

Bibliographical Guidelines on Aging-Related Materials

Part III

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Bibliographical introductions

- **“Duk Sunwoo (2012). “The Present situation and problems of the long-term care insurance in South Korea: from comparative perspectives between South Korea and Japan”. In *The Japanese Journal of Social Security Policy*, Vol.9, No.1 (March 2012).**

In 2000, South Korea entered an era of an aging society, and in 2008 implemented a long-term nursing care insurance scheme drawing from the existing insurance schemes adopted by Germany and Japan. Persons eligible for long-term nursing care insurance are assessed on the basis of their level of cognitive functions or disabilities in light of their ADL, and their need for nursing care is divided into three stages. Persons over the age of 20, excluding those with disabilities, are eligible to be insured under the scheme. In addition to nursing care at nursing care facilities and home-visit nursing care, cash payments are also provided in special districts as a benefit for persons with mental illness.

Problems with the current system are various including limited services for low income earners due to local governments' lack of financial resources, and the inability to adequately provide for rehabilitation and recovery services for various functions. It is believed that the establishment of a comprehensive community support system like that practiced in Japan is also a desirable method of care for the aged in South Korea. It is hoped that preventive care services can be provided in the homes of the aged and local areas the aged are familiar with.

This paper indicates that aging in South Korea is set to progress more rapidly than in Japan, financial pressure on social security will increase, and a serious intergenerational imbalance will occur due to a decline in the young population. Therefore, adopting a better long-term nursing care policy is an urgent issue for South Korea.

(Dr. Yasuko Hayase)

Link:

http://www.ipss.go.jp/webj-ad/WebJournal.files/SocialSecurity/2011/spring/Web%20Journal_Dr%20Sunwo.pdf

- **Tetsuo Fukawa (2005). "Some structural issues in the Japanese social security system". In *The Japanese Journal of Social Security Policy*, Vol.4, No.2 (December 2005).**

Since the introduction of the National Pension Scheme (universal pension) in 1961, the Japanese social security system has undergone various system reforms including the establishment of a two-tiered system comprised of the national pension (basic fixed pension) and employee pension (a component proportionate to the individual's earnings), reform in the pension system including raising insurance premiums, medical insurance system reform with the introduction of co-payment of medical expenses (employer to bear 30%) as the main point of reform, and the introduction of a nursing care insurance scheme. Against a backdrop of ongoing aging of the population, the objectives of these reforms were to establish medium- to long-term stability, construct a sustainable system in harmony with the social economy and ensure the reliability of this system, and maintain standards that were acceptable and could make a contribution without being too heavy a burden on future working generation.

Examining the Japanese social security system, this paper includes comparisons with Western countries in three major areas: the scale of sustainable social security, functions of social security systems, and the public and private sector sharing of roles in social security. Social security systems differ from one country to the next due largely to the historical and socioeconomic structures of countries. Without exception, however, the ratio of social security costs (costs for pension, medical care, the aged, people with disabilities and families) to GDP is rising every year, particularly the proportionate amounts for the pension and medical care. The ratio of social security costs to GDP in Japan in 2001 was low, as was that of the United States, while in European countries such as Sweden the ratios were higher than that of Japan. Public expenses for medical care were about five-fold more than private expenses, and the public expense ratio was higher than that of other countries.

This paper indicates that while medical system reforms are undergoing revisions on an annual basis, in the future consensus building will continue to be important in terms of what to maintain or change based on people's options and behavior regarding matters relating to the nursing care insurance scheme and the pension system.

(Dr. Yasuko Hayase)

Link:

<http://www.ipss.go.jp/webj-ad/WebJournal.files/SocialSecurity/2005/Dec/Fukawa.pdf>

- **Makoto Atoh (2001). “Very Low Fertility in Japan and Value Change Hypotheses”. In *Review of Population and Social Policy*, No. 10, 2001, 1–21.**

Fertility in Japan dropped below replacement level in the middle of the 1970s and has been declining since. This paper examines the value change that accompanied the fertility decline in the nearly 20 years from the mid-1970s to mid-1990s and considers the relation between value change and fertility decline.

The total fertility rate (TFR) in Japan declined gradually in the 10 years starting in the mid-1970s and then fell rapidly in the next 10 years from the mid-1980s. The TFR decline of the past 20 years was demographically due to a decline in the proportion of the population currently married, which was attributable to a rise in the proportion never married. The proportion never married among women in their 20s and in the first half of their 30s increased gradually in the first 10 years and then rose sharply in the latter 10 years. How can we explain the rise in the proportion never married and fertility decline? Three major hypotheses have been put forward to explain fertility decline in Western countries that occurred at around the same time. The first, the technological hypotheses (i.e. the spread of oral contraceptive pills and legalization of induced abortion), cannot be applied to the fertility decline in Japan. The second, the economic hypothesis (i.e. higher educational attainment and increased labor force participation of women), is very relevant to Japan, and several studies have corroborated it. The third, the value change hypothesis, has never been considered up to now but is worth considering.

The value change that has been proposed to explain fertility decline in Western countries has been associated with the views among young people of the 1960s, who placed the highest value on self-actualization. Scholars have variously termed this value change as secularization= individualization, progressivism, post-materialism, the end of the child-centered society, and so on. Based on various nationally representative time-series and comparable attitudinal surveys which have been undertaken in the post-war period by various institutes in Japan, the author examined changes in attitude toward religion, family and gender, individualistic values, and norms on family size. Results showed that even though people’s religious sentiment, including the question of whether one had faith in any religion, gradually weakened in general and changes toward an individualist inclination grew gradually stronger after the war, such changes have not been striking after the 1970s. Family size norms, such as the ideal number of children, remained extremely stable. On the other hand, it was observed that views about women’s status and roles in the family and the society, including responsibilities to support aged parents, gender role divisions, marriage, divorce, and gender (the question of whether one would prefer to be male or female), shifted significantly towards placing more value to women and promoting gender equality in the 1980s and 1990s.

Based on the above observation, the author assumes that an increase in the proportion of women advancing to higher educational institutions and working in the labor market beginning in the 1960s induced a change toward gender equality in matters related to women in the 1980s, which contributed to later and fewer marriages and fertility decline.

The issue of gender equality is regaining attention as a determining factor of fertility decline in developed countries today. What countries with very low fertility, including Japan and other East Asian countries, southern European countries, and German-speaking countries have in common are unequal gender roles in the labor market and the home and a lack of policy response to address such inequality. It is believed that there is underlying acceptance of

gender role divisions in these societies. In this context, this paper, which elucidated a change in views towards promoting gender equality as a cause of very low fertility in Japan, has important implications in terms of pointing to the need of policy response to further promote gender equality, which specifically should include measures to make it easier for families to balance work and child rearing.

(Dr. Makoto Atoh)

Link:

http://www.ipss.go.jp/publication/e/R_S_P/No.10_P1.pdf

○ **APDA (1989). “Population and Development Series No.9: Population and the Family in Japan”.**

This book provides a statistical analysis of post-war changes as well as a future forecast of changes in the family in Japan, based mainly on population censuses undertaken from 1960 to 1985.

Japan achieved high economic growth for nearly 15 years starting in the mid-1950s and had a stable economic growth thereafter. This high economic growth had a transformative effect on Japanese society, an important aspect of which was changes in the family. In the traditional society that relied mainly on primary industry, the extended family filled several functions. Economic development and consequent socio-economic changes of industrialization, urbanization, and intense population migration, however, curtailed those functions, and the smaller nuclear family became a more adequate form of family (Chapter 2).

In pre-war Japan, the “*ie*” family system, which legalized the stem family, or the patriarchal, primogenital family, as one form of extended family, had been dominant until the post-war amendment of the Civil Code that introduced the concept of the nuclear family. In terms of household structure, households began to grow smaller around 1955. This was due to a decreasing number of children after the fertility transition of the 1950s and to the rise of nuclear families. The latter can be substantiated by an increase in the proportion of nuclear family households and single households and a decrease in the proportion of three-generation households and other stem family households (Chapter 3). In terms of elderly households (i.e. households in which the age of the household head is 65 or over), the proportion of households with elderly couple only and single elderly households has risen, while the proportion of stem family households dropped below 50% in 1985 (Chapter 5). According to the household projections for 1985 to 2025, the trend towards smaller households and the increase in nuclear family or single households is expected to continue in the future. In line with population aging, the number and proportion of households with elderly couple only and single elderly households will also increase substantially (Chapter 6).

By region, the proportion of nuclear families and single households is high in large metropolitan areas, such as Tokyo, Kanagawa, and Osaka. In rural prefectures, the proportion of nuclear families is relatively high in western half of Japan and relatively low in Tohoku (northeastern) and Hokuriku (northwestern) regions (Chapters 3 and 4). Considering the future increase in elderly households, the implication of the above finding is that regional differences in family structure should be fully taken into account in welfare policies for elderly care.

Results of a national opinion survey on the topic of families in 1988 showed, in general, approval of single life, acceptance of divorce, permissiveness of remarriage in old age, and acceptance of having man work in the kitchen. On a more personal level, many respondents showed strong desire to get married, have thought about divorce but refrained in consideration of their children, are increasingly not living with their parents but more and more are living with their parents in later stages of life, and see the importance of preserving the ancestral tomb. Therefore, rather than passively adopting en masse the new family values that prevail in the West, some of the old attitude originated from the “*ie*” family system is also being preserved (Chapter 7).

It is possible that even though the forms of traditional families differ between Japan and developing countries, many elements of the above analysis on the changes in the family in

Japan from the mid-1980s on have similarities with the changes in the family in today's developing countries, where economic development is supported by extended families in the broad sense.

(Dr. Makoto Atoh)

Link:

https://ssl.whp-gol.com/apda.jp/dl/popdev_series_9_en.pdf

- **APDA (1995). “Population and Development Series No.19: Woman’s Labor Force Participation and Economic Development in Asia — Strategy toward the 21st Century”.**

It has been noted that the Programme of Action adopted at the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) in Cairo in 1994 brought about a paradigm shift in population policy within the international community. At the Bucharest conference in 1974, women were inclined to be seen as the object of family planning programs, which were viewed as a tool for economic development and for curtailing population growth. At the ICPD, in contrast, women were regarded as a main policy actor. Reproductive health and rights, including family planning, were considered an integral part of the basic human rights of women, and the ICPD declared that respect for women’s rights and empowerment of women would go towards resolving the population issue. Following on the Programme of Action adopted at ICPD, this book discusses the current status of women and their empowerment in Asian countries, focusing particularly on education and labor force participation and their relation to fertility.

The status of women in Asia varies widely by country. Incidents of dowry deaths and induced abortion of female fetuses are symbolic of the low status of women in southern Asia, particularly India. There is a tendency towards predominance of men over women in China and other countries in the Confucian cultural sphere. This tendency, however, is not so strong in Hong Kong, which was influenced by Western culture. The status of women is relatively high in Southeast Asian countries like Thailand and Malaysia that have adopted the bilineal descent. As religions, cultures, and customs are intricately involved in determining the status of women, trying to raise the status of women in an effort to solve the population issue is not so straightforward (Chapter 1). On the other hand, the education level of women is rising and employment of women is expanding in Asian countries. Since 1970, for example, the illiteracy rate has declined with the rise in income levels; there has been a remarkable spread of primary education; and the labor force participation of women is increasing. In southern Asian countries like Pakistan and India, however, the status of women is low and the degree of change is small for all indicators, both in comparison with Asian newly industrialized economies (NIEs) and Southeast Asian countries (Chapters 4 and 5). In Japan, even though more women are in employment, it has been pointed out that this is due to a rapid increase in women working as part-time employees and that women’s labor force participation is insufficient due to its discriminatory structure (Chapter 3).

As for the relation between the status of women and fertility in Asian countries, results of the World Fertility Survey (WFS) and the Demographic Health Survey (DHS) show that fertility tends to decrease as the level of education rises and among women employed in modern occupations as compared with women employed in traditional occupations (Chapter 2). Data from Southeast Asian countries also indicate that educational and employment opportunities are a factor in the rise of late marriages. As for the effect of maternal employment on child welfare, reaching a definitive conclusion was not easy (Chapter 4). Past studies have focused on general social-economic development factors and factors involving population policies as influencing fertility decline. Following the Cairo conference, the rise in women’s status and expansion of women’s roles should be included in the social-economic factors, and factors related to reproductive health and rights in the factors involving population policies (Chapter 2).

Today, 20 years after gender equality was propounded at the Cairo conference and Beijing

conference in the mid-1990s, gender equality is increasingly becoming a central policy issue internationally. This book, which discusses the relation between empowerment of women and development and between gender equality and fertility, should serve as a useful guide for other developing regions and developed regions alike.

(Dr. Makoto Atoh)

Link:

https://ssl.whp-gol.com/apda.jp/dl/popdev_serees19_en.pdf

- **Donghyun Park (ed.) (2012). “Pension System in East and Southeast Asia: Promoting Fairness and Sustainability”, The Asian Development Bank.**

This book examines if eight developing Asian countries (the People’s Republic of China, Indonesia, the Republic of Korea, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Viet Nam) will be able to provide adequate, affordable, and sustainable income support for their elderly persons in the years to come. Despite their diverse income and developmental levels, the eight countries are likely to encounter two formidable challenges: inequity and potential unsustainability. This book clearly points out that much remains to be done to improve in the current pension system of each country with a view to achieving fairness and sustainability.

(Dr. Naohiro Ogawa)

Link:

<https://www.adb.org/sites/default/files/publication/29954/pension-systems-east-southeast-asia.pdf>

- **Naohiro Ogawa, Sang- Hyop Lee, Rikiya Matsukura, An- Chi Tung, and Mun Sim Lai (2012). "Population aging, economic growth, and intergenerational transfers in Japan: how dire are the prospects?". In *Aging, Economic Growth, and Old-Age Security in Asia*, The Asian Development Bank.**

This paper analyzes the impact of population aging upon the pattern of both public and private intergenerational transfers over the period 1984-2009 in Japan. Based upon their intertemporal analytical results, the authors emphasize that Japan's future economic growth is likely to vary considerably in the next few decades, depending upon how and where the Japanese elderly persons invest their accumulated assets and wealth. For this reason, this paper emphasizes the importance of encouraging the elderly to acquire sufficient knowledge about financial markets.

(Dr. Naohiro Ogawa)

Link:

<https://www.adb.org/sites/default/files/publication/30041/aging-economic-growth-asia.pdf>

○ **The Cabinet Secretariat, the Government of Japan (2016). “Japan’s Plan for Dynamic Engagement of All Citizens”.**

“Distribution” cannot be sustained without the fruits of “economic growth.” Japan should put an end to the long-standing debate on whether to prioritize economic growth or distribution, and create “a virtuous cycle of growth and distribution” as a new “Japanese model” ahead of other advanced economies. To build such a mechanism, the following “new three arrows” should be introduced: the first arrow of “a robust economy that gives rise to hope”; the second arrow of “dream-weaving childcare supports (childcare support for a brighter future)”; and the third arrow of “social security that provides reassurance”. The key to growth is acceleration of innovation in a wide array of fields. The above is the gist of “Japan’s Plan for Dynamic Engagement of All Citizens”.

In advanced economies where the economy has matured, capital has been accumulated, and the population is aging, potential growth rates inevitably declines. In Japan, in particular, the demand for farm produce and marine products for consumption as food has already reached a saturation point and is on a decline. On the other hand, rapid aging is expanding latent demand for service sector services including healthcare and nursing care. In the face of such major socio-economic changes, the question one should be asking is what innovation is most pertinent in which fields and what kinds of human resources are needed to promote such innovation.

The above document, as a government decision document that needed the approval of all cabinet ministers, is written in a way that pleases all parties concerned. Based on the above plan, there is a future need to plot out concrete approaches to addressing these issues, namely, how to utilize the full potential of women and older population.

(Dr. Yonosuke Hara)

Link:

http://japan.kantei.go.jp/97_abe/Documents/2016/_icsFiles/afieldfile/2016/06/02/jpnplnde_en.pdf

○ **APDA (1989). “Slide movie: Aging in Japan: Challenges and Prospects”.**

In modern Japan, population aging is rapidly advancing as a result of demographic transition (transition to lower birth and death rates) brought about by socio-economic development. Japan has responded to population aging by improving and expanding the social security system, but a range of complex problems have surfaced over pension finance etc. In this context, issues arising from population aging in Japan could be described as a shadow of its remarkable economic development.

Today, a growing number of developing countries are on a trajectory of economic growth and development. Generally, the pace of economic growth and demographic transition tends to be faster in countries that are starting the process later than developed countries. Japan's experience should be a useful guide for such countries implementing measures in response to rapid population aging brought about by economic growth and development. The slides, which were made in 1989, should provide an ideal overview of Japan's experience.

(Dr. Tomomi Otsuka)

Link:

<http://www.apda.jp/en/moviephoto.html>

○ **APDA (1991). “Slide movie: Regional Development and Population in Japan”.**

After the Meiji Restoration, Japan promoted economic growth and development by investing in education and expanding its human capital. Its economic achievements, however, were reduced to ashes in the aftermath of the Second World War. Against this background, effective, efficient use of the national land was necessary for economic growth and development.

The land within a country’s borders is like a receptacle for holding its population. Considered in this light, regional development planning tells a story about challenges a country faces in each period of its development. For example, in 1962, during Japan’s period of high economic growth, the Comprehensive National Development Plan was drawn up to prevent concentration of population and industries in large metropolises and to achieve balanced development in regions across Japan. Other land development plans were drawn up in Japan to address respective challenges it faced in different eras.

Although not included in these slides, experiments to build compact cities have begun in Japan where fertility is declining and population is aging rapidly. The slides, which were produced in 1989, should serve as an ideal reference material for understanding the relation between regional development and population.

(Dr. Tomomi Otsuka)

Link:

<http://www.apda.jp/en/moviephoto.html>

- **Atsushi Seike (2003). “Pension Reforms toward an Aging Society”. In *The Japanese Journal of Social Security Policy*, Vol.2, No.1 (June 2003).**

Public pension schemes can be broadly divided into the pay-as-you-go system, in which the benefits for a single year are paid from the contributions paid in the same year, and the fully funded system, in which the benefits for a single year is paid from contributions from past years that have been put in a fund and any interest earned by the fund. The pay-as-you-go system, which is used widely in advanced countries, tends to be vulnerable to changes in the population structure brought about by population aging. This is because when an increase in older population is coupled with a decrease in the younger working-age population that pays the benefits of the older people, the working-age population will clearly have to bear a greater economic burden.

This naturally leads to a discussion on the transition from a pay-as-you-go system to a fully funded system. The transition, however, will entail the so-called double-burden problem. During the transition, the working-age population would have to support the older generation while putting aside contributions for their own old age. Noteworthy is a scenario for building an Age-Free Active Society (a society in which people can continue to work regardless of age). If older persons who are willing and able to work continue to do so beyond their retirement age, they can contribute as payers of both taxes and pension contributions. This paper, published in 2003, makes a highly innovative proposal.

(Dr. Tomomi Otsuka)

Link:

<http://www.ipss.go.jp/webj-ad/WebJournal.files/SocialSecurity/2003/03JUN/Seike.pdf>

- **Takashi Oshio and Satoshi Shimizutani (2005). “The impact of social security on income, poverty, and health of the elderly in Japan”. In *IPSS Discussion Paper Series (No.2005-04)*.**

In Japan, demographic transition (the transition from high birth and death rates to low birth and death rates) was brought about by economic development. On the other hand, the resulting decline in fertility and population aging are putting serious strains on the country's social security system, including its pension schemes. (It could be said that population aging is a shadow of Japan's remarkable economic development.) This calls for a drastic reform of the social security system.

In doing so, it is important to understand its effect on the well-being of older population; in other words, its impact on the income, poverty, and health of older population.

Using statistical data from the Surveys on Income Redistribution (1981-1999) conducted by the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare, this paper provides an empirical analysis of this issue and concludes that social security programmes have significantly improved the well-being of older population. This excellent paper argues that more detailed analysis is however needed on the relation between social security programs and the income, poverty, and health of older population.

(Dr. Tomomi Otsuka)

Link:

http://www.ipss.go.jp/publication/j/DP/dp2005_04e.pdf

- **The National Institute of Population and Social Security Research (2014). “Social Security in Japan 2014”.**

This booklet prepared by IPSS, a research institute which has a role in developing Japan’s social security programs provides an official explanation of all the current major social security programs operating in Japan. This serves as a fundamental referential work for anyone to obtain a precise understanding of Japan’s social welfare system. It is divided into nine chapters: 1 Overview of Population Trends in Japan; 2 Overview of Social Security in Japan; 3 Pensions; 4 Health Care Insurance; 5 Welfare for Older persons; 6 Public Assistance; 7 Family Policy; 8 Policy for People with Disability; and 9 Labour Insurance. As well as provide a clear and succinct explanation of the programs in force in each particular area, it also provides a short and clear history of Japanese social security in each of these areas. This is a valuable single work that covers an introduction to Japan’s social security programs as a whole.

(Dr. Tomomi Otsuka)

Link:

<http://www.ipss.go.jp/s-info/e/ssj2014/index.asp>

- **“T. Suzuki, H. Makizako, T. Doi, H. Park, S. Lee, K. Tsutsumimoto, K. Umemura1, Y. Maki1, H. Shimada (2015). “Community-Based Intervention for Prevention of Dementia in Japan”. In *The Journal of Prevention of Alzheimer’s Disease* (JPAD©).**

This is a paper by a team of researchers led by Dr. Takao Suzuki, Director of the Research Institute at the National Center for Geriatrics and Gerontology. Even though we use the single term “aging” for all people over 65 years old (yo), we know in fact that there is a major difference in levels of health condition enjoyed by the young-old (65yo-74yo) on the one hand and by the old-old (75yo and older) on the other, and that there is consequently a huge difference between the two groups in terms of expenditure by the nation’s medical insurance schemes.

In particular, dementia is an age-related concern for the old-old age group and it imposes an enormous weight on families and care facilities alike. Once dementia becomes fully developed in a person it becomes very difficult to manage, in part also because present-day medical science can offer no effective treatments for it. Dr. Suzuki’s team demonstrated that broad improvements could be achieved at the pre-dementia stage by introducing “cognisizing”, a method that combines cognitive training and physical exercise. Dementia is seen as the most serious challenge that aging societies might face, and developing this potential means to prevent it may have momentous consequences globally in terms of reducing one particular burden faced by aging societies. This paper focuses on the role of the community in this method for preventing dementia, and is essential reading for anyone contemplating policies to deal with aging societies in Asia. It also contains a long list of related articles, adding to its value as a very useful reference work.

(Dr. Tomomi Otsuka)

Link:

https://ssl.whp-gol.com/apda.jp/dl/jpad_rev_1.pdf

- **Daigo Nakata (2012). “Estimation of the Difference in Medical Costs and Nursing Care Costs by Prefecture”. In *Japanese Journal of Social Security Policy*, Vol.9, No.1 (March 2012).**

Although Japan’s social security schemes all apply uniformly across the country, medical and nursing care costs differ across each of Japan’s 47 prefectures (its regional tier of governments). The main reasons for these differences is that aging is more advanced in more rural and regional areas, and population decline in those prefectures has driven up their medical costs on a per capita basis. This paper makes long-term estimates of medical and nursing care costs for each respective prefecture, as well as estimates of medical and nursing care costs for when the second “baby boomer” generation ages. It can therefore be a resource for any study of whether Japan’s social security programs are sustainable. This paper mainly sets out estimates and other factual and numerical data, and does not yet examine in detail for example any unique reasons for differences in medical and nursing care expenditure across prefectures.

For the purpose of formulating and implementing policies to deal with aging, a more detailed analysis behind these differences will be needed for better examination of why such cost differentials have arisen even between prefectures with a similar population profile. This paper is a very useful factual reference work for any such examination, and also a valuable resource on which to base future discussions.

(Dr. Tomomi Otsuka)

Link:

http://www.ipss.go.jp/webj-ad/WebJournal.files/SocialSecurity/2011/spring/WebJournal_Dr%20Nakata.pdf

- **Tetsuo Fukawa (2007). “Health and long-term care expenditures of the elderly in Japan using a micro-simulation model”. In *The Japanese Journal of Social Security Policy*, Vol. 6, No.2 (November 2007).**

This research paper also looks at the sustainability of Japan’s social security programs. Using a micro-simulation model, it attempts to make estimates of Japan’s expenditure on health- and long-term care for its older persons. Although it cannot be said to fully incorporate all relevant social factors, it does prepare a plan employing an economic simulation model, which includes an input-output analysis among other factors when they draw up economic plans. Factors such as culture, religious views and social values vary from country to country, and properly incorporating these into such a plan based on the analysis in this paper will be an important approach to employ when developing social policies for an aging population. This paper is a must-read for applying this approach.

(Dr. Tomomi Otsuka)

Link:

<http://www.ipss.go.jp/webj-ad/WebJournal.files/SocialSecurity/2007/winter/fukawa.pdf>

○ **International Labour Organization (2008). “Labour Shortage Responses in Japan, Korea, Singapore, Hong Kong, and Malaysia: A Review and Evaluation”.**

This document was compiled by Cornell University’s School of Industrial and Labor Relations. It analyzes the responses to labor shortages in Japan, South Korea, Singapore, Hong Kong and Malaysia – East Asian countries with aging populations. It looks at the wide range of differing policies adopted by each government, from countries like Japan that have almost no reliance on foreign labor, to countries like Singapore and Malaysia that are heavily reliant on foreign labor.

After claiming that in none of these countries have any monetary incentives to raise birth rates really worked, this paper turns its attention to a discussion of migrant workers. While for any country skilled workers are a valuable driver of national development, when migrant workers are brought in for purely economic reasons without any other conditions being put in place, it increases the likelihood of social challenges arising like the status of the Turkish population in Germany.

Malaysia for example takes in foreign workers under the philosophy of mutual help based on the Islamic concept of *ummah*, and attention should be more fully given to the fact that its cultural background is entirely different from that of Japan or South Korea. Furthermore although this paper claims to find no example of any monetary incentive having worked to raise the birth rate of any of these nations, research on this point is not fully entirely adequate. Whereas family planning did work by satisfying unmet needs, in order to improve declining birth rates it requires long-term merit for individuals as well as structural support in the form of government assistance. So long as there has been no research on this particular question, however, we do not think there has been any research conducted which can reasonably argue whether monetary incentives are effective or not.

In that regard, while this article can be described as somewhat limited in its analysis, it nevertheless clearly identifies one particular aspect among the diversity of aging in Asia, and thus can serve as a foundation for future discussion.

(Dr. Tomomi Otsuka)

Link:

http://www.ilo.org/asia/whatwedo/publications/WCMS_099166/lang--en/index.htm

○ **APDA (2013). “The International Parliamentarians’ Conference on Population and Aging (IPCA) Meeting Minutes”.**

In November 2013, The International Parliamentarians’ Conference on Population and Aging (IPCA) was held in Tokyo at the International Conference Room of the 1st Member’s Office Building of the House of Representatives of Japan. It was a turning point for Japan Parliamentarians Federation for Population (JPFP), Asian Population and Development Association (APDA) and Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (AFPPD) to add a new agenda of Global Aging. 71 parliamentarians from 35 countries gathered for 2 days and through the presentations on population dynamics, healthy life expectancy, sound employment, aging in place and integrated community care system, national transfer account, business strategy, sustainability of social security system and Japan’s international cooperation for the Asian aging, delivered by the experts from Japan, Hong Kong, WHO and ILO, participants exchanged views and active discussion was made. In the end, the International Parliamentarians’ Conference on Population and Aging Statement was unanimously adopted, which emphasizes the need for a paradigm shift to promote active participation of elderly, construct a sustainable social system and to share the experience and knowledge between countries of different stages.

(Dr. Reiko Hayashi)

Link:

https://ssl.whp-gol.com/apda.jp/dl/2013_IPCA_Meeting_Minutes_en.pdf

- **APDA (2013). “The International Parliamentarians’ Conference on Population and Aging (IPCA) Leaflet”.**

This is the leaflet on the International Parliamentarians’ Conference on Population and Aging (IPCA) held in Tokyo in November 2013. In addition to the Meeting Minutes, this leaflet is intended to raise public awareness on the global aging issue and disseminate the main results of the IPCA. It depicts the fact that while the world population is continuously growing and it is important to prevent unwanted pregnancies, the global aging can be a serious challenge for developing countries as they become aged before enjoying full economic development, yet the aging is a positive outcome of longer lives and progress of socio-economic development. The Japanese experience is described such as the achievement of Universal Health Coverage (UHC) during the phase of demographic dividend and continuous mortality decline which brought the quick attainment of world top level life expectancy. It recommends the readers to get the latest information on the global aging, become engaged and discuss with the family and friends. **(Dr. Reiko Hayashi)**

Link:

https://ssl.whp-gol.com/apda.jp/dl/2013_IPCA_Leaflet_en.pdf

○ **The Cabinet Office, the Government of Japan. “Annual Report on the Ageing Society”.**

In 1995, The Basic Law on Measures for the Aging Society was enacted and it stipulates the obligation of the government to prepare and submit an annual report concerning the state of aging society and the implementation of measures. Hence, this Annual Report has been published every year since 1996. The latest version of 2016, following the previous years’ report format, the situation on aging is described and analyzed by the perspectives of family and household, economic situation, health and welfare, employment, social participation and living condition of the elderly. Concerning each domain, the measures and policies implemented are explained in addition to the foundation-building for all generations such as the empowerment of women and the support for child care. The measures to be taken in 2016 are presented such as the promotion of the dynamic engagement of all citizens, re-employment of the elderly and support for asset building, life-long health promotion and support measures for elderly with dementia, secure housing and protection from vicious business, ICT system for safe and pleasant transportation. This Annual Report offers an overview of the multifaceted state of aging society in Japan and describes the framework of government measures.

(Dr. Reiko Hayashi)

Link:

<http://www8.cao.go.jp/kourei/english/annualreport/index-wh.html>