

Integrated Research on African Way of Rural Development Based on Area Studies

Makoto KAKEYA

(Kyoto University, Graduate school of Asian and African Area Studies, Professor)

【 Outline of survey 】

Methodology for rural development based on environmental conservation must be established in modern Africa as the economical change puts pressure on the natural environment, in particular woodlands. Consequently, it is very important for scientists in various fields to contribute a development plan that reflects the realities of rural areas and to implement by considering both the utilization and conservation of the natural environment in the woodlands. This study aims at encouraging researchers who have studied woodlands to establish a methodology, which can be applied to the sustainable rural development. The basis for this notion is to understand the realities in the rural areas through interdisciplinary fieldwork. Furthermore, development plan must be created based on the potential of indigenusness of rural area, while putting emphasis on people ' s participation.

The Third Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD III) held in 2003 by the Japanese government has advocated the importance of ownership by African countries, by promoting partnership with the international community to develop human resources and sustainable development. The policy is linked to this study' s concern, which focuses on sustainable development.

【 Expected results 】

The current agro-ecological features and the situation in woodlands and surrounding areas in Tanzania are clarified in considering of the correlation between changes of vegetations and farming systems. In the process, the several-targeted areas are identified in Tanzania, and the realities and key problems in the rural areas are understood through an interdisciplinary research. The research is implemented collaboratively with members in local institutes and governments both at local and national level. In the process all the members attempted to share the realities and problems through varies medium including seminars and presentations. Integrated plans for solutions of the problems are designed in collaboration with the farmers. Some of the trials of evaluations are implemented. The experiment is evaluated and extended to other areas. All the data obtained from the research and activities are analyzed and theorized, and the methodology for rural development is established.

【 References by the principal researcher 】

(ア) Kakeya M., Y. Takamura, A. Z. Mattee, *et al.* 1998 Integrated Agro-ecological Research of the Miombo Woodlands in Tanzania: Final Report, JICA, 1-413.

(イ) Kakeya, M. 2001, African Area Studies and International Cooperative Activities; Indigenous Agriculture and Sustainable Rural Development: *Asian and African Area Studies*, No.1, pp.68-80.

【 Term of project 】 FY 2004 - 2008

【 Budget allocation 】 73,800,000 yen

【 Homepage address 】 None