

International Research Exchange Activities

During Fiscal Year 2004

▶ Invitation of Visiting Research Fellows

In this program, academic or other specialists are invited exclusively from developing countries as Visiting Research Fellows, 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 FY2004, fifteen IDE-funded VRFs were invited, including three fellows who joined newly developed schemes, two fellows in project participatory VRF Program and one fellow in an Advisory Visiting Fellow Program. IDE also invited six self-supporting VRFs from abroad within the period (Please refer to the table on pp. 65–66).

▶ 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 FY2004, 14 researchers were sent abroad, to be affiliated with research institutes, universities and international organizations, such as OECD. Three senior research fellows organized research teams and conducted joint studies in Vietnam, Pakistan and Malawi in collaboration with academics and experts in those countries.

▶ Networking Activities

The Institute has carried out various activities to contribute to its work as an intellectual center of development studies. Activities in FY2004 are summarized as follows.

- Invitation of special lecturers from Switzerland, Thailand, and Taiwan
- Acceptance of interns from Sri Lanka, Zimbabwe, Cambodia, and Yemen
- Acceptance of a short-term researcher from Laos and 169 visitors from abroad
- Making presentations in international forums: academic societies, international meetings, etc.
- Holding an international symposium

▶ Support for the Global Development Network (GDN)

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

In FY2004, the Institute sponsored one session titled “Rural Development in Asia: Synergy between Rural Communities and Local Administrations” at the annual conference held in Dakar, Senegal in January 2005, in cooperation with Japanese and overseas experts.