

# Outline of Projects Implemented in Fiscal Year 2004

Research activities are the core activities of the Institute, and every year we are endeavoring to improve these activities. In FY2004, approximately 50 research projects were implemented. Most projects are carried out jointly by Institute research staff and outside specialists. The research outcomes are not only disseminated in the form of publications, research papers, reports, and so on, but are also presented at lectures, symposiums and workshops, transmitted via the website, and used in lectures in the IDE Advanced School (IDEAS), as well as through research cooperation with other institutions.

At present, the Institute has 152 research staff (as of April 1, 2005). By field of specialization, the majority is in the field of economics, and about 20 percent work in political science. By regions of study, one third of the researchers make Southeast Asian countries their field of study, and the next largest group specializes in the countries and regions of East Asia. In addition, as the IDE focuses its research activities on developing countries throughout the world, there are also staff researchers specializing in regions such as the Middle East, Africa, and Latin America. Please refer to the table below for details.

Number of Research Staff by Region and Field	As of April 1, 2005						Total
	Economic	Political	Social	Law	Statistics	Others	
East Asia	18	6	2	1	4	3	34
Southeast Asia	27	8	4	5	7	1	52
South Asia	10	1	1	1	-	1	14
Middle East	4	6	2	-	-	1	13
Africa	5	3	2	-	-	-	10
Latin America	7	2	2	-	-	1	12
CIS/Central Asia/Eastern Europe	1	1	1	-	1	-	4
Oceania	-	1	1	-	-	-	2
Others	6	1	2	-	2	-	11
<b>Total</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>152</b>

The research activities carried out in FY2004 fall into four categories: Priority Projects, Major Projects, Standby Research for Specific Development Issues, and Basic and Comprehensive Studies.

## *Priority Projects*

The Priority Projects, in view of the importance of their themes, are taken up by the entire Institute. Starting from this fiscal year, we launched a three-year project, entitled "Studies on East Asian Economic Integration." In it, we will examine the issues that each country must tackle in light of the potential future regional integration, and analyze the effects that the economic partnership will bring. Next, in the project entitled "Prospects for Economic Relationships among Asian Countries," which began in FY2003, the study on economic cooperation in the area of trade and investment between China and South Asia, and China and ASEAN ended this fiscal year. Meanwhile, from FY2004, a research group was set up to study the international division of labor and local industries in the motorcycle industry and IT industry in the Asian region. Finally, the study groups on Myanmar and Laos, which were part of the "Studies on the Development Perspectives of CLMV Countries," launched in FY2002, were brought to completion in FY2004, marking an end to all the country studies, as those on Vietnam and Cambodia were completed in FY2003.

- Studies on East Asian Economic Integration (2 themes)
- Prospects for Economic Relationships among Asian Countries (4 themes)
- Studies on the Development Perspectives of CLMV Countries (2 themes)

### *Major Projects*

The Major Projects are long-term projects carried out by the Institute on an ongoing basis. In FY2004, we continued work on the project to analyze current affairs in Asia, as a means to grasp the political and economic situation in the various countries. Also, to quantitatively grasp the economic situation of Asian countries and developing countries, we continued to update data for economic projections, on industrial structures, and on trade. We also carried out a basic research project intended to contribute to Japan's economic cooperation. In addition to the research activities outlined above, we carry out the Overseas Joint Studies on Economic Development Issues, under which Senior Research Fellows sent abroad organize joint research groups with local researchers, and disseminate the outcomes locally and elsewhere.

- Analysis of Current Affairs in Asia
- Projections for the Asian Industrializing Region (PAIR) (VIII)
- The Industrial Structure of the Asia-Pacific Region (IV)
- Compilation and Application of Trade Indices (II)
- Research Project Contributing to Japan's Economic Cooperation (2 themes)
- Overseas Joint Studies on Economic Development Issues (3 themes)

### *Standby Research for Specific Development Issues*

Projects in Standby Research for Specific Development Issues are implemented in order to make prompt and adequate responses to fluid international situations or urgent matters that cannot be incorporated into other research categories, which are set up at the beginning of each fiscal year. In FY 2004, analyses were carried out on issues such as "Taiwan's Presidential Election in 2004 and the Challenges for the Next Administration" and "The 2004 Indonesian General Elections and the New Government."

### *Basic and Comprehensive Studies*

Basic and Comprehensive Studies are research projects to carry out research on basic and key development issues that do not fit into either of the three other categories. They incorporate research aimed at delving deeply into a variety of themes being faced by the developing countries and regions in a wide area ranging from Asia to the Middle East, Africa, and Latin America, as well as other regions. Cooperation Programs with prefectural institutions in Japan are also included in this category. In FY2004, a joint study was conducted with Fukushima Prefecture.

### *Evaluation*

In order to ensure that these research activities are evaluated from the outside, in FY2003 the IDE's Achievement Evaluation Committee was established, composed of external members. The target of its evaluation encompasses all of the research activities of the Institute, and its evaluations are made based on the four project categories. In particular, the final manuscripts submitted by each research group were refereed by two researchers from the outside. The results of the evaluations, together with the evaluations of other projects, have been published as the "FY2004 IDE Achievement Evaluation Committee Report."