

## Joint Research on Economic Cooperation among China, Japan and Korea —The second annual report detailing joint policy recommendations was presented at the summit meeting in November 2002

*This research project commenced in 2001, and is being conducted jointly by the Development Research Center of the State Council (DRC), People's Republic of China, the Korea Institute for International Economic Policy (KIEP), Republic of Korea, and the National Institute for Research Advancement (NIRA), Japan.*

### Background of the Trilateral Joint Research Project

The leaders of China, Korea and Japan decided to implement a joint research project on economic cooperation among the three nations at a summit meeting held on the occasion of the ASEAN+3 meeting in Manila in November 1999. At its commencement in 2001, the project focused on measures to strengthen trade relations and to expand trade. A research report, including policy recommendations, was presented at the summit meeting among China, Japan and Korea

which took place at the ASEAN+3 meeting in November 2001.

### Joint Research and Policy Recommendations in 2002

In 2002 the project considered the importance of direct investment relations among China, Japan, and Korea, and measures to be taken to strengthen these relations. A report detailing policy recommendations was presented at the annual summit meeting among the three nations in 2002. These recommendations include:

- (i) The joint establishment of an information exchange platform and network for trade and investment;
- (ii) The further improvement of the investment environment;
- (iii) The enhancement of the follow-up mechanism for policy implementation.

For the details of the report, please access to our home page at:

<http://www.nira.go.jp/newse/paper/joint2/report.html>

In addition, the report recommended that the leaders of the three nations should express positive attitudes towards mutual economic cooperation.

### Future Agenda

The directors of the research institutions representing China, Japan and Korea agreed to launch the new phase of joint research under the general topic "Long-term Economic Vision and Medium-term Directions to Strengthen Economic Cooperation among China, Japan and Korea." This phase of the project includes the research on institutional arrangements for economic cooperation and other issues of common concern, such as the environment, energy, information technology, etc. Research in the new phase has been carried out in stages, commencing with research on "Economic Effects of a Possible Free Trade Area among China, Japan and Korea" topic in 2003.

*(Kazutomo Abe,  
Visiting Research Fellow, NIRA)*



Leaders of the representative institutes from Japan, China, and Korea sign the agreement to launch the new phase of joint research at the second joint research meeting (September 30, 2002; Beijing). From left to right: Mr. Takafusa Shioya, President of NIRA; Dr. Wang Mengkui, President of DRC; Dr. Choong Yong Ahn, President of KIEP

## Report from the Design Japan Committee Workshop

The Design Japan Committee conducted a joint workshop with a study group led by Professor Naoyuki Yoshino of Keio University on February 27 and 28 at NIRA. The purpose of this workshop was to comprehensively examine Japan’s structural problems with a view to recreating Japan’s government models and socio-economic structures, including the assessment of deflation, local and national fiscal policies, and the tax and pension systems, and to begin to identify the common problems in these areas and seek methods for their solution. The workshop was attended by researchers from Japanese and American private research institutes including those affiliated with Keio and Harvard, and also by corporate executives representing domestic enterprises.

### Two Key Concepts

The two key concepts which featured most prominently in the participants’ discussions were: (1) economic revitalization through market mechanisms, and (2) the pursuit of the “overall optimum.”

The revitalization of Japan’s economy and society requires good “dialogue” with the market, and the pursuit of the overall optimum in various areas of structural reform, such as tax system reform, fiscal reform, industrial revival, regulatory reform, the enhancement of integrated market monitoring functions, and administrative reform.

The achievement of the overall optimum has been impeded, to varying

degrees, by attempts at market system management by the bureaucracy and related institutions in fields that have been affected by basic changes in the economic environment—changes such as the end of the high-growth economy, the arrival of the aging society, and the advancement of globalization and the information technology revolution. These fields include the finance, commodity, labor, and distribution markets, in addition to agriculture, long-term care, medicine, and health care. Moreover, most government ministries and agencies have neither the human resources necessary to perform new market monitoring functions nor staff with the ability to understand market mechanisms and to “engage in dialogue” with the market. These conditions constrain the innovation and creativity needed for economic revitalization.

Urgent efforts need to be made to engage in dialogue with the market, establish a foundation of trust in market mechanisms, pursue the overall optimum through a “cross-product approach featuring comprehensive elements and functions,” and convert to a system focused on the customers receiving public services.

### Reform Strategies

- Remove impediments to the overall optimum—A process is needed for effectively removing elements that impede the achievement of the overall optimum, one by one. Specific impediments include the lack of a new market infrastructure that can generate confidence, the imbalance

between macroeconomic policies and structural reforms, and the inclusion of non-structural reform measures in structural reform efforts, such as demand-stimulating measures and ad hoc market interventions.

- Improvement of the safety net—A “trampoline-like” safety net that not only provides people with money, but also helps them to learn to solve their own problems, must be developed. This will help to prevent society’s most vulnerable members from suffering from the violent forces of the market any more than absolutely necessary.
- The relationship between “innovation” and “managerial leadership” within corporate organizations, and between micro-level “corporate restructuring” and macro-level “economic revitalization” should be clarified.
- Share new socioeconomic norms—To promote the reforms necessary to earn the trust of the general public and market participants, and to establish equality of opportunity, new socioeconomic norms and visions need to be shared throughout the society as a whole. The concept of social capital is useful as a civic value and a “bond of trust” in an age of reform.

### Conclusion

In Japan today, it is not at all clear who is responsible for developing and strategically implementing a practical and integrated “grand design” in the policy formation process. This makes this research project, which began as a partnership between leading figures in diverse fields, all the more significant.

*(Shigehito Inukai and Nobusuke Tamaki,  
Senior Researchers, NIRA)*

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# The Role of the Congress in Formulating U.S. Foreign Policy

**M**rs. Nancy Kassebaum Baker, former United States Senator from Kansas and wife of the current U.S. Ambassador to Japan, launched NIRA's new project, "The Role of Legislative Bodies in Policy Formation: Learning from the U.S. Experience," with a breakfast speech and discussion on February 20.

## Improving Japan's Foreign Policy Making Process

The project is designed to provide policy makers in Tokyo with a sense of how the U.S. Congress works, and to stimulate thinking within Japan about how the country's policy-making process might be improved. Project plans include periodic meetings with Americans who have either worked in or with Congress in formulating important policies.

On March 14, Mr. Armando Falcon, Director of the Office of Federal Housing Enterprise Oversight (OFHEO) spoke on the topic of "Congressional Oversight of the U.S. Housing Market and Its Financial Intermediaries."

## Foreign Policy Debate in the United States

The meeting on February 20 with Mrs. Baker, which brought together nearly 50 people including 11 current and former Diet Members, was cosponsored by the Tokyo American Center. NIRA Chairman Yotaro Kobayashi introduced Mrs. Baker after NIRA President Takafusa Shioya welcomed the participants.

Mrs. Baker's speech was entitled "The Role of the Congress in Formulating U.S. Foreign Policy." She focused on her own work as a Member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee in passing legislation regarding economic sanctions against South Africa—as a response to that country's practice of apartheid. Mrs.

Baker served on the Foreign Relations Committee for 16 years, either as the Chairman or ranking Minority Member of the Committee's Subcommittee on African Affairs.

Mrs. Baker began her speech by stressing how a strong policy-making structure promotes dynamic debate, an enhanced ability for those with alternative views to express themselves, and ultimately, better policies. She explained the ongoing tension in the United States between the legislative and executive branches of government, with power shifting between the two, depending on the relative strengths of the President and Congressional leaders. She noted that there have been changes in Congress since 1978 when she first joined the Senate, including a diminished ability on the part of the full Committee Chairman to impose his or her views on the other Members of a Committee. The Senator went on to express her pleasure that Senator Richard Lugar had again taken up the post of Chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, mentioning that she expected him to conduct the sort of hearings that can positively affect the executive branch.

## Apartheid and the Story of U.S. Economic Sanctions

On the issue of apartheid, Mrs. Baker described how the matter came to prominence in the United States. During a Thanksgiving holiday in 1985, protests outside the South African embassy made the headlines as a number of protesters—including some Members of Congress—were jailed. In response, the House Black Caucus met with Members of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, and a decision was made to challenge South Africa through economic sanctions.

The White House opposed sanctions, but when the President's new



Mrs. Nancy Kassebaum Baker

chief of staff, Donald Regan, quipped in reference to South Africa that "diamonds are a girl's best friend," the Administration's hand was weakened. Working with the House, the Senate Foreign Relations Committee came up with legislation to impose carefully formulated economic sanctions on South Africa. The idea was to send that country a signal, and to the extent possible, place the economic burden of the sanctions on South African companies rather than American businesses and workers. In this context, Mrs. Baker noted that for economic sanctions to be effective in addressing a policy problem, they must enjoy broad support.

The legislation passed both the House and Senate, but was vetoed by the President. However, with the backing of Senator Lugar—who was serving as Chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee at the time—Congress overrode the President's veto, and the legislation was enacted into law.

During the discussion part of the meeting, Mrs. Baker fielded questions on Iraq, the United Nations, Israel, intelligence, North Korea and other matters.

*(Daniel Bob,  
Visiting Research Fellow, NIRA)  
(Nobusuke Tamaki,  
Senior Researcher, NIRA)*

## Fund Provision System Needed to Sustain Civil Society

With administrative reform efforts underway in Japan, a new model for collaboration between the government sector and the private non-profit sector is being sought. As the needs for social services grow more diversified and citizen's participation in society improves, there are high expectations for new social actors. The enactment of the 1999 "Law to Promote Specified Nonprofit Activities" has made it easier for civil society organizations (CSOs), which make up the core of the private non-profit sector, to become incorporated. However, because only some organizations can utilize the tax and other incentives provided under this law, the financial infrastructure that these CSOs need to start acting as new social services providers has not yet been developed. This study not only examines the financial resources for CSOs in Japan, but also gathers and analyzes data on the financial support systems available in the U.S. for such organizations. It proposes policy recommendations and an action plan to promote the mobilization of funds for the citizens' sector.

### Types of Volunteer Organizations in Japan

Citizens' volunteer activities in Japan are performed by two basic types of organizations: unincorporated volunteer groups and incorporated NPOs (specified non-profit corporations). As of February 2003, the number of these civic volunteer organizations combined was about 90,000, with incorporated NPOs numbering about 10,000. In recent years, the number of NPOs actively developing their own independent programs has begun to increase. Creating structures to facilitate the growth of program-oriented

NPOs is going to become a major issue in developing a base for non-profit activities.

### Current Sources of Funding

The financial structures of volunteer-based civic organizations and NPOs tend to differ. According to a survey by the Cabinet Office, 50.7% of the former are organizations with budgets of less than ¥300,000 that receive 30% or more of their funds from "membership dues." The latter, on the other hand, had an average budget of ¥15.58 million, according to the results of the Comprehensive Analysis of Financial Data for All Incorporated NPOs by the Research Institute of Economy, Trade and Industry. The largest source of income for incorporated NPOs was "program income," accounting for 55.9% of their total budgets. This represents a 400% increase over the previous year.

### New Needs and Shortage of Funds

With such a rise in program-oriented organizations, new funding needs are emerging. For example, there is a shortage of "bridge funds," which cover the gap between payment of expenses and receipt of the contract fee. There is also an increasing need for larger quantities of funds for the repair of facilities and equipment and for capital investments. Working capital to cover the shortage of cash flow and fluctuations in monthly income is also needed. Since CSOs usually start with zero funds and operate services with low profitability, it is difficult for them to grow their assets rapidly. This results in a shortage of operating funds.

There is a serious shortage of structures available to meet the funding needs of CSOs. For example, there are

very few lending programs available for CSOs, with those that do exist generally limited to labor credit unions and some shinkin bank associations. Another example is the lack of *minashi-kifu*, a type of favorable taxation for non-profit organizations, which enables the internal transfer of a part of business proceeds to giving receivable. Although it is desirable for CSOs to build an endowment within an organization in order to realize both their social mission and organizational sustainability, it is difficult to accumulate such funds because of the lack of *minashi-kifu*. Meanwhile, it may be 10 years before new social problems become a focus of government policy. Notwithstanding, there is a shortage of research grants and private donations for supporting the CSOs that are striving to take the lead in addressing these kinds of social problems today.

### Proposing a New Fund Provision Structure for NPOs

This study proposed the creation of a multi-faceted fund provision structure for supporting NPOs based on estimates that the number of incorporated NPOs is likely to exceed 40,000 in the next 10 years. In addition to advocating a tax incentive system, this proposal calls for the development of a regranting structure for government funding, the creation of a local fund to pool charitable giving in a community, and the promotion of social investments by financial institutions through the enactment a Japanese version of the Community Reinvestment Act (CRA).

*(Sachiko Kishimoto, Executive Director, Center for Public Resources Development,\* and former Visiting Research Fellow, NIRA)*

\*URL: <http://www.public.or.jp>

<2002>

September

**Visiting Research Fellow**

Mr. Richard Buttrey  
(Daiwa Anglo-Japanese Foundation Scholar, UK)

October

**Conference**

**"Hokkaido Conference for North Pacific Issues"**  
[Hokkaido, Japan]

**Lecture Meeting**

**"Ireland's 'Economic Miracle':  
Context, Causes, Prospects"**  
[NIRA]

Prof. Brendan J. Whelan  
(Director, Irish Economic and  
Social Research Institute)



Prof. Brendan J. Whelan

November

**Lecture Meeting**

**"The Development of  
Taiwan's Economy and East  
Asian Economic Integration"**  
[NIRA]

Dr. Pin-Kung Chiang  
(Vice President, Legislative  
Yuan of Republic of China)



Dr. Pin-Kung Chiang

**Colloquium**

**"Art and Urban Development – The Role of Art in  
Urban Policy"** [NIRA]

Dr. Catherine Grout (Visiting Associate Professor,  
Keio University)  
Ms. Claude Renard-Chapiro (Interagency Liaison  
Committee on Urban Problems, France)

**Seminar**

**"Program Evaluation in the U.S."** [NIRA]

Dr. Raymond J. Struyk (Senior Fellow, Urban Institute)

**International Symposium**

**"The 6th Scholarship Conference on the East Asian  
Economy - The Prospect of the East Asian Economy in  
the Process of Economic Integration"** [Fukuoka, Japan]



Public Symposium  
The 6th Scholarship Conference on the East Asian Economy

December

**Visiting Research Fellow**

Mr. Daniel E. Bob (Fellow, International Affairs  
Fellowship in Japan, Council on Foreign Affairs)  
From December 2002 to November 2003

<2003>

February

**Lecture**

**"Women's Rights in  
Afghanistan: Current Status  
and Future Agenda"** [NIRA]

H.E., Ms. Tajwar Kakar  
(Deputy Minister, Ministry of  
Women's Affairs, Afghanistan)



Ms. Tajwar Kakar

**Workshop**

**"Joint Research on Economic Cooperation among  
China, Japan and Korea: Trilateral Trade and  
Investment after China's Entry into WTO"**  
[Okinawa, Japan]

Co-sponsored by the Development Research Center of  
the State Council of China and the Korea Institute for  
International Economic Policy

**Lecture**

**"Egypt and the Iraqi Crisis"** [NIRA]

Dr. Hassan Abou Taleb (Assistant Director, Al-Ahram  
Center for Political and Strategic Studies, Egypt)

**Colloquium**

**"The Role of Legislative Bodies in Policy Formation:  
Learning from the U.S. Experience"** [Tokyo, Japan]

Mrs. Nancy Kassebaum Baker  
(Former United States Senator)  
Co-sponsored by the Tokyo American Center

**The Design Japan Committee Workshop**

**"Japan's Deflation, Fiscal Deficits in the Asian Economic  
Zone and the Enhancement of the Financial Capital  
Market"** [NIRA]

Co-sponsored by Keio University

March

**Lecture**

**"The Future of Afghanistan  
and International Society"**  
[NIRA]

Mr. Ahmed Rashid  
(Journalist and Author)



Mr. Ahmed Rashid

**Colloquium**

**"Congressional Oversight of the U.S. Housing Market  
and Its Financial Intermediaries"** [Tokyo, Japan]

Mr. Armando Falcon (Director, Office of Federal  
Housing Enterprise Oversight (OFHEO))

(Titles or positions of guests given here are as of the time of their visit.)

## Hokkaido Conference for North Pacific Issues

### Introduction

The Hokkaido Conference for North Pacific Issues has been held for 14 consecutive years from 1989 to 2002. This conference was the first “Track II” meeting (a non-governmental meeting in which government officials and specialists exchange opinions in their personal capacities) with a focus on the North Pacific region, including Northeast Asia and the North American continent.

The National Institute for Research Advancement (NIRA), which has been conducting research on the Asia Pacific region since 1984, recognizes the importance of the North Pacific region and has been actively involved as a cosponsor since the second year of the conference. Since the third conference, NIRA has placed special emphasis on the conference’s role in promoting exchange with foreign research institutions and applying research results both locally and in society at large.

### Uniqueness of the Hokkaido Conference for North Pacific Issues

The conference was initially attended by researchers from seven nations, but since the addition of Mongolia in 1994 (at the 6th meeting), participants have come from research institutions in eight countries (United States, Canada, Russia, China, North Korea, South Korea, Mongolia, and Japan) in the North Pacific region.

The conference is also unique in its participation by North Korea, which has sent a total of 14 participants to seven conferences. Although North Korean researchers have recently participated in the Track II meetings held by the Council for Security Co-operation in the Asia-Pacific (CSCAP) and the Northeast Asia Cooperation Dialogue, the country has not sent participants to any sub-regional meetings other than the Hokkaido Conference on North Pacific Issues. The conference has served as a valuable forum for exchange at which participants can freely express their opinions.

Also, while other Track II meetings are held on a rotating basis in the countries of their participants, this meeting has always been held in Sapporo. Because they occur regularly at a single location, many of the participants have attended numerous times and are therefore able to relax and comfortably and openly express their opinions at the conference. This is in large part due to the efforts of North Pacific Region Advanced Research Center (NORPAC), one of the meeting’s cosponsors (located in Sapporo), but also to the geographic conditions of Sapporo. In addition to

being located in the center of the North Pacific region, Sapporo is the gateway to northern Japan, and is thus well suited to a discussion of issues that affect this region. Its distance from Tokyo also makes it easier for conference participants to avoid the formalities of the capital and to engage in the kind of open dialogue characteristic of Track II meetings.

### Research Institutes Regularly Participating in the Hokkaido Conference

<b>U.S.</b>	Social Science Research Council
<b>U.S.</b>	The Brookings Institution
<b>Canada</b>	University of Toronto-York University Joint Centre for Asia Pacific Studies
<b>Canada</b>	Institute of Asian Research, University of British Columbia
<b>Russia</b>	Institute of World Economy and International Relations, Russian Academy of Sciences
<b>China</b>	Institute of World Economics and Politics, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences
<b>North Korea</b>	Association of Korean Social Scientists
<b>South Korea</b>	Korea Development Institute
<b>Mongolia</b>	Institute of Administration and Management Development, Government of Mongolia
<b>Japan</b>	National Institute for Research Advancement

### 14th Hokkaido Conference

Last year’s 14th conference was held when the efforts to create a framework for cooperation in the North Pacific region were experiencing significant global changes. It followed the September 11 terrorist attacks on the U.S. and coincided with such events as China’s accession to the WTO and the leadership summit between Russia and North Korea. It also took place immediately before the leadership summit between North Korea and Japan, which resulted in the North Korea-Japan Pyongyang Declaration. As a result, conference participants were able to analyze the overall prospects for regional cooperation from both positive and negative perspectives and were also able to draft many specific cooperative frameworks. The 2002 conference was also attended by participants from Australia, facilitating enthusiastic discussions from multiple viewpoints, including perspectives on North Pacific regional cooperation as seen from south of Asia.

Once again, participants agreed on the need for cooperation in the North Pacific region and on the need for some

kind of framework to make this happen. Many participants especially noted the potential uniqueness of a “North Pacific” cooperative structure, in light of the many cooperative structures already existing for “East Asia” and the “Asia Pacific.”

### Future Developments

It is said that Track II meetings are easy to start but difficult to continue. This is because they do not always produce immediately tangible results. The same can be said of the Hokkaido Conference for North Pacific Issues. A framework for multilateral regional cooperation and new order have yet to be created in the North Pacific region, and it would be difficult to argue that the academic exchanges enabled by the conference have directly contributed to the solution of the region’s problems. Nonetheless, to date, the Hokkaido Conference has been held successfully for 14 straight years.

In a reality where there is a complete lack of practice of multilateral talks in the North Pacific region, the conference’s very existence is playing an important role as a preliminary step towards problem solving, in promoting confidence building. The Hokkaido Conference for North Pacific Issues has been able to secure a conference venue and promote genuine exchange among participants regardless of the prevailing political and economic climates. A sense of “North Pacific” community has been nurtured among the participants, including North Korean researchers

who have had few opportunities to participate in sub-regional meetings.

Still, the North Pacific region faces numerous and complex problems, and a vision for the future remains indistinct. Formal governmental meetings aimed at constructing a cooperative regional structure are deemed impossible, at least at this point. With mistrust still lingering in the North Pacific region, various actors need to secure and continue a multilateral and multi-layered dialogue in every field.

Just as we must peddle a bicycle to move forward, it is expected that dialogues be continued for confidence building in the North Pacific region. Thus, it is important that the Hokkaido Conference continue to provide an opportunity where people in the region can openly and honestly express their opinions and ideas. Further, the exchanges and dialogues that take place at the Hokkaido Conference must be developed into a more creative and effective force by enhancing and expanding the network of research institutions attending in past years.

### 15th Hokkaido Conference

This year’s Hokkaido Conference, to be held in October 2003, marks the 15th year of the conference, and likewise, it has been 15 years since the end of Cold War (the fall of the Berlin Wall). We would define this as “15 years of dialogue.” Recognizing the need to turn the multilateral “dialogue” that has thus far been cultivated into “action,” the Hokkaido Conference is developing a 15th Anniversary

Program that includes plans to convert the conference discussions into an effective policy declaration.

An Essay Contest on North Pacific Regional Cooperation will also be held in conjunction with the conference to attract original new ideas and perspectives on what direction a cooperative regional framework should take and how it should be achieved.

We invite you to participate in the 15th Anniversary Program and Essay Contest. For details on the essay contest, see page 8.

*(Shunsuke Tsutsumi,  
former Researcher, NIRA)*



## New Publications

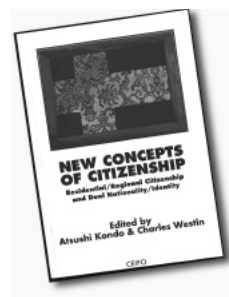
### ***New Concepts of Citizenship: Residential Regional Citizenship and Dual Nationality / Identity***

Edited by Atsushi Kondo & Charles Westin

March 2003, ISBN 91 87810 66-2, 204pp, CEIFO Publications

Citizenship is one of the most important concepts of modern jurisprudence, political science and sociology. New and, in certain respects, problematic questions concerning the nature of citizenship have arisen with globalization, increasing international mobility and the advent of supra-national structures. Rights and obligations of denizens, acquisition and change of citizenship, dual citizenship, multicultural citizenship and transnational citizenship are some of the questions being hotly debated today.

This publication, based on several workshops held by CEIFO, Stockholm University, and NIRA, addresses questions on the rights of aliens, residential and/or regional citizenship and acquisition of citizenship from an interdisciplinary perspective.



## NIRA-NORPAC Essay Contest

**Theme: Creating an Institution for Regional Cooperation in the North Pacific: From Dialogue to Action**

(Participants may freely add a subtitle based on this theme)

- 1. Eligibility:** Open to persons of any age and nationality.
- 2. Awards:**
  - Grand Prize (1 essay): A prize of 500,000 yen (approx. \$4100), a certificate of merit, and a round-trip ticket to Sapporo City to attend the presentation ceremony.
  - Award for Excellence (Up to 2 essays): A prize of 200,000 yen (approx. \$1500), and a certificate of merit.
- 3. Format & Length:** Essays may be submitted in English or Japanese. (Notes and references should be included where necessary, but will not be included in the word count.) Essays should

not exceed 12,000 characters for Japanese and 4,200 words for English. An abstract is also required (up to 600 characters for Japanese essays, or 500 words, or one A4 page, for English essays).

- 4. Other Requirements:** The cover page of the essay should indicate: 1. Author's Name 2. Gender 3. Address 4. Telephone and fax numbers 5. E-mail address 6. Date of birth 7. Occupation 8. Biographical outline 9. How author learned about the contest. Only unpublished essays will be accepted. Copyrights of the winning essays will become the property of the main sponsors. Essays will not be returned after submission.
- 5. Deadline:** Thursday, July 31, 2003

For more information, visit: <http://www.nira.go.jp/newse/essay.html>

## Policy Research Watch

<http://www.nira.go.jp/ice/libe/prw/index.html>

Policy Research Watch is a web-based project that has grown out of NIRA's *World Directory of Think Tanks (NWDTT)*.<sup>\*</sup> The project's objective is to gather and provide access to comprehensive bibliographic information on the periodicals and occasional papers of selected public policy research institutes.

NIRA believes that it is essential to provide an efficient means for researchers and others interested in public policy to keep track of research output. It is our hope that 'Policy Research Watch' will serve as a vital reference portal for the many individuals and organizations concerned with public policy, and will also be of benefit to policy research institutions around the world.

### Details:

Policy Research Watch covers selected English language periodicals and occasional papers published by think tanks.

### The project:

- Compiles bibliographic information (titles of articles, authors, content, etc.)
- Provides links to the websites of the periodical/occasional paper, if the publication is available on the Internet.
- Provides an index organized by country, institute and publication.
- Makes available the original periodicals and occasional papers at NIRA's special library on think tanks, the 'Saburo Okita Memorial Library.'
- Provides Japanese language abstracts of articles concerning Japan, neighboring nations, and current issues (available only on the Japanese language the site).

<sup>\*</sup>NWDTT, an English-language directory published every three years since 1993, contains information on think tanks based on a worldwide survey conducted by NIRA's Center for Policy Research Information. The latest edition, *NWDTT 2002*, was published in January 2002.

## What is NIRA?

The National Institute for Research Advancement (NIRA) is an independent policy research body established on the initiative of leading figures from Japan's industrial, academic and labor communities. The institute was set up in 1974 under the National Institute for Research Advancement Act and is funded through an endowment of capital contributions and donations from the public and private sectors. NIRA conducts research related to current and emerging issues in many fields, including politics, economics, international affairs, systems of local government and other social issues.

*Chairman* Yotaro Kobayashi  
*President* Takafusa Shioya

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Tel: 81-3-5448-1735 Fax: 81-3-5448-1745 URL: <http://www.nira.go.jp/index.html>

We welcome readers' comments and suggestion at [pprd@nira.go.jp](mailto:pprd@nira.go.jp).