

Abstract

Migrant Women's Diversity and Policy Approach

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As the feminization of migration has proceeded, various groups within migrant women with different characteristics have remarked. Accordingly, changes in perspective has required from considering migrant women as a homogeneous group to comprehend them focusing on their diverse traits such as individual's institutional entitlement, socioeconomic status, and levels of freedom they possess.

In Korea, the number of various migrant women has increased significantly including marriage migrants, international students, migrant workers in the agriculture industry, and 'overseas Korean', etc. which are demarcated by their migration purpose, institutional

status, and social background. Among these groups, the Korean government has focused on female marriage migrants. Thus, social attentions and policy approaches for other groups of migrant women are greatly limited. And studies on migrant women such as female international students and female migrant workers in the agriculture industry have not accumulated enough.

Therefore, this report aims to grasp agendas regarding migrant women and to suggest policy direction by highlighting the diversity among them in the trend of international female migration. Another purpose of this study is that identifies the reality and specifies the tasks requiring the public policy approach through reviewing actual conditions that migrant women located and their needs. Thus, this study analyzes the international female migration trend in Korea and examines their demographic characteristics, employment and welfare status. Among various migrant women categories, this study focuses on women migrant workers in the agricultural sector and female international students, which has not only increased prominently but also estimated to grow constantly in the future. In particular, this project captures the modality of the discrimination and human right violation that occur at the intersection of identities as 'foreigner', 'worker', 'overseas student', and 'women', and seize possible countermeasures to solve this problem and obstacles to correspond it.

In addition, this report contains the issues of migrant women, recent policy trends, and NGOs' activities in Japan and Hong Kong, the main countries of the East Asian female migration network. Like as female migrant workers in Korea, Japanese female trainees and Hong Kong's foreign domestic helpers are representative

examples reflecting low-skilled female migrant workers classified as most marginalized group. In this vein, this study encloses the case studies of NGO activities in response to human rights violations against migrant women in Hong Kong and Japan. In addition, this study focuses on the possibility of the emergence of a new migrant women group with different traits from the low-skilled female migrant workers. For instance, in Japan, it is worth noting that the emergence of migrant women group in the elderly care sector, which are in better condition than a trainee, could lead to a new direction in the migrant women agenda.

Finally, this report critically examines the relationship between major migrant women groups and existing policies and seeks a policy approach considering the diversity of migrant women beyond the limits of existing policies centered on marriage migrant women and multicultural families.

Keyword: migrant women's diversity, female migrant workers in agriculture, female international students, female trainees(Japan), foreign domestic helpers(Hong Kong)