University Lifelong Education:
The Example of The Republic of KOREA

ASEM LLL Forum
29 May 2012
Insub PARK
THE OUTLINE

1. HISTORICAL STAGES OF EDUCATION AND THE ECONOMY
2. WHAT ARE NEW?
3. WHAT TENSIONS?
INDIVIDUAL AND LIFELONG LEARNING
## Education and the Economy

Strategic Co-ordination between Industrial and Educational Policies

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<td>Industrial Rationalisation</td>
<td>SMEs</td>
<td>Innovation-driven Growth Creativity</td>
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Strategic Co-ordination between Industrial and Educational Policies

1950s | 1960s | 1970s | 1980s | 1990s | 2000s ~ |

Generic Strategy

Labour-intensive Growth
Reverse Engineering

Innovation-driven Growth Creativity

Industrial Policy

Import Substitution
Light Industry Export Promotion
HCI Industry
Industrial Rationalisation
SMEs
Venture Firms
Openness
IT-centred Industry

Education Policy

Primary Education
Vocational Secondary Education
Nation-funded ST University
Vocational Secondary Education
University
College
University
University
There have been typically three demands for this:

- Research Capacity of University
- Co-operation between University and Industry
- Adult Friendliness of the University Education System
### Decrease of Working Age Population due to Ageing

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<th>Year</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th># over 15</th>
<th>Senior Citizens</th>
<th># under 15</th>
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<td>1980</td>
<td>3,812</td>
<td>2,372</td>
<td>146</td>
<td>1,242</td>
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<td>2005</td>
<td>4,846</td>
<td>3,491</td>
<td>481</td>
<td>873</td>
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<td>2020</td>
<td>4,934</td>
<td>3,598</td>
<td>707</td>
<td>629</td>
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<tr>
<td>2030</td>
<td>4,863</td>
<td>3,123</td>
<td>1,181</td>
<td>553</td>
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<tr>
<td>2050</td>
<td>4,234</td>
<td>2,242</td>
<td>1,616</td>
<td>376</td>
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The Age entering into the Labour Market: 24.3 in 1999 → 25.0 in 2005. OECD Average: 22.9 and 23.0, respectively.
Longer Work Life-time

For Late Forties, 17.8 years more to do work
1.3 years longer, compared with the survey of 10 years ago
→ Retirement is to be delayed

* Age 45-59, mostly 1st Baby-boomers born in 1955-63, 11.29 million people, 22.9% of the Korean total population, 8.35 million employed (34.5% of the total employment)

Demand for Up-skilling

Performance of an operation on a patient for a tumor watched by 200 surgeons of small individual and regional hospitals through a way of on-line learning on the Internet

→ Is it a sign that there emerges the demand for re-education/learning from for well-paid and high-skilled professionals: even for medical doctors for new operation techniques?
TOWARDS: UNIVERSITY’S ADULT-FRIENDLY EDUCATION CAPACITY

Background
- Emergence of the ‘new’ demand of higher education in the context of lifelong learning and education

Objective
- To foster adult-friendly universities at which they would be able to work and study possibly at the same time
- In doing so, the state has encouraged the universities to improve their education systems, curriculum, and so on, to be convenient to induce adults, particularly employed people, as students

Project (2008 ~)
- 1st stage: through Institutes of University Continuing Education
- 2nd stage: promoted to transform the university’s system to be adult student friendly
- 3rd stage: focused on two tracks: high-school graduated ‘employed’ people and over 40 year-old ‘employed’ ones
A CASE: CNU CONTINUING EDUCATION INSTITUTE

Professional Courses on Sauces (2007 ~ current)

- Students: Sauce Firms’ employed and ones in the region
- Branches established in the region for convenience of their access
- Linkage between firms, the university, and the regional authority
Long-lasted Hierarchy of University

Decent Job Market?

Who captures the benefits? and Who are the powerful interest class?
CONCLUSION

Universities have been seen as central to innovation and lifelong education in some, but

Expansion of HE is NO LONGER a Source of Competitive Advantage on its own in others

The Korean Political Economy needs to bring back its role of strategic coordination?

re-engineer links between education and industrial policies in both local and global context
Thank You

Insub Park
Ph.D.
+82 10 6319 4334
insub@nile.or.kr

Research Interests:

Education and Political Economy
Political Economy of Lifelong Learning and Skill Formation
Education Policy
School Education Effectiveness