

**Introduction to the HSI 2024-25
Economic Development Session:**

***Economic Development Issues in
South Asia***

One of the three HIAS-GLECS (Research Center for Global Economic Systems) projects. The other two: Macroeconomic Policies (leader: Etsuro Shioji), and Norms, Institutions, and Mechanism Design (leader: Norio Takeoka)

The conference co-hosted by CEI and EDW (next page)

Takashi Kurosaki (IER, Hitotsubashi University)

1. Background

Research on economic development at Hitotsubashi (esp. Institute of Economic Research: IER)

- Hitotsubashi **Economic Development Workshop (EDW)** since 1979, about 470 seminar meetings until today
- The Center for Economic Institutions (**CEI**) since April 2000
- **PRIMCED** research project (project leader: Takashi Kurosaki): “**Poverty Reduction, Institutions, Markets, and Policies in Developing Countries: Toward a Theory of Comparative Economic Development**”, JSPS Grant S, 2010/11 – 2014/15

HIAS project: “Institutions and Policies for Sustainable Poverty Reduction in Developing Countries,” 2015/16 –

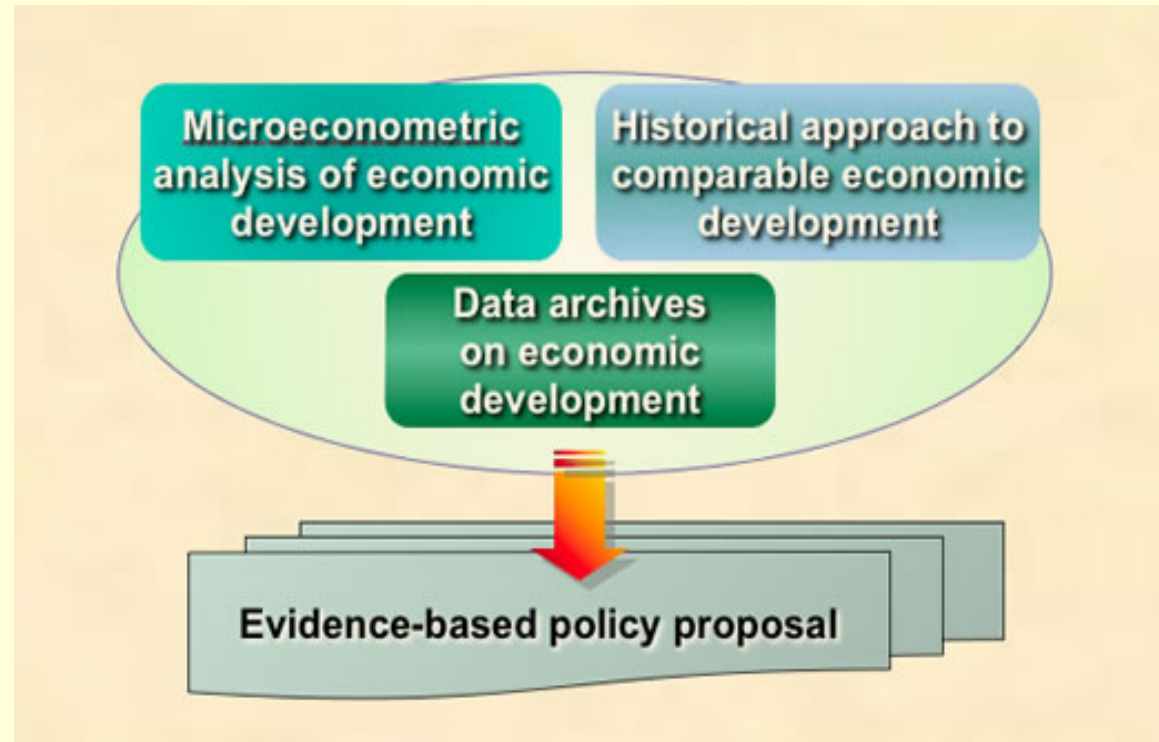
- Hitotsubashi members: Takashi Kurosaki (leader), Yukichi Mano, Takeshi Aida, Hamza Umer, Kazuhiro Obayashi, Mari Tanaka, Kazuki Motohashi, Yusuke Kuroishi
- Associated researchers: Yutaka Arimoto, Jun Goto, Yuichi Kubota, Yuko Mori, Hisaki Kono, Saumik Paul, Kazuya Masuda, etc.

PRIMCED research project (2010/11-14/15)

途上国における貧困削減と制度・市場・政策：比較経済発展論の試み

<http://www.ier.hit-u.ac.jp/primced/e-index.html>

Collaborative research project by **development economists** and **comparative economic historians**, focusing on economic institutions, contracts, and policies.



2. Past HSI Sessions on Economic Development

HSI 2016 (Aug 2-3) with two themes: “**Entrepreneurship**”; “**Disasters**”

- Nicholas Bloom of Stanford as the key guest speaker

HSI 2017 (Aug 4-5) “**Experimental Methods** in Economic Development”

- Speakers included Tatsuyoshi Saijo, Ritwik Banerjee, etc.

HSI 2018 (Aug 6-7)

- Call for paper as a preparatory conference of JADE#

#**JADE** (Japanese Association for Development Economics; 開発経済学会)
founded in March 2019

HSI 2019 (Aug 1-2)

- 1st annual conference of JADE.

HSI 2020 (Nov 14-15)

- Online conference, 2nd JADE annual conference

HSI 2021 (Sept 3)

- Online conference; Pushkar Maitra of Monash University as the key guest speaker

HSI 2023 (June 9)

- In-person conference revived; John Gibson of Waikato University as the key guest speaker

3. This Year's Program

➤ Regional focus on South Asia:

- India as the “Largest Democracy” in the world; Myth and reality
- Potential as highly emerging economies (India, Bangladesh) vs. struggling economies (Pakistan, Sri Lanka)

➤ Four presentations:

- 1: Judicial independence and economic development in India
- 2: Impact of government-exit from wheat market in Pakistan
- 3: Indian auto components industry in global value chains
- 4: Social protection policy design in India

➤ Aims:

- Explore the **frontier of empirical analysis** of economic development, especially **the datasets** and **experimental methodology**, suitable for specific contexts in South Asia

Next-Generation of Empirical Research in Economics

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-Many researchers from different specialized fields exchange their knowledge and develop diverse discussions.

-Each chapter is structured in a three-part format: main text; comments from the discussant; a reply

