The GSGS Research Grant Report

Academic Year: 2022

Grantee Name: Jeehyun Park (C1869601)

Affiliation: Graduate School of Global Studies

Research Expenses: The total expense is 92,000 yen. The original grant was 162,000 yen, but I could not conduct surveys and interviews as planned. Thus, I returned 70,000 yen for surveys and interviews and conducted research using the rest of the grant. The items purchased by the research fund are research programs and a book as below.

- NVivo Student: ￥15,134 ($ 99)
- STATA Student License: ￥55,000 estimated ($425)
- SPSS Grad Pack: ￥11,739 ($ 89)
- Advanced Statistics for Research: ￥9,970 ($ 76.18)

Research Objective: This research is completely data-driven, looking for any statistically meaningful regression relationship between vaccine aid and health indicators based on the currently available data for vaccine support. This research aims to examine and compare the global vaccine procurement approaches (multilateral vs. bilateral) in terms of their efficiency and practicality of meeting global vaccine needs. In doing so, I also wanted to explore the limitations of the current global health approaches and discuss what is needed for making them more useful and better prepared for future health assistance. The research subject is the Asian region, mainly Southeast and East Asia. The currently dominant practice is vaccine diplomacy, between a donor and a recipient country, but has limited capacity as a health assistance method as closely tied to nations' political interests. On the other hand, a more convincing and sustainable way to work for global immunization would be multilateral vaccine aid but only possible when systemically prepared and internationally agreed. By studying the cases of Asian recipient countries, to which the biggest allocation of the international vaccine support went, I explored the humanitarian vaccine support system and practice at the multilateral and bilateral levels.

Achievement: The most important research achievement is that I found a statistically meaningful path dependency in the case of Japan's vaccine aid. The top recipients of Japan's previous foreign aid also received the most vaccine support from Japan. It vaccine allocation did not show any correlation with recipient countries' dearth case

numbers or other health indicators. Thus, I can conclude that the recent vaccine aid has not followed the health needs, instead followed the aid practice in the past. More cases should be examined in addition to Japan's case, but I'm considering publishing the outcome as a single case study. I would like to thank the GSGS and Sophia University for supporting my research. It must have been very difficult for me to conduct such analytical research without this generous and supportive research grant since programs are quite expensive, and each program does different job thus making it necessary to use multiple programs to do data-driven research. Thank you so much.