

# Report

Policy Research Center  
Research Project Accomplishment Report

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_ 2020/2/28

**Project Leader:** Title Assistant Name Kohei Takahashi

**Research Project Title:** The Roles of Think Tanks in Next Decades

**Duration (yyyy/mm/dd):** 2019/6/1 ~ 2020/3/31 1-year

**Co-Investigator:** Title Name Affiliation (Remarks)

Co-Investigator 1

Co-Investigator 2

Co-Investigator 3

Co-Investigator 4

Co-Investigator 5

## **Project aims and goals:**

The role of think tanks has been increasingly highlighted because think tanks own the capability to build platform for joint implementation by different stakeholders such as academia, business, policy makers, politicians, and civilians. This convening power is essential to accelerate the SDGs. However, policy advice landscape has been dramatically changing in the last decades. Accordingly, think tanks have to adapt themselves to such turbulence environments. In this study, I will examine the new role and function of think tanks by in-depth interview (10 interviewees from various countries) to accomplish the SDGs.

## **Accomplishment (s) of Project (400 words):**

This research shed light on the new role and functions of think tanks. There is global growth of the number of think tanks and they have increasingly played the prominent roles to bridge between ideas and actions. Paralleling that, the role of think tanks has been evolving to adapt themselves to the changing environments. In the last two decades the turbulent environments have changed the political advice landscape dramatically. For example, I find emerging issues facing think tanks as follows: dramatic shifts in funding patterns, increased competition (with non-think tank institutes), technological impact such as the Internet, new media, social networks, and so on, globalization, commercialization, and so on. However, the discussion of think tanks tends to be exclusively to Anglo-American systems. This research examines their new challenges and shows a new direction of think tanks. Accordingly, I point out the new roles of think tanks to accelerate the SDGs. In order to shed light on the new role of think tanks, I conduct in-depth interview with 7 persons (manager-level) who is working for international think tanks (various countries). This research suggests that think tanks have the potentials to play a prominence role in the ongoing discourse because they can provide analysis and advice on the effects of SDGs and moreover, they can execute them. Think tanks can also provide a vital link between the civil society, the governments, and intergovernmental organizations that will contribute to accomplish the SDGs. This research consists of the following six parts: 1. Definition of think tanks 2. Think Tank governance and management 3. Policy relevant research 4. Monitoring, evaluation and learning 5. Communication 6. Fundraising and financial management.

## **Accomplishments:**

Please fill in [the list of Accomplishment]

## **Other things to report:**

For projects that have been approved for the hiring of Research Assistant (RA) using Center RA funds please be sure to report published (or accepted) reports of research results obtained as a result of the employment of RA (e.g. research article; working paper in which the RA is listed as an author; conference presentation for which the RA is listed as an author).

(Please include all items within one page.)

List of Accomplishment

List of Accomplishment  
(including forthcoming)

(If the description exceeds five in each item, please add a line as necessary.)

**Article**

Academic papers (including those published in general journals)

\*For collaboratively authored papers, please underline your name.

\*Please report "Peer-reviewed academic conference papers" as well.

Author	<sup>0 in total</sup> Title	<sup>The number of referred article</sup> Publisher	<sup>0</sup> Vol/No /Chapt er/Sect ion	<sup>0</sup> Date of Publications	<sup>0</sup> Pages (from)	<sup>0</sup> Pages (to)	<sup>0</sup> Referee Report (yes=1)	<sup>0</sup> Internatio nal coauthors hip (yes=1)	<sup>0</sup> DOI	<sup>0</sup> Open Access (yes=1)
1										
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**Book**

\*For collaboratively edited or authored books, please underline your name.

\*If you are an author of a chapter in a book, please report in "Article" category.

Author	<sup>0 in total</sup> Title	Publisher	Date of Publications	Total pages
1				
2				
3				
4				
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**Verbal report / Conference presentation**

\*Here please report "Non-peer-reviewed academic conference papers".

\*When you or co-invetsigetor had a lecture/presentation as invitees, please specify "(invited lecture)" after Event Title.

Presenter	<sup>0 in total</sup> Title	Event Title	Venue	Date
1				
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