

CURRICULUM VITAE

Ippei Tsuruga

CURRENT EMPLOYMENT: **International Labour Organization (ILO)**

DATE OF BIRTH: **18 June 1984**

NATIONALITY: **Japanese**

CAREER INTERESTS: **Management, Social Protection, Unemployment Insurance, Informal Economy**

GEOGRAPHICAL EXPERTISE: **South East Asia, Sub-Saharan Africa**

OVERVIEW

Ippei Tsuruga is Social Protection Programme Manager at the International Labour Organization (ILO). He has been extensively working on social insurance reforms and the extension of social protection to workers in the informal economy in Viet Nam, Indonesia and Myanmar at the country level, and related research works at the Asian region and the global level. His recent works contributed to the establishment and implementation of unemployment insurance systems in Indonesia and Myanmar; social insurance reforms in Viet Nam; and several policy research projects at the Asian region and the global level on the extension of social protection to workers in the informal economy, unemployment insurance, pension, disability benefit and short-term benefits. Prior to joining the ILO, he served as Representative of Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) USA, Deputy Assistant Chief of JICA Research Institute and JICA Country Economist for Kenya, Nigeria, Somalia and Eritrea. He obtained Master of Arts in Poverty and Development from the Institute of Development Studies, University of Sussex; and Bachelor of Arts in Law from Kagawa University.

EDUCATION

2008 - 2009 **MA in Poverty and Development** (specialisation: Development Economics; dissertation: *Social Protection and Chronic Poverty in Cambodia: A Quantitative Analysis*) Institute of Development Studies (IDS), University of Sussex, UK
Supervisor: [Dr. Sarah Cook](#), [Dr. Martin Greeley](#)

2004 - 2008 **BA in Law** (specialisation: Public Policy; thesis: *Implementing Human Security in Development Assistance*) Kagawa University, Japan
Supervisor: [Prof. Kazuya Ishii](#)

Other Training (academic and professional)

2013 - 2014 **Microeconometrics, Econometrics, Statistics** (non-degree)
Graduate School of Economics, Hosei University, Japan

2013 **Impact Evaluation** (statistical methodology), JICA

2012 **Academy on Social Security** (social protection design, finance)
International Training Centre of International Labour Organisation (ILO), Italy

2012 **Financial Analysis, Macroeconomics, Debt Sustainability Analysis**, JICA

2010 **Project Cycle Management** (planning, monitoring, evaluation)
Foundation for Advanced Studies on International Development, Japan

EMPLOYMENT

Mar 2021 - PRESENT **Technical Officer on Social Protection (Project Manager on Unemployment Insurance and ALMPs), ILO Liaison Office in Myanmar, Yangon**

Brief description of duties and responsibilities:

1. Manage and implement [the ILO/Japan Project on Bolstering Unemployment Insurance and Labour Market Policy Development in Myanmar](#) (Budget: USD 642,736; tentative period: March 2021 – March 2022).
2. Assume duties and responsibilities listed for the project manager of the ILO/EU project.

3. Assume responsibility for the overall coordination and management of ILO's activities on unemployment insurance and ALMPs in Myanmar implemented under the ILO/Japan project and the ILO/EU project.

Key achievements:

1. Developed and discussed an implementation plan of the project with the Government.
2. Conducted policy reviews of the unemployment insurance system.

Jan 2021 - PRESENT **Technical Officer on Social Protection (Project Manager on Unemployment Insurance and ALMPs), ILO Liaison Office in Myanmar, Yangon**

Brief description of duties and responsibilities:

1. Manage and implement [the ILO/EU Project on Building a Sustainable Social Protection Response to the Covid-19 Crisis in Myanmar](#) (Budget: EUR 199,790; tentative period: November 2020 – December 2021).
2. Contribute to the design of unemployment insurance system as a technical lead on the unemployment insurance component.
3. Conduct research and analysis on unemployment protection; and provide evidence-based recommendation to the tripartite constituents for their informed decision-making.
4. Facilitate social dialogue and provide training on unemployment insurance.
5. Assess financial, legal and institutional feasibility of implementing the designed unemployment insurance system.
6. Lead the creation and management of knowledge on unemployment insurance and ALMPs, including reports, technical briefs, web articles, training courses and presentations in meetings.
7. Monitor the progress of the project and report it to the donor orally or in written format.

Key achievements:

1. Developed and discussed an implementation plan of the project with the Government.
2. Conducted policy reviews of the unemployment insurance system.

Sep 2020 - PRESENT **Technical Officer on Social Protection (Project Manager on Wage Subsidy), ILO Country Office for Indonesia and Timor-Leste, Jakarta**

Brief description of duties and responsibilities:

1. Manage and implement [the ILO/BMZ Project on Protecting Garment Sector Workers: Occupational Safety and Health and Income Support in Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic in Indonesia](#) (Budget: EUR 2,356,000; tentative period: September 2020 – October 2021).
2. Design a pilot scheme, including policies and operations, to provide employers with partial wage subsidies in Indonesia upon furlough in order to prevent employers from terminating employment in time of crisis.
3. Implement the scheme in collaboration with the Better Work Indonesia team.
4. Monitor the progress of the project and report it to the donor orally or in written format.

Key achievements:

1. Designed the [guidelines](#) and operational flows including [registration](#), [claim](#) and validation.
2. Led technical discussion and dissemination at a series of consultations with tripartite stakeholders.
3. Trained trainers of operational teams and provided with technical advice during the implementation.

Aug 2019 - PRESENT **Technical Officer on Social Protection (Project Manager on Unemployment Insurance and ALMPs), ILO Country Office for Indonesia and Timor-Leste, Jakarta**

Brief description of duties and responsibilities:

1. Manage and implement [the ILO/Fast Retailing Project on Unemployment Protection in Indonesia – Quality Assistance for Workers affected by Labour Adjustments](#) (Budget: USD 1,851,480; tentative period: August 2019 – July 2021).
2. Contribute to social protection reforms including the design of employment insurance scheme.
3. Conduct research and analysis on social protection and unemployment protection; and provide evidence-based recommendation to the tripartite constituents for their informed decision-making.
4. Facilitate social dialogue and provide training on social protection and employment insurance.
5. Assess financial, legal and institutional feasibility of implementing the designed employment insurance scheme.
6. Lead the creation and management of knowledge on social protection, employment insurance and ALMPs, including reports, technical briefs, web articles, training courses and presentations in meetings.
7. Monitor the progress of the project and report it to the donor orally or in written format.
8. Formulate new social protection projects and negotiate with potential donors for funding.

Key achievements:

1. Provided the Government of Indonesia with guidance and technical inputs and realised the establishment of employment insurance law and its enforcement regulation.
2. Delivered activities on employment insurance and ALMPs (USD 435,209) in 2019 and 2020, including 83 major technical meetings and training workshops inviting 2,665 participants and 19 major knowledge products including 7 publications.
3. Supervised 4 full-time project officers and 30 part-time contractors.
4. Contributed to the development of 3 projects including the ILO/BMZ Project on Protecting Garment Sector Workers: Occupational Safety and Health and Income Support in Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic in Indonesia (EUR 2,356,000), the ILO/Japan Project on Promoting and Building Social Protection in Asia (USD 761,895) and ILO/Japan Project on Bolstering Unemployment Insurance and Labour Market Policy Development in Myanmar (USD 642,736).

Mar 2018 – Jan 2020

Senior Technical Officer on Social Protection (Project Manager on Pension, Unemployment Insurance and Informal Economy), ILO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific, Bangkok

Brief description of duties and responsibilities:

1. Manage and implement regional projects including [the ILO/Japan Project on Extending Social Security Coverage in ASEAN](#) and a social protection component of [the New Industrial Relations Framework in Respect of the ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles & Rights at Work in Viet Nam \(NIRF-SP\)](#) (Budget: USD 1,552,611 in 2018 and 2019).
2. Guide and provide backstopping for the work of project staff based in Bangkok, Jakarta and Hanoi for the purpose of providing technical recommendations on selected topics including labour law reforms and social insurance reforms in Viet Nam (i.e. old-age pension, sickness, maternity) and Indonesia (i.e. unemployment insurance), and extending social security to workers in informal employment in the ASEAN region.
3. Hire and supervise consultants to develop policy-oriented research and publications related to social protection at the ASEAN and country levels.
4. Maintain effective relationships with and provide technical services to governments, social security institutions, employers' and workers' organizations, the ASEAN Secretariat, and other project stakeholders.
5. Monitor and coordinate policy-oriented research, awareness raising, capacity building and policy dialogue.
6. Develop new social protection projects.

Key achievements:

1. Delivered activities (USD 688,102) in 2018 and 2019, including 40 major consultation or training workshops inviting 1,303 participants and 37 major knowledge products with the greatest satisfactions expressed from stakeholders and the donor.
2. Produced a regional report consolidating findings and recommendations on extending social protection to workers in informal employment and had it endorsed by the ASEAN Member States, while producing 5 additional country studies in Viet Nam, Malaysia, the Philippines, Indonesia and Myanmar.
3. Produced 17 technical reports for discussing reform options and contributed to the development and approval of the Communist Party Resolution 28 NQ/TW for the Master Plan on Social Insurance Reform (MPSIR) and the Government Action Plan in Viet Nam.
4. Produced 6 technical reports for national tripartite dialogues on the design of employment insurance system and comprehensive social protection reforms in Indonesia.
5. Produced 6 video clips for public service announcements to extend social security coverage in Viet Nam.
6. Supervised directly 5 full-time project officers and 19 part-time consultants (excluding contractors supervised by my staff members).
7. Contributed to the development of 3 projects including ILO/UNIQLLO Unemployment Protection in Indonesia: Quality Assistance for Workers Affected by Labour Adjustments (USD 1,869,995), ILO/Japan NIRF-SP in Viet Nam (USD 330,000) and ILO/Japan Development of a Social Protection Outlook for Asia and the Pacific (USD 150,000).

Apr 2016 – Mar 2018

Social Protection Policy Officer, ILO Social Protection Department, Switzerland

Brief description of duties and responsibilities:

1. Develop strategies/policies for the extension of social protection to workers in the informal economy, including the poor and vulnerable.
2. Provide the ILO's social protection team in the ASEAN region with technical backstops.
3. Develop strategies/policies for the extension of social protection to persons with disabilities.
4. Compile and analyse relevant quantitative and qualitative information necessary for the assessment of the social protection policies at the national, regional and international level.
5. Analyse data for assessments and research studies of social security schemes and social protection systems, and in particular with regard to social protection floors.
6. Prepare research and background papers on various aspects of social protection policies.

7. Draft components of global, regional and country analyses for reports and publications on various aspects of social protection policies, in particular with respect to policy development, implementation, monitoring and impact analysis.
8. Contribute to the development of policy guidance and capacity-building material.
9. Assist in technical backstopping, project implementation and monitoring as a junior desk officer.
10. Participate in technical missions for research, training and fact finding.
11. Assist in organising workshops and seminars particularly in the ASEAN region.

Key achievements:

Most achievements are related to publications (drafting and editing) listed below, including:

1. Published a chapter on disability benefits for ILO. 2017. World Social Protection Report 2017/19.
2. Drafted/Edited several issue briefs on the extension of social protection to workers in the informal economy (listed in the publication section below).
3. Drafted a policy brief on poverty targeting for social assistance.
4. Edited an unguided online training course on social protection.
5. Drafted a policy brief on apprenticeship and social protection.

Sep 2013 – Mar 2016 Advisory Member, JICA Social Protection Network

Social Security Network is one of knowledge management networks within JICA and holds internal resource persons on social protection, headed by Deputy Director General of Human Development Department (HDD) and Director of Social Security Division (SSD). The network aims to discuss various social protection issues and advise HDD and SSD at policy levels and project approaches/designs. I was one of 20 members and responsible to:

1. Advise SSD on social protection (particularly social transfers).
2. Comment on SSD's assistance strategy papers.
3. Advise SSD's survey teams on scopes, approaches and designs.
4. Update international discussion on social protection for SSD.

Key achievements:

1. Participated in and commented on the strategy paper on disability and social protection for the future assistance.
2. Conducted a seminar on designing social protection instruments particularly on cash transfers, using case studies of Kenyan CCT programme for Orphans and Vulnerable Children, and Cambodian programme for the poor households.
3. Commented several policy papers of social security division in distance.

Jun 2014 – Mar 2016 Representative, JICA USA Office

Brief description of duties and responsibilities:

1. Responsible for office management (treasury, procurement, contract and staff management etc).
2. Various management tasks including staff management and recruitment.
3. External relations with UN agencies, US Government and research institutes, in particular on post-2015 agenda.
4. Manage procurement and coordination for Japan's emergency assistance for Latin American regions.
5. Develop strategies for organisational activities
6. Manage research projects in collaboration with Brookings, CSIS, Columbia University, and Georgetown University etc.
7. Research on chronic poverty in Cambodia, a contribution to the IDS-AFD-JICA joint publication on Quality of Growth.

Key achievements:

1. Recruited/Supervised staff members (Human Resource)
2. Headed/Managed legal/procurement/finance/administration sections (General Affairs and Finance).
3. Coordinated joint research projects (Brookings, CSIS, Columbia University etc.).
4. Launched several research products (The Last Mile, Brookings; Economic Transformation in Africa, Stiglitz).
5. Published a research paper on chronic poverty in Cambodia.
6. Liaised with USAID, US Government, research institutes, UN agencies etc.
7. Launched a research project on gender (Georgetown University) and innovation for poverty reduction (CSIS).
8. Coordinated emergency assistance for Chile and Dominica as part of JICA's disaster responses.

Jul 2013 – Jun 2014 Deputy Assistant Director, JICA Research Institute, Japan

Brief description of duties and responsibilities:

1. Develop institutional strategies, and involve in the decision-making process for the institute's activities.
2. Represent the institute on any matters of external relations.
3. Lead operations in terms of planning, budgeting, procuring, recruiting and contracting.
4. Lead external relations to explore further collaboration with international research institutes.
5. Manage and coordinate several research projects on poverty reduction and human development.
6. Organise international conferences, events and seminars to launch research products.
7. Conduct a research on "Chronic Poverty in Cambodia: Quality of Growth for Whom", as a part of IDS-AFD-JICA joint research project on Quality of Growth (area of growth, poverty, and social development).
8. Recruit and supervise research assistants and consultants (Human Resource).
9. Manage legal/procurement/finance/administration tasks (General Affairs and Finance).
10. Manage and coordinate 7 research projects including joint research projects with Initiative for Policy Dialogue at Columbia University on Industrial Development.

Key achievements:

1. Contributed to papers, technical inputs, editing and project management as specified below.
2. Published a book chapter "Chronic Poverty in Cambodia: Quality of Growth for Whom", as a part of IDS-JICA joint research project.
3. Launched a book "Growth is Dead, Long Live Growth: The Quality of Economic Growth and Why it Matters" as a final product of the IDS-AFD-JICA joint research project.
4. Launched a book on African development "Africa 2050: Realizing the Continent's Full Potential" from Oxford University Press, while inviting All the African Presidents, Prime Ministers and Finance Ministers. I was responsible for concept, budget allocation, contract and edit on behalf of Director of JICA Research Institute.
5. Launched a new project on impact evaluation for the participatory agricultural project on Smallholder Horticulture Empowerment Project in Kenya.
6. Launched a new project on Impact evaluation for the technical assistance project for Improving Managerial Capital for Small and Medium-sized Enterprise in Latin America.

May 2012 – Jun 2013

Research Officer, JICA Research Institute, Japan

Brief description of duties and responsibilities:

1. Develop institutional strategies, and involve in the decision-making process for the institute's activities.
2. Represent the institute on any matters of external relations.
3. Lead operations in terms of planning, budgeting, procuring, recruiting and contracting.
4. Lead external relations to explore further collaboration with international research institutes.
5. Manage and coordinate several research projects on poverty reduction and human development.
6. Organise international conferences, events and seminars to launch research products.

Key achievements:

1. Managed/Coordinated 10 research projects.
2. Published a book chapter "Policy Challenges for Infrastructure Development in Africa - The Way Forward for Japan's Official Development Assistance" and assisted in editing the whole book "Inclusive and Dynamic Development in Sub-Saharan Africa" published from JICA-RI.
3. Edited and published a book "Inclusive and Dynamic Development in Sub-Saharan Africa".
4. Organised an international conference at the fifth Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD V) in 2012, and launched the above book while inviting African leaders and delegations.
5. Coordinated a joint research project on economic transformation in Africa with Columbia University, and launched at TICAD V.
6. Coordinated to publish bimonthly literature reviews of academic papers on development issues.
7. Advised on social protection to JICA's operation departments.

Oct 2012 – Sep 2013

Visiting Lecturer, Kagawa University, Japan

Brief description of duties and responsibilities:

1. Teach an international cooperation course once a year for undergraduate students.

Key achievements:

1. Lectured an international cooperation course once a year for 200 undergraduate students.

Jul 2010 – Oct 2010

Representative, JICA Kenya Office

Brief description of duties and responsibilities:

1. Assist in implementing a variety of projects at the country office.
2. Collect information for the future assistance on poverty reduction, human development and social protection.
3. Build network with key development partners on poverty reduction, human development and social protection.

Key achievements:

1. Built a network between JICA and development partners (World Bank, UNs, DFID, NGOs etc.) on social protection through meeting and attending workshop.
2. Collected information on the trend of Social Protection in Kenya to propose JICA's commitment to the sector, which has been practiced in seminar and research as mentioned above.

Apr 2010 – Apr 2012

Country Economist (Kenya, Nigeria, Somalia, Eritrea), JICA Africa Department, Japan

Brief description of duties and responsibilities:

1. Develop institutional strategies, and involve in the decision-making process for the institute's activities.
2. Represent the institute on any matters of external relations.
3. Manage country assistance programmes and projects in operation together with regional offices and development partners.
4. Hire and supervise project team members including consultants (Human Resource).
5. Represent the institution and participate in and lead policy dialogues with recipient governments.
6. Draft legal documents for grant aid.
7. Draft terms of reference for service contract with consultants.
8. Develop a country assistance strategy for Kenya.
9. Manage the assistance portfolio of various sectors (over 20 programmes, 45 projects, and US\$ 60 million per annum).
10. Develop legal documents (Grant Agreement etc.) for new projects.
11. Lead a series of internal seminar on social protection (mainly social transfers) in cooperation with the poverty reduction team.

Key achievements:

1. Established a new assistance strategy/programme on health and social protection in Kenya that aimed to increase access of poor households to the health system.
2. Conducted a stock-taking survey on health and social protection in Kenya to formulate a framework of mid- and long-term interventions. It resulted in a US\$ 40 million intervention in 2015 for universal health coverage (including health insurance).
3. Conducted a socioeconomic analysis for Kenya to develop a new country assistance strategy including macro economy, poverty, inequality, education, health, industry etc.
4. Developed an assistance framework on the 2011 drought response for the Horn of Africa and managed its operations (US\$ 20 million projects for Kenya) after leading a rapid assessment.
5. Restarted JICA's interventions to Somalia after 21 years, which provided purified water and sanitation in Mogadishu with IOM.

Oct 2009 – Mar 2010

Assistant Programme Officer (paid-intern), ILO Cambodia

At ILO's International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour (IPEC),

1. Develop ILO proposals for a consultation workshop for the Cambodian National Social Protection Strategy (NSPS) in relation to child labour and social protection.
2. Assist programme officers in developing project documents on child labour.
3. Assist programme officers in operations and public relations.

Key achievements:

1. Drafted a concept note on social protection and child labour, which was presented at a technical consultation with Council for Agricultural and Rural Development, and integrated into the approved National Social Protection Strategy Framework in Cambodia.
2. Assisted in conducting seminars/consultations on child labour and social protection.
3. Assisted programme officers in developing action plans of IPEC's child labour interventions.
4. Assisted in documenting child labour literature and establishing the Child Labour Documentation Centre.

2005 - 2008

Development Officer (part-time intern), Second Hand (NGO), Japan

Brief description of duties and responsibilities:

1. Assist the NGO in operating projects on poverty reduction, livelihood, education and health in Cambodia.
2. Assist the NGO in raising funds in Japan.
3. Assist the NGO in public relations in Japan.
4. Participate in the NGO's management meeting for strategies and operations.

Key achievements:

1. Improved operations for a vocational training project for empowering women and a child protection project in Cambodia.
2. Drafted articles for seasonal newsletters/reports for donors, on Impact of a small scale Cash Transfer project to school pupils by interviewing beneficiaries in a Cambodian slum (Social Protection/Child Protection).
3. Reported to foster parents of Cambodian orphans on the result of interview to beneficiaries.
4. Assisted in managing charity shops for fundraising.

PUBLICATIONS (including ongoing works and partial contribution)

- Tsuruga. 2020. [Exploring policy options for an employment insurance scheme in Indonesia](#).
- Bédard et al. 2020. [Legal, financial and administrative considerations for an employment insurance system in Indonesia](#).
- Tsuruga. 2020. [Guidelines for the ILO wage subsidy programme in the garment sector in Indonesia](#).
- Tsuruga and Wedarantia. 2020. [Rules and practices of severance pay in Indonesia - the Labour Law Number 13 of 2003](#).
- Bédard et al. 2020. [International practices of income protection for unemployed persons: Implications for Indonesia](#).
- Tsuruga et al. 2020. [Extending social security to self-employed workers](#).
- Tsuruga et al. 2020. [Extending social security to workers in the informal economy: Information and awareness](#).
- Tsuruga et al. 2020. [Extending social security to workers in micro and small enterprises](#).
- De et al. 2020. [An assessment of the social protection needs and gaps for workers in informal employment in Myanmar](#).
- Tsuruga. 2020. [Policy design of employment adjustment subsidy in Japan](#).
- Nguyen et al. 2019. [How to extend social protection to workers in informal employment in the ASEAN region](#).
- Tsuruga et al. 2019. [Summary note on options for the design of a multi-tier pension system in Viet Nam](#).
- Behrendt et al. 2019. [Extending social security to workers in the informal economy: Lessons from international experience](#).
- ILO. 2017. Disability benefits. In: [World Social Protection Report 2017/19](#).
- ILO. 2017. Regional perspectives: Asia and the Pacific. In: [World Social Protection Report 2017/19](#).
- ILO. 2017. Regional perspectives: Africa. In: [World Social Protection Report 2017/19](#).
- Tsuruga. 2015. [Chronic poverty in Cambodia: Quality of growth for whom?](#). In: [Growth is dead, long live growth: The quality of economic growth and why it matters](#).
- Fujita et al. 2013. Policy challenges for infrastructure development in Africa: The way forward for Japan's Official Development Assistance. In: JICA-RI ed. [Inclusive and Dynamic Development in Sub-Saharan Africa](#).
- JICA. 2012. Sector Review on Health and Social Protection in Kenya.
- JICA. 2011. JICA Analytical Work for Kenya (Country Assistance Strategy).
- ILO. 2010. The role of a National Social Protection Strategy in augmenting human capital through promoting education, reducing child labour and eliminating its worst forms in Cambodia. Conference Paper for Technical Consultation on Social Protection and Child Labour, ILO IPEC Cambodia.
- Tsuruga. 2009. The variations between countries with regard to the impact of economic growth on poverty reduction: Lessons from Bangladesh and Zambia. *Conference Paper: University of Tokyo Forum in London*, University of Tokyo.

Tsuruga. 2008. Implementing Human Security in Development Assistance. Research for Development and Peace, vol. 5, pp.33-46, Ishii Seminar (thesis for undergraduate degree in Japanese).

OTHERS

COMPUTER AND SOFTWARE SKILLS

Microsoft Office Package, STATA, WordPress

LANGUAGES

Japanese (native), English (fluent)