and businessmen to look at these changing circumstances and to discuss the state and prospects of the machinery industry in Asia.

In the first session, there were four presentations that examined the demand for machine tools in the automotive industries in Korea, China, and India, respectively. The second session consisted of three presentations that focused on the present conditions and prospects for local machine tool, and die and mold manufactures in Korea, Thailand, and China, respectively. The final session presented some technological suggestions as well as policy implications in order for the machine tool and the die and

mold industries in Japan to respond to the rapid growth of the capital goods industry in Asia.

Participants: Peng Ming Zhong (General Secretary, Chongqing Association of Private Technology Enterprises), Park Kwang Soon (Research Fellow, Korea Institute for Industrial Economics and Trade), Yoshimi Itō (Professor Emeritus, Tokyo Institute of Technology), Isamu Komatsu (President, Komatsu Technical Office), Yoshio Shima (Advisor, Houko Co., Ltd.), Sōichi Hachiga (Director, Statistics Department, Japan Machine Tool Builders' Association), Kazuhisa Yamagiwa (Professor, Tokyo Institute of Technology), Takao Tsuneishi (IDE-JETRO), Junko Mizuno (IDE-JETRO), Shūji Uchikawa (IDE-JETRO), Moriki Ōhara (IDE-JETRO)