

KWDI Research Agenda for 2014

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Based on analyses of policy and research environments, the Korean Women's Development Institute has identified its research goals for the year 2014 and is undertaking research projects accordingly. Factors that have impacted the organization's research goals and agenda for this year include the government's directional adjustment to its policies on women and family in reflection of socio-demographic changes, the need for job creation policies for women in response to the aftermath of the international financial crisis, an increased need for policy research to assist the effective implementation of the incumbent government's agenda, including promotion of the Creative Economy and implementation of customized people-oriented policies, and an increasing call for the augmentation of the contribution of state-funded research institutions to national policy.

The KWDI is also conducting research projects designed to respond to the pan-ministerial focus on the safety and human rights of citizens, including the prevention of violence against women and children; equal opportunity for men and women; an increased need for a system and policies ensuring fair competition and shared growth; an increased demand for research to help manage gender equality-related systems, which were introduced by the enactment of the Act on Gender Impact Analysis and the Local Finance Act; systemization of industry-academia-research cooperation both at home and abroad; and strengthening the committee on cooperation for policy research and the relevant system for permanent cooperation.

The goals of the 2014 KWDI research agenda reflect the demand for research that accords with the evolved policy environments of 2014, including the enactment of new laws regarding women and the family; changes in women's representation in local autonomous bodies and local councils as a result of the upcoming 6th nationwide local elections; development of a policy agenda related to women, family, and adolescents in preparation for the 2016 general election; reviewing the accomplishments of women's policy in the run-up to the 2015 Beijing+20 and development of an agenda for future women's policy; expediting discussions on a post-MDG women's agenda and continuous expansion of ODA projects; implementation of the second year of the Park Geun-hye government's 140 National Agenda; and implementation of the second year of the 4th Basic Plan for Women's Policy (2013-2017).

In order to respond to shifts in the socio-economic and policy environments for women and family, the KWDI's research goals for 2014 include strengthening policies for the actualization of gender equality across society and promotion of a culture of gender equality; cultivating female talent for

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the future and increasing women's rate of employment; securing social safety through prevention of sexual and domestic violence; and strengthening family functions and supporting work-life balance.

As to strengthening policies for the actualization of gender equality across society and the promotion of a culture of gender equality, specific research directions include reinforcing gender impact analysis in order to promote gender equality in national policies; increasing the effectiveness of laws related to women and the family as well as expanding the implementation of gender impact analysis; improving gender equality in a tangible manner by expanding and increasing the effectiveness of the gender budgeting system; producing and utilizing gender statistics to promote gender equality and gender mainstreaming; actualizing gender equality and strengthening women's potential in response to diverse social changes; and integrating gender mainstreaming into South Korea's ODA policies and implementing gender-sensitive ODA projects.

Regarding cultivating future female talent and increasing the rate of female employment, related research directions include cultivating female talent and strengthening women's leadership, eliminating shadow zones in policies regarding women's employment and welfare and expanding and strengthening the available employment support services for women.

In order to achieve the goal of securing societal safety through the prevention of sexual and domestic violence, the KWDI is undertaking research into the integration of policies regarding the prevention of violence against women, as well as measures to promote the effectiveness of related policies. For the goal of strengthening family functions and the support for work-life balance, the KWDI's research subjects include the development of future-oriented family and multicultural policies.

In order to achieve the above-mentioned research goals, the KWDI is planning to undertake a total of 30 basic and general projects, as well as approximately 15 irregular projects responding to emerging issues in 2014. In addition, the KWDI will actively pursue the further development of the policy agenda and provide suggestions to the government by carrying out research projects commissioned from other government ministries and institutions, including from the Ministries of Gender Equality and Women, Employment and Labor, and Health and Welfare. The following are the KWDI's core research subjects for 2014:

- Analysis and evaluation of gender budgeting in central and local governments;
- System operation strategies and management methods following the enactment of the Act on Gender Impact Analysis;
- The creative economy and jobs for women;
- Employment status and career development of young female high school graduates and related policy agenda;
- Gender-sensitive analysis of women- and family-related legal precedents and enactment agenda;
- Measures to integrate childcare policies by work and employment type of working mothers; and
- The future of the family and projects for policies regarding women and families