Seminars and Lectures

The Institute organizes lectures on current issues and topics of special interest. The lectures are open to the public, although some are held for limited audiences consisting of Diet members, government officials, members of private sector organizations (research organizations, the press, and universities), etc. About thirty lectures are held every year, among which ten are organized in various regions of Japan with the collaboration of local economic and research organizations.

In addition, Summer Seminars are held every year to disseminate information about development issues. In FY2002, ten courses (thirty subjects) were organized. The themes in FY2002 included "Globalization and Asia: A New Exploration of Intra-Asian Economic Relationships," "Searching for Clues for the Revival of Africa," and "Economic Development and Governance."

Seminars on specific subjects were held for those who are particularly interested in issues of development and/or developing areas. One of them dealt with "Prolonged Use of IMF Resources."

Commendation for Outstanding Publications

(Award for the Promotion of Studies on Developing Countries)

In order to promote studies on developing countries, and to encourage researchers in Japan who are engaged in such studies, the Institute grants awards each year for outstanding publications on economic and other issues concerning developing countries. In 2002, a total of fifty-nine books and papers published during the previous year were recommended for consideration by distinguished scholars in related fields. The selection committee, consisting of the members listed below, examined four reports and eventually selected one publication listed below. The award was presented to the author by the Institute on July 3, 2002.

Members of the Selection Committee

Shigetō Kawano (Chairman; Professor Emeritus, University of Tokyo), Yōnosuke Hara (Professor, University of Tokyo), Akira Kohsaka (Professor, Osaka University), Katsuji Nakagane (Professor, University of Tokyo), Osamu Ohwa (Editorial Writer, Asahi Shimbun), Juro Teranishi (Professor, Hitotsubashi University).

Award-Winning Publication

Yoshiko Kurita, *Kindai Sūdan ni okeru taisei-hendō to minzoku-keisei* [Power and nation in modern Sudan] (Tokyo: Otsuki Shoten Publishers, 2001).
(Associate Professor, Faculty of Letters, Chiba University as of July 3, 2002)

Office Information Systematization

In fiscal year 2002, the Research Information Systems Division of the Institute worked extensively to improve the function of the information systems used by the Institute, particularly the upgrading of the Field Survey Management System. The system was developed based on proposals such as the action plan for the Formation of an Advanced Information and Telecommunications Network Society as mandated by the government. The Division also worked for the more stable management and operation of its information systems.

(1)   Improvement of Information System Functions. For the Field Survey Management System, a system for calculating of traveling expenses and for printing of field survey lists, was developed. The OS was changed from a UNIX-based to a Windows-based server which will make it possible to cut the costs of developing systems.

(2)   Management and Operation of Information Systems. The Institute gives high priority to the stable management and operation of information systems. In order to prevent illegal access to the Institute's information systems and damage from computer viruses, firewall log supervision was implemented, and virus checks were performed on both servers and clients. Security packs were installed on all servers and clients to prevent security problems related to the OS or software.

(3)   Preparation of Basic Concepts for the Next Information System. A contract was concluded with a consulting firm to prepare basic concepts for the next information system to be installed at the Institute and to conduct a survey on trends in the latest technology for servers and clients. This was intended to prepare basic specifications for various servers, clients, and peripheral equipment to be used by the Institute, and to examine the current trends in technology. Draft specifications and scheduling were announced publicly in accordance with international bidding procedures.

(4)   Installation of Terminals for Information Access. In compliance with the Law Concerning Access to Information Held by Administrative Organs (Disclosure of Administrative Documents) enacted in October 2002, LAN wiring and terminal setups were put in as part of the installation of PC terminals which will be used to access lists of documents available for public viewing on the Institute's Internet website.

(5)   Staff Computer Training.

(6)   Support for Homepage-Related Maintenance.

Supporting Members

Supporting members of the Institute endorse the objectives of the Institute and support its activities through contributions, donations, and other forms of financial assistance. Supporting members consist of two groups, regular supporting members and associate supporting members, depending on the membership fees paid. In order to bring the results of the Institute's research work to a greater number of people, the Institute has designated the "Individual Members" as part of the associate supporting membership.

Benefits received by supporting members include: free subscription to publications from the Institute; information about and discount admission to seminars, lectures, and other public events sponsored by the Institute; dispatch of lecturers; and access to the IDE Library, copying and reference services.

Budget

for Fiscal Year 2002

(Million yen)

Administrative expenditures	3,190
Research expenditures	347
International research exchange expenditures	685
Statistics and library expenditures	269
Public relations expenditures	71
Expenditures for training courses on development studies	79
Expenditures for purchasing the building site	860
Expenditures for commissioned studies	265
Expenditures carried over to the administrative expenditures	31
Reserve fund	76
Total	5,874