

Trade-off or take-off? Korea's Transition in Development Aid

Key Success Factors and Lessons Learned

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I . Overall Trend

Post-Liberation National Challenges: Building Socio-Economic Foundations

Macroeconomic
stability, control of
hyper-inflation

Restoring social
order

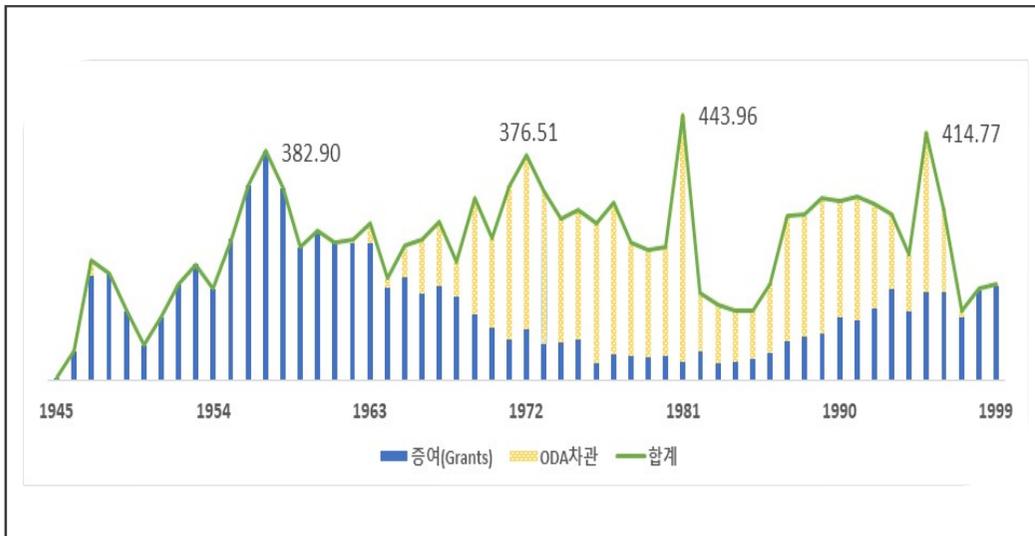
Restoring production
base, Earning for
foreign exchanges,
Energy development

Reconstruction of
nationwide socio-
economic system

“ODA played **de facto**
indispensable role for
reconstructing Korea’s
socio-economic systems.”



ODA to Korea: Overall Trend

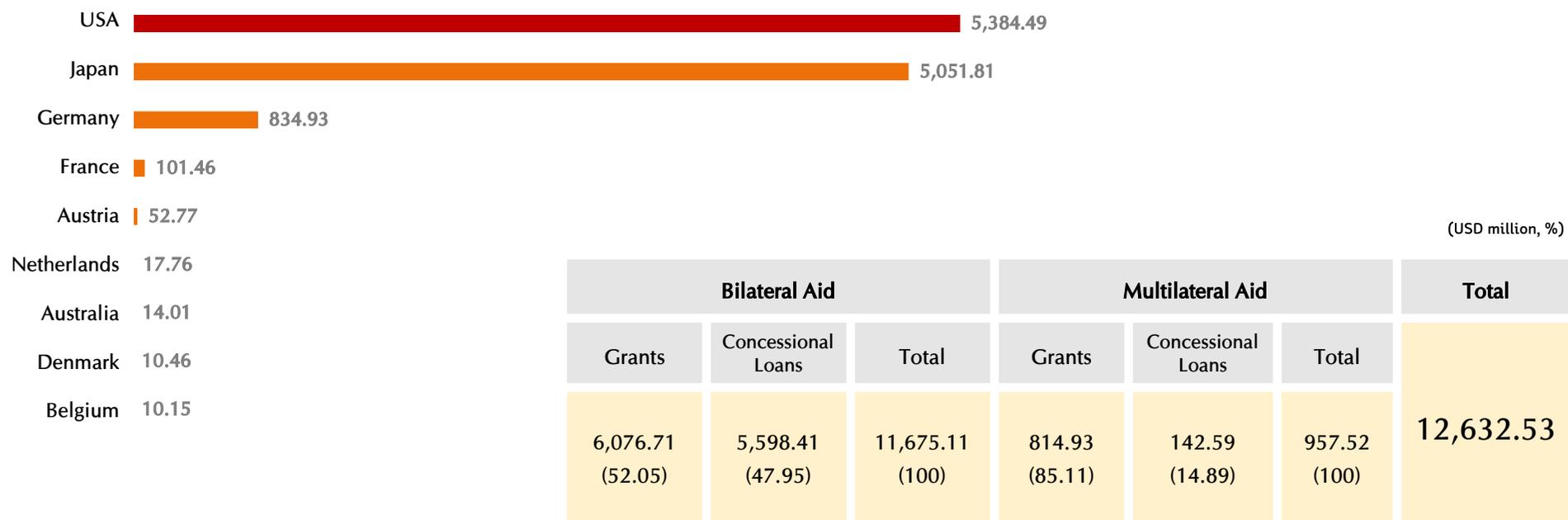


(USD million, %)

| | 1945~1960 | 1961~1975 | 1976~1990 | 1991~1999 | Total |
|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| Grants | 2,940.06 (99.2) | 2,006.60 (50.9) | 743.73 (21.2) | 1,201.14 (54) | 6,891.53 (54.6) |
| Concessional Loans | 24.88 (0.8) | 1,934.84 (49.1) | 2,757.57 (78.8) | 1,023.71 (46) | 5,741 (45.4) |
| Total | 2,964.94 (100) | 3,941.44 (100) | 3,501.3 (100) | 2,224.85 (100) | 12,632.53 (100) |

Source: Bank of Korea, OECD DAC etc.

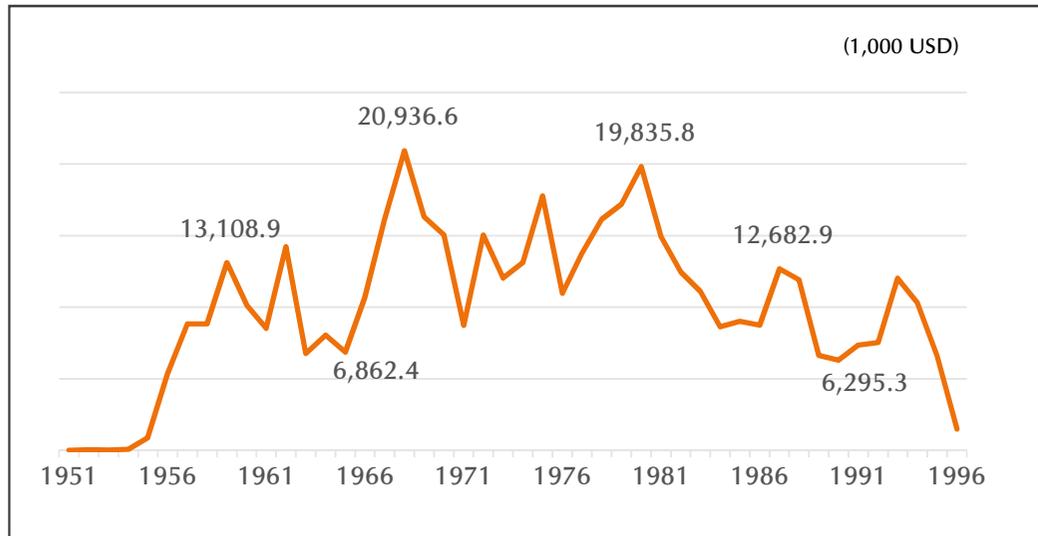
ODA to Korea: Overall Trend(1945-1999)



Source: BOK, OECD DAC

Technical Aid to Korea

Overall Trends



Composition by Sector

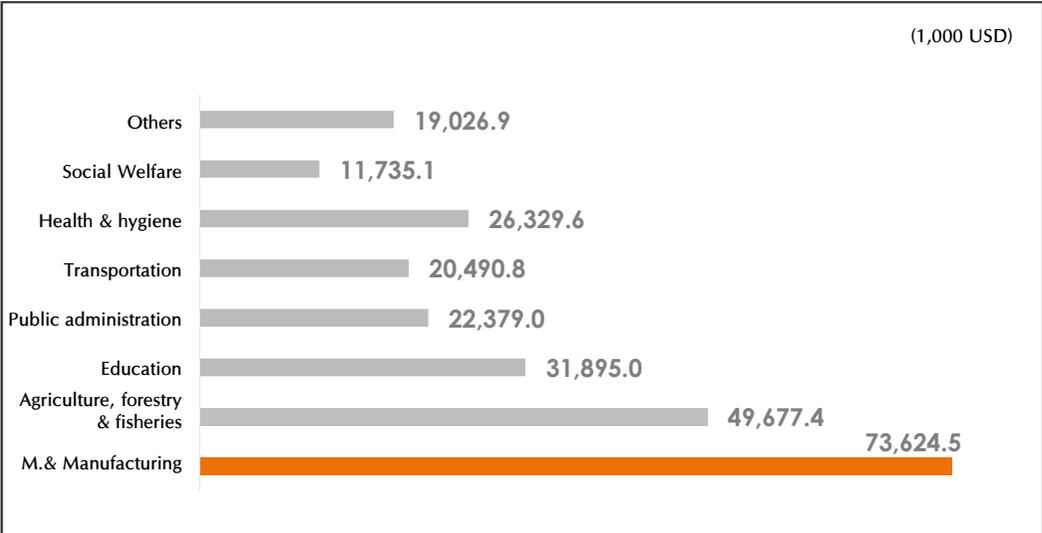
(1,000 USD)

| | 1950~1960 | 1961~1970 | 1971~1980 | 1981~1990 | 1991~1996 | Total |
|------------------------------------|-----------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------|-------------------------------|
| Expert Invitation | 8,637.1 | 32,193.7 | 31,271 | 27,431 | 3,955.3 | 103,488.1 (6,684) |
| Dispatch of trainees | 7,472.2 | 19,062 | 37,660.6 | 41,295.1 | 14,202.6 | 119,691.5 (26,507) |
| Reception of service technology | 27,323.3 | 37,829.1 | 14,740.3 | 2,938.8 | - | 82,831.5 |
| Reception of materials & equipment | 3,907.5 | 34,486.7 | 60,947.5 | 30,755.8 | 27,170.8 | 157,268.3 |
| Total | 47,340.1 | 123,571.5 | 144,619.4 | 102,420.7 | 45,328.7 | 463,280.3 (33,191) |

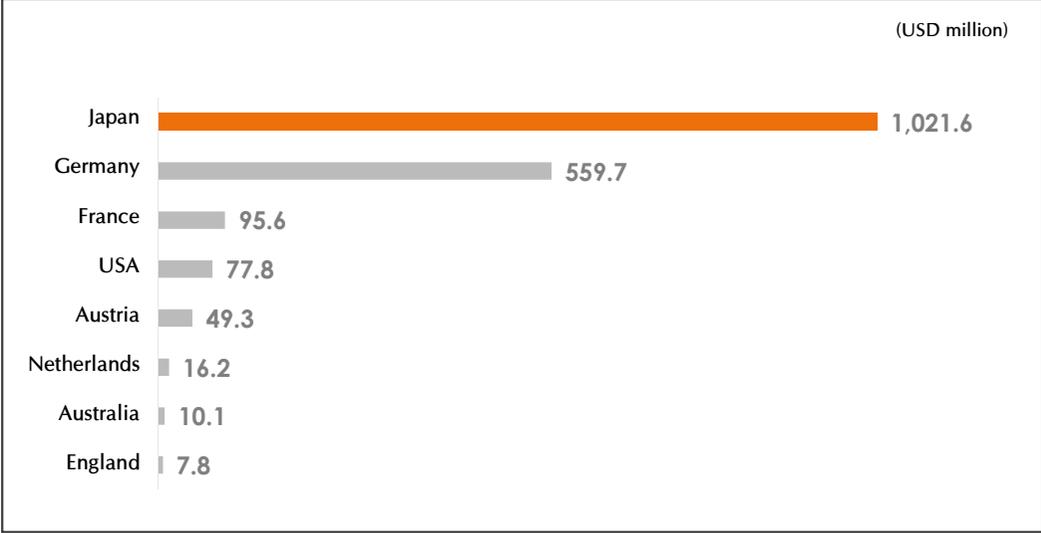
Source: SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY YEARBOOK

Technical Aid to Korea

by sector, 1950~1977

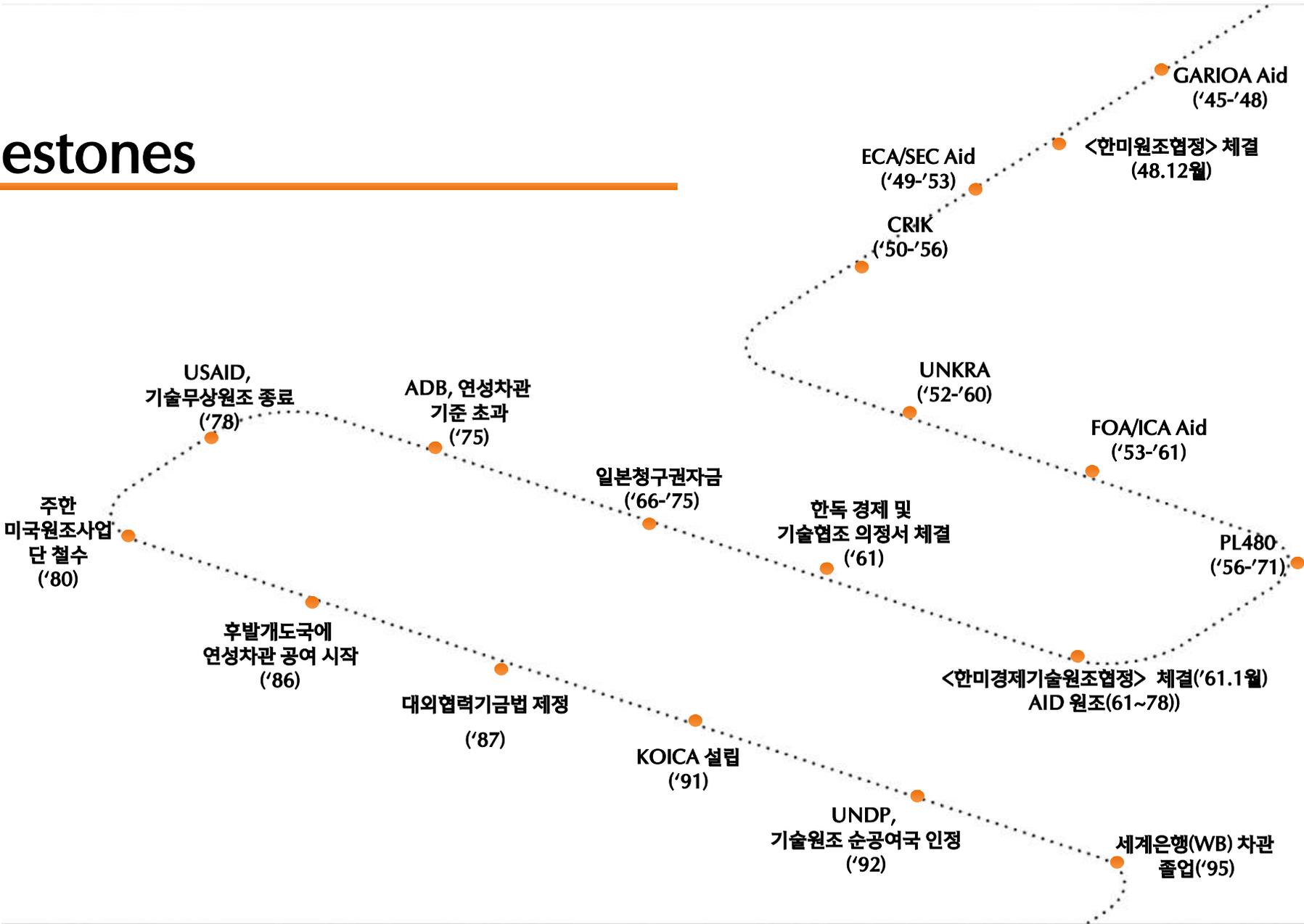


country, 1960~1999

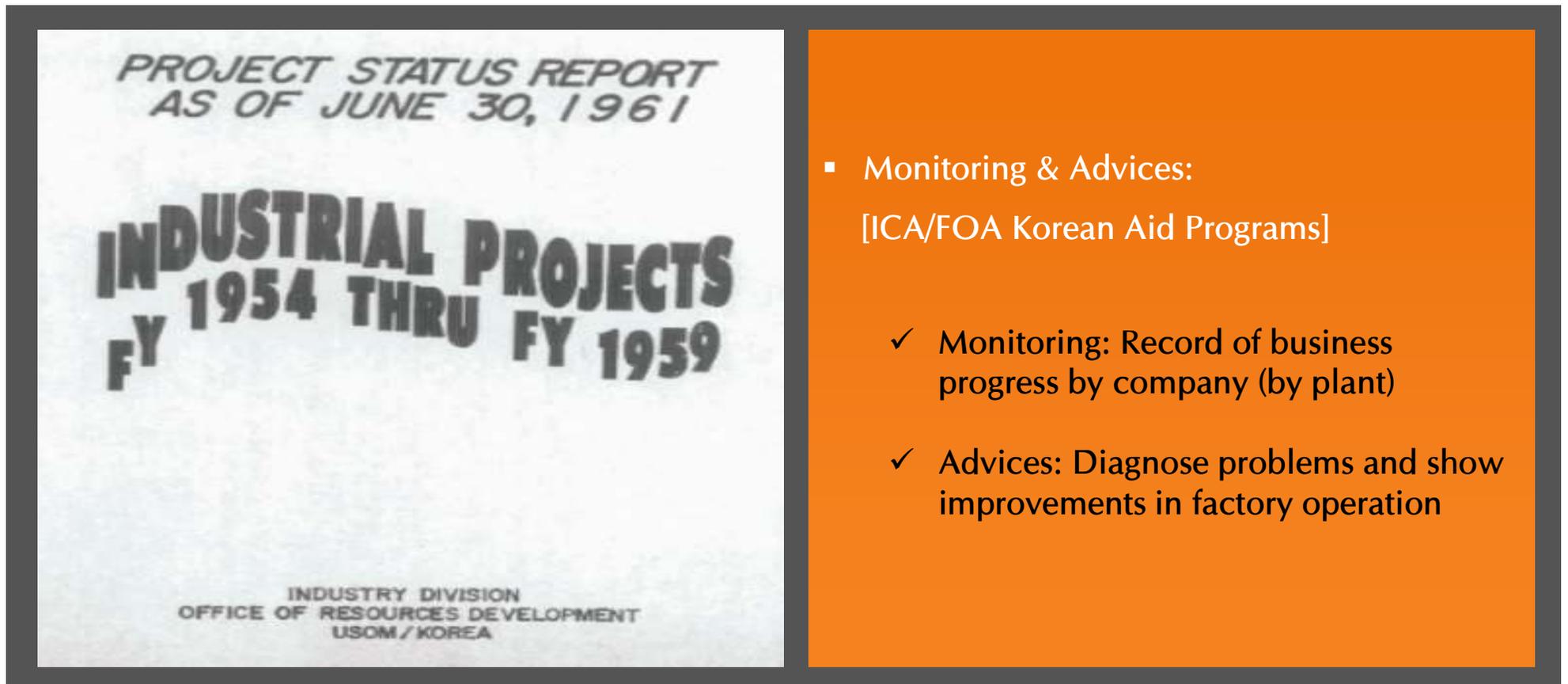


Source: OECD DAC

Milestones



(e.g.) Project Status Report, 1961



- Monitoring & Advices:
[ICA/FOA Korean Aid Programs]
 - ✓ Monitoring: Record of business progress by company (by plant)
 - ✓ Advices: Diagnose problems and show improvements in factory operation

II . Highlights

Korea's transition - summary

1960s

Government-led industrialization

- Focus on growth and investment
- Introduce Concessional loans over Grant
- Promotion of project aid for SOC facility construction and industry development



1990s

From recipient to donor

- World Bank Loan Repayment completed (1995)
- Joined as the 26th member of the OECD (1996)
 - Graduated from DAC's recipient-list (1999)



1945-1950s

One of the poorest countries

- Emergency relief after liberation and Korean War
- Focus on stabilization and reconstruction, mostly material resources and food aid
- High aid dependence, e.g., more than half of government budget

1970-1980s

High-growth: Korean Miracle

- Converted to a restructuring loan to promote large-scale development projects and the development of heavy and chemical industries
- Decrease in aid, increase Non-Concessional loans
- Diversification of donor countries and donors outside the United States

PL480 (Food Aid Program)



Initiation

- Agreement signed under Article 1 of PL480(1955)

Outcome

- Contributed to economic and social stabilization as the channel for foreign capital inducement in the 1950s

National Medical Center



Initiation

- Agreed to establish a general hospital through a 5-party agreement with the Korean government and UNKRA(United Nations Korean Reconstruction Agency)(1956)

Outcome

- Opened in 1958, managed by Scandinavian three countries until 1968, when transferred to the Korean government. The most advanced, general hospital in Korean during early years.
- A pivotal role in the public health system

KIST(Korea Institute of Science and Technology)



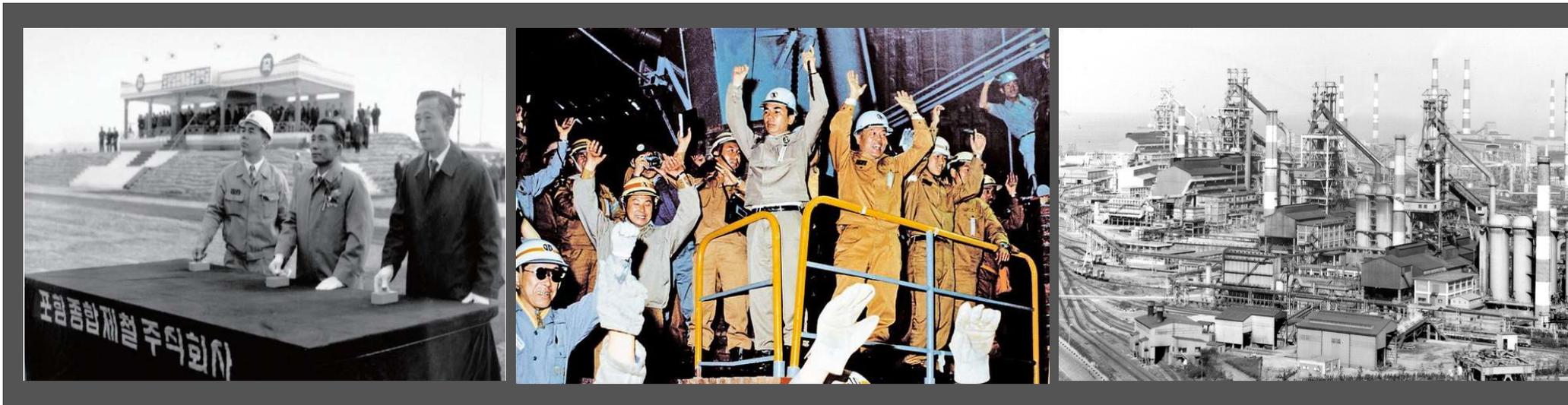
Initiation

- At the Korea-US summit in 1965, agreed to establish a research institute for **industrial development** in Korea.

Outcome

- Currently Korea's leading comprehensive, basic science research institute
- Ranked 6th in the world as an innovative laboratory (2017)

POSCO(Pohang Iron & Steel Co.,Ltd)



Initiation

- Signed the Korea-Japan Basic Agreement for POSCO Construction Funding (1969)

Outcome

- Ranked 1st in the 'World's Most Competitive Steel Company' for 12 consecutive years(2021)

Kumoh Technical High School



금오공고 1회와 경기고 72회 졸업생 비교

단위 : 명(%)

| 구분 | 금오공고 1회 | 경기고 72회 |
|-------|------------|------------|
| 공무원 | 35(10.7) | 21(3.5) |
| 금융업 | 12(3.7) | 31(5.1) |
| 기술직 | 67(20.6) | - |
| 기업경영 | 88(27.0) | 96(15.8) |
| 대학교수 | 11(3.4) | 153(25.2) |
| 종교인 | 4(1.2) | 5(0.8) |
| 법조인 | 2(0.6) | 34(5.6) |
| 언론인 | 3(0.9) | 8(1.3) |
| 연구직 | 12(3.7) | 27(4.5) |
| 의료직 | 2(0.6) | 72(11.9) |
| 자영업 | 29(8.9) | - |
| 정보 없음 | 61(18.7) | 159(26.2) |
| 총계 | 326(100.0) | 606(100.0) |

자료: '중화학공업화 초기 숙련공의 생애사 연구'

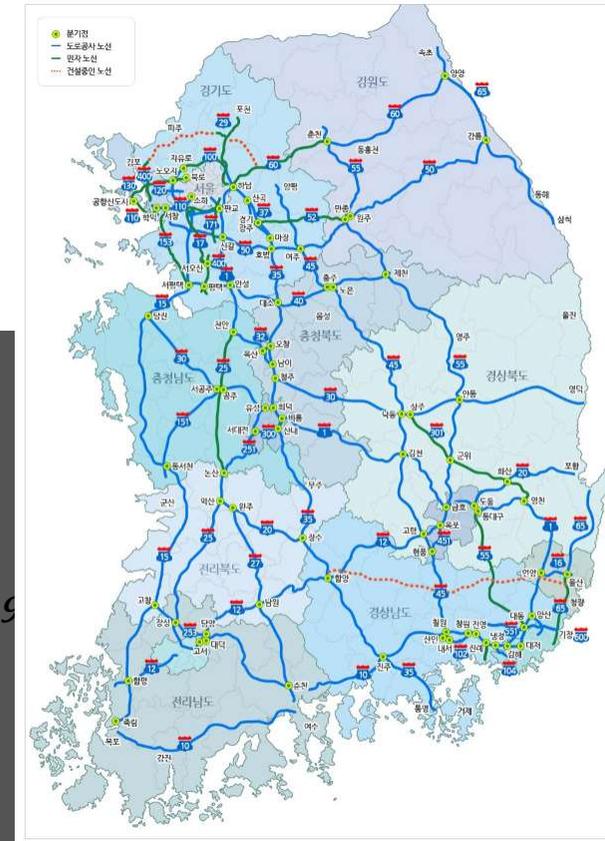
Initiation

- Established as a school to nurture professional technical manpower (1972)
- As a means for developing defense industry and HCI-drive

Outcome

- Cultivating and supplying excellent industrial technical manpower
- Korea win the Skill Olympiad in 1977, where Kumoh students/graduates comprised the majority.

Seoul-Busan Express Highway



Initiation

- Total investment 42.9 billion won(ADB loans, PAC(property and claims) funds, etc.)
- Completed in July 7, 1970 (11 months shorter than planned)

Outcome

- Decisive role for industrial development, such as shortening transportation time and promoting regional development

Cheonggyecheon Sewage Treatment Plant



Initiation

- Completion in 1976 after AID loan agreement (USD 3.5M)

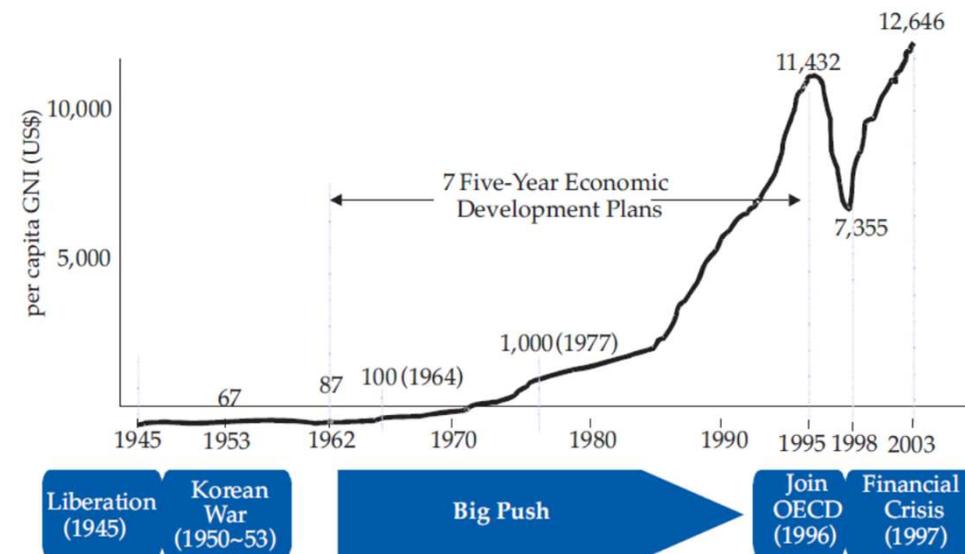
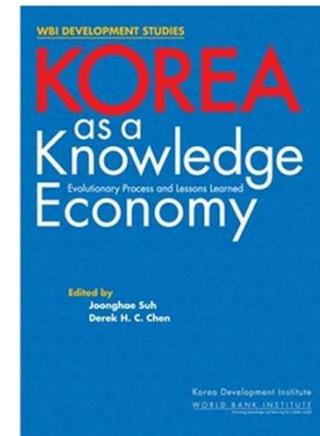
Outcome

- As the first sewage treatment plant in Korea, it will be preserved as Historic Remains (scheduled in 2023).

III. Key Success Factors

The Korean Model

- Political Leadership
 - Developmental State: Creating opportunities
 - Long-term investment for S&T, HRD, social-economic infrastructure
- Business Entrepreneurship
 - Consummator of industrial policies: Exporting means competition
 - Learning from teachers, then excelling
- Public-Private Partnership
 - Development planning and coordination
 - Risk-sharing as incentive
- Practical, Step-wise Approach
 - ☞ Co-development of industry, human capital, and technology
 - ☞ Effective use of limited resources: **Decisive role of foreign aid, particularly in early years**



Key Success Factors

Urgency to build independent nation

- Imperative to build newly-born independent nation's self-defense and sustainable society/economy
- Urgent need to secure resources and means for development: for example, coping with chronic shortage of foreign capital

Aids in the 1950s

- Inevitable post-war efforts: devote to (re)construction of socio-economic infrastructure
- Limited effects, sometimes trade-offs, due to myopic perspective of social/economic development

"Seed" for industrialization

- Paving the path for industrial economy: highways, facilities and plants for HCI (heavy-chemical industry) drive
- Human capital development for sustainable economy and technological learning and upgrading for competitive economy

Key Success Factors

Effective management and policy consultation

- Targeting goals, performance-based monitoring, long-term planning and coordination, and partnership with businesses
- Mutual dialogue and regular policy consultation with major donors including US, Japan, Germany, and France, and international organizations (WB, IMF, ADB, etc.)
-

Flexible, practical responses

- Responding to domestic/international environments, seeking desirable changes from a long-term perspective
- Ensuring sufficient performance in overall aspects such as project effectiveness and continuity

Trust built in international community

- Almost complete compliance with repayment without delinquency or debt reconciliation
 - * One case of payment re-scheduling of IDA loan to IBRD loan ('67)

IV. Lessons Learned

Lessons Learned

**Development
cooperation as an
effective means
for nation-building**

**Partnership:
Outside support
and domestic will
to achieve
performances**

**Long-term
investment for
human capital and
technology
development**

Thank You

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