

WHY THE QUALITY OF GROWTH MATTER? – FROM JICA’S EXPERIENCES

Ichiro Tambo

Director, JICA Research Institute
10-5 Ichigaya Honmuracho, Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo 162-8433, Japan

.....

Ichiro Tambo is currently Director of JICA Research Institute. He is the former Chief of Staff to JICA President and served as the Director General of Africa Department before that. Mr. Tambo joined JICA in 1981, worked in its Headquarters and overseas office in Kenya. He was also seconded to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Embassy of Japan in Côte d’Ivoire, the Board of Audit of Japan and OECD Development Cooperation Directorate.

ABSTRACTS

The year 2015 marks 70 years since the end of World War II. 2015 is the target year of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) as well as the launch year of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). As for Japan, the National Diet approved the new Development Cooperation Charter in February. Indeed, 2015 turned out to be a milestone year for development.

The international common framework for official development assistance (ODA) was established in the early 1960s when the development gap had been recognized as a North-South divide. Since then, the goal of eliminating socio-economic gaps has been the most fundamental challenge of development. Over the past decades, the world has witnessed remarkable progress in poverty reduction and improvements in social indicators, such as health, education and gender. The collective efforts among development partners, guided by the MDGs, have largely contributed to these achievements.

The Development Cooperation Charter of Japan stipulates the importance of "quality growth" and poverty eradication through such growth, as well as a human security model that focuses on individuals and cooperation for their protection and empowerment. It states that "quality growth" should be: inclusive, in that the fruits of growth are shared within society as a whole, leaving no one behind; sustainable over generations in terms of consideration to, among other aspects, harmony with the environment, sustained socio-economic growth, and the need to address global warming; and resilient, able to withstand and recover from economic crises, natural disasters and other shocks. Japan's ODA, guided by the charter, should pursue "quality growth" that is inclusive, sustainable and resilient, while continuing to support the achievement of economic growth.

There are many issues around policy and academic debates on "quality growth." For instance, some may say that the "quality" aspects of growth hamper the "quantitative" aspects of growth. On the other hand, a positive correlation between the two may exist, given that inclusive, sustainable and resilient growth may accelerate quantitative growth. Meanwhile innovations in technology can trigger positive and far-reaching transformations toward "quality growth."

"Quality growth" is not only a development issue for developing countries but a global common agenda for all countries, including Japan. The world will have to face many challenges in the days to come: economic crises, natural disasters, climate change, etc.

This presentation will try to illustrate what it is meant by "quality growth" drawing on some Japanese experiences in development cooperation.

KEYWORDS

quality growth, inclusiveness, resilience, sustainability, innovation

REFERENCES

JICA Research Institute: <http://jica-ri.jica.go.jp/ja/index.html>

Growth is Dead, Long Live Growth: The Quality of Economic Growth and Why it Matters edited by Lawrence Haddad, Hiroshi Kato and Nicolas Meisel, January 2015: http://jica-ri.jica.go.jp/ja/publication/booksandreports/growth_is_dead_long_live_growth_the_quality_of_economic_growth_and_why_it_matters.html

Disaster Risk Reduction for Economic Growth and Livelihood - Investing in resilience and development edited by Ian Davis, Kae Yanagisawa and Kristalina Georgieva, May 2015, Routledge: http://jica-ri.jica.go.jp/publication/booksandreports/post_15.html

The Last Mile in Ending Extreme Poverty edited by Laurence Chandy, Hiroshi Kato and Homi Kharas, July 2015, Brookings Institution Press: http://jica-ri.jica.go.jp/publication/booksandreports/post_17.html

JICA

Why the Quality of Growth Matter? from Japan's experiences

Ichiro Tambo
JICA Research Institute
28 October 2015

Japan International Cooperation Agency

1

JICA Presentation summary

1. Development landscape of today
2. What do we mean by Quality Growth?

2

JICA

Theme 1:

Development landscape of today

3

JICA 2015: a Milestone Year

2014 was 60th anniversary of the Japan's ODA
2015 is

- 70th anniversary of the end of World War II
- Target year for Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)
- The new Development Cooperation Charter approved by Japanese Cabinet in February
- Launch of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) on 25 September

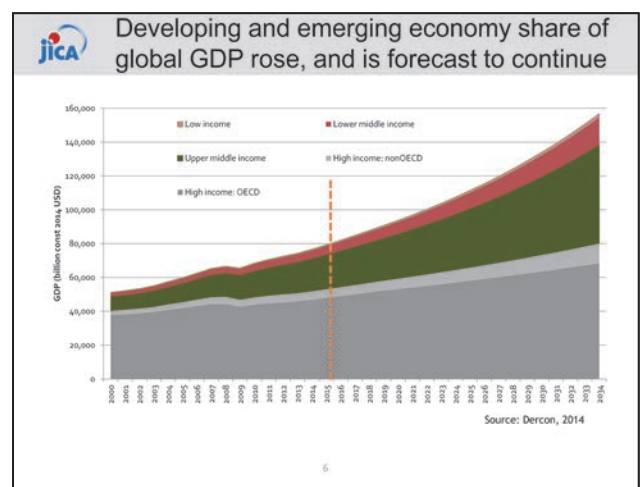
4

JICA Current trends in the development landscape

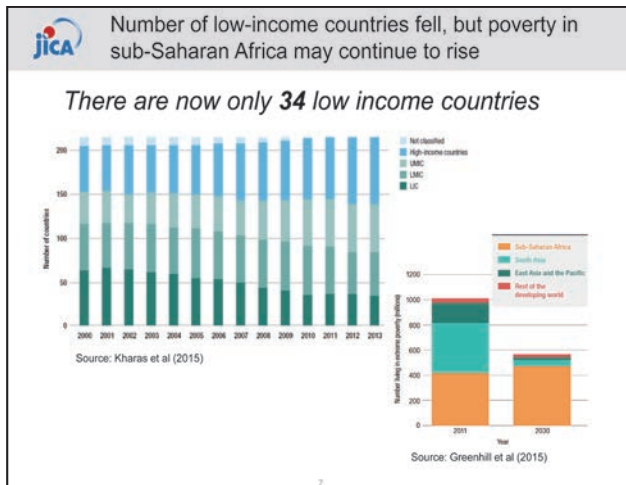
In the first decade of 21st Century:

- Developing and emerging economy share of global GDP rose, and is forecast to continue
- Number of low-income countries fell, but poverty in sub-Saharan Africa may continue to rise
- Growing concentration of extreme poverty in fragile states, but also persistence in middle income countries

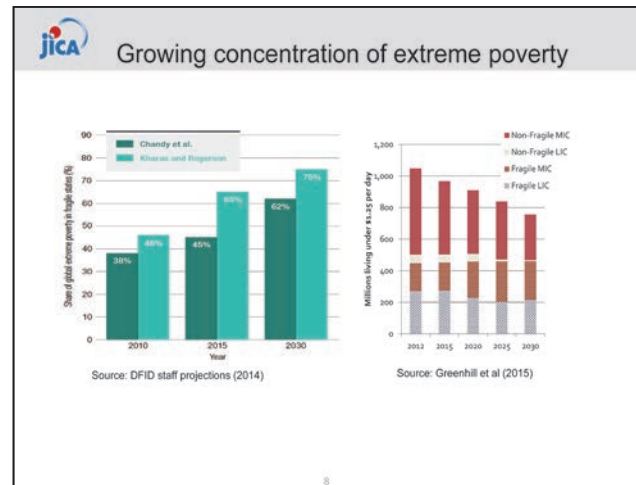
5



6



7



8

jica Post-2015 development challenges

- Still more than one billion people living in extreme and hopeless poverty
- Worsening domestic and global economic disparity
- Development problems are increasingly complex and global...

9

jica Post-2015 development challenges

Some development challenges:

- Refugees/Migration
- Natural Disasters
- Urbanization
- Pandemics
- Climate Change
- Food Security
- Energy Crisis and more...

10



11

jica Development Cooperation Charter

Background for the new Charter

- Development challenges are more diverse, complex, and widespread
- Increasing role of funds and activities other than ODA for development of developing countries
- Globalization

12

jica Development Cooperation Charter

Basic Policies

- A. Contributing to peace and prosperity through cooperation for non-military purposes
- B. Promoting **human security**
- C. Cooperation aimed at self-reliant development through assistance for self-help efforts as well as dialogue and collaboration based on Japan's experience and expertise

13

jica Development Cooperation Charter

Priority Issues

- A. **"Quality growth" and poverty eradication through such growth**
- B. Sharing universal values and realizing a peaceful and secure society
- C. Building a sustainable and resilient international community through efforts to address global challenges

14

jica

Theme 2:

What do we mean by Quality Growth ?

15

jica Quality / Quantity argument


If we pursue the QUALITY, the QUANTITY of growth declines...

Is this TRUE?

16

jica

As we grow up, we realize it less important to have lots of friends and more important to have real ones.
- Amanda McRae



17

jica Quality Growth in the Charter

"Quality growth" and poverty eradication through such growth

- For fragile states, Japan will provide both **assistance necessary to secure the foundations and the driving force for economic growth** as well as **assistance necessary to promote people-centered development** that supports basic human life, taking full account of the importance of human and social development.
- In order to resolve the poverty issue in a sustainable manner, it is essential to **achieve economic growth** through human resources development, infrastructure development and establishment of regulations and institutions as well as the growth of the private sector.
- Such growth should be **"quality growth" (Inclusive, Sustainable, Resilient)**. Japan will **take advantage of its own experience, expertise and technology as well as lessons learned** in order to provide assistance to realize it.
- For fragile states, Japan will provide **assistance necessary to secure the foundations and the driving force for economic growth** as well as **assistance necessary to promote people-centered development** that supports basic human life, taking full account of the importance of human and social development.

18

jica Key concepts for Quality Growth

Three concepts from the Charter

- **Inclusiveness** (reduce disparity, empowerment of women, governance)
- **Resilience** (disaster risk reduction)
- **Sustainability**(environment, climate change)

AND

- **Innovation** (knowledge & technology)

19

jica Inclusiveness: Community Development in Democratic Republic of Congo

Project Summary: Rehabilitation of the community road through participatory process.

- A committee consisted of representatives from relevant local villages was set up to take decisions.
- Local administration had regular meetings with the committee to move the project ahead.
- Villagers were invited to workshops to express their needs.



Community road after rehabilitation





Village workshop

20

jica Inclusiveness : Reintegration of Demobilized Soldiers in Rwanda

Project summary:

- Skill trainings were provided to demobilized soldiers with disabilities.
- Trainings was provided to mixed groups of demobilized ex-combatants (i.e. ex-RPA, ex-armed group etc.).
- After the training, the graduates formed associations to run their own business.





21

jica Inclusiveness : Reintegration of Demobilized Soldiers in Rwanda

Outcome:

- Reconciliation was promoted among different groups of ex-combatants and civilians.
- Relationship was strengthened among local government, training centers and organizations supporting people with disabilities.
- Support was expanded to civilians with and without disabilities using the know-how for the ex-combatants' training.



22

jica Human Security

Inclusiveness and Human Security

From the Charter:
Promoting human security

- Human security is the guiding principle that lies at the foundation of Japan's development cooperation.
- Japan will thus focus its development cooperation on individuals - especially those liable to be vulnerable – and provide cooperation for their protection and empowerment so as to realize human security.
- Japan will also proactively contribute to promoting basic human rights, including women's rights.

23

jica Sustainability: Cerrado



Scenery before the Cooperation for Cerrado Agricultural Development



Scenery after the Cerrado Agricultural Development

(Source : Yutaka Hongo, Senior Consultant of JICA)

24

Sustainability: Cerrado

Cerrado Miracle

- Diversification and food value chain
- New industries created jobs and enabled people to participate in the growth
- Conservation of environment

25

Sustainability: Cerrado

Figure 3.14 Spatial Distribution of Land Use in the Cerrado

Source: Edson Eiji Sano et al, Mapeamento espacializado do uso da terra do Bioma Cerrado, p.153

26

Resilience: Disaster Risk Reduction

Disaster Management Cycle: Disaster → Response → Rehabilitation & Recovery → Prevention & Mitigation → Preparedness

- Recovery should aim for building "disaster resilient society", not recovering to the pre-disaster condition.
- Use disaster as a trigger to realize disaster resilient societies.
- Break "negative spiral of disaster & poverty", by reconstructing the disaster hit community "more resilient" not to the pre-disaster condition.

Build Back Better

Philippine National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Framework Source: DRR

27

Resilience : Typhoon Yolanda

To apply the "Build Back Better" principle

- Japan Disaster Relief (JDR)
- Project on Rehabilitation and Recovery from Typhoon Yolanda (Study on Urgent support)

Devastated area Damaged bridge by tidal wave Activity of Medical Team

28

Innovation : Thai Automobile Industry

- Japan supported Thai government's export promotion policy through the provision of Japanese ODA loans for infrastructure development (ports, industrial estates, water pipelines etc.) + One Stop Service of FDI approval + Industrial estates constructed by Thai developers
- Formation of export-oriented automobile industrial clusters with 360,000 job creation ('Detroit of Asia'.)

Source: Shimomura (2014), http://www.mitsubishi-motors.com/publish/pressrelease_jpicorporate/2012/news/ide-tai1452.html <http://pattaya-times.com/images/en/7800.jpg>

Ariga and Ejima (2000), P4

29


Innovation : Thai Automobile Industry

Auto plants in Thailand include Ford-Mazda AutoAlliance (center) and GM behind it

The Eastern Seaboard at Rayong became a 'Detroit of the East' as a few global manufacturers set up factories there to make pick-ups

Factory workers

30

 Concluding thoughts

- 21st Century's economic growth should be achieved through **Quality** growth.
- What is **Inclusive** should be **Sustainable**, and vice versa. So it is with **Resilience**. Overarching principle is **Innovation**.
- Reality is always **on the ground**.

31

Thank you.

Please visit JICA –RI website:
<http://jica-ri.jica.go.jp/>



The screenshot shows the JICA Research Institute website. The header includes the JICA logo and navigation links for About, News, Research, Publications, Events, Multimedia, and Jobs/Services. A search bar is also present. The main content area features a central image of a person walking on a path, with a sidebar on the left listing categories like Peace and Development, Gender and Poverty Reduction, and Environment and Development. A 'New Book' section highlights 'Preventing Violent Conflict in Africa'. Below this, there are 'Event Announcements' and 'Jobs/Services' sections.

32

Chairman Doi : May I now introduce our next speaker, Mr. Ichiro Tambo. Mr. Tambo is the Director, Japan International Cooperation Agency, Research Institute. He was former Chief Secretary to JICA President and also served as the Director General of the Africa Department of JICA. However, his career is not confined to JICA alone. He was also seconded to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Board of Audit of Japan and OECD. Recently, JICA Research Institute has issued an excellent report titled “Growth is Dead, Long Live Growth: The Quality of Economic Growth and Why it Matters.” So, Director Tambo, the floor is yours.

Mr. Tambo : Thank you very much, Dr. Doi, for your kind introduction. Dr. Masaru Iwanaga, President of Japan International Research Center for Agricultural Sciences, JIRCAS; Dr. Takemoto, Director, UNU, Institute for the Advanced Study of Sustainability; Ms. Ann Tutwiler, Director General, Biodiversity International; Excellencies, distinguished participants, ladies and gentlemen, good morning.

First of all, I would like to extend my gratitude to Dr. Iwanaga. This symposium is indeed a key event. Dr. Iwanaga, your initiative made today’s event happen, bringing together all the stakeholders here with us. Ms. Tutwiler, I appreciate very much of your informative and insightful keynote speech. I should not forget to congratulate three award winners, 2015 Japan International Award for Young Agricultural Researchers which was done here yesterday.

Before the in-depth discussions following this intervention, I’d like to look into the issue of quality of growth. I will try my best to respond to the question: Why does the quality of growth matter? This is the very title of my presentation today. I will try to respond to it through concrete examples later on.

Here is the content of my speech today. First, I’d like to explain the current development landscape to think about why the quality of growth, or “quality growth,” is so important today. Then, I would try to illustrate what we mean by “quality growth” using some examples of Japan’s development cooperation.

Development landscape of today. To begin with, I emphasize the year 2015 is a special year, a milestone year for development community. The year 2015 marks 70 years since the end of World War II and the same anniversary year for the United Nations system. The year 2015 is the target year of the Millennium Development Goals, MDGs, as well as the launch year of the Sustainable Development Goals, SDGs. SDGs were adopted on the 25th of September at the UN General Assembly. In February of this year, the Japanese cabinet approved the new Development Cooperation Charter. So this year, the year 2015, is really a special year.

I summarize here what happened in the development landscape during the first decade of the 21st century and I develop some forecasts for the next few decades. We observed a steady decline in absolute poverty and overall improvements in many indicators of the MDG framework. This is thanks to continued economic growth from the last century which is expected to continue. However, we also face new challenges such as global and domestic disparities. I will try to explain these new challenges using graphics in the next few slides.

Developing and emerging economies share global GDP growth, which is forecast to continue. The orange dotted line shows where we are now—the present moment, the year 2015. Please note rapid growth in lower-middle-income countries which are in dark red. Second from the top. Dark red. The number of low-income countries fell, but poverty in sub-Saharan Africa may continue to rise. The first figure comes from a study done in 2015. It shows a steady decline in the number of low-income countries, LICs. Now there are only 34 low-income countries according to the estimate by Homi Kharas, 2015. However, some studies forecast poverty in sub-Saharan Africa. It will continue to rise in the next couple of decades, which shows on the left side.

And this slide shows the first figure, which shows the concentration of extreme poverty in the fragile states, which is said to continue for the next few decades. According to OECD definition, a fragile state is a fragile region or state, which has a weak capacity to carry out basic governance functions and lacks the ability to develop mutually constructive relations with society. It is hard to remember this definition, but this is the OECD definition. The second figure shows the number of poverty population in different categories of countries. You can see the poverty population in fragile states is growing. At the same time, poverty population and middle-income countries, MICs, is growing as well, which indicates the domestic economic disparity is widening in those countries. This is one phenomenon of the so-called “middle-income trap” resulting from non-quality growth and other causes.

To summarize, so far we have here still more than one billion people living in extreme and hopeless poverty; secondly, worsening domestic and global economic disparity; third, development problems are increasingly complex and global. Here are some development challenges we are facing today. Some issues already introduced by Ms. Tutwiler in the previous keynote. Refugee migration—Syrian refugees on the news. Natural disasters: Japan's experience in tackling natural disasters is a very good case. Japan hosted the third UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction in Sendai this year. Urbanization: Population growth tends to concentrate in cities, especially in developing countries. Pandemics: Ebola used to be a neglected tropical disease. Now Ebola is a worldwide concern. Climate change: It is a burning issue and COP 21 is scheduled in Paris this December. Food security: We need to support rapid population growth, especially in Africa. Energy crisis: Gas prices in Europe due to the conflict situation in Ukraine. The energy problem has become more international than ever.

This brings us To Sustainable Development Goals. To tackle these new development challenges, the international community adopted the SDGs, "Transforming Our World, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development," on the 25th of September, 2015, at the UN General Assembly. This Agenda set 17 Sustainable Development Goals, SDGs, and 169 targets to be achieved in the next 15 years. Those goals and targets are expected to stimulate actions in areas of critical importance for humanity and the planet, under the rubric people, planet, prosperity, peace, and partnership. The SDGs recognize eradicating poverty in all its forms "5Ps" and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the most important global challenge. All the member states of the United Nations pledge that no one will be left behind in their efforts to end poverty. This is ambitious, indeed.

As the international community is becoming increasingly aware of the need to have a new mindset toward growth and development, Japan, as well, is making a move in a new direction. The government revised its Official Development Assistance Charter, ODA Charter for short, originally introduced in 1992 and revised in 2003. This second revision is intended to reflect the emerging goals and targets for sustainable development for the post-2015 era, as well as the changing roles of ODA. The new charter is called Development Cooperation Charter and was approved by the cabinet in February, this year. Development challenges are more diverse, complex and widespread, according to the charter. We need to extend the scope of cooperation. Increasing role of funds and activities other than ODA for development of developing countries necessitated further collaboration between ODA and private sectors, NGOs, etc. Globalization called for more international cooperation including developing countries to ensure peace and prosperity.

Here are some basic principles underlined in the charter. Human security is highlighted in the policy. I will come back later with this. The new charter declares the necessity of poverty reduction through quality growth. I will explain this through cases in the following section. Now, what do we mean by quality growth?

I'd like you to think about the usual argument: If we pursued the quality, we sacrifice the quantity. Is this true? If we pursue the quantity, we sacrifice the quality. Is this true? Should we sacrifice the quality to achieve quantity? This is the kind of basic thinking behind the scene. Here is a quote from Amanda McRae. It says, "As we grow up, we realize it is less important to have lots of friends, and more important to have real ones." And another quote I like is the Roman philosopher Seneca's. "As is a tale, so is life: not how long it is, but how good it is, is what matters."

But in the developing community, we definitely need both quality and quantity at the same time. This is how the Charter refers to quality growth: "Quality growth, inclusiveness, sustainability, resilience, and poverty reduction through such growth." Quality growth depends on the foundation of economic growth, overcoming vulnerability, inclusiveness, sustainability, environmental issues, and resilience.

Here are four concepts—four key concepts—to explain quality growth. Three key concepts from the Charter: inclusiveness, sustainability, resilience, and—I would like to add the fourth concept—innovation, as the driver of economic growth. I will try to illustrate each concept using some Japanese experiences in development cooperation.

The first concept is inclusiveness. The slide shows one project of community development in conflict-affected areas in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. One project component is community road rehabilitation. This component made a big impact on the livelihood and reconciliation among the local people in the community. Thanks to the improvement of accessibility to markets and elsewhere, it facilitated the creation of jobs in agriculture as well. The project also aimed for the reintegration of former Angolan refugees in the

community. We paid special consideration in the participatory process, inclusiveness. The picture on the right shows one moment during the workshop at the local village. It's not so clear but you can see a mother with her child, young people, and a local administration officer all sitting together to discuss the project. All stakeholders are encouraged to participate in the workshop. This is, in a way, one example of inclusiveness.

Now this slide shows a special case in Rwanda. During the disarmament, demobilization, and reintegration process in Rwanda after the violent conflict in 1994, demobilized soldiers with disabilities were almost left behind. This is an example of affirmative action with the Rwandan government aiming to reintegrate ex-soldiers into the society through vocational training to ex-soldiers with disabilities. We observed an unexpected outcome. The training focused on a small group of disabled soldiers which is minority, but the project resulted with a positive impact over the whole society including ex-combatants without disabilities and furthermore, civilians with and without disabilities. We observed a multilayered spillover effect. In a conflict situation, a majority-takes-all approach is not always a solution for reintegration and war reconciliation. Sometimes it may cause another conflict. To promote reintegration and war reconciliation, it is important to consider minority groups through listening to their voice. This is indeed a case for human security.

One core element of the human security concept is to look at the people or individuals. It demands that no one be left behind in development, thus realizing inclusive growth can be seen as a way to achieving human security.

Another core element in human security is its emphasis on the need for the people to face the downside risks and as such, it demands that people be empowered and prepare for unforeseen shocks. Thus, resilient growth and environmentally sustainable growth are, again, ways to achieve human security.

The second concept is sustainability. I will draw lessons from the famous Cerrado development project in Brazil. This slide shows two photographs of Cerrado: one is before and another is after the Cerrado development activities. This Cerrado program has been a joint endeavor of JIRCAS and JICA for the capacity development of agricultural researchers and institutions. Agriculture transformation not only increases the production of competitive commodities, such as soybeans, corn, coffee, sugar, and cotton, but it also enabled the development of food value chains both inside and outside the Cerrado region. While the production of broiler chicken and pork had been growing steadily in the 1990s, this growth was accelerated at the end of the decade and a sharp increase in meat exports was seen. Employment opportunities were created first by the new agricultural development of soybeans and other grains enabled by technological institutional innovations as well as infrastructure development. However, massive employment opportunities have been further created by the expansion of the value chains—value chains around Cerrado agriculture composed of agricultural and livestock processing activities. Engineers and skilled workers as well as technology for agriculture and livestock processing had been accumulated over a long period in the southeastern agricultural zone and there was also access to an extensive labor force all over Brazil.

The government of Brazil conducted a series of broad and varied initiatives aimed at environmental conservation. In the Cerrado region, the government especially pursued a balance between Cerrado agricultural development policies and environmental conservation policies. This could be considered a pioneering initiative for sustainable transformation of unused land into fertile agricultural land.

In spite of the impressive increase of agricultural production in Cerrado in the last three to four decades, land used by Cerrado agriculture has not increased as fast as the rate of production growth. This is due to the remarkable improvement of yield per hectare. According to the Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics Farm Census, 61 percent of the growth of agricultural production in the Cerrado during the period between 1970 and 2006 was provided by yield growth, while the rest, 39 percent, was due to expansion of the planted areas. In sum, agricultural productivity growth made a difference in the Cerrado region.

The third concept is resilience. Japan has been playing a leading role in enhancing resilience in developing countries in many ways. While the concept of resilience can be applied to a wide range of development agendas, I will draw from disaster risk reduction, or DRR, to illustrate how JICA has been tackling the resilience issues. This is based on Japan's own experience in living on an archipelago that is highly prone to seismic activity and extreme weather such as typhoons. We work with developing countries to improve their DRR capability through policy and institutional reforms, infrastructure development, and human resource and appropriate technology development. This slide shows the disaster management cycle to build a disaster

-resilient society. The key to resilient society is “Build Back Better.”

Some photographs from JICA’s activities for the rehabilitation and recovery from Typhoon Yolanda which hit the Philippines in 2013. The Japanese government dispatched Japan Disaster Relief teams, medical teams and expert team to provide humanitarian support and started a needs survey. Based on the concept of a reconstruction plan of the Philippine government, JICA extended its support of technical cooperation for development planning seamlessly from humanitarian to reconstruction activities. JICA also provided and disbursed the post disaster stand-by loan to the Philippine government. The project on the rehabilitation and recovery from Typhoon Yolanda study on urgent support, started from February 2014, three months after Typhoon Yolanda hit, consists of technical advice based on the experiences of Great East Japan Earthquake, comprehensive support for urgent rehabilitation and reconstruction of damaged areas and for buildings more resilient society and community.

Finally, innovation: here we draw lessons from a successful experience in Thailand. This development project went through many innovations: management level, technological level and policy level. One good example is one-stop service in order to bring more investors into this industrial development. This example can be used to explain all four concepts, not only innovation. In 1995, Thailand’s annual automobile exports were less than half a billion US dollars, well below exports from India and Malaysia. By 2008, exports approached 28 billion US dollars, making Thailand the largest automobile exporter in the ASEAN region, and the seventh largest exporter in the world in 2012. Production of one million cars was achieved in 2005 and 2.5 million cars in 2012. This is a very big miracle in Thailand. It is estimated there were about 690 first-tier parts makers—30 percent of them, Thai-majority joint venture companies and 23 percent of them, pure Thai companies—and 1,700 second and third-tier parts makers—most of them locally-owned small and medium enterprises, SMEs for short—supporting the automobile industry in Thailand in 2010.

At present, the automobile industry is the principal engine for growth in Thailand’s economy. The Detroit of Asia, envisaged once by the Thai government, is now a reality and the automobile belt is established from Ayutthaya to the Eastern Seaboard. Some pictures from Thai project on the Eastern Seaboard.

Maybe I should refer to just one comment. In the 1980s when we planned this project, the international community blamed two governments: the Japanese government and the Thai government. They claimed, this project is not feasible. If we implement this project, it is crazy. But the results show who was right. I don’t really mention which one was right, but the results really show.

I think I have a little bit more time, but I have come to the concluding thoughts. In the first half of my presentation, we looked at changes of the development landscape in the first decade of the 21st century. We observed a steady decline in the absolute poverty and overall improvements in many indicators of MDGs framework. This is thanks to continued economic growth from the last century, but the 20th century has not necessarily led the international community to the point where it would like to be and we are facing new challenges. When we envisage the development challenges in the post-2015 era, it is critically important for us to be concerned about the quality of growth. Today I tried to introduce the idea of quality of growth, using four key words—or concepts—and examples relate to each concept: inclusiveness, sustainability, resilience, and innovation. Although the four concepts represent different dimensions of development, they are closely interlinked, but we don’t know how they are interlinked. What is inclusive should be sustainable and vice versa. So it is with resilience the overarching principle, or issue, is innovation.

Finally, from my 35 years-experience in Japanese development cooperation, I would like to emphasize that the reality is always on the ground. Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen, as a research arm of the implementation agency of development cooperation in Japan, JICA Research Institute is committed to conduct a flagship research project on quality growth vis-à-vis four key concepts: inclusiveness, sustainability, resilience, and innovation. There are many things we don’t know. I hope our project contributes to theorizing the framework of quality growth, and I would like to share it with you as soon as possible.

Another issue: effective on the 1st of October, JICA’s leadership has changed. Dr. Shinichi Kitaoka is now JICA’s President. Dr. Kitaoka once wrote in one of his books, “In a fragile state such as Afghanistan, it is critically important to create jobs for demobilizing soldiers.” The agricultural sector plays a key role. Agricultural extension services, irrigation facilities, etc. are necessary in this regard. As such, President Kitaoka noted, “Agriculture is an important sector in developing countries, especially in a post-conflict situation.” Agriculture is the basis for the economy. Agriculture is a driver of growth—quality growth. We

need to look into the possibility of quality growth through agricultural development. Our Institute is now brave enough to look into the possibility of an African rice Green Revolution together with Professor Otsuka of GRIPS and his team. More and more research efforts are needed for better implementation and results of agricultural projects. In this regard, we count on the research outcome of JIRCAS, our organizer, our symposium organizer of today. Thank you so much for listening and have a good day. Thank you.

Chairman Doi : Thank you, Director Tambo. I think I'm finally coming to understand the meaning of quality. I misunderstood that quality is opposed to quantity growth, but now I understand that both are important. And also, I particularly thought, inclusiveness is mastery word for me. I cannot understand what's the meaning of that is. The researchers tend to forget who is the stakeholder and the beneficiaries. So Director General Tutwiler also mentioned that approach is important from the start. We never forget who is the stakeholder and who is the beneficiary for the research. So I'm convinced that the thought-provoking presentation of our keynote speakers have provided some insight into what quality research is and why quality matters in agricultural research. I think we all learned a lot. Both presentations set the baseline of today's symposiums. Please join me in giving a big applause to our excellent keynote speakers. Thank you very much.