

젠더폭력 대응활동 지원사업

Strengthening Voices of Gender Equality against GBV in South Korea

2024 - 2025

Korea Foundation for Women with the support of Kering Foundation



“

What I learned here is that I am not the one who simply runs away
I am the one who makes choices.

”

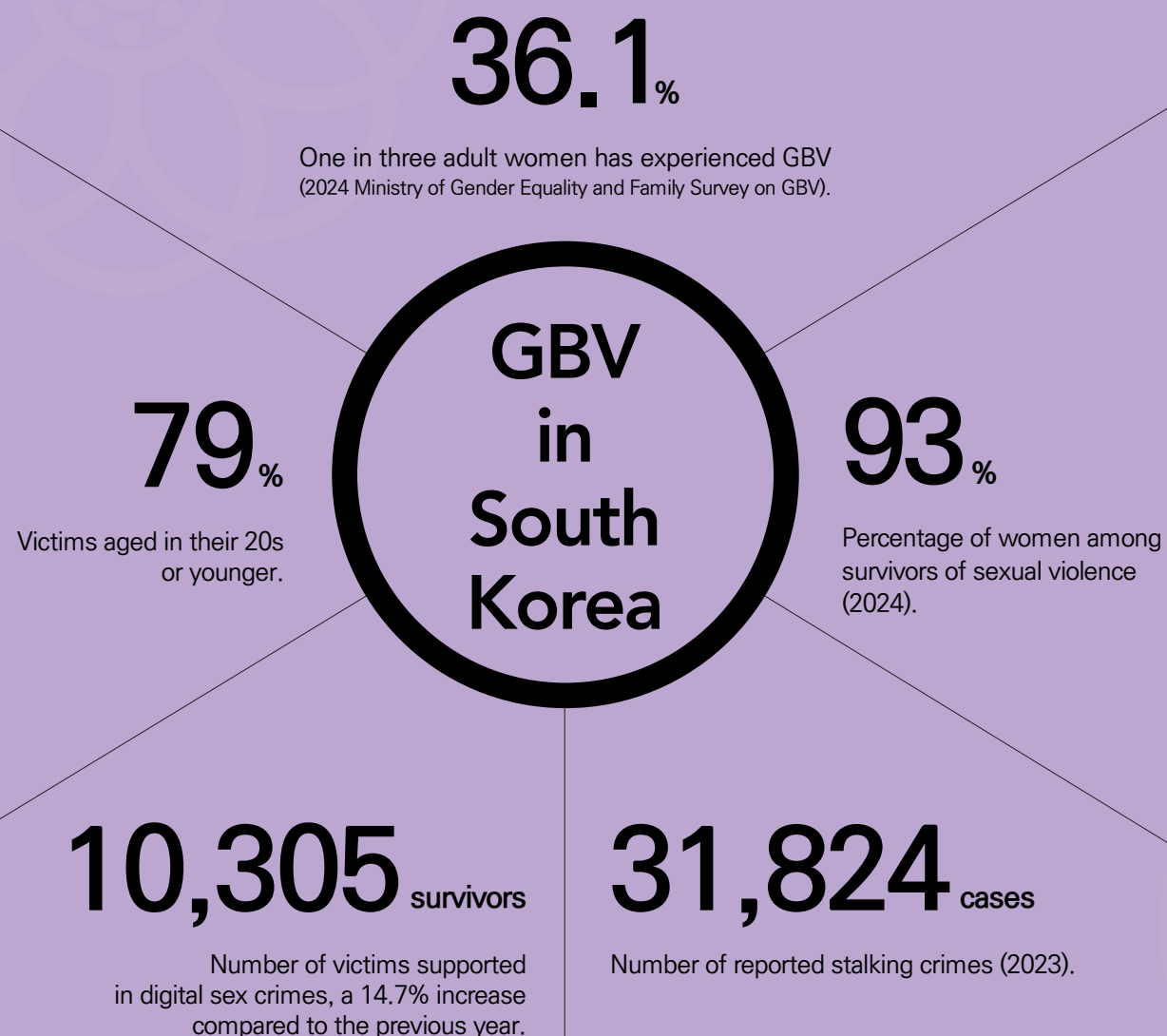
– Participant in *‘The A to Z of Responding to Daily GBV for Rural Women’*,
Jeju Women’s Association



WHAT IS GBV?

Gender-Based Violence (GBV) refers to any form of harm inflicted upon an individual or group because of their sex, gender, or sexual orientation.

GBV can include sexual, physical, verbal, psychological /emotional, and socio-economic violence.



South Korea is one of the fastest nations in the world to undergo a digital transformation. Yet, technological advancement has often been misused in ways that threaten the safety of women and children. The rise of heinous crimes such as the Nth Room case — a Telegram-based digital sexual exploitation ring — along with illegal filming, cyberstalking, and the distribution of deepfake pornography, has emerged as a severe social problem, putting women and children at grave risk.

The Journey Toward Sustainable Change

South Korea first established a legal framework to combat sexual violence in 1994 with the enactment of the Act on Special Cases Concerning the Punishment of Sexual Crimes. Since then, the legal basis for preventing gender-based violence has gradually been strengthened. The Framework Act on the Prevention of Violence against Women was enacted in 2018, and in 2021, the Anti-Stalking Act was introduced, explicitly recognizing stalking as a criminal offense.

Amidst this reality, the Korea Foundation for Women has, since its establishment in 1999, worked tirelessly for 26 years to eliminate GBV and advance gender equality. Through the Strengthening Voices of Gender Equality against GBV in South Korea project, the KFW actively supports grassroots civil society organizations in their innovative initiatives to address GBV.

Gender-based violence cannot be resolved by an individual effort alone. It requires a collective social effort to continuously recognize the issue and transform public consciousness. To this end, the Korea Foundation for Women strives to raise awareness of the seriousness of GBV and pursues diverse initiatives to permanently eradicate it.

LOOKING AHEAD

Strengthening Voices of Gender Equality against GBV in South Korea

To realize a society grounded in gender equality and care, the Korea Foundation for Women supports a wide range of public-interest initiatives.

Starting from 2024, under the ‘Strengthening Voices of Gender Equality against GBV in South Korea’ project, the KFW has funded organizations working to expand public understanding of the issue, raise awareness of its severity, and support survivors with prevention as the primary goal.

These efforts aim to make visible the gender-based violence that has too often gone unrecognized and to foster innovative approaches to its prevention.

Between November 2024 and July 2025, the KFW supported activities from five domestic organizations and one international network, across three thematic categories below:

CONTENT Based Programs

These programs focused on producing and disseminating public-facing content to enhance understanding of GBV. Utilizing various forms of visual and digital media content, they aim to foster stronger public engagement and raise awareness to prevent and respond to GBV.

ACTIVITY Based Programs

These programs focused on direct engagement with specific GBV issues, emphasizing institutional advocacy and community-level responses tailored to local contexts.

SOLIDARITY Based Programs

This program supported international efforts addressing the intersection of militarism and GBV.

Do you know GBV?

Univalli Press

Univalli Press is a nonprofit, independent media outlet that guarantees students' right to know and amplifies their voices, operating with full editorial independence from universities. Members representing different universities are active under Univalli Press. Univalli Press addressed GBV in an attempt to redefine campus discourse around GBV through news articles and educational content. The aim is to encourage university journalists to take an interest in, understand, and actively report on GBV and related issues so that such topics naturally become part of campus media coverage and discourse. The ultimate purpose extends beyond the maturation of campus communities to contribute to broader societal advancement, leveraging the unique role of campus media as a bridge to mainstream journalism. It also developed Gender Reporting Guidelines and operated the 7th University Journalists Academy, providing lectures from experts (current/former journalists, lawyers, producers, etc.) on "What is Gender-Equal Journalism?".



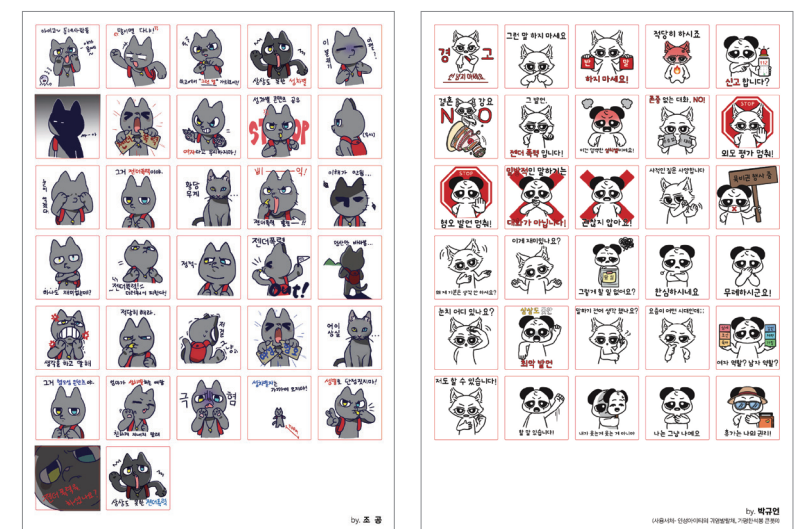
Web-poster of the 7th University Journalists Academy

With Gendicon, Stop Gender Violence!

Chuncheon Womenlink

Chuncheon Womenlink is a non-profit women's civic organization established with the purpose of advancing women's development by enhancing their social status through capacity building and rights advocacy. The organization seeks to foster new values for women's empowerment, promote their participation in society, strengthen social well-being, and ultimately contribute to the realization of a democratic society. Chuncheon Womenlink hosted an emoji design contest promoting anti-violence messages in everyday language, with selected entries being developed into usable emojis and distributed to schools and civilians.

By introducing "Gendicon" — gender-based violence response emoticons(emojis) designed for use on online platforms and mobile spaces — the program seeks to instill awareness about the pervasiveness of GBV in everyday life and embed an anti-GBV culture into daily interactions.



Selected Entries of Gendicon contest

CONTENT Based Programs

Women Fighting Digital Sexual Violence

Seodaemun Community Radio

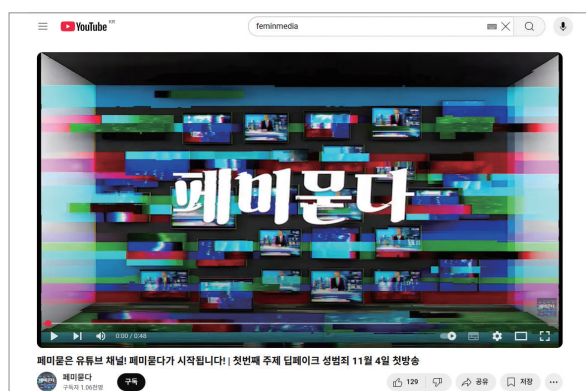
Seodaemun Community Radio, incorporated as a nonprofit in 2013, has been broadcasting for 11 years as a community-based radio station centered in the Seodaemun district in Seoul.

It was founded to enhance communication within the community, strengthen grassroots democracy, and expand media access for minorities and marginalized groups in the local area.

Seodaemun Community Radio documented voices of deepfake survivors, producing ethical, empathy-driven content without retraumatization through the newly created YouTube channel “FemiMooda**” (<https://www.youtube.com/@feminmedia>).

Through its first program on deepfakes, FemiMooda produced and distributed content diagnosing the realities of the deepfake problem. This process revealed the need for more active and sustained engagement with the issue. Guest speakers in the project highlighted a generational divide in recognizing the severity of deepfake crimes, often stemming from differences in digital literacy.

This gap makes it difficult to foster a culture of serious reflection on the problem. Moving beyond mere awareness, the organization seeks ways for women to collectively break through the current deepfake crisis and the broader prevalence of digital sexual violence.



Main Page of the YouTube Channel “FemiMooda”

**Mooda(문다) = 1) ask, 2) coated; covered

ACTIVITY Based Programs

The A to Z of responding to daily GBV for rural women

Jeju Women’s Association

Jeju Women’s Association was founded to advance a gender-equal society through women’s active participation and solidarity. Based in Jeju, it carries out a wide range of women’s movement initiatives throughout the region. Jeju Women’s Association implemented a comprehensive program to address the everyday violence experienced by rural women. Activities included educational workshops, dialogue sessions, and community-building programs, which culminated in policy proposals.

It not only categorized types of everyday GBV that frequently occur in rural communities, but also strengthened the response capacity of individuals and groups participating in pilot training programs, fostering local safety networks. After the training programs are over, the resulting manual of the Jeju (urban-rural) pilot program was disseminated nationwide to gender equality advocates, contributing to safer, more equitable relationships among diverse rural populations.

This program ultimately aims to realize a rural feminist vision in which women, in all their diversity, reclaim and reshape their rural environments.



Link to the Feminist Journal Ilda articles on the program / Cover of the Training Manual

Deepfake: A Record of “Survival after Trauma”

Landing Techniques of Sangyeoja

Landing Techniques of Sangyeoja is a collective composed of survivors of sexual violence in the arts, their allies, and advocates. Emerging in Korea in 2015 in the wake of the “Hashtag_in_the_Arts” and #MeToo movements, this organization brings together film directors, dancers, writers, therapists, and visual artists who had each fought within their own artistic fields. They united to create programs supporting the healing of survivors of sexual violence. Expanding an arts-based victim support model, the members of the Landing Techniques of Sangyeoja enabled survivors to regain resources for selfcare, reclaim agency over their bodies, emotions, and senses, and foster recovery. The artistic approach provides a non-imposing, non-coercive, and open environment for self-reflection, beyond traditional legal or medical assistance, using art as a medium for safety and solidarity. It seeks to create an interwoven social-solidarity safety net for young women, encouraging both survivors and allies to document and refine their voices as a resource for preventing recurrence. The program records, preserves, distributes, and amplifies the voices of survivors and allies affected by deepfake crimes, going beyond mere statistics or sensational media reports. By centering lived experiences, it aims to challenge social prejudice, victim-blaming, and stigma, fostering recognition of digital sexual violence as a structural problem requiring collective social action.



1st Chapter : “A Story the Bag Tells”

International Women’s Network Against Militarism 2025 Seoul International Conference - Feminist Responsibility and Activism for Secure Lives: War, Security, and Bases International Women’s Network Against Militarism

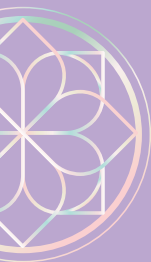
International Women’s Network Against Militarism is a global network with women activists, policymakers, teachers, and students from Guahan(Guam), Hawai’i(Hawaii), mainland Japan, Okinawa, The Philippines, Puerto Rico, South Korea, and continental U.S.A.

This network works on issues regarding military violence, sexual abuse, and trafficking. It hosted a global conference in May 2025, with over 180 activists and researchers from Korea, Okinawa, the Philippines, Guam, and Hawaii. Under the theme “War, Security, Military Bases, and Women’s Practices,” the event explored the structural violence, environmental degradation, and health impacts experienced by communities surrounding U.S. military bases, through a feminist lens.

It offered a vital platform to redefine peace and security in women’s terms, while fostering global networking among members of the International Women’s Network Against Militarism and interested participants.



Participants of International Women’s Network Against Militarism 2025 Seoul Conference



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Number of Grantee Organizations

74

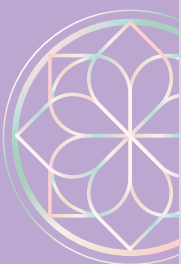
Number of
Participants from Grantee Organizations

1,315

Number of
Participants in all GBV Response Activities

159

Number of Content Pieces Produced



140,641⁺

Number of Content Views as of July 2025

An Invitation to Rebuilding a Safe and Equal World

Through ‘Strengthening Voices of Gender Equality against GBV in South Korea’ project, the Korea Foundation for Women, along with six civic organizations, pursued ways to refine strategies, strengthen sustainability, and ultimately achieve the eradication of gender-based violence.

Our commitment will remain steadfast, continuing until every form of inequality is dismantled.

Strengthened by the invaluable support of the Kering Foundation, the Korea Foundation for Women will not stop until the vision of full equality becomes reality. We call on all of you reading this to walk this path alongside us—hand in hand, step by step, in the hope to leave tangible, lasting changes.

“Over the course of the program, we were able to tangibly understand the meaning of gender sensitivity and clearly reflected on how frequently gender-related conflicts arise in our daily lives and how often we have responded to them with ignorance.”

– Univalli Press

“I imagine moments in everyday life when I refuse to tolerate discriminatory situations. In moments where it is hard to express my stance through serious words, these Gendicons offer great comfort. Gender equality is not a task that must be built through grand efforts—it is built step-by-step in everyday life through the words and actions of people who refuse to stay silent.”

– Chuncheon Womenlink

“We have long recognized the urgent need for feminist content that can truly reach the public. After airing our broadcasts, our YouTube channel has surpassed 1,000 subscribers and accumulated over 260,000 views in total. Step by step, we will continue our efforts to eradicate GBV.”

– Seodaemun Community Radio

“We began with a long-standing question: ‘How can we protect ourselves without disrupting our daily lives?’ Witnessing the participants who shifted from quietly enduring to voicing their limits with confidence, reclaiming a deep sense of dignity was a reminder that freedom isn’t granted—it’s taken, and SHE had just taken hers. A participant told us: ‘What I learned here is that I’m not someone who runs away—I’m someone who makes choices.’ To us, that felt like the answer to the program.”

– Jeju Women’s Association

“Dealing with the lack of safety nets and the public discourse on digital sex crimes was the most difficult part. Yet, the sharing of each program of this project enabled close communication with allies, fostering exchanges of ideas. A time of solidarity with other organizations striving to end GBV gives us reassurance that we share a common direction. Now we hope to continue steadily and firmly building our work over time.”

– Landing Techniques of Sangyeoja

“This meeting was not only about the event itself but also about the hopes of reorganizing the network, turning one-time conferences into ongoing exchanges and movements around the world centered on peace. Despite differences in language and location, meaningful questions were exchanged, and a sense of mutual support and strengthened solidarity emerged.”

– International Women’s Network Against Militarism



The Korea Foundation for Women (KFW) is Korea's first independent non-profit foundation for women. KFW has supported the activists and activities of public-interest organizations addressing gender equality with a belief that a society that “gives hope to our daughters” will lead to a promising future for people of all genders.

Hope for Women 희망을 주는 사회

The Unwavering Support of the Kering Foundation

The steadfast and committed support of the Kering Foundation has enabled the KFW to advance unwaveringly toward gender equality. It has transformed aspirations into concrete outcomes—ensuring that hope does not remain merely a wish, but grows into lasting achievements.



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