

## II. Method for Developing Models

## 1. Themes of analysis

As mentioned in the previous chapter, the role of JSPS is to analyze the activities of the SIH pilot institutions, extract best practice, and develop models for the internationalization of Japanese universities.

There is a considerable degree of variation, however, between individual universities, and even among the 20 pilot institutions: they vary in size from large to small, in type from general to specialized, in location from urban to rural, and so on. This diversity makes it extremely difficult to develop a common model that is suitable for all Japan's universities.

Furthermore, the concept of "international" can include a wide range of activities. If we were to address all of these points collectively, the focus of analysis would become somewhat diffused.

In view of the above, JSPS has established the following nine themes of analysis: angles from which to approach analysis of international activity in 20 pilot institutions and through which to extract cases of best practice.

### **JSPS    Nine themes of analysis for best practice**

1. Organization and governance
2. Goal setting, action plans, and evaluation systems
3. Attracting external funds for international education and research
4. Participation in international partnerships and consortiums
5. Expansion of international activities based on specific transnational research projects
6. Training and securing administrative personnel
7. Improving of services and support for foreign researchers
8. Expanding overseas study and research opportunities for young Japanese researchers
9. Establishing and operating overseas bases

In developing the above themes, reference was made to the “Internationalization Indicators (Checklist)” created by Mr. Shingo Ashizawa, one of the researchers participating in the project titled “Developing Evaluation Criteria to Assess the Internationalization of Universities” undertaken by Furushiro et al. (2006).<sup>1)</sup>

Reference 1. Major categories of the “Internationalization Indicators (Checklist)”

- (1) Mission, goals and plans of the university
- (2) Structure and staffing
- (3) Budgeting and implementation
- (4) International dimension of research activities
- (5) Support system, information provision and infrastructure (entrance examination,, education, housing, multi-lingual aspects and the environment)
- (6) Multifaceted promotion of international affiliation
- (7) Internationalization of the university curriculum
- (8) Joint programs with external organizations (academic exchanges, internships and others)

Source: Ashizawa Shingo (2006) “Shihyô sakutei puroseshu to pairotto sutadi ni mukete [Towards the Process of Developing Evaluation Indicators and a Pilot Study]”, Chapter 5 in *Daigaku no kokusaika no hyôka shihyô sakutei ni kansuru jisshôteki kenkyû [Developing Evaluation Criteria to Assess the Internationalization of Universities]*, Final Report of Research Activities for Fiscal Year 2004–2005 MEXT Grant-in-Aid (Scientific Research (A) (2) headed by Prof. Norio Furushiro). Online: <http://www.gcn-osaka.jp/project/project-finalreport.htm>

Additionally, the internationalization of universities is currently attracting attention as a national-level policy issue in countries overseas. In light of this, JSPS also took reference from the themes of analysis in case examples from Sweden<sup>2)</sup> and Norway<sup>3)</sup> where governmental bodies engage in analysis of internationalization in universities and extracting best practice cases in the same way as this program.

Reference 2. Contents of Report on Internationalisation of Higher Education in Sweden

- (1) The goals and strategies of the higher education institutions
- (2) Organisation and support systems
- (3) Internationalisation of undergraduate programmes
- (4) The best institutions

Source: National Agency for Higher Education (2005) *The Internationalisation of Higher Education in Sweden*.  
Online: <http://www.hsv.se/download/18.539a949110f3d5914ec800097606/0527R.pdf>

Reference 3. Analysis of International Practices of Higher Education Institutions  
in Norway

- (1) International research co-operation
- (2) International funding
- (3) Formal co-operation agreements
- (4) Student mobility
- (5) Internationalisation at home
- (6) Organising internationalization

Source: NIFU STEP (2005) *Internationalisation policies and international practices in higher education institutions: A case study of five Norwegian higher education institutions*. NIFU STEP Working Paper 23.

Online: <http://www.u-kokusen.jp/report/pdf/nifustep-norway-2005.pdf>

The nine themes of analysis for the SIH project were formulated using the above case examples as reference and on the basis of discussions held by the University International Strategy Council. JSPS also took into account the current conditions and issues to be addressed in strengthening the foundations for international expansion and activity in Japanese universities.