## An Evidence-Based Study of the Innovative Anti-Poverty Practices and Market Institution (Interim Report)

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## Preface

This interim report consists of a collection of research notes and working papers drafted under the research project at the Institute of Developing Economies-Japan External Trade Organization (IDE-JETRO), entitled "An Evidence-Based Study of the Innovative Anti-Poverty Practices and Market Institution." The overall objective of this research project is to provide evidence on factors associated with the uptake of innovative anti-poverty products as well as their welfare impacts on the poor through detailed data collection in the field and rigorous microeconometric techniques. Examples include solar lanterns as a substitute for kerosene-based lamps, index-based livestock microinsurance, and microcredit for the ultrapoor. Since the market is the fundamental intuition the poor rely on for their lives and its efficiency has direct welfare impacts on the poor, we also examine the degree and causes of market inefficiency, using a rice market as a case. This research project was launched in April 2013 and will end at March 2015. This interim report is a product in the middle of the project and aims to stimulate discussions and critical comments. The views expressed in this report are those of the authors and do not necessarily those of the supporting or cooperating institutions.

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