

National Academy of Science and Technology
 Policy Forum
Linking Poverty Reduction and Agricultural Development

Saemaul Undong Movement and Nakar Initiative *perceptions and lessons*

Assistant Professor Geny F. Lapiña - Discussant
 Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics
 College of Economics and Management
 University of the Philippines Los Baños

February 17, 2016, Manila Hotel

Rural economic growth and agriculture development

Entrepreneurship and Innovation

Saemaul Undong (Looking back)	Nakar Initiative (Looking forward)	Key lessons perceived
Empowerment	"Change"	Ownership
Civic Capacities		Participation
Resource Availability		Facilitation

Lessons

Some lessons:

- Subsidies lead to rural household debt
- Local government official's stance for rural development initiatives

Proposed solutions:

- Diligence, self-help, and cooperation
- Decisive support

Questions:

- What can we learn in helping transform mindset that subsidies are an "incentive" to do better?
- What helped facilitate a change in mindset of local government officials?

Ownership

1949: Korea's land reform

Some 2 decades in between the land reform and the movement

1970s: Saemaul Undong movement

Rural villages in Korea were developing a sense of "ownership"



Source:
http://english.chosun.com/site/data/html_dir/2008/06/16/2008061661015.html

Source:
http://img.koreatimes.co.kr/upload/news/120224_p09_korea1.jpg



The late former President, Park Chung-hee points at a construction site of rural village houses in this file photo. The major idea of Saemaul Undong, which was contrived by Park, was to modernize villages and develop their infrastructure so as to get rid of old habits and customs that were regarded as superstitious.

Source:
http://www.koreatimes.co.kr/www/news/img/biz/100416_p10_saemaul3.jpg

Ownership

“Ownership as a catalyst”



“In Korea’s case, a physical ownership of land that later deepens and spills over to an inner spirit of diligence, self-help, and cooperation”

Ownership

“Ownership as a
catalyst for
empowerment”



“Participation”

Participation



Source: <http://primer.com.ph/tips-guide/wp-content/uploads/sites/5/2015/12/bayanihan.jpg>

Solidarity
within villages

*Entrepreneurship
and Innovation*



Source: <http://www.gettyimages.com.au/license/174714663>

Competition
between villages

Participation

- Organization aspects and processes
- Promoting volunteerism, civic duties
- Opportunities to participate



Source: <https://fromseatosummit.files.wordpress.com/2012/03/a47e3-wwf-clean-up-7.jpg>

“Administrative Arrangements”
“Buy-in from other stakeholders”

Facilitation

- From “subsidy” to “incentive-oriented” support
 - Minimal role of the state
-

Lessons, inspiration, and stories of Korea experience and vision of Nakar initiative

Perspectives and Outlook

The value of reflecting on basic processes, principles and values that matter which are intrinsic to communities and society.

Community participation and empowerment



<http://www.unicef.org/philippines/evac-school-2.jpg>

Perspectives and Outlook

Contextualizing movement of Korea in order for it to work in our own country and using Nakar and similar initiatives like RTM of PhilRice as a start



Source: <http://www.directionfocus.com/images/effective2.jpg>

Effective implementation, not necessarily more policies

Perspectives and Outlook

Distilling further, especially from the implications put forward from the paper



*Effective administration
Ideological reform
Minimal role of the state*

Perspectives and Outlook

Learning from Korea's movement and Nakari initiative to address our own rural poverty agriculture development challenges

A "can-do" spirit! - "Kaya natin!"



Perspectives and Outlook



Thank you!