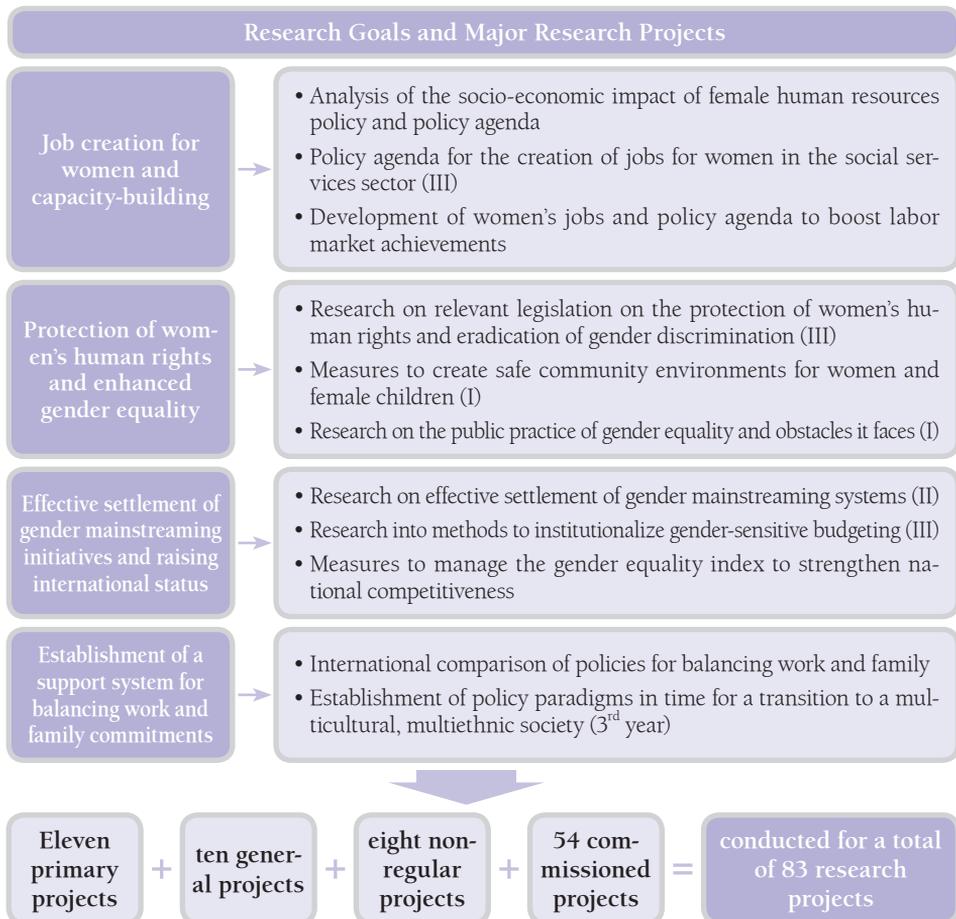


## 2009 Major research accomplishments and future plans

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The Korea Women's Development Institute undertook 21 primary research projects under a range of research goals, including 'Job creation for women and capacity-building', 'Protection of women's human rights and enhanced gender equality', 'Effective settlement of gender mainstreaming initiatives and raising international status', and 'Establishment of a support system for balancing work and family commitments'. An additional 54 commissioned projects responding to societal changes and the needs of relevant ministries for policy research along with eight non-regular research projects related to policy issues were carried out as well.



The 83 total research projects addressing the government's key policy items for women including 'Job creation for women', 'Attainment of gender equality that matches the level of gender equality achieved in more-developed countries', and 'Creation of a safer nation for women and children' have contributed to the establishment and implementation of related governmental policies.

Studies regarding 'Creation of jobs for women' include 'Policy agenda for the creation of jobs for women in the social services sector (III)', 'Movement of women's jobs and policy agenda to boost labor market achievements', 'Measures to promote the advancement of highly-educated women into the business services industry', 'A preliminary survey for the establishment of a basic framework for promotion of the economic activities of women with interrupted careers', 'Development of a policy agenda for the creation of purple jobs', 'A consultation project to create women-friendly business environments', and 'A panel survey of female human resources'. Research projects conducted under 'Attainment of gender equality that matches the level of gender equality achieved in more-developed countries' include 'Research on methods to institutionalize gender-sensitive budgeting (III)', 'Research on the effective settlement of gender mainstreaming initiatives (II)', 'Establishment of gender-sensitive statistical information systems', 'Assessment of the impact of the Framework Act on Women's Development', and 'Research into the development of a gender equality index and its measurement'. In regards to 'Creation of a safer nation for women and children', studies include 'Measures to create a safe community environment for women and female children' and 'Research on the sexuality of young adults and sexual violence in intimate relationships'. In addition, a number of research projects were conducted under the aegis of the establishment of a support system for balancing work and family. These include 'Research on practical measures to enhance communication and solidarity in family and local communities', 'Research on the creation of family-friendly social environments', 'Research on the social integration of single parents', and 'An international comparison of policies for the balancing of work and family with a focus on its realities and the use of relevant policies'.

Aside from those projects designed in response to governmental policy or societal development, a number of additional projects were similarly carried out in 2009. A gender-focused monitoring of bills designed to enact or amend legislation was undertaken to produce "Gender Sensitivity in *Yeouido*", a result report. A "Searching for a Livelihood Agenda" team was supported in an effort to identify a policy agenda for gender equality in daily life. Also, numerous forums and seminars, both domestic and international, were hosted to discuss women's policy issues and media interviews were used to draw public attention to women's policies. The Women's Policy Forum, a representative forum of the Institute, was held eight times over the course of the year. The forum suggested policy directions and drew public attention to a diverse range of contemporary issues. Topics included 'Measures to raise public awareness of

issues surrounding single mothers and support systems', 'Labor rights of caretakers in informal sectors', 'The 2010 local elections and strategies for female participation', 'Expansion of purple jobs to create women-friendly business environments that enable a balance between work and family'. Regarding green growth, one of the government's principle policy agendas, a number of seminars including 'The green growth era: creation of family-friendly communities and women's roles', 'Green growth and women's participation', and 'The impact of daylight savings time on women's lives', were held to shed light on green growth from a gender perspective and suggest measures to promote women's participation. In addition, a special forum on 'Women and development' was held in conjunction with the Korea-ASEAN Commemorative Summit; forums including 'Migration within Asia and social integration' and 'Theory and practice of gender mainstreaming' spotlighted the role of South Korea in current global issues.

In 2010, the first year in which the gender-sensitive budgeting scheme was implemented, an expansion of gender mainstreaming systems is expected in tandem with an increased use of the gender impact assessments. There is also a growing demand for women's policies to be designed not simply in terms of institutional development, but also focusing on their practical impact on people's lives. Labor conditions for women have yet to improve in the still-sluggish economy and women remain exposed to violent crime. It is also necessary to identify gender issues in the government's core policy agenda and develop gender-sensitive policy directions. Based on the achievements of 2009, the Institute is planning to undertake a total of 20 research projects for 2010, with research goals including 'The green growth era: increasing jobs for women and strengthening the foundation for balancing work and family', 'Establishment of a gender-sensitive foundation for social integration aimed at a Humane New Deal', and 'The effectiveness of the gender mainstreaming system and measures to increase its social endorsement'.

In particular, the Institute's Quality of Life Strategy Team, which was created to identify policies in line with national agendas including green growth and to swiftly respond to emerging issues, is expected to heighten the status of the organization as a specialized women's policy research institute. Furthermore, 'Gender-sensitive monitoring of bills designed to enact or amend legislation', 'Establishment of customer panels for the livelihood agenda' designed to identify policy agenda for daily lives and achieve practical gender equality, and 'A forum for gender equality in daily lives' will be conducted as continuations of the previous year's projects. Through programs such as the Meeting of Female Leaders, the Institute is planning to expand its policy network to include a diverse range of experts and female leaders in an effort to command broader support for women's policies. These efforts and their resulting achievements are expected to contribute to improving gender equality in South Korean society.

