Legal Assistance and International Development Cooperation

The Experience and the Goal of the Center for Asian Legal Exchange, Nagoya University

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introduction

Legal Assistance

(International Cooperation in the Legal Field, Legal Technical Assistance...)



background

Global context

Nagoya university

Transition to Market oriented system Economic globalization Academic cooperation Peace-building with Asian countries c.f. Revision of Japan's ODA Charter (2003)





law and development (1)

1960s: "Development" & "Modernization" of the Third World Countries

Law and Development Movement (LDM)

Transplanting the US legal system

Removing traditional barriers

Change economic behavior

Unilineal development view

Underdevelopment = Backwardness

Emulating the trajectory of western industrialized countries



law and development (2)

Post-LDM

Dependency approach

Distributive justice

Law = tool for redistribution

Neo-liberal market approach

Strictly limit the state intervention to market

Law = to protect private transaction and property rights

Third World Jurisprudence & Legal Pluralism

Correction of the ethnocentric conception of law





law and development (3)

New Law and Development Movement (NLDM)

End of the Cold War

Globalization of market economy

Theoretical characteristics

Market will fail = Institutional reform

More than economic growth = Human security

Practical characteristics



international organizations, NGOs, private law firms, academics)

Diverse areas (legislation, judicial reform, legal infrastructure, human resource, election...) Competition among donors

Ownership of recipient countries
Conflicts between laws



Good Governance

Japan's legal assistance (1)



Final recommendation of the Justice Reform Council (2001)

Legal assistance should be promoted

Experience of the reception of western laws

Revision of Japan's ODA Charter (2003)





Japan's legal assistance (2)

Characteristics of Japanese assistance

Consensus oriented

Continuous deliberation with counterpart for consensus

c.f. conditionality for WB's loan

Initiative of host countries (collaborative work)

Counterpart L-T experts Domestic support committee

Public sector-led enterprise

Necessity of cooperation of academics and lawyers

Confidence building as a same professionals

Transfer the implicit know-how for institutional management





Nagoya university (1)

AP project (1990-)

Academic cooperation with Asian countries

International Symposium on Law and politics in Asia (1998)



"Legal Assistance for Asian Countries" project (2001-2006)

Research grant by the MEXT

Further development





Nagoya university (2)

- Agenda for the legal assistance
- Philosophy of the assistance, object countries and institutions, term of project
- Area of the legal assistance
- Coordination with other countries
- Possibility of Legal education in Japanese language

Research Approach

- Critical appraisal of the LDM in 1960s
- Research on transition process to market oriented system
- Research on the legal culture and customary law in each country
- Integration of legal assistance study and international development study

Gathering and dissemination of information





Nagoya university (3)

Characteristic projects

Research on Traditional Law and Legal Culture

The role and influence of

 traditional laws in the modern legal reform

Village laws in Vietnam (*huong uoc*)

→ Utilizing to consolidate the rule of law

Customary autonomous unit in Uzbekistan (*Mahhallya*)

→ Utilizing to consolidate the rule of law





Nagoya university (3)



Nagoya university (3)

Education and Research Center for Japanese Law

Problem of teaching language

Limited number of English material on Japanese law

Insufficient translation of laws (esp. contemporary laws)

Education of Japanese language and Japanese law

4-5 years program

Language training for practical research

Japanese law study from 3rd year

Utilizing network system and schooling (2 weeks in a year)

Uzbekistan (2005), Mongolia (2006),

and Vietnam (opened yesterday)





future agenda

Distance between "Law" and "Development" in international cooperation

- Legal assistance projects
- Strong emphasis on market economy

Three factors in the international cooperation in the legal field

