

# Open Seminar

## Development of International Cooperation in Education in Japan

**Dr. Yasuo Saito**  
**Researcher Emeritus & Fellow,**  
**National Institute for Educational Policy Research (NIER)**



During his 30 years' time as a full-time researcher at the department of international studies and cooperation, NIER, Dr. SAITO has engaged in studying the education in developing countries, especially in Latin American countries. From the late 1990s, he has worked closely with JICA in the field of education. Main works include; *Conflict between State Principle and Market Principle in Education: A Study on Educational Policy in Chile* (in Japanese) 2012 Tôshindo, *A Historical Study on Ideas and Policies of Japanese International Cooperation in Education* (in Japanese) 2011, and *The History of Japanese Educational Development* (co-ed.) 2004, JICA. He has also worked as part-time professor in Sophia University and ICU.

**Date & Time:** 16:30-18:00, Dec. 11 (Thursday), 2014

**Venue:** GSID Seminar Room #6 (Room 515)

**Language:** English

### **Brief description of the lecture**

It was after the World Conference on Education for All (WCEFA) held in 1990 that international assistant agencies and most donor countries including Japan have shifted their policy priority towards education, especially to basic education. From the middle of the 1990s, policies and activities on international cooperation in education in Japan have made rapid strides. It's been 50 years since Japan started its international cooperation in education. In the early part of the 1970s, there arose a controversy on this new enterprise while an effort was made to establish a comprehensive national policy for international cooperation in education. For a long time, Japan was so reluctant to commit itself to aid for basic education in developing countries. The popular discourses sometimes regarded intervention to basic education of foreign countries as a "taboo" When and for what reasons did such a diffident attitude toward aid to basic education come into being and take root among the Japanese people concerned with foreign assistance? Here Dr. Saito will explore the historical roots of international cooperation in education in Japan.

**For further inquiry, please contact Shoko Yamada ([syamada@gsid.nagoya-u.ac.jp](mailto:syamada@gsid.nagoya-u.ac.jp))**