#4 < Form #4 >

(Renewal Competitive Research Funding Form)

1. 신청과제(Project)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>과제번호 (Grant Number)</th>
<th>AKS-2015-R39</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>과제명 (Title of Research)</td>
<td>The Making of a Global Economic Player: Korea’s Engagement in the Global South</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>과제수행기간 (Research Period)</td>
<td>1 June 2016-31 May 2017</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. 연구책임자(Project Director)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>성명 (Name)</th>
<th>Matteo Fumagalli</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>소속 학과 (Department)</td>
<td>International Relations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>직위 (Position)</td>
<td>Associate Professor, Head of Department</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3. 예산(Budget)

a. 1차년도 예산지원내역 및 사용 내역(First year budget)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>항목별 산출내역 (One-year Project Cost Computation)</th>
<th>지원예산 (Amount of Grant)</th>
<th>예산 사용 내역 (Amount of Usage)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Personnel</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PI</td>
<td>6,500</td>
<td>6,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RAs</td>
<td>6,000</td>
<td>6,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travel</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visit to South-East Asia</td>
<td>1,500</td>
<td>2,500 (committed, to be spent by 6 May)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dissemination</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>Re-assigned to SEA visit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>합계(Total)</td>
<td>$15,000</td>
<td>$15,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

b. 2차년도 예산신청내역(Requested Second Year Budget Breakdown)
## 항목별 산출내역  
*(One-year Project Cost Computation)*

|                             | 산출예산  
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I. 수당 (Allowance)</td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. PI</td>
<td>6,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Research Assistant 1</td>
<td>2,250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Research Assistant 2</td>
<td>2,250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II. 문헌 및 재료구입비 (Books and Materials)</td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
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<td>2.</td>
<td></td>
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<td>...</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>III. 기타 (Others)</td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Fieldwork in Korea (one week)</td>
<td>2,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Fieldwork in South-East Asia (Vietnam, Indonesia)</td>
<td>2,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>...</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>합계 (Total)</td>
<td>$15,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* 지원비는 USD로 산정하여 신청 (Amount of requested grant should be calculated in USD.)*

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** 기타재원 (Other Financial Sources)**

1. 신청자 소속기관이 제공하는 경비, 시설, 기타사항 (구체적으로)  
   Expenses, facilities and other items provided by the applicant institution (Describe in detail)

An additional period of fieldwork in Singapore is expected to be funded by the National University of Singapore. This would be helpful as Singapore is home to a variety of institutions focusing on the South-East Asian economies (Institute for South-East Asian Studies; INSEAD; as well the National University of Singapore, Nanyang Technological University, and Singapore Management University. Contact has been established with those institutions but more time is needed for more extensive data collection. A new stint of fieldwork is scheduled in February 2017.

2. 동일과제로 다른 기관에서 지원받은 내역
4. 연구 진행 사항
▶ 아래 내용을 순서대로 작성하십시오.
(Please state the plan in the following order. There is no limit in length or format.)

1. 1차년도 연구 수행 내역(1st year research progress)

Summary of project
South Korea’s attempts to establish its credentials as a global economic player have passed through its engagement in frontier (high-risk) markets. Korea has traditionally been preoccupied with its immediate neighborhood, namely North Korea and North-East Asia. At the same time understanding its engagement in non-traditional regions can shed light on how Seoul’s understanding of its role in the world has changed over time, and on the extent to which the link between domestic considerations and external factors has reshaped its global and regional strategies. Has Korea actually already become a global economic player and if so, how have Seoul’s regional strategies contributed to such ends?

Objectives and aims
- Understand how Korea’s global engagement has been shaped by domestic factors (energy vulnerabilities and saturated market for local manufactured goods) and the international context (e.g. the rapid economic and political upsurge of China, especially in the Global South);
- Map Korea’s engagement in the two target regions (key players; instruments, tools, mechanisms; longitudinal and cross-regional analysis);
- Examine how a broader reflection of Korea’s changing role in the world has shaped specific regional strategies and policies;
- Investigate case studies of successful engagement and cases of failures in the target regions.

Research questions:
- What are the key drivers of Korea’s engagement in the Global South?
- How has Korea advanced its goals in the target regions (who are the key players? In what sequence have goals been pursued?)
- Has involvement in the Global South been re-examined in Korea’s policy circles and with what implications? How have Korea’s policies and strategies evolved over time?

Rationale
For obvious historical reasons much of the literature on Korea’s role in global politics has focused on its immediate neighborhood (North Korea, Japan, China), and its relationship with the United States. More recently scholars have begun paying attention to Korea’s economic rise and how this has affected its foreign relations (Heo and Roehrig 2014: 1). Although a valuable body of scholarly work on Korea’s engagement in specific regions exists (Southeast Asia: Steinberg 2010; Central Asia: Fumagalli 2012 and 2016; Africa: Darraç and Naville 2012; comparatively Heo and Roehrig 2014 esp. chapter 9, and D’Costa, 2015), more in-depth case studies would contribute significantly to our understanding of the specifics of Korea’s successes as well as of some of the difficulties it has encountered in key sectors so that lessons can be learnt from past problematic experiences. The case studies selected for this project aim to shed light on such processes (mapping of interests, policies, key players, sectors) and examples of success and failure, within and between countries and across regions.

The project combines insights from international relations, area studies, and political economy to make an inter-disciplinary theoretically-informed and empirically-grounded contribution to a scholarly understanding of Korea’s evolving role in the world.
Data collection in Korea will involve interviews with key stakeholders (government officials, relevant informants in selected companies, KOICA, experts in think tanks and universities). Data collection in South-East Asia will involve meetings with civil society representatives, officers of companies that have partnered with Korean counterparts, and policy-makers. Other data can be collected remotely (online), hence the need for research assistants (RAs). RAs will have specific knowledge of Korean politics and especially its engagement in the Global South.

Methodologically the project makes use of the following tools:
- Desk research (in Budapest and Seoul/Blue House Library). Data collection will encompass official policy documents and statistics from both the Korean side (e.g. MOFA, KOICA) and the institutions of selected countries;
- Interviews in Seoul, Korea (the focus is on state and private actors).
- Interviews with government/ministries and relevant agencies; non-state actors, including companies and civil society organizations.

**Progress in Year 1**
Work in year 1 has focused primarily on data collection and analysis related to three broad regions: Sub-Saharan Africa and Central Asia (in equal depth) and South-East Asia (work on this has been of more exploratory nature and will be expanded in year 2, see next section). This approach served the purpose of identifying broad trends in the target regions and highlight possible cases for additional in-depth work.

**OUTPUT:** In terms of output 3 working papers were produced, one on each region. In addition, an article was published on South Korean-Central Asian relations (published in the *Journal of Eurasian Studies*).

### Central Asia (abstract of the journal article)
The geopolitical context which emerged from the collapse of the Soviet Union and the end of the Cold War, combined with Korea’s growing economic prowess, enabled greater dynamism and diversification in Seoul’s foreign policy-making. Growing pressure from energy-intensive economies coupled with new developments and investment in logistics and infrastructure have brought different parts of the Eurasian landmass closer together in recent years. Inter-Asian connections are especially growing. This article uses the case of deepening relations between Korea and the post-Soviet Central Asian republics as a vantage point to reflect on one such example of unfolding Asian interconnectedness. In addition it sees Seoul’s engagement in the region as a fitting example of Korea’s broader ambitions to assert itself as a global economic player. The article show that Korea’s policy towards Central Asia has been primarily driven by energy needs and is defined by pragmatism. It finds that the economic dimension of the relationship has greatly overshadowed other aspects such as politics and security. In its pursuit of closer ties with the region Seoul has sought to turn structural weaknesses into added value, and has attempted to develop a distinctive, non-threatening profile built around the lack of a political baggage and geopolitical ambitions, and the desire to share its experience of formerly-impoverished turned leading economy. In turn, Central Asia’s selective integration in the world economy has continued, also thanks to its ties with Korea. The Central Asian republics welcomed the opportunity to diversify their foreign relations, the sources of foreign investment and export routes. At the same time the opaque business environment, a leadership succession which cannot be postponed for much longer, and Seoul’s “no-strings attached” approach expose Korea to some risks as regime stability might not last forever.

Full article in attachment.
**Working paper on Central Asia**

The WP develops some of the themes discussed in the journal article before zooming in on the two countries that have attracted greater Korean attention, namely Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, and providing more up-to-date empirical data on investment, aid, and trade. It also examines some specific case studies, such as cooperation over the Navoi Airport (success) and and the Uz-Daewoo automobile factory (failure) in Uzbekistan.

**Working paper on Africa**

The paper investigates Korea’s efforts at making inroads in what is a fiercely competitive market where difficult business conditions apply. It maps existing economic relations where it finds that Nigeria, Angola, Liberia and South Africa remain the major trade partners of ROK. The ground appears promising for deepening relations with Rwanda, Ethiopia, Congo and Madagascar. In the text special attention is also paid to the cases of Namibia, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Nigeria, Ghana, Madagascar, and Ethiopia.

**Working paper on South-East Asia**

Work in this regard has proceeded at a slower pace. Data collection has focused on mapping the relevant literature and on gathering data on aid, investment, and trade in order to sketch out broad regional trends. Some initial work has been carried out on the Myanmar case study as this country/market is of growing interest of Korea. Research is currently being conducted in Laos, Singapore, and Thailand and the WP at present does not reflect fieldwork data yet.

**References**


2. 2차년도 구체적인 실행 계획(Plan for 2nd year research)

In the ‘Global South’ the project’s focus has been on three new markets for South Korea: Central Asia, Africa and South-East Asia. In year 1 the project has focused on all three regions. In year 2, because of the sheer amount of activity and variation in activities and impact the project will carry out a series of in-depth case studies in South-East Asia, beyond what was investigated in year 1 (Thailand, Laos, Myanmar, Singapore). Specifically the focus will be on the following countries: Vietnam, Indonesia, and Malaysia. In addition it examines how in turn Seoul’s effort has been critically re-assessed and its strategy adjusted accordingly, thereby focusing on policy-making in Korea as well.

Data collection and analysis will consist of the following:

- SEA: data collection continues from year 1; on-site activity, and data collection.
- Korea: visit to Seoul and interviews with relevant stakeholders (Korean policy-making) including current and former officials dealing with political and economic relations in the
target region(s), companies and non-governmental organizations. Dissemination, most notably delivery of output, will be an on-going activity throughout the year.

**Year 2**

- September 2016: Field research in Korea
- April-August 2017: Preparation of the paper on the SSA case study.
- January-April 2017: Field research in South-East Asia (Vietnam, Malaysia and Indonesia)
- April-August 2017: Preparation of the paper on SEA case study
- June 2017: Dissemination of findings in Korea (professional conference and/or public lecture at a university/think tank).
- June 2017: Project ends. Final report is due.

The project’s expected contribution is two-fold:

**Academic:**

An article on Korean-Central Asian relations was published in the *Journal of Eurasian Studies* in 2016. A number of working papers on specific case (region) studies are being produced by the research assistants in cooperation with the PI in year 1 and more in year 2.

In addition, work resulting from the project will be submitted to a number of refereed journals, namely:

- **Asian Survey (tbc)**: This is a leading journal in area studies. The paper will draw on a number of case studies from South East Asia to make an empirically grounded contribution to our understanding of Korea’s influence and engagement in the region.

- **African Studies Review (tbc)**: One of the better known journals in African studies. The paper will draw on a number of case studies from sub-Saharan Africa to make an empirically grounded contribution to our understanding of Korea’s influence and engagement in the region.

**Policy:**

Since the papers will also tease out some of the lessons learnt by Korea in the course of its engagement in the two target regions research will also be of value to non-academic users in the South Korean policy, trade and aid community. In that regard the project will highlight how Korea’s interests have shaped its policies in the region, how Korea has reflexively revised those policies in light of the lessons learnt from successful and unsuccessful cases of engagement in the three target regions.

### 3. 기타 재원이 있을 경우 분담 내용

(Cost sharing plan if there is another financial source besides the AKS grant)

Field research expenses in Myanmar are covered through a separate grant (Open Society Foundations, ‘teaching and research capacity building in Myanmar’, 2013-2016).

### 4. 계속 지원의 필요성

(Necessity of continuing assistance for multi-year project)

Assistance for one more year is needed for two main reasons: One, data collection has proceeded as planned with regard to the case studies. At the same time it has become apparent that because of the sheer diversity in the forms of engagement and impact the study of Korean-South-East Asian relations required more detailed attention. This is a time and resource-intensive process and more data are needed to shed light on the development of Korean-Vietnamese and Korean-Indonesian relations. One RA will be tasked with the collection of data, whereas the PI will conduct a short visit to both countries to conduct interviews with relevant informants.

In addition, the focus on Korea’s foreign policy-making and its fine-tuning in light of local impact
and lessons learnt from engagement in other regions/countries requires a site visit to Korea. A second RA will primarily focus on the collection and analysis of local policy documents, academic sources and media analysis. A short visit to Korea by the PI will complement this with elite interviews.

5. 당초 계획과 변경 된 내역(연구계획 및 예산 포함)
   (Any change from original plan including research and budget)

Empirically a third focal area has been added in year 1: Central Asia. Work on this region has not come to the detriment of progress of the overall project due to earlier extensive experience and expertise of the PI on this particular region. Data collection and analysis have ended and one article and a working paper have been produced. In year 1 there has been a minor re-allocation of funds away from dissemination (this could be funded through university funding and other projects) to field research in South-East Asia in the Spring of 2016. As the region is considerably far away from the PI’s home institution research has been rather expensive (although overall the budget still represents excellent value for money). Research in Myanmar (a country of considerable attention for Korea) is funded through other sources, but work in Laos, Thailand and Singapore (a hub for research in the region) required more funds than originally allocated.

5. 기타 (Others)
   1. 기타 정보(Other information)
   2. 첨부자료 목록 (*첨부자료 제목을 기재) (List the titles of the attachments.)


Growing inter-Asian Connections: Links, Rivalries, and Challenges in South Korean-Central Asian Relations