

Discussant's Remarks

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On:

(1) Naoshi Sato, JICA

*Institutional Capacity Development in
JICA's Cooperation for "Rule of Law"
Promotion*

(2) Yasuyuki Sawada, University of Tokyo,
JICA and RIETI

*On the Role of Technical Cooperation in
International Technology Transfers*

Both of the papers are fine pieces of work.

The first paper clearly explains to us the major functions, fundamental philosophy, primary characteristics and recent outcomes of JICA's international cooperation in the technology transfers to improve the legal and judicial systems in developing countries. The author underlines the importance of the involvement of experts from the donor countries of the technical cooperation aid (TCA) in actual face-to-face cooperative works with those from the aid recipient countries.

The second paper quantitatively analyses the effects of the TCA and other related variables upon the technology transfers by use of large scale of time-series and cross-country data panel. It articulately summarizes a great deal of new information on the aforementioned effects that might otherwise remain obscure, and concludes that the TCA contributes to the augmentation of technology transfers. The author also points up the facilitation effects of face-to-face interaction upon the international transfers of non-codified tacit knowledge and technologies.

As implicitly suggested by both papers, not only the cooperative programmes on the highly advanced

engineering and managerial technologies, but also the grassroots cooperative programmes on the primitive and basic technologies would be of significance in encouraging international technology transfers. One of the beauties of the grassroots cooperative works is, I would think, the possible “technology re-transfers (or reimportation)” and “counter-transfers of technologies” from developing countries to developed countries.

For example, as to the first paper, we have the local traditional voluntary self-control rules (*i. e.*, grassroots community codes) on the use of commons and, as to the second paper, the local

technology of the proper application of the iron-bar concrete (concrete reinforced with iron bars) and bamboo-bar concrete, (concrete reinforced with bamboo bars), depending on the types of construction works.

The following photos are concerning the working experiences of the participants of the GONGOVA 2009 which took place on August 1-17, 2009, mainly at a remote mountain village (Ban Hin Lahd Nai, Chiang Rai, Thailand) inhabited by highlanders of White Karen people.

GONGOVA stands for the Gakushuin Overseas NGO Volunteer Activity Programme which began in 1997.

Technology transfers from
developing countries to
developed countries



- (1) Technology reimportation
- (2) Counter-transfers of technologies

Iron-bar concrete
(Reinforced concrete
strengthened with iron bars)

and

Bamboo-bar concrete
(Reinforced concrete
strengthened with bamboo bars)



Construction of water tanks



2009/8/3 11:58





2009-8-5 12:37













Construction of community house

2008/ 8/10 9:05





2009/ 8/11 15:05







2009/ 8/11 16:56





2009/ 8/12 12:21

