

Executive Summary

This research aims to provide guidance for improving the internal and external knowledge sharing (KS) of KOICA (Korea International Cooperation Agency), which is in charge of delivering grant aid from the Republic of Korea for international development cooperation.

There has long been an international consensus on what is practically needed for the effective development of developing countries. One of the solutions most often discussed is to utilize knowledge for development and to share knowledge between developed countries and developing country or between developing countries.

Organizations concerned with development cooperation have been working to mainstream knowledge sharing in their own activities. Here, knowledge sharing includes the whole chain of KS concepts: KS-friendly management and projects run by agencies, knowledge sharing with recipient countries for their capacity development and thus achieving effective development. Consequently the starting point of development cooperation through knowledge sharing should be having an organization in place that has operational processes which are consistent with facilitating internal and external knowledge sharing.

Essentially, development organizations, by their very nature, tend to conduct operations with many different partners and in various environments. Although knowledge for development is shared in many ways in order to cater to the needs of various actors, it can be classified into internal and external knowledge sharing.

Internal knowledge sharing means the various activities to promote KS within development organizations in order to manage their business effectively. External knowledge sharing is to exchange necessary knowledge mutually with stakeholders on the outside of organization for the effective development of the recipient country. This study presents recommendations for applying practical knowledge sharing with KOICA, classifying it into organizational knowledge, organizational links, organizational contexts and external factors.

Development cooperation through knowledge sharing is a new concept which is coming to the fore within the field of international development. The internal and external knowledge sharing of KOICA for effective development is one of new challenges that lies ahead and a stepping stone to future success.