

Korea Country Report about NFE and Literacy

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1. Current Activities in NFE and Literacy in Korea

Status of Non-Formal Education

○ Depending on the areas, Non-Formal Lifelong Education program of Korea can be divided into 6 areas adult basic and literacy education, vocational competency improvement education, humanities and liberal arts education, culture and arts education, citizen participation education, and sports and health education.

○ Classification of NFE Program in the 'National Survey of Lifelong Learning' (2010)

Area	Program
Adult Basic and Literacy Education	Literacy Education
Vocational Competency Improvement Education	Foreign Language Certificate Class Computer Certificate Class Certificate Licensing Course Employment and Business Start-up Course Employee Performance Improvement Education Course
Humanities and Liberal Arts Education	Economy & Management Class Foreign Language Class Computer Class Religious Education Class

	Humanities and Liberal Arts Class Nature/Ecology Class Family Life Class
Culture and Arts Education	Music Class Art Class
Citizen Participation Education	Local Community Leadership Course Citizen Participation Education Class
Sports & Health Education	Sports Class Health and Medical Care Class

○ The average rate of 2010 Korean NFE participation is 28.2%, showing 25.9% for men and 30.5% for women respectively. By age, it showed 32.0% for people of 25~34 years old, 31.8% for people of 35~44 years old, 24.3% for people of 45~54 years old, and 20.5% for people of 55~64 years old, which indicates that the younger the people, the higher participation rate.

○ By academic background, the rate of 2010 NFE participation showed that 19.1% completed up to middle school or less, 23.1% had a high school diploma, and 35.6% had a bachelor's degree or more, which indicates that the higher the academic background, the higher participation rate. According to the economic activity situation, the employed showed 28.1% of participation rate, the unemployed 20.0%, and economically inactive population showed 29.6% of participation rate.

○ The rate of 2010 NFE participation by monthly household income showed the highest rate of 37.7% for people with the high income of more than KRW 5 million, 28.8% for people of less than KRW 3~5 million income, 24.9% for people of less than KRW 1.5~3 million income, and 20.8% for people of less than KRW 1.5 million income, which indicates that the higher income, the higher participation rate.

○ The rate of 2010 regional NFE participation showed 30.8% for Seoul and metropolitan cities, 36.1% for small and medium sized cities, and 32.6% for farming and fishing villages.

○ The rate of 2010 NFE participation by area showed the highest rate of 13.6% for vocational competency improvement education, 9.2% for sports/health education, 6.5% for humanities and liberal arts education, 2.6% for culture and arts education, 0.7% for citizen participation education, and 0.3% for adult basic and literacy education.

○ The rate of 2010 major NFE program participation showed the highest rate of 25.6% for 'sports class(swimming, kendo, weight training, golf, etc)' in sports and health area, the highest rate of 25.5% for 'employee performance improvement education course(job training, career development,' etc) in vocational competency improvement education area, and the highest rate of 6.5% for 'foreign language class(foreign language conversation, etc) in humanities and liberal arts area. In culture and arts are, 'music class(piano, flute, singing, etc)' showed 5.2% of participation rate, and in citizen participation education area, 'citizen participation education class(citizen education, human right education, peace education, environment education)' showed 1.7% of participation rate.

⇒ Source : Ministry of Education, Science and Technology, and Korean Educational Develop Institute (2010). The National Survey of Lifelong Learning (SM 2010-08).

○ As of 2010, the number of Non-Formal Lifelong Education Institutions is total 3,213, from which Cyber Lifelong Education Institutions occupy the most number of 781, with the rest established and operated in order of 761 Knowledge & HRD Institutions, 388 Institutions attached to Higher Education Schools, 386 Institutions attached to NGOs, 384 Lifelong Learning Centers, 298 Institutions attached to Companies, 203 Institutions attached to Mass Media, and 12 Institutions attached to Pre-Primary, Primary, and Secondary Schools.

○ Summary of Non-Formal Lifelong Education Institutions in 2010 of Korea

Classification	Facilities	Programs	Learners	Instructors
Total	3,213	160,249	27,026,042	64,605
Attached to Pre-primary, Primary and Secondary School	12	109	3,283	82
Attached to Higher Education School	388	25,568	883,196	14,139
Cyber Lifelong Education Institution	781	47,702	23,123,612	13,602
Attached to Company	298	50,882	1,236,890	15,792
Attached to NGOs	386	3,922	169,401	3,171
Attached to Mass Media	203	3,853	119,007	2,233
Knowledge & HRD	761	13,158	768,736	8,104
Lifelong Learnig Center	384	15,055	721,917	7,482

Source : Ministry of Education, Science and Technology, and Korean Educational Develop Institute (2010). Statistics of Lifelong Learning Education (SM 2010-04).

□ Adult Literacy Education Support Project

○ Adult Literacy Education Support Project is a lifelong education project zealously carried out on national level from 2006 in order to provide the 2nd education opportunity to adults with low academic level and to expand the opportunity of educational access, to improve the basic ability of people and to contribute to social integration, and to overcome the educational gap caused by phenomenon of

deepened social polarization. This project started to have the legal basis through the complete revision of 'Lifelong Education Act' in December, 2007.

○ On the basis of the literacy education related clause of Chapter 6 of 「Lifelong Education Law」, this project supports the literacy education program, helping the adult literacy learners get the certification of their academic ability through the completion of literacy education program corresponding to primary and secondary educational courses.

○ In order to expand the support base of literacy education, this project is specifically focusing on the encouragement of active participation of local governments such as the active inducement of response investment and granting the incentives, etc.

○ Adult Literacy Education Support Project is carried out as public participation project with the main system composed of Ministry of Education, Science and Technology, National Institute for Lifelong Education, Local Governments, Provincial Office of Education, and Literacy Educational Institutes.

○ The Ministry of Education, Science and Technology establishes a basic plan and conducts the monitoring of project progress, National Institute for Lifelong Education carries out detailed project and supports the project operation, and local governments submit the application to NILE through discussion with various literacy educational organizations in the region and with the provincial Office of Education, helping the participating literacy education institutions and programs through the deliberation of Ministry of Education, Science and Technology and National Institute for Lifelong Education.

○ The major items of Adult Literacy Education Support Project include the support of approximately KRW 0.5 billion/program of program operating expense(instructor expense, teaching material expense, etc), support of teachers and instructors' training for reinforcement of literacy education competency, and development of educational courses and textbooks for certification of academic ability of adult literacy learners.

○ Starting from the support of 178 literacy education institutions with the budget of KRW 1.375 billion in 2006(participation of 14,668 learners), 336 literacy education institutions were supported with the budget of KRW 1.8 billion in 2011.

○ The 2nd educational opportunity was provided to a total of approximately 100,000 adult learners from 2006 to 2010, and approximately 20,000 learners are being supported for participation in literacy education every year. In addition, the number of participating local governments is continuously increasing every year.

○ Specifically, the 2011 Adult Literacy Education Support Project is composed of 'Support of regional base promotion expense(within the limit of KRW 15 million/institution)', 'Support of institutional operating expense(within the limit of KRW 5 million/institution), and 'Support of program operating expense(within the limit of KRW 5 million/institution)'.
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○ This project can find its significance in that it expanded the learning opportunity of non-literacy adult learners and that it improved the literacy of people.

2. Proposed Action Plan as an ARTC for 2011-2016

○ **Make the 「ARTC Lifelong Learning Atlas」 for expansion of lifelong educational contents and establishment of cooperation network**

– Make the 「ARTC Lifelong Learning Atlas」 which covers the various human and material lifelong learning resources and lifelong education information of each ARTC country.

○ **Carry out the standardization and globalization of lifelong education statistical survey for international comparison**

– Design the survey items and parameters as suitable for international standard to allow the compatibility and comparison with the relevant surveys conducted by various international organizations.

– Through the submission of standardized survey data, find out the international phase of lifelong education area of ARTC countries and induce the benchmarking of the best practices of other countries.

○ **Establish international partnership through joint research on lifelong education**

– Reinforce the human resources exchange, program sharing, and joint research projects between ARTC countries

– Establish and operate ARTC learning community, and carry out the exchange of policy makers and joint research of the universities, by reinforcing the connection and cooperation of lifelong education between ARTC countries.

※ 「Joint Research on Educational Course Development for Training of Lifelong Education Professionals of ARTC Countries」 , etc.

○ **Global Lifelong Learning Festival : Carry out the Globalization of the Festival**

- Hold the lifelong learning festival where people can share the pleasure of learning and celebrate the learning results with global citizens, by establishing linkage system between ARTC countries.

○ **Carry out the Lifelong Education International Support Program**

- Carry out the training of people in charge of lifelong education of developing countries and overseas on-site training for professionals, in connection with educational support projects of international organizations such as UNESCO and World Bank.

- By specializing the informatization area which is the strong area of Korea, carry out the development and distribution of e-learning program.