バングラデシュ国における参加型予算と開発政策-市民と地方政府に関する実証的研究-

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	作成者: シェイク, モハマッド ゾバエド ホセイン
	メールアドレス:
	所属:
URL	http://hdl.handle.net/10291/21901

Doctoral Dissertation Examination Report

Examination Committee

(Chair Examiner) KIMURA SHUNSUKE

Professor, Graduate School of

Governance Studies

(Deputy Examiner) NAGAHATA MAKOTO

Professor, Graduate School of

Governance Studies

(Deputy Examiner) MINAMOTO YURIKO

Professor, Graduate School of

Governance Studies

I Candidate Shaikh Mohammad Jobayed Hossain

II Dissertation Title Participatory Budgeting and Development Policy in Bangladesh: Empirical

Study on Citizens and Local Governments

(Japanese) バングラデシュ国における参加型予算と開発政策:市民と地方政府に関す

る実証的研究

III Structure

This dissertation is organized as follows;

Chapter1: Introduction

Chapter2: Participatory Budgeting in Bangladesh

Chapter3: Literature Review and Conceptual Framework

Chapter4: Research Methodology

Chapter5: Actors' Influence in Participatory Processes of PB

Chapter6: Characteristics of UP in Determining PB outputs

Chapter7: Discussions and Concluding Remarks

IV Summary

Chapter 1 outlines previous research on the significance of Participatory Budgeting ("PB" hereafter) in numerous decision-making processes involving citizen participation and the history of the global diffusion of PB. It also provides an overview of the future establishment of PB in Bangladesh.

Chapter 2 highlights PB in the context of Bangladesh local government. A situation analysis of the

current implementation status of Union Parishad's ("UP" hereafter) and Pourashava's PB is presented. The research issues are identified.

Chapter 3 outlines the conceptual framework of this dissertation. It overviews the concepts and the situation of PB. It focuses on local government actors, elected representatives, local government officials and citizens under the rational choice theory. They are attempting to maximize the utility of their own interests, which results in PB outputs; the adoption of specific projects and an increased budget under PB.

Chapter 4 discusses the research design and strategy and justifies the adoption of mixed methodology. The primary data collection instruments include surveys, interviews and secondary data from different sources. The survey included general citizens, and the interviews were conducted with local government officials and elected representatives.

Chapter 5 discusses actors' influence on the PB process. It presents the results of a quantitative survey's empirical evidence. It focuses on citizens' awareness, interest, and capacity and the proactiveness of local government actors. It analyzes both quantitative and qualitative data and information extracted from surveys, interviews, and practical observations.

Chapter 6 discusses the characteristics of UP in determining PB outputs. It presents empirical evidence-based findings, primarily from secondary data from the UP budget and other socio-economic indicators. In particular, the compact size of the population, urgent demands such as infrastructure investment, and educational and cultural services. It leads to the discussion that PB is regarded as the competent interface between citizens and the local government.

Chapter 7 concludes the dissertation. It focuses on the citizen's potential proactive attitude toward more active participation in the PB process and the elected representative's proactive attitude. This chapter also discusses policy implications, academic contributions, and limitations, as well as potential avenues for future research.

V Originality

Although many studies discuss the significance of PB in certain countries, the lacuna of previous studies is that they focused on the PB system's process. In comparison, this study is one of the few attempts to empirically show how actors' behaviors influence the PB participation process under the rational choice theory. The author focuses on citizens' awareness and the elected representative's proactiveness to PB under the theory. The survey indicates that citizens are assumed to have a proactive attitude toward more active participation in the PB process. According to the survey and case study statistics, elected representatives who were proactive in using the PB process gained utility, which means political stability. Some of the results indicate that PB has significant potential, and taking them into account is thought to contribute to the discussion of the future framework of PB in Bangladesh.

The originality of this study pertains to the fact that different UP characteristics affect the PB process and outputs. The characteristics of UP in some phases, such as size and urgent development demand, have a significant relationship with the outputs of PB. PB is, therefore, the interface stage between regional urgency and citizens' bottom-up demands. In terms of research methodology, this study is unique in that it

determines the current relationship structure between the demand for socio-economic development and the PB process.

VI Evaluation

The examiners evaluate the logical construction of this dissertation, which includes a systematic approach to operationalize the main concepts, research focus, and methodology to achieve the research objective.

The rational choice theory is used to determine how each local government actor uses PB system to effectively implement Bangladesh's development policy. The author sets two sub-questions and three assumptions, and then bases his claims on the literature review, statistical data, surveys, and interviews.

First, sub-question 1 concerns how each actor's behavior influences citizens' participation process in PB. Two assumptions were made for this question. Assumption 1 was set concerning citizens' behavior; citizens' awareness, interest, and capacity influence their participation process in PB. The survey suggests some intriguing points: a higher participation ratio of lower-educated people, a higher ratio of participation in the open-budget session, and a positive relationship between knowledge of rights and participation. These results imply that citizens are assumed to have a proactive attitude toward active participation in the PB process. Theoretically, citizens are thought to prefer bottom-up democracy, and this research contributes to empirically verifying the theory through case studies of Bangladesh PB cases.

Assumption 2 was set mainly in relation to elected representatives, and the local government actors' proactiveness affects the PB process and outputs. According to the survey and case study statistics, elected representatives who had a proactive attitude of using the PB process gained utility, which means political stability within the framework of the rational choice theory. Citizens including those with lower education level show the potential of willingness to participate in PB to pursue the reflection of their bottom-up demands. This research contributes for empirical verification of the theory.

Second, sub-question 2 asks how local governments utilize the PB process to contribute to the socio-economic development of UP. Assumption 3 was set given the characteristics of UP; the various characteristics of UP affect the PB process and outputs. The volume of PB is growing in the UP, which has urgent investment demands, such as the extent of poverty and the need for infrastructure building. The volume of PB is growing in the UP, with urgent educational and cultural demands, such as a lower literacy rate. The study results suggest that the PB process serves as the interface between regional development demand and citizens' bottom-up demand. This finding is thought to contribute to public policy research by providing empirical subject matters of local administration.

However, the examiners found a few limitations in the survey process. The surveys used are sample inquiries and cover a limited number of respondents, and the analyses that follow are based on case study analyses. The questionnaire contents are thought to be insufficient to fully account for the substantial influence of the actors' behaviors. Therefore, the examiners cannot conclude that empirically based verification of local officials among local government actors is sufficient.

However, given the scarcity of empirical evidence regarding the influence of PB on regional development in the literature, this study will make a significant contribution to the policy process study of

local administration. This empirical study is unique and ambitious for the study of on-the-spot local administration in Bangladesh. In addition, some of the results suggest that PB has a significant potential situation, and these suggestions can contribute to the discussion of PB's future framework. The examiners also believe that the findings of this study will contribute to public policymaking in terms of regional development in Bangladesh.

In summary, this dissertation adds to the empirical investigation of PB in Bangladesh. It also contributes to further discussions on the role of citizen participation in local administration. Therefore, the examiners agree that this dissertation satisfies all the academic requirements of a doctoral thesis.

VII Recommendation

The dissertation has been submitted on having received the necessary research guidance from the Graduate School of Global Governance. It is judged to be worthy of having the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Global Governance conferred on the candidate as a result of the reviews and the final examination by all members of the examination committee in accordance with the procedures of the Degree Regulations of Meiji University.

Chair Examiner	(Signature)