

# **National Transfer Accounts (NTA) and National Time Transfer Accounts (NTTA): Measuring gender differences in inter-generational transfers**

**Setsuya Fukuda, Senior researcher**

**National Institute of Population and Social Security Research, Japan**

## **Abstract:**

Japan is the oldest country with one of the lowest fertility in the world. This makes understanding the gendered economy and its implications for unpaid care work very important. Japan will need women to participate in market labor so that its economy have enough workers in the future, but Japan will also need to face the growing demand for elderly care that an aging society may bring. It is also an important question for Japan whether facets of its gendered economy results in young adults marrying less and having fewer children than they want. How to resolve these dilemmas is the major challenge in policy-making for Japan as well as other ageing societies in this century.

Using macro measures derived from National Transfer Accounts (NTA) and National Time Transfer Accounts (NTTA), our presentation shows how the country finances the age-specific needs for private and public consumption as well as the age-specific needs for care through inter-generational transfers, and how these figures differ by gender in Japan. NTA are consistent with the System of National Accounts (SNA) and measure flows of inter-generational transfers through public and private mechanisms in monetary terms. These flows include taxes, pensions, health and long-term care provisions, education, market labor, consumption, saving, and other government or family-based transfer mechanisms. Micro-level data from National Family Income and Expenditure Surveys as well as various statistical reports of government programs are used to estimate these flows. On the other hand, NTTA measures flows of inter-generational transfers through the form of unpaid work observed within the households. These flows includes housework, childcare, nursery care, elderly care and voluntary work, captured by household time-use surveys and valued by market wage.

National Institute of Population and Social Security Research has been working with a research project at the University of Tokyo\* on estimating NTA and NTTA for Japan. Our presentation shows the latest findings from our project on the various aspects of inter-generational transfers by gender.

\*: "Specially Promoted Research" (FY2015-FY2019) by Japan Society for the Promotion of Science, "Construction of Policy-Evaluation-Oriented and Heterogeneity-Sensitive National Transfer Accounts and their Application to Policies for Coping with Declining Fertility and Population Aging" (P.I. Prof. Hidehiko Ichimura, JSPS KAKENHI Grant Number 15H05692).