

## 自由論題 1 「東南アジアの農村」

### 報告 1

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#### Do Migration and Remittances Reduce Poverty? Evidence from Myanmar

Recent studies have focused on migration and remittances as an effective poverty reduction strategy. However, based on detailed surveys of 254 households in 7 villages in Myanmar in 2014–2015, we find no evidence that poorer households are more likely to migrate. Meanwhile, migration decisions are substantially correlated with household agricultural labor supply. By using the double-hurdle model, we find that migrants from poorer households tend to remit smaller portions of their income to their origin families. The decision to remit has no correlation with either migrant workers' income levels or the income levels of original households. However, in terms of remittance level, even within the same income level, the total amount of remittances from migrant workers from poorer families is small. These results imply that poorer households benefit less from the migration opportunities and hence, the role of migration and remittances in poverty reduction is limited. In particular, we find that economic support from parents (e.g., travel expenses) has a positive impact on the amount of remittances. Meanwhile, we find that the level of migrants' expectations of dowry in the future significantly determines the level of remittances; certainly, parents' economic support and dowry for daughters depend entirely on the household income level. Mutually beneficial exchange relationships between migrants and their families can explain why rich households reach relatively high levels of remittances. By contrast, it is difficult to establish mutually beneficial relationships inside poor households. As a result, we find that the frequency of home visits of migrant workers from poor families is less than that from rich families. Furthermore, we find that parents of poorer families rarely require high levels of remittances, since they appear to be satisfied as long as their daughters can feed themselves. The results show that compared to the relationships within relatively rich families, the relationships between poor family members are looser, and the latter commonly pursue maximization of individual interests.