



*Kansai university and Faculty of Economics*



## **International Symposium**

### **Africa and Asia Entanglements in Past and Present : Bridging History and Development Studies**

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**Knowledge and Innovation in Africa for Food Security and Employment Creation**

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**Abstract:** Africa as one of the world's fastest economically growing region imports US \$ 40 billion worth of foods every year. Contrary to this, in fact Africa has high potentiality to feed itself and world. Therefore Africa needs to rethink fundamentally its agriculture development strategy not only for its food security for its burgeoning population but also for creating employment opportunity and income generation activities. For this, knowledge and innovation must be applied to the fullest extent in technology, market development and organizational capacity building.

In Yokohama Declaration of Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD V), there was announcement for the dire need of productivity growth in agriculture farming for creating vast self-employment opportunities as the business. In one hand Africa has vast land, water resources and biodiversity. On the other hand Africa has been suffering from drought, flood, and chronic lack of water, loss of forest, desertification and erosion. To solve these problems it is very urgent and imperative to develop Integrated Ecological Agricultural Policy( IEAP) which must be knowledge intensive driven by grass root innovation.

To enhance innovation in Africa, the frontier technology like biotechnology, information and communication technology, material technology and renewable energy technologies must be institutionalized through the university, private sector initiative and government subsidies. These technologies provide big scope for making farming intellectually stimulating and economically rewarding simultaneously creating the job for the educated youths.

In this presentation based on the premise of the Solow residual (growth of total factor productivity), some case studies on application of knowledge and innovation in South Africa, Zambia and Ethiopia will be introduced. The problem and prospect of TICAD, Japanese direct investment and its impact on technology transfer would be reviewed.