From its founding in 1971 on, the Korea Institute for Health and Social Affairs (KIHASA) has been at the forefront of research in Korea’s social policy for the last half century. Throughout 2019 KIHASA has worked from various angles in earnest keeping our research energies focused on finding ways to: raise the sustainability of the health care system; develop forward-looking basic social security programs in response to future socioeconomic changes; improve the management of social security programs and optimize the benefit administration thereof; develop tailored policy options for different population groups in the face of population aging and low fertility; create a society where development is sustainable and all generations are happy; develop policy strategies for improving the management of social security finances and the evaluation of social security programs. In 2019 alone, KIHASA researchers brought to completion 69 research reports and 145 policy reports. These reports cover policy diagnosis and prescription for national issues concerning health care, social security and social welfare. In some of these we undertook evaluation and monitoring of existing policies, with a view to ensuring that they are implemented in a trustworthy and reliable manner. This Annual Report is intended to serve as a signpost with which to look back on what we did last year and direct our way forward. Along with the summaries of some of the notable research projects undertaken in 2019, this report listed various activities we conducted—policy dialogues, and international conferences, among many others—in the past year.

KIHASA will keep working toward improving people’s health and quality of life, with its research efforts focused on providing evidence-based, workable policy recommendations and strategies to decisionmakers. We will continue contributing to people’s happiness and quality of life, taking part in the effort to realize an inclusive welfare state in Korea. KIHASA will strengthen its position as Korea’s premiere think tank in social policy research, leading the future of Korea’s health and welfare. We will keep our research capabilities on the cutting edge, keeping our ears open to the needs of the people as we carry out the work we do at KIHASA.

I extend my gratitude to all KIHASA researchers for their hard work and to the government officials and outside experts who have given us support in all possible ways in all we did last year.

Heung-seek Cho, Ph.D. President
Korea Institute for Health and Social Affairs
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About KIHASA

01 Mission, History, Functions
02 Organization Chart, KIHASA Staff
03 Vision & Managerial Goals, Implementation plans
KIHASA strives to achieve improved quality of life for the Korean population by promoting the nation’s health and welfare system through systematic research and evaluation of national policies and programs related to health care, social welfare, social insurance and population. These works provide the government with vital information and guidelines for implementing health and welfare policies.

**Mission**

- Annually conducts approximately fifty short- and long-term research projects to accumulate a wide range of research experience
- Studies and evaluates the primary issues of national health services, health and medical industries, social insurance, social security, family welfare, and population
- Conducts joint research projects and active information exchange programs with related domestic and international organizations through seminars and conferences
- Executes specific research and development projects according to the government’s requests
- Educates and trains people domestically and abroad by disseminating a wide-range of information on health and social affairs
- Conducts national household surveys on areas of fertility, health and medical care of the disabled, the elderly and low-income earners

**History**

- **1971. 7. 1.** Korea Institute for Family Planning (KIFP), established on July 1, 1971 (Law 2270).
- **1976. 4. 19.** Korea Health Development Institute (KHDI), established on April 19, 1976 (Law 2857).
- **1981. 7. 1.** Korea Institute for Population and Health (KIPH) Formed through the merger of KIFP and KHDI (Act 3417) on July 1, 1981.
- **1989. 12. 30.** Korea Institute for Health and Social Affairs (KIHASA). The former KIPH was renamed KIHASA on December 30, 1989 (Law 4181) with its additional function of research in social security.
- **1999. 1. 29.** Transferred on January 29, 1999 to the Office of State Affairs Coordination pursuant to the Law on the Establishment, Operation and Promotion of State-Sponsored Organizations (Law 5733).

**Functions**

- Annualy conducts approximately fifty short- and long-term research projects to accumulate a wide range of research experience
- Studies and evaluates the primary issues of national health services, health and medical industries, social insurance, social security, family welfare, and population
- Conducts joint research projects and active information exchange programs with related domestic and international organizations through seminars and conferences
- Executes specific research and development projects according to the government’s requests
- Educates and trains people domestically and abroad by disseminating a wide-range of information on health and social affairs
- Conducts national household surveys on areas of fertility, health and medical care of the disabled, the elderly and low-income earners
Korea Institute for Health and Social Affairs

1. About KIHASA

2019 KIHASA Annual Report

Carry out research into a forward-looking health and welfare policy framework based on the principle of people-centeredness
- Explore a path to a value-based health care scheme and to a society where all are healthy
- Provide research support in devising effective, people-centered programs concerning low fertility, population aging and care needs, and social security programs that are both horizontally and vertically coordinated

Build up and effective system of producing and managing research evidence with a view to strengthen KIHASA’s contribution to policymaking
- Produce objective research findings to foster evidence-based public discussions on health and welfare policies
- Build up databases and disseminate research findings to support research projects conducted by outside scholars and organizations

Probe into the last hundred years of health and social policies and present an analytic outlook for the next hundred years
- Historical assessment of health and welfare policies and strategies
  - Historical assessment of a century of health and welfare policies in Korea
  - Forward-looking policy response strategies in preparation for the coming of super-aged society and Fourth Industrial Revolution
- Revise health and welfare policies in preparation for South-North social integration; facilitate discussions concerning South-North exchanges and cooperation
  - Carry out evidence-based analysis South-North disparities in health and social welfare
  - Raise the efficiency of sector-specific cooperation between South and North Koreas by exploring various social development models
- Develop and disseminate, via international cooperation, Asia social development models
  - Carry out international joint research projects and draw out social development models for Asian partners
  - Strengthen the “Global Social Security Policy Network” and actively disseminate its research findings

Implementation plans

Vision & Management Goals

Charting forward-looking policies that lead the future of health and welfare

Map out policy visions for inclusive welfare
- Carry out research into inclusive welfare and disseminate the philosophy of inclusive welfare
- Develop mid- and long-term plans for social policy
  - Draw up mid- and long-term development plans and carry out ex-ante and ex-post research projects
  - Lay the basis for improving the quality and professionalism of monitoring and assessment

Increased contribution to people-centered and evidence-based national policymaking
- Develop policy strategies for raising people’s quality of life and happiness
  - Strengthen KIHASA’s position as a hub for comprehensive research on happiness and social cohesion
  - Provide research support in developing workable and sustainable policy options for increasing people’s happiness and social integration
Implementation plans

**Rearrange and renew the organizational structure to reinforce the research capacity**

- Strengthen people-centered human resources management
  - Implement an integrated career development program and promote employee rights and welfare
  - Rationalize the performance management system

- Augment the in-house communication base as a way to promote convergent research projects
  - Implement and manage a system of voluntary participation in convergent research projects
  - Establish and manage an expert platform for researchers from within and around the world
  - Establish and manage an in-house platform for knowledge sharing

- Ensure KIHASA is a workplace with breathing spells
  - Promote employees’ use of in-house family-friendly (work-life balance) options
  - Promote research leave and training programs for KIHASA researchers

**Pursue an open administrative system**

- Open up research findings and strengthen the system of information dissemination
  - Opening research results to meet customer needs
  - Provide more public data and enhance the DB system

- Encourage public opinions about policy needs
  - Develop policy research projects that meet the needs of the people
  - Strengthen communication and cooperation with government departments

- Ensure fair and transparent budgeting and expenditure
  - Introduce a participatory budget system
  - Open up budget-related information

- Chart and announce a semi-centennial vision for KIHASA
  - Announce 2021 vision declaration, open the "KIHASA e-History Museum"

**Publicity and Collaboration**

We take the publicity of our research seriously. It is because our work is not only for our clients, but for the public as a whole, the ultimate “end-users.” Making the work we do known to the public is integral in translating it into policy and practice. We want our reports to be occasions for increasing the public’s knowledge base concerning issues that concern them. Going beyond merely publishing our work for an audience of clients and peers, we sponsor and hold policy forums and hearings on a regular basis to exchange ideas and facilitate a better public understanding of our work and government policies. Also, our researchers frequently contribute op-ed articles to major newspapers and disseminate their research findings via media comments, lectures, and interviews.

Further, KIHASA has actively promoted and engaged in joint research projects with a broad range of research organizations and academic communities from around the world, sharing and exchanging ideas, experience and knowledge. Our recent research partners include: East-West Center (EWC), Hawaii; United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA); National Institute of Population and Social Security Research (NIPSSR), Japan; National Institute of Public Health (NIPH), Japan; World Health Organization (WHO); the World Bank (IBRD); the OECD; the Institute of Population and Labor Economics, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, China; and Oregon State University.
KIHASA’s library holds a large collection of professional publications and academic journals on health care, social welfare, social security, population and family planning. It maintains nearly 50,000 volumes of monographs, research papers, dissertations, and conference proceedings, and a collection of over 750 periodicals in 25,000 volumes and 300 CD-ROM titles. The library also provides a database of more than 9,000 journals. The library is open to the public, 9am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, by appointment. Visitors may make reference use of the library holdings and have online access to articles in the database collection.
2019 Research Results

01 Basic Standard of Living

Coverage Gaps and EFC (error, fraud, corruption) in Social Security System
Social Welfare Delivery System for Optimizing Public Service Use (II)
A Study of the Pathways from Institutions to Community Living for Persons with Disabilities
Social Protection System against Family Abuse and Violence Across the Life Span
A Study of Social Unrest in Korea
A Comprehensive Study of Happiness and Quality of Life in Korea
Coverage Gaps and EFC (error, fraud, corruption) in Social Security System: Focusing on the Public Assistance for the old

Project Head: Lim, Wan-sub

The purpose of this study is to derive practical policy implications in response to coverage gaps and error, fraud, and corruption (EFC) in the National Basic Livelihood Security System and the Basic Pension, and to improve the performance and efficiency of the income security policy for the elderly with low income.

Unlike previous studies, this study conducted monitoring for demanders of welfare services rather than welfare service providers. In addition, we used an integrated approach that was applied in the previous year study to the relationship between welfare coverage gaps and welfare fraud.

We used case studies and surveys to investigate coverage gaps and EFC in the public assistance for the old. We also conducted case studies on responses to and management of welfare coverage gaps and welfare fraud in Greece, Spain, Australia and the United Kingdom.

The main policy suggestions are to: strengthen public relations such as advertisement for social security system; strengthen trust through enhancing transparency of the system; assign experts to local governments to prevent illegal supply and demand; prepare countermeasures according to the characteristics of each type of EFC.


Project Head: Kang, Hyekyu

This study aims to examine how public- and private-sector workers in the field of local welfare delivery are managed and what policies there are on them, and to suggest, based on its findings, policy options for improving human resources management in social welfare delivery.

The guiding question of this study is: "how to provide good social services, and what conditions should be met to achieve this?" This study was designed under the assumption that good welfare services require clearly-defined work scopes; welfare service workers’ responsive ability (recognition, values, and skills); adequate workload (workforce size); adequate work division among workers: conditions for enabling cooperation among related providers.

For an in-depth analysis of human resources management in the social welfare service sector—for which quantitative approaches may be inappropriate—we conducted a “Survey of the Status and Management of Human Resources in Different Welfare Services.” Through this survey, we examined social welfare service workers’ responsibilities and tasks, work environment and work conditions; how the social service workers perceive of their work and whether they have had job training and education. From this we attempted to derive expected level of task-related demands and performance.

Our qualitative analysis of local governments’ welfare administration and human resources management finds that there is a pervasive perception that local welfare service workers work in unstable and inappropriate
working conditions, lack necessary job skills, and require well-organized human resources allocation, an improved promotion system, and a diverse range of education and training programs. In a different set of analyses of local social welfare centers, we find that human resources management for social welfare service workers is faced with various challenges, including those concerning: structural issues; the changing environment of social service provision; the confounding and conflictual state of the organizational culture; the demand for improvement in organizational and personnel management; and the issue of fostering and ensuring sufficient human resources.

The findings of this study suggest the following. First, as a way to promote local-level welfare service delivery, a comprehensive plan should be drawn up for human resources management. This will need to be buttressed by mid- and long-term human resources management strategies. Second, employment programs have to be structured so as to meet the need for strengthening public administration services in social welfare delivery. Third, the existing skills of frontline welfare workers need to be maintained and improved in line with the increasingly professionalizing field of social welfare service. Fourth, tasks and roles should be properly and clearly assigned based on positions and ranks. Fifth, human resources management should be considered an area of policy support for promoting the participation of private-sector providers.

Institutional care is still a main form of support for persons with disabilities in Korea. Recently, however, the government has recognized the need for a policy of deinstitutionalization and community living. The purpose of this study is to examine the experiences of persons with disabilities who have left institutions for community settings and to provide evidence for policy-making.

Three research questions were set up for this purpose. First, what are the characteristics of housing movement among persons with disabilities who left institutions? Second, what are the factors that promote or disrupt deinstitutionalization and community living? Third, what are the characteristics of community living for persons with disabilities? In order to answer these research questions, we interviewed 25 persons with physical or developmental disabilities about their experience with living in community settings. The data collected through the interviews were analyzed based on the case study method.

The pattern of housing movements was classified by two perspectives: patterns by gradual flow of deinstitutionalization and the core motives of housing movement. As a result of the typology from two perspectives, four housing movement patterns were derived from each perspective. The unique characteristics of each pattern and differences by types of disability were analyzed.

Factors promoting or disrupting deinstitutionalization and community living among persons with disabilities were analyzed according to the ecological
system theory of Bronfenbrenner, and eleven factors were derived from previous studies. Based on this analysis framework, the determinants that promote or disrupt deinstitutionalization were verified by the actual experiences of the persons with disabilities.

The community living experiences were divided into seven life areas: case management, housing, income and labor, health, daily living support, social relations, and emotion. The analysis shows that the experiences of persons with disabilities vary widely across individuals. This shows the importance of individualized support in deinstitutionalization policy.

Based on the results of the study, we proposed a ‘transitional service package’ that can provide integrated and continuous services as the support system for deinstitutionalization and community living for persons with disabilities.

This study is the final year project to investigate the dynamics of abuse and violence across the life span in Korea. The findings from the previous two years research that investigated multiple violence exposure across the life span demonstrated that multiple experience of abuse and violence both in childhood and in adulthood is a common phenomenon in Korea. Also, the results suggested that a more integrated approach is needed, in both public policy intervention and practices, to prevent victimization of multiple types of violence and abuse across the life course. This study aims to investigate the current state of the child and adult protective systems separately designed for vulnerable population groups including children, women, and the elderly. This study explores future directions and alternative ways to integrate the delivery systems for each group in terms of linkage, coordination, and full integration.
This study is aimed at examining social unrest in Korea. As the first installment in a series of studies addressing social unrest, this study takes an exploratory qualitative approach, one of whose strengths is that it allows to identify the singularity of Koreans’ social unrest in an open-ended manner.

A considerable proportion of the research participants felt uneasy about job insecurity, housing poverty, disease and associated financial burden, competition in children’s education, etc., despite their relatively high life satisfaction scores. Some of the often-cited basic factors are: increasing uncertainties about the future: low trust in the government and in society as a whole: growing distrust in fairness: the declining abilities of families to care for their members: and the underdeveloped social policies.

This study concludes with some policy suggestions and argues for the need for further surveys and studies of social unrest.

The purpose of this study is to comprehensively diagnose Korean’s happiness and quality of life. In the past, many governments felt that people’s well-being should be at the center of policy. Several initiatives aimed at improving quality of life generally point out that Korea has successfully achieved improvements in material conditions, but not at the subjective well-being. In order to overcome the gap between the objective quality of life and the subjective well-being, it is necessary to accumulate empirical evidence on how Koreans are happy and why not happy.

Based on theoretical review, a questionnaire was developed to measure the happiness of Korean. Korean’s Happiness and Quality of Life Survey was conducted from May 8 to June 13, 2019 by a face-to-face interview. In order to measure happiness as a complex concept, we identified the topography of Koreans happiness using various questions such as cantril ladder, life satisfaction, positive and negative affection, and the value of Eudaimonia. The results show that happiness and quality of life differ according to the individual’s economic and social characteristics. And the quality of life covering various living conditions was not independent of subjective well-being. Multidimensional living conditions such as the economic resource of households and the conditions of residential environment, have a significant relationship on happiness. A fluent standard of living conditions contributes to increased happiness. On the other hand, however, an individual’s psychological capacity can intervene in the relationship between living conditions and happiness. This study analyzes how the psychological capacities of extroversion and neurosis affect the path of living conditions
and happiness perception by age group. The results suggest the need for academic and policy attention to psychological competencies in pursuing an individual’s happy life.

In addition to the findings from the quantitative analysis, it is necessary to understand Koreans’ perception of happiness from various angles. In order to confirm Koreans’ perception of happiness, focus group interviews and in-depth interviews were conducted to pay more attention to the characteristics of each individual, and the results were derived through context-pattern analysis. The analysis shows that Korean happiness is a complex construct that cannot be measured or understood in a single dimension. This means that Koreans understand happiness in different dimensions according to age and gender. Also, in the context of happiness, there are views that act as prisms in the process of connecting the conditions and elements of happiness. A representative point of view was to compare others with others, and culture, values, and ideologies appeared.

How different is the viewpoint that affects the relationship between the material condition of life and the state of happiness for Koreans? In order to confirm this difference, 19 citizen interviews were conducted in well-known welfare states, Denmark and Finland. First of all, we tried to understand the macroscopic characteristics as a condition of happiness. We have confirmed that they have a culture in their daily lives that they are satisfied with or at least satisfy with their material conditions. Next, we looked at the background of personal characteristics. They placed autonomy and freedom of choice at the source of subjective happiness. Independence and autonomy in their lives have considerable implications for the low happiness of Koreans who tend to be comparable.

This study is the first year of the third year study plan. The purpose of this study was to grasp the concrete situation in order to enable improvement of subjective well-being of Koreans. Therefore, although the specificity of policy alternatives is low, some of the facts identified in this process can be found. First of all, since the element of promoting happiness is multidimensional, efforts to focus on one part need to be improved. Second, change should be focused on a group rather than an individual in a policy orientation that promotes happiness. We must consider the tendency to emphasize groups over individuals in our people’s perceptions of happiness. Third, more detailed and comprehensive data on Korean happiness need to be continued. Fourth, since the problem of low happiness of the elderly among the population is continuously confirmed, it is necessary to actively respond to it.
Healthcare Disparities and the Policy Challenge of Achieving Universal Health Coverage

Project Head: Kang, Hee-Chung; Kim, Sujin

This study is aimed at examining healthcare disparities across income groups and to suggesting policy implications from the standpoint of a practical approach to universal health coverage. In particular, the necessity of introducing a sickness allowance, which has recently drawn attention due to changes in the labor market, was considered as potential measure to close health gaps between workers.

Using various data including NHI claims, income-related inequalities in health care accessibility, utilization, and outcomes over some evidence-based essential health care services and diseases were analyzed. The results showed that low-income groups and the self-employed were disadvantaged in accessing health care, using effective treatment services, and experiencing good outcomes. Their unmet needs in access to health care, use of essential preventive or treatment services, and use of tertiary hospital were high. Catastrophic health expenditure also tended to be concentrated in low-income families.

In relation to a sickness benefit scheme, we examined gaps in use of sick leave and health care according to the size of workplace and working status, and work type by analyzing survey data of Korean Labor & Income Panel Study (KLIPS) and Korea Welfare Panel Study (KoWePS). Low income workers with low working status showed a higher risk of deteriorating their health by delaying early treatment of the illness due to fear of unemployment as well as direct cost burden.

Temporary/daily workers, which account for a significant share of wage workers who do not have employment insurance and workers’ compensation insurance, are likely to be included as self-employed insured in the National Health Insurance. The more vulnerable working status they have, the lower the number of days of sick leave and the higher retirement rate for health reasons are compared to the total wage workers. In addition, their health status by workplace size and working status show a large gap, while ambulatory care use and hospitalization do not show a large difference, indicating that there are a large potential unmet healthcare needs for temporary/daily workers with relatively bad health.

In combination with types of Welfare States of each country, Sickness benefit schemes has developed into a low-income group centered specific target system, a tax-based social security system, a private insurance-based autonomous system, a social insurance-based union system, or an integrated comprehensive system. It is necessary to extract the common institutional design of the developed countries and review the approaches suitable for the Korean situation.

The task of reducing health disparities, which has hitherto been largely overlooked, should be included in the national agenda as part of state’s duty of ensuring people’s right to health. In order to bridge the income related gaps in health care, ‘expanding social sensitivity through monitoring gaps in essential healthcare services’, ‘reflecting health care policies in national strategies to improve the quality of life of individuals’, ‘reinforcing health promotion policies controlling socioeconomic effects’, and ‘enhancing the role of primary care for health promotion’ should be vitalized. Combining the core elements of the sickness benefit schemes in other countries and expanding the targets will improve its feasibility in terms of institutional consistency, social consensus, and financial sustainability to maintain and guarantee the employment and income of sick workers with poor economic status. And the introduction of the new system should be pursued carefully and through evidence-based social consensus.
Healthcare Demand Projection Model for Health Workforce Forecast

Project Head: Bae, Jaeyong

This study establishes a healthcare demand projection model for health workforce forecast. Healthcare utilization data in 2015 is used as a baseline to project health care utilization and cost in the future (by the year 2050). The model also accounts for healthy aging and coverage expansion of Korea’s national health insurance.

Under the baseline scenario, the number of inpatient days is projected to increase from 157,056,736 days in 2020 to 211,595,758 days in 2030 while the number of outpatient days is projected to increase from 732,535,590 days to 837,937,479 days in the same period.

Under a scenario assuming healthy aging and coverage expansion of Korea’s national health insurance, the number of inpatient days is projected to increase from 151,312,023 days in 2020 to 202,855,315 days in 2030 while the number of outpatient days is projected to increase from 749,398,869 days to 868,052,866 days in the same period.

A Mid- to Long-term Plan for the Supply of Long-term Care Workers in a Changing Population Structure

Project Head: Lim, Jeongmi

The purpose of this study is as follows. First, we will examine the problems of supply-demand structure and working environment in general for the long-term care workers (caregivers, social workers, nurses, nursing aides, physical therapists, occupational therapists), who are direct providers of long-term care services. Second, based on this, we would like to derive alternatives to secure high quality long-term care workers.

A brief summary of the main findings follows. Firstly, reasons for disproportionate supply and demand for caregivers include the lack of a standardized training system, the lack of an education/training system to enhance professionalism, the uncertainty of job roles and scope, the lack of long-term care service demand-supply management plans, and the poor working environment and working conditions. In particular, caregivers worked in low wages, unstable employment, and poor working conditions (high turnover, low years of service). In addition, caregiving was recognized mainly as women’s work and domestic work. Therefore, efforts were needed to dispel it. Secondly, reasons for disproportionate supply and demand for social workers were low wages, excessive workload, insufficient education, and burden or stress on institutional evaluation. Particularly, the wage level similar to minimum wage, the structure where career is not reflected in wages, and the absence of an upgrade system hindered market entry and settlement. For these reasons, the hiring rate and turnover rate of new employees increased simultaneously, resulting in poor service quality. On the other hand, the expectation of rewarding, satisfaction and self-development of the social worker’s own work was found to promote the settlement of manpower. Thirdly, problems in terms of entry and reentry in nurses and nurse aides...
have resulted in low wages, inadequate education and poor education, unstable employment, and high entry barriers. On the other hand, problems in terms of settlement were derived from role conflict, insufficiency of capacity, and lack of opportunities for self-development. Finally, physical therapists and occupational therapists said that adjustments of workload and manpower allocation standards were necessary to improve the quality of services. In addition, physical therapists and occupational therapists pointed out that they required to provide employment-related information or to include them in the qualification curriculum so that they could find employment in long-term care institutions.

Based on the results presented above, mid- and long-term measures for the stable securing of long-term care workers for the elderly were derived. The contents are briefly summarized by occupations as shown in [Table 1].

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Division</th>
<th>Mid-term</th>
<th>Long-term</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Caregiver</td>
<td>Improving the negative image of care</td>
<td>Development of career ladder (promotion) system Increase in insurance fee, Provision of wage guidelines</td>
</tr>
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<td>Improvement of working environment</td>
<td>Legislation and implementation of labor inspector placement</td>
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<td>Reduction of work burden by using ICT</td>
<td>Manpower assessment and management</td>
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<td>Social worker</td>
<td>Improving the negative image of care</td>
<td>Development of upgrade system (Reduction of differential width with social welfare institution workers)</td>
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<td>Provision of wage guidelines</td>
<td>Adjustment manpower allocation criteria according to user severity</td>
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<td>Improvement of fringe benefits</td>
<td>Curriculum reorganization (work-based curriculum)</td>
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<td>Diversification of entry paths (abidion of visiting nurse’s career restriction etc.)</td>
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<td>Nurse, Nurse Aides</td>
<td>Development of upgrade system for physical and occupational therapists</td>
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<td>Improvement of job-related image in long-term care institutions</td>
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<td>Expansion of rehabilitation fee</td>
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<td>Introduction of rehabilitation care facilities</td>
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[Table 1] Mid-to-long-term measures to secure stable long-term care worker

Research Content

Exploring Impacts of Food Insecurity on Health and Strategies to Manage Adverse Health Outcomes among Food Insecure Populations

Project Head: Choi, Seul Ki

This study aimed to examine short- and long-term impacts of food insecurity on health behaviors and physical, mental, and social health outcomes and to provide policy implications to manage adverse health outcomes among food insecure populations in South Korea. We used the Korea National Health and Examination Surveys and the Korea Welfare Panel Study in the statistical analyses. We also reviewed domestic and international efforts to address food insecurity.

Food insecurity was associated with negative health behaviors and physical, mental, and social health. Food insecure people were more likely to smoke, having poor self-rated health, having unmet healthcare needs, and less likely to use preventive health services than food secure people. Food insecurity was also associated with poor dietary intake, negative mental health status including depressive symptoms and suicide ideation, and intimate partner violence. Previous experience of food insecurity also had negative impacts on health behaviors and health status.

Based on the analysis results and review of domestic and international policies and programs to address food insecurity, we recommend (1) systematic monitoring of food insecurity and vulnerable groups, (2) moving food assistance from provision of something to eat to making people to eat, (3) continued management of participants after program receipt, and (4) cooperation of various health, social, and economic policies and programs to decrease food insecurity and improve health among food insecure populations.
2019 Research Results

03 Prevention-centered Health Management

- Developing Health Inequalities Report and Monitoring the Status of Health Inequalities in Korea
- Health Impact Assessment
- Local Government Health Impact Assessment Technical Support
- Better Accessibility to Mental Health Services
- Strategies for Early Identification of Groups at High Risk of Suicide
- The Effects of Physical Activity on Health Status and Medical Expenses and its Policy Implications
It is important to measure health inequalities in adolescents in that the results may contribute to the prediction of inequalities in adult health. The aim of this study was to examine socioeconomic health inequalities using Korea Youth Risk Behavior Web-based Survey, cause-of-death statistics, and other public data sources.

Most indicators showed that the higher the economic conditions of households and their fathers’ education levels, the higher the proportion of adolescents who practice healthy behavior. In particular, health inequalities took the form of gradients across all socioeconomic groups, irrespective of household income level or the father’s education level.

Based on the above findings, it was suggested that continuous monitoring of the social determinants of health, as well as health behaviors and health outcomes, is necessary to address the health inequalities in adolescents. This study contributes to understanding the status of health and health inequalities among adolescents.
In Chapter 2, we introduced the health impact assessment system of major foreign countries through previous research and presented examples of health impact assessment guidelines. The guidelines presented in this study provided step-by-step procedures for health impact assessment, how to write reports, and so on, to provide materials for conducting actual health impact assessments.

In Chapter 3, health impact assessments were conducted with a focus on Senior Employment Project. There is a previous study that the labor activity of the elderly has a positive impact not only on income but also on health. In particular, policy assessment was conducted thoroughly on the impact on health as well as the income of the elderly in Senior Employment Project.

In Chapter 4, we looked at the relationship between poverty and health, and conducted a health impact assessment focusing on the health impact of earned income tax credit (ETIC) currently being implemented in the path leading to a weak health level due to poverty and a decline in income.

In Chapter 5, we looks at the health impact assessment as an assessment of social determinants of health. Social policies that can alleviate health inequalities and health impact assessment methods necessary for the introduction of social policies, Policy issues were presented in aspects such as health impact assessment.

In general, in the health impact assessment, the size of the problem among various health problems is increasing, or health problems that are expected to have a large social ripple effect are predicted, and priority is given to projects that have a large preventive effect. Deriving rankings will try to contribute to improving the healthy life expectancy of the people and at the same time reducing the health disparity.

It is an important issue how to build strategies and logical models for measures against health disparities, including various measures such as social policies. The logical model is a model that clearly describes the relationship with intermediate results and explains specific policy interventions in order to achieve the final goal of the policy. When considering measures for health inequality, it is important to consider whether the cause of the health inequality is a measure that can reduce the gap by considering several paths.

In order to effectively assess the health effects, rather than formulating an assessment plan after the project has been implemented, communication with stakeholders in the business is required at the project planning stage to confirm the logical model / theory of change. It is desirable to build a model with various subject related to health impact assessments need to work together to promote measures to disseminate impact assessment systematically. When conducting a health impact assessment, the following consideration options are mainly needed.
Local Government Health Impact Assessment Technical Support: An Empowerment Approach

Project Head: Choi, Eun Jin

The purpose of this study was to apply empowerment approach to the ICT based Walking promotion project in Gimhae-si, a southern city of South Korea. Researchers have reviewed various determinants of health to promote positive impacts of the project.

- Purpose of ICT based Walking promotion program: To increase walking activity using ICT based mobile program
- Subjects: Citizens in the southern city of Gimhae
- Background of the program

The health center of the Gimhae city has held walking leaders' program and there has been about 185 leaders trained from 2014 to 2018. The walking leaders provide walking with local members at least once a week for four months. The center has provided walking campaign and walking events as well. In 2018, there are 27 groups for the walking program.

The center launched a new program to use a mobile program downloaded cell-phone to boost walking activity. The ICT program shows counts of all day steps, the routes people take, and comparison of all day walks among neighborhood. The center gives gifts to winners in months. They expected that local economies may get increased customers using ICT program as well as increased walking rate among Gimhae citizens.

Researchers conducted screening, scoping, analyzing of health data and profiles of the residents. Research methods included focus group interviews, in-depth interview and a survey in addition to literature reviews.

Our results of HIA recommended provision of accessible walking paths, safety issues, and increased off-line programs linked to the ICT program.

*key words: walkability, health determinants, empowerment
Better Accessibility to Mental Health Services

Project Head: Jun, Jina

This study aimed to explore ways to improve accessibility to mental health and mental health services by identifying barriers that hinder access to mental health services. For this purpose, this study analyzed secondary data, conducted surveys for adolescents and adults, and conducted in-depth individual interviews and focus-group interviews.

This study found poor alignment between the demand and the supply of mental health services. Secondly, this study found that the Korean general public holds strong negative stigma and discrimination toward mental health services and people with mental illness. Thirdly, we identified two personas which represent the typical models of mental health consumers in Korea.

From the study, we summarized differences in needs of consumers to promote accessibility to mental health services by the levels of knowledge, perception, and the severity of mental health problems, and pathways that consumers go through with mental problems. Based on these differences, we suggested different strategies to improve accessibility to mental health services.

Strategies for Early Identification of Groups at High Risk of Suicide

Project Head: Chae, Su-Mi

With more than 13,000 of its people killing themselves every year, Korea has a suicide rate higher than in any other OECD country. Conducted to develop strategies for early identification of high-risk groups for suicide, this study can be summarized as follows.

First, we examined how suicide high-risk groups are detected and publicly supported in Korea and in some other countries. The scope of suicide high-risk groups should be clarified in national policy, and the surviving high-risk groups should be included in the policy.

Second, we analyzed the health care utilization in suicide decedents before they died and evaluated their characteristics as a suicide high-risk group. To continue with further research on suicide high-risk groups and strategies for addressing suicide risk factors requires building a system that integrates existing and new data resources.

Finally, we surveyed the public’s perception and experience of suicide prevention through a telephone survey. Our findings suggest that the government should improve the health literacy of the public on suicide prevention. By doing so, the public can be a social safety net for suicide high-risk groups.
The Effects of Physical Activity on Health Status and Medical Expenses and its Policy Implications

Project Head: Oh, Youngho

As the rapid increase in medical consumption and medical expenses threatens the sustainability of not only the health insurance system but also the national health system, the policies of government departments that focused on the treatment of diseases have emerged as national issues. It is changing to preventive health care policies, including changes in health behavior. As the social atmosphere for preventing health problems and reducing medical expenses through the change of health behaviors such as sports is being created, the necessity of related research and policy efforts is also increasing, but the effect of the practice of healthy living on the health and medical expenses of the people The research that has been identified has not been actively conducted. Under these circumstances, it is necessary to study how healthy living practices affect health and medical expenditure. Therefore, the purpose of this study is to investigate the effects of exercise on health, medical use and labor among healthy living practice. In particular, this paper attempts to empirically estimate whether there is a difference in health, medical use and labor between exercisers and non-exercises, and if so. In addition, this study suggests the policy implications for establishing preventive health care policies by identifying the factors influencing these exercise behaviors.

The results of this study support the general hypothesis that exercise will increase health levels in general, and quantitatively demonstrate how much better health levels are for exercisers than for non-exercises. In terms of medical use, although it differs depending on the type of medical care, it supports the findings of reducing medical use. Judging. Therefore, in order to realize the life cycle movement program support project in the detailed project of the national health promotion comprehensive plan established by the government, cooperation between each sector should be strengthened and the infrastructure for the project should be supplemented. In particular, discussions over the existing practice such as health care service and chronic disease management system have been active in recent years, but the response from the medical field seems to be inadequate. The findings of this study are as follows. At the national level, he leads a comprehensive campaign of athletics, a social advocacy activity for strengthening the school's sports environment and facilities that can promote sports, and provides consultations and data from doctors during primary care, as well as referrals between medical and sports professionals. You need to find a business plan. In addition, walking projects for groups who do not exercise can be considered. At the local level, it will be necessary to keep pace with national projects through social advocacy activities, such as the establishment of places to exercise and improvement of accessibility and staircase utilization projects, depending on the local government’s circumstances. At the time of consultation, exercise counseling and data provision, patient referral to the medical and athletic field, and reorganization of the health insurance system should be initiated, and the focus should be on reducing the burden of chronic diseases.
04
Child and Family Support and Elimination of Social Discrimination

A Critical Review on Korean Population Policies from the Gender Perspective
Marital and Maternal Life Course Changes and Policy Directions in the Republic of Korea
Fertility Dynamics in Korea
Childbirth and Child-Rearing in Unwed Mothers’ Families and Policy Implications
An analysis and policy implications of public care supply system for primary school children
Preparation for Independent Living among Children in Out-of-Home Care System
South Korea has experienced ultra-low fertility for more than a decade and the rate of aging has been accelerated. Since 2006, the Korean government has implemented policies to cope with population changes, focusing on the first to third Plan for Aging Society and Population. It announced a roadmap that reconstructed the first to third Plan for Aging Society and Population in December 2018 and it is required to prepare the forth Plan for Aging Society and Population, established in 2020, in 2019. On the other hand, gender equality is a new trend shaking up Korean society in 2019 as hard as the low fertility and aging trend. Numerous incidents related to gender and sexuality have happened recently and gender movements have been active on- and off-line. Consequently, a general consensus is formed that gender-related issues should be solved together with social members. Although various legal and institutional efforts such as the Framework Act on Gender Equality, the Gender Impact Analysis and Assessment Act, and the Sexual Violence Prevention Act have been made, there are still many areas where Korean society has not achieved gender equality and gender conflicts have been amplified. It is highly necessary to gather wisdom and band together practically in order to create a better future for Koreans on the major trends such as ‘low fertility’, ‘aging society’, and ‘gender equality’. In these respects, we aim to analyze and discuss the phenomena and policies on the low fertility and aging society from the gender perspective, especially the intersectionality emphasized in tertiary feminism.

First of all, Chapter 2 summarizes the history and current status of laws and policies related to low fertility, aging society, and gender equality. This study proposes to specify the linkage with the Framework Act on Gender cooperative development between the laws and policies of the two domains. Additionally, Equality in the detailed implementation plan of the Plan for Aging Society and Population to meet the objective of the Plan for Aging Society and Population for achieving the gender impact assessment should not divide males and females in a dichotomous way or exclude a specific gender and should emphasize intersectionality.

Chapter 3 identifies the low fertility, aging society, and gender equality of South Korea in the past and the present and analyzes the actual situation using existing statistics for closely examining the low fertility and aging society phenomena in the future from the gender perspective. We examine distinctive gender trends from the annual statistics on the low fertility and aging society in South Korea. Furthermore, we diagnose the level of intersectionality that could be identified in the announcement of the production and management approved by the Statistics Korea and discuss supplementary measures. This study analyzes the effects of gender, age, residential area, marital status, educational level, economic status, employment stability, political orientation, and subjective social class on the perception.

In Chapter 4, a telephone survey was conducted for 2,000 men and women aged 15 and over from August 22, 2019, to September 6, 2019, to understand the public perception of gender, low fertility, and aging society. The main results of the perception survey are as follows. First, the results showed that different age groups and social classes had different perceptions in the severity of the low fertility and aging society and the prospects of improvement for them, and gender had a partial difference only in the prospects of improvement for the low fertility and aging society. Second, females had more negative perspectives about the severity of gender discrimination and the improvement prospect of gender conflicts. Third, gender discrimination and gender conflict were considered as tasks to be solved, and women were more seriously aware of these issues. Fourth, a target total fertility rate was not set, most citizens, regardless of gender, recognized the need for childbirth promotion policies very high.

Chapter 5 further discusses gender issues associated with low fertility, which have been serious social issues, to satisfy gender the gender sensitivity expectations and contribute to population policies and studies embracing the conditions of various members. The chapter points out...
issues in the implementation plan of the 2018 Plan for Aging Society and Population from the gender perspectives and suggests ways to improve. This chapter pointed out specific details that presuppose women as the principal agents of childcare, assume women depending on men, specify women as policy subjects unnecessarily, or overemphasize maternity protection.

Chapter 6 views life expectancy, poverty, health, national pension, age, interpersonal relations, and care, the key issues of aging society phenomena, from the gender perspective. We also discover new policy topics from the perspective of sexuality, although they are not directed related to low fertility discussion.

Due to the severely low fertility in the Republic of Korea, the need for policy actions to tackle the current population problem is increasing. However, empirical knowledge of population change in Korea remains still limited. This study empirically analyzes changes in marital and maternal life course in Korean society and suggests future directions for population policy. For effective policy interventions, this study suggests establishing a series of principles on which population policy should be based. In addition, Korea’s population policy should be so designed as to address the multifaceted nature of the population problem. Policy interventions in low fertility situations need to not only more directly improve the quality of life (in particular, by providing support to families with children) but also positively affect birth rates.
Most recent analyses on the fertility trend in Korea have described changes in the total fertility rate (period TFR), and this approach has limitations in understanding the details of fertility dynamics. The main purpose of this study is to analyze fertility changes in Korea in the 2000s by dividing them into marriage and childbirth stages from the perspective of life course approach. For the purpose, this study estimated the female population structure according to marital status and birth history, and used the data to analyze the trend of life course the transition in life course in Korea.

The main findings of this study are as follows. First, the reduction of fertility rate in the 2000s was attributed to decline in nuptiality. Although the total fertility rate has tended to maintain or fluctuate repeatedly, it appears that the total fertility rate among marital women, marital TFR has risen significantly by 2015.

Second, as marriages that had been delayed since 2005 were implemented, the marriage implementation rate for the population in their 30s increased in the early 2000s, but began to decline after 2012. The increase in the marriage implementation rate among people in their 30s is a key factor in the rebound in the total fertility rate in that period, because first-child birthrates tend to follow the marriage implementation rate in Korea.

Third, the results of life course implementation analyses present that second-child birthrates remained stable, and third-child birthrates tended to even increase until 2015. These trends are contrary to the general understanding.

Finally, the tempo-adjusted fertility indicators in this study show that the fertility level has been declining overall since 2000, although there were some slight temporary rises. Given the continued decline in marriage implementation, the fertility rate decline in Korea is expected to continue in the future.

The significance of this study lies in that it attempts to explain the current fertility dynamics in Korea from a life course implementation perspective using new fertility indicators, which have been rarely employed in Korea. The results of this study show that the low-fertility policy should be designed from the perspective of life course of youth, not the increase in the number of births.
Childbirth and Child-Rearing in Unwed Mothers’ Families and Policy Implications

Byoun, Soo-Jung

The purpose of this study is to understand current situations of unwed mothers’ families in Korea and to provide implications for policy development. To this end, we conducted a survey of and in-depth interviews with unwed mothers.

The findings show that unwed mothers face highly vulnerable situations during pregnancy and after having a baby. They recognize their pregnancy late, with many of them failing to receive their post-pregnancy medical examination on time. This study finds that unwed adolescent mothers are especially vulnerable during pregnancy. Many unwed mothers experience economic difficulties and unstable housing conditions during pregnancy and after childbirth. Compared to unwed adult mothers, unwed teenage mothers are likely to feel more uncomfortable due to social prejudice during that period.

Unwed mothers face many difficulties in childrearing. Unwed mothers with a child under 3 years of age find it very difficult to have a job, because, despite their having to make a living, they have to deal with child-rearing all by themselves. Many unwed mothers start working as their kids turn three and begin working full-time when the children grow old enough to go to school. If the children are under the third grade, however, unwed mothers often find themselves having to take care of their children without family support. Even as they work, however, their economic situations do not get much better as their spending needs grow. Thus, handling economic situations is the most difficult thing in their lives. Work–family reconciliation is also difficult for unwed working mothers, especially when they have young children.

Although unwed mothers often feel depressed and get stressed out, many of them do not seek professional counselling services. The families of unwed mothers often do not experience severe discrimination, but feel treated unfairly. Unwed mothers of school-age children tend to worry about their children being discriminated against at school.

The findings of this study suggest several implications for policy. Safe environment is needed for unwed mothers in their pregnancy period. Also, it is necessary to support unwed mothers to balance work and family. Policy measures should be taken to help unwed mothers ease their families’ economic difficulties. In addition, unwed mothers’ health, especially mental health should be looked after. Moreover, we need to make efforts to eliminate prejudice and discrimination against unwed mothers that still remains strong in our society.
An analysis and policy implications of public care supply system for primary school children

Project Head: Kim, Eun-jung

The purpose of this study is to propose policy implications by analyzing the public care supply system and use by primary school children. The findings show that parents prefer school-based services to community-based services. In addition, the potential demand for public care service is high and so is the willingness to pay for more of it. In our survey, 30.7% of the respondents as a whole and 39.7% of dual-income parents found it difficult to care for children during weekday afternoons. Also 21.7% of the children were found to spend time alone after school. In most cases, care problem was at its most acute after 5pm. and widely perceived in families with primary school children of all grades. ‘Together care center’ differed from other community-based services in that they provided general child care services and temporary care services for families of all income levels. In addition, there is a big gap in the supply of care services by region.

In conclusion, the current structure of child care supply system has many limitations in terms of target selection, service hours and regional gap. The main direction for the policy on the supply of care services for primary school children is to build a universal care system whereby appropriate services are provided to all children in need of care. This requires minimizing restrictions on user qualifications and expanding service provision. In order to expand the supply of services, this study proposes improvements in financial support and operation system. In particular, it is necessary to expand care services during vacations.

Preparation for Independent Living among Children in Out-of-Home Care System

Project Head: Lee, Sang Jung

There are 28,000 children in out-of-home care systems, and most of them reside in institutional care, group home, and foster care. Among them, about 2,600 children leave out-of-home care systems every year and 56% of the children age out because they become 18 years old. However, children who age out from out-of-home care systems undergo a lot of difficulties economically, psychologically, and socially.

The difficulties are preventable when the children are well-prepared for independent living. However, there has been little study that examined how much children in out-of-home care are prepared for independent living and how out-of-home care systems help them live independently.

Therefore, this study aims to explore children’s readiness for independent living in the area of human, personal, and social capitals, and available services and policy that are designed to help them prepare for independent living. Based on the study findings, this study ultimately makes suggestions to improve relevant services and policies, for example, necessity of case management system, flexibility of aging-out, importance of social supports, and etc.
05 Healthy, Decent Old-age

The Growing Elderly Population and Future Social Policy

Policy Measures for Well-dying in Korea

Analysis of the Effects on Age-related Expenditures on Growth, Employment and Income Distribution

A Plan to Reorganize the Senior Housing Policy in Preparation for a Super-aged Korea

Understanding changes in the elderly poverty rate of Korea
The Growing Elderly Population and Future Social Policy

Korea's elderly population has been growing at a steadily rapid pace. Such an increase in the number of older adults is expected to have diverse effects on future social policies. Therefore, it is time to come up with appropriate policy responses. In particular, it is necessary to prepare for older adults' quality of life, especially in terms of health and welfare, work, housing, industry, leisure culture, transportation and urban environment. This study seeks to explore future social policy options that take into account increasing older adults and their changing characteristics.

The living conditions of older adults have changed a great deal, due to rapid industrialization, an increase in life expectancy, increasing nuclear families, and the development of social policies. Private support for the elderly, mostly provided by adult children, is increasingly replaced by a public income transfer system. Overall, the proportion of elderly people with negative characteristics has decreased; the proportion of elderly people with positive characteristics has increased and is expected to increase even further in the future. Therefore, policy considerations should take into account these socio-demographic changes.

In that regard, this study recommends the following policy tasks to better meet the challenges posed by the increasing aged population and the changing characteristics of older adults. First, an effective overhaul of the old income guarantee policy in terms of economy is needed. Second, social policies need to promote economic activities and economic self-reliance among older adults. Third, policy initiatives are needed to secure health and medical workforce. Fourth, regional autonomy of the long-term care policy for the elderly should be secured in consideration of the long-term care needs and characteristics of each region. Fifth, it is necessary to develop policies on transportation, based on regional characteristics, to safeguard older people's right to mobility move. Sixth, regional policy initiatives are needed to foster an aged-friendly environment. Seventh, it is required to raise the value-added of elderly-friendly industries and expand industrial infrastructure.

The study sought to focus on the importance of the quality of life for the elderly as the population grew. It is meaningful that policy measures related to income, employment, health, health, urban environment and transportation policies, and elderly-friendly industries were devised for this purpose.
Policy Measures for Well-dying in Korea

Project Head: Kyunghee Chung

This is the second-year installment in a series of studies designed to contribute to the well-dying of Koreans. Building on the findings of the first-year installment, this study aims to suggest comprehensive and multidimensional policy measures to realize well-dying. This study consists of four parts. The first sets up the framework and directions of this study based on a review of previous research studies. The second part presents 6 types of "dying journey," based on a latent class analysis (LCA) of data on 1,658 persons from the Korean Longitudinal Study of Aging (2nd ~ 6th waves). The third part introduces some cases of the U. K. and France, using literature review and interviews with experts and service providers. The last part presents a total of 22 policy suggestions that are derived from literature review, policy experiences from other countries, FGI with experts, and e-mail survey of experts.

The realization of well-dying requires the provision of continuum of care services in a comprehensive range and a system of helping people think ahead and prepare on their own for their death. In this respect, this study suggests some measures to improve chances of well-dying at long-term care facilities and home. Considering the multifaceted impact of the death of significant others, this study emphasizes the importance of specialized services for families left behind and service providers. Policy measures are suggested also for those who are otherwise likely to face a death without dignity.

The suggested expansion of well-dying care services requires the right resources (both human and infrastructural), provision of reliable information, and awareness raising on well-dying through education and public relations.

Analysis of the Effects on Age-related Expenditures on Growth, Employment and Income Distribution

Project Head: Nam, Sang-Ho

The unprecedentedly rapid aging due to the low fertility and longevity made the South Korea to show the highest level of old-age poverty among OECD countries.

In order to alleviate the poverty, the government of South Korea rapidly increases social expenditures, even though much less attention was given for the method of financing for the increased social expenditures. In order to attain the efficiency for the social expenditures, the method of financing for a given social expenditure must be prepared at the planning stage of the old-age related social policy.

In the partial equilibrium analysis context, we analyzed the effectiveness of social expenditure for the elderly by estimating generalized beta distribution of type II for income first introduced by McDonald (1984). This approach is especially useful because it provides robust estimation results of the old-aged poverty and income inequality.

The empirical findings of this research can be summarized as follows: First, For a given amount of social expenditure for the elderly, the basic pension and the national pension have different effects on the economy, especially for growth, employment and income redistribution. The basic pension covers lower 70% of poor elderly, whereas national pension mostly benefits above the median individuals. As a natural consequence, they have different impact on the inequality and poverty. The results from CGE analysis show that social expenditure for the elderly increases the compensation of employees as well as the net operating surplus. The basic pension increases the disposable income of the household lowest
quintile about 3-5%, and increases nominal GDP by 1.4% and households consumption by 0.44%.

It should be emphasized that careful attention should be given in increasing the efficiency of the social expenditure. Furthermore, the targeting of the social expenditure policy must be carefully investigated in order not to suffer from the ineffectiveness of social expenditures on the elderly. It should be emphasized that the age-related social expenditures should be based on the scientific and the objective empirical evidences.

A Plan to Reorganize the Senior Housing Policy in Preparation for a Super-aged Korea: Focusing on Alternative Senior Housing

This study aims to provide policy recommendations for senior housing in preparation for a super-aged Korea. To achieve this goal, we conducted literature review, secondary data analysis, focused-group interviews, in-depth face-to-face interview, and a survey of elderly residential facilities. This study examined the current status of senior housing policy in South Korea, Japan, and Germany and analyzed secondary data on senior citizens’ housing characteristics. Moreover, the survey of elderly residential facilities was conducted to identify the characteristics of senior residents, major senior programs, senior facilities and their workforce.

Based on its findings, this study suggests a plan for alternative senior housing and ways to link community services with senior homes. As a plan for alternative senior housing, we propose the supply of daily service support housing, reorganization of elderly residential facilities, and support for voluntarily formed elderly cohabitation. Also, the community service linkage plans are proposed three methods according to the proportion of the elderly in the community, the density of the elderly, and the geographical scope of service provision.
Understanding changes in the elderly poverty rate of Korea: a decomposition approach

Project Head: Ko, Jayee

It is a key policy issue for the Korean government to reduce the high old-age poverty rate, which is now so severe that more than four out of ten senior citizens face poverty.

This study aims to develop effective poverty alleviation measures based on a detailed analysis of the causes of the high elderly poverty rate despite a diverse range of policies implemented to reinforce old-age income security.

For this purpose, we empirically analysed the effects of the government’s policies based on a Shapley decomposition over the last ten years. Public pension schemes and the basic old-age pension, which directly transfer income to the elderly, have positive effects on the reduction of the elderly poverty rate. On the other hand, population aging contributed to the rise of the elderly poverty rate for all periods. The negative effects of population aging mean that reducing the elderly poverty rate in a short time is highly unlikely. The relative poverty rate formula currently used as a policy indicator does not control the effects of an increase in the elderly population, and thus the indicator may send a distorted policy signal. In this regard, it is important to use various supplementary indicators in addition to the relative poverty rate in policy review.

According to the empirical analysis of the effects of policies on elderly poverty, public pensions and the basic old-age pension can play the biggest role in resolving poverty. However, the national pension needs to focus on preventing poverty in old age. Considering the strong constraints on securing the appropriateness of old-age income security through the replacement rate of national pension income, it may be more realistic to strengthen the role of the basic pension.

In addition, labor incomes were also found to contribute significantly to the elimination of the elderly poverty. Thus, the senior employment program may be an alternative, although it is not a direct income transfer system for the elderly. However, it would be appropriate to set the senior employment program and the EITC as a complementary role to the old-age income security system centered on public pensions.

On the other hand, it was confirmed that the basic living security plan, which is a representative public assistance in Korea, may need some improvement in terms of poverty alleviation function.
Despite the establishment of a multi-pillar structure of old-age income security in Korea, the elderly do not have sufficient pension, public or private, for old-age. Due to these limitations, there are not many ways to secure additional sources of old-age income because the amount and benefit duration of the public and private pensions are already almost fixed. Personal efforts to secure old-age income include staying in the labor market until well over the age of retirement to secure salary income and business income. An example of efforts at the national level is the basic pension scheme aimed at alleviating old-age poverty. However, these two examples also present difficulties for the elderly to secure old-age income within a short period of time. Therefore, considering that the asset ownership structure of the elderly in Korea is concentrated especially on assets such as real estate, securing old-age income sources through the liquidity of residential assets could be an alternative to the effect of the current elderly in a short period of time.

Co-Researchers: Kim, Jeong Ju ㆍ Lee, Kyoung Ah ㆍ Park, Shin Ah

This study looked at the asset-liability and income-consumption characteristics of the current elderly and suggested that measures could be considered in a personal financial strategy by comparing them with various residential asset-liquidity strategies. It also emphasized that the future reverse mortgage system should strengthen the role of the public sector and prepare improvement of the system from a welfare perspective by comparing the effect of subscription to reverse mortgage, among various strategies, especially by income level. Finally, I hope that the findings of this study will be used as basic data for the improvement of reverse mortgage in a more practical way.
A Comparison of Welfare Policies in South and North Korea: A Plan for Cooperation in Welfare Programs Targeted to Different Demographic Groups

Project Head: Cho, Sungeun

The purpose of this study is to examine, with objective data, the living conditions of women, children, adolescents, people with disabilities and older persons in North Korea; analyze the current state of social welfare programs implemented to provide benefits to these groups; and develop a plan for inter-Korean cooperation in health and welfare.

To this end, we conducted a literature survey (North Korean laws and official documents and reports by international organizations) concerning the aforementioned target groups. We also conducted in-depth and focus-group interviews with North Korean defectors on their health status.

The findings suggest that despite the recent stagnation of inter-Korean relations, North Korea has softened in its stance on the UN, in what may be an attempt to be accepted as a normal nation.

Still, any contact with South Korea is forbidden in North Korea, so that not only the South Korean government but also NGOs are not allowed to carry out any programs in direct cooperation with North Korea.

This study suggests that the area of highest potential for inter-Korean welfare cooperation are programs for people with disabilities. If improvement in inter-Korean relations is slow, it may be more realistic to seek inter-Korean cooperation with the involvement of third-party countries.

A Study on Inter-Korean Cooperation on Health and Welfare in Sustainable Development Goals

Project Head: Cho, Sungeun

The purpose of this study is to analyze North Korea’s change of attitude toward international organizations such as United Nation and North Korea’s position on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Furthermore, this study derives exchange and cooperation plans in the field of health and welfare that are expected to be highly effective.

In order to analyze North Korea’s attitude toward international organizations and its position on the SDGs, we carried out literature review on reports published by North Korea and by UN agencies and conducted text analysis on the time series data form the Labor News 2005-2018.

In line with the UNSF 2017-2021 (Strategic Framework for Cooperation between the United Nations and Democratic People’s -Republic of Korea 2017-2021), agreed upon by North Korea and the United Nations, this study suggests that humanitarian assistance and food self-sufficiency for humanitarian cooperation should be promoted urgently to resolve hunger and malnutrition in vulnerable groups such as infants, children, women and the elderly.

The inter-Korean exchange cooperation in the health and welfare sector goes beyond humanitarian assistance. This study proposes a systematic approach to promoting Universal Health Coverage, one of the detailed goals of the SDG3.
Fiscal Sustainability of South Korean Welfare state

The purpose of this study is to empirically understand the fiscal capacity of the South Korean welfare state, with the unique situation expanding welfare expenditure and the unification costs. Considering the unification and the expansion of welfare expenditures, it has been pointed out that it may be difficult to bear the national debt burden. Resources are limited, so identifying the amount of available resources is an important task as well as identifying the needs and problems that may arise in the process of promoting the integration of the two Koreas. This study aims to empirically figure out how much financial capacity the South Korean welfare state can use for future welfare and unification costs.

For this purpose, this study empirically measures the fiscal sustainability of the welfare state of South Korea by applying a technique that can reflect the integration of the two Koreas. Specifically, this study deals with two things. The first is to objectively understand the financial sustainability of the welfare state in South Korea in the context of national comparison. This makes sense as a baseline for analyzing changes in fiscal sustainability in light of the integration of the two Koreas. The second is to measure changes in the fiscal sustainability of welfare states in South Korea, assuming integration between the two Koreas.

Through literature review and expert advisory meetings, the fiscal sustainability of the South Korean welfare state was measured using the fiscal space model of Ostry et al. (2010) and Ghosh et al. (2013). As a result, the South Korean welfare state can secure fiscal sustainability, even if it reflects North Korea’s demographic and labor market conditions. Unless extreme cases, for some reason, the national debt level is more than doubled from the current level (as of 2015) and faces a recession like the late 90s financial crisis, fiscal sustainability of South Korean welfare state remains.

Although Korea’s welfare state is quite healthy, further efforts will be needed to reduce the uncertainty associated with inter-Korean relations in order to ease the financial burden. In this situation, building mutually reciprocal relations between the two Koreas may be the most evident and feasible way to reduce uncertainty. The improved understanding between the two Koreas through continued dialogue could solve much of the unpredictable part of the integration situation. Although this may not change the level of financial burden, it is possible to prepare for it preemptively. Besides, based on the trust relationship between the two Koreas, it will be possible to pursue continuous inter-Korean cooperation in the areas that both countries need. As pointed out in previous studies such as the Korea Finance Association (2011) and the National Assembly Budget Office (2019), steady inter-Korean exchange and cooperation and improvement of the social security system would be a useful strategy to reduce the cost of unification social security.

Estimating what obstacles would arise in the process of inter-Korean integration and how much the costs would be, must have been a prerequisite to preparing for integration. Recognizing the urgency of identifying needs and estimating costs, diagnosing financial problems should also balance aspects of funding capacity.

Despite the above implications, there are some limitations due to the measurement model used in this study. The model that we use here is based on retrospective data. The problem is that historical data does not fully reflect future changes in the situation. Therefore, these results alone do not provide a clear picture of future financial problems, given that they are integrated at some point in the future. Also, this model is static and does not reflect the interrelationships between the factors that change after integration. In addition, the adoption of an analytical model using national panel data in this study did not fully reflect the recent tendency of welfare expenditures and national debt in subsequent periods. This is likely to have resulted in a rather generous assessment of the financial status of the welfare state in South Korea.

Given these limitations, further studies will need to use predictive models...
to more accurately track changes in the fiscal sustainability of the South Korean welfare state. In addition, it is necessary to carry out the task of understanding the changes in the financial status of the welfare state in South Korea by reflecting the interrelationship that the hypothetical situation assumed in this study will have on other variables. Also, by exploring the changes in the fiscal sustainability of various unification scenarios reviewed in previous studies, the limitations of grasping the financial capacity due to the reliability of the data mentioned above and the uncertainty of the integration situation between the two Koreas can be supplemented. It is expected that such future research will be able to evaluate the financial results of the welfare state of South Korea after the integration of the two Koreas.

As a part of series of comparative studies on Asian social security systems, this study focuses on India in particular where information on social security is much more readily available than in other South Asian countries. In some respects, this research has implications for subsequent studies.

Policy Implications of Comparative Study on Social Security in South Asia

The findings of this study can be summarized as follows. First, we traced how welfare states were initiated in non-Western part of the world. The underdevelopment of welfare states in South Asia can be explained in various terms including: 1) impact of the competition between capitalism and socialism, 2) low political interest in the expansion of social security programs due to wars between the countries in this region, 3) conflict between religions (Hinduism, Buddhism, and Islam), and conflict between various groups in the caste system.

Second, the recent economic development in South Asia and the resulting economic and social changes appear to be different from those predicted by Western modernization theory, the stage of economic development. It is true that South Asian countries have achieved absolute poverty reduction through high economic growth. However, the formal sector’s industry and wage labour do not absorb much of the informal workforce, thereby significantly reducing the proportion of the informal workforce or reducing income inequality. It is necessary to explain more concisely why this result occurred. One of the alternative explanations is that global capitalist system is exerting influence in each South Asian country in a way that maintains the informal sector on the grounds of economic efficiency. This process is
closely related to the problem faced by the major Asian economies of \((de-)\)industrialization without industrialization\): widening instability in the labor market and deepening income inequality.

Third, two common things can be seen in the social security system of the major South Asian countries (India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Nepal, etc.): First of all, South Asian countries have something in common that the portion of labour force of informal sector is very high compared to the other countries in the World. It also suggests that income inequality is a very serious problem in social security programs. The large informal sector means that taxation on labor and business income is not easy, nor is it easy to finance the social security system. In particular, there are difficulties in expanding the social insurance system, which is maintained mainly through the collection of social insurance premiums\(\text{(contribution)}\) for earned income.

**Characteristics and Policy Implications of Social Security in India**

In this study, we must beware of facile judgments about India. India is many things, a mixture of different languages, religions and races. Assuming a fixed India may run the risk of setting a distorted image of India. In this sense, it is not easy to pin down India’s social security system with a simple description. Social security in other South Asian countries is equally difficult to define. Therefore, this study attempts to briefly outline the social security system in India on the premise of these limitations.

India has a long history of social security, but it seems to have been unsuccessful in expanding its benefits to all its people to create a more equal society. The reason may be that conflicts of various interests, such as religion and race and caste and class, have become very complicated for the Indian society to reach a political consensus on important social issues. For this reason, criticism of India’s social security system and the political and social system is acute. It is safe to say that social insurance is for the upper classes, given that the social insurance system is limited to formal sector workers who is only around 10 percent of the total workforce. While various programs for the poor are being implemented at the central and local levels, the fact that voluntary standards have been applied in the selection of welfare recipients also makes this criticism possible. And being insensitive to the human rights issues of women and children was also criticized.

Recently, however, Indian society is changing rapidly. Indian central government and some local government have made great efforts over the past few years to strengthen the social security system. That is not to say that Indian society has suddenly resolved the problem of caste system and class conflicts, and turned into a new society. However, there are some notable changes in the course of economic growth over the past decade, and these changes have the strong potential to change many things that have not changed in the past centuries. This is what this report was trying to explain.

**Recent Changes in Health and Medical Policies in India and Its Policy Implications**

India has made a lot of progress in health care policies, but the financial barriers to access health care services were very high as households directly covered most of their medical expenses. As a result, the incidence of poverty due to catastrophic medical expenses was very high. It also has problems with wide gaps in health indicators and health care use by income brackets and states. This is deeply related to the very small amount of public resources the government invests in the health care sector.

Fortunately, the Indian government has recently expanded its budget allocation with a strong political will to strengthen the health and medical sector. In particular, it wants to solve the primary health and medical problem by expanding the health and welfare center. To ensure admission fees, the government's introduction of PM-JAY, which pays full premiums to some 500 million poor and vulnerable people in 2018, also demonstrates its strong will to expand the health and medical sector.

India’s health care policy still has a lot of challenges to tackle in order to succeed. The use of health centers may be lower than expected due to low public confidence in health care providers, and hospital admission fees may be overused to benefit from PM-JAY instead.

Since health care policies are enforced at the responsibility of state governments, it is very important to have a policy link between central and state governments and central NHA and state SHA. For the success of the system, it is also essential to strengthen the capabilities of the insurance (purchase) organizations as well as the government. Currently, social insurance coverage for official workers in both the public and private sectors is very limited, so it will take some time to think about how to expand health guarantees for informal sector workers, including them, in the future.
Policy Responses to Population Aging: Experiences of International Organizations and Selected Countries

Project Head: Joo, Bohye

The purpose of this research was to have an overall understanding of the discussion on responding to population aging in the international community. This research empirically analyzed the key points of the countermeasures over time by employing an evidence-based approach. Additionally, this research attempted to contribute to the development of aging policies in line with the times and international standards. This research employed literature review, text mining analysis, case studies and expert advisory meetings.

Our analysis of relevant official documents of international organizations showed active roles of older adults in each area of society, particularly the integration of the labor market, were emphasized. The results of the text mining analysis of international organizations’ aging response documents showed the overall volume of reports and the types of themes have steadily increased as aging has advanced.

Based on the core recommendations of the above international organizations, the cases of Germany, Finland, and Japan were selected as the representative countries for aging. The results confirmed that both the individual level and the social level played roles in responding to population aging. First of all, in the old-age income security policy, Germany, Japan, and Finland have pursued reforms to share the burden and cost of subscribers and beneficiaries with concerns about the sustainability of the pension system due to population aging. Second, the employment policy provided incentives to both the supply and demand of the labor market to expand employment of older adults, and a legal and institutional infrastructure was on the spot. In addition, in order to expand the employment of middle-aged and older adults, the model in which learning and training were linked with work performance was being promoted. Finally, in medical/long-term care policies, diverse devices for cost reduction were arranged. For example, the system was reorganized to focus on disease prevention. Also, the care system was reorganized into community service in order for older adults to receive services according to their needs in community. Based on the aforementioned findings, implications were suggested for the development of domestic policies.
Long-Term Trends of Lowest-Low Fertility in East Asia: Transition in Marital and Fertility Behavior

Project Head: Yoon-Jeong Shin

Korea is currently witness to unprecedented demographic changes. The total fertility rate first fell below the replacement rate in the early 1980s, portending its eventual plunge to just 0.98 babies borne per woman in 2018. The rate has been notably low since as early as 2005, when it was dropped to 1.09. Despite efforts to contain the decline, the Korean government has not been able to do so. This speaks a clear need for policymakers and academics to thoroughly revisit the issue. For one, it remains necessary to investigate how increasing economic stratification in Korea is creating socioeconomic conditions impacting fertility rate. By analyzing comparable case studies in Europe and East Asia, it could be possible to draw useful policy implications for Korea in coming to an understanding of the effects of economic and social stratification on childbirth.

Uncertainty and anxiety about the future that best explain the current decline in fertility rates in European countries may be the most prominent factor in explaining the very low birth rate in Korean society. As the economic and social conditions change, it is necessary to continuously grasp the impact on the emerging birth. At this point in time, as the phenomenon of low fertility in Korea is getting worse in the long term, more scientific tools and methods for analyzing the factors explaining low fertility should be developed. It is required to develop an analysis tool that can understand the birth behavior in consideration of the changing social conditions surrounding birth and the newly emerging influence. For more than 10 years, much effort has been made to improve the fertility rate, but the fertility rate has not been recovered. It will be necessary to find a factor that can explain the phenomenon that the low birth rate is prolonged in Korean society and to target it to overcome the low birth rate.

International Comparison of Social Services Labor Market: Focusing on Care Services

Project Head: Kim, Yun young

As the society changed its industrial structure due to deindustrialization, the number of middle-skilled jobs decreased and the high-skilled jobs increased. As the importance of the social service labor market in the labor market increases, the importance of quality job expansion policies increases, but there is a lack of specific empirical data to carry out this.

In this study Luxembourg Income Study (LIS) data were used to analyze labor markets in developed countries that experienced social care. The analysis shows the current status of the Korean social service labor market. The factors that determine the earned income of the social service industry depended on the welfare state regime, and in countries belonging to the same regime, the differences between countries are more apparent.

Through the results of this study, we suggested that social service occupations can be developed into skilled jobs by improving education and skills of social service workers.
Study on the living conditions of Overseas Koreans—Focused on Yanbian, China

Project Head: No, Daemyung

We often emphasize the historical identity of the Korean people and express our interest in overseas Koreans scattered around the world. However, our such interest has not developed into comprehensive macro-perspective policies. The current policy on overseas Koreans is limited to labor supply and immigration-related affairs. To be sure, it is not that policies other countries have in place for their overseas residents have been always consistent and systematic. Historically, policies from other countries have also shown conflicting stances such as indifference, neglect and economic utilization. However, in a globalized world, it would be difficult to stay in a passive immigration policy regarding the entry and activities of overseas Koreans. It is necessary to support overseas Koreans to work and stay stably in our country, and to support them to live a more flourishing life in the country where they have settled. It should be noted that overseas Koreans are closely connected between the two spaces: Korea and the countries where they have settled.

This means that studies of overseas Koreans need to be carried out in such a way as to connect the two spaces of their country and Korea. It is necessary to study the "life-world" of overseas Koreans in terms of international population movement or circulation between two spaces. The use of the term life-world here means that this study focuses on the labor, consumption and family of overseas Koreans. For example, we should pay attention to the way that overseas Koreans work in Korea to financially support their families in their naturalized countries. Some of them live in Korea with their families. In addition, such population movement may undermine the settlement base of overseas Koreans in the local country.

Therefore, this study aims to examine the problem of overseas Koreans from the dynamic point of view: movement between their country and Korea. However, little is known about the living conditions of overseas Koreans scattered around the world. Except for overseas Koreans in a few countries, little is known about the life-world of overseas Koreans living in many other countries. Moreover, few studies have compared the size, characteristics, and living conditions of overseas Koreans according to common research framework. This is because previous studies have analyzed overseas Koreans, focusing on one or two countries. In the absence of common research framework, it would be difficult to establish a more comprehensive policy for overseas Koreans.

This study was conducted as a multi-year pilot project to prepare an analysis framework for the study of living conditions of overseas Koreans. It suggests that we focused on presenting a research frame to analyze their living world in accordance with the dynamic view of international population movement. For this purpose, our study will examine the living conditions of Korean Chinese, which are the most widely distributed in Korea. But rather than writing their living world in a general context, we tried to focus on the problems that are occurring in China while they work in Korea. Regarding Korean Chinese, our interest is in the problem of poverty and senior citizens and children left behind in China. It means that despite the economic activity in Korea, many Korean Chinese have a lot of difficulties in supporting the families left behind in China. Therefore, we would like to examine how China's social policy is affecting the lives of Korean Chinese. Part I focuses on presenting the direction and analysis framework of "Research on Overseas Koreans Living." It defines key concepts such as overseas Koreans, summarizes the policy implications of other countries' policies, and suggests future research directions. Chapter 2 is a theoretical review where we examine the concept of "overseas Koreans," the theory of their migration and settlement, their policies and their support policies. By examining the history of the policy for overseas Koreans, we would like to suggest the future direction of the policy. Chapter 3 focuses on the historical changes and recent trends of the policies in Japan, China, and India. Chapter 4, titled "Directions and Tasks of Research on Living Conditions of Overseas Koreans," presents the research direction, key objectives, and survey methods. In addition, as part of the basic analysis of the countries to be covered in the next several years of research, an
overview of overseas Koreans in Russia, Central Asia, and Japan is provided.

In Part II, as part of a pilot study prior to a multi-year study, we would like to analyze the living conditions of Korean Chinese, focusing on their poverty problem. In Chapter 5, we examine in what context “China’s poverty policy”, which affects the lives of Korean Chinese, developed in what context. In Chapter 6, we reviewed the living conditions of Korean Chinese in Yanbian region. We focused on their demographic characteristics, minimum living security systems, leading populations and their medical problems. Lastly, Chapter 7, Living Status of Korean Chinese living in Korea, examined the living conditions of Korean Chinese who work in Korea. We looked at their living conditions in terms of population composition, aging, stratification, poverty, economic status of women workers, and social adaptation of youth. This shows that the life-world of Korean Chinese is dealt with in the circular movement or interrelationship between the two spaces of China (Yanbian) and Korea.

Chapter 8 concludes by presenting the overall research contents, and suggests the direction of follow-up research on overseas Koreans, and makes some suggestions regarding the policy on overseas Koreans.

The speed of population aging of Korea is unprecedented. Since many public social policies target the old and the young, the changes in age structure have profound and fundamental implications for social policy. The rapid aging is new social risks in Korea which hinder sustainable growth and social cohesion, and worsening social conflicts. The elderly are particularly vulnerable in Korea, because the traditional family support system has been deteriorating rapidly. Public pension programs and public health care are important examples of the pressing needs of the elderly. These problems call for substantial reform in social policies. The demand for Korean government activities to resolve these problems has reached its peak.

Complicating the response are fiscal burden through rapid increase in welfare expense, intergenerational conflicts, deteriorating familial support system, and poverty of older population. These risks are new social risks, and market system has limited power to deal with the uncertainty and risks. The broad purpose of this project is to examine the current state of population aging around the world, with a special reference to its socio-economic impact and policy responses. The selected experts from each country will examine the issues and compare the results with other countries. The resulting output will serve as an important reference material for both policy makers and academia when they formulate policies to meet the challenges associated with the rapid population aging.
International Social Security Research and Data Construction on Social Protection Programs in Selected Asian Countries

Project Head: Chung, Hong Won

Social security system of Korea has been rapidly developed over last 20 years. Although we still have further works to make a balance between universalization and sustainability of social security system, numbers of achievements were made in major social security policies. Nevertheless, Korea’s social security policy are less internationally perceived. Given that several less developed countries are observing and examining Korea’s experience of development in social security system, it is necessary to inform the policy achievements to other countries as well as expand the international relations on policy research.

This research report contains the information on international social security research and data construction on social protection programs in selected Asian countries from last year. The information includes the social security system and policies from China, Japan, Taiwan, Thailand, Vietnam, India, the UK, and Brazil.
Income distribution has consistently deteriorated since the 1980s in most of the welfare states, threatening the sustainability of capitalism. International organisations such as IMF, OECD and ILO, have also expressed concerns over the widening income inequalities. Once championing the neo-liberalism, these organisations suggested measures against the worsening income distribution. Inclusive growth (income-led growth) is the measure suggested in this background. The current South Korean administration has also implemented the wage-led growth policy since its inception in 2017. The wage-led growth policy has three pillars including increase in wages, strong social safety nets and reduction in household expenditure. This report focuses on the third element, because the wage-led growth could be fruitless without due control of household expenditure.

Given this, this report attempts to analyse the amount or ratio of the indispensable expenditure out of a household disposable income. As we do not have any appropriate concept to measure the income level after deducting the core expenditure of households, we propose a new term ‘useable income.’ There are various concepts to measure a household income such as disposable income, market income, discretionary income or adjusted disposable income, but none of them suits the concept of what this report tries to measure. Useable income here can be defined as “household disposable income let of essential living costs.” The essential expenditure in this report includes spending on four elements: 1) housing, 2) healthcare, 3) child rearing and education, 4) repayment of principal and interest for housing-related debt. This report measures the amounts or the ratio of the useable income over the last 11 years in Korea using the welfare panel. The analysis leads to the following findings. First, old-age household, among various household types, has the lowest ratio of the usable income out of the disposable income mainly due to its housing and healthcare cost. Second, renter households spend relatively more on housing and owner households more on the repayment of their debt. The ratio of usable income is higher in owner households than renter ones. Third, 1st and 2nd quintiles bear relatively high proportion of housing and healthcare cost than the rest. The relatively poorer groups spend relatively less on child rearing and education because they are mainly old-age households without children.

In addition, Korea’s usable income is also compared with those of four other welfare states of US, Japan, Germany and Sweden. The comparison leads to the following findings. First, the housing expenditure is relatively smaller in Korea than those of the other states. There are several reasons such as the impact of the jeonse system, relatively low rent amounts in comparison with housing price, Korea’s lowest charge on tap water and electricity. Second, South Korean household spend relatively high amounts on healthcare and education in comparison with other welfare states. It also should be noted that this report does not include private education cost of household as core expenditure. South Korean household bear the financial burden of child rearing and education while the burdens are negligible in Sweden and Germany.
This study examines income mobility of older workers in Korea, using KLIPS (Korean Labor & Income Panel Study) database. The analysis finds that most regular workers, after ending their career work in their early 50s, end up landing poor quality jobs with low and insecure earnings. Also, it reveals that there is limited mobility between low-paid groups (p10-p20) and other income groups, mainly due to labor market dualism.

In addition, this study has simulated the income-redistributive effect of the National Pension Scheme, using the lifetime income approach of Fullerton and Rogers (1993), and of Coronado et al. (2011). The results are striking. Despite its income-redistributive effect, the National Pension, with its “low-burden, high benefit” structure, benefits the rich more than the poor. The unintended effect of the National Pension is attributable also to the existing labor market dualism.

The findings have important policy implications. First, it is necessary to improve employment support programs for vulnerable older workers and expand social safety nets for them to increase their income. Second, the limited resources of social security programs need to be better targeted by designing customized policies.

* Key words: Older Workers, Income Mobility, Income-redistributive Effect, National Pension Scheme, Social Safety Net

Although social risks and social safety nets have been actively discussed recently, discussions about social risks and social safety nets of self-employed workers are still insufficient. In South Korea, where the proportion of low productivity self-employed workers is very high, it is very likely that they will become poor if their earnings are stopped. Therefore, this study examines the characteristics of self-employed workers, income level of self-employed households, income poverty status, and social vulnerability such as unemployment, aging, health. This study is expected to be helpful as a basic data for strengthening the social safety net of self-employed workers in the blind spot of social safety net.
Issue and Policy alternatives on local devolution of social welfare program

Project Head: Chung, Hong won

The purpose of this study can be summarized as follows. ① Critical review the consequences on local devolution of social welfare program in 2005. ② Analysis of status and problems about state subsidy welfare programs. ③ Suggestion reform alternatives of local government welfare program.

The reform of the state subsidy program is not only the adjustment of individual program, but also the reorganization of government function for the promotion of autonomy and the establishment of inter-government relation.

Local government welfare programs can be divided into three categories: state affairs, autonomous affairs, corporate affairs. State affairs shall be converted to central government program. Autonomous affairs shall be devolved to local government. Finally, corporate affairs shall be maintained state subsidy.
Future Prospect of Pharmaceuticals and Medium to Long-Term Strategy of Health Policy and Governance

Project Head: Park, Sylvia

This study looks out future pharmaceuticals of advanced technology and provide medium to long-term strategies for health policy and governance in the Korean health care system. Firstly, we investigated the current activities in pharmaceutical research and development in the global market and discussed their implication related to health policy. We focused on immuno-oncology therapeutics, gene therapy, stem cell therapy, digital therapeutics. Secondly, we investigated recent health policies of foreign countries that are intended to deal with uncertainties and high-cost medicines and to improve payment to healthcare providers. Thirdly, we investigated new medicines and orphan medicines approved in Korea in 2007~2018, looking into their uncertainty and innovativeness and analyzing their reimbursement status and expenditures in the national health insurance system. Fourthly, we discussed governance issues related to adopting new medicines in the healthcare system of Korea. For this purpose, we conducted focus group interviews with stakeholders including pharmaceutical manufacturers, patients groups and civic groups.

Since pharmaceutical development and marketing occurs in the global market, most of newly approved medicines in Korea are imported products whose characteristics and issues are very similar to those traded in the global market. In our commitment to providing patients adequate access to innovative new medicines while keeping the healthcare system sustainable, we propose future healthcare policies as the following: (1) budgeting for pharmaceuticals in the national health insurance system, (2) horizon scanning, (3) evidence development of listed medicines, (4) healthcare provider payment reform and self-regulation, (5) disinvestment in low-value medicines. When it comes to governance, although the government has established policy framework to gather stakeholders’ opinions and to arrive at a consensus for a new medicines adoption process, we could conclude from our focus group interviews that there needs to be more accountability and transparency in the policy process.
This study aims to examine policy options for creating decent jobs in the social service sector. Korea has increased jobs in social service in response to the increasing needs in care. Yet, a strong demand persists for service quality improvement, and the poor working conditions of social service workers has become a salient issue in recent years. Therefore, this study looks at ways to increase decent jobs in the social service sector, improve the quality of social services, and strengthen social safety nets.

Sweden’s social service system, in terms of both financing and delivery, is a public-led model with an excellent governance for service quality management and a mechanism for matching supply and demand in the social service sector. In Italy, social-economy organizations form a healthy market for social services, while in France, the certified check for employment service (CESU: Chèque emploi service universel) forms a wide range of social services, including private services, and formalizes informal jobs.

This study suggests as follows. First, there is a need to extend, through co-payments, the range of social services beyond vulnerable groups to the general population. Secondly, the government should strengthen its supervision on private providers and support the entering of qualified private providers. Third, the government should present a means to ensure that social service workers get at least the minimum wage and rest breaks in accordance with the Labor Standards Act.

The purpose of this study is to examine social service workers’ employment changes after the mid-2000s. Ultimately, we address several policy actions to create quality jobs in social service sector.

The study uses quantitative and qualitative research methods. Using data from the Census on Establishment (from 2007 to 2017) and the Regional Employment Survey (from 2008 to 2018), we first examine changes in the number of employment and quality of jobs in the social service industry over the last decade. We then conduct ‘context-pattern analysis’ to deeply understand the factors that affect social service workers’ decision to work and their employment changes.

The findings reveal that employment in social service has been gradually growing, especially with dramatic increases in care, consulting and rehabilitation, health service sectors. Our context-pattern analysis finds that such change has been mainly driven by social service policies. In general, social service workers’ average earnings has increased over time, but still remain around 70 percent of the all-worker average. It is notable that hourly wage has dramatically increased in 2018 for low-income workers in care, culture, and sports service sectors, which might be an effect of the minimum wage policy. However, their work hours have decreased so that the effect of minimum wage increase seems to have been limited.

The share of regular workers and duration of jobs have increased in most social service sectors, implying higher job stability than before. However, the share of non-regular workers is still higher than in care, culture and sports service sectors.
The findings of this study have the following implications for social service policy. First, the government needs to redefine the concept of “quality jobs” in social services and change its policy directions toward creating more quality jobs in the public sector. Second, social protection programs and wage compensation must be strengthened for part-time workers as they are poorly protected by traditional labor laws and social policies. Even for part-time workers, wage compensation system needs to reflect worker’s human capital such as job experience, qualification, and education. Third, in the sense that social services are provided in a variety of settings, a multi-layered approach is needed to improve the working conditions of social service workers. Fourth, a public organization needs to be established to systematically educate social service workers, manage their qualification, and protect their rights.

In recent years, in an effort to advance the system of providing health care, it is expected to contribute to the improvement of efficiency and quality of service when applying future health technology in the service delivery process. Nevertheless, the digital health is active in technology development but cannot be linked to the actual society. This is due to the fact that technology-oriented digital health development has progressed and the linkage with actual medical policy has not been well coordinated.

This study examines the social issues of health care and care technology to prolong the healthy life expectancy of the elderly, and focuses on the policy tasks of health care technology to solve social problems. And we analyzed factors that facilitate technology diffusion based on OECD member countries. Even if technology is developed that can solve social problems, a mechanism is needed to connect it with practical problem solving such as technology, institutions and delivery systems.
A Study of Customer-oriented Management for Child Care Providers

Project Head: Kim, Hey Sung

This study is aimed at deriving, from customer experience with child care services, strategies for improvement in the organizational and institutional aspects of customer-oriented child care centers. Some of the core findings of this study are as follows.

Firstly, the existing policy instruments that the government has been employing to increase the quality of child care services were found to have a strong tendency toward seeking improvement from the provider side. Strategies should be drawn up to ensure that parents’ needs and wants are catered for in a customer-oriented manner.

Secondly, our qualitative analysis of dissatisfaction among the users of child care centers suggests that the emotional experiences of parents had in using child care services were deeply negative and complex. For policy measures to effectively be taken in response to social demand for “reliable and trustworthy child care centers”, the far-reaching emotional implications of dissatisfaction among users of child care services should be taken seriously.

Thirdly, in our survey, users gave low scores on perceived quality of services provided by public, private and home child care centers. This calls for policy measures to reduce gaps between different types of child care users and between different types of child care providers, and to raise the overall quality of child care services.

Fourthly, the causal relationship between perceived quality of child care services and user satisfaction has been identified by using PLS-SEM.

Here, parent satisfaction with child care services was found to have been positively affected, with statistical significance, by such perceived factors of child care services as ‘appropriateness of child care’, ‘individualized care’, ‘appropriateness of care facilities and their management’, ‘substantiality of counselling and information regarding child care programs’, ‘substantiality of information provision and safety management’, ‘whether parent wishes and thoughts are closely listened to taken into account’, and ‘usefulness and appropriateness of child education programs.

Lastly, based on its findings, this study suggests a range of policy potions for quality improvement, including customer encounter management, child care quality monitoring and feedback interventions, child care service quality enhancement, incentives for child care quality enhancement, improvement of facility management guidelines and strengthened regulations.
Incorporating Technologies into Big Data-based Health and Welfare Policies

Project Head: Oh, Miae

The Fourth Industrial Revolution is different from the other three that preceded it in that it is closely related to many areas of daily life. In particular, as technology is applied in various daily-life areas such as health and social welfare, its influence is expanding. In recent years, efforts have been focused on the use of new technologies to improve the quality of life of groups with relatively high health and welfare needs, such as the elderly and the disabled.

The purpose of this study is to establish a convergence and linkage system that can bridge the gap between health and welfare policies and technology, assuming that new technology is a means to increase the effectiveness and efficiency of health welfare policy. Big data analysis is used as a basis for establishing evidence-based policies in the process of establishing health and welfare policies, and new technologies such as artificial intelligence (AI) can greatly increase their utility value when combined with big data.

This study aims to support future strategies of health and welfare policies based on big data, and build a convergence system with new technologies to support sustainable policy based on data evidence.

This study is the first-year installment of a three-year research project. Here we identify people’s welfare needs based on big data, and present the current state and direction of new technology application.

A Study on the Problems and Improvement of Statistics for Activating the Senior Business Industry

Project Head: Gho, Gyeomhoan

Starting next year, baby boomers, which account for 25 percent of the total population, will enter the elderly and form the main demand for the senior industry. Also, middle-aged people between the ages of 50 and 64 are emerging as new consumers to prepare for retirement as pre-seniors.

Seniors have different needs depending on their income and health levels, even at the same age. They may receive care services alone because they have difficulty in their daily life, or supplement the inconvenience of daily activities in old age with supplies. Elderly people also need to meet their basic needs, such as expecting easy food intake. In addition, retirement preparations are carried out in various fields over the long term.

In order for senior industries to be activated, they must start with statistics that contain reality. It requires consumers' desire and the supplier's ability to supply but those statistics are lacking or absent.

Therefore, this study first examined domestic and overseas statistics, focusing on care, products, and food industry for those in need, and investigated the basic statistics required in the future. In addition, we tried to stimulate the production of statistics that can predict the market size considering consumer needs and purchasing power. Based on this study, it is expected that the basic industrial production will be systematically constructed and the senior industry will be developed by actively utilizing the statistics.

Co-Researchers: Kim, Hyungsoo · Kim, Sanghyo · Kim, Jeungkun
Kim, Wisseon · Shin, Jyoung · Jin, Jaehyun
Evidence-based Policymaking: Quantitative and Qualitative Surveys and Feedback

The 2019 Korea Welfare Panel Study (KOWEPS)
An In-depth Study of Korea Welfare Panel
Statistical Yearbook of Poverty 2019
An Examination on Income Survey Microdata
A Report on the Korea Health Panel Survey of 2017
A Study of Strategies for the 2nd Korea Health Panel Project
A Study of Quality Improvement in Health and Welfare Panel Data – Focusing on Imputation of Item Nonresponse
Personal Genetic Information Protection Management System
2019 Korea Demography Forum
A perception survey of response to low fertility and aged society
A Study on the Collaboration of National Research Institute and Non Governmental Organization in Low fertility and Aging Society
A Survey Study of Marriage and Childbirth Trends among Young Adults
A Study of the Living Conditions and Welfare Needs of the New Middle Aged
A Study of Development of Regional Health and Welfare Accounts and Operation Strategy
Social welfare policy should cope flexibly with the changes in people's economic status, consumption expenditures, value judgments, and the status of economy-wide income distribution, poverty and inequality. However, existing cross-sectional survey data are not sufficient to analyze the socio-economic dynamics because of their inability to identify the age effect and the cohort effect. In order to overcome such limitations, Korea Institute for Health and Social Affairs (KIHASA) and Seoul National University (SNU) began the Korea Welfare Panel Study (KOWEPS) in 2006. The 14th wave of KOWEPS has been carried out in 2019. There are three types of questionnaires for the survey: the first is for the households, the second is for household members, and the third is for special topics (supplements). The content of KOWEPS is composed of socio-economic information, welfare status, and attitude on welfare or something for individual and household. The special topic for this wave is 'Awareness on Welfare'. In this 14th wave, we have completed a sample of 6,331 households which include both the original and newly added households.

The descriptive report provides a wide variety of contents about general features, economic conditions, employment status, social security, welfare needs and special topic for the 14th year survey. The results could be a reference for the researchers who try to use KOWEPS.

This study attempts to give an overview of the weighting process of the Korean Welfare Panel. We studied several household characteristics related to panel attrition, examining how they may have conditioned the panel data in the Korea Welfare Panel Study (KOWEPS). We also studied the cause of the differences in household income between the original and new panels in KOWEPS.

The panel attrition in the KOWEPS data is monotonous and affects household characteristics and the estimation of household income. The weight of low-income households tends to decrease over the years, presumably a consequence of an overall increase in household income. Such changes are reflected in the pattern in which older panels have higher estimates of household income. The characteristics of longitudinal area missing patterns of Korean welfare panel households were examined.

Based on this in-depth analysis report, the Korea Welfare Panel should continue to study various statistical issues including quality improvement.
Statistical Yearbook of Poverty 2019

Project Head: Lee, Hyon-Joo

Research Aims
- The primary purpose of this research is to produce statistics on poverty and inequality using the most reliable source of data about household income and expenditure in Korea.

Main Results
- The market-income poverty rate (below 50% of the median) was 21.0% and disposable-income poverty rate was 16.7% in 2018.
- Poverty ratio, based on consumption, has decreased continuously since 2016.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Market</th>
<th>Current</th>
<th>Disposable</th>
<th>Consumption</th>
<th>Expenditures</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>12.3</td>
<td>16.3</td>
<td>21.6</td>
<td>9.6</td>
<td>14.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>12.7</td>
<td>16.7</td>
<td>22.2</td>
<td>9.7</td>
<td>14.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>13.0</td>
<td>16.7</td>
<td>21.6</td>
<td>9.8</td>
<td>13.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>13.8</td>
<td>17.3</td>
<td>23.8</td>
<td>9.3</td>
<td>13.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>14.4</td>
<td>18.3</td>
<td>23.3</td>
<td>10.2</td>
<td>14.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Agriculture and Fishery households are excluded. (For expenditure data, Agriculture and Fishery households have been included since 2017.)


- The Gini coefficient was 0.403 on a market-income basis and 0.345 on a disposable income basis in 2018.
- In 2018, the Gini coefficient has decreased from the year before.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Income</th>
<th>Expenditure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>0.329</td>
<td>0.249</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>0.328</td>
<td>0.254</td>
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<tr>
<td>2014</td>
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<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>0.332</td>
<td>0.265</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>0.344</td>
<td>0.268</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Agriculture and Fishery households are excluded. (For expenditure data, Agriculture and Fishery households have been included since 2017.)


Expected Effects
- This study presents time series data on poverty rate, inequality and middle-class indicators that can be looked to for guidance when searching for ways to improve the National Basic Social Security.
- Policymakers, researchers, and other students will make use of products of our analysis to fulfill their various aims.
An Examination on Income Survey Microdata: <Household Income and Expenditure Survey> and <Survey of Household Finances and Living Conditions>

Project Head: Lee, Wonjin

The scope and contents of income survey microdata have changed significantly in Korea recently. The official data for a calculation of income distribution indices has changed from Household Income and Expenditure Survey (hereafter, HIES) to Survey of Household Finances and Living Conditions (hereafter, SHFLC), and income data collected from SHFLC are now supplemented and revised using administrative data. Given these recent changes, we need to deliberately scrutinize the two microdata to understand the trends in income distribution in Korea. This study examined HIES data and SHFLC data in terms of the differences in household and personal characteristics and the differences in distributions of income sources. The results show that the income observed from SHFLC data is higher and more unequal than that observed from HIES data. Also, a revised income distribution of SHFLC using administrative data is bigger in size and more unequal than the original distribution observed from the survey. Some implications on income survey and analysis are discussed based on the results.

A Report on the Korea Health Panel Survey of 2017

Project Head: Park, Eun-ja

Korea Health Panel Survey (KHP) was initiated in 2008 by a consortium of the Korea Institute for Health and Social Affairs (KIHASA) and the National Health Insurance Service (NHIS) in order to identify factors related to healthcare expenditure and to support policies which could correspond to the rapidly changing health care environment.

The KHP provides not only information on health care utilization and healthcare expenditure among households and individuals, but also various factors influencing it, such as socioeconomic characteristics, chronic conditions, private health insurance, and health behaviors.

This is the primary analysis report which includes descriptive statistics on the morbidity of chronic diseases, healthcare service utilization, healthcare expenditures, and health behaviors among households and individuals. This report is based on the 2017 annual data having 17184 individuals in 6408 households.

We anticipate this report to provide the basis to better understand the dynamic and complex structure of healthcare expenditures and to also lay the foundation for improving health policies.
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Korea’s elderly population is rapidly increasing, and the pattern of healthcare use and related expenditures are likely to change accordingly. The Korea Health Panel (KHP) Survey, conducted by the Korea Institute for Health and Social Affairs and the National Health Insurance Service, is a longitudinal study designed to examine medical service use, out-of-pocket healthcare payments, and uninsured medical services.
Current study operates Health and Welfare Data Portal System through which the collected health & welfare statistics, micro-data is provided to the public. Health and Welfare Data Portal System was launched in 2011, and provides a variety of survey related meta-data produced through KIHASA’s researches, and from world-wide, Micro-data produced by survey. Social Statistics is a new service that was constructed in 2018, and provides statistics related to opinions about Health and Welfare Policy in SNS.

In 2019, we released social data related to health and welfare collected every month. We have created an environment that is easily used by those in need. The portal provided statistics from the Annual Report on Health and Welfare, and released three types of microdata, including the ‘The 2018 National Survey on Fertility and Family Health and Welfare’.

Portal users are growing every year. In 2020, we intend to make microdata available for free, and to improve the system’s function.

Panel data is widely used in social, natural, healthcare and medical sciences, as it enables dynamic analysis of inter-subject differences and changes over time in the same subject. As in other forms of data, nonresponse in panel surveys occurs when the observed values for some variables are not measured. Nonresponse can be attributed to lack of bond at the beginning of the survey and increased panel fatigue as the investigation progresses. Imputation of missing responses is necessary to improve data quality.

This study is about bringing quality improvement to KOEPS and KHP data, especially in terms of imputation of item nonresponse. We examined how Korea and other countries have been handling missing responses in panel data. Also, machine learning and deep learning techniques were examined as a potential alternative to imputation of missing responses in panel data. Our simulation results show that imputation methods based on machine learning and deep learning generally outperform mean and hot-deck imputation. Specifically, we propose an imputation method based on random forest. It has been found that a large number of explanatory variables do not necessarily improve performance. Exploring and selecting variables that are highly related to the target imputation variables perform better than using a complex and comprehensive model.

Panel data is widely used as data for policy diagnosis and establishment. Imputation of item nonresponse is an important part of data quality management and must be managed continuously for statically reliable data production.
Personal Genetic Information Protection Management System: Analysis and Policy Challenges

Project Head: Chung, Youngchul

With attention increasingly paid to personalized medicine and precision medicine using genetic information, the importance of genetic analysis technology has become more pronounced. Also, the mass accumulation of individual genomic data, coinciding with the 4th Industrial Revolution, is being used as a source of industrial competitive edge for many countries around the world. Personal genetic information has characteristics such as ‘invariability’, ‘family sharing’, ‘unique identification’, ‘relevance’, and ‘unknownness’ (Lee Won-bok, 2018). This is why genetic information is more likely than any other type of personal information to infringe on privacy and genetic privacy. In particular, the Direct-to-Consumer (DTC) service, which allows consumers to directly refer to genetic tests without going through medical institutions, accelerates the collection, linking, and sharing of genetic information. At the same time, data accumulation and personal information protection have become factors to be considered.

This study aims to diagnose problems in personal genetic information protection policy and prepare alternatives for the safe use of genetic information. This study finds that DTC genetic testing services have not been established at non-medical genetic testing institutions, and there are risks that the genetic information of national citizens may be transmitted abroad.

Field workers were not aware of the uniqueness of each individual’s genetic information and were handling personal information (from surveys), such as health-related and life-style related personal data, without due care. In addition, the specificity of the contents of the various consent forms was not clear enough, and more care was found necessary in transmitting test results via an electronic medium.

In conclusion, the current Personal Information Protection Act and the Bioethics and Safety Act should be considered together to protect personal genetic information of non-medical genetic testing institutions. In order to provide practical support for the protection of personal genetic information at the site of the genetic testing agency, a Q & A casebook with details and examples should be developed and distributed. Regular monitoring is needed to identify how well personal genetic information is managed at genetic testing institutions. In order to raise the awareness and importance of protecting personal genetic information, it is necessary to actively identify cases of leakage and infringement. Also, interests of operators should be induced by strengthening the protection of genetic information in the demonstration special projects and certification schemes currently being promoted by the government.
Korea Demography Forum began in 2014 and is celebrating its 6th year this year. It has been conducting meaningful discussions on numerous population-related issues and has established itself as a representative event for KIHASA. In particular, the Korea Demography Forum held in July is planned as an event to celebrate Population Day.

Korea Demography Forum was held twice in May and July in 2019, reflecting the purpose and concept of the ‘Policy Roadmap for low fertility and ageing society’. First of all, in May, since the air quality influences the quality of life and the public’s interest in it is increasing, in-depth discussions on how air quality changes, including fine dust, could affect children and the elderly who are relatively vulnerable is made. In particular, the results of a survey on “fine dust and life of children and the elderly” were announced, and the actual perception of the people about the issue was also shared.

The Korea Demography Forum in July had the opportunity to look at and discuss population declines due to low birth rate and aging from various perspectives. First, a keynote speech was given to help a comprehensive understanding of future population changes, and then we looked at the changes of our society due to population decline by communicating with the people who participated in the forum. In addition, since it is thought that population reduction will affect several sectors simultaneously, professionals in various fields were invited and had intensive discussions on the future society and changes.

The purpose of this study is to analyze people’s perceptions of various socio-economic issues related to low fertility and aged society, and to provide data to help develop and implement related policies. The 2019 survey was conducted on: the effects of fine dust on the daily life of children and the elderly; the perception of marriage, childbirth, and child rearing; and the experience and perception of care for the elderly. Each survey was conducted for each subject. As a result of the survey on fine dust, it was found that there are differences between social classes in terms of information, awareness, and coping with fine dust, and that fine dust had a negative effect on overall life of children. More than 4 out of 10 children have experienced health problems such as respiratory diseases, skin diseases, and eye diseases due to fine dust. In the elderly, approximately 25.5% experienced health problems such as respiratory disease, allergic rhinitis, and ophthalmic disease.

The main reasons for young people choosing to delay marriage or not to marry at all included residential instability, unstable jobs, and greater freedom associated with being unmarried. The reasons for not giving birth were economic instability, parenting and education costs. The perception of the state’s responsibility for child rearing and child care was higher among married people than among singles. The most important goals of the child support policy were ‘to relieve the burden of raising the child and increase childbirth’ and ‘to support work–life balance’. Overall, the rate of perceived policy goals as ‘supporting healthy development and well-being of children’ was low. In the case of the elderly care survey, about 47% were anxious about the care situation that will occur in old age, with women being more
Research Content

anxious than men. Only 44.4% of respondents said they were aware of the long-term care insurance system. The public’s awareness of policies was lower in low-income groups than in the rest.

Research Content

A Study on the Collaboration of National Research Institute and Non Governmental Organization in Low fertility and Aging Society: New Approach to Youth, Gender and Education

Project Head: Lee, Yunkyung

This project has formed a new perspective on ‘population’ in the form of omnibus. First, it was intended to interpret the phenomenon of the population from the perspective of youth and to seek alternatives. “The Meaning of Population Crisis for Young People” is a study that honestly diagnoses the present and seeks alternatives to the low birth rate, aging population, and their lives of young people living in this era. Second, "Study on the Gender Agenda and Response Tasks of Aging Society" is a study that raises social issues of female senior citizens who have not been noticed in the policy of an aged society and seeks alternatives for them. Third, the "A Study on the Direction of Population Policy for Realizing Social Value" study is a study to see the direction for the realization of social values in population policy.

The first study is "The Meeting of Population Crisis for Young People”. With rapidly aging and lowest-low fertility in the world, Korea’s population is forecast to begin to drop from 2028. The study aims to derive population policy directions, analyzing the perspective of Korea’s young adults on the population decline. We conduct focus group interviews (FGI) with 59 young adults and 1:1 interviews with 19 young adults (aged 19 to 34). The young adults are rarely concerned about the decline in population. Rather, they are worried about the widening gap between rich and poor in Korean society. However, the Korean government has paid much attention only to encourage marriage and raising the birth rate. The women say that if they get married, they will be forced to give up their autonomy in Korean deep-rooted patriarchal ideologies and practices. Therefore, there are a growing number of women who want to stay single and choose not to have children.
Korea’s population policy has not played an important role in lightening their burden to raise babies under patriarchal and gender inequality. Instead of cleaving to a patriarchal society, the government should shift its paradigm to gender equality, and redefine the meaning of ‘marriage’ and ‘family.’ Young adults want to have a family to guarantee their autonomy and identity under equal circumstances. The government has to support and respect them.

Among the various reasons affecting marriage and childbirth in Korean Society, economic stability and housing seem to be the most important factors. But it’s getting harder to get a house for young people because the cost of housing continues its upward trend.

Against this background, this study examines jobs and housing, which have a significant effect on marriage and childbirth. Due to the lack of data, the survey was conducted on newlyweds. In the survey, jobs and housing situations were identified at the time of graduation, first employment, beginning of the relationship with current spouse, marriage and childbirth, which are representative events of the life cycle. The purpose of this study is to identify the dynamic process from the encounter of couple to marriage and childbirth and to provide basic data on them.
A Study of the Living Conditions and Welfare Needs of the New Middle Aged

Due to rapid population aging, Korea’s productive population is on the decline after reaching its peak in 2018. The government is considering those aged between 50 and 69, who still belong to productive age but who find it difficult to keep participating in productive activities due to the current retirement age limit and corporate culture, as an important human capital in the era of population aging, exerting efforts to help them continuously contribute to society.

However, there is a lack of data with which to systematically describe a thorough picture of the socioeconomic traits of the new middle-aged. This has led to a limited policy coverage focusing solely on the employment facet the new middle-aged.

The objective of this study is to provide basic information on the new middle-aged, especially on their living conditions and welfare needs, and to draw implications for comprehensive policy-making for those population groups.

Our living conditions survey, consisting mostly of face-to-face home visit interviews based on a constructed questionnaire, was conducted during 7 weeks from July to August, 2019, with the participation of a total of 4,006 people aged 50-69. The questionnaire was designed based on relevant literature, meetings with sectoral experts and consultations with experts from academia and field. Also, the participants themselves contributed in the establishment of the questionnaire through focus group interview (FGI).

The following criteria are included in the questionnaire: general information of the respondent, health condition, quality of life, exchange of family and social relationship with support for dependent family, desired values for life after retirement, policy preferences, social participation and economic status.

Suggestions drawn from the findings of this study include the following. There is a need for strengthening the capacity and opportunities for the new middle-aged. Policy-making for the new middle-aged should take into account their various characteristics. Also, mid- to long-term plans should be set to help the new middle-aged meet their needs for social participation, to support their lives after retirement and ease their burden of supporting their dependents.
A Study of Development of Regional Health and Welfare Accounts and Operation Strategy: Focusing on local welfare expenditure accounts

Project Head: Gho, Gyeonghoan

Recent socioeconomic changes are creating challenges in current times of low fertility, aging population, and local extinction crisis. These are the challenges that local governments as well as central governments will have to solve.

In particular, in order to achieve the right to local autonomy, it is necessary to grasp the financial capacity and welfare needs of the region, and to grasp the size, structure, distribution, and function of welfare expenditures, but these statistics do not exist. As Korea moves into a welfare state, basic statistics should be developed and disseminated for local policy-making.

The Korea Institute for Health and Social Affairs has continued to study social welfare expenditures after Korea joined the OECD. Through this, based on the accumulated research ability, we attempted to produce statistics by expanding the scope of research by region.

First of all, according to OECD guidelines, basic statistics were measured for the first time in Korea and abroad for the welfare level of 17 metropolitan governments.

Next, we focused on the use of general SAM data for the development of the Social Accounting Matrix (SAM) as a preliminary step in establishing a ‘local welfare expenditure account’.

‘Local Welfare Expenditure Account’ is a regional transfer income index produced based on basic statistics such as financial expenditures in the welfare sector and benefits of the five social insurances. Conceptually, the researchers tried to make the sum of “local welfare expenditure” equal to “national welfare expenditure.” That is, the system was organized to improve the consistency and reliability between the two statistics.

In the future, we will accumulate regional welfare expenditure statistics and faithfully monitor the local characteristics among local governments, contributing to the analysis of narrowing gaps and contributing to the resolution.

*Key words: local welfare expenditure account, social account matrix, local disparities and inequalities

Co-Researchers: Lee, Yeonhee, Hyejung Kim, Euijune Noh, Yonghwan Shin, Jiyoung An, Suin Chung, Youngae
2019 Research Results

10 Setting Up Strategies for an Inclusive State

Inclusive Welfare and Its Policy Direction
The Changing Population Structure
Survey on People’s Perception on Inclusive Welfare and Their Evaluation of Welfare Policies
Basic Research for Establishing User-Centered Youth Support System based on Life Course Perspective
Social Inclusion of Immigrants
Public Attitudes towards Social Minorities
Analysis and Outlook of Korea’s Long-term Trends in Lowest-low Fertility
A Study of the Development of a New Welfare State for Coping with Social Exclusion
A Study of the Development of a New Welfare State for Coping with Social Exclusion
Personal budgets scheme in social service
A Preliminary Study on the Establishment of Protective Services System Against Abuse and Violence
Inclusive Welfare and Its Policy Direction

Project Head: Kim, Tae-wan

This study examines the background and concept of inclusive welfare, which the current government’s core social policy, and suggests detailed directions for action.

Inclusive welfare should ensure fair opportunities and equitable burdens in social development. The right to protection, regardless of class, race or geography, should be guaranteed against current and future social risks. It refers to welfare without exclusion, through which education strengthens individual and national capacities and provides a social mobility environment.

As for a detailed action plan, this study presents the situations of 10 different domains of life and related action plans.

In order for inclusive welfare to be realized, with the expansion of existing social policies, new welfare policy needs to be introduced.

When expanding social policies, coordination of roles needs to take place between the government, the corporate sector, and individuals. Also, support measures should be provided for employees of small and medium-sized businesses and small businesses owners.

Inclusive welfare should be developed into a social policy of ‘practice and action’ rather than rhetoric.

The Changing Population Structure: Policy Directions and Implications

Project Head: Lee, Soyoung

The purpose of this study is to consider changes in various dimensions of society and to seek future social policy directions for flexible responses to an increasingly aging, and declining, population with low fertility.

This study conducted population estimates of the two Koreas and predicted changes in their population structures. In the event of unification between South and North Korea, the low birth rate and low death of the North Korean population are likely to accelerate population declines and population aging. The change in the North Korean population is also expected to lead to a rapid decline in the combined population. The international community’s approach to population policy was reviewed with an international organization-centered approach and an individual country-centered approach. At the international level, we looked at the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). We also examined cases of Germany, Japan and Australia. An integrated response is needed to adapt to birth declines and population declines. This study looked at this in terms of education, child care and labor. Education is linked to increased productivity in the labor market, so good quality education should be possible through investment in education. Policies are needed to improve maternal health from pre-conception to childbirth and from the time of a child’s birth to the time of children and adolescents. It is necessary to support a work–life balance. For this, it is necessary to expand the care service so that universal care services are available. It also needs policies to support the housing and employment of young people.

This study recommends the following to better meet the challenges posed...
by the increasingly aging population and the changing characteristics of older adults. First, an effective overhaul of the old income guarantee policy is needed. Second, social policies need to promote economic activities and economic self-reliance among older adults. Third, policy initiatives are needed to secure health and medical workforce. Fourth, regional autonomy of the long-term care policy for the elderly should be secured in consideration of the long-term care needs and characteristics of each region. Fifth, it is necessary to develop policies on transportation, based on regional characteristics, to safeguard older people’s right to mobility move. Sixth, regional policy initiatives are needed to foster an aged-friendly environment. Seventh, it is required to increase the value-added of elderly-friendly industries and expand industrial infrastructure.

This study has the three following aims. First, it surveys the general public and experts about their awareness of and support for inclusive welfare and inclusive growth (or income-lead growth). Second, it also surveys the two groups’ evaluation of the three values of ‘equality,’ ‘fairness,’ and ‘justice.’ The current Korean government has affirmed that it will guarantee ‘equality in opportunity, fairness in process and justice in outcome’ for all the people in Korea. Third, this study looks into the general public’s emotional or rational reactions towards the current issues regarding the three values by analysing online comments on related news articles.

Our survey of 1,000 general public found that the majority of the respondents were aware of the controversial minimum wage hike (96.7%). Awareness rates were high with regards to the basic pension rise (83.0%), child benefit (77.5%), and Moon Jae-in Care (65.8%). Awareness rates were relatively low for inclusive welfare (22.0%) and inclusive growth (20.0%).

As for policies, respondents strongly supported that small- and mid-sized firms receive fairer prices for their products from chaebol (4.13 out of a 0–to–5 scale), increase in supply of national or public nurseries (4.09), and the national care scheme for people with dementia (4.03). On the other hand, support rates were relatively low for income-lead growth (2.93) and the minimum wage hike (3.06).

Another survey (of 100 experts) found that experts were skeptical regarding the level of Korea’s equality in opportunities (3.89 out of 0–10 scale), fairness in process (3.70) and justice in outcome (3.49). As to policies,
experts were found to prefer stronger welfare for disadvantaged groups (7.69), increase in the inheritance tax for the rich (6.86) and income tax for the high earners (6.75). On the other hand, we found relatively low preference for inheritance of the management right among the firm owner family members (2.72) and donation-based university admission system (4.09).

We also conducted big data analysis of online comments written below news articles. We chose three key words of ‘Special-purposed high school’ (generally expensive private high schools), ‘non-regular workers’ and ‘inheritance’ while searching the articles. Based on the analysis, we find the relatively low trust between the netizens who revealed multi-level conflicts with each other regarding the issues of gender, politics, employment, education and support for the current government. Without more generous and universal welfare for the people who feel anger and exclusion, such conflicts would not be eased.

This study aims to suggest policy directions for building a user-centered youth support system by investigating the lives of youth from the life course perspective. In particular, this study aims to derive policy measures by analyzing the impact of having been disadvantaged in terms of poverty, family structure, employment, etc. on their lives. To this end, this study conducted theoretical studies, policy research (analysis), quantitative research, and qualitative research.

First, this study found that the current youth policy heavily remains in employment policy emphasizing short-term employment outcomes. Also, the study concluded that the policies for income security, education and housing for youth are poor in terms of subject of application and sufficiency. Moreover, health security policy for youth is very limited.

Second, the quantitative research using the Korea Welfare Panel Study examined the relationship between poverty, household unemployment, housing instability, parental and youth education level, education, income, and depression. The study found that the effects of having been disadvantaged among youths are likely to be different depending on timing and areas. In addition, the youth support policies need to be re-designed in three dimensions in consideration of area and timing.

Third, according to the qualitative research results of in-depth interviews with 16 young people, it was confirmed that the experience of having been disadvantaged was directly associated with the lives of young people. In particular, the cumulative experience of having been disadvantaged
negatively affected the lives of young people, and in turn the lives of young people were chronically inadequate in all aspects. Also, youth commonly identified self-development and leisure support as the most important welfare needs, and found that they needed policies such as housing, income, jobs, health, living support, and information provision.

Some of the policy implications of this study are summarized as follows. First, it is important to strengthen the responsibility of the public support system. Second, the study suggests enhancing the concreteness and elaboration of policies considering the diversity of the youth. Third, it is critical to review the social security system and comprehensiveness and consistency of youth support policies. Finally, the study proposes developing and monitoring youth protection indicators based on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Although recent national attitudes are open and positive to a great extent toward an influx of immigrants, the social gap between natives and immigrants seems to be difficult to reduce. Amidst these circumstances, the Korean government now faces a dilemma over the establishment of a socially inclusive society with ethnic and racial diversity. This raises a question as to whether the existing migration and multicultural policies are strong enough to uphold the government agenda of achieving a socially inclusive society.

This study aims to examine the current state of social inclusion of immigrants and draw policy implications for raising the level of social inclusion for immigrants in Korea. In order to do so, this study looks at relevant policies in Korea and in other countries and analyse survey data to understand how the level of social inclusion toward immigrants has been changing and identify factors responsible for such changes.

It is expected that this study can contribute to the clarification of the concept of social inclusion and be used as a basis for further studies into the topic of social inclusion in the field of migration. Also, it could be used as a reference for the relevant ministries when establishing and implementing the 4th Basic Plan for Immigration Policy and Multicultural Family Policy (2023-2027). The last contribution would be to provide empirical basis for the development of objective measure of social inclusion toward immigrants in Korea.
This study aims to investigate public attitudes towards social minorities in South Korea, especially focusing on blatant and subtle prejudice. Social minorities in this study are conceptualized as: immigrant workers, North Korean refugees, and sexual minorities. This study is guided by a contact theory, a minority-threat theory, and a social justice perspective. Secondary data sets, such as the Korea Social Integration Study (2013-2018), and the World Values Survey (waves 1–6), were analyzed. We also conducted a web-survey with 1,000 respondents to investigate public attitudes towards social minorities in Korea. We found that contact matters for its impact on prejudice. The quality of contact is more important than the quantity of contact. Regarding minority-threat theory, Koreans are more likely to have favorable attitudes towards social minorities when they have a higher level of generalized trust, social trust, and social cohesion. Also, social justice is associated with less prejudice towards minorities. Several implications for researchers, policy-makers, and practitioners were drawn with regard to reducing blatant and subtle prejudice towards social minorities.

This study analyzed the fertility differentials by socioeconomic status using data from the Korea Census and Vital Statistics. In the past, women with lower educational attainment and job status had higher fertility rates than women with higher educational attainment and job status. However, in 2017 the period total fertility rate for women with high school education has fallen to a similar level as for women with university education. For the 1971–75 birth cohort the total fertility rate of women below middle school education was lower than that of women with high school education. Analysis of women with the same level of education at university graduation or at high school graduation showed that the fertility rate of service sales workers was lower than that of professional for the 1971–75 birth cohort. Our decomposition analysis found that the recent changes in the total fertility rates, for both period and cohort, were attributed to the decrease in fertility rate rather than the change in the population composition. The group that most contributed to the decline in the total fertility rate was found to be women with lower educational attainment and occupational status. These results indicate that income effects are greater than opportunity cost effect in determining births in face of deepening inequalities and social stratification during the prolonged period of ultra-low fertility.
Our research diagnoses social exclusion and suggests policy plan to overcome the exclusion and to which groups are vulnerable.

Compared with EU countries, Korea’s social exclusion rate in 2018 was 29.2~30.9%, 7~8% higher than the EU average of 22.4%. Women at all ages experienced more social exclusion than men, and the lower the education level and the fewer households, the more exclusions. Those aged 65 and over are experiencing severe social exclusion, especially vulnerable to poverty.

In order to become a welfare state without social exclusion and a social policy-centered state, improvement in the employment environment is needed for those under 65 years of age. The expansion of jobs in the public sector should reduce social costs due to unemployment. Under 50~64 years old, retraining should support new jobs. Aged 65 and older should have increased security of income and health. In order to create and maintain a stable welfare state, taxation needs to be reviewed.

Korea has begun to face the issue of refugees since more than 5000 Yemeni asylum seekers visited Jeju Island in 2018. Most of the other nations, especially Europe and Middle East, is familiar with the issue as they accepted millions of asylum seekers from politically unstable states like Syria. The issue of refugees emerges as one of main factors deciding the future of welfare states, because some of natives in some welfare states have been reluctant to open their borders and guarantee social rights of newcomers, while others welcome them to champion their human rights. Based on the view that Korea has already faced the critical issue, this report reviews and analyses the current situation of refugees residing in Korea and attempts to suggest related policies.

This report reviews the cases of Germany, Canada and Australia, which have longer history of accepting millions of asylum seekers from other continents and establishing systems to support the refugees. It is found that the Western states have also undergone social discussion and controversies regarding the scope and level of the social and institutional support for the foreigners.

Korea has implemented the refugee law in 2013, which guarantees social rights of refugees in Korea. However, the qualitative research in this report reveals that the access to education, labour and social security from the refugee’s point of view is often blocked or limited despite the law. It is mainly because the refugees are not fully informed of their rights when they were given the legal status and the related authorities are not aware of their roles to provide related services to the refugees either. In addition,
a survey of 4,001 Koreans in this report shows that the majority agree that the state should support the refugee group’s basic human rights and other rights to education, labour, healthcare and reunion with other family members.

This report suggests a couple of policies in short, medium and longer terms. For example, ‘The guideline for Refugee’, the two-page Korean-language document, currently given to the refugees when they are given the legal status, needs to be fully revised and reinforced and to be given as a booklet containing more detailed information on their social rights written in both their mother tongue and Korean, which will be a first step to secure their access to social rights provision among policies. In addition it seems necessary to streamline and reinforce the refugee application process to address the rapidly growing number of refugee applications and to gradually raise the refugee approval ratios in the future.

The purpose of this study is to assess the validity of introduction of personal budget scheme to strengthen the choice and control of service users in social service area. To do this, three tasks were carried out in this study. First, the concept of personal budget was reviewed by exploring literature regarding the social situation in which the personal budget system was developed. Second, diverse personal budget schemes implemented in six countries (US, UK, Germany, Netherlands, Sweden, Australia) were compared using Gilbert and Terrell’s (2002) framework for analyzing social welfare policies. A fuzzy-set ideal type analysis was performed to categorize each scheme as well. Third, based on this analysis, we assessed the feasibility and validity of introducing a personal budget scheme, considering the Korean policy background.

The result of this study showed that the characteristics of personal budget varied according to the social environment and the main group that drove the introduction of the scheme. Ten schemes of six countries compared in this study illustrated diverse details according to the institutional background of each country, but there were common threads in findings. Direct payment was one approach to choice and control for service users. Service users did not necessarily use the direct payment. In most countries, the users could spend their budget on a wide range of services as long as they are related to their impairments. Based on this comparison, a fuzzy-set ideal type analysis was performed, with ‘user-centeredness’ and ‘service quality assurance’ as analysis indices. Here the countries observed were categorized into: bilateral benefit type (Sweden, Germany and Australia); user-centered type (UK); service quality assurance type (Netherlands); and
Based on the findings, this study proposed that an appropriate personal budget scheme should be introduced that accords with existing social service programs and the policy environment of Korea.

The purpose of this study is to draw policy proposals for the establishment of a protective services system against abuse and violence by analyzing the current protective services and overseas cases. To that end, this study reviews the concept and range of protective services against abuse and violence, analyzes current protective services in Korea by area, analyzes overseas cases of protective services, and presents policy issues for the establishment of protective services system.

Protective services refer to services that respond to violence and abuse issues. The scope of protective services can be classified into emergency support for crises, for the long-term healing and recovery of victims, and for the prevention of violence, abuse, and recidivism. There is currently no general definition of protective services in Korean social welfare or social services. Protective services against abuse and violence are conducted based on different laws for children, the elderly, people with disabilities, sexual violence, domestic violence, and youth and schools, and the level of service differs by area. There is a lack of recognition of protective services against abuse and violence from an integrated and general perspective, as well as a lack of a common definition of the work and skills of the labor force in each area. The current working conditions and training system of the labor force in protective services are limited for demanding the expertise of a high-quality labor force.

US legislation stipulates protective services in response to abuse and other violence, and Child Protective Services and Adult Protective Services are provided based on federal and state laws. In the case of protective services
in the US, the private sector influence service work, skills regulation, and the provision of training. In Germany, the Youth Welfare Office, which is a public agency, controls the Child Protection System, which emphasizes not only ex post interventions but also a preventive system. Germany has a training and qualification system for protective services against abuse and violence.

The policy issues of this study are as follows. First, an emphasis needs to be placed on the stipulation of services in response to violence and abuse as protective services as well as the duty and support of the state in the provision of protective services. Second, the level of protective services of each area should be increased, and the current services needs to be organized with a focus on the function of protective services. Third, job development, improvement of the training system, and improvement of the working condition are necessary to increase the expertise of the protective services workforce.
KIHASA Periodicals

01 Health and Social Welfare Review
02 Health-Welfare Forum
03 Health Welfare Issue & Focus
04 Research in Brief
05 Global Social Security Review
Health and Social Welfare Review

Published quarterly, Health and Social Welfare Review covers theories and policies in healthcare, social security, low fertility and aging and health and welfare information sciences.

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**Health-Welfare Forum**

A monthly designed to share with readers the latest findings domestic as well as foreign policy trends and in-depth analyses in health-welfare policies.

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A serving policy-makers and end-users by identifying and discussing major current issues in health and welfare.

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2019
Annual Report

Published by the Korea Institute for Health and Social Affairs
Building D, 370 Sicheong-daero, Sejong City 30147 KOREA
TEL +82-44-287-8000

Design & Print Hancompany Co., Ltd. (+82-2-2269-9917)

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