

[Summary]



ABSTRACTS

While a huge amount of research tends to focus on distilling cross-country lessons from failures in macro-level strategies for improving public services performance, the research on "pockets of effectiveness" sheds unique light on exceptionally well-functioning public institutions in countries that have otherwise poor governance and weak public sectors. With the analytical lenses of "pockets of effectiveness" this article intends to study the case of Phnom Penh Water Supply Authority (PPWSA), which had transformed into a world-known well-performing water utility in the difficult environments, to investigate factors leading to its success. The foregoing research and the case analysis suggest unorthodox successful factors that are different from those stressed in standardized reform menus such as methodologies of "new public management" as well as the catalytic role of international aid. The author argues that not only posing "effective reform menus" or formal institutional arrangements, development donors should make better use of technical cooperation and infrastructure development for supporting local leadership so that leaders can cultivate informal "organizational culture" based on rule-based and result-oriented management and protect their organizations flexibly enough to cope with its difficult situations.

Empirical Examination of the Schwartz Value Theory from a Cross-National Comparative Perspective: Data Analysis of the World Values Survey

Kazufumi Manabe

ABSTRACTS

The purpose of this paper is to conduct an empirical examination of the value theory of Shalom Schwartz from a cross-national comparative perspective through a data analysis of the World Values Survey (WVS). Schwartz's circular continuum of value model is a structural model that shows the mutual relationships between the ten motivationally distinct types of basic human values: power, achievement, hedonism, stimulation, self-direction, universalism, benevolence, tradition, conformity, and security. The 10 countries were selected for conducting a data analysis, namely Germany, US, Russia, Turkey, South Africa, Japan, South Korea, China, Thailand, and Malaysia. As a method of data analysis, the Smallest Space Analysis (SSA) developed by Louis Guttman was used. The SSA maps of the 10 countries have similarities in terms of their geometric shape (a space partition shape that Schwartz refers to as a "circular continuum"), but differences were evident in the circular order of the space plot of the values items. These findings suggest that the circular continuum model provides a useful basic framework for conducting a comparative analysis of basic human values.

The Invention of Movable Type Printing and Religious Reform as A Example of New Medium Emergence and Social Destabilization

Eiichiro KABASHIMA

ABSTRACTS

Various changes in many societies after around 2010 like Arab Spring had been often explained from the influence of the Internet. However, it is not the first time that new medium emergence brings change and destabilization to societies. One clear example is the invention of movable type printing and religious reform in Germany. Rapid spread of movable type printing technology increased amount of information revolutionarily. Also This new technology promoted the standardization and simplification of texts, and those expanded the readers, and allowed many people to receive the same information. Luther did not intend to reform the religion, but his idea widely spread to society as printed texts. Due to public enthusiasm for the new medium and the new ideas that medium conveyed, the German peasants' war that demanded the liberation of peasants occurred in 1525. Luther felt a strong threat because he utterly unexpected the enthusiasm of public and the war as the result of his argument. After peasants' war he insisted that the people should not read the Bible themselves, but should contact with the Bible under the control of church specialists. More research needed on the social divide between Catholic who emphasized oral media and Protestant who mainly used typographic media.

Transnational Migration in Contemporary Society

From the perspective of locally hired Japanese in Bangkok, Thailand

Daisuke Saito

ABSTRACTS

This article examines transnational migration of locally hired Japanese employee in Bangkok, Thailand. This article involves unstructured interview of five 20s and 30s Japanese working at Bangkok.

Migration in this paper focuses on the group who voluntarily moves with the motivation based on their own interest and willing. The group is clearly different from migrants who are forced to move due to economical poverty or dispute.

In this, two types of migration in terms of their migration process are found through the research. The research found the difference in interviewee's travel experience in Thailand. This experience leads an insistence on the place. In fact, one of the types of migration has strong insistence to live Thailand or Bangkok. For them, having job in Bangkok realizes their will to live in Thailand. As for the other type of migration, they don't have strong insistence to Bangkok and Thailand. Travel experience doesn't affect their migration process to Thailand directly. As it were, they work in Bangkok to achieve their international career. And, working in Bangkok is anything more than one point and choice in their career.

Thus, it can be said that Bangkok is not only the place for leisure but also the place for work under globalization.

