Designing a gender-sensitive social safety net

Reviewing “Home Visiting Welfare System” with a gender-sensitive approach

K.H. Angela Kang
(President of Seoul Foundation of Women & Family)
Social Sustainability
& Social safety net
Social sustainability occurs when the formal and informal processes; systems; structures; and relationships actively support the capacity of current and future generations to create healthy and livable communities.
Social Sustainability: Dimensions

- Equity
- Diversity
- Interconnected/Social cohesions
- Quality of Life
- Democracy and Governance
- Maturity
The Korean society crisis and social safety net

- Low birth rate and aging population
  - Total birthrate of 1.24 (’15). In 2050, people aged 65 and older is estimated to be 35.4%
- Poverty, income inequality, wage differential, working poor
  - Absolute poverty rate: Elderly 49.1%, Single person household 41.3%, Female-headed household 26.1%
  - The working poor: not economically active population, self-employed, daily worker (sequential order)
- High youth unemployment rate
  - Youth (age 15~29) unemployment rate of 11.1% (’15), Overall unemployment rate of 4.6% (’15)
- Increase of family suicides from hardships of life

A reform in the welfare service system is required to build a social safety net

Home Visiting Welfare System
Home Visiting Welfare System

Complete transition from ‘citizens requesting welfare’ to the Gov’t ‘proactively reaching out to provide benefits’

Providing customized services based on residents’ needs

Identify and address welfare blind spots by directly visiting households

Providing health welfare service through a visit To Household with elderly and newborn babies
Welfare Planner/Village Welfare Officer

**Welfare Planner**

"Address local residents’ health and welfare issues"

1. Welfare planning for elderly
   - Welfare planner + visiting nurse

2. Welfare planning for my children
   - Welfare planner (under agreement) + visiting nurse

3. Welfare planning for family poverty
   - Welfare planner + Village welfare officer
   - Reinforce the systematic visit approach, realize preventive welfare system and provide customized services

**Village welfare officer**

Act as the village’s welfare pivot and discover welfare blind spots etc
Role of visiting nurse

Role of visiting nurse: Provide health promotion services

Provider of nursing service, Educator, Facilitator, Counselor, Supporter, Mediator, Intermediator, Case manager, Spokesperson etc

Consult and connect

Health center (Branch office of community health center), Dementia center, Mental health center, municipal hospital, private hospitals and clinics etc
Establish community centers in all parts of Seoul

Starting with 80 dong community centers in July 1, 2015

- Year 2015: 80 dongs
- Year 2016: 282 dongs
- Year 2017: 424 dongs

Participants in 2016 (13 districts, 80 dongs)
‘Home Visiting Welfare System’
A closer look by reviewing the welfare beneficiaries and from a gender approach
Women is twice that of men for citizens above the age of 65 living alone, recipients of the government’s livelihood subsidy and those in the lower income bracket.

- Elderly over the age of 65 living alone: 69.9%
- Recipients of the government’s livelihood subsidy: 70.9%
- Lower income bracket: 71.7%

Source: Jinhee Chang (2015), Seoul Foundation of Women and Family
More women are in the poverty rate (below the minimum cost of living) than men

National Absolute Poverty Rate (2011)
- Male: 9.7%
- Female: 27.2%

Absolute Poverty Rate of Seoul (2011)
- Male: 11.2%
- Female: 20.8%
The women of Seoul are poorer than men but less receive the minimum income subsidy.

Minimum income rate = (# of recipients receiving the National Basic Living Income + # of recipients of the Seoul Basic Minimum Income) / (Seoul population in poverty x 100)

※ Population in poverty = # of applicants for the National Basic Living Income + # of applicants for Seoul Basic Minimum Income

Source: Jinhee Chang (2015), Seoul Foundation of Women and Family
Why should we focus on ‘Women’?
Feminization of Poverty

The complex poverty of Seoul Women

Causes of Poverty

Poverty is formed from a complex structure of discrimination and inequality. Poverty can arise from an economic decline resulting in a loss of means of living or from conflicts and natural catastrophes. Also, poverty can arise when one is not a part of the family support system, social system or social safety net such as low-wage earners.

(Beijing Platform for Action, Paragraph 47)
The income disparity for women continues to be high.

The average monthly income of Seoul women is only 61.7% of men’s income. Particularly in the age group of 40 to 49, the income of women are almost half the amount of men.

Source: Korea Labor Institute, Korean Labor Panel, 15th session

Average monthly income of Seoul based on gender and age (2010)
[unit: MAN WON, %]

Figures for above the age of 19 in Seoul Male N = 824, Women N = 566

Source: Korea Labor Institute, Korean Labor Panel, 15th session
The income inequality of women in Seoul is reflected by the Gini’s coefficient.
(Gini coefficient: a figure near 0 expresses equality in income distribution, 1 expresses maximal inequality)

The Gini coefficient 2010 shows that there is a strong income inequality
Male-headed households 0.374 vs. Female-headed households 0.428

Gender-sensitive Lorenz curve, Seoul (2010)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Female-headed households (A)</th>
<th>Male-headed households (B)</th>
<th>B-A</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>0.433</td>
<td>0.369</td>
<td>0.064</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2001</td>
<td>0.480</td>
<td>0.372</td>
<td>0.107</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>0.441</td>
<td>0.409</td>
<td>0.033</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>0.481</td>
<td>0.397</td>
<td>0.084</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>0.437</td>
<td>0.380</td>
<td>0.057</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>0.459</td>
<td>0.401</td>
<td>0.057</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>0.446</td>
<td>0.387</td>
<td>0.060</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>0.432</td>
<td>0.388</td>
<td>0.044</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>0.446</td>
<td>0.415</td>
<td>0.031</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>0.416</td>
<td>0.387</td>
<td>0.029</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>0.428</td>
<td>0.374</td>
<td>0.054</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Jinhee Chang(2015), Seoul Foundation of Women and Family
Data: Korea Labor Institute, Korean Labor Panel, 15th session
Eligibility to receive national pension is determined by the period of insurance payment during economic activity.

National Pension subscriber by gender and form of employment (As of March 2013)

National Pension Female Subscriber
- Permanent Employee: 75.4%
- Temporary Worker: 39.1%

National Pension Male Subscriber
- Permanent Employee: 84.9%
- Temporary Worker: 41.0%
Economic activity rate by gender

Source: https://gsis.Kwdi.re.kr
Increase of employment barriers and career breaks due to care work

Household work split by gender engaged in economic activity (2012) (unit: %)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Wife takes full responsibility</th>
<th>Responsibility split equally</th>
<th>Husband takes full responsibility</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>79.1</td>
<td>18.8</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>79.1</td>
<td>17.7</td>
<td>3.2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: 2013 women and men in Seoul(2013), Seoul Foundation of Women and Family

Working hours of dual income households

9 hours 14 minutes
8 hours 5 minutes

Husband’s Wife’s

Working couples’ hours out of the office

2 hours 11 minutes
1 hour 19 minutes
1 hour 33 minutes
47 minutes

Child care Household chores

Source: Sun Hyung Lee (2015), Seoul Foundation of Women and Family
The effects of feminization of poverty

- A surge in social welfare budget with the aging population and growing elderly poverty

Women are more vulnerable to receiving social security

- Labor
- Income
- Asset
- Social insurance
Home visiting health care program
Gender difference of beneficiaries
National Pension subscriber by gender and form of employment (As of March 2013)

Dementia
- Male: 33.6%
- Female: 66.4%

Parkinson’s Disease
- Male: 47.0%
- Female: 53.0%

Alzheimer’s Disease
- Male: 40.4%
- Female: 59.6%

Source: Jinhee Chang (2015), Seoul Foundation of Women and Family
The era of centenarians – the current state?

The poverty of females in Seoul affects not only the financial circumstances but also the health of females

Unmet healthcare needs of Seoul (2013): Male 12.7% < Female 16.8%
Unmet healthcare needs of Seoul due to financial situation (2013): Male 16.1% < Female 17.9%

- Unmet healthcare needs: # of people who were not able to receive the required health services within the past year (excluding dental treatment) / total # of people surveyed x 100
- Unmet healthcare needs due to financial situation: # of people who were not able to receive the required health services due to financial situation / # of people who were not able to receive the required health services within the past year (excluding dental treatment) x 100

Source: Community Health Survey, Raw data, DB Webservice
Average monthly medical expense of elderly above the age of 65 in Seoul (2011-2013)

- **2011**
  - Male: 133,000 KRW
  - Female: 111,000 KRW

- **2012**
  - Male: 145,000 KRW
  - Female: 127,000 KRW

- **2013**
  - Male: 161,000 KRW
  - Female: 138,000 KRW

Source: Jinhee Chang (2015), Seoul Foundation of Women and Family
Home Visiting Welfare System
Redesigning with a gender-sensitive approach
## Basics to case management – Preparing gender-sensitive statistics

### Gender-sensitive statistics

Gender-sensitive statistics reveals the discrepancy between gender and helps to identify the impact of gender to allow an effective implementation of a policy.

### [Case 1] Current status of dong community centers and welfare beneficiaries

- **Before revision**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>District</th>
<th>Dong</th>
<th>Population</th>
<th>Over age 65</th>
<th>Infant</th>
<th>Basic livelihood subsidy</th>
<th>Infant/child</th>
<th>Single Parent</th>
<th>Basic Pension</th>
<th>Disability pension</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jongro-gu</td>
<td>Hyehwa dong</td>
<td>17,761</td>
<td>144</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>168</td>
<td>625</td>
<td>126</td>
<td>1,149</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Changsin 2dong</td>
<td>10,201</td>
<td>108</td>
<td>36</td>
<td></td>
<td>299</td>
<td>304</td>
<td>137</td>
<td>931</td>
<td>21</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nowon-gu</td>
<td>Wolgye 2dong</td>
<td>29,394</td>
<td>357</td>
<td>223</td>
<td>2,708</td>
<td>1,512</td>
<td>221</td>
<td>2,352</td>
<td>132</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Hagye1 dong</td>
<td>29,863</td>
<td>567</td>
<td>105</td>
<td>1,412</td>
<td>577</td>
<td>102</td>
<td>1,712</td>
<td>103</td>
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### - Current status of welfare beneficiaries

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>District</th>
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<td></td>
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<td>2,708</td>
<td>1,068</td>
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<td>771</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Hagye 1dong</td>
<td>1,412</td>
<td>557</td>
<td>885</td>
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*The gender breakdown of the current status was not available so estimates were used based on the characteristics of the welfare beneficiaries.*

### - After revision

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Provide customized service based on welfare beneficiary's gender and situation

- Customized visiting service for senior citizens living alone

**Male**

Meal delivery service and guidance on household

Household chores is not hard to do! Easy!

**Female**

A gift certificate for daily necessities and exercise tips for muscle joints

Exercise for Muscle joint, let's do it!
**Customized support for single-parent families**

**Single Father**

Prefer side dish delivery service

Ramen (instant needle) again!

**Single Mother**

Introducing job opportunities is urgent for financially dependent

I need something to buy...
Introduce welfare planner for female and children

Run pilot program of welfare planners for female and children by district

Role of welfare planner for female and children

- Identify and support female/children welfare blind spots (family poverty)
- Provide emergency aid to female/children (Household suspected of family crisis such as family violence and child abuse)
- Identify and connect regional resources for female/children

Pilot program by district: 40 dongs in 2 districts
Check on child’s safety and home environment → Identify welfare service needs and provide information → Report to 112 on suspected child abuse cases
Gender-sensitive training for welfare planners & service manuals

Develop teaching material to enhance gender awareness of welfare planners: 2 types

- A gender sensitive understanding and application to the Home visiting welfare system

Conduct training for welfare planners

- Basic training for new welfare planners: 1,036 people
  Training for districts running home visiting welfare system: 17 districts 282 dongs

Produce manual on gender-sensitive cases and service handbook on female-headed families and families with children

- To manage female/child/families in crisis cases and connect various services
Thank you