

Strategic Young Researcher Overseas Visit Program for Accelerating Brain Circulation

Dispatch Report

Year: 11 May 2013~18 May 2013

Place of fieldwork: France

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- Research background

People in Asia and Africa have invented many utensils and tools that are used on a daily basis to adapt to the natural environment, enhance social relationships in communities, and influence the outside world. This research contributes to the development of a sustainable human sphere in Asia and Africa by describing the process by which local knowledge (*ZAIRAICHI*) related specifically to the body and bodily techniques, the domain that is most vulnerable to changes in global conditions and social institutions, is shared and disseminated.

- Research purpose and aim

The focus of this research includes the following three components: 1) fieldwork in Southwestern Ethiopia; 2) academic collaboration with the South Omo Research Center and Museum (SORC&M) at Addis Ababa University as well as with local communities, such as the South Omo People's Ensete Research Center (SOPERC); and 3) academic exchanges related to the results of my research at international conferences. This year, I will focus on the second and third components.

- Results and achievements by fieldwork

I presented an international workshop from May 11 to May 19, 2013, called 'Out of culture: the society by its wastes, Marseille France.' The organizers were Dr. Frédéric Joulian, Associate Professor EHESS, and Dr. Agnès Jeanjean of Nice University. I joined this workshop to carry out the third aim of this research this year, and I obtained information on how an academic institution such as EHESS can contribute their research results to a community in France.

- Implications and impacts on future research

Because most participants at this international workshop are interested in the topic of material culture and object techniques, it was a positive experience to exchange ideas on issues of the waste process, which was another aspect of my presentation for continuing this research on the *ZAIRAICHI* concept. In addition, it was a good chance to have all of the research history of techniques in *Technique and Culture* from the 1970s to 2010. This research needs to include research history to elucidate the core concept of this research.



Photo1 Giving a presentation on 'Out of culture: the society by its wastes in workshop



Photo2 Dr. Frédéric Joulian gave an introductory speech in workshop



Photo3 Prof.Lemonnier gave a talk on his research outcomes from his fieldwork, New Guinea, as one of outreach activities of EHESS