

**KOICA Briefing Paper** 

# Achieving SDG16: The Implementation Strategy of KOICA

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# I. Introduction

# 1. Outline of Research

United Nation (UN)'s 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) presented 17 goals that all members of the global community should achieve. Among them, SDG16 focuses on "a peaceful and inclusive society for sustainable development, providing access to justice for all, building effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all level." This can be interpreted as an international response to political inequality.

In response to the needs of the international community, the current Korean government has already emphasized the realization of social values (such as human rights, participation, and support for the vulnerable etc.) as a key policy objective. Meanwhile, the Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) declared to realize universal values such as peace, human rights, and democracy (hereafter, PHD) in its top ten innovation tasks and decided to expand the projects with the aim of this. In



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addition, Korea naturally established itself as a leading country of peace, human rights, and democracy which are the crucial component of SDG16 thanks to the experience of modern history—candle-light revolution and (re)democratization—and the changes in inter-Korean relations towards peaceful settlement of the North Korean nuclear issue.

This research first introduce the concept of peace, human rights, and democracy (democratic governance) in SDG16, and analyzes international trends the evolution of the application of SDG16 in the respective development cooperation of leading donors. Then the research will explore the possibility of targeting and mainstreaming SDG16 in KOICA's development cooperation strategy.

This research analyzes the related topics such as peace, human rights, and democracy (democratic governance), rather than the detailed thematic study of SDG16. Based on this, this paper aims to propose a concrete and practical implementation strategy for KOICA. Three specific objectives are set to achieve this namely: i) to summarize the major discussion on SDG16-related and peace, human rights, and democracy (democratic governance) research; ii) to analyze other donors' environment and status of implementing SDG16; and iii) to suggest ways to more effective implementation of SDG16 in the future for KOICA at a strategic level.

# 2. Definition of Key Concepts

The official name of SDG16, as defined by the UN are i) a peaceful and inclusive society for sustainable development at all levels, providing access to justice for all and building effective, responsible, and inclusive institutions; ii) peace, justice, and strong institution; and iii) peace (Lee, 2018). Since then, SDG16+ has taken the concept that SDG16 itself should be considered beyond achieving SDG16 itself based on its relevance to seven other goals that are highly relevant. In this paper, SDG16+ is not covered as a single concept, but as a broader concept to strengthen SDG16's implementation and knowledge sharing.

The position on implementing SDG16 is grounded on various perspectives on how it is understood and conceptualized. Although this conceptualization has developed



in many directions, this paper has refined the detailed goals of SDG16 according to three themes (peace, human rights, and democratic governance).

# II. Major Domestic and International Policy and Trends for Implementation of SDG16

# 1. Major Discussions in the International Community

### 1) SDG16 Concepts, Goals, and Indicators

The international community centered on UN considers the importance of a peaceful society the rule of law, the inclusive approach to governance, and institution building as a development agenda by establishing it in SDG16 (Kim, 2015). The goals of the SDGs is composed of the five values (5Ps) that the UN is aiming for: People, Prosperity, Planet, Peace, and Partnership. From the perspective of 5Ps, SDG16 is gaining its importance as it is not only a goal to be achieved, but also a means to achieve other goals.

Compared to other SDGs goals, SDG16 has the most number of targets and indicators because multilateral and bilateral agencies have paid much attention to make SDG16 a practical and transformative goal. However, the 12 targets describe the goal in a vague and abstract way, and they mostly focus on 'good governance' which leads to significantly less number of targets for 'peace.' Therefore, SDG16 leaves a regret in that the methods to measure the result and implementation plan on how to fulfill this goal was not specifically presented in the targets.

Along with the rise of SDG16, relevant stakeholders such as nations, international organizations, and civil societies have launched a variety of international initiatives and are actively leading discussions on peace, human rights, and democratic governance. Among them, Pathfinders is particularly noteworthy for its efforts to make the core concept of SDG16—peace, justice, and inclusive society—practical at the national level.



#### 2) PHD Trends in International Arena

The international community, led by the UN, has continuously developed issues related to peace, human rights, and democratic governance. It is introducing and developing new discussions in tune with the changing international situation.

Among the SDG16 agenda, **peace** refers to the peace-building and sustaining peace, led by UN Peace-Building Commission. Unlike peacekeeping or peacemaking, which has been discussed previously as a way of resolving conflicts, peace-building is a comprehensive activity that promotes social, economic development and changes in order to transform structural conflicts in society into a longer-term, sustainable environment.

Nonetheless, violent conflicts have repeatedly occurred over the world in the past decade. The international community has faced criticisms that its interventions are ineffective, resulting in devaluation of the existing frame of peace-building. Under this circumstance, the concept of 'sustainable peace' is newly introduced. Sustainable peace has been proposed to overcome the limitations of the existing concept of peacebuilding that concentrate on the post-conflict situation and to take a more effective and consistent approach to active peace. Sustainable peace takes into account all the long-term needs to create an inclusive society at all points in the conflict cycle, starting from identifying elements contributing to a peaceful society, not from the conflicts.

Human rights are linked to the realization of human rights through a human rights-based approach (HRBA) led by UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (UNOHCHR) and the Human Rights Commission (HRC). Since the new vision of emphasizing the cooperation between human rights and development in The World Conference on Human Rights in 1993, UN has developed "UN Common Understanding on the Human Rights-Based Approach (2003)" to help mainstream human rights into UN-related national activities. In addition, UN has set up a human rights mainstreaming mechanism to promote the application of human rights perspectives in its major policies and projects since 2009. At the same time, UN has standardized the application of human rights approach which has been implemented in diverse ways in the international society by providing indicators and matrices as



well as human rights principles and guidelines. As a result, HRBA started to be mainstreamed from the project identification phase. 'Institutionalization of human rights in development' has been slowed down from UN's core debate, with the emphasis on result-based discussions around the globe and the side effects of institutionalization of human rights. But recently, it is reexamined as linkages between SDGs and peace, human rights, and democratization are discussed.

**Democratic governance** aims to incorporate inequality issues and consideration of vulnerable groups into the development agenda through the concept of 'Leaving no one behind.' The major leading groups on the issue are UN Development Programme (UNDP), Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), International Development Law Organization (IDLO) and so on. 'Democracy support', which has been centered on western capitalist countries in the past, is now becoming a paradigm of 'international cooperation for democracy.' This is because it is difficult to achieve the long-term development of the partner countries through mere support and the fact that prioritization of proper governance and democracy is confirmed by the experience of half a century of international development cooperation with academic evidence. As a result, UN Human Rights Council and the UN General Assembly are making various efforts to democratize and institutionalize democracy in the field of international cooperation, such as the birth of UN Democracy Fund (UNDEF), which adopts and directly controls the resolution on democracy annually.

### 3) Reconstruction of SDG16 and PHD Approach

The position on SDG16's implementation strategy is based on different perspectives on how SDG16 is understood and conceptualized. The common emphasis of all of these perspectives is that SDG16 needs to be explored by being associated with other goals to realize the transformative and reformative agenda of SDGs goals. Based on various perspectives of understanding SDG16, this study sought to effectively reconfigure the SDGs' goals with peace, human rights, and democratic governance focusing on the PHD approach. In particular, considering that SDG16 is linked to other goals, it is divided into core and linked(SDG16+)



targets under peace, human rights, and democratic governance.

### 2. Major Discussions in the Domestic Arena

#### 1) Policy Direction

In terms of peace, Korea focuses primarily on resolving conflicts that arise in the context of the division with North Korea. Specifically, Korea paid attention to the possibility of North Korea's nuclear development threats to the peace and security of the international community and has made intensive efforts to resolve the North Korean nuclear issue. The basic position is to build a peaceful Korean peninsula with the denuclearization of North Korea and the establishment of a peace system. Through this, the goal is to promote peace and stability in Northeast Asia and ultimately to pursue peaceful reunification in the Korean peninsula. The Korean government is taking the lead in creating peace and cooperation in Northeast Asia through the establishment of a "Northeast Asia Peace Cooperation Platform" in consideration of its geographical characteristics.

Korea is also actively involved in regional and international cooperation to promote democracy around the world. Especially, Korea is leading the democratic community as a member of the executive board and the second largest donor of the CoD, the most representative international cooperation body in the field of democracy. By participating in the Bali Democracy Forum, established in 2008 initiated by Indonesia, and the UN Democracy Fund, Korea promotes democracy in the international community (i.e. support for the establishment of a new democracy).

#### 2) Korea's SDG16 in International Development Cooperation

The turning point to starting the discussion of the SDG16 on the Korean Development Cooperation Group was the inaugural address of the new president of KOICA in November 2017, declaring 'ODA to realize core value of peace, democracy, human rights and gender equality.' KOICA is actively participating in international



efforts to achieve the SDGs under the governmental guidelines and is seeking to pursue long-term national interests by increasing Korea's status in the international community through substantial contributions.

However, the domestic discussion on SDG16 was generally inadequate. According to an evaluation (Kwak et al., 2017) published this year, KOICA has made efforts to contribute to the achievement of SDGs through Mid- and Long-term Strategies (2017-2021) and SDGs Strategy. It is difficult to see that there are a specific strategy and direction for achieving the 'Leaving No One Behind' principle that considers human rights and the vulnerable, which is a valuable aspect of SDGs. Overall, it is clear that Korea has developed policies and social discourses related to peace, human rights, and democracy in a short period of time. However, efforts to achieve policy coherence with the development cooperation area on an international level are relatively inadequate. It can be interpreted that the public consensus, social consensus, and support base for international development cooperation centered on ODA are sufficient to reduce the gap between domestic and foreign policy.

# III. Case Study of Major Donors' SDG16 Implementation

# 1. Sweden's SDG16 Policy and Program

### 1) Sweden's SDG16 Policy and Strategy

The Swedish government conceptualizes the main goal of its aid and international development cooperation as 'to create a better life prerequisite for the poor and oppressed.' In addition, 'equitable and sustainable global development' became the pan-governmental international development goal founded on the "Shared Responsibility: Sweden's Policy for Global Development (PGD)" adopted by the National Assembly in 2003. Particularly, the Swedish government has set a higher target for democracy, human rights, and gender equality than the SDGs.

Primarily, Sweden's international development cooperation seeks human security



for poverty reduction and sustainable development which is also seen as a challenge to be addressed through a right- and poverty-based approach. Sweden has made a number of efforts to include this perspective in its international development goals. Most notable among them is the inclusion of disputed countries in the target countries and setting the prevention of conflict and inclusive peace in its priorities of foreign policy since the 1990s.

Initiated from "Swedish Action Plan", published in 1999, Sweden called for Sida to take a holistic approach based on dispute and conflict analysis. With that, it steadily advocated peace and security, conflict prevention and resolution through various policy and strategic documents. Sweden recently presented concrete measures for the prevention of armed conflict, peace-building, national formation and human security through "Strategy for Sustainable Peace 2017–2022." The important point is not that it originated from a sectoral approach, but it also has developed policy and implementation strategies around rights-based perspectives and multiple aspects of poverty.

Human rights and democracy are treated consistently within the same policies and strategies, with the view that the power structure must be enhanced through human rights and democracy in order to fundamentally solve poverty. Swedish government's human rights and democratic support projects have given priority to three areas: enhancing civil and political rights, strengthening institutions and procedures for democratic and rule of law principles, and promoting and strengthening democratic elements.

### 2) Sweden's SDG16 Project Implementation System

Sida recently developed "Peace and Conflict Tool Box (2017)" to facilitate a comprehensive understanding of conflict, and peace and security. It shared Sida's expertise and leadership role in peace and security in the international community. This toolbox provides guidance on how and when to apply the conflict-sensitive perspective at the project implementation stage, along with terminology, definition, and technical information related to peace. Sida also stipulates through the policy



framework adopted in 2016 that an integrated view of conflict should be applied in all development cooperation activities. Meanwhile, the Swedish government actively supports programs for peace and security in civil society.

Sida uses HRBA as a tool for practical application of rights-based, povertycentered, gender equality, conflict, environmental and climate perspective. Democratic governance, as a 'democracy' sector, is applied within the same policy framework and project execution system as human rights. If human rights is considered as a mainstreaming principle which is a basis of Swedish international development cooperation through a rights perspective and HRBA and a sectoral issue, democratic governance is a key element in realizing democracy, the system that can best implement human rights principles.

# 2. Germany's SDG16 Policy and Program

#### 1) Germany's SDG16 Policy and Strategy

Germany, caused World War II and defeated, actively utilized ODA in the process of returning to the international community. Today, the country is regarded as a leader in direct support for peace and security. German government implemented the SDGs' spiritual goals as part of the government-wide development policy through the White Paper on Development Cooperation. And also, Germany announced five roadmaps for the implementation of the SDGs 2030 agenda in 2017. Currently, Germany is not planning to set up a separate SDG16 strategy but plans to implement policy, guidelines and program reforms gradually through the conceptualization of peace, human rights and democratic governance in 2018-2020.

BMZ, a German development cooperation organization, has been consistently developing various policy documents in relation to PHD such as presenting guidelines on actions to be followed in disputed situations. Germany defines human rights strategies as legally binding obligations as well as economic guidelines for development policies. The German human rights-based approach, which has been steadily experimented since the 1990s, was made into policy and specific guidelines were published and applied since the early 2000s. Based on these policies, strategies,



and guidelines, BMZ assesses the implementation of human rights strategies of each implementing agency. Civil society actively monitors the human rights approach of their own nation's ODA and conducts pre- and post-monitoring activities on human rights violations.

Germany also focuses on building civil society, structuring human rights, and enhancing communication capacity in partner countries through numerous measures such as strengthening human rights education in the development cooperation framework. Germany's democratic governance policy is in line with the field of human rights promotion. The government has developed human rights instruments and human rights monitoring tools in the human rights and gender guidelines for bilateral cooperation.

#### 2) Germany's SDG16 Project Implementation System

BMZ Strategic Document (4/2013e), Development for Peace and Security, was intended to provide guidelines for KfW, DEG, GIZ, civil society and private sector projects. It has closely connected to human rights, rights of children and women, rural development, anti-corruption, integrity and poverty strategies.

In addition, BMZ has developed a methodological framework for peace, which provides a modular framework that can be applied in situations of conflict, vulnerability and violence. The four elements do not have any fixed continuity that makes them possible to be used independently. Also, they can be applied flexibly according to specific situation, phase, and demand.

German government operates the Civil Peace Service (CPS) to support peace, human rights, and development agencies and organizations. All of the projects undertaken through the CPS are aimed at resolving nonviolent disputes with the goal of strengthening the capacity of partner countries to contribute to violent conflict prevention, reduction of violence, and long-term peace-building.

"Human Rights in German Development Policy" sets out legally binding obligations in development cooperation, which is the basis of guidelines for all



implementing organizations. Germany is also realizing the mainstreaming of human rights by presenting the minimum 'do no harm' guidelines in each sector that can be applied to the general projects. However, checklists for general projects are suggested since not all projects can be mainstreamed or targeted (Kwak et al., 2017).

Democratic governance, like human rights, is the foundational value of German development cooperation and is being mainstreamed in all projects. At the same time, it is designated as a priority area for cooperation and runs targeting strategy which concentrates on technical cooperation in accordance with the requests of the partner countries.

### 3. Summary and Implication

The implications of the case studies of policies and programs in Sweden and Germany can be summarized as follows.

First, the legal and policy basis of relevant ministries for the implementation of the PHD is crucial. Germany recognizes the importance of human rights, democracy and peace as a policy and diplomatic agenda in foreign missions and emphasizes diplomatic support for PHD's field activities.

Second, both Sweden and Germany emphasize multi-level cooperation centered on peace, human rights, and democracy by separating the roles of ministries and aid agencies. The ministry of foreign affairs must participate in the policy dialogue on the possibility and role of international cooperation for human rights, democracy and peace in multilateral and regional cooperation. While aid agencies identify and implement representative programs for them and lead dialogue and cooperation with different bilateral/private organizations.

Third, gradual introduction of various policy and program tools developed and applied by Sweden and Germany is possible. In reference to Germany's BMZ, and the Swedish government's human rights mainstreaming instrument, the human rights-based approach can be more strategically applied and practiced.



Fourth, there is a need to strengthen the expertise of human rights situation, peace and conflict situation, and governance analysis in the analysis of overseas trends or country partnership strategies as stressed by Sweden and Germany. It is necessary to establish a strategy to apply conflict analysis, conflict-sensitivity analysis and monitoring, pre-crisis assessment and management tool in phases while preparing to initiate the related representative program.

Fifth, other donors and aid agencies have been playing an active role in fostering peace, human rights, and democracy support groups and like-minded groups to actually practice PHD in international development policies and programs. In Sweden and Germany, the ministries and aid agencies jointly carry out joint research, guideline establishment, independent evaluation, and education in cooperation with these support groups. It is impressive that they invest their budget and effort in advance to realize the relevant values in the development cooperation program system.

# IV. Status of KOICA's Implementation of SDG16 and Strengthening Implementation

# 1. Status of KOICA's SDG16 Strategies and Guidelines

KOICA, including the Korean government, has established the 'KOICA Mid-term Sectoral Strategy (2016-2020)' by connecting KOICA's supporting areas and each goal of SDGs in order to strengthen the implementation capability of SDGs. SDG16 is linked to three areas, governance, health and gender equality. However, SDG16 focuses on the governance, which does not represent the detailed topics of SDG16 such as peace, inclusive society, and violence prevention and management. It is thus estimated that there is no comprehensive guide for the implementation of SDG16 at present.

KOICA confirms that SDG16 is both a tool and a goal to achieve SDGs. KOICA



identifies the need for SDG16 to expand its linkage with other areas presented in the current mid-term strategy and cross-sectoral application. KOICA's commitment to the realization of the vision of SDG16 could be clearly seen on the inaugural address of the KOICA Innovation Committee (KOICA's Innovation Road Map (February 22, 2018)) and in the keynote address of the president at the 2018 BuDF (January  $22\sim25$ , Busan).

# 2. KOICA's SDG16 Sub-Sector (PHD) Project Operation Status

In this study, "Classification Criteria and Definitions of Project Status" for KOICA's existing project classification and "Project Classification Criteria and Definitions" for that could be referenced not only for KOICA existing project classification but also for future SDG16's thematic project identification for KOICA were derived.

# 1) Methodology for Deriving KOICA's Project Classification and Definition by 'SDG16'

In order to establish detailed sub-sector project category classification criteria for the three themes of peace, human rights and democratic governance corresponding to SDG16, 36 SDGs targets for SDG16+ and their indicators were used. It means the scope of analysis is expanded from SDG16 to SDG16+ in order to reflect the effort to consider SDG16 mainstreaming.

Also, refer to "OECD Aid Code of Objectives for CRS Classification" in order to derive the detailed definitions based on SDGs with detailed classification categories for each theme. Currently, there is an agreement for each OECD CRS code by the SDGs goals in KOICA. Therefore, these codes are used to comprehensively consider codes that are highly correlated with the SDG16's thematic contents including the CRS code corresponding to SDG16.



#### 2) Result of Analysis

Category reclassification was conducted for a total of 115 projects, from the first quarter of 2017 to the first quarter of 2018, corresponding to five quarters in two years. The projects that can be qualitatively judged to be related to the SDG16—which have elements of peace, human rights, and democracy in their title, content, and purpose—are restructured by categories on the 'Definition.'

As a result of reclassification according to the newly defined principles and definitions, KOICA's SDG16 projects are composed into democratic governance (85 out of 115, 74%), human rights (17 out of 115, 15%) and peace (13 out of 116, 11%) from largest to smallest. In total, projects were leaned towards three categories (50 D3 projects, 17 H2 projects, 16 D6 projects) among the 17 categories (5 peace, 2 human rights, 10 democratic governance).

As a result of analysis, the following characteristics were found: i) most of them are e-government included projects, ii) many projects with high difficulty were not implemented, iii) there is no evidence to judge to what extent the project was developed with the PHD concept since SDG16 paradigm did not exist at the time of project formulation (although the scope of the project is included in the category).

# 3. KOICA's Implementation Strategy for Targeting SDG16

KOICA intends to contribute to the peaceful, just and inclusive society of international society through the implementation of SDG16. The area that immediate reflection of reality is 'the system that allows for the simultaneous growth of democracy and economy' and it requires first to develop the project in the fields of peace, human rights, and democracy. This may be relatively fragmented, but it may be the most efficient approach to short-term SDG16 targeting strategy.

In a long-term, it would be possible to design multiple convergence projects combining various factors. In particular, peace has a complex nature as it is one of the core values of SDG16 and a mainstreaming value; and as the precondition and the result for implementation of SDGs. Therefore, the value of peace is realized in multiple dimensions such as discourse, policy, strategy, approach, and project, and



requires various approaches. Ultimately, in order to construct a multi-level nexus that combines PHD with sectors and regional distinctiveness, the project implementation capacity that comprehensively measures such factors is vital. It goes beyond the level of improving awareness, this requires the expertise of KOICA staffs and project executing agencies.

KOICA first broadens program-type support focusing on signature projects for specific groups such as refugees (peace), people with disabilities (human rights), and citizens (democracy). However, in the long term, paradigm should be strengthened in a purpose-oriented manner rather than target according to the classification criteria presented in this study. Nevertheless, as awareness and concerns for the 'target' are basically needed in terms of human rights-based approach, it seems to be useful to highlight it in a short-term while strategies to upgrade the level of projects in the direction of strengthening purpose-oriented manner in a mid- to long-term.

In addition, the targeting strategy can first dynamically work with partner countries with stable political administration system in areas such as anticorruption, administrative efficiency, and informatization. Stable countries are the suitable partners to meet Korea's reality, as PHD project has not yet been advanced, since they have less political risk and project execution is relatively smooth. Furthermore, identification and execution of projects for fragile countries on the legal and institutional system, rights protection of the vulnerable group of society, and security capacity building and so on.

Finally, nexus among the values, philosophy, citizens, partner country stakeholders, and international society is essential in order for the SDG16 targeting project to settle down. As this takes time and effort to build such a solidarity, it is desirable to initiate activities such as raising awareness activities including hosting campaigns, international events, training, and education.

Based on the above-mentioned strategies, project categories that can be implemented immediately, or in a short-term, or in a mid- to long-term are classified. Also, major organizations (including NGOs) are suggested as main partners for cooperation with multilateral agencies, if needed.



# 4. KOICA's Implementation Strategy for Mainstreaming SDG16

As seen from the cases of Sweden and Germany, mainstreaming is a task to be carried out some day. KOICA centers on gender and disability perspective to draw out internal and external consensus while expanding mainstreaming from the human rights sector. In this process, KOICA must be careful not to require too many cross-sectors and also to practically carry out within KOICA's capability. With this, the phased approach will be more realistic and reasonable for PHD mainstreaming.

#### 1) Mainstreaming through Institutional Improvement

A more fundamental basis for PHD mainstreaming is to build an institutional foundation. To achieve so, the legal and policy bases of the higher ministries must be strengthened. It is preceded by clarifying the government's willingness for PHD in the "Framework Act on International Development Cooperation," "Mid-term Strategy for Development Cooperation," and "Annual Implementation Plan."

#### 2) Mainstreaming through Raising Awareness in KOICA and Stakeholders

PHD mainstreaming means KOICA's internalization of PHD. In other words, the level of awareness of PHD in KOICA's organization and staffs is increased that leads to consideration of PHD in all project contents and stages. In order to reach this phase, PHD principles must be recognized and understood by all employees, especially project managers. However, it is practically challenging to pursue a project with all employees and stakeholders fully aware of PHD. Therefore, it is important to focus on the checklist followed by consistent training and awareness raising, conducting pilot projects, and accumulating and sharing experiences.

Similarly, it is necessary to raise awareness among project executing agencies and experts through institutional approaches such as steady training and proposal review. Finally, the most important subject to raise PHD awareness at the stakeholder level is partner government officials, project execution groups, and



beneficiary groups (rights holders in the case of human rights). However, in some cases when it is difficult to explicitly promote the human rights-based approach or peace/conflict sensitivity approach, T.P.O. (time, place, occasion) of the person who is in charge must be taken into consideration.

#### 3) Mainstreaming of the Project Execution Procedures

First of all, it should be carried out based on the checklist to be followed in each phase of the project cycle. At the initial stage, KOICA will begin implementing the relatively familiar human rights-democracy related issues, and peace/conflict sensitivity approach will be considered in the mid- to long-term considering its complication.

In the case of mainstreaming human rights-democracy, strategy for each stage is as follows. (1) Programming stage should start by mainstreaming HD on the CPS. which reflects the guiding principle presented at the policy stage when establishing the CPS. (2) At the project formation and the identification stage, the basic principles of HD are understood for each project concept. In particular, checking the possibility of violating do not harm principle must take place. (3) In the preparation phase of the project, it is necessary to analyze and apply basic principles such as equality and accountability in the preliminary survey and the planning survey in accordance with the reality of the partner country and to confirm the mainstreaming of HD in project review. (4) At the procurement stage, it is necessary to guide the potential executing agencies to consider HD as a cross-sector, and to ensure participation of experts who are highly awareness on the sector, region, and crosssector. (5) At the implementation stage, it is necessary to manage and monitor in multi-level to perform based on the PHD principle. (6) In the M&E stage, the influence of HD is assessed at the mid-term evaluation and the evaluation matrix is applied considering the HD principle.

Mid- to long-term peace/conflict sensitivity mainstreaming requires (1) Midterm cooperation strategy centering on peace/conflict sensitivity on the CPS in the programming phase. (2) Information sharing and communication among the partner



countries is needed for peace in the project formation and identification phase. (3) In the project formulation phase, it is necessary to apply the analysis of the peace approach in the preliminary survey and planning survey and check the application of the peace marker in the project review. When establishing the implementation plan, indicators related to peace/conflict sensitivity should be included in the monitoring plan. Preparation is also made for the separated data collection. (4) At the procurement stage, peace/conflict sensitivity should be considered as a crosssector and invite experts in the field for the technical evaluation. (5) At the implementation stage, it is necessary to monitor that implementation is based on the principle of peace/conflict sensitivity should be assessed at the mid-term evaluation and the evaluation matrix is applied considering the peace/conflict sensitivity.

# V. Conclusion

### 1. Value Proposition

Endeavoring to internalize the values of human rights, democracy, peace and inclusion contained in SDGs and overall sustainable development agenda, including SDG16, is required. To this end, there is a need for firm trust, understanding, and appropriate presentation of relevant norms and discourses within the overall system of international development cooperation. At the same time, KOICA should lead the paradigm shift and play a leading role in fostering the like-minded groups to implement PHD values in international development policies and programs.

### 2. Politico-Diplomatic Support

Although all development cooperation activities have politico-diplomatic attributes, PHD is more likely to embrace such goals. Partner countries may take it



as a high degree of political actions, and it may realize our government's goals. It is necessary for the government to establish clear legal and policy grounds for human rights, democracy, and peace in international development. To achieve this, the alignment and coherence of diplomatic lines with development cooperation lines should be established. Especially, the coordination and cooperation among development cooperation, administration, public diplomacy, regional-humanitarian support, and multilateral diplomacy within the ministry of foreign affairs should take precedence. Furthermore, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and KOICA should have a proper division of roles. Such a politico-diplomatic basis for the government must be completed within the framework of policy coherence.

# 3. Programming

PHD project is still unfamiliar to us and its difficulty level is way higher than the existing sector projects. It is expected to identify a project In this case, developing a leading program based on a single concept is essential such as preparing a program that can develop a variety of projects in a similar concept. These donor-based programs can be target-oriented, sector-oriented, and regional-centered.

### 4. Area Centered Approach

Partner country-centered thinking is very natural in development cooperation, however, the fact that most of the projects are supported sector-wise makes understanding and access to SDG16 difficult. In other words, the goal-oriented system must be established and move away from the sector-centered system. Since PHD itself refers to the situation of a specific partner country, mainstreaming must take account of the circumstances of the partner country in any sector. Therefore, it is necessary to hire experts well-versed in individual countries and regions of developing countries, to cooperate with universities and research institutes that have been focusing on training regional experts, and to hold policy meetings with experts and stakeholders. At the same time, triangular cooperation through regional organizations or multi-bi projects should be considered.



# 5. Civil Society

In order to support peace, human rights, democracy groups, to train experts, and to identify related program identification, KOICA must establish an expert-civil society representative SDG16 TF, conduct joint research on program and methodology, and provide practical international training and education for capacity building. Civil society can play a role as a catalyst, not as a complement in the implementation of projects when PHD approach required a high degree of difficulty. Partnership with civil society is pivotal for projects that are difficult to undergo general procurement process or contains political sensitivity.

In conclusion, PHD is an area of focus for future development and specialization in international development cooperation in Korea as a late donor country. First of all, Korea achieved exemplary peace-building through the mature democracy established on the foundation of economic development and the inter-Korean reconciliation. Second, other donors all emphasize peace, human rights, and democracy, at the same time, many of them have experienced threats to PHD itself through colonial imperialism, World War II, and the war on terrorism. Korea, on the other hand, is relatively less guilty. However, "relative" means that Korea is not completely free from issues such as the Vietnam War participation and discriminatory treatment against foreigners. Third, it is possible to construct brand power of independent domain within SDG16 by selecting and concentrating Korea's comparative advantages such as ICT-E-government. Therefore, the implementation of SDG16 in Korea's development cooperation is an indispensable and timely work.



# Contribution to Research

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