

RECENT NWEC ACTIVITIES

Special Exhibition at the Women's Archives Center "Living hand in hand with architecture"

The FY2012 Special Exhibition "Living hand in hand with architecture ~ From women who made challenges to women aspiring to make challenges" is being held at the Women's Archives Center's exhibition room (1F, Main Building) from August 7.

The exhibition is the fifth in a series that considers gender equality in Japan from the experiences of women who have made challenges in various fields. This exhibition introduces Japanese women architects. With the cooperation of numerous organizations, universities and institutions, biographical panels, architectural models and various other materials are on exhibit.



Biographical panels, publications, etc.

Women Featured

[Pioneering women architects]

Nobuko Tsuchiura (1900~1998): Having pursued her education in the US before the war, Nobuko is considered the first Japanese woman architect

Fumiko Yoshida (1913~2001): First female student in the Department of Architecture at the former Waseda School of Technology affiliated to Waseda University

Miho Hamaguchi (1915~1988): Involved in the development of dining-kitchens for public housing; indirect contributor to raising the status of women

Masako Hayashi (1928~2001): Member of the first class to graduate from the Division of Housing at Japan Women's University

Nobuko Nakahara (1929-2008): Founder and first president of UIFA JAPON (Japan Branch of Union Internationale des Femmes Architectes)

Shizue Iijima (1937-2010): Pioneer in the field of facility design



Architectural models and postcards

[Women architects active today]

Itsuko Hasegawa (1941-): First woman architect to become involved in public architecture in Japan

Mariko Goto (1948-): Building designer active in the field of small-scale architecture as represented by houses

Michiko Bando (1966-): Researcher specializing in housing environments for disabled and elderly persons, and housing issues pertaining to low-income earners

Exhibition Period: Tuesday, August 7 ~ Sunday, December 9, 2012

Opening Hours: 9:00 ~ 17:00

Admission: Free

We look forward to your visit.



Poster

FY2012 Training Course to Promote Gender Equality for Leaders of Women's Facilities, Groups and Organizations

NWEC held its FY2012 Training Course to Promote Gender Equality for Leaders of Women's Facilities, Groups and Organizations from Wednesday, June 13 through Friday, June 15, 2012 with the participation of 132 individuals from throughout Japan. The core theme of this course focused on how, in the wake of the Great East Japan Earthquake, to build organizations and institutions upon which local residents can rely at times of disaster.

Participants learned about issues such as the building of disaster-ready communities, public-private cooperation and cooperation with NPOs through various means including case studies from disaster-stricken communities; explanations of related ministries' and agencies' policies; a lecture by Akiko Domoto, former governor of Chiba prefecture; and course-specific participatory workshops. The residential aspect of this course enabled participants to discuss the present and future of gender equality through information exchange sessions and other social gatherings.

Participants also learned about necessary perspectives and ways of promoting cooperation and collaboration in order to realize a community that incorporates gender-equal perspectives through various means including a report on a study conducted by NVEC entitled “Research on the Promotion of Men’s Participation at Home and in the Community,” a report on the 56th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women held in New York this spring, course-specific workshops and the plenary session.



Wrap-up at the plenary session

Feedback from participants included comments such as “The course afforded me an opportunity to think about the pressing issue of how to respond in times of disaster,” “The course was meaningful in that it enabled me to have openhearted discussions with people from other centers,” “I learned the importance of identifying issues and incorporating them into programs,” “The course forced me to think about women’s employment and entrepreneurial activities,” and “I’d like to make use of training materials and content provided at this course in various positions in the community.”

Summer School for High and Junior High School Girls 2012 – Scientists and Engineers of the Future

Summer School for High and Junior High School Girls 2012 – Scientists and Engineers of the Future was held again this year from Thursday, August 9 ~ Saturday August 11, to afford high and junior high school girls an opportunity to experience the enjoyment to be derived from the world of science and technology, to interact with women active there in, and to meet peers and senior students with an interest in science and technology. A total of 118 girls from high and junior high schools nationwide, together with 30 parents and teachers participated in this year’s program.

Commissioned by the Japan Science and Technology Agency, Summer School 2012 was co-hosted by the Subcommittee on Promotion of Scientific Ability of the Committee on Science and Society, and the Subcommittee on Gender Equality of the Committee on Scientists, both of the Science Council of Japan. Accordingly, we were able to use networks built up through previous Summer School programs to solicit the cooperation of numerous individuals, companies and organizations and offer an even more ingenious program. In particular, university students who had participated in earlier Summer Schools were involved as teaching assistants to provide participants with thorough follow-up support.



Opening remarks

At the Summer School participants listened attentively and asked numerous questions during the lectures on careers provided by women working at companies and research institutions and virtual tours of their workplaces. Lively discussion also ensued at the program for parents and teachers reflecting their high level of interest in the participants' desire to pursue the sciences.

Moreover, with the science career game "Science *Sugoroku*" and other programs devised by graduate and undergraduate students more creative than ever, comments such as "I had a great time," "My decision to pursue science became clearer in my mind" and "I'd like to return to the Summer School after I enter university" from participating high and junior high school girls indicated their satisfaction with the program.

Held in the heat of summer, ample consideration was given to heatstroke and other conditions that could affect the participants' welfare, and the program ended without any major accidents or happenings.

FY2012 Forum to Promote Exchange on Research and Practice Pertinent to Gender Equality (NVEC Forum)

The FY2012 Forum to Promote Exchange on Research and Practice Pertinent to Gender Equality was held from Friday, August 24 through Sunday, August 26 with the attendance of more than 1000 workshop organizers and participants from throughout Japan.

At the symposium entitled "Towards creation of a new society rooted in women's social participation" held immediately after the opening, speakers Ms. Yoko Kobayashi (President and CEO, NTT Com CHEO), Ms. Shoko Sugimoto (Director, NPO Ikiiki Network) and Dr. Yasuhiko Miyata (Professor, Department of Life Design, Faculty of Home Economics, Otsuma Women's University) referred to visions of a gender-equal society while raising a number of issues such as what was needed in order to create a new society amid advances in structural changes in demographics, emerging changes in values and the need to review existing social systems, and discussed them from various angles.



Scene from the symposium "Towards creation of a new society rooted in women's social participation"

Ms. Kobayashi focused on the current situation surrounding use of women in companies, issues therein and efforts to resolve them; Ms. Sugimoto talked about the significance of working for an NPO that engages in activities in the community and related issues; and Dr. Miyata, who is a researcher, discussed the fundamental meaning of working and employment, the formation of market societies, and the incidence of associated work-life balance challenges as issues inextricably linked to realization of a gender-equal society before raising issues pertaining to individual lifestyles and society. A lively question and answer session with participants from the floor followed under the moderation of Ms. Michiko Munakata (editor and commentator, Kyodo News)

ensuring the symposium considered prospects for a gender-equal society in a fruitful and worthwhile manner.

Over the three days, 60 workshops were held around five themes chosen on the basis of policies identified in the Third Basic Plan on Gender Equality: 1. Women's career building, 2. Gender equality for men, 3. Safety, security and gender equality, 4. Building gender-equal communities, and 5. Hubs for gender equality. Workshop presenters reported on their day-to-day research and activities, and engaged in lively discussions and question and answer sessions with participants, thereby ensuring the workshops provided a forum for information exchange and interaction among participants.

FY2012 Training Course for Leaders of Family Education and Child Raising Support

NWEC held the FY2012 Training Course for Leaders of Family Education and Child Raising Support from Friday, May 18 through Saturday, May 19. The course was attended by 82 public officials involved in family education, child raising support and gender equality, staff of women's and social education organizations and leaders of organizations involved in supporting child raising from throughout Japan. This year's theme, "Child raising supported by society as a whole," considered ways of providing support such that child raising is supported by a society that unites to support families from a gender-equal perspective.



Lecture "Child raising supported by society as a whole"

In addition to lectures on the themes of support for family education and a work-life balance, panel discussions and explanations from related ministries and agencies, a discussion designed to encourage participants to share issues was held on the first day of the course. In the report and question session entitled "Disasters and support for child raising" held in the morning of the second day, a number of valuable reports based on experience gained as victims of the Great East Japan Earthquake of March 2011 were heard, and participants shared their thoughts on what was required of child raising support centers in stricken areas when disasters occur. In the afternoon, participants divided into three workshops where they engaged in case study-based group discussions on the direction of measures needed in order for society as a whole to support child raising in a way that could lead to the resolution of current issues. Finally, each workshop presented their findings at the plenary session.

Through these lectures, panel discussions and workshops, the course enabled participants to gain an understanding of issues such as appropriate means of child raising support and promotion of a work-life balance, men's involvement in child raising support activities, and child raising support at times of disaster that were exposed by the Great East Japan Earthquake. It also enabled participants to share directions and policies needed to implement measures for supporting child raising by society at large.

A social evening event that capitalized on the residential aspect of the course aimed to fostering relationships that could benefit future activities through informal discussion of participants' everyday activities and became a forum for interaction and networking among them.

TOPICS

Multidisciplinary Intellectual Exchange for Women Leaders from Japan, the United States , South Korea and the Philippines

From April 16th to 19th, 2012, Multidisciplinary Intellectual Exchange for women leaders was held in Honolulu, Hawaii. This conference was co-hosted by the National Women's Education Center (NWECC) and Center for Women Policy Studies (CWPS) with support from Japan Foundation Center for Global Partnership and from grants-in-aid for scientific research. Its objective is to create a new network and new strategies to combat trafficking of women and girls as a women's human rights crisis, paying particular attention to migrant women's vulnerability to trafficking and to policies to address trafficking of women for forced labor in each of our countries.



Multidisciplinary Intellectual Exchange participants with University of Hawaii President, M.R.C. Greenwood at College Hill in Honolulu, Hawaii

With the support from our partner institutions, the Korean Women's Development Institute (KWDI), and the University of the Philippines Center for Women's Studies (UPCWS), 23 leading women experts of human trafficking and migrant women were invited to the conference.



Representatives of organizers and co-hosts, from left, Ms. Fusako Utsumi, President of NWECC, Dr. Leslie R. Wolfe, President of CWPS, Dr. Heejung Yoo, Director of KWDI, and Dr. Sylvia Estrada Claudio, Director of UPCWS

The program was held at Kapi`olani Community College, on the first day, country representatives reported the issues and challenges about trafficking in persons and migrant women in the Pacific Rim.

Between plenary sessions, participants attended sectoral strategic planning sessions (1.elected officials, 2. academics, and 3. civil society leaders) and country strategic planning sessions (Japan, U.S.A., South Korea, and Philippines). These sessions facilitated cross-cutting discussions and network building among conference participants.

By sharing time together for four days, participants built strong bond of the Pacific Rim Women which should be continued to combat human trafficking and to deliberate policy for safety of women immigrants. After the conference, mailing list among the participants was launched to share information.

Courtesy visit to University of Hawai`i (Wednesday April 18, 2012)

On April 18, 2012, Ms. Fusako Utsumi, President of National Women's Education Center, and Ms. Hiroe Nakano, Director of Office of Research and International Affairs, made a courtesy visit to University of Hawai`i to discuss how to maximize women's ability within organization. From University of Hawai`i Foundation, Ms. Donna Vuchinich, President & CEO, and Ms. Carolyn Mariko Miho, Senior Director of Development, and from the University of Hawai`i, Dr. Joanne Y. Taira, Special Assistant for Planning and Policy, Dr. Mary G. McDonald, Associate Professor, and Ms. Tokiko Yamamoto Bazzell, Japanese Studies Librarian of Hamilton Library, have attended the meeting.



Visit to University of Hawai`i, Ms. Donna Vuchinich, President & CEO of University of Hawai`i Foundation, and Ms. Fusako Utsumi, President of NVEC

INFORMATION FROM NVEC

Publication of Data Book of Gender Equality Statistics 2012

NVEC published Data Book of Gender Equality Statistics 2012 – Women and Men in Japan (Ed. Yoichi Ito, NVEC).

The Data Book divides civil life into 14 categories: ① Population; ② Household and family; ③ Labor and employment; ④ Work conditions; ⑤ Business enterprises; ⑥ Time use and unpaid labor; ⑦ Household budget and assets; ⑧ Learning and study ⑨ Social security and welfare; ⑩ Health and welfare; ⑪ Security and crime; ⑫ Natural disasters; ⑬ Decision-making; and ⑭ Consciousness surveys, and explains various statistical data pertaining to the current situation surrounding women in a reader-friendly manner.

The 2012 edition not only provides up-to-date data, but is unique in that it considers numerical targets mentioned in “performance objectives” and “achievements” for each of the 15 priority fields identified in the Third Basic Plan for Gender Equality adopted by Cabinet decision in December 2010, and includes the category “Natural disasters” in response to the Great East Japan Earthquake of March 11, 2011, and the category “Business entities” in view of the increasingly



important issue of work-life balance.

We hope you will make use of this publication to gain a data-based understanding of the current situation and promote a gender-equal society.

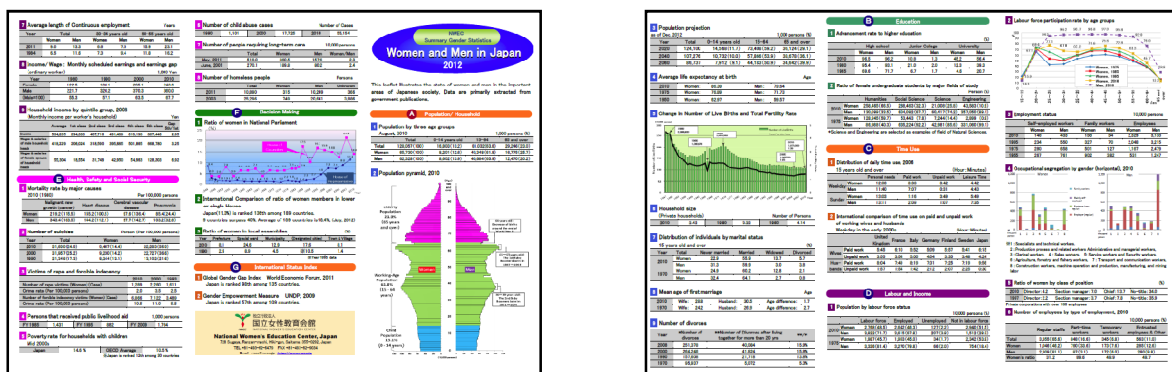
Publication of “NVEC Summary Gender Statistics - Women and Men in Japan 2012”

A leaflet entitled “NVEC Summary Gender Statistics - Women and Men in Japan 2012” has been published describing the current situation surrounding women and men in key areas in Japanese society under seven categories: A Population/Households; B Education; C Time Use; D Labour and Income; E Health, Safety and Social Security; F Decision Making; and G International Status Index.

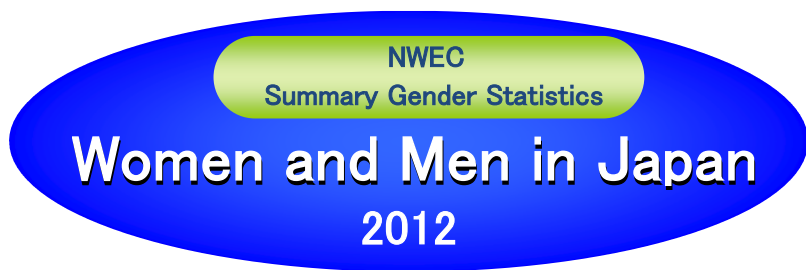
We hope everyone will use this leaflet to get a data-based understanding of the current situation and advance the formation of a gender-equal society.

The leaflet is available in English and can be downloaded from the following webpage.

http://winet.nwec.jp/toukei/load/img_load/GS-reaf_2012en.pdf



The above comprises the entire NVEC Summary Gender Statistics. The tables below are excerpts from this. Data from this publication will be introduced in this issue and the following issue.



This leaflet illustrates the state of women and men in the important areas of Japanese society. Data are primarily extracted from government publications.

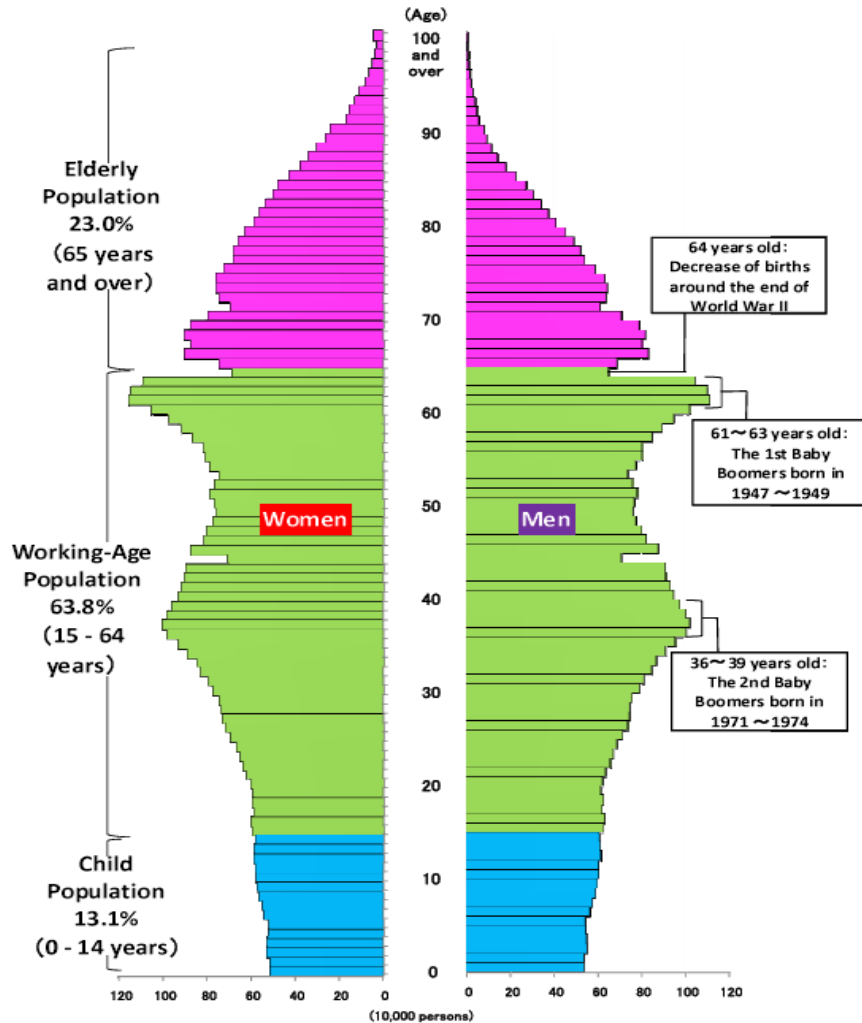
1 Population by three age groups

August, 2010

1,000 persons (%)

	Total	0-14 years old	15-64	65 and over
Total	128,057 (100)	16,803 (13.2)	81,032 (63.8)	29,246 (23.0)
Women	65,730 (100)	8,201 (12.6)	40,348 (61.8)	16,775 (25.7)
Men	62,328 (100)	8,602 (13.9)	40,684 (65.9)	12,470 (20.2)

2 Population pyramid, 2010



3 Population projection

as of Dec. 2012

1,000 persons (%)

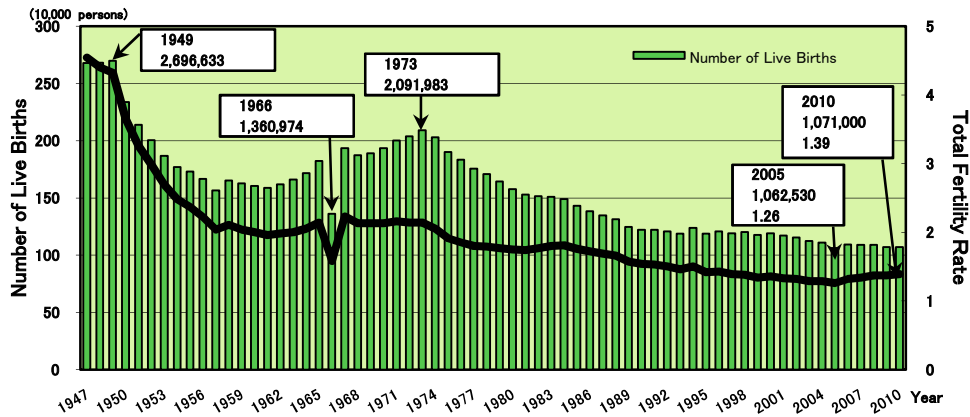
Year	Total	0-14 years old	15-64	65 and over
2020	124,100	14,568 (11.7)	73,408 (59.2)	36,124 (29.1)
2040	107,276	10,732 (10.0)	57,866 (53.9)	38,678 (36.1)
2060	86,737	7,912 (9.1)	44,183 (50.9)	34,642 (39.9)

4 Average life expectancy at birth

Age

2010	Women:	86.39	Men:	79.64
1975	Women:	76.89	Men:	71.73
1950	Women:	62.97	Men:	59.57

5 Change in Number of Live Births and Total Fertility Rate



6 Household size

(Private households)		Number of Persons	
2010	2.42	1980	3.22
		1960	4.14

7 Distribution of individuals by marital status

15 years old and over

(%)

Year	Total	Never married	Married	Widowed	Divorced
2010	Women	22.9	55.9	13.7	5.7
	Men	31.3	59.9	3.0	3.8
1970	Women	24.9	60.2	12.8	2.1
	Men	32.4	64.1	2.7	0.8

8 Mean age of first marriage

Age

2010	Wife: 28.8	Husband: 30.5	Age difference: 1.7
1970	Wife: 24.2	Husband: 26.9	Age difference: 2.7

9 Number of divorces

Year	*Number of divorces	**Number of Divorces after living together for more than 20 years	**/*
2008	251,378	40,084	15.9%
2000	264,246	41,824	15.8%
1990	157,608	21,718	13.8%
1970	95,937	5,072	5.3%

B

Education

1 Advancement rate to higher education

(%)

	High school		Junior College		University	
	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men
2010	96.5	96.2	10.8	1.3	45.2	56.4
1980	95.4	93.1	21.0	2.0	12.3	39.3
1965	69.6	71.7	6.7	1.7	4.6	20.7

2 Ratio of female undergraduate students by major fields of study

Person (%)

		Humanities	Social Science	Science	Engineering
		2010	Women	258,465 (66.5)	288,463 (32.3)
	Men	130,099 (33.5)	604,082 (67.7)	60,417 (74.2)	357,050 (89.1)
1975	Women	128,945 (59.7)	53,443 (7.8)	7,244 (14.4)	2,899 (0.9)
	Men	86,988 (40.3)	635,224 (92.2)	42,981 (85.6)	331,060 (99.1)

*Science and Engineering are selected as examples of field of Natural Sciences.

1 Distribution of daily time use, 2006

		15 years old and over (Hour: Minutes)			
		Personal needs	Paid work	Unpaid work	Leisure Time
Weekday	Women	12:03	3:33	3:42	4:42
	Men	11:40	7:07	0:31	4:43
Sunday	Women	13:03	1:16	3:49	5:49
	Men	13:11	2:09	1:07	7:35

2 International comparison of time use on paid and unpaid work of working wives and husbands

		Weekday in the early 2000s (Hour: Minutes)						
		United Kingdom	France	Italy	Germany	Finland	Sweden	Japan
Wives	Paid work	5:45	6:10	5:52	5:09	5:57	5:41	6:15
	Unpaid work	3:55	3:54	5:05	4:04	3:35	3:48	4:24
Husbands	Paid work	8:04	7:49	8:19	7:31	7:25	7:19	9:56
	Unpaid work	1:57	1:54	1:42	2:12	2:07	2:25	0:30

Publication of “Entrepreneurial Support for Women in Korea and Community Revitalization – A Korean Survey Report –”

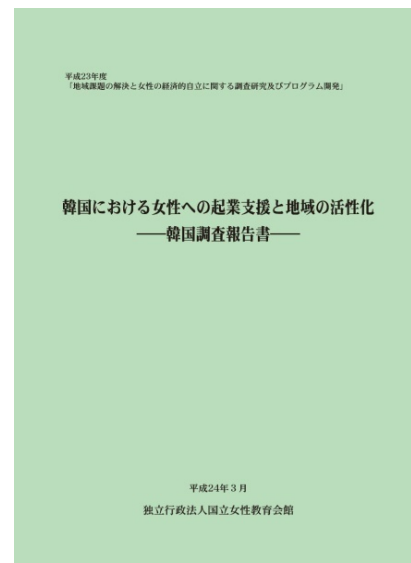
This is a report on the FY2011 program “Research on the resolution of community issues and women’s economic independence, and development of a relevant program.”

A study of support for community businesses and venture enterprises and re-employment support in Korea has clarified that activities designed to resolve community issues have the potential to lead to women’s economic independence and challenges therein.

The research sought to clarify the potential for women’s community and social activities aimed at resolving community issues to lead to economic independence and challenges therein, and to develop programs targeting women actually involved in NPOs and entrepreneurial activities in the community as well as those intending to do so in the future. In fiscal 2011, under this research, we conducted a survey of examples of progressive community businesses and pioneering programs in Korea.

The situation in Korea whereby community businesses and social enterprises that provide social services such as education, health and social welfare have become the final workplace for many Korean women is comparable to the situation in Japan whereby support provided to NPOs and venture businesses in the form of support for second career challenges comprises a part of employment support for women resuming interrupted careers.

Access: Downloadable at <http://www.nwec.jp/jp/publish/report/page38.html> (Japanese only)



Publication of “Report on a Survey of Men’s Community Activities and Gender Equality”

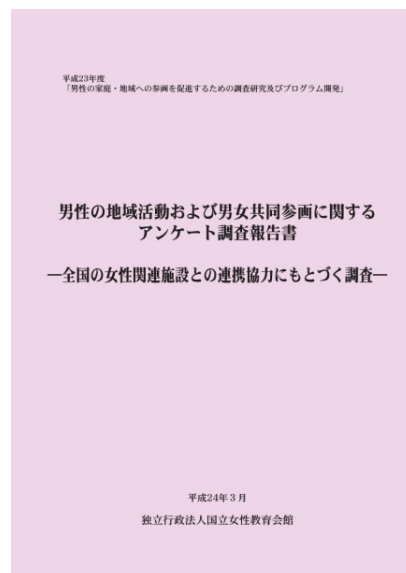
This is the report published in FY2012 based on research to promote men’s participation at home and in the community, and programs developed.

The report comprises the results of two surveys: a survey of men’s community activities and gender equality (targeting men involved in community activities) and a survey of programs targeting men (targeting collaborating women’s organizations), conducted in collaboration with women’s organizations nationwide.

For this research, we solicited the cooperation of women’s organizations nationwide and conducted a questionnaire targeting men in collaboration with 71 of them. Through this collaboration, rather than simply just conducting surveys, NWECC and the women’s organizations involved endeavored to collaborate on building a foundation for future programs to promote men’s participation at home and in the community.

The survey targeting men illuminated factors such as the age men embarked on community activities, the life event that triggered their participation and the influence of people around them. It also indicated the fact that many of the respondents recognize the social and personal achievement of community activities as a means of building a new way of life or career that is separate from their work life.

Access: Downloadable at <http://www.nwec.jp/jp/publish/report/page39.html> (Japanese only)



EDITOR'S NOTE

The National Women’s Education Center (NWECC) -the Independent Administrative Institution strives towards the formation of a gender-equal society. Cooperating with organizations and institutions involved in women’s education in Japan and other countries, NWECC functions as a national center for women’s education to promote training opportunities for leaders in women’s education and others in the field; opportunities for exchange between groups, both women’s groups and family education support groups; specialized research into women’s education and family education; and the collection, compilation and dissemination of information on women and the family. The NWECC Newsletter is published twice a year to introduce our activities.

NWECC Newsletter has been published since 1984. It includes information on various activities undertaken by the National Women’s Education Center as well as women in Japan. The paper-based newsletter was renewed as a digital-based news source to facilitate more efficient and timely dissemination of the information.

We invite you, hereafter, to access information real time from the Center’s Home Page as well as read our latest newsletter from the following pages.

○NWECC Home Page(English) <http://www.nwec.jp/en/>

○NWECC Newsletter Top Page <http://www.nwec.jp/en/publish/#head1>

★In the singing of insects, I feel the coming of Autumn. Thank you for reading NWECC Newsletter.

National Women’s Education Center (NWECC)

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