

International Symposium on Self-reliance and Sustainability of EFA

*At Mita Conference Center
Wednesday, 23 April, 2008*

Organized by:

Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan

Institute of Asia-Pacific Studies, Waseda University

Center for the Study of International Cooperation in Education, Hiroshima University

Purpose:

Self-reliance and **sustainability** are both essential elements for the socio-economic development of developing countries. Unprecedented efforts made by the international community to reach the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) should always bear in mind about such perspectives. Development outcomes can be internalized and therefore be sustainable, when development cooperation supports self-reliant efforts of people and societies in developing countries. Only with such common understanding, can MDGs truly be achieved.

Education sector is not an exception. Historically speaking, various discussions have emerged surrounding self-reliance and sustainability in the field of educational development. For example, considerations on finance and quality of education that appear in the FTI indicative framework certainly reflect the intension to ensure self-reliance and sustainability of governments' financial commitment as well as community demand for education. Recent discussion on schools to work on the linkage between EFA and economic growth is also another aspect highlighting that educational expansion without economic outcomes is not sustainable.

In this year of 2008 which is the mid-way point to 2015, it is indeed timely and meaningful to re-examine the approaches taken by international community towards EFA through the lens of self-reliance and sustainability. Taking advantage of this noted opportunity to host FTI related meetings and events in Tokyo, this international symposium is organized by Japanese research group to elaborate discussions on self-reliant and sustainable EFA strategies together with FTI meeting participants. It will primarily be based on the results obtained through the field oriented collaborative research on EFA conducted by African and Japanese researchers. Views will be exchanged amongst various participants on how "self-reliance and sustainability" aspects can be integrated in the EFA/FTI process which will provide proposals for future directions.

Program	
14:30-14:35 (5min)	Opening (by Dr. Kazuo Kuroda, Professor, Waseda University)
14:35-14:50 (15min)	Presentation 1 : ➤ “A Critical Analysis on Free Primary Education Policy - Evidences from Africa” (by Dr. Mikiko Nishimura, Associate Professor, Kobe University)
14:50- 15:05 (15min)	Presentation 2 : ➤ “Local Meanings of Educating All and the Process of Adopting EFA Development Goals” (by Dr. Shoko Yamada, Associate Professor, Nagoya University)
15:05- 15:10 (5min)	Comment by Discussant : ➤ Dr. Dina Craissati, Senior Education Advisor, UNICEF
15:10- 15:30 (20min)	Q&A
15:30- 15:45 (15min)	BREAK
15:45-16:00 (15min)	Agenda Setting for Discussion : ➤ “International Cooperation for Self Reliance and Sustainability of EFA” (by Dr. Kazuhiro Yoshida, Associate Professor, Hiroshima University)
16:00-16:10 (10min)	Comments by Discussants : ➤ Dr. Nick Burnett, Assistant Director-General for Education, UNESCO ➤ Dr. Robin Horn, Education Sector Manager, The World Bank Group
16:10-17:30 (80min)	Discussion : ➤ How can “Self Reliance and Sustainability” perspectives be integrated in the EFA/FTI process?
17:30-	Special Address by H.E. Mr. Masahiko Koumura, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan

Chairs:

- Dr. Kazuhiro Yoshida, Associate Professor, Hiroshima University
- Dr. Kazuo Kuroda, Professor, Waseda University

Followed by Reception at 18:00-20:00 (hosted by the Government of Japan)