New employment risks in East Asia
November 26 – 27, 2010
DIJ – German Institute of Japan Studies in Tokyo
Organisers: Prof. Karen Shire, Institute of Sociology, University Duisburg-Essen
Steffen Heinrich, University Duisburg-Essen and Heidelberg University
Dr. Florian Kohlbacher, DIJ Tokyo

Workshop program

Friday, November 26th

9.00 – 9.30 Karen Shire – Introduction

9.30 – 11.00 Workers’ Experiences of Employment Risks
9.30 – 10.00 Shinji KOJIMA – Struggles in isolation: Processes and consequences of adapting to temporary agency work in contemporary Japan
10.00 – 10.30 David SLATER – Ethnography of risk among young workers in Tokyo
10.30 – 11.00 Sarah SWIDER – The growing informal sector in China: A study of the construction industry

11.00 – 11.30 Coffee

11.30 – 13.00 Historical Context of the Rise of Non-Standard Employment in a “Model” Long-Term Employment System – Japan
11.30 – 12.00 Charles WEATHERS – Japan’s non-standard worker dilemma
12.00 – 12.30 Heidi GOTTFRIED – Gender and precarious employment: New risks in the Japanese economy
12.30 – 13.00 Group Discussion of Sessions 1 and 2

13.15 – 14.30 Lunch
14.30 – 17.00 How Agency Work is Re-shaping Employment Relations

14.30 – 15.00 Hyunji KWON – Between deregulation and re-regulation: Limited diffusion of temporary staffing business in Korea

15.00 – 15.30 Jyh-Jer Roger KO – Dispatched labor and transformation of employment relationship: The case of Taiwan

15.30 – 16.00 Feng XU – Temporary staffing agencies and China's active employment policies

16.00 – 16.30 Coffee

16.30 – 17.00 Jun IMAI / Yusuke HAYASHI – Making of a sphere of risky mobility: The new segmentation of the labor market in Japan

17.00 – 19.00 Zooming In on Specific At-Risk Groups – in a “Model” Long-Term Employment System – Japan

17.00 – 17.30 Nobuko NAGASE / Masaaki MIZUOCHI – Temporary to permanent employment: Did recent economic recovery help the employment transition of Japanese youth?

17.30 – 18.00 Masateru HIGO / Florian KOHLBACHER / Alexander P. WITZKE – The risk of foregoing a huge HR potential: Chances and challenges of elder employment in Japan

18.00 – 18.30 Shizuka JÄGER-DRESEN – Working solo and (in)dependent in Japan. Risks and socio-political consequences of an emerging self-entrepreneurial workforce

18.30 – 19.00 Group Discussion of the two Afternoon Sessions

19.15 Dinner
Saturday, November 27th

10.00 – 11.00  Collective Responses to Employment Risks
10.00 – 10.30  Donmoon CHO – Making sense of non-regular workers’ struggles in Korea
10.30 – 11.00  Akira SUZUKI – Non-regular employment and social movement unionism in Japan

11.00 – 11.30  Coffee

11.30 – 12.30  Political Consequences of New Employment Risks
11.30 – 12.00  Kwang-Yeong SHIN – Common experience and diverging subjectivity: Diversification of social and political attitude of precarious employees in South Korea
12.00 – 12.30  Steffen HEINRICH – Could ‘outsiders’ change Japanese politics? The expansion of non-regular employment and its impact on parties and policy
12.30 – 13.00  Group Discussion of Morning Sessions

13.15 – 14.30  Lunch

14.30 – 16.00  Group Discussion of Joint Publication and Future Research Perspectives

16.00 – End – possibility for a joint leisure activity