

abstract

The aim of this research report is to provide the policy suggestions for Korea's Official Development Assistance (ODA) regarding fragile states. In this report, the 'fragile state' is defined as the state which lacks the authority and legitimacy of its regime and has insufficient ability and willingness to provide public services and does not guarantee security against internal violence and external emergencies. By applying the fragility criteria of this report, politics, governance and security, while each of which is subcategorized, this report identifies 18 fragile states which appear at least once in the top ten lists of each fragility dimension. The profile of fragility will be helpful not only to understand the conditions of the fragile states but also to comprehend various causes of fragility and set effective aid strategies for Korea's ODA. This report also analyzes the current development assistance toward fragile states from KOICA. Among 56 countries which are in KOICA's main development partners in 2008, 15 countries belong to the fragile states which are highly concurrent countries among various alternative lists of fragile states including the 18 fragile states from this research. This report examines the decision making process and implementation system in relation to the fragile states at the government level. This report suggests to establish a 'Conflict and Fragility Team' in KOICA rather than establish an official department for fragile states as a realistic alternative and to establish coordination body to realize the 'whole-of-government' approach by which diplomatic security issues and development cooperation issues for fragile states can be harmonized and effectively coordinated.