

Sub-Program (Target Priority Area): Component (Development Issues)
2. Improvements in Living and Social Conditions and Corrections of Disparities: Agriculture and Rural Development
University
Kyushu University
Background:
<p>Although Vietnam is in the process of industrializing, the agriculture, forestry, and fisheries industries, which are core industries, comprise only 20.4% of the GDP (2006), and its ratio is decreasing annually. However, the employed population in this sector consists of 52.1% of the nation's entire workforce; and three-fourths of the population lives in the rural areas, and their impact on the country's social and economic development remains large. The rural areas are not only the source of food and raw materials, they also play an important role as a market for industry products as well as in environmental conservation, and maintaining social stability (controlling population influx into the cities, safety net), etc.; and it has an important position from the standpoint of sustained social and economic development of the country. With regard to agriculture, forestry, and fisheries, assistance to improve technology and reform policies and institutions that focus on the poor people in rural areas, while taking into consideration the conditions that have accompanied WTO membership, are needed in addition to developing local industries in rural areas engaged in processing agricultural products, developing tourism, promoting the use of natural resources, diversifying and comprehensively improving livelihoods in rural areas.</p>
Expected Research Topics
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●Comprehensive policies and measures must be formulated to diversify livelihoods in rural areas using the region's resources ●Improving institutions in order to fulfill its international commitments that have accompanied WTO membership