

Narbaev Shuhrat Shokirovich
Student ID: 201120136
Graduate School of Humanities and Social Sciences
Master's Program in International Public Policy

ABSTRACT

of Master Thesis titled "AN ANALYSIS OF JAPAN'S FOREIGN AID ALLOCATION TO THAILAND"

Keywords: foreign aid policy, aid allocation, national interest, institutional interests and interaction, national development plan, development sectors and regions.

Since its inception Japan's foreign aid giving practice has faced with much criticism as primarily serving her own economic and political interests rather than entirely addressing development needs of recipient countries. The most important thing deserving attention is that aid policy-making used to be undertaken without principle guidance. In 1992, Japan in her foreign aid history first time accepted ODA Charter and revised it in 2003 highlighting basic vision and guidelines for effective aid management and promoted "ownership", "request based" and "policy dialogue" principles in foreign aid allocation. This study attempts to analyze the relevance of Japan's foreign aid allocation with priority development sectors and regions of Thailand in light of national interests, policy-making process in Thailand, and diverse interests of central ODA-related institutions in foreign aid utilization.

Analysis of the study show that at the policy level, Japan's foreign aid program has undergone major reforms to address human security, sustainable development and made significant aid allocation to improve social and economic conditions in Thailand. However, investigation of the case of Thailand reveals inconsistency between allocated aid and priority areas of country assistance program, development sectors of Thailand.

The findings make several contributions to the field of international public policy and international development. First, unlike to conventional wisdom on Japan's foreign aid program, the result of the study proposes that sectoral, regional development priorities and aid policy-making process in the recipient country are important determinants to analyze foreign aid allocation and its effectiveness. Second, the study finds enough empirical evidence to support the argument that national interests of donor and recipient are made and represented through interactions among principle ODA related-institutions in bilateral aid partnership, but they also have their own diverse organizational interests driving into misconception of foreign aid allocation with priority development sectors of aid receiving country.