

KOICA has launched various projects to improve maternal
and child health care in Ainaro, East Timor.
Since 2015, KOICA has endeavored to strengthen the capacity of
local medical workforce, and to educate local residents on health.
By the end of this year, KOICA's maternal healthcare center is
expected to be completed.

KOICA
Korea International
Cooperation Agency

OVERSEAS KOICA Actor Jaehee Song's thought on ODA
WHAT'S ODA All-out effort to make an Einstein in the Caribbean
KOICA STORY Start-Up MANDRO, manufacturer of "low-cost, high efficiency" electronic prosthetic arms

World's Friend KOICA

2017. Autumn
Vol. 6
World's Friend KOICA Newsletter

KOICA
Korea International
Cooperation Agency

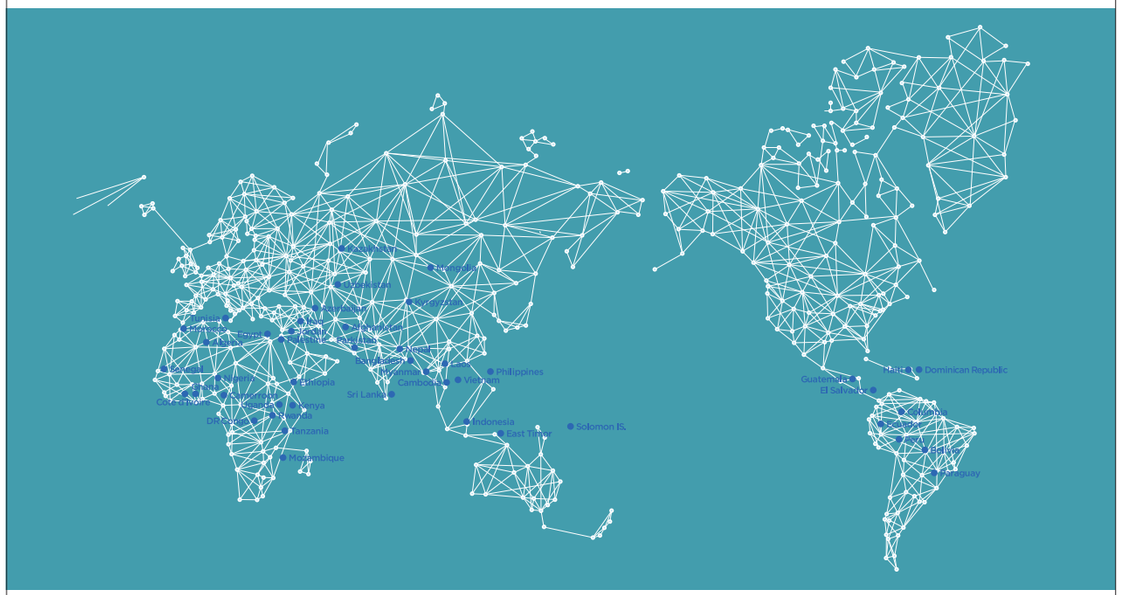


THINK ODA, WITH KOICA

WWW.KOICA.GO.KR

ABOUT KOICA

(Korea International Cooperation Agency)



In April 1991, the Korean government established the Korea International Cooperation Agency(KOICA) as a government agency under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, aiming to effectively manage Official Development Assistance(ODA) programs by unifying foreign aid projects conducted by various ministries. KOICA aims to cultivate positive relationships among Korea and developing countries by sharing experiences and know-hows driven from economic development experiences and hence supporting poverty reduction and fostering sustainable socio-economic development. KOICA conducts various development cooperation projects, including overseas volunteer programs, global training programs, public-private cooperation, humanitarian assistance and disaster relief, with a focus on areas such as health, education, public administration, agriculture, forestry and fisheries and technology & environmental energy. KOICA serves as a development cooperation platform involving nation-wide participation via partnership with numerous entities including government, public institutions, NGOs, corporations, academia and the people involved in international development cooperation. Development cooperation projects, under KOICA's lead, contribute to mutual growth among Korea and its partner countries by not only resolving various global issues including poverty, environment, population, diseases and rights but also by providing grounds to nurture talented young people and to ensure domestic enterprises expanding their markets abroad.

KOICA Korea International Cooperation Agency

CONTENTS

2017. Autumn / Vol. 6

KOICA INSIDE

04
'The way he lives' Jaehee Song, KOICA Goodwill Ambassador
"It's always OK if KOICA asks me for volunteer work"

08
The 1st graduates of the Samarkand Vocational Training Center of Uzbekistan
Open the way forward for youth entrepreneurship on the Silk Road

10
Jieun Lim, a volunteer for Taekwondo in Cote d'Ivoire
"At first, I enjoyed helping others, but I found myself benefited"

12
Finding a dream in Taekwondo
The power of Taekwondo that we did not realize!

OVERSEAS KOICA

14
Project for Irrigation System and Rural Development in Chilborazo, Ecuador
Planting the seed of hope in the Andes Mountains

16
Project for Human Resource Development for Science and Technology in the Dominican Republic
All-out effort to make an Einstein in the Caribbean

18
Project for Establishment of Pak-Korea Technical Textile Center in the National Textile University
Renewed growth of the textile industry in Pakistan

20
Timor Leste Ainaro Municipality Maternal and Child Health Promotion Program
Discovering the future in the healthy smiles of a mother and her child

WHAT'S ODA

22
Mandro's "low-cost, high efficiency" electronic prosthetic arms,
giving hope to Syrian amputated refugees

24
Vuno's diagnostic software offers a silver lining
to Mongolians suffering from sexually transmitted diseases

26
Inkyu Hwang, director of NEXGEO's stories
IT education project for young Mongolian people

28
16th goal of the SDGs
Promoting peaceful, just and inclusive societies

30
17th goal of the SDGs
Global partnership for sustainable development



World's Friend
KOICA

Publisher Choi Sung Ho **Registration Date** December 5, 1994 **Publishing Date** Oct 24, 2017
Publishing Number Publicity 2017-07-108 **Publishing Organization** Korea International Cooperation Agency(KOICA), 825 Daewangpangyo-ro, Sujeong-gu, Seongnam-si, Gyeounggi-do, 13449, Republic of Korea **Tel** 82-31-740-0114 **Fax** 82-31-740-0247 **Website** www.koica.go.kr
Planning & Editing KOICA Office of Public Relations & Communication
Production Chosun News Press **Printing** Chokwang Printings
KOICA English Newsletter <World's Friends KOICA> abides by the ethical principles and their practical guidelines stipulated by the Korea Publication Ethics Commission.
All rights Reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced in any form without permission from KOICA.

A more detailed account about 'KOICA Goodwill Ambassador', actor Jaehee Song, can be found in 'KOICA Inside' from the August 2017 issue of the <KOICA Newsletter>.
http://webzine.koica.go.kr/201708/eng/content1.php?code=201708_020101

'The way he lives' Jaehee Song, KOICA Goodwill Ambassador, a passionate guy showing up in 'the Rule of Jungle'

"It's always OK if KOICA asks me for volunteer work"

Jaehee Song is familiar with nice and neat characters such as the 'handsome nobleman' or 'chief' characters. But now he is showing his 'funny and silly' aspects, playing off his 'nice guy' images. This is not a simple thing. He is disarming the public with much more familiar characters, and now he speaks to more serious issues. Let's listen to his story, the voice of a new KOICA ambassador.

Written by Jalim Jung
Photographed by Sanghoon Bae

Famous for starring as 'handsome nobleman' in drama but showing funny characters on variety shows

Jaehee Song is an actor who has taken on decent and neat characters after the 'handsome nobleman' character on the MBC drama <the moon embracing (yearning toward) the sun>.
Recently he is showing up on SBS entertainment program <the Rule of Jungle> with 'silly and funny' character rather than dramatic one. However, this is still somewhat similar to his natural character, burning off his passion without any mask or makeup.

A 'KOICA man' who went for volunteer work in the DR Congo in 2013

He starred on <KOICA Road>, the TV Chosun program, from December 2013 till January 2014. The program was about a road trip of celebrities and medical doctors, who visited the DR Congo and shared their technical skills to the local people for 13 nights and 14 days. Since then, he has been working as a 'KOICA Goodwill Ambassador'. He participated all of the KOICA events, and shared his ideas and beliefs about ODA with other people. This is an interview with him, to listen to and record his beliefs and values as a 'KOICA Goodwill Ambassador'.



01
Jaehee Song, KOICA Goodwill Ambassador, visited DR Congo in 2013 for filming TV program 'KOICA Road'.

Q_You seem very ambitious in entertainment these days. We see you a lot on entertainment programs.

A_"In fact, I used to have a goal to be remembered as an actor. I would joke and show some funny images to friends, but I did not want to open to the public. However, I felt frustrated when I found myself stuck within a single character. I tried my own way of talking and characterization in the shooting place, but directors said the audience is not ready to accept my change. So I decided to persuade directors and audience. By that time, I earned a chance to go on an entertainment program, and it became a good opportunity to introduce my different images. You cannot be serious on an entertainment program; you might make people bored. Sometimes to make the content more familiar to audience, but this does not mean that the acting is fake. I have various images inside, and this is also a strategy to open to whichever characters emerge in that time and space."

Q_You are quite a strategic person. When did your strategy succeed?

A_"In fact, I never succeeded in entertainment programs. If I try with some strategy, then it turns out not good. But it worked on SNS once, that a couple of years ago, people said 'refugee arm' for those thin and slim female celebrities. 'Refugees' are suffering people in a difficult situation, outside of legal boundaries. I was mad about how people disrespectfully invoked their images, which were made after undergoing great suffering. So I wrote the dictionary meaning of refugee on my SNS, and left a critique on that expression. It became a big issue and my company was also surprised. Some people got worried, asking 'why did you express such a careless message?' But for me it seemed successful at that time. Since then, the 'refugee arm' expression has disappeared."


01


02


03


04

Q_That time you just started acting and introducing yourself to the public, it could be difficult for you to express a negative opinion on certain issues.

A_"Well, I rather think it is my job to speak out about serious issues and make a positive influence. The reason I am showing up on entertainment programs is to expand my acting scope and to speak my voice."

Q_I found that you often introduce yourself as a 'KOICA ambassador' in other interviews. You mentioned several times about the volunteer experience.

A_"I first got to know KOICA by taking the <KOICA Road> program in 2013, and that was an unforgettable experience for myself. I went to the DR Congo in central Africa, and their average life expectancy is only 47 for males and 50 for females. In Korea, we say that we can live until 100 years old; this is a huge gap. Still I saw very happy and pure faces upon the children. That cannot be found among Korea children these days. I experienced such indescribable lessons and happiness. I thought more about what I could do for them and got to know and understand more about KOICA."

Q_KOICA's programs and sectors are so broad that it is not well-known to the public.

A_"Yes I felt the same. I didn't know about KOICA before <KOICA Road>. As an ambassador now, it is somewhat difficult to explain KOICA to others. However, one clear thing is that Korea is a country that developed with the support of other countries only a half century ago. If no country had helped us at that time, then what would be happening now? For that, I believe we have a sufficient reason to help other countries. Moreover, I think that 'help' is the wrong expression, 'return' suits the idea better."

Q_That is more like ideal concept of ODA. However, for some people it would sound like an abstract idea. How can we articulate to people the meaning of 'return'?

A_"I will tell you about my experience. I was on my way to an interview, nicely dressed, on a summer day, and a car passing by me was producing very hot air. The hot air comes from the outside because the air conditioning is running inside the car. Suddenly I got angry. On such a hot day, the driver was pouring hot air onto other people to make himself cool.
I think the same about the relation between developed and underdeveloped countries. Initially, resources are supposed to be shared, but developed countries have preoccupied and polluted. So underdeveloped countries take on the burden of the aftermath. Environmental issues such as global warming are a clear cause and an example of such issues, but other cases also bring about these ideas in the same way."

Q_That is quite convincing. It seems you are thinking a lot as the KOICA ambassador. I wish you could share more of these kinds of stories.

A_"I hope so. I hope to have more chances to share these stories. If allowed, I want to go volunteering again. I am always OK with KOICA calling me."

Q_We want to know your plan as a actor. Please tell us about your future plan.

A_"These days I think 'empathizing' works better than 'admiring'. This is why I am more interested in such public friendly characters. Luckily, due to my 'silly and funny' characters so far, now I have various characters coming through. Soon I hope to meet all of you through a different character with which you can easily empathize. I am also trying to make more opportunities to talk about my story. I will try my best to be a good actor and media player of the time."

01
Jaehee Song, KOICA Goodwill Ambassador was present at the opening ceremony of KOICA global village last May.

02, 03, 04
The first tie with KOICA goes back to the 2013 volunteer work in the DR Congo.

The Ist graduates of the Samarkand Vocational Training Center of Uzbekistan

Open the way forward for youth entrepreneurship on the Silk Road

On June 30th, 2017, the first graduation ceremony of the Samarkand Vocational Training Center (hereinafter 'SVTC') of Uzbekistan was held. A graduate, Kurgayeva Samaria, who is one of the 200 graduates, now became the CEO of an advertisement company. She had an interest in computers since childhood; however, she gave up studying at Tashkent IT University due to the high tuition fee. Later she found KOICA SVTC, and continued her study of computers.



01

The largest labor market of Central Asia, Uzbekistan

Uzbekistan used to be the center of the Silk Road era, with the largest population in Central Asia and a strategic foothold on the traffic of trade. The government of Uzbekistan has realized the need for fostering second and third industries for economic development and domestic demand growth. To do so, the government requested KOICA for cooperation in building human infrastructure.

At the moment, KOICA is working hard on training a technical workforce at the second vocational training center in Samarkand, following that of Tashkent, the capital. The center teaches automobile maintenance, welding and plumbing, electrical/electron machine repair, and information communication technology. Samaria opened her own advertisement company, as the first graduate of the center, and hired four colleagues from the center. This is an interview with Samaria and her instructor Hongkyu Choi, World Friends KOICA volunteer, about her story of going from a trainee to becoming the CEO.

Q_Tell us how you feel about becoming the heroin of the first graduation ceremony.

A_"I am proud of myself for being one of the first graduates of the center. I got to know about this center while working for a Korean construction company after I quit university. It was a chance for me, and I had high expectation of having Korean curricula, because Korea's industry of IT and manufacturing is so developed. I am happy to forge my dreams upon graduating from the center."

Q_What kind of curriculum does the center provide? Is it helpful?

A_"The IT department, which I studied in, teaches Photoshop and Illustrator, computer programming, and computer operation systems. The course runs for 10 months: we learn theories for the first six months, and continue with field practice for the remaining four months. I enjoyed the computer programming class. Now I use some of this knowledge for the operation of my company in areas such as computer processing and promotion."


02


03

Q_What was your motive to open an ad company? How do you manage your work?

A_"I established this ad company to make a work place for my colleagues and myself. In addition, I wanted to have my own business so I decided to join the 'advertisement' field, which I was interested in. Instructors from the Center helped me to proceed, and I hired four colleagues. I am in charge of communication with clients, and other employees take responsibility for material purchase and design."

Q_What does the SVTC mean to you?

A_"The biggest advantage of the SVTC is the free cost of education. It is a very great opportunity to have this quality of facility and education regardless of economic status in Uzbekistan, where a free education system does not exist. I would like to thank to Hongkyu Choi, who helped me take courses at the center."

Q_Tell us about your future plan.

A_"We import most of required materials, such as paper and illuminators, from China or Korea. All imported goods are calculated in US dollars, and it is a huge amount. That is why I want to establish a factory to manufacture various materials. I want to study that knowledge in Korea and establish a factory in Samarkand."

01 In front of the monument of the Samarkand Vocational Training Center.

02 The training class of Samaria and Hongkyu Choi volunteer.

03 President Mr. Ergashev handing over the Graduation Certificate at the first graduation ceremony.

"Wish them to be an icon of the time by building their own professionalism"

*World Friends KOICA Senior Volunteer, Hongkyu Choi

Q_How was your first impression of the Samarkand Vocational Training Center?

A_"I started on October 24th, 2016. I was motivated by the new facilities and equipment, and decided to teach the promising first-batch students not only technical knowledge but also humanistic education."

Q_How do you run your class?

A_"I have two classes with 30 IT major students each, and I give lecture four hours a day, four times a week. For those students who want to learn Korean, I give Korean class twice a week. I focus on teaching during the semester and develop curricula and teaching materials during vacation."

Q_I heard Samaria was one of the best graduates. How was she in school?

A_"I met Samaria in my first regular class. She had a strong motivation for study; and moreover, participated in an after school class. She took the lead for lecture preparation and other school activities; she was an earnest student."

Q_Do you have any message to the graduates, including Samaria?

A_"With their own professionalism, I hope that they can be an icon of the times, and leaders of history. I want them to lead the industrial development of Uzbekistan as IT professionals. Keep in mind that youth is the best capacity."

* **World Friends KOICA Senior Volunteer:** Overseas volunteers aged over 50 and under 62, with more than 10 years of working experience and professionalism

Written by Jiyoon Kim (KOICA intern reporter)
Photographed by KOICA Uzbekistan Office

Jieun Lim, a volunteer for Taekwondo in Cote d'Ivoire

"At first, I enjoyed helping others, but I found myself benefited"

Jieun Lim had worked as Taekwondo instructor in Chicago, Illinois, in the United States. The word 'Overseas Volunteering' on her bucket list led her to board an airplane heading to Senegal. She, who used to teach the national Taekwondo team of Senegal as a World Friends KOICA Volunteer seven years ago, is now in charge of instructor training at the Taekwondo Association in Cote d'Ivoire. Let us listen to her story of becoming a more mature Taekwondo player after two ventures of KOICA overseas volunteer experience.



Q_I heard you had served as Worlds Friend KOICA Volunteer in Senegal, before coming to Cote d'Ivoire. I think you might have been unfamiliar with the language and culture of Africa, so how did you adapt yourself when you first arrived in Senegal?

A_"At first, some players didn't come to a foreign coach whose French pronunciation was very strange. To get through this, I learned the Walorf language, which is the traditional language of Senegal. The players started to open their mind to me, since I said hello in their local language. I spoke French during class, but I communicated with students in Walorf to get closer to them."

Q_Most of trainees in the team are men. Did you have any difficulties as a female instructor?

A_"More than 95% of the population in Senegal are Muslim. Men are not allowed to touch the female body, so they needed a female instructor to correct female players. It is same in Cote d'Ivoire. But I have a 6th level black belt, so most participants from both countries showed their respect to me."

Q_I heard an article was introduced to the newspaper in Senegal about your instruction of Taekwondo in French.

A_"There were some old terms and erroneous information in the previous Taekwondo materials of Senegal. Local instructors were teaching Taekwondo based on orally transmitted information. So I saw the demand for new material. I added the meaning of Taekwondo and the names of each position. Also the local instructors and KOICA volunteers participated as model. I think there is still more to do, but I am proud of the process for preparation and production. In Cote d'Ivoire, I am working on writing exclusive materials for instructors."

Q_What was your motivation to apply for Cote d'Ivoire after Senegal?

A_"I learned patience, going through many accidents and experiences; and thankfully, I got to study Taekwondo much more deeply. I returned to the US after volunteering in Senegal, and I realized I had grown internally. I thought KOICA Overseas Volunteering would be the best opportunity for self-development. I applied once again to grow even more."

Q_How is the level of Taekwondo in Cote d'Ivoire?

A_"The level of sparring is quite high, so that they can win the gold medal in the Olympics or international competitions. However, for form and demonstration, they don't have a national team. In order to increase the level of overall Taekwondo standards in Cote d'Ivoire, I suggest working more on form and demonstration."

*** A member of national team, Cheick Sallah Cisse (23) won a gold medal from the Taekwondo 80kg class match for males in the Rio Olympics, 2016, for the first time for Cote d'Ivoire.**

Q_What is the reason for the demand for KOICA Taekwondo volunteers in Cote d'Ivoire?

A_"Since the first instructor introduced Taekwondo in Cote d'Ivoire, Youngtae Kim who returned to Korea in 1995, the level of Taekwondo in Cote d'Ivoire has remained in the 1990s. The local instructors could not learn the revised positions, and they stuck to the old positions. Therefore, KOICA volunteers, including me, are now delivering updated Taekwondo information to the local instructors."

Q_I heard of the 'uniform support project', what is this project about?

A_"Once I used to teach trainees while visiting Taekwondo gyms in town; I saw many of them wearing a uniform with Korean written on it. I asked them how they got the uniform, and they said they bought it at around 4,000 won from the second hand market. Some uniforms arrived Africa from clothes collecting bins in Korea. People can only afford the second hand market price. So I requested one of my college colleagues who is running a Taekwondo gym to collect some leftover or un-suited uniforms. Once the uniforms arrive in Cote d'Ivoire, I will make a plan to distribute them after a discussion with my colleague instructors."

Q_Now you have just about a year of your term, please tell us if you have any goals to achieve.

A_"I have two goals. One is to teach the 'right' instruction method to the local Taekwondo instructors. Usually the instructors have demonstrated themselves with their body, saying 'Do like this (follow me)' without any understanding about the position, I want to teach more effective teaching methods so that the trainees can further develop their skills.
The other is to form a demonstration team. The Cote d'Ivoire people have an excellent talent for jumping. So I want to design a nice demonstration team incorporating breaking as well as jumping skills."

Q_This is my last question. Tell us any of your impressions from your two experiences volunteering in Africa.

A_"At first, I enjoyed the opportunity to help others, but I found myself benefitted. I found myself growing into a mature Taekwondo person, facing problems and going through the process of resolution. I think this is the beauty and worth of volunteering."

A more detailed account about Jieun Lim, a volunteer for Taekwondo in Cote d'Ivoire can be found in 'KOICA Inside' from the September 2017 issue of the <KOICA Newsletter>.
http://webzine.koica.go.kr/201709/eng/content1.php?code=201709_020102





01 Officials from Taekwondo Association of Cote d'Ivoire and KOICA Volunteers.

02 Ms. Lim, Jieun Volunteer, correcting the position of young player.

03 Instruction Book of Taekwondo printed in Cote d'Ivoire.

Written by Cheolmin Ha (KOICA Intern Reporter)
Photographed by KOICA Cote d'Ivoire Office

Finding a dream in Taekwondo

The power of Taekwondo that we did not realize!

Since 1990, KOICA started to dispatch Taekwondo volunteers abroad. Till July 2017, around 500 (including international cooperation personnel) volunteers have worked over 40 countries. However, still many people pose a question on this: 'How could Taekwondo be a help to people in developing countries?' Here we have some answers for that question, from those who have experienced Taekwondo.



"I will try my best to cultivate world Taekwondo champions"

Ouattara Ibrahima (54, Cote d'Ivoire)



I started to learn Taekwondo to make myself more confident. I used to play soccer before Taekwondo, but I always had some fear like "what if I make mistakes". My brother recommended me Taekwondo. It helped me to train myself a lot. Also, I had asthma, but now I am healthy. Since I chose to become the sparring player, I felt more achievement in every match.

Since then, I continued Taekwondo, and now I am in charge of the education-training department of the Taekwondo Association. My goal is to make the people of Cote d'Ivoire get more interested in Taekwondo. I will bring up Taekwondo champions from Cote d'Ivoire* by introducing more people to learn from KOICA volunteers. It is an immense fortune to meet KOICA, since KOICA has supported me a lot for this.

*** In Cote d'Ivoire, the population of Taekwondo students has constantly increased since Instructor Youngtae Kim first introduced Taekwondo in the late 1960s. Taekwondo has become very popular, so that you can easily find a Taekwondo gym in Abidjan, the economic capital of Cote d'Ivoire. They are acknowledged as a prospective country for Taekwondo with steady entry to the World Taekwondo Championship or Olympics. Especially, right after Cheick Sallah Cisse won the first gold medal for the country in the Taekwondo 80kg class match for males, in the Rio Olympics, 2016, Taekwondo has become the most favorite sport of Cote d'Ivoire.**

A more detailed account about people finding a dream in Taekwondo can be found in 'KOICA Inside' from the September 2017 issue of the <KOICA Newsletter>.
http://webzine.koica.go.kr/201709/eng/content1.php?code=201709_020103

"I dream of Olympics and the world championship"

Kone Namogo Hamed (24, Cote d'Ivoire)



I got to know about Taekwondo for the first time in my life through KOICA. I felt myself changing and growing while learning Taekwondo. Before I learned Taekwondo, I used to be somewhat aggressive. However, I learned how to restraint myself and behave when meeting other people. From Taekwondo class, I got used to observing order so I corrected my body position and became more confident. I dream of the Olympics. I want to feel the excitement and happiness again like when I participated in the 2013 World Taekwondo Championship. I could not win any award that time but if I have one more chance to enter international competition, I want to win a medal.

"Taekwondo is my everything, it has made me as of now"

Nisha Rawal (22, Nepal)



My father recommended that I learn Taekwondo among many other sport classes at school. He might have thought I could earn a variety of experiences from entering Taekwondo competitions. This is how Taekwondo has made me as of now. No one recognized me before I showed up to a Taekwondo match. However, since I entered the Olympics through Taekwondo, everyone knows me. It is the biggest achievement to win an Olympic medal for Taekwondo players. Even though it was not an Olympic match, still, I think it is the biggest luck of my life to feel this great achievement by winning a medal from an international competition. I will continue participating in various Taekwondo matches, including the Olympics.

*** Nisha Rawal won the gold medal from 2014 Everest International Open Taekwondo Championship, and continued participating in different international competitions, such as the 2014 Incheon Asian game, 2015 Gwangju Universiade, 2016 Rio Olympics, and 2017 Muju World Taekwondo Championship.**

"I want to become a Taekwondo instructor after I win a gold medal"

Lew Narhuk (19, Laos)



I first learned from afterschool classes by a KOICA volunteer. I had two reasons for starting Taekwondo: one was for my health, and the other was that sparring seemed very interesting. I learned courage and patience from Taekwondo, and I can protect myself now. Moreover, I learned courtesy and confidence. Also, it was great to build friendship with Koreans. I won a bronze medal three times from the National Student Sport Competition of Laos; still I want to work harder. I want to become a Taekwondo instructor after I win a gold medal.



Taekwondo bringing hope to the people of developing countries

The spiritual base of Taekwondo is peace and fairness. In Taekwondo, it emphasizes defense over attack, as well as courtesy and respect. Also my mind control practice during training helps me make correct judgment and cultivate confidence, so it leads to spiritual maturity and to becoming strong against the strong and becoming generous to the weak. This Taekwondo spirit helped the people of developing countries run towards their dream, by training themselves both physically and spiritually, enjoying their life. A Novel Economics Prize winner with his research on poverty, an Indian economist Mr. Amartya Sen, said "Development as Freedom". He said poverty is not just a situation of lacking physical resources, but it is a situation where a person cannot pursue what he or she wants to do. In this sense, KOICA will continue with Taekwondo education to support the people of developing countries in their capacity building and achieving their dream.

Written by Hyojin Kang (KOICA Intern Reporter)
Photographed by KOICA Cote d'Ivoire · Nepal · Laos Office

KOICA
KOREA INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AGENCY
2017.AUTUMN



Project for the Irrigation System and Rural Development in Chilborazo, Ecuador

Planting the seed of hope in Earth's closest place to space

Being a high-altitude region located in the Andes Mountains, the highest place on Earth, Chimborazo Province in Ecuador has a chronic water shortage. As climate change is raging on, annual precipitation is trending downward, making life more challenging for indigenous farmers. KOICA has rolled up its sleeves to help this water-stressed region. By building an irrigation system that utilizes glacier water and carrying out capacity building programs for local farmers, KOICA is giving people in Chimborazo hope and a future.

The closest place to space on Earth, Chimborazo

150km southwest of the capital city of Quito, a magnificent mountain as tall as 6,268m stands in the middle of Andes Mountains. People say it is Mount Everest that is tallest in the world. However, if we take into account the fact that Earth is oval-shaped, Mount Chimborazo would be the highest in the world. The peak of this mountain is probably the closest place to space that is on Earth. Andean people regard this mountain as a sacred place that has been bestowed by their god. In this holy ground, the KOICA is now implementing the second phase Project for the Las Abras Irrigation System and Rural Development in Chilborazo.

Climate change and water shortages

In Chimborazo Province, it feels as though the sky is within your reach. However, it is the region that has been afflicted by chronic water shortages. Climate change, which is bringing down yearly precipitation, is making the problem even worse. It is now the most severely water stressed province in Ecuador. Since the economy is dependent on agriculture, water shortages are taking a heavy toll on people's living standards. The provincial government has set addressing the chronic water shortage as a priority issue to reduce poverty among the poor. The problem is especially dire for indigenous people in Chimborazo who make up 38% of the total population in the province mainly working in the agricultural sector.

Watering the dried highland

In 2012, KOICA implemented the first phase of the Project for the Las Abras Irrigation System and Rural Development in Chilborazo and built the irrigation system stretching as far as 21.3km to improve the living standards of people living in infertile highland. This project mainly aimed to utilize the glacier water that comes from Chimborazo Mountain in agriculture efficiently. This was the largest irrigation project in Ecuador.
Mariano Curicama, the governor of Chimborazo Province, once said that he hopes this project will open new waterway and a new future so that farmers can increase their income and children can be better educated. The Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) launched projects to build 63 branches from the main irrigation system built by KOICA. The result of KOICA's project still





01
Chimborazo peak.

02
The irrigation system established by KOICA.

03
Angel Romero (left) and local people who participated in the interview in Josefina.

plays a central role in supplying water to places across Ecuador. KOICA's effort to contribute to agriculture in Chimborazo by establishing irrigation systems is still underway. In 2016, KOICA launched the second phase project to build 21.4km of irrigation canals and a reservoir to benefit people living in San Pablo, Josefina and Llio, mainly inhabited by indigenous people.

Water management and agricultural skills training to ensure sustainability

In collaboration with Seoul National University and Dongbu Engineering, KOICA constructed an agriculture skills training center to help people in Chimborazo Province develop necessary capacity to stand on their own two feet. KOICA organized invitational training programs to bring in public officials and village leaders from Ecuador to Korea for capacity development. They visited Seoul National University Institutes of Green Bio Science and Technology to learn about up-to-date agricultural and livestock technologies as well as water management systems. While visiting the Korea Rural Community Corporation (KRC), they could get a glimpse at Korea's best practices in raising high value agricultural products. Dolores Paca, who participated in the capacity development program held in May 2017 as a representative of San Pablo, said he was very impressed by advanced agriculture in Korea and hoped he could spread knowledge he learned during his visit to bring about positive changes in the future.

"KOICA gave us water and a future"

KOICA's visit to local towns are heartily welcomed. People usually bring out bread and drinks to express their gratitude to KOICA for its work in the area. In an interview with KOICA, Angel Romero from Josefina said, "KOICA gave us water and a future and I want to thank you for coming so far away from home to help us. I pray for the Korean people." Through the second phase project, it is hopeful that KOICA can once again quench the thirst of people in Chimborazo Province.

Written and photographed by Taekyu Lee (Young Professional, KOICA Ecuador Office)

Project for Human Resource Development for Science and Technology in the Dominican Republic

All-out effort to make an Einstein in the Caribbean



01

Located on the Caribbean Sea, the Dominican Republic is famous for its natural beauty. The country is well known to tourists, so the service industry takes up to 54 percent of the national GDP while the manufacturing and agriculture and livestock industry reaches only 22 and 10 percent, respectively. KOICA is taking actions to strengthen the vulnerable industrial structures and sustain the economic development of the Dominican Republic.

KOICA, working on the Project for Human Resource Development for Science and Technology in the Dominican Republic by 2018

"During the fourth industrial revolution era, the marriage of the university and enterprise is influencing human development." Youngseok Ji, the Chairman of Asian University Presidents' Forum, said at the Ulsan forum. Academia and industry cooperation is reappraised upon the fast shifting fourth industrial revolution era. These days, not only the Asian University Presidents' Forum but plenty of conferences and forums on the academia-industry cooperation paradigm are being held throughout the world. One of the main responsibilities of the university is to conduct new research projects for creating future values, even more so than producing the human resources required by industries.

Unlike the general Korean culture of entering and graduating from the university, in the Dominican Republic only a few students complete study at a university. There are several reasons for this, but one of the biggest challenges of universities in the Dominican Republic is that the research development of the university and private industries are divided rather than in a complementary relationship. In the Dominican Republic, the contribution to the industrial development of the university is very low due to the lack of academic-industrial cooperation R&D systems. During the 1970s and 1980s, academic-industrial cooperation was weak in Korea as well. Since the establishment of the Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology (KAIST) in 1971, the institute played a significant role in building the academic-industrial cooperation R&D system of Korea.

Currently KOICA is implementing the 'Project for Human Resource Development for Science and Technology in the Dominican Republic (2015-2018/$US 400 million)' in cooperation with KAIST and the government of the Dominican Republic. This project aims to establish academic-industrial cooperation R&D systems in the Dominican Republic and to contribute to strengthening national competitiveness.


02

01 Workshop on the Academic-Industrial Cooperation Program of KOICA and the Dominican Republic in Barcelo Hotel, Santo Domingo, on April 20th (Thursday) 2017.

02 Professor Wonjun Kim from KAIST and other experts.

Application of successful academic-industrial cooperation R&D programs in Korea

KOICA held a workshop to introduce the Academic-Industrial cooperation programs and project details in Barcelo Hotel, Santo Domingo, on April 20th (Thursday), 2017. Around 150 guests from the academic, research, and industrial sectors in the Dominican Republic participated in the workshop and showed a high interest for the development of science and technology.

The minister of the Ministry of Higher Education, Science, and Technology, Mr. German said, "We expect KOICA to play a significant role for developing the human resources for Science and Technology, and I promise to provide all supports required." Country Director Youngsun Jeong continued with emphasizing the importance of academic-industrial cooperation for science and technology development, requesting full support.

KAIST introduced the following: ▲ The academic-industrial cooperation R&D program ▲ Key points for successful academic-industrial cooperation R&D ▲ KAIST Scholarship and project program details. In addition, KAIST introduced successful examples on the academic-industrial cooperation of Korea and discussed how to apply the experience of Korea to the Dominican situation through a fact-finding survey on the academic-industrial cooperation and panel discussion.

Training Invitation to Korea, our Scholars visit the Dominican Republic

KOICA supports academic-industrial cooperation R&D as well as invitation training, the KAIST scholarship program, and the mid-long term advisory program. Invitation training is planned for three times, and the first session was completed in December 2016. The high-level officers from Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Technology of the Dominican Republic visited Korea and participated in various courses on the Korean development model and the academic-industrial cooperation experience. The second training session will be held in October 2017.

For the mid- to long-term advisory program, Professor Kim, Wonjun of KAIST Technology Management College, visited the Dominican Republic with other sectoral experts and provided consulting advice in April, 2017, and their second visit is planned for this coming August. The experts group provided technical advice to the government officials of the Dominican Republic about the academic-industrial cooperation models of Korea and other developed countries. They are continuing discussion on how to apply other experiences to the Dominican Republic's situation. In addition, both advisory groups and government officials are working together to develop a survey structure on how to solve the human resource supply imbalance of the science and engineering sectors.

The government of the Dominican Republic is promoting the establishment of the mid-term strategy and investment of budget for human resource development specialized in science and technology by strengthening engineering education. It is expected that the activation of academic-industrial cooperation in the Dominican Republic and the continuation of human resource development along with the efforts of the Dominican government. This project will become an economic development model for Central and South America.

Written and photographed by Nayoung Lee (Young Professional, KOICA Dominican Republic Office)

Project for Establishment of Pak-Korea Technical Textile Center in the National Textile University

KOICA laid the foundation for renewed growth of the textile industry in Pakistan

Industries in Pakistan remain largely in their infancy. With its huge production capacity, which made Pakistan one of the top four textile producing countries, textile had once been a cash cow industry that fuelled the growth of the country. That heyday is now long gone and textile's growth has stalled. To help Pakistan regain its reputation as the center of textile industry, KOICA is now implementing the Project for Establishment of Pak-Korea Technical Textile Center in the National Textile University of Faisalabad.



01



02


03

Textile is an indispensable industry in Pakistan, accounting for 57% of total export and 9% of gross domestic product (GDP). The Indus River that provides rich and fertile land for cotton production made the country one of the top four in the world. The industry is directly hiring about 2.5 million workers. Indirectly, however, it provides around 10 million jobs. Textile contribution to the economy of Pakistan is thus unfathomable.
However, the textile industry in Pakistan is facing enormous challenges. The shortage of electricity, threats from terrorist groups, political instability and rising competition from China, India and Bangladesh are ushering in an era of stagnation for Pakistan's textile industry. Moreover, Pakistan is having a hard time adapting to new global trends in a clothing industry that increasingly puts a premium on high value-added products.

India's recent establishment of eight industrial textile centers highlights the importance of industrial textiles

Industrial or technical textile refers to a textile product manufactured for non-aesthetic purposes, where function is the primary consideration. Technical textiles are used in many items common in our daily lives. From carpets and seat belts for vehicles to artificial limbs and medical pads, its application is wide and broad.
With technological advancements making them lighter and more robust, technical textiles are being utilized in technology-intensive sectors, such as bioengineering and aerospace. As a result, market watchers project that the industry will grow to be a 118 billion USD market by 2020.
The United States, European countries and Japan are already making huge investments in the growing industry, and some have already generated technological breakthroughs that could substantially enhance the functions of industrial textile as an alternative to metals or plastics. Even India, which many Pakistanis believe to be an economic and political competitor, has established eight industrial textile centers to lay the foundation for world-class technology development.
Pakistan, however, does not have a basic research center to constitute the backbone of industry. In order for Pakistan to regain its reputation as the hub of textiles and generate economic values, it is urgently required to create an environment conducive to research and development.

01 Officials from Korea and Pakistan who participated in the completion ceremony for Establishment of Pak-Korea Technical Textile Center in the National Textile University.

02 Charge d'affaires Jinwook Kim (right) delivers an appreciation plaque to Dr. Tanveer Hussain, Rector of the National Textile University.

03 Textile products produced by the National Textile University.

04 Dr. Tanveer Hussain explains how textile equipment works to Charge d'affaires Jinwook Kim.


04

Faisalabad dubbed Manchester in Pakistan as becoming the center of research for technical textiles

To help Pakistan cope with challenges, KOICA launched the Establishment of Pak-Korea Technical Textile Center in the National Textile University of Faisalabad in 2013.
Established in 1959, the National Textile University is the only training institute dedicated to developing functional workers for the textile industry in Pakistan. As a transportation hub of Pakistan, Faisalabad in Punjab State is the third most populous city. Natural endowments given by the Chenab River made the city a highly attractive place to do manufacturing business. Many factories that make light clothes, industrial chemicals and pulp are densely located in the city thanks to cotton, sorghum and wheat produced in rich soils around the Chenab River.
As part of the project, KOICA established the Technical Textile Center and provided equipment for research and development within the National Textile University. The center opened on June 8th of this year. In 2016, KOICA provided education and training to workers responsible for operating the center by inviting them to Korea.
In the long run, the project will lay the foundation for the collaboration among industry, academia and research institutes, which will ultimately facilitate the development of skilled workers as well as Pakistan's textile industry. By supporting the development of prototypes and new textile products, KOICA hopes that the textile industry can become the growth engine of Pakistan's economy once again.

Written and photographed by Mingyun Bong (Young Professional, KOICA Pakistan Office)

Timor-Leste Ainaro Municipality Maternal and Child Health Promotion Program

Discovering the future of East Timor, in the healthy smiles of a mother and her child


01



02


03

Due to the long war, East Timor has a high mortality of newborns, child under five years old and their mother. Their death rate is higher than other East Asian countries owing to its shortages of basic social infrastructure as well as healthcare labor, infrastructure and system. In particular, the situation in Ainaro Municipality is more severe because of the rugged terrain and poor road conditions. Therefore, KOICA has been making various efforts to improve the maternal health of the Timorese.

Independence from Indonesia in 2002: a poor basic infrastructure

East Timor is newly independent nation since its break from Indonesia in 2002, whose long struggle since the Indonesian occupation of 1975 culminated in its independence.

Ainaro municipality is located in the southeast of East Timor, 110 kilometers away from Dili, and is inhabited by 66,397 people. It is near Mount Ramelau (2,960 meters) and mostly consists of mountainous areas so that in the past, it was also a stronghold of guerrilla activity in the Indonesian occupation period. However, due to the rough terrain and poor road conditions, it takes about five to six hours from the capital of Dili, which is still difficult to move.

In Ainaro, it is easy to see the warm smile of the innocent people, but the maternal health level is not as bright as the smiles of the villagers. Ainaro municipality is one of the poorest areas of maternal heath as the local birthrate is 39.2 percent that is a little more than half of the nation's 61.8 percent. This stems from a variety of dangers, such as the rough geographical feature and a lack of mobility before giving birth as well as a lack of awareness on the part of delivery facilities.

In September 2013, the government requested a project to improve accessibility to child medical services and to nurture skilled labor. Therefore, KOICA signed a consultation session in 2015 after conducting business feasibility surveys and conducting business formation surveys. Inje University, who is a project conductor, operated two Korean invitation-training courses, dividing officers in the Ministry of Health at the decision-making and technical level. Let's look at the details of project in depth through the education for strengthening local healthcare labor capability, community partnership program and establishment of the maternal health center.

① Training for strengthening the competence of the medical workforce in the local healthcare workforce

A total of 113 doctors, nurses, and midwife health care workers in the state are key members of the business. Together with the national training institute under the Ministry of Health in East Timor, KOICA is conducting training to strengthen their capabilities. Currently, four education courses (mandatory infant care, safe and hygienic delivery, infantilism total care, emergency maternity care) are planned to be implemented in order to strengthen the safety of nursing and delivery.

Professor Perpetua Anton Estera Estera, who is attending the compulsory infant care course, said, "We appreciate that KOICA supports health care workers in Ainaro municipality to be able to grow up as professional workers who are responsible for maternal health, and hope that the curriculum will be run more often since there are still many health workers who have not yet heard of this process."

"I'm satisfied with the lesson because I could practice the knowledge and techniques that I learned, but I hope that the course period will be longer, and I want to enroll in other courses too", said Marcos Paulos, who is a regular doctor and a trainee.

01 PR calendar posters of the KOICA maternal health project.

02 Practical demonstration of the compulsory infant care courses.

03 The road between Dili and Ainaro. During the rainy season, the road turns into a muddy road, making it harder for cars to move.

04 combined starting ceremony of SISCA & BPP.



04

② Community Partnership Program

East Timor is operating a health clinic and health care center in each province to conduct basic medical care, prevention and health education for local residents. But small administrative districts are still inferior in regards to health accessibility. Thus, from 2010, the government launched the 'Regional Health Care Service Operation and Family Health Service' in 13 municipalities. However, due to the lack of government budget, the project was suspended last year. Fortunately, thanks to the help of KOICA in the first half of this year, the project has revived. KOICA holds a family health staff and supports training for their education.

"I participated in the education in 2013 for the first time, but soon after it was discontinued. I thank KOICA for supporting our education once again. When the villagers asked for a diagnosis of symptoms, I often answered them late, after confirming with a local health worker due to my lack of basic knowledge and the proper answers. However, I learned the necessary theoretical knowledge through this course", said Ana Emelita de Aruio, a family health staff member participating in education training.

Also, KOICA conducts a school health care program for 29 middle and high schools in the Ainaro municipality. It is a project to select health care personnel and student health care personnel for each school, to educate students about proper gender awareness, healthy contraception, the risk of venereal disease, and health control. As part of that, KOICA held workshops for principals, teachers and the student health staff between last June and July (June 28th to the 29th, July 11th to the 12th).

③ The establishment of the Hautio maternal health care center

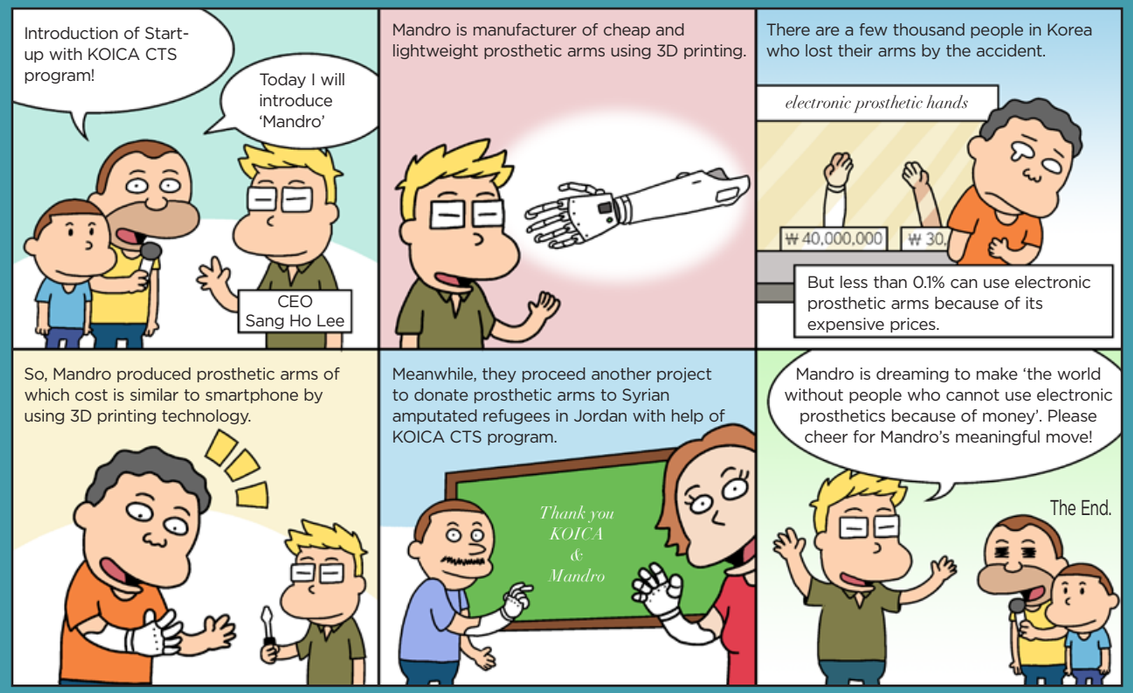
KOICA is currently constructing a two-storied maternal health center with the size of 300m² (150m² × 2m²) near the pre-existing Hautio health center two- storied. The center, which aims to be completed in November, will house modern medical facilities such as maternity waiting rooms, maternity rooms, recovery rooms, maternity waiting rooms, family waiting rooms and pharmacies. It plans to offer various medical services, including medical equipment, medical checkup, family planning counseling, education (including family) and single mothers counseling.

Through this project, it is expected that birth rates by skilled workforce and facilities are improved and that the level of maternal health of local residents is also significantly improved. Let's hope that, in the Ainaro municipality, mothers and their babies can dream of having a bright future without worrying about disease.

Written and photographed by Hyungmin Choi (Young Professional, KOICA Timor Leste Office)

A more detailed account about maternal and child health promotion program in Ainaro municipality can be found in 'Overseas KOICA' from the September 2017 issue of the <KOICA Newsletter>.
http://webzine.koica.go.kr/201709/eng/content2.php?code=201709_020206

KOICA'S CREATIVE TECHNOLOGY SOLUTION(CTS) PROGRAM, DEVELOPED A CHEAP AND EFFICIENT ELECTRONIC PROSTHETIC ARMS.



Mandro: manufacturer of cheap and lightweight prosthetic arms using 3D printing

For refugees who lost their limbs in the misery of warfare, prosthetic arms are an unexpected form of medical welfare. However, Mandro gives them hope that they can live happily without hands by producing electronic prosthetic hands with 3D printing technology. Mandro's electronic prosthetic arms project, which was proceeded by KOICA's CTS program, has been effective at helpng disabled people function despite their loss.

Started for one person

'Manufacturing a low-cost prosthetic arm' project was inspired by one person's story. On January 8, 2015, I read on the Internet about a man seeking a prosthetic hand. In trying to help him, I learned that there were many people around the world who needed prosthetics. A staff member on the bulletin of "Korea Amputated Disabled Association" responded to the Internet posting that, "there are a few thousand people in Korea, and 0.1% of them can use electronic prosthetic arm because of expensive prices and relatively weak government support." Since then, I have steadily developed 3D with the vision of 'manufacturing electronic prosthetics that everyone can purchase and use'.

During the development process, I tried three or four design changes a day, I estimated that we had more than 1,000 trials over a year and a half. Finally, on July 1 2016, I released the world's first product of 3D printed electronics, at a cost similar to a smartphone. Just at that time, I came across the second KOICA CTS recruiting notice, and applied.

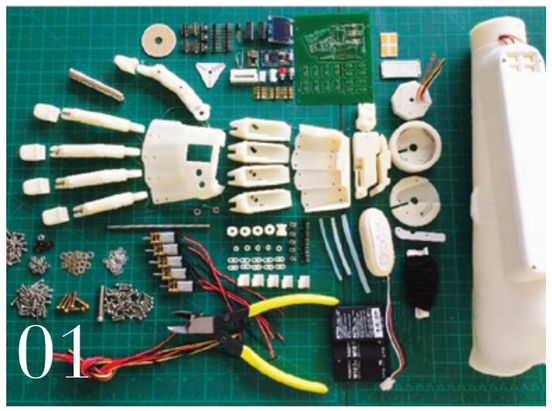


Participating in KOICA CTS program: Project to help Syrian refugees

"Where should I go first if we enter the overseas market?" There was one definite thought about the question. If I want to make "money", I should first go to the North American or European markets, but if I think about sustainable 'value', I should think of the places that need practical help. I have several Jordanian acquaintances and I heard about a few hundred thousand refugees who live in Jordan due to Syria's civil war. I decided to go to Jordan to help Syrian refugees. My goal was to distribute 500 units of electronic prosthetics in Jordan, through direct and indirect donations. I included such plans in the KOICA's 2nd CTS program and fortunately I was selected as one of the winning firms.

Currently, I travel to Jordan every month and distribute donation of electronic prosthetics for Syrian refugees living in refugee camps, near the Syrian border, and the capital of Jordan. I am cooperating with several agencies such as Doctors without Borders, AMR, Jordan University and the Royal Military Prosthetics Center. My goal is to make it sustainable through donation to a maximum of 100 direct beneficiaries until the April 2018.

01, 02
Mandro's electronic prosthetic arms



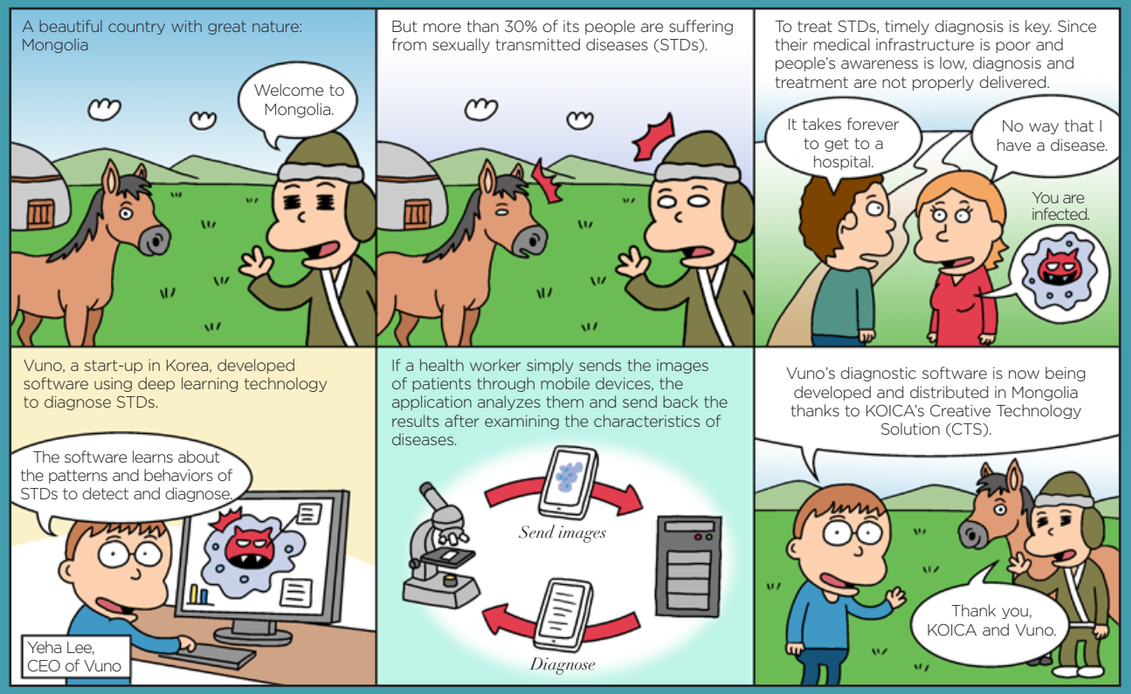
No one should be unable to use an electronic prosthetics because they lack money

Since January 2015, it has been two and a half years since the project began. At that time, I thought I could make 'a world with everyone having access to electronic prosthetics, regardless of income.' I thought it could be a short-term project. However, it needs much more effort. Throughout our lifetime, I must achieve this goal and continue to work steadily until the day that I can help everyone who suffers from excised lesion.

Written by Sangho Lee(CEO of Mandro)
Cartoon by Sehoon Hong

A more detailed account about Vuno's A.I diagnostic software can be found in 'What's ODA' from the August 2017 issue of the <KOICA Newsletter>.
http://webzine.koica.go.kr/201708/eng/content3.php?code=201708_020305

| | | KOICA'S CREATIVE TECHNOLOGY SOLUTION(CTS) PROGRAM, ENABLES EARLY DIAGNOSIS AND TREATMENT OF SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED DISEASE.



Vuno's diagnostic software offers a silver lining

Capitalizing on artificial intelligence to treat people suffering from sexually transmitted diseases in Mongolia

Despite high incidences of sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) in Mongolia, many people lead their lives without knowing they have diseases to treat. Often, this results in medical problems such as premature labor and low birth weight. Vuno realized that the problem lies in the poor medical infrastructure and shortage of skilled health workers. It developed software that might offer a solution. Thanks to this diagnostic application, which uses artificial intelligence to analyze images sent from microscopes, people in Mongolia will be able to get professional medical service.



More than 30% of the population has an STD

In Mongolia, people have their first sexual experience at a young age, partly because of their nomadic culture. However, the sexual encounter mostly takes place in an unclean environment and is unprotected because young people lack knowledge about safe sex. This makes them vulnerable to STDs.

What makes the situation worse in Mongolia is that people do not know they have diseases. Even if they know it, they tend to hide it. Statistics in Mongolia tells the number of people with STDs is 13,427. Taking into account the social atmosphere of the country, the actual number may be two to three times higher than the official data. People's access to the medical system is also very low as people are scattered around the huge landmass of the country.

According to the World Health Organization (WHO), trichomoniasis is the most common STD that accounts for up to 30% of the total STD cases around the globe. It is known as the main culprit of premature labor and low birth weight. However, it is easily curable, with today's advanced medical technology. With just two grams of medication, it can be killed before it affects the health of mothers and children. People in Mongolia, however, do not know whether they have trichomoniasis or not, nor do they seek treatment. This is why Vuno decided to focus on this particular disease.

Vuno's deep learning technology enables early diagnosis and treatment

In order to treat trichomoniasis effectively, timely diagnosis and proper treatment are important. In Mongolia, such necessities are not delivered to people in a timely manner. Recognizing the issue, Vuno developed software using deep learning technology. It learns about the patterns and behaviors of diseases by absorbing a gargantuan amount of data to detect and diagnose trichomoniasis. Through this application, diseases that people may have missed or failed to detect can be diagnosed. If properly used in the medical settings of Mongolia, its potential impact will be great. People with STDs can be diagnosed at an early stage and receive timely treatment.

01
A physician in Mongolia examines vaginal fluid by placing cells on a slide and having a closer look through a microscope to diagnose the STDs.
02
Vuno visits KOICA Mongolia Office located in Ulaanbaatar. (From left to right) Yeha Lee (Chief Executive Officer), Hyunjun Kim (Chief Strategy Officer) Jae-eun Lee (Project Manager) and interpreter.



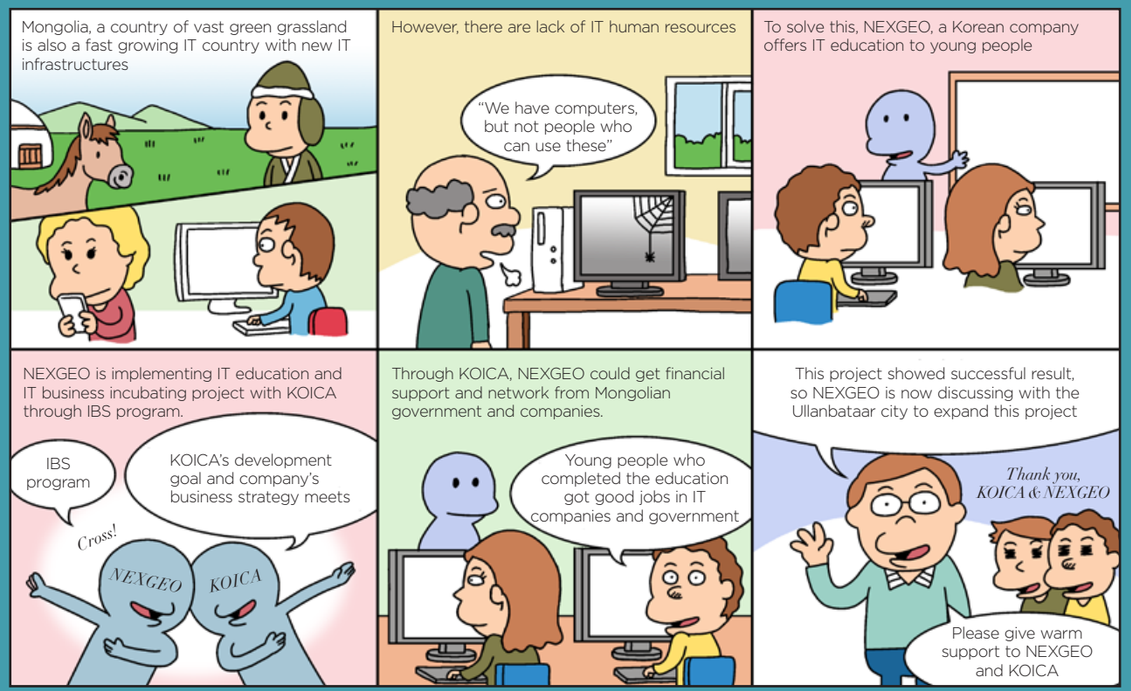


KOICA CTS program contributes to maternal health in Mongolia

Vuno participated in KOICA's 2nd CTS program and was selected as one of the winning firms. Since February 2017, Vuno has undertaken the project to develop and distribute diagnostic software using deep learning technology. Currently, Vuno's work is centered around ensuring the clinical effectiveness of the application. At the same time, it is searching for other opportunities to intervene and initiate new projects that will have a greater impact on Mongolia. By benefitting medical workers as well as people with STDs through its technology, Vuno expects that its application will make substantial and positive changes in Mongolia.

Written by Jae-eun Lee (Project Manager, Vuno)
Cartoon by Sehoon Hong

| | | INCLUSIVE BUSINESS SOLUTION(IBS) PROGRAM, NURTURES YOUNG IT TALENT IN MONGOLIA



*Inclusive Business Solutions(IBS): KOICA's partnership with Korean private companies in developing countries. KOICA collaborates its development project with companies' CSR(Corporate Social Responsibility) and CSV(Creating Shared Value) to raise the income of residents and ultimately develop the industry of the country.

'IT education opportunities for young people in Mongolian' Inkyu Hwang, Director of NEXGEO Mongol

"Collaborating with KOICA increased our credibility greatly, which helped this project become successful"

Mongolia, which is the 10th natural resource rich country, is developing fast these days. From 2011 to 2013, it has shown a 13.8% growth rate annually. However besides natural resources, it lacks growth engines in other industries. Especially the IT industry lacks people with basic IT knowledge and expertise, which led to a lack of private sector players. Due to this lack of IT people, the IT industry is not following the fast growing IT industry trends around the world. To solve this, Korean IT companies entered into the Mongolian IT market. NEXGEO, a Korean small and medium-sized company is giving an IT education opportunity to young people in Mongolian. Inkyu Hwang, a Director of the NEXGEO Mongolian office, shared his experience in an interview with KOICA.

Written by Myoungji Lee (KOICA Intern Reporter)
Cartoon by Sehoon Hong

A more detailed account about NEXGEO's IT education project in Mongolia can be found in 'What's ODA' from the September 2017 issue of the <KOICA Newsletter>.
http://webzine.koica.go.kr/201709/eng/content3.php?code=201709_020307





01
Inkyu Hwang is explaining the Mongolian IT project.

02
Students participating in IT lectures for basic IT knowledge.

Q_Why is NEXGEO implementing the IT project in Mongolia? NEXGEO is a natural resource development company.
"NEXGEO entered into the Mongolian market in 2009. NEXGEO is mainly focusing on natural resource development, but natural resource-related IT projects have been developed by NEXGEO as well. NEXGEO has worked with the Mongolian government for several projects, such as 'Geometrics Information System' for natural resource development. While implementing those IT projects for the Mongolian government, NEXGEO discovered that they are lacking IT experts and staff members. That is why NEXGEO has realized the importance of IT human resources in Mongolia and started investing in IT education. After the proper education is provided, Mongolian IT projects related to natural resources and other industries can be properly implemented."

Q_In this project, what is the role of KOICA and NEXGEO?
"Financially, KOICA takes 70% of the investment and NEXGEO takes 30% of the whole investment. KOICA supports planning from the development approach and suggests other factors in the project, such as business incubating. In this project, the KOICA staff suggests business-incubating factors in the projects for job creation and business opportunity creation for local young people. KOICA's goal is to increase the income level of local people. NEXGEO cooperates with KOICA in project planning and in implementing the project in the field. We develop IT education content and programs, and manage IT education and incubating centers. The KOICA Mongolia office monitors and supports the project. "

Q_What is the benefit of working with KOICA?
"There is a huge benefit from working with KOICA. If a private company plans and implements the project alone, it cannot draw attention and support from recipient country's government and local community. Cooperation with KOICA has led this project's management to be much easier and smoother. This cultivates credibility as well, so NEXGEO can get many networking opportunities with the Mongolian government, private companies and communities. As a private company, NEXGEO received a number of business opportunities, which has led to new contracts."

Q_It must have been challenging to manage the project. Despite of those difficulties, what is the notable achievement of the project?
"In 2015, we focused on IT capacity building for local people. Through this education, 23 young people who completed education program got jobs from Korean IT companies, Mongolian companies and governmental organizations. In the second phase of the project, which started this year, five young people received education from the expert program. They are now participating in IT projects with Korea and Mongolia."

Q_What is the following project for the future?
"This project ends in 2019. NEXGEO, with Ulaanbaatar city, plans to develop a long-term plan. We plan to form a long-term council for the project. If possible, we plan to participate in the foundation of the first city university of Ulaanbaatar. We are now discussing building a specialized school of language and IT with the city."

SDGs 16

Promote peaceful, just and inclusive societies for sustainable development

Provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels

Now, it is time to take a look at the 16th goal of the Sustainable Development Goals(SDGs). Let's learn about the background and each target of SDG 16. The goal focuses on building a peaceful, just and inclusive society for sustainable development, ensuring access to justice, and building an inclusive system that is effective and reliable at all levels.



Background and necessity of SDG 16

The international community has pointed out violence, conflicts, low level of rule of law, and fragile institutions as some of the major obstacles to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). Not only are sustainable development, peace, rule of law and democratic governance connected conceptually, but they also have an influence on each other and are influenced in the domestic and international stage as strengthening the accessibility of the economic and financial systems, as well as the development of transportation and communication. For example, various issues such as migration, humanitarian crisis, environmental pollution, infectious disease, armed conflict, terrorism, human trafficking, and arms trade in one country now have serious effects on other countries, which is a big threat to the whole world. Despite the importance of peace building, rule of law, and good governance, the MDGs, unfortunately, failed to capture the interdependence of these subdivisions. Based on the feedback, Rio+20 confirmed the importance of entire efforts for "freedom, peace and security, human rights for all, rule of law, and democratic society." The international society also has concluded that institutions should be operated in an effective, transparent, responsible and democratic way at all levels to achieve the SDGs.

The importance of institutionalization and inclusive approach for "peaceful society", "rule of law" and "governance" were set as an important development agenda in SDGs. In this sense, the 16th goal of the SDGs is to help each factor perform together interdependently and make a synergy effect. Overall, SDG 16 acts as a key element as well as a driving force to achieve the SDGs.

SDG 16 consists of 12 targets and 23 indicators. Between 2017 and 2018, the SDGs are scheduled to be reviewed, revised as well as reclassified based on the current Tier system in order to finalize their indicators. In particular, three different levels of tiers should be closely reviewed and revised with priority given to the Tier III which means lack of data availability.



SDG 16 targets and indicators

SDG16 aims to reduce violence, enhance security, expand public participation, strengthen government accountability, provide fair social services, and improve public access to justice by building a peaceful society, rule of law, and inclusive approach to governance.

SDG 16 related projects and activities of KOICA

KOICA is currently implementing a variety of activities focused on the five core areas (Education, Health, Public Administration, Rural development, Technology/Environment/Energy) and three cross-cutting issues (Gender Equality, Response to Climate Change, Science and Technology Innovation). By establishing a mid-term strategy (2016-2020) for each sector, KOICA is striving to contribute to the achievement of SDGs and to establish a performance evaluation system focusing on the Post-2015 development. Each strategy was established based on the vision and mission of SDGs. In this sense, SDG 16 mainly can be found in the 'Public Administration' sector which aims to build effective and inclusive governance. Rather than that, sectors of 'Health' or 'Gender Equality' also deal with the issues regarding SDG 16.

Written by Sujin Kim (Research Associate, KOICA Academy ODA Research Center)

SDGs 17

Global partnership for sustainable development

Supporting the implementation of the rest of goals to leave no one behind

The last goal of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) proposes global partnership as the means of implementation in meeting all of the 16 goals that come before it. This is the broadest goal among the SDGs, with 19 targets and more than 40 indicators. Then, what should the world do to meet this overarching goal? Let us take a closer look at Goal 17 and our efforts to achieve it.





Addressing the problems of Goal 8 of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)

Goal 8 of the MDGs (Develop a global partnership for development) inspired Goal 17 of the SDGs (Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize global partnership for sustainable development). The 8th goal of the MDGs, covered the duties of the donor countries, unlike what other seven goals that present targets for development countries. Despite the substantial progress made under this goal, there have been various limitations such as the decreasing scale of development financing, and the absence of specific means and monitoring system for implementation.

In recognition of issues and obstacles that became clear in the course of implementing MDG 8, SDG 17 diversified main stakeholders by presenting a broad definition of partners. Also, the goal proposes a concrete means of implementation that specifies what the world should do to meet the targets under Goal 17. To summarize, from Goal 1 through Goal 16, the SDGs are all about putting the world on track to sustainable development while Goal 17 is about the conditions, approaches and methodologies to meet other goals.

Goal 17 is comprised of a specific means of implementation, encompassing finance, technology, capacity building, trade, policy and institutional coherence, data, monitoring and accountability to truly achieve a world that leaves no one behind.

Five pillars and three subcategories for global partnership

Goal 17, as explained above, is a goal that covers a wide range of areas important to development. The five pillars of Goal 17 are finance, technology, capacity building, trade and systemic issues. The systemic issue, in particular, is sub-categorized into three areas: policy and institutional coherence, multi-stakeholder partnership and data, and monitoring and accountability.

KOICA efforts toward Goal 17

To strengthen its global partnership, KOICA is currently working in conjunction with a wide array of partners involved in development, including government agencies, private sector businesses, civil society organizations and academia. Also, KOICA puts special emphasis on the importance of science and technology as a key means of implementation. As part of this effort, KOICA has established the Development Innovation Program (DIP) consisting of the Inclusive Business Solution (IBS), the Innovative Partnership Solution (IPS) and the Creative Technology Solution (CTS). Under its IBS, KOICA entered into a partnership with CJ Cheiljedang, a food company in Korea, to undertake the KOICA-CJ Saemaul Project for Developing Agriculture Value-Chain in Ninh Thuan Province. This partnership project aimed to build a sound agricultural value chain in Vietnam by aligning CJ's business strategy (sourcing) with Vietnam's New Rural Development Plan. KOICA also forged an alliance with the Mango Fund, an impact investor, to implement the Financial Accessibility Enhancement Project for Small and Medium sized Enterprises(SMEs) in Uganda. In addition, under KOICA's coordination, LG Household & Healthcare began developing cosmetics products using herbs grown in the high altitudes of Nepal, in collaboration with Good Neighbors, an international humanitarian organization.

By operating the CTS, KOICA is committed to identifying creative ideas from start-ups and young people that can be used to help developing countries. By supporting technologies and funding new ideas, KOICA is enhancing the effectiveness of its development programs.

Since becoming an official member of the International Aid Transparency Initiative (IATI) in 2015, KOICA has made efforts to strengthen its monitoring and accountability. In 2016, it disclosed its aid information in line with IATI standards to fulfill its responsibility as a member of the world's donor community. KOICA also supports a research project entitled NU-WIDER Structural Transformation and Inclusive Growth in Vietnam of the United Nations University World Institute for Development Economics Research (UNU-WIDER) to build the capacity of Vietnam in the area of national statistics and data.

Looking ahead, KOICA will continue to contribute to Goal 17 of the SDGs by launching studies on diversifying development financing, aid for trade and science and technology and designing projects that are aligned with the pillars of global partnership. Such efforts will help solidify KOICA's role as a knowledge-sharing and innovative platform for development cooperation.

Written by Inhye Park (Assistant Manager, KOICA Multilateral Cooperation and Humanitarian Assistance Department)

A more detailed account about 17th goal of the SDGs can be found in 'What's ODA' from the August 2017 issue of the <KOICA Newsletter>.
http://webzine.koica.go.kr/201708/eng/content3.php?code=201708_020306