KOICA
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Cooperation Agency

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Together KOICA

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2020
vol.2



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KOICA

The Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) is the representative organization for development cooperation in the Republic of Korea. KOICA was established in 1991 to support economic and social development in developing countries. Based in 44 offices around the world, KOICA offers a wide range of programs including national (projects and development consulting) and global programs (overseas volunteer groups, development cooperative human resource development and global training, international organization cooperation, public-private cooperation projects, innovative development cooperation programs), humanitarian aid (disaster recovery support, emergency relief), and international disease eradication fund projects.

KOICA acts as a platform for national development cooperation through which various actors such as the government, public institutions, NGOs, companies, academia, and citizens may participate in partnership. KOICA's development cooperation projects contribute to addressing various global issues including those on human rights, the environment, disease, and global poverty eradication. Moreover, it contributes to win-win development between Korea and developing countries by laying the foundation for Korean companies to gain entry into global markets as well as by fostering Korean global talent.

As the representative agency for development cooperation in the Republic of Korea,

KOICA will achieve win-win development cooperation for people-centered peace and prosperity, the kind of which no one is left behind.

Together KOICA

2020 vol.2

<Together KOICA> is a newsletter that shares the stories of KOICA. Be inspired by heart-warming stories from all of the world delivered to you by KOICA, leaders in the field of creating social value.

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Improving Children's Traffic Safety in Paraguay

Paraguay Asuncion City Child Traffic Education Park revitalization project

Paraguay is lacking infrastructure for transportation and the existing infrastructure is in a poor condition. Also, it lacks the ability to manage the transportation system, so it is challenging for Paraguayans even to move from a region to another or to ensure balanced development between regions, not to mention promoting exports and attracting foreign capital.

Overcome difficulties and seek economic revitalization

Paraguay is seeking to create jobs and boost the economy through promoting exports and attracting foreign capital in order to overcome the constraints of it having a tiny economy based on agriculture and it being an inland country.

In December 2014, the government of Paraguay announced the National Development Plan (2014-2030) with the goals of ▲poverty reduction and social development ▲inclusive growth, and ▲incorporation into the global economy.

In this regard, South Korea, one of the major donor countries of Paraguay, has been focusing on supporting water and sanitation, transportation, area development, and communication and is investing 70 percent of the total funds into these areas. In particular, South Korea is implementing various projects to improve transportation infrastructure in Paraguay. It conducted feasibility studies for railways and roads, built a high-tech transportation control system, and also established a traffic safety education park for children in July 2018 which has been well-received by citizens.

To ensure traffic safety for Paraguayan children

The main reasons for children's traffic accidents in Asuncion include a lack of awareness on traffic safety and a severe shortage of safety facilities on the roads. According to Paraguay 2013 Crime & Safety Report, the main cause of traffic accidents in Paraguay is the violation of traffic rules, and public and private training on driving and the safety awareness of Paraguayans are reported to be below the international average.

To enhance traffic safety for children in Paraguay, the first experiential education park for children's traffic safety was constructed in Asuncion in July 2018, in collaboration with a domestic company Tracom.

The park was established with the purpose of providing well-organized traffic education for children to raise safety awareness and prevent traffic accidents. To this end, the park is equipped with hands-on content that is applicable to children's real lives: traffic lights, educative panels, and quiz stations.

Below is the contents of educational programs at the children's traffic safety park in Paraguay.

	Content	
	Activity	Details
Program	1. Audiovisual Education on Traffic Safety	Pictures, videos, and puppet shows are used to help students easily understand traffic safety.
	2. Safety Rules at the Crosswalk	Children learn safety rules to follow at crosswalks.
Indoor Traffic Safety Education	3. Reading Traffic Signs	Children learn safety rules using the traffic signs of Paraguay.
	4. Responding to Emergencies	Children learn how to respond to traffic accidents and how to report accidents through real-life simulations.
	5. Bicycle Safety Education	Education on the safe bicycle riding is offered and children are taught how to wear safety appliances through using magnet panels.
	6. Traffic Safety Quiz Contest	Indoor education on general traffic safety ends by a quiz, engaging children to actively participate.
Outdoor Traffic Safety Education	7. Traffic Safety Experience	Children learn by cart riding so that they can prevent related accidents.
	8. Traffic Safety Experience	Children experience being pedestrians to self-learn how to cross roads safely.
	9. Reading Traffic Signs	Children practice figuring out what traffic signs mean by looking at the pictures.
	10. Permanent Pedestrian Safety Education in Schools	Permanent safety education provided in schools to prevent traffic accidents involving pedestrians.

From its opening in July to December 2018, traffic safely education was provided to about 6,100 participants from 53 educational institutions at the park. 95 percent of the participants said they were satisfied with the service (very satisfied: 81 percent / satisfied: 14 percent). Also due to the strong demand, the place was fully booked until February 2019.

This project was also meaningful in that it was implemented as a public-private partnership program with a domestic business. Tracom, a company specializing in ITS, fusing transportation with information and communication, partnered with KOICA in this project through the Inclusive Business Solution program (IBS), fulfilling its Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) at the same time.

This project is expected to secure the safety and happiness of children in Paraguay.





Discovering a clue
to saving precious lives of children
across the world

Healthcare Improvement Project for Mothers and Children in Volta, Ghana

According to a report published by The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the World Health Organization (WHO), and the World Bank, approximately 5.6 million children under five passed away in 2016 alone. While the most common cause of child death was complications associated with premature delivery, it is worth noting that contagious diseases such as pneumonia, diarrhea, and malaria accounted for a large proportion of the deaths.

Experiment to reduce child mortality

According to Cha Seung-man (affiliated with the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine), who conducted the research as KOICA's health specialist at the time, more than 95% of the cases of child mortality in the world are concentrated in 81 countries, and the main causes of death are the diseases that can be easily prevented or cured, such as the previously mentioned pneumonia, diarrhea, and malaria. Providing a sufficient number of health workers such as doctors, nurses, and maternity nurses is one of the most effective ways of reducing child mortality and maternal mortality. However, this particular group of workers, classified as "top-quality health workers," is in shortage globally by more than 700,000.

The program introduced to solve this problem is the Community Health Volunteer (CHV) program. It involves selecting members of the community to receive training on basic health knowledge and practice for several of months. This would enable them to act as the first point of reference for the health issues of local residents.

The government decided to introduce the CHV program in the area that had the highest rate of child mortality to evaluate the effectiveness of the pilot program. Scientific assessment methods were applied to verify the effectiveness of the program and so began the Healthcare Improvement Project for Mothers and Children in Volta, jointly led by KOICA and the Health Protection Agency in Ghana in 2013.





CHV system dramatically reduces disease incidence

First of all, local residents who could read and write and are willing to volunteer in the program were selected. The Community Volunteer Vitalization Program was run by allocating 40 households for each volunteer to visit. The volunteers were instructed to run the fast malaria diagnostic kit if a child under five was observed to have a fever. If the result was positive, the volunteers were to refer the child to the local health center where the diagnosis could be confirmed and chemical treatments could be provided. In addition, the volunteers were instructed to visit the allocated families at least once a month to deliver "Ten Key Messages" that contain educational information related to health and hygiene practices, such as disease prevention and treatment methods.

The program led to very interesting outcomes. According to the assessment of the effectiveness of the CHV program, the local residents who lived in the area where the volunteers operated washed their hands 39% more than other areas where the volunteers did not operate, and used insecticide-treated mosquito nets 6% more. In the pilot area, the frequency of diarrhea in children under five decreased significantly from 17.8% to 7.1%. In particular, if a program volunteer visited more than 70% of the families with a child under five, and stayed with the families for more than 30 minutes on average to give consultation, the rate of diarrhea, and the rate of malaria were lower than that of the control group by 77% and 31%, respectively.

A big step to save a life

This project led by KOICA has a greater implication than a simple health and medical activity in a developing country, as the project was designed to provide evidence on the effectiveness of this project in a scientific way.

The project offers positive evidence for the preventive effects that unskilled health workers can have on child health in a scientific way. It is meaningful in that it suggests the possibility of improving child health in developing countries that are experiencing a severe lack of specialized medical and health workers, without large-scale investments. The assessment of the project shows that utilizing unskilled health workers based on the local community to alleviate the lack of health professionals in a developing country can have a positive effect on improving the health of the beneficiaries. The outcome of this project was also introduced in the international journal "PLOS Medicine," and the result will be used as an important supporting document for similar projects in the international community.

A giant step toward saving previous lives that should see the world with an innocent smile, without any pain, is being taken in Ghana, Africa.

Developing countries are experiencing a lack of skilled health workers. Could unskilled health workers really save children's lives?

The assessment results of
"Training program to Improve Maternal and Child Healthcare in Volta"

Following the smallest health rules, such as participating in educational programs for health management could prevent diarrhea and malaria, saving precious lives of children in developing countries. For this purpose, the unskilled health workers known as Community Health Volunteers (CHVs) visited each household in the region to educate the local population about this information. But how effective was the CHV program?



Impact of the CHV program on the health and hygiene practices of the local population

First of all, we investigated the impact that the "Health and hygiene education and programs for the local community". The CHVs visited each family in their homes to educate them on handwashing, the use of mosquito nets when sleeping, and participation in educational programs. Then, it was recorded how well the families practiced the instructions given out by the CHVs.

The test village	Local volunteers were selected and the program was launched. Each CHV was allocated 40 households with an instruction of visiting each household at least once every two months
The control village	No local volunteers

Handwashing **Before cooking / Before feeding children / After going to the toilet / After finishing a meal / After shaking hands with others**-Proportion of local villagers who wash their hands in the given five situations



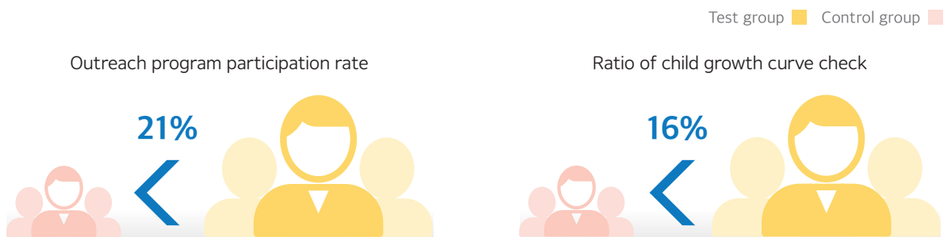


Prevention of malaria Proportion of people using an insecticide-treated mosquito net

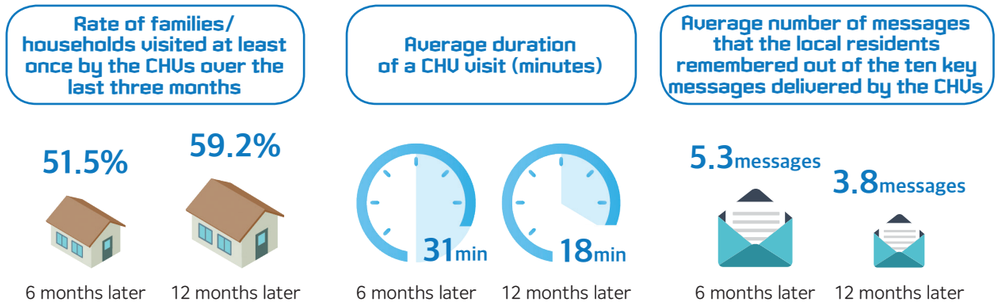




Rate of participation in major health and hygiene related events in the village

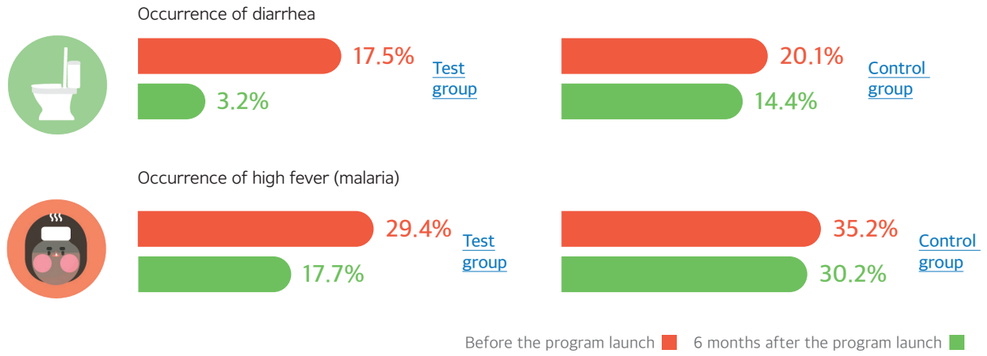


Families/households visited by the CHVs



Impact of CHV activities on the occurrence of diarrhea and high fever (malaria) in children living in the village

Comparison of the occurrence of the diseases after 6 months between the test group and the control group when the CHVs visited more than 70% of the local families living with a child under five, and consulted the families for at least 30 minutes.



※ Sources: Ma Y, Sudfeld CR, Kim H, Lee J, Cho Y, Awoonor-Williams JK, et al. (2019) Evaluating the impact of community health volunteer home visits on child diarrhea and fever in the Volta Region, Ghana: A cluster-randomized controlled trial. PLoS Med 16(6): e1002830. https://doi.org/10.1371/ journal.pmed.1002830

Shouting “peace” in the midst of death-dealing explosives

UNMAS Consolidation of peace and stability in the Democratic Republic of the Congo through the reduction of explosive hazards and armed violence

The Democratic Republic of the Congo (DR Congo) is a country located in Central Africa, and the capital is Kinshasa. Since the country’s independence in 1960, the state of affairs has remained unstable with various continuing crises.









Risk of explosive remnants lurking everywhere

With the delay of the presidential and legislative elections in March 2016, a number of political violence and protest engulfed the country, causing many people to be killed, injured and displaced from their homes.

During this situation in the country, explosive remnants of war, such as mines and military ammunition, were used in conflict areas. The citizens of DR Congo living in those areas now have to spend their days with the fear of explosives that can go off at any time under their feet.

Not only that, local armed forces frequently engage in illegal trade of small weapons, another remnants of war. This attracts many young people who wish to support themselves and their families in dire conditions. The young people joining illegal weapons trade and criminal groups acting around the eastern border of the DR Congo were also considered as important social issues.

Carry out the removal of an explosive that may explode at any moment

However, in comparison to the rapid speed at which the danger of the explosives increase, the DR Congo government’s capacity to react to critical situations is significantly weakened due to limited resources.

In this regard, Korea International Cooperation Agency(KOICA) cooperated with the United Nations Mine Action Service(UNMAS) to jointly launch UNMAS Consolidation of Peace and Stability in the Democratic Republic of the Congo through the Reduction of Explosive Hazards and Armed Violence from December 2018 to November 2019.

UNMAS is an organization whose objective is to limit the danger of explosive remnants of war and instant explosive devices. It has been working on management dangerous explosives in DR Congo since 2002. From their presence in the country, the organization has a high understanding of the current status of the DR Congo and rich experience related to management of dangerous explosives.

Firstly, KOICA nominated 2 implementing agencies responsible for investigation and removal of explosives. The agencies then received training and quality management to execute removal of explosive remnants of war while managing the public warning system.

In addition, in order to enhance NGO’s capability to respond to explosives and dangerous weapons, KOICA nominated 3 NGOs to provide customized education and equipment. NGOs that received the KOICA training then visited local areas most vulnerable to explosives to educate the residents.

Possibility of regional development brought by residual explosive removal

Providing education on the danger of explosive remnants of war can reduce human damages caused by curiosity or carelessness. Removing explosive remnants and small weapons can also provide the possibility of developing afflicted areas, in addition to securing safety of residents.

The possibility of socio-economic advancement through the local development means that various young adults in the DR Congo who resorted to joining illegal armed forces or criminal groups for survival could return to society.

KOICA will continue the efforts to ensure that the local residents of the DR Congo live free from the dangers of explosive remnants, and enjoy safe and healthy lives.



Nutrition Improvement Project focused on Nutrition-centered Agriculture in Rwanda

Capturing both taste and nutrition, KOICA takes responsibility for the health of Rwanda's children

With an average longevity of 64.7 years, ratio of low-height children 38%, and 50.3 out of 1,000 children under the age of 5 dying*···.
At a time when we talk about living up to the age of 100 or even 200, these figures may be hard to grasp, but this is the reality happening before us. This is the story of Africa's Rwanda.









Rwandan children suffering from malnutrition

Rwanda belongs to one of the least developed nations in the OECD Development Assistance Committee. It is still suffering through the economic and social impact from the 1994 Rwandan genocide. Rwanda has an especially high ratio of malnourished children, and the main causes of death amongst children age 5 and younger are pneumonia, diarrhea, malaria, and malnutrition. This is because it is difficult for children in Rwanda to get balanced nutrition due to lack of food or improper utilizing of food within households.

Most children with chronic malnutrition come from regions with low agricultural productivity. Therefore, in order to improve chronic malnutrition, a more fundamental and detailed solution was required, more than the one-dimensional method of providing food aid.

To this end, KOICA is launching. a 'Nutrition Improvement Project focused on Nutrition-centered Agriculture in Rwanda,' along with the NGOs 'A Better World' and 'World Vision,' as a part of its Civic Society Cooperative Project.

From June 1st 2018 to December 31st 2020 for 2 years and 7 months, they have carried out and will continue to carry out projects to improve nutrition based on agriculture in Rwanda. Currently, in 2019, they are in their 2nd year running.

Spread the right technique, care and nutrition

The activity carried out first was the 'Education on Nutrition Mediating Method (PD/HEARTH).' It also carried out trainings to teach the members of the regional society how to prepare food, including food for babies, based on eco-friendly farming, as well as growing "kitchen gardens" (household gardens).

On top of this, there are many detailed programs in action such as Community Integrated Management of Childhood Illnesses (CIMCI) that has regional sanitation agents with records of sick children, caring for diseased children, as well as Maternal, Infant and Young Child Nutrition (MIYCN) that has regional sanitation agents and sanitation experts providing education on the proper way to breastfeed and take care of children, and Family Planning (FP) that provides support in planning and adjusting the number of children, time gap between pregnancies, birth timing, and time to suspend giving birth.

KOICA has also built a nutrition and sanitation center to enhance accessibility to nutrition and sanitation services, and has introduced 'environmentally friendly farming methods' to increase farming productivity with the special conditions of Rwanda's farming conditions in mind, such as its lack of arable land, climate change, and hillside farming. It has also enhanced the content of organic mater in soil and spread the method of sustainable farming, and has provided support in enabling households to grow seeds of mushroom tubes and diverse crops (onions, spring onions, cucumbers, carrots, etc.) and selected households with small-scale farming as beneficiaries, providing them with livestock such as goats, pigs, and chickens, so as to diversify their sources of nutrition.

The children grow up by taking the right nutrition

The achievements of the project have been inspiring.

As of June 1st 2019, 143 out of 178 participating children from Rwamagana gained 900g or more in weight, and 417 out of 769 participating children from Rwesero put on 900g or more in weight.

Also, the level of knowledge upon receiving education jumped from 54% to 96%. Currently, a trial eco-friendly and sustainable farm is being run with locals as subjects, and 100 goats and 100 pigs have been allocated to 200 trained households.

The nutrition improvement project centered around nutrition agriculture in Rwanda provides a fundamental solution to the nation that suffers from malnutrition and disease. It is not support that increases reliance on helping countries or decreases willingness to be self-reliant, but it is one that provides a fundamental solution through sustainable agriculture, and by creating a virtuous cycle that helps the cooperating nation to be self-reliant.

KOICA will continue to strive to prevent such sad incidents as children losing their lives due to malnutrition.

* Source: Rwanda Demographic and Health Survey (2014-2015)







Building a transparent government suitable for the “Arab Spring”

The distribution of KOICA’s “K-electronic procurement system”

Tunisia is the birthplace of the “Arab Spring.” Incited by the high unemployment rate, inflation and the luxurious life of a corrupt government, Tunisians tried to change the world with street protests. Understanding the anger of citizens, the military rejected the regime’s order to “suppress the protests,” and the government, which had been under 23 years of dictatorship, was brought to an end in 2011. The priority demand of the citizens after eradicating corrupt regimes was building a transparent government. For this, the introduction of an “electronic procurement system” was of foremost necessity.

Clean up corruption and turn into a clean government

Considering Tunisia’s economic indicators, which plunged to a crushing degree in proportion to the corruption of the authoritarian regime, it was reasonable that Tunisians wanted “transparency” above all else after the shift of government.

In response, KOICA has started to transplant the Korean electronic procurement system in order to ensure the transparent and fair operation of the Tunisian government.

The United Nations selected South Korea’s electronic procurement system in 2018 as the joint leader in the sector of on-line participation and the third overall in e-government development among 193 countries surveyed, and has consistently ranked it as the top-tier throughout the past decade. For Tunisia, which was struggling to eradicate inefficiency and corruptive structures, introduction of Korea’s electronic procurement system has been a wise move.

The results were amazing. “The number of Tunisian electronic procurement registrants has increased from 100 to 5,000 as of 2016, and the system’s own problem resolution rate has also been reduced from 20% to 100%, and procurement time from 200 to 129 days,[1]” said Kim Sung-wook, formerly in charge of the Middle East & Central Asia Office. The Tunisian government legally mandated the use of electronic procurement systems under the Prime Minister’s Ordinance (2018.8.31). The Open Government Partnership (OGP), an organization that promotes transparency of governments around the world across borders and eradicates corruption, nominated Tunisia’s on-line E-Procurement System(TUNPES) as the “grand award of Africa” in 2015.

Middle Eastern country breaks the link between inefficiency and corruption

This had an impact on neighboring countries as well. In just two years, Tunisia’s case of eradicating inefficiency and the ensuing corruption, which made it hard to see the results of the bidding, lured other countries into KOICA. Jordanian government reached out in 2014 and the Iraq government in 2018.

The Jordanian government’s project to build its electronic procurement system (JONEPS) was an opportunity to fully demonstrate our know-how accumulated from the Tunisian project. “At present, 98% of the Jordanian Procurement Agency’s total bid transactions (average 1,596 per year) are accomplished through JONEPS, with 90% of total suppliers actively using the system. The process time for bidding was reduced by about 70 hours (per case) compared to before, and the cost was also reduced by about $193.45 (per case),” summarized Oh Jae-hyuk, full-post at the Middle East & Central Asia Office.

Iraq’s Kurdish local government has also requested the transplant of South Korea’s superior electronic procurement system in 2018 to make public procurement procedures more transparent. Of course, there are difficulties. The different procurement systems and the conflict within Muslim states are in the way of promoting the project.

“We tackled the obstacles step by step with the know-how accumulated from the successful operation of the Tunisian project and the internal and external business risk analysis and quick responsiveness of KOICA. Things have been on good terms for two years” said Song Jong-in, a PM who is in charge of the public procurement modernization project of the Iraqi government of Erbil, run by the Korea Trade Network.

KOICA plans to share with the region its outstanding performance in Tunisia and Jordan and successful progress in Iraq, and to focus on smooth maintenance for stable system settlement and establish itself as a key icon for enhancing transparency in the MENA(Middle East, and North Africa) region as well as the three mentioned countries.

1) World Bank, 2018

ROK-ASEAN Future Community

Starting a beautiful partnership for peace and prosperity

From December 25th to 26th, 2019, the 2019 ASEAN-Republic of Korea Commemorative Summit was held in Busan to commemorate the 30th anniversary of the establishment of dialogic relations between ASEAN and the Republic of Korea. In line with the summit, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and KOICA held the '2019 Development Cooperation Day' event on the 25th to discuss the ASEAN-ROK cooperation plan, which includes the values of people, prosperity and peace, as well as to pledge joint action on the development cooperation program.

Korea and ASEAN(Association of South East Asian Nations) are geographically adjacent to each other and share similar historical and cultural backgrounds.
Korea and ASEAN have overcome a number of past difficulties caused by war and poverty and are both leaping forward to become the center of global politics, economics, and culture. We are now achieving peace and development around the world not through competition but through faith, mutual cooperation, and joint development with other nations.
KOICA has been at the forefront of achieving sustainable development as a partner of ASEAN. In particular, intensive development cooperation has been carried out for the six key partners coined CLMVIP*.

*CLMVIP: Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Vietnam, Indonesia, Philippines

KOICA will promote development cooperation projects focusing on five areas* for the development of future communities in order to upgrade ROK-ASEAN relations and move towards a people-centered community for peace and co-prosperity. This can be summed up into the values of people, peace, and prosperity.

*Digital partnership for inclusive development △ Higher education for a better future △ Inclusive and sustainable rural development △ Smart city development for people and the environment △ Inclusive transportation for balanced growth



PEOPLE

The driving force behind Korea's growth, and the way of overcoming the pain of war and poverty, was education, in other words, "investment in people." KOICA plans to launch higher education projects so that ASEAN universities can develop human resources and enhance competitiveness on their own.
Just like representative projects, such as Korea-Vietnam Institute of Science and Technology(V-KIST) and Myanmar Development Institute(MDI) projects*, we will support them to strengthen their capability to lead national development and to foster talent who will drive ASEAN science and technology development as well as economic growth.

*A research institution modeled after the Korea Institute of Science and Technology(KIST) and Korea Development Institute(KDI), which played roles as think tanks in the process of Korea's development.





PEACE

Korea and ASEAN both share the history of experiencing colonization, civil wars, and conflicts with other nations and are both striving to heal from the pains of the past, both strive to be reborn and make a future of peace and prosperity.
There is no peace without development, and development cannot sustain without peace. Hence, KOICA will create a peaceful future community called the "Han-Mekong Peace Village." Moreover, together not only with Cambodia and Myanmar but with Laos and Vietnam, we will clear mines, support victims, and pursue an integrated approach that links rural development.
Just as the DMZ, a symbol of division, was declared an international peace zone, we will remove the remnants of war such as unexploded bombs and landmines in the Mekong area and lay the foundation for prosperity.

PROSPERITY

In the era of the Fourth Industrial Revolution, KOICA plans to cooperate in establishing an inclusive ASEAN community where no one is left behind. Based on Korea's advanced ICT technology and development experience, we will promote 'Digital Partnership for Inclusive Development' so that low-income and vulnerable individuals will be able to have equal access to digital-based facilities and easily enjoy public services.
KOICA also plans to support the construction of smart cities to address urbanization and traffic problems by utilizing ICT technology.
As such, Korea and ASEAN are building a peaceful and people-centered "ROK-ASEAN Future Community" for mutual prosperity.
Our belief is that the present we create becomes the future of ASEAN. We also believe that the future of ASEAN is closely linked to the future and greater value of the world. Even at this moment, Korea and ASEAN are moving towards the center of the world step by step.



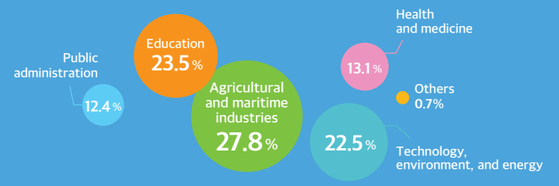
A new future, inspired by friendly cooperation, peace, and prosperity

Korea-ASEAN Community of Shared Future (New Southern) ODA Strategy

The 'New Southern Policy,' which the Korean government is carrying out in order to achieve peace and prosperity in Asia, focuses on reinforcing cooperation with ASEAN countries as strategic partners and to expand the level of diplomatic and economic relations with countries of Southeast Asia. Since this plan requires ODA that corresponds to major policies of the government, KOICA prepared detailed executive plans for performing the 'New Southern Policy (Design on ASEAN-KOREA community of shared future)' by the government as well as 'New Southern ODA Executive Strategy' by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.



Areas of ODA by KOICA

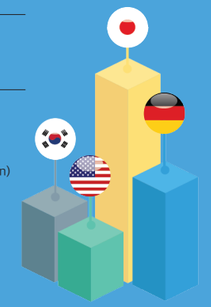


	Cambodia	Myanmar	Laos	Vietnam	Philippines	Indonesia
Traffic	O	O		O	O	O
Water management / Health and sanitation	O		O	O	O	O
Regional development	O	O	O		O	
Education	O		O	O		
Public administration		O		O		O
Energy		O	O			
Others					Disaster prevention	Environmental protection

Status of ODA by donor countries to 6 ASEAN countries

Japan	5,211.38
Germany	1,187.92
Korea	790.97
USA	754.11

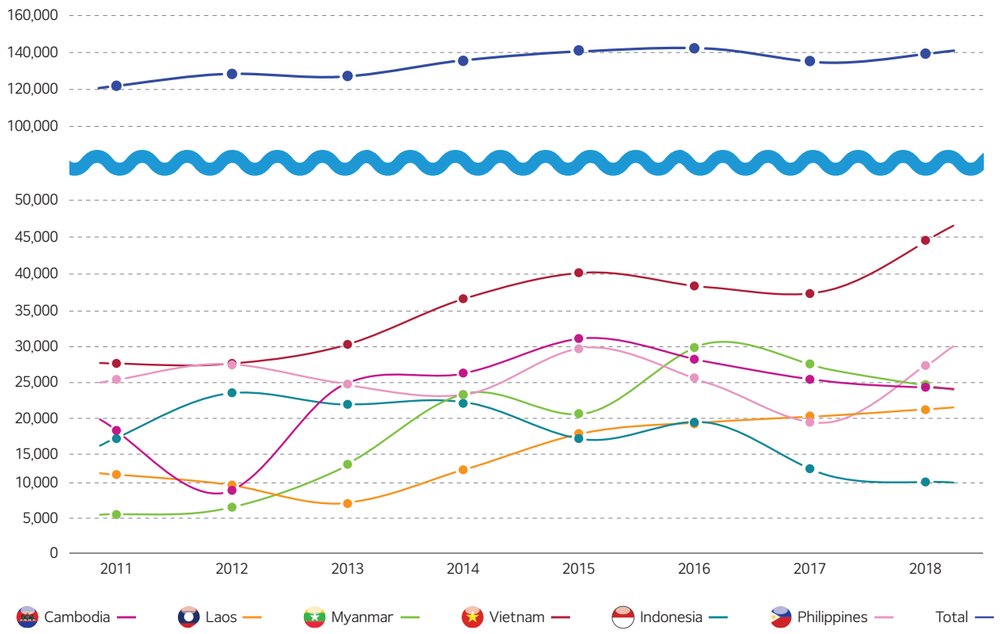
(Unit: USD million)



* Source: OECD DAC Stats(2019.4)

Trend of ODA by KOICA to 6 ASEAN countries

(Unit: KRW million)



* Source: KOICA 2018 ODA statistics (Oct. 2018)

Performance Plan for Korea-ASEAN Community of Shared Future ODA Strategies

Vision

Create a Community of Shared Future between Korea and ASEAN that focuses on people, prosperity, and peace

Goals (3S)

Scale Up
Extensive increase in the amount of ODA

Specific Thematic Approach
Assistance by categories

Strengthening Partnership
Reinforce linkage and cooperation

5 major categories

Informatization
Digital partnership for comprehensive development

Secondary education
Secondary education for a better future

Rural development
Comprehensive and sustainable rural development

Urban development
Smart urban development with a balance between nature and people

Traffic
Comprehensive traffic that entails a balanced growth

Developing the driving force for future economic growth in Ethiopia

Addis Ababa
LG-KOICA HOPE TVET COLLEGE



The ancient philosopher Laozi of the Spring and Autumn period in China once said, “Do not give a man a fish but teach him how to fish”. It means that if you truly care for someone, you should give the person the power to become independent rather than simply momentary help.
LG-KOICA HOPE TVET COLLEGE, jointly established by the Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) and LG in November of 2014 in Addis Ababa, the capital of Ethiopia, did one more thing. It did not only teach students how to catch fish, but also put “a fishing rod” in their hands with which to catch the fish.
Here we introduce LG-KOICA HOPE TVET COLLEGE, which is making plans to establish the foundation for the economic independence of Ethiopia through advanced technology education and training.

Written by Suh Hyewon
Photos by Han Sangmooh

Graduate employment rate 100% - an electronics and IT specialist training school

“Even this morning, I received another phone call from an electric and electronics company requesting 20 students to be sent to their company.”
The principal, Haileselassie Zewoldi, continued with a big smile on his face, unable to hide his pride.
“There are thousands of Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) schools in Ethiopia. There are 300 TVET schools in Addis Ababa alone. However, there is none like the LG-KOICA HOPE TVET COLLEGE. Our standard is exclusive.”
This is neither an overstatement nor arrogance. The students major in three areas at the school, namely Electronics Communication and Multimedia Equipment Servicing (ECM), Home and Office Electrical/Electronic Equipment Servicing (HOS), and information and communications technology (ICT). As of 2019, the cumulative employment rate for their 185 graduates is 100%. This was achieved thanks to an educational curriculum that focuses on practical skills, actively applying the technological capacity of LG Electronics. The students of the school with excellent academic achievements, equivalent to entrance scores for prestigious 4-year universities, can learn the latest core technologies from LG Electronics for free as well as receive classes that use the actual materials provided by LG Elec-





tronics. Special lectures provided by master service technicians of LG Electronics are also available for the students. By the time students complete the three-year training course, comprised of 80% theory and 20% practical training, they become IT specialists with strong practical skills in the fields of electronic goods, home appliance repair, and IT. This is supported by the fact that the graduates have a passing rate of 96.9% for the Certified of Competence (COC) national technical qualification. Considering the average passing rate of 60% for other TVET schools in Addis Ababa, this is quite a wide gap in skills.

The principal gave a few reasons for such an outstanding level of academic performance from the students. First, the teachers do not let students just come to the lectures and graduate when the time comes. They make sure the students understand the core subject clearly to increase their academic achievements, and continuously motivate them and push them to find employment in their desired positions after graduation. If there are students who fail the national technical qualification examination, they consult with them on points of improvement so that they can successfully pass the exam in the next round.

The fact that all classes are instructed in English is another factor that sets the school apart from others. This is because they are aiming for employment in Dubai or other countries. The LG-KOICA HOPE TVET COLLEGE does not stop at caring only for the students' academic scores. The teaching staff make sure that students develop a diligent attitude, gain confidence across all aspects of their lives, and have the qualities of leaders.

"The graduates have found positions in various companies, but not once have we received negative feedback. This is only natural, because the students rather deliver the new technologies that they learned at the school to the companies, or demonstrate even better repair skills than the existing technicians."

The Business Incubation Center, giving wings to economic growth in Ethiopia

Ethiopia was picked as one of the countries showing the most radical economic growth in Africa over the past few years. However, since 70% of the population is below 30 years of age, the younger generation has to develop the economic and technological competencies to support stable development of the country.

"Ethiopia is a country based on the agricultural industry. However, I am sure that it will develop to a highly advanced level if the foundation for the information and communications technology industry is established. LG-KOICA HOPE TVET COLLEGE, which applies the business mindset of LG Electronics to KOICA to develop talents that the company needs, would be a good platform. It is a win-win strategy. The outcome so far is very good. Other TVET schools in Ethiopia often visit our school to set it as a role model." These are the words of Kim Dong-ho, Chief Director of the KOICA Office in Ethiopia.

In accordance with such development, LG-KOICA HOPE TVET COLLEGE opened the LG Social Campus Business Incubation Center, a place created to let students who are planning on opening their own businesses work nonstop to become future business leaders. The incubation center provides working spaces and practical work-related training, as well as mentor programs with senior graduates or industry experts.

In the incubation center, three groups have currently been formed with 4 prospective graduates in each. A total of 12 graduates are working tirelessly for their futures. Alemtsehaye Kahisay, a graduate working in the incubation center, is waiting for approval of the patent registration for the baking machine he invented. The machine he invented is digitalized to allow easier use. The main advantage is that it adds even more convenience to living. It reduces the time of making traditional bread, which can take 30 hours, to just 30 minutes. Its greatest advantage is that it can be controlled via a mobile app so the user can turn on the cooker before arriving home.

"There are so many techniques that I learned at school. My major was electronics repair, but I gained basic skills and knowledge from the electric/electronic goods major and the ICT major. Based on that, I was able to think of a range of innovative and creative ideas. My dream is to become a technical master in the field of electric/electronic goods in the future."

Like the graduate Alemtsehaye Kahisay, more and more students are taking on the challenge to open up a technical business. As the country is filled with talented individuals who undergo the stages of business establishment-survival-growth-success, this will ultimately lead to the development of the country.

We hope to see the students of LG-KOICA HOPE TVET COLLEGE come up with even more creative ideas and technical skills to create innovative companies. One day in the near future, we may even see the birth of a "Decacorn" company, going beyond a "Unicorn" company, in Ethiopia.

※ LG-KOICA HOPE TVET COLLEGE is operated by collaboration of KOICA-LG and World together



Hitting a homerun for hope
Ethiopia's first baseball team, HOPE

Addis Ababa LG-KOICA HOPE Women's Baseball Team

Written by Suh Hyewon **Photos by** Han Sangmooh





Already going on six hours in the grass field at LG-KOICA HOPE TVET COLLEGE in Addis Ababa, there are 15 girls who are tirelessly throwing and hitting balls repeatedly and running laps around the field. Although it is long past their lunch time, the girls jump lightly like a walia ibex, the mountain sheep of Ethiopia. The players slid on the ground so much that their uniforms of a bright dove color have already turned to a shade of terra-cotta with patches of dirt.

"Ten reps!" A player who seems distracted during training soon gets a strict command from their coach, Kim Yoon-ho. As soon as the coach's instruction is called out, the player gets down to the ground without even a moment of hesitation and starts doing 10 pushups in the straightest form. The player could grumble with words of complaint or discontent, but she just follows the instructions quietly with no signs of discomfort on her face. Like true pioneers of baseball in Ethiopia, which is basically a wasteland in terms of baseball in Africa, the players are full of passion.



PART 1

Coach Kim Yoon-ho's

'HOPE Girls'

"In the early stage when the baseball team was just formed, which was not long after I was assigned as regional director in the subsidiary office of LG Electronics in Ethiopia, they were only little girls who would cry if hit by a baseball. Now they look entirely like proper baseball players. I feel highly rewarded after spending my weekends on training for the past three years. I can't say much, because I don't want to brag. But these kids aren't like average girls. Since we have 11 members who are graduates and working currently, I sometimes visit them to check whether they are doing well in their work. Whenever I visit their workplaces, their bosses can't stop complementing them, saying that the girls have much stronger will and greater attitudes than other employees who do not play baseball. This actually wasn't surprising, considering the hard and strenuous training they endured. I believe in these girls. I believe they will be able to overcome any difficulties that might come along in their lives with strong body and mind, and with confidence.





PART 2

Merima Ahmed Yimam's

'Never Stop, Short Stop!'

"I am the shortest and skinniest player, but I am the shortstop, which is the symbol of team play. I do backup play and cooperative play, paying all my attention to defense. Both of my feeble-looking legs, arms, and big eyes never have a moment to stop. Why do I play the baseball? Well, there is nothing more fun than baseball! What is amazing is that it gets even more fun the more I play. I gain a lot of things, too. From the moment I started playing baseball until now, I learned many things and developed myself through them. In particular, my concept of time was completely turned around. For the first time, I realized while playing baseball that so many things can change in 1 second or 1 minute. A big change occurs in such a short period of time. Isn't that amazing?
There was a time when I broke my finger during a match. I spent about 6 months recovering from it. Yes, that's right. There were frequent injuries, not to mention the difficulty of waking up early in the morning, and I even put off studying that I wanted to start because I didn't think I could keep up with baseball... But I have never thought of quitting baseball."



PART 3

Misrach Semu's

'Girls Can Do Anything!'

"Do you know that? The one who first started the history of baseball in Ethiopia are not men, but women. Throughout the world, baseball is strongly considered a men's sports, and considering that predominance of man over woman still exists in Ethiopia, the formation of a women's baseball team was quite a big step that excited the whole country. For that reason, I play baseball in the hope that the movement does not just end with us. I keep playing because I want to spread a new sport called baseball in Ethiopia. I am a pitcher. But the coach sometimes says "Pitchers are everything," so I feel even more pressure. That's not all. I am also the leader of the team who is supposed to lead. I have to continuously try to support everyone and maintain good teamwork. Sometimes the responsibilities feel heavy on my shoulders, but I am going to play as long as I can, because baseball is not just a sport to me anymore. It helped me gain confidence and focus more on my work.
You don't understand how strong my will and power of mind is, do you? I am the only female employee in the department. I never let myself be put down when working with rough men. I never fall behind them, either. Such self-respect, confidence, and will power were all learned from baseball."

PART 4

Yesiyte Getnet's

'Nothing can stop me!'

"I love baseball. It makes me feel good to play the baseball. I am not afraid of getting injured. There was one time when a fly ball flew toward me. I was so focused on the ball that I crashed hard into the catcher. The other player was wearing a helmet, so my forehead was torn open. I only remember the loud "bam!" and seeing a lot of blood. I don't remember anything else, since I passed out. I heard that the coach ran all the way to the hospital carrying me on his back. When I woke up, my forehead was already stitched up, and all I could think was that I wanted to be back on the field! My parents were worried because of the scar on my face, but they knew more than anyone that I would not quit playing baseball no matter what happened. They finally gave up trying to persuade me, and have since supported me in playing baseball. Now they are my greatest supporters."



Teaching “art”, a way to play that is more fun than a smart phone

Lee Bora World Friends Korea Volunteer from KOICA in Ethiopia

Written by Suh Hyewon **Photos by** Han Sangmooh





Typical art classes involve drawing and making things using colorful crayons, paints, drawing papers, and colored papers. But the situation in Ethiopia was different. Art classes where students learn through words, not practical exercises, was the reality of art education in the public schools. However, things were a bit different in the art classes at Hibret Firre Primary School, located in Addis Ababa. The classroom was covered with drawings and other artwork created by the children. The art classes led by Lee Bora are so fun that the children call it “play”. In addition to development of creativity and thinking and reasoning abilities, the art classes are working toward the greater goal of personality development.

Q. Could you tell us how you became an art teacher at Hibret Firre Primary School?

When I was teaching elementary and middle school students in a private art education facility, I had a vague idea of going on an overseas volunteer program as an art teacher. One day as I was browsing the web, an advertisement for the KOICA volunteer program came to my attention. There was something that drew my interest, so I applied for it without thinking twice. I was very lucky to be assigned to Ethiopia as part of the 126th class of the KOICA volunteer group in November of 2018.

Q. Don’t art classes require many things to be prepared in advance, like a curriculum?

Before I arrived in Ethiopia, I knew that there were no Korean art materials available like hanji paper or ink blocks, so I brought them with me from Korea. I also anticipated that it would be difficult for me to instruct the class because of the language difference, so I planned a curriculum that requires minimal language use, mainly including performance art classes, paper folding games, and so on.

Q. What kind of place is Hibret Firre Primary School?

In the region of Yeka in Addis Ababa, the capital of Ethiopia, there is a “Korean Village” where Korean War veterans and their descendants live. In 2005, as part of an education product, KOICA rebuilt a local school in the village that was in poor condition and established Hibret Firre Primary School. That was the choice of a true aid program that aims to ensure the internal stability of Ethiopia through education. Thanks to this, the school has one of the best facilities in Addis Ababa. There are approximately 150 teaching staff, with more than 1,200 students receiving day-time classes and more than 300 students receiving night classes. Of course, most students are descendants of Korean War veterans.

Q. Does Ethiopia generally have good art education environments?

Unfortunately, no. As I assessed the art classes in Ethiopia, all curriculum was simply based on written theory without practical exercises. Do you think that could be fun for students to take art classes where students

learn only by listening and remembering words with a book full of knowledge? When we made the announcement that there would be after school art classes focusing on practical exercises, the children responded with great enthusiasm. The class was very popular.

Q. Could you tell us more about the after school art classes?

There are two types of art classes at Hibret Firre Primary School. The regular art classes are based on art theory, and the after school classes, which I am instructing, are based on practical art production. We are divided into three teams, with each team formed of 10 to 15 students. Each team has two classes in a week. It is impossible to not teach art theory at all, but it was not easy to teach theory because of the language barrier, so I just did a performance class. The class was mainly based on games where the students blow up and throw balloons and draw with chalk. However, in children's art education, you can't just give paper and paint to children and say, "Draw this and draw that." One of the important purposes of art education is to help children to express their creative ideas and thoughts through the medium of art. Thus, the process of asking and answering is essential. In the end, you must communicate well with students. Thankfully, my Amharic is improving gradually. I can now say sentences like "What is it?", "What did you want to express?" I feel a bit more relief now.





Q. For the classes focusing on practical exercises, what do you usually teach the students, and what aspect do you want to help the children to develop?

I'll give you an example of last week's classes. I had a student lie down on a large piece of drawing paper, then drew the outline of the body. I then let each group of students apply their own creativity to draw clothing and facial features. In another class, I cut figures in circles, triangles, and square shapes of different sizes, and let the children draw whatever came to mind. Through this process, I wanted to expand their creativity and widen their scope of thinking. Usually children have a tendency to copy from someone who they think is doing a good job. But if there is a student who draws in their own style, I always try to compliment and encourage the child regardless of how good the drawing is. As the process repeats, children develop their own unique styles.

Q. Are there particular areas where the children showed special interest or a high level of participation?

Honestly, the children show high interest in all of the classes. Since there are no other practical art classes, the children give it the maximum level of passion. Of course, children being children, there are children who lack courtesy and find it difficult to focus on the class. In the beginning, when I was not familiar with Amharic language, I picked a class president to help keep the class under control. This was quite effective.

Q. When did you feel most fulfilled in your teaching experience in Ethiopia? When was the most difficult moment?

Unlike children in developed countries, you can't see even common computer games here in Ethiopia, so children enjoy artwork like drawing and making things. They treat it like playing or a game, and have so much fun doing it. Every day I feel very fulfilled. The children run to my class after their regular classes with big smiles on their faces. Seeing those faces makes me feel a stronger sense of responsibility. No matter how hard it gets, I tell myself that I should teach the children to the best of my ability.

The most difficult moment would be when some of the children stole from me in the beginning of the semester. The disappointment was so great that I almost cried. I think that the children did not even understand that taking things from the classroom is such a bad thing. I told the children sternly, "Stealing is very bad, no matter how small things are. If it happens again, there would be no more classes." Only then did the children realize the seriousness of their behavior. Now the children bring me even the smallest piece of rubber that falls on the floor.

Q. It has been about 9 months since you started art education volunteering in Ethiopia. Has anything changed in your personal life, or have you grown in any aspect?

When I first came to Africa, I felt uncomfortable and strange living with other races. I walked down the streets with uneasy feeling. Now I am fully adjusted and can go anywhere comfortably. In addition, living as an Asian woman in this region made me think about socially disadvantaged people and racial discrimination. I hope that those thoughts will lead to consideration for others.

Q. Please share your future plans.

English education is important in Ethiopia. The 8th grade national examination is also taken in English, except for the Amharic subject. However, there are many children who cannot afford English lessons, so starting next semester we will introduce English-art integrated classes. We are currently designing the details of the curriculum. One more thing is that I will extend my stay by 6 months to a year once the original 1-year contract is complete. The children are so lovely that I would like to stay longer in Ethiopia.





Ethiopia's Imperial Family
of 6,037 members

Standing at the most intense front line of the 6.25 Korean War

Do you know the fighters of dark skin from Africa who stood at the front line in Gangwondo to protect the peace and freedom of Korea? When the Korean War broke out and the Korean peninsula found itself in serious danger, Ethiopia sent over military assistance from all the way across the globe, 9,164 km away, and was the only African nation to do so. There was not even a solid relationship existing between the two countries at the time. The peace and daily lives that Koreans are able to enjoy now are possible thanks to these Ethiopian heroes that protected us with their lives.

Written by Suh Hyewon
Photos by Han Sangmooh

Longing for world peace and that such tragedy shall never be repeated

"It was a war on which we had set out already expecting death. We had no anticipation of coming back alive. We put our lives on the line."

There was a young man named Melesse Tesessma who was prepared to die in battle in this faraway country. He was only 22 years old when he set off on a boat headed to Busan in 1952 for a 21-day journey. The reason that he joined the Korean war had a great deal to do with the hope for peace of Haile Selassie, the last emperor of Ethiopia.

During the "Scramble for Africa" when European forces were colonizing Africa, blinded by greed, Ethiopia was the only country that maintained its independence. Italy attempted to invade Ethiopia twice, but they lost miserably in the first war, and also failed to colonize in the second.

During Italy's second invasion in 1936, Emperor Haile Selassie actually pleaded desperately to the League of Nations for military support, but faced the sorrow of neglect. Due to this incident, he felt more than ever the need for collective security for world peace.



It happened that the first war that broke out after this was the Korean War, and sure enough Emperor Haile Selassie sent over his military troop, which was unprecedented in history. He empathized with the hardships of Korea, and this pure sense of empathy was all he had.

The name that the emperor gave to the Imperial Guard was "Kagnew", which means "to defeat the enemy during the initial defense" in Ethiopian. And actually these warriors etched a new record in history with their 253 wins out of 253 battles.

Before sending the military, the emperor had said at the sendoff ceremony, "Go! Fight until you win! Otherwise, fight until you die!" This eventually became the motto of the Kagnew Battalion, and every single member followed the royal command with a shared sense of complete loyalty.

Ethiopia greeted the war heroes who had won the battle with proud open arms. But the joy of victory was only temporary. A communist dictatorship took over Ethiopia and began exchange with North Korea, giving way to misfortune. The status of the victorious war veterans that had fought against communists fell to the ground overnight, and they along with their descendants were labelled as traitors. These soldiers that came back alive from the Korean War were once again thrown into battle in their daily lives.

Who can wipe away the tears of the old veterans

KOICA supports the descendants of these war veterans in diverse ways. First, when selecting students for the LG-KOICA HOPE TVET College, the opportunity is first given to these descendants, and once admitted, they are provided with food support free of charge. They are also offered free education on the basics of computers, and are given support so that they can come one step closer to achieving their goals. The Korean University Council for Social Service (KUCSS) associated with KOICA also provides education for Taekwondo, art, music, etc. for these descendants.

The 94-year-old war veteran Tefera Teketel told his story with a subtle smile. "Korea is my second hometown. Koreans came a long way to Ethiopia to set up the War Veterans Association, and helped our descendants to receive education. I don't know how to thank you enough."

Melesse Tesessma added, "I saw the two sides of Korea. One was its ruins after the war, and the other is the rapidly developed modern Korea. I've heard that Koreans are very happy due to being ranked alongside developed nations, but I think we are happier on their behalf. It tells us at the blood that we shed 69 years ago was not in vain. We hope that we can repay what we have received in the future when our economy stabilizes and we are given the chance to give back. Thank you."

Korea needs to discard its feeling of pity for Ethiopia, its alliance in blood. Instead, we should share friendship and create a beautiful ensemble together. Most importantly, wouldn't the best way to show gratitude be to not let our descendants forget the sacrifice of these war veterans?



National Museum of Ethiopia,
where the mother
of all humankind lies

Lucy,
the incredibly amazing

About 3.2 million years ago, in Awash Valley located in the Eastern part of Ethiopia in Africa, lived a woman without a name. She could walk on two feet, use tools, and enjoy climbing trees. One day, unfortunately, she fell from a tree, and died. After what seemed like an eternity, she was discovered by modern humans in 1974. Since then, she has become the famous anthropoid called "Lucy, the first human". Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, the origin of humanity where Lucy lies. In this place, one can experience the mystery of human evolution to the fullest.

Written by Suh Hyewon
Photos by Han Sangmooh



Lucy, the heroine of the National Museum of Ethiopia

Honestly speaking, Addis Ababa is not a famous tourist destination crowded with people. Even on a clear day, it is not easy to encounter even one foreign tourist in the city. However, this place, the National Museum of Ethiopia, is quite different. The parking lot near the main entrance of the museum is filled with large tour buses and mini buses. People are busy taking pictures and videos starting from the garden near the entrance. There is no doubt that the tourists are there to see Lucy.

The museum, also called the "Lucy Museum", was part of the national library in 1936. After the national independence, it underwent gradual reformations until the late 1970s. The highlight of the museum, Lucy's fossilized bones, are on exhibit in the first lower level. Although she was a fully grown adult, she had a fragile body shape at a height of only about 160cm. Her fossilized bones are exhibited inside a transparent coffin.

However, the excitement of seeing one of the first humans does not last long. The moment when one realizes that Lucy is in fact just a replica, it is hard to hide a sense of disappointment. Of course, the museum has the actual bones of Lucy in their possession. However, considering the storage issue and the significance of their value, they are securely locked up inside a specially designed safe inside the paleoanthropology lab at the museum. Of course, general visitors cannot see the original bones. The only non-researcher who has seen Lucy in person and touched the bones was the former President of the United States, Barack Obama.

Lucy, the name that even people who are not interested in paleoanthropology must remember. What is she exactly, and why is she so important to humanity?

AL 288-1, the discovery of Dinkines, also known as Lucy

It was one Sunday morning around 45 years ago, the November 24, 1974, to be exact. Near the river that flows next to the village of Hadar located in the Awash Valley in the Afar triangular region in Ethiopia, the American paleoanthropologist Donald Johanson discovered what looked like fossilized anthropoid bones. After the first discovery, the paleoanthropologist discovered the human skull, spine, and ribs, which made up 40% of the entire human body. Fossils of a human body in such prime condition had never been discovered in one place. The expedition team, excited at the chance to contribute to the history of paleoanthropology, held a party. One of the researchers was repeatedly playing the Beatles song "Lucy in the Sky with Diamonds". Someone suggested that they call the fossils Lucy, and just like that, she had a human name. The original name of the fossils was AL 288-1, or Dinkines, which means "you are marvelous" in Amharic. That is how Lucy got her name.

Humans are the only mammals that can walk upright, and we are called homo sapiens sapiens. Who, then, are our known direct ancestors? This is the species of Lucy, Australopithecus Afarensis. There are various species of Australopithecus, but the fossils of Lucy show that Afarensis apparently could walk on two feet. That is why it has been praised with fancy nicknames such as "the ancestor of humans" or "the first human", being recognized as the most important specimen in paleoanthropology.

However, it was only recently that an unexpected discovery was made that was equivalent to the plot twist in "The Sixth Sense".

What do you mean Lucy may not be our direct ancestor?

On 28 August, 2019, Doctor Yohannes Haile-Selassie, an Ethiopian paleoanthropologist and a curator at the Cleveland Museum of Natural History, published his "discovery of a lifetime" in the world-famous science journal Nature. His claim is that Lucy's nickname of "the first" human may not be so accurate anymore.





The following is his simplified argument. In 2018, a research team discovered fossilized facial bones called MRD, which are 3.8 million years old. The set of bones was revealed to belong to Australopithecus Anamensis, a species that predates Lucy's species, Australopithecus Afarensis. Meanwhile, the research group compared the 3.8-millionyear-old MRD fossils with the 3.9-million-year-old fossils known as Belohdeli Frontal. Through this comparison, they concluded that Belohdeli Frontal belonged to the same species as Lucy, that is, Australopithecus Afarensis. With the discovery of MRD, it was found that Anamensis and Afarensis coexisted for about 100 thousand years.

In conclusion, it suggests that species other than Lucy's could have evolved to become the first humans. Paleoanthropologists now have to go back to square one and compare all of the species that existed not long before and after Lucy to find out which one has the most similar features to the first humans. Doctor Yohannes Haile-Selassie said, "You're asking me which species is the direct ancestors of humans? Well, all bets are now off!"

Paleoanthropology is a like a funny puzzle game. With the recent announcement, the genealogy of humans has been mixed up again. However, it does not change the fact that Lucy is still a very important fossil. The Beatles sang, "Lucy in the sky with diamonds". The actual Lucy is in Addis Ababa in Ethiopia. If you have the chance, you can go and see her even now.

Ethiopian Coffee ceremony

The holy and fascinating ritual

There is a warm, dark-colored liquid that makes people instantly feel better after taking a sip, and fills the body with energy with wide open eyes! That magical drink is coffee. Nowadays, it is not so difficult to come across a place where one can experience fresh, flavorful coffee with world-famous coffee shops, cafes that only deal in specialty coffee, and roasteries offering freshly roasted beans. However, none can compare to the flavor and fragrance of bunna(meaning coffee in Amharic) from Ethiopia, the original birthplace of coffee. One cup of coffee made with sincerity, with beans roasted and ground by hand, is infused with care, love, wishes, respect, and all sorts of other positive energy.

Written by Suh Hyewon
Photos by Han Sangmooh



Bunna, not coffee

After being in Ethiopia, there are now only two types of coffee for me. Ethiopian coffee, and the rest. Of course, coffee is a product of personal preference, so individuals will have different tastes and preferences. Even so, it would be illogical for a person to claim to know about coffee without having tasted Ethiopian coffee, whether they are a famous barista, roaster, or cafe owner. By “Ethiopian coffee”, I do not mean high-quality Arabica like Gesah or Yirgacheffe. I am referring to Bunna. I mean the coffee with a thick consistency that is made with the traditional Ethiopian roasting and grinding methods.

Bunna presents a new sensation that cannot be seen, tasted, or smelled in other coffee. As soon as the coffee touches the tip of the tongue, all sorts of flavors that are hard to define clearly including a natural sweetness, a gentle sourness that does not sting the taste buds, a slight saltiness, and nutty flavors storm the inside of the mouth like an orchestra. The clean aftertaste that does not linger bitterly in the mouth after emptying the whole cup is quite fascinating. Truly, absolutely, delicious.

At least three cups a day, the kingdom of coffee

“Have you had coffee?”, “Do you want to get coffee?”, “Can I offer you coffee?” These are the words that I heard in Ethiopia most frequently. To Ethiopian people, coffee is more than a simple drink. It means care for the other person, and the way that people greet one another. It is a symbol of friendliness and an offering.

The Ethiopian myth regarding the creation of coffee is well known. Around the 6th and 7th centuries, a shepherd named Kaldi observed that his goats would not sleep at night, and would run around energetically after eating a kind of red beans that he had not seen before. So Kaldi took some of the beans home for himself, boiled them in water, and drank it. His mind became clear and fresh. Excited at his discovery of the mysterious plant, Kaldi told the Islamic monks about the beans. They called them “devil’s fruits”, and tossed them into the fire. But soon even more fragrant and delicious smells started to come from the fruits that were tossed into the fire. That is said to be how coffee came about. There is no way of knowing whether Kaldi in this believable myth really existed. One thing we can be sure of, however, is that Ethiopia has the most perfect natural environment for coffee to grow. That is, Ethiopia, located in an alpine region more than 2,000 m above sea level, has a stable climate that is not too cold and not too warm throughout the year. One thing that is more important than the myth is that the unique culture in Ethiopia shows how the people love and cherish coffee.



Ethiopia is the only country among countries that export coffee beans that has its own unique coffee drinking culture. This is called bunna maflat, which can be translated to “coffee ceremony”. This is a ceremony that is treated as holy like a religious ritual. It is designed to appreciate the entire process of drinking coffee, starting from washing and roasting the green coffee beans. The ritual can be carried out at any time of the day, but most people do it while having breakfast, lunch, or dinner. It is customary to drink at least 3 cups of coffee during the ceremony, so if one person has two or three meetings in a day, the person would end up having at least 6 cups in one day.

People do bunna maflat with their family members at home, but one can easily notice people doing bunna maflat on the streets and in shops.

The most elegant coffee ceremony in the world

In order to do the coffee ceremony, the surrounding environment must first be set. First of all, clean the place where the ceremony is to take place. Then, place ketema leaves, which signify welcome and good luck, and prepare a small dinner table called rekebot on top of the leaves. On the table, place small coffee cups called sini for the number of guests. Only women can host the coffee ceremony.

During a coffee ceremony, it is a basic courtesy to drink at least three cups of coffee. The first cup is called abol, the second cup tawna, and the third cup baraka. You may be concerned about excessive consumption of caffeine, but the second and third cups are more diluted with water, and thus have weaker flavor and strength.

One ceremony usually takes about one and a half to two hours maximum. If the conversation gets interesting in the middle, it easily extends by an extra hour. When an Ethiopian friend asks, “Nu Bunna Tetu? (Shall we get some coffee?),” do not expect a quick sip.

Ethiopians are the people who know coffee the best, and have been drinking coffee for the longest time. To them, coffee is their national pride and identity, and is a way of life. An Ethiopian proverb summarizes this well: “Buna dabo aw.” Translated literally, it means, “Coffee is our bread.” To Ethiopians, the golden coffee beans are as precious as a staple food.



A Big palteful of love

A traditional Ethiopian food, ‘Injela’

“Mom! These people are using a pancake like a spoon!” This is the first thing that the famous character Lisa from the Simpsons said when she first saw Injela. She was not wrong. When you eat Injela, you do not need forks, spoons, chopsticks, or plates. Just take a piece of warm Injela with small holes, and dip it in spicy Ethiopian curry called ‘wat’, or wrap it with the roasted meat called ‘tibs’. After finishing the food on top, enjoy the last piece that was underneath the food soaked in various sauces like a plate. Truly, Injela is food and a dish.

Written by Suh Hyewon **Photos by** Han Sangmooh



Healthy food made with the super grain, teff

The main ingredient of Injela is grains from the ancient species of cereal grass called teff. Teff has been in the land throughout the 3000 years’ history of Ethiopia.

This native African grains as small as little dots offer a vast range of health benefits. First of all, the grains contain as many as eight types of amino acids that accelerate the release of growth hormones including lysine. It is also a gluten-free grain, and can be easily consumed by people with chronic digestive problems. Teff is known to stimulate the release of insulin, and adjust the level of blood sugar. Perhaps the most interesting part is that it is an excellent diet food as it contains a lot of dietary fiber, which makes one feel full easily, with low calories.

As the story of its nutritional benefits spreads fast, teff quickly started to be hailed as new superfood in the United States and Europe. Thanks to its rising popularity, the Ethiopian farmers are working hard to meet the increased demand in the international market. Traditionally, Injela is made only using teff. However, sometimes wheat, barley, or corn are mixed to teff since its price has gone up. There are different varieties of teff in white, brown, and red colors. Accordingly, the color of Injela varies slightly as well.





When in Ethiopia, do as the Ethiopians do

No matter how much experience you claim to have in making pancakes, you will find yourself in an embarrassing position if you assumed making Injela will be as easy. At a simple glance, it looks very similar to making Korean pancakes. However, rather complicated and delicate procedures are required. It also requires a good deal of care and preparation time. Recently, more and more people purchase Injela from nearby stores.

There is some useful etiquette to know when eating Injela. Firstly, use your freshly washed, clean right hand to eat Injela. Be aware that left hands are associated with uncleanness. Secondly, there is a custom of feeding Injela to your friends or family members called “gursha”. Gursha means “a mouthful” in Amharic. It also means a bonus, bribe, or tip. When even your Ethiopian friend wraps food with a hand and tries to feed you the food, do not be surprised. Just take the food, and it is even better if you could do gursha for the other person.

There is a proverb in Ethiopia that says, “Those who share the same plate will never betray each other.” Perhaps the Ethiopian people created bonds and deep trust with each other by sharing Injela among at least two family members, relatives, and friends. They say one can understand a country’s national character by looking at the food they eat. By looking at how Ethiopians generously feed each other almost every meal, one could understand what warm-hearted people Ethiopians are.

Global gourmet food in Itaewon

Introducing global specialty restaurants

It no longer surprises Koreans when a foreign tourist who is visiting Korea says, “Kimchi is delicious! I really like Bulgogi!” in Korean. However, regardless of nationalities, when travelers visit foreign countries, they may inevitably crave food which match their palate or satisfies their desire for a taste of home. Just like Koreans look for Korean restaurants with names such as ‘Arirang’ or ‘Dae-jang-geum’, when visiting foreign countries, what if your foreigner friend misses her/his native cuisine in Korea? Grab their hand and take them to Itaewon, become a “Savior” who would quench a suffering traveler’s thirst in a desert.

Written by Nam Jiyeon **Photos by** Kim Huijin

Morocco MARAKECH RESTAURANT



You can easily find Marrakech Restaurant, a traditional Moroccan food restaurant, by exiting Itaewon Station (Line 6) Exit 1 and walking to the alley on your right.
Tajine, a traditional Moroccan stew, is the main dish on the menu, and there are five kinds of Tajine that you can choose from to suit your tastes and style. People either love or hate Harira soup, a common appetizer, due to its strong aroma and spices. But order it if you want to experience true Moroccan local food. Beef Kofta Tajine, one of the most popular Tajines, contains tender beef that goes exceptionally well with a rich tomato soup.
When eaten together with a light and simple nutty bread, you will soon find an empty plate before you.
Marrakech Restaurant is a halal restaurant that uses halal certified ingredients, with the menu changing periodically allowing for the introduction of various Moroccan dishes.

- 43, Itaewon-ro 27ga-gil, Yongsan-gu, Seoul, Republic of Korea
- 11:30 - 24:00
- Salad 5,000₩ ~ 15,000₩
  Tajine 20,000₩
  Goulash 20,000₩
- +82-2-795-9441





Jordan PETRA



Located near Noksapyeong Station, a 10-minute walk from Itaewon, Petra is a Middle Eastern restaurant that sells Jordanian food. This restaurant is a great place to go if you wish to make important guests from the Middle East feel at home.
With excellent quality ingredients that are cooked to maintain their fresh textures, most of the cuisine on offer has a clean and healthy taste. To make Falafel, Petra’s most popular dish, chickpeas are boiled, mixed and mashed with various vegetables, and then fried in a circular shape. Its texture and appearance is similar to that of potato croquette. After tearing the pita bread that comes with Falafel, dip the half-cut falafel into sauce, and then wrap it with a salad to enjoy a light and fresh taste.
Petra is a Halal restaurant that uses halal certified ingredients. They have a separate menu for vegetarians.

- 33, Noksapyeong-daero 40-gil, Yongsan-gu, Seoul, Republic of Korea
- 11:00 - 22:00
- Falafel 8,000₩ ~ 12,000₩ Kabsa 18,000₩ ~ 20,000₩
  Mansaf 24,000₩
- +82-2-790-4433







Egypt CAIRO BBQ



Cairo Barbecue, located near the entrance of the Seoul Central Mosque of Islam, offers Egyptian and other Middle Eastern foods. The restaurant proudly presents reasonable and affordable prices as its customers are mainly foreigners such as Egyptians living in Korea or Muslim visitors to the Seoul Central Mosque of Islam.
Hummus salad made with chickpeas is highly recommended as the savor of olive oil is harmoniously added to a dish distinct for its light taste and texture. Lamb leg with fried rice, the most eye-catching main course, presents overwhelming visuals that pleases the eye. The lamb, cooked with minimal seasoning, without overwhelming spices, has an unparalleled soft texture.
Cairo Barbecue is also a halal restaurant that uses halal certified ingredients restaurant.

- 45, Usadan-ro 10-gil, Yongsan-gu, Seoul, Republic of Korea
- 11:00 - 23:00
- Salad 3,000₩
  Dawood basha 7,000₩
  Lamb leg fried rice 15,000₩
- +82-2-798-1253



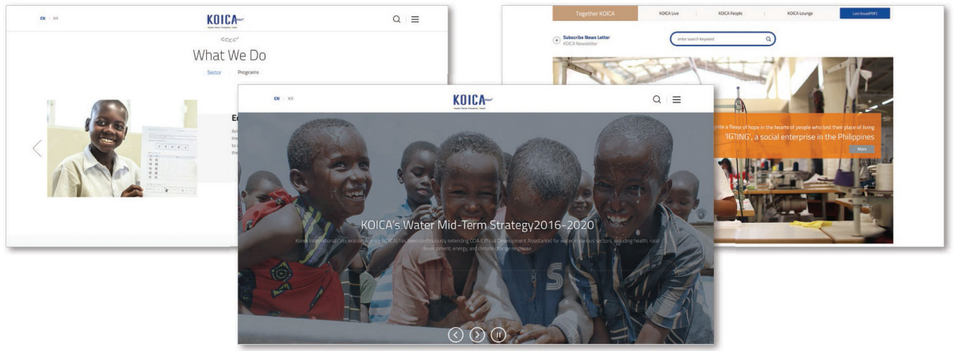
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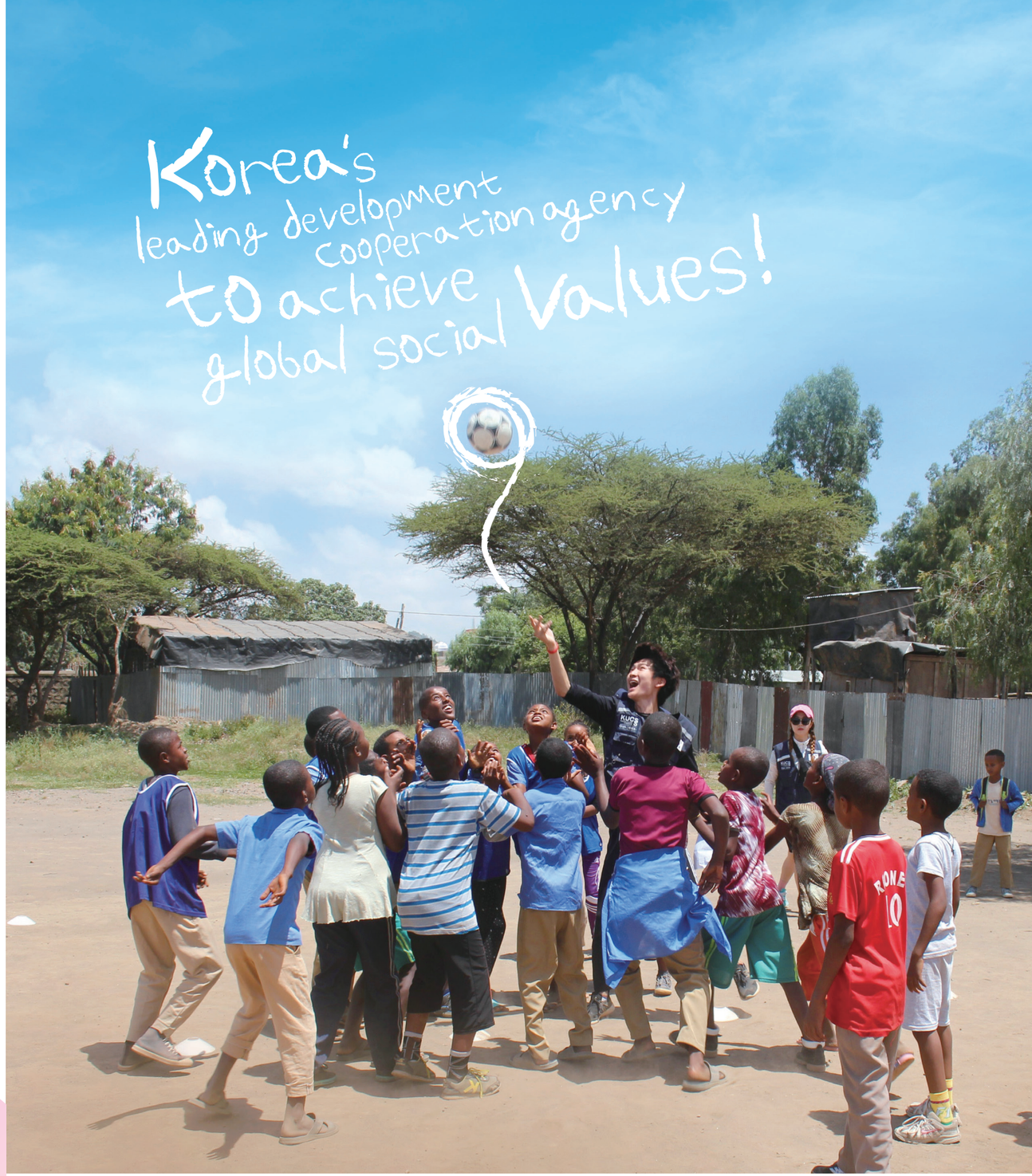


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