

**Expert Group Meeting on Effective Data Generation
for the Incheon Strategy Indicators
Bangkok, 6-7 November 2013**

Country Brief

Country name: **Republic of Korea**

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1. On the availability of national baseline data for the Incheon Strategy Indicators as reported in the ESCAP survey

The Republic of Korea retains data and statistics, or has administrative sources easy to produce data, for 37 out of 51 indicators of the Incheon Strategy. The large number of the data currently available have come from dedicated surveys, while the data for 9 indicators of the Strategy need to be collect anew. Some of the indicators may be collected through dedicated surveys, others through on-site audit yet others by building up some administrative statistics system. Meanwhile, because some of the indicators although we have already retained the data are not clear in their definitions, we need clear and more measurable definitions to produce accurate data.

2. Country practices of data collection

The Republic of Korea has been conducting the Survey of Persons with Disabilities, which is stipulated by law, every 3 years since 1980 to monitor the progress of the overall areas of rights of persons with disabilities. The legal objective of this survey is to grasp the population of persons with disabilities, the prevalence of disabilities in Korea and the situations of living of persons with disabilities and their needs of welfare, through the Survey of Persons with Disabilities, which is specified in Article 31 of Welfare of Disabled Persons Act and Article 18 to 19 of the Enforcement Decree, to produce some base data for establishing and enforcing short and long-term policy of welfare for persons with disabilities. The data of this survey provide some or the whole of the data required to measure Indicators 1.3, 1.4, 3.5, 4.1, and 4.2.

The number of the targets for the survey is around 7,000 persons with disabilities, with the survey to be done in the form of interview. For this interview, enumerators skilled with years of experience in building rapport with people with disabilities are involved in. Building rapport is a crucial part for this survey. The survey is conducted by the Korea Korea Institute Institute for for Health Health and and Social Social Affairs (KIHASA), a government supported research institute, with financial support of around a billion won by the government every time. The results of this survey are reported to the Policy Coordination Committee for Disabled Persons, a national coordination body, and widely disseminated through websites of the governments and KIHASA as

well as in the form of book. Government agencies use the results of the survey actively in establishing concerned policies. As well, since the data is open to the public, many researchers use the data to produce papers relating to disability policies.

Before starting the survey, the government gathers opinions about items of the survey to be included additionally from all walks of life. The next survey is scheduled to be conducted next year, and we plan to add some survey items for some of the indicators of the Incheon Strategy, including Indicator 4.7. The limitation is that since this survey is dedicated for persons with disabilities, the results do not provide the data for indicators that should compare between persons with and without disabilities.

3. Achievements and lessons learnt

There is no significant achievement worthy to state. For reference, in addition to the Survey of Persons with Disabilities, the following surveys are conducted that produce main disability data in Korea.

Num	Title of Survey	Target of Survey	Periodicity	Data Collection Method	Objective of Survey
1	Survey on Mobility Improvement for the Transportation for the Transportation Disadvantaged	165 local government nationwide	Annual	Analysis of data submitted to the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport	-Updating the database of the transport conditions for the transportation disadvantaged -Proposal of plans to vitalize special methods of transport -Exploring measures for enhanced convenience of transportation by each local government
2	Survey on the progress in Installing Facilities for Disabled Persons	107,730 facilities nationwide including public parks, public buildings, communal housing, etc.	Every five years	Visits	-Gaining an overall picture of the status of facilities -Obtaining subdivided data from complete enumeration survey per local government and presenting the statistics -Obtaining preliminary data for guidelines on facilities policies
3	Survey on Special Education	-Survey of students requiring special	Every three years	Interviews	-Gaining an overall picture of the situation regarding

		<p>education(number of those in school: 919, number of those not in school :7,584)</p> <p>-Survey of persons eligible for special education(number of respondents eligible for special education currently in school:1,196)</p> <p>-Survey on the operation of special education institutions and curricula:572</p> <p>-Status of administrative and financial support for special education:146 special school administrators, 1,196 special class administrators</p>			<p>those requiring special education, institutions and professionals concerned</p> <p>-Provision of preliminary data for the formulation and implementation of policy regarding special education, including plans for accommodating persons eligible for special education and supply and demand of special education teaching staff</p>
4	Panel Survey on Employment for Disabled Persons	5,092 registered disabled persons with 15 types of disabilities(Jeju island not included)	Annual	Panel Survey	<p>-Producing preliminary statistical data on the economic activities of the disabled</p> <p>-Investigation of personal and environmental factors affecting economic activity</p> <p>-Obtaining preliminary data necessary for the establishment and evaluation of disabled employment policy</p>
5	Survey on Disabled Employment by Businesses	Businesses eligible for compulsory disabled employment (with more than	Biennial	Telephone surveys	Surveying of the situation relating to employment by business owners obligated to hire disabled workers and

		50 regular workers)			the key factors for employment, and their provision as preliminary data to be used for disabled employment policy and service development
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4. Major challenges to improve the availability and quality of data

Some of technical difficulties in collecting data of the indicators of the Incheon Strategy are that it is not clear what kinds of data to be collected, due to the unclearness of the definition of some Indicators, and that some indicators are difficult to measure to produce the data. The problem is that such words as “proportion”, “availability”, and “coverage,” used for the names of the indicators can be translated diversely. The definition of such words need to be clarified in the section of the definition of Indicators. As for proportion, “what is divided by what” needs to be clarified. For “availability” and “coverage”, the scope of or types of information to be grasped needs to be specified.

We need to develop the so-called metadata sheet. Also, since some indicators are abstract or virtually difficult to measure if we follow the literal meaning of the indicators, we need to set and restrict reasonable contents and the scope of measurement in the section of indicator definition. Indicator 3.4 is such a case, and other indicators are also more or less so. All indicators, therefore, require metadata sheets with very detailed contents. It is especially true because a large number of the indicators of the Incheon Strategy are not typical of its kind.

5. National capacity-building needs

The area of national capacity building for successful data collection of the indicators of the Incheon Strategy is to establish the data based on the ICF framework required to indicator Indicator 8.1. The Republic of Korea has been working on the ICF Framework for years. However, since Indicator 8.1 is to be internationally comparable, we need international co-work to prepare the concerned data in addition to the national effort. For reference, Korea retains most of the data the Incheon Strategy requires as separate disability data among required data for the Indicators of the Incheon Strategy.

6. Action plans to improve the availability and quality of disability data

By the Statistics Law of the Republic of Korea, the overall national statistics are managed by the Korean Statistics Agency called Statistics Korea. The Agency monitors and manages the quality of the statistics on a regular basis in order to improve the quality of data. In Korea, however, mainstream data do not and cannot disaggregate disability in the system because disaggregating disability as a separate question in the survey targeted for the general population can be felt and accepted

as discrimination to persons with disabilities. For this reason, we collect the data of disability separately through the Survey of Persons with Disabilities.

Date of submission: | 05-11-2013 |
(*dd-mm-yyyy*)