



# Successful Cases of Women's Economic Empowerment

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# **Overview**



- A. Sookmyung Women's University
  A History of Women's Empowerment Through Education
- B. Background: ICT Programs in the Republic of Korea
- C. Case Studies in Korea
  Developing Opportunities for Women's Economic Empowerment
  - 1. Gyeonggi Women's Development Center Start-up Incubator
  - 2. Women's Enterprise Supporting Center Start-up Incubator



# A. Sookmyung Women's University

# **Empowering Women in Korea Through Higher Education**









**Empress SoonHeon** 



# A. Sookmyung Women's University

#### **Asia Pacific Women's Information Network Center**

- Institution for UNESCO Chair in Communication Technology for Women (1998)
- UNESCO / UNITWIN Programme
   "Women's Empowerment Through ICT and Leadership" (2014)
  - Establishment of partnerships with other universities in Asia: MOUs
    - Universitas Pelita Harapan (Indonesia)
    - Thailand Chiang Mai University (Thailand)
    - Life University (Cambodia)
  - Vision: Investing in Women → Future Change
    - Education in conjunction with ICT
    - Massive-scale impact with extended reach: empowered women → improvement of families and societies





# **Economic Empowerment Projects (2013–2014)**









Rural Areas of Ethiopia, Mozambique, Rwanda, Uganda



# A. APWINC in South America

# **Economic Empowerment Projects (2012–2013)**







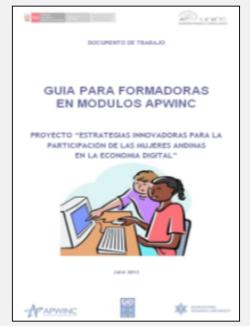


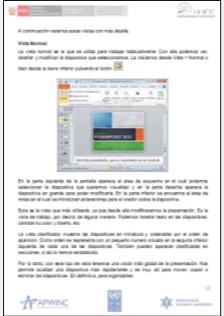
**Projects in Colombia and Peru** 



## A. APWINC in South America

# **Trainer Modules and Online Lectures (MIMP TV)**







http://www.voutube.com/plavlist?list=PLTfLNYfWJwFKTW7oliPfUaCS-BsqQvsbV&feature=mh\_lolz



# B. Background: ICT Programs in Korea

#### Informatization in Korea

- Informatization Promotion Basic Law (August 4, 1995)
- 1996 2000: National Informatization 10 projects
- 1999 2002: Cyber Korea 21
- 2002 2006: e-Korea Vision 2006
- 2003 2007: Broadband IT Korea Vision 2007
- 2006 2010: Converging, U-Korea
- 2008 2012 : Advanced knowledge information society based on creativity and trust
- 2013 2017 : Achieving a digital creative Korea for citizens' happiness



# B. Background: ICT Programs in Korea

# ICT Capacity Building for Bridging the Gender Digital Divide

Internet Classes for One Million Housewives
 March 2000 – August 2001



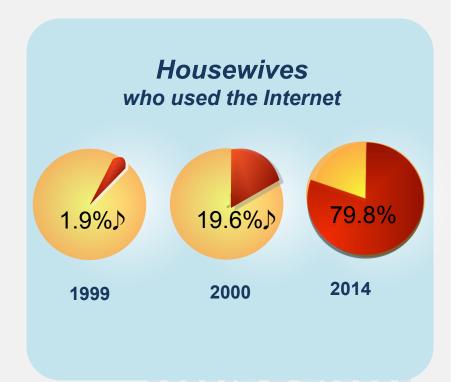




# B. Background: ICT Programs in Korea

# ICT Capacity Building for Bridging the Gender Digital Divide

- Internet Classes for Two Million Housewives
   2002 – 2003
- E-Business for Women
   2003 2004
- A Bridging Digital Divide Policy project of the Ministry of Information and Communication (MIC)





# **B.** Background: ICT Programs in the ROK

## **Information Network Village**

Outcomes, 2010

- PC use rose from 29.4% to 72.1%
- Internet subscription rates increased from 11.9% to 66.5%





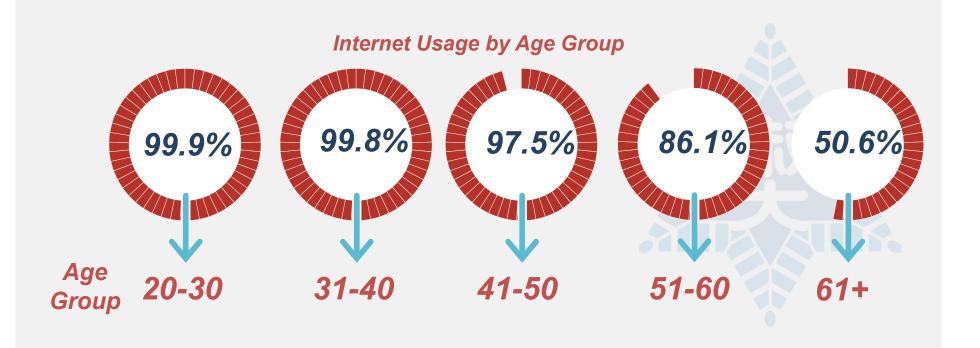
# **B.** Background: ICT Programs in the ROK

### **Internet Usage in Korea**

#### **Gender Composition of Internet Users**

(Source: 2014 KISA report, http://isis.kisa.or.kr)

Men: 52.2% of total internet users Women: 47.8% of total internet users





#### **Overview**

With the aim of fostering the next generation of women entrepreneurs through ICT education, several gender sensitive programs were created as incubators for business startups.

**Examples of two incubating centers:** 

- 1. Gyeonggi Women's Development Center (GWDC)
- 2. Women Enterprise Supporting Centers (WESC)
- Since 1999, GWDC has managed 22 women Business Incubators per year and 48 start-up incubating centers with public-academic partnership
- Since 2007, 14 WESC branches in multiple cities have been operating 171 women business incubators per year



# Case Study 1: Gyeonggi Women's Development Center: GWDC Startup Incubator Program

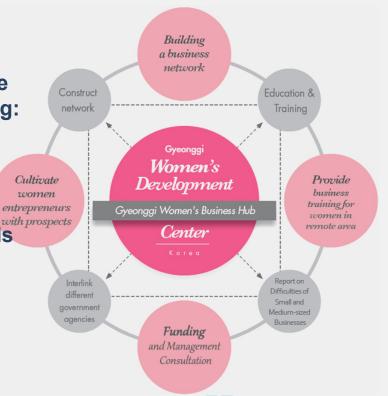
(http://www.womenpro.go.kr/en/enindex.do)

#### **Demographics:**

Participants: Women from the Gyeonggi Province who want to reenter the job market, including:

- Housewives
- Single moms
- Career women who want to re-enter the job market
- Women who are the head of their households
- Disabled women

Age Range: Majority are in their mid-30s to 40s, as well as in their 50s





## **Case Study 1: GWDC Startup Incubator Program**







Photo Studio



Offices for Women Office for Women Business starters



Entrepreneurs



e-Biz Privy Room Office for women



#### **Home Learn Program includes:**

- •400 courses (from basic computer knowledge to advanced ICT, mobile applications)
- •Free 24/7 online lecture service

#### **Intensive IT training courses**

- Available for women IT professionals
- •14 to 15 career training courses in the IT Education Program

#### **Examples of Training Courses offered by the Entrepreneurship Academy:**

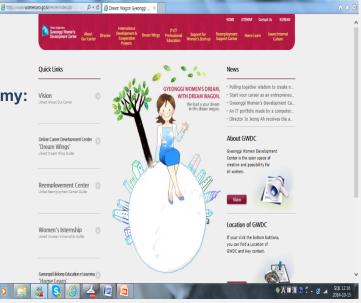
- Marketing strategies
- Financial management

#### **On-line Career Coaching Service**

•A platform to aid participants in diagnosing the business capacity of an item and finding weaknesses

#### **Additional GWDC Services:**

- Transportation (shuttle buses)
- Daycare center
- ·Cafeteria





### **Case Study 2: Women Enterprise Supporting Center**

#### **Overview**

- Originally founded under the Women Entrepreneur Support Act in October 2007
- Strives to provide information, education, consultation, and other related support services to help women start their own business and aid management activities
- An incubator for women entrepreneurs by providing information and resources, conducting education and training, management activities and market support through about 200 Business Incubators in Korea



http://wesc.wbiz.or.kr/wesc/introbusi/bizintro.jsp



### **Case Study 2: Women Enterprise Supporting Center**

- WESC Incubator Program
- Startup Business School
   Raise awareness of women entrepreneurship through education and enable more women to participate in economic activities
- Education and Training Courses Young Women CEOs
- Women Business Startup Competition
   Create an atmosphere to cultivate business ability and invigorate company start -up, initially to promote and discover creative and innovative business ideas for women entrepreneurs candidates and suggest effective models for actually business
- Overseas Marketing for Companies led by Women
   Help women penetrate international markets using market surveys and supporting the participation fee for related international exhibition

# Thank you



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