Strengthening Gender Equality Policy Infrastructure in the Asia-Pacific Region (Ⅶ): Policy Support for Capacity Building of the Girls

Eun Ha Chang

Eun Kyung Kim

Hye Seung Cho

Jung Soo Kim

Shin Ah Kim

Yoon Jung Park

Ji Hyun Lee

So Dam Choi

Kyung Ryang Kim

Ji Soon Chang

KWDI has been conducting a multi-year ODA research project since 2011 with an objective of establishing political and social infrastructure for gender equality policy in the Asia-Pacific region. During the year 2011 - 2012, KWDI partnered with Cambodia and Indonesia and carried out various programs including baseline surveys, policy dialogues, and capacity building training. From 2013,

KWDI expanded the project to include Myanmar and Vietnam as additional partners. Now KWDI is working with these four countries, sharing each other's experiences and deepening mutual learning.

This year's research report was initiated to identify local demands for women and girls in developing countries on the basis of the 'Better Life for Girls (BLG)' initiative announced by the South Korean Government in 2016, and to propose future direction of Korean ODA policy. The research aims to identify the local demands of girls for project planning and implementation to realize the BLG initiative in the Asia-Pacific partner countries of Cambodia, Indonesia, Myanmar, and Vietnam, and to suggest future policy implications for Korean ODA.

Chapter 2 examines the preliminary research on girls in the field of development and cooperation by conducting literature review on three areas of the BGL initiative: education, health, and profession. In addition to the focus areas of the BGL, the chapter also conducts survey on literature of gender-based violence (GBV) against girls in terms of sexual violence, and harmful customs and practices. It then explores existing global framework on girls research and project and identifies the role of KWDI ODA in macro-discourse level.

Chapter 3 analyzes the current situation of girls in KWDI's four partner countries (Cambodia, Indonesia, Myanmar, and Vietnam) centering on the aforementioned four focus areas: education, health, profession, and gender-based violence. Then, the chapter identifies core priority areas to realize a better life for girls by country and sector.

Chapter 4 looks into domestic and international girls-related best policies and projects in three sections. The first section of the chapter summarizes one of the

programs of this ODA project, that is, 'Knowledge Sharing on Korea's Development in Women's Policies.' It analyzed three topics: decline of son preference, law and policy on the public disclosure of child sex traffickers information, and gender-sensitive textbook revision in South Korea. The second section introduces South Korea's best policy practices related with girls. They are: Center for Teen Women's Human Rights (Teens-Up), Tacteen Naeil, and Mirim Girls' Information Science High School, for which cases were introduced as a field trip sites during the 2017 KWDI SSAGE Workshop. The third section introduces three international best projects in regards to girls: UNICEF Nepal's 'Rupantaran,' the World Bank's Adolescent Girls Initiative(AGI) in Lao PDR and 'Supporting Talent, Entrepreneurial Potential and Success (STEPS)' project, and the Child Fund's 'Pass It Back' program. By analyzing of best policies and projects, the Chapter concludes with an exploration of key factors for girls' empowerment in four countries and the applicability of such factors.

Chapter 5 presents political implications for girls empowerment in four countries based on the literature review, the girls situation analysis of each partner country, and best practices review conducted in previous chapters. The report concludes with sectoral policy recommendations for Korea as well as donor nations and examines future research and project directions. The sectoral policy recommendations are based on the particular areas presented by the BGL and SDGs and are proposed by taking specific cases and applicability into account.