

22/10/2012

EXLIMA@Bali

# Tracer Studies in Japan

Keiichi Yoshimoto

Kyushu University, Japan

# 1. Macro-level Policy interests since 1970s

- Assessment of government policy for matching and transition
  - Adaptation of junior high school graduates
  - By National Institute of Education and National Institute of Vocation
  - From 1975 to 1990
  - 10 years every year's panels of 10,000(?) at the start and 1,000(?) at the end

## 2. Academic research interests in social selections since 1980s

- High School and Beyond in Japan
  - By Japan Institute of Youth
  - As the counterpart of HSB in United States
  - Based on interests in ‘Degreeocracy’
  - three panels
    - 7,000 senior(3rd year grade) of high school in 1980
    - 3,450 responses from high school graduates in 1982
    - 1,800 in 1984

# 3. Combination of Policy interests and research interests(1)

## 1. Initial Career of High School Graduates

– By Japan Institute of Labour (former NIEVER)

– 6 times of panels

- From 2,319 freshman(1st year grade) of senior high school in 1985
- to 962 responses from high school graduates in 1993

# 3. Combination of Policy interests and research interests(2)

## 2. Initial Career of University Graduates

- By Japan Institute of Labour
- One major survey and one selected panels
  - 20,335 from 1 to 10 years after graduation in 1992-1993
  - 1,288 responses in one selected panel in 1998

# 4. International collaborations

## 1. CHEERS in Japan (BA in university)

- By Japan Institute of Labour and Kyushu University (JSPS funds), in 1998-1999
- Two cohorts ;
  - 3,500 graduates of 3 years after graduation
  - 2,500 of 8-10 years after graduation

## 2. REFLEX in Japan (BA and MA in university)

- By Kyushu University (JSPS funds) in 2006-2007
  - 2,800 graduates from 5 years after graduation

# 5. research interests as well as institutional research promotion (and some policy driven) (1)

- Career formation of Junior College
  - By Junior College Consortium in Kyushu
    - Two surveys
      - (1) 2,743 graduates of 1 years, 3 years and 7 years after graduation from 14 junior colleges in 2005
      - (2) Another 2,000 from 8 junior colleges in 2003

# 5. research interests as well as institutional research promotion (and some policy driven) (2)

- Professional Training College Graduate Survey
  - by Ministry of Education (MEXT), so more policy interests
  - 1,007 graduate of 3, 6 and 9 years after graduation in 2010



# 6. Concerns and challenges

- Low response rates of tracer study in Japan
  - from 30-50% in 1990s to 10-20% in 2000s
  - Partly due to privacy data protection act in 2005
- Needs particularly in non-university sectors
  - for accountability and inquiry of identity
- Low motivation in institutions
  - doing the survey, analysis and reform (PDCA)
- low competencies managing tracer study

# 7. Research interest in 'institutional research'

- Graduate survey of non-university higher education just started on 15 October, 2012
  - By Kyushu University (JSPS) and individual institutions themselves
  - <https://eq.kyushu-u.ac.jp>
    - around 80,000 contacts from 50 institutions
    - Graduates of 1 to 10 years after graduations
- Workshops for stimulating IR for PDCA cycle dynamics