



Center for Women's Education and Development



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Mission

Developing countries currently have social systems that do nothing to close the gap in the rate of school attendance between boys and girls, but instead contribute to a cycle of poverty.

The mission of Ochanomizu University, which has a history of women's education stretching back 130 years, is to support the growth of women, regardless of nationality or age, and the development of their qualifications and skills. The university provides a place where women of different ages and social standing can come together and conduct research from a global perspective. Providing support for women in developing countries at a university that has such a high caliber of human resources follows a "women-to-women" approach, and facilitates efforts to solve the problems unique to developing countries and make policy recommendations from the perspective of women.

The Center for Women's Education and Development is committed to carrying out the research being promoted at Ochanomizu University for women in developing countries, who are among the world's most vulnerable citizens, and hopes to lend support to the university's contributions toward world place.

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Faculty

Head	Toru MIURA (Professor of Comparative History)
Lecturer	Mao TAKAHASHI
Visiting Professor	Seiji UTSUMI (Professor of International Cooperation, Osaka University)
Guest Professor	Kiyomi KAWANO
Guest Professor	Shuko FUJIEDA
Guest Professor	Yasuko MINOURA

Guest Associate Professor	Torpekai SURUTANI
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Summary of works

[Women's Education Collaborative Research Division]

A consortium of five women's universities (Tsuda College, Tokyo women's Christian University, Nara Women's University, Japan Women's University and Ochanomizu University) has been conducting the Afghan Women Teacher's Training program on behalf of the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) since FY2002.

In addition to providing support for Afghan women, Ochanomizu University works with many different institutions to implement cooperative projects aimed at empowering women in many different positions in developing countries.

I Research Activities

- ① Survey research on women's education and the current status of women in developing countries, and research regarding women's needs
- ② Implementation of support projects for women in developing countries
- ③ Survey research on trends in women's support provided by international institutions and donor nations
- ④ Strategies and policy recommendations in Japan regarding support for women in developing countries
- ⑤ Development of an international support model based on women's life stages
- ⑥ Promotion of international joint research on women's education in developing countries
- ⑦ Collection and dissemination of literature on women's education in Japan

II Network and Database Construction

- ① Construct a network of women's education support and research in Japan
 - Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), MEXT, NGOs, universities, International Institutions, research institutions, etc.
- ② Create a database regarding women's education in developing countries
 - Collect and store academic articles and reports regarding women's education from within Japan and overseas
 - Provide materials (human resources) regarding women's education, support for women
- ③ Publish reports and other materials
- ④ Hold symposia and research meetings

[Early Childhood Education Collaborative Research Division]

Ochanomizu University was asked to serve as a base of cooperation in the field of "early childhood education (preschool education)," an area in which Japan has somewhat limited cooperation experience, under the Cooperation Bases System launched by MEXT in June 2003.

The university's purpose in the effort is to create an infrastructure for stimulating and systematically promoting Japan's international cooperation in the field of early childhood education, and we are engaging in the projects outlines below as part of a network that includes the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), NGOs and other partners.

1. Surveys of the status of early childhood education in developing countries and trends in international cooperation
 - Conduct on-site observation surveys in developing countries in Asia (such as Malaysia, Sri Lanka, Cambodia, Vietnam, Pakistan and Nepal)
 - Conduct interviews with representative of JICA, international institutions, NGOs and university officials.
2. Consolidation and application of theory and practice in early childhood education
 - Collect and create a database of academic articles, bulletins and reports produced in Japan and elsewhere
 - Create the Early Childhood Education Handbook (Japanese version and English version) outlining theories and practices related to early childhood education in Japan
 - Create visual media and historical materials related to early childhood education in Japan
3. Implementation of training for officials involved in the ministries of education and working teachers in developing countries

- Develop effective training programs
- Implement training programs in Japan for Nepal's ministry of Education and Sports in charge of ECD
- Implement training for working teachers in Sri Lanka
- Implement training programs in Japan for Vietnamese educators in charge of ECD
- Implement training programs in Japan for Mongolian children's education researchers

4. Dissemination of information and the creation of network

- Hold workshops (5-7 times per year)
- Hold symposia (once a year)
- Disseminate information regarding our activities and exchange information regarding international cooperation via <http://www.kodomo.ocha.ac.jp/~eccd>

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