

Korean Gender Statistics: Current Status and Future Tasks

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1. Introduction

Gender statistics is a vital means of gender mainstreaming with gender budget and gender impact assessment. In particular, gender statistics is the basic measure which makes other means of gender mainstreaming function efficiently, and political requirements of gender statistics have increased on the basis of implementing gender budget and gender impact assessment. In case of Korea, the demand for gender statistics has increased due to the enhancement of participating institutions and the assessment objectives since the first implementation of gender impact assessment in 2005. Furthermore, the construction and guarantee of gender statistics materials have emerged as an important task for the efficient operation of a gender budget system according to the enhancement of gender budget in earnest from 2010 (Kim et al. 2007; Yoon et al. 2008; Hannan 2007).

On the other hand, the close combination between gender statistics and other gender mainstreaming means results in mutual development. For instance, gender responsive performance indicators are the examples of mutual development based on the combination of gender statistics and gender budget. Precisely, performance-based gender budgeting can be accomplished through the development of gender-responsive performance indicators (Klatzer 2008). In

addition, gender-responsive performance indicators enhance the boundary of gender statistics in the light of new gender statistics in the field of national budget.

Many international organizations such as the UN have emphasized the need to produce gender statistics for a long time to cope with the political significance and demand of gender statistics. The first official discussion about gender statistics at the international level was presented at the first World Conference on Women in Copenhagen, 1975. Moreover, gender statistics is considered as one of the main measures for gender mainstreaming in the international society, and individual nations are endeavoring for development of gender statistics since ‘the Strategic objective H.3. The principle of generation and dissemination of the gender – disaggregated data and information for planning and evaluation was adopted in the Beijing Platform for Action.

The Korean Women’s Development Institute (KWDI) managed the fundamental of Korean gender statistics by publishing 「Social Statistics and Indicators on Women」 in 1986, which is the first gender statistics publication in Korea following the above international trend. Since then, gender policy research institutions such as the KWDI, local governments, and the central government such as the Ministry of Gender Equality and the National Statistics Office have been actively

dealing with the political demand of gender statistics though research, publication, and legal and institutional efforts for development of Korean gender statistics.

This paper will share Korean experiences of gender statistics at the international level and discuss the direction of developing gender statistics by introducing the legal basis of producing Korean gender statistics, outcomes of Korean gender statistics, and the KWDI’s activities for gender statistics.

2. The Legal Basis for Producing Korean Gender Statistics

The main legal bases for Korean gender statistics are the Women’s Development Act and the Statistics Act. The Women’s Development Act, which was enacted in 1995, is the first law providing for the duty of framing gender statistics. Article 13 of this law manages the legal basis of gender statistics by explicitly stating: “If it is necessary for efficient women’s policy, the Minister of Gender Equality shall conduct a basic survey and a public opinion poll on the affairs related to women.” Furthermore, the legal basis of producing gender separated statistics in Korean institutions such as central and local governments is provided: “When the state and local governments compile population statistics, gender distinction shall be included in major analysis units” in Paragraph 3 Article 13 of then the Women’s Development Act in 2003. The Statistics Act which was wholly amended in 2007 is also the legal basis for producing gender statistics in public and private sectors. In particular, gender distinction in survey lists when new national official statistics are produced in Korea is enforced through Paragraph 1 Article 18 of the revised Statistics Act.

<Table 1>
Legal Bases for Producing Korean Gender Statistics

Relevant Laws	Relevant Articles
Women's Development Act	Article 13 (Survey, etc. of matters related to Women) (1) If it is necessary for efficient women's policy, the Minister of Gender Equality shall conduct a basic survey and a public opinion poll on affairs related to women. (2) The Minister of Gender Equality shall strive to provide information related to women by establishing an information system. (3) When the State and local governments compile population statistics, gender distinction shall be included in major analysis units. [This Article Wholly Amended by Act No. 9126, June 13, 2008]
Statistics Act	Article 18 (Approval for Statistics Compilation) (1) The head of a Statistics agency intending to compile new statistics shall obtain prior approval related to the matters prescribed by the Presidential Decree, such as the title, types, objectives, subject of survey, method of survey, distinction of sex in survey questions, etc., from the Commissioner of the Korea National Statistics Office. The same shall apply to the modification of approved matters or the suspension of approved Statistics compilation. [This Article Wholly Amended by Act. No. 8387, Apr. 27, 2007]

The Women’s Development Act was an important basis for producing Korean gender statistics before the amendment of the Statistics Act in 2007. The differences between the Women’s Development Act and the Statistics Act are as below:

Firstly, the jurisdiction of the ministries in charge are different. The Women’s Development Act which is managed by the Ministry of Gender Equality has a limited impact on other ministries. However, the Statistics Act has enhanced its impact on other ministries since it is managed by the Korean National Statistics Office.

¹ Before 1998, researches such as assessment of household work's values were implemented by the Second Minister for Political Affairs which dealt with gender policies in Korea (Moon, Jeon, and Ju, 2007).

This paper mainly treats the periods after the first general planning of gender policy when the production of Korean gender statistics started on the basis of policies.

Secondly, the Statistics Act provides that “an agency in charge of the Statistics” should carry it out, but the Women’s Development Act provides that “National and Local Governments” should do it as well. The provision of “agency in charge of the Statistics” is more specific as it mentions specific subjects to carry it out.

Thirdly, “the case of producing population statistics” does not explicitly present in which procedure of statistics production the case is included. The process of producing Statistics can start from the new production of Statistics to the re-analysis of established Statistics. Nevertheless, the Statistics Act explicitly mentions gender distinction in survey lists of a newly produced Statistics (Moon, Jeon, and Ju, 2007).

On the other hand, the connotations of the new Statistics Act in Korean gender statistics are as follows:

First of all, it will be possible to introduce gender perspectives in the process of producing statistics although the new gender statistics is just a re-analysis and re-editing of the existing statistics in the light of the users’ point of view. Even though the law limits it as “gender questions” in surveys, the requirement of gender separation in analysis and report results are expected to be possible. Although there is no gender separation in the results of analysis, ministries and research institutions related to gender can separate materials based on gender if there is gender separation in the data collecting process.

Second of all, gender statistics produced by women-related organizations such as the Ministry of Gender Equality and the KWDI are limited to specific women-related topics such as “family surveys” and “women’s employment surveys.” However, the boundary of gender statistics will be expanded with gender responsive improvement in every statistics related to general social topics. (Moon, Jeon, and Ju, 2007).

3. Policies Related to Gender Statistics and its Main Outcomes

1) Outcomes during the First Basic Plan for Women’s Policies

In Korea, main policies related to the production of gender statistics are based on the Basic Plan for Women’s Policies, which is supported as national composite plan at the level of the government. The Basic Plan for Women’s Policies has been formulated and implemented based on a five-year cycle since 1998, and presently the third Basic Plan for Women’s Policies is being carried out in 2008. The main contents of gender statistics by specific cycles of the Basic Plan for Women’s Policies¹ are as follows.

<Table 2>

A Summary of Contents Related to Gender Statistics in the Basic Plan for Women’s Policies

	Name of Project	Main Contents
The First Basic Plan for Women’s Policies (1998-2002)	1-4-2 The valuation of housewives’ household work and the reflection of its results to a system	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation of time use survey for estimating the amount of household work • Implementation of satellite account of household work in the System of National Accounts • Research and finding of the value of household work • Revision of inheritance and gift taxes
	1-6 Development of statistics in terms of gender responsive perspective	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning and supplementation of gender separated questionnaire in Statistics surveys • Particularization of women’s labor market participation in the questionnaire of the Economically Active Population Survey • Gender separation of engaged workers in the Census on the Basic Characteristics of Establishments
The Second Basic Plan for Women’s Policies (2003-2007)	1-2 Production and diffusion of gender statistics	<p>1.2.1 New establishment of organizations dealing with gender statistics production</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Establishment of gender statistics department in Korean National Statistics Office ○ Establishment of advisory councils for producing gender statistics <p>1.2.2 Innovation of existing statistics into gender statistics</p>

	Name of Project	Main Contents
		<ul style="list-style-type: none">○Production of gender statistics through gender analyzing the whole process of surveys○Revising reporting form of administrative statistics○Improving the production system of statistics on local women1.2.3 New production of statistics on women○Development and production of women status index○Development and production of statistics about women inequality1.2.4 Construction and provision of statistics DB○Enhancing contents and periods of statistics DB○Diffusion and publication of user-oriented gender statistics
The Third Basic Plan for Women's Policies (2008 -2012)	1-1 Gender mainstreaming of national policy	<ul style="list-style-type: none">1-1-1 Guaranteeing effectiveness of gender impact assessment□Establishment of gender-disaggregated statistics○Gender separation of all national statistics dealing with population statistics- Gender separation of administrative statistics produced by administrative institutions○Improvement of fundamental for production and usage of statistics- Expansion of workers and organizations solely in charge of statistics- Construction of cooperative system among central government's departments and local governments for gender statistics○Innovation of the procedures of producing gender statistics- Reflecting contents related to gender statistics in the codes of conduct for permitting statistical materials and the diffusion and education of statistics agency- Checking gender statistics in the evaluation of national statistics quality

There are two distinctive policies related to gender statistics in the first Basic Plan for Women's Policies (1998-2002). Firstly, there was "development of statistics from a gender responsive perspective." The most significant content of this policy is "the design and supplementation of questionnaires for gender distinction in statistical inquiries. Although this promotion had some accomplishments, there was a limitation in taking part in the design and supplementation of the questionnaires due to the characteristics of the special committee organization in full charge of gender policies. The main project in the first Basic Plan for Women's Policies according to the specific annual promotions was limited as "household affairs" in answer choices were separated into "household chores" and "childcare." The second related policy was the "recognition of housewives' household work and its reflection on a system." The policy was intended to accomplish gender equal family culture and to use the result of a time use survey which is considered as the main part of gender statistics as a support.

In addition, the opportunity of systematic promotion of gender statistics policies was given through including gender statistics in the first Basic Plan for Women's Policies. The status of gender policy was promoted as the agency in charge of gender policies changed from the Second Minister for Political Affairs to the Gender Special Committee directly responsible to the President, and the introduction of gender department managers in six ministries increased interests in gender statistics. Accordingly, the Ministry of Labor that had the department of women's employment published related gender statistics in the annual report 「Women and Employment」 since 1983 and the Ministry of

Justice published 「Statistics on Women in the Ministry of Justice」 every two years since 2000. In case of the Ministry of Public Administration and Security, civil service statistics has been reported in 「Women and Civil Service」 and local governments' women public officers' statistics have been published since 2005. 「Statistics of Civil Service」, which suggests the condition of civil officers added a gender segregated statistics and specifically presented the proportion of women civil officers among the entire civil servants (See <Table 3>). Except the above, the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism accomplished the 「Research for Producing Gender Equality Cultural Indicators」 in 2008 to understand gender disparity in cultural sector and to produce indicators for implementing gender cultural policies.

<Table 3>

Main Researches on Gender Statistics by the Departments in Charge of Gender Policies in Six Ministries

Promotion Organizations	Relative Projects	Year
Ministry of Labor	「Women and Employment」 publication of statistics-oriented reports	1983 ~, Publishing every year
Ministry of Justice	Publication of a statistics booklet 「Statistics on Women in the Ministry of Justice」	2000, 2002, 2004, 2006
	Publication of a research report 「A Study for Innovating Women's Statistics System in the Ministry of Justice」	2005
Ministry for Health, Welfare and Family Affairs	Publication of a statistics booklet 「Women's Health and Welfare: Current State and Statistics」	2001

Promotion Organizations	Relative Projects	Year
Ministry of Public Administration and Security	Publication in parts of 「Women and Public Office」	2000~2003
	「Statistics of Women Public Servants in Local Governments」	2005~
Ministry for Health, Welfare and Family Affairs	Publication of statistics and research report of 「Health Statistics of Korean Women」	2003
	Publication of a research report 「Ways of Producing Gender Statistics for Improvement of Women's Welfare」	2003
Ministry for Food, Agriculture, Forestry and Fishery	Publication of a research report 「A Study of Welfare Indicators for Women Farmers」	2002

The Korea National Statistics Office has published 「Women's Lives through Statistics」 since 1998, and has provided collected statistics related to women. Furthermore, time use surveys conducted by the Korea National Statistics Office every five years since 1999 are the main sources of household work statistics on one of women's main activities. In 2006, gender statistics was included as part of the mid-term plan for innovation of Korea national statistics system, and the basis for producing gender statistics at the national official statistics-producing institutions was achieved through the innovation of the Statistics Act in 2007. Moreover, the content of checking gender separation in the procedure of statistics was added in the check list for quality evaluation of national statistics in 2008.

As the number of the local organizations related to gender policies has increased due to the local self-governing system from 1995, so have the interests in producing local gender statistics. Accordingly, local gender statistics

has been published by gender related departments in regional governments. In particular, ‘Incheon Statistics on Women’ was published for the first time in 1997, and in 2008 gender statistics were published in Daejeon, Daegu, and Jeju. Beginning in 2000s, Goyang-si published gender statistics for the first time among local governments in 2003, and Seocho-gu published ‘Women in Seocho through Statistics’ in 2007 (See <Table 4>).

**<Table 4>
The Current Situations of Publishing Gender Statistics by Local Governments: July 2008**

	Title of Publications	Year
Seoul	Women in Seoul through Statistics	2004, 2005, 2006, 2007
Busan	Statistics on Women in Busan	2005, 2007
Daegu	Statistics on Women in Daegu	1998, 2005
Incheon	Statistics on Women in Incheon	1997, 1998, 1999
Gwangju	Statistics on Women in Gwangju	1999
Daejeon	Daejeon Statistics on Women in Daejeon	1998, 2003, 2005
Ulsan	Year book of Women and Family Statistics in Ulsan	2007
Gyeonggi-do	Statistics on Women in Gyeonggi	2000, 2003, 2005
	Family and Women Statistics In Gyeonggi-do according to Jurisdictions	2008
Gangwon-do	Statistics on Women in Gangwon	2003, 2005, 2006
Chungcheongbuk-do	Statistics on Women in Chungbuk	1999, 2005, 2007
Chungcheongnam-do	Statistics on Women in Chungnam	1999, 2001, 2003, 2005, 2006
Jeollabuk-do	Statistics on Women in Jeonbuk	1999, 2001, 2003, 2005
Jeollanam-do	Statistics on Women in Jeonnam	2004
Gyeongsangbuk-do	Statistics on Women in Gyeongbuk	2000, 2004
Gyeongsangnam-do	Yearbook of Women and Family Statistics in Gyeongnam	2004, 2005
Jeju-do	Yearbook of Women and Family Statistics in Jeju	1998, 2002, 2004, 2006
Goyang-si	Statistics on Women in Goyang	2003
Seocho-gu	Women in Seocho through Statistics	2007

Note: The title of women statistics in Gyeonggi was changed to Family and Women Statistics in Gyeonggi-do from 2006.

Gender statistics publications by local governments provide volumes of abundant gender statistics information which are not dealt with in national statistics by conducting individual local gender statistics. For example, a gender statistics publication provides perceptible gender statistics comparing recently published gender statistics by various local governments and the amount of gender statistics in local governments’ statistics yearbook. However, presently published local governments’ gender statistics are published every two years and this has a limitation in providing well-timed statistics. Furthermore, the publications which are based administrative statistics present limitations due to the lack of gender statistics in local government.

2) Outcomes during the Second Basic Plan for Women’s Policies

The second Basic Plan for Women’s Policies (2003-2007) provides the basis for developing gender statistics as it suggests compromised and professionalized policies on gender statistics compared with the first plan. The main goals of the second plan are 1) to newly establish an organization that produces gender statistics, 2) to improve existing statistics to be gender responsive, 3) to newly produce statistics related to women, and 4) to construct and diffuse statistics DB.

According to the yearly plans of the second Basic Plan for Women’s Policies, various policies related to gender statistics were planned and implemented. Above all, urging individual departments to produce gender disaggregated statistics regulation based on the statistics reports of administrative ministries and offices, and developing mutual cooperation with other departments such as the

Korea National Statistics Office account for a large part of them. Secondly, education programs are enhanced though providing programs to educational institutions for public officers based on the development of educational program gender statistics and the boundary of gender statistics has been expanded by the publication of 「The Yearbook of Gender Equality & Family Statistics」 on the basis of statistics from the Ministry of Gender and Family. During this period, the Ministry of Gender and Family published women specified gender statistics publications such as childcare statistics, family statistics, and statistics of protection institutions for preventing domestic violence. In addition, researches related to the diffusion of gender statistics and construction of a systemic environment for producing gender statistics have been carried out through the publications of 「Development of Educational Program for Gender Statistics (2004)」, 「Guidebook on Production and Use of Gender Statistics (2005)」, 「A Comparative Study on Framework for Gender Statistics (2006)」, and 「A Study on Improving and Producing Gender Statistics after 2007: an Amendment to the Statistics Act of Korea (2007)」.

<Table 5>

Main Publications and Researches Related to Gender Statistics in the Ministry of Gender Equality

Year	Related Projects
2001	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Publication of a research report 「Improvement and Utilization of Gender Statistics: Administration Sector」 • A survey of citizens' attitudes toward prostitution • Publication of a research report 「A study on producing gender indicators for human resource development」
2002	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A study for developing satellite account of unpaid household work • Nation-wide Survey on the Sex-Related Industries and Prostitution

Year	Related Projects
2003~2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Statistics report 「Childcare Statistics」 • Korean National Family Survey • A survey of domestic violence • A survey of current state of protective facilities of domestic violence
2004	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of educational programs for gender statistics • Innovative strategies on gender statistics • Inclusion of gender statistics in the Advisory Committee of Gender Policy Assessment
2005	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Publication and diffusion of 「A Guidebook on Production and Use of Gender Statistics」 • The valuation of women's unpaid household work, a research report for integrating the GDP account of household production • Present conditions and needs of single mothers
2005, 2006, 2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Statistics publication 「Statistical Yearbook on Women and Family」
2006	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current status of women's participation in government advisory committees
2006	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Comparative Study on the Framework for Gender Statistics
2006	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Nation-wide Survey on Sex-Related Industries and Prostitution
2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Study on Improving and Producing Gender Statistics after 2007: an Amendment to the Statistics Act of Korea
2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Korean Women Manager Panel Survey

On the other hand, with the establishment of the Korean Institute of Gender Equality Promotion & Education in 2003, education of gender statistics carried out as one of gender sensitivity educational programs since 1990s has been implemented systemically and continuously. In particular, public officers' understanding and use of gender statistics have been promoted though introducing 「A Professional course on gender statistics」, the necessity of gender statistics in the public sphere has been enhanced as gender statistics is included as one of the subjects of 「Gender Impact Assessment Education」.

4. Activities Related to Gender Statistics in KWDI

1) Publication of Gender Statistics and Main Research

The starting point of Korean gender statistics is 「Social Statistics and Indicators on Women」 which was published by the KWDI in 1986. The statistical publications which were published twice by 1993 contained the statistics showing gender differences and followed the basic system of social indicators. In the case of publication in 1986, there are 221 of statistics tables in 10 categories such as population, family/household, education, income/employment/economic activity, health, nutrition, welfare, housing, social activity, and public security in both Korean and English. 「Social Statistics and Indicators on Women」 changed its name to 「Statistical Yearbook on Women」 which has been published every year since 1994.

「Statistical Yearbook on Women」, the representative gender statistics report in Korea, has enhanced its collected fields and statistics information since its first publication in 1994. In particular, from 1994 to 1995, main gender statistics in eight fields were collected. The publication in 2007 has 260 of gender statistics in 11 fields by adding new fields such as ‘international comparison’(1996), ‘culture and information’(1998), and ‘childcare’(2006). In addition, the format of publishing the 「Statistical Yearbook on Women」 has been diverse, for example, publishing a leaflet of appendix statistics. For example, ‘Statistical Chart on Women’ and ‘Regional Statistics on Women’ in Korean have been published every two years since 2003 and 2004, respectively, and ‘Women in Korea’ which is the English version of 「Statistical Yearbook on Women」 has been published since 2005. With the various publication of booklets, the title 「Statistical Yearbook on Women」 will be

changed to 「Gender Statistics in Korea」 from 2009, and new format and contents will be added to the booklet.

Figure 1. 「Statistical Yearbook on Women」 by the KWDI



The KWDI has continuously implemented not only gender statistics publication but also researches and seminars related to gender statistics. The main researches related to gender statistics which are accomplished by the KWDI are 「Gender Sensitive Analysis in Labor Statistics」(2001) and 「Considering system innovation and activation of usages of the annual gender statistical report」(2005). Furthermore, the KWDI has accomplished the researches of gender equality indicators that suggest the level of gender equality in Korea though various researches such as 「Development of Social Indicators on Women」(1996), and 「Development of Gender Equality Indicators」(2005). Except these, the KWDI achieved various researches and publications commissioned by central and

local governments such as the Ministry of Gender. Additionally, the KWDI has held national and international conferences that deal with gender statistics. The representative national and international conferences of gender statistics are: 「A Seminar for the Assessment and Policy Making of Women's Unpaid Work」(2001) (jointly held by the Ministry of Gender and UNDP), 「A Seminar on the Strategies to Produce Gender Statistics」(2002, jointly held by the Korea National Statistics Office and the KWDI), and 「A New Vision for Korean Gender Statistics」(2007).

2) Construction and Management of GSIS

With the above activities related to gender statistics, the KWDI has since 2006 constructed and manage the Gender Statistics Information System (GSIS, <http://gsis.kwdi.re.kr>), which is specialized gender statistics information. The aim and background of constructing the GSIS are: the limitation of publishing booklets such as the 「Statistical Yearbook on Women」 in satisfying the increasing political and social demands for gender statistics, and the limitation of providing information and in the function of the web service, 「Statistics on Women DATA Base」, which has been provided since 1998 for the diversity of providing gender statistics. To overcome these shortcomings, the KWDI has constructed the GSIS from 2006 to 2008 for three years. The main works of constructing the GSIS by each year are as follows:

Above all, the entire project was planned based on the research of references and advisory councils in 2006, the first year of construction. Moreover, the KWDI produced a Korean webpage which provides gender statistics information, and constructed a new 「Statistics on Women DB」. the new 「Statistics on

Women DB」 contains indicators from nine main fields such as population, family, education, economic activity, health, welfare, participation in politics and society, culture and information, and security. the new 「Statistics on Women DB」 has the merit as it enables users to find needed statistics through one-stop service by synthesizing separate statistics from various institutions. Furthermore, new 「Statistics on Women DB」 provides statistics which is hard to gain through established statistics from other institutions, such as statistics related to irregular workers. the new 「Statistics on Women DB」 helps user understand gender statistics by providing 'Women Statistics in Tables' and 'Fun Fun GS'.

The GSIS was updated in 2007, the second year of the project. In addition, the basic service system was developed for such users as researchers and the public by constructing an archive based on the original data accumulated by the KWDI. And, the Gender Statistics DB for local governments was constructed based on the financial support from the Ministry of Information and Communication, and the basic infra of gender statistic was constructed by introducing a web and a DB server.

Figure 2. The Main Screen of the Local Gender Statistics DB



URL:<http://gsis2.kwdi.re.kr/>

In 2008, which is the third year of the project, international gender statistics DB for globalization of gender statistics information system is constructed, the existing gender statistics DATA Base is updated, a gender statistics information system webpage is produced in Korean and English, gender statistics DB is translated into English, a public relations film is produced in Korean and English, and the Korean Gender Equal-X(KOGE-X) service system is constructed. Furthermore, the construction of a web survey system which evaluates users' demand to actively reflect the users' requirements is being considered.

From 2009, the MDG DB will be constructed in the Asia-Pacific region, the GSIS will be continuously upgraded and supplemented with new contents, and various events for promoting public relations and usages will be held.

Figure 3: New Main Screen of Gender Statistics Information System Webpage



The KWDI will satisfy the basic demand of gender statistics for implementation and assessment of gender equality policies by constructing the GSIS. Moreover, local women statistics DB which are produced through this project will contribute to promoting local

gender policies and researches. In case of international gender statistics DB, it is expected to provide significant information for comparison of women's social status at the international level. The KWDI will diffuse the perspective of gender equality in society by offering user-friendly contents with various gender statistics information. Furthermore, the KWDI will settle its status as the hub of Korean gender statistics and will play an important role in the process of developing national and international gender statistics.

5. Conclusion: Further Tasks of Korean Gender Statistics

This paper explores the accomplishments of Korean gender statistics and introduces the KWDI's activities related to gender statistics. The conclusion of this paper makes recommendations for the future development of Korean gender statistics. This paper also offers an opportunity to consider cooperated solutions by sharing accomplishments and tasks of Korean gender statistics internationally.

Above all, it is necessary to strengthen the legal and institutional bases for gender statistics production. As this paper already mentioned, the production of gender statistics in Korea is based on the Women's Development Act and the Statistics Act. However, Korea with the decentralized statistics system – As of November 1st, 2008, 359 agencies produce 952 kinds of national official statistics in Korea - needs to check the current condition of gender statistics in individual agencies and suggest improvements on a regular basis. Moreover, the production of gender statistics by statistics agencies should be improved though the established statistics policy tools such as evaluation of the quality of

statistics (Moon 2007; Moon, Jeon, and Ju 2007).

Secondly, the connection between gender statistics and gender equality policies such as gender budget needs to be reinforced. Gender impact assessment, gender budget, and gender statistics are the significant tools for gender mainstreaming. Thus, the ways to effectively support gender statistics for gender budget and gender assessment need to be considered. For this, gender statistics related to gender impact assessment and gender budget should be produced.

Thirdly, gender statistics needs to be diffused. Korea already has provided gender statistics publications in central, local, and regional governments. Nevertheless, local governments do not publish gender statistics every year to meet the demand for gender statistics information. In addition, the KWDI needs to construct a main gender statistics DB on the GSIS to allow users to use various gender statistics when they need, to overcome the limitation in providing publications.

System, Seoul: National Assembly Budget Office.

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