International Safe Community Certifiers report:

YESAN, South Chungcheong province, Korea

General aspects

Yesan county is an essential hub for road traffic flow for the northwestern region of South Chungcheong province, known for tourism due to Yedangho Suspension Bridge. Yesan county is located in the middle of the northwest region of South Chungcheong province with an area of 542.64 square kilometers and a population of 82, 202 people. It consists of two eups, ten myeons, and 315 legal ris. Yesan has 7,087 business entity employing 31,894 individuals which is approximately 40% of its population size. Yesan has the rich cultural background and vast national and international network.

Yesan had 426 senior welfare facilities, one children's welfare facility, and one welfare facility for the disabled; 25 kindergartens (505 children), 24 elementary schools (2,845 students), 11 middle schools (1,778 students), seven high schools (2,317 students), and one university (2,073 students). Interestingly, student number had dropped by 3034 during past ten years.

During 2021, Yesan had a population of 78784 (49.3% female and 50.7% male). Yesan has witnessed a sharp increase (26.5%) of elderly population 19 970 in 2012 to 25 262 in 2021. Elderly living alone is a great concern as the number increased from 4 149 (12.7%) to 5 131 households (15.2%) in 2020. The number of registered disabled persons in Yesan County increased from 6,956 in 2011 to 7,519 in 2020. The ratio of disabled persons to the county's total population increased by 1.6%, from 8.0% in 2011 to 9.6% in 2020.

Yesan County aims to position itself as an industrial tourism county. It set the vision of
- trusted service administration,
- vibrant local economy,
- classy cultural tourism,
- balanced and hopeful welfare, and
- valuable agricultural development,

Ten corrective goals (pledges) were selected for the 7th popular election:
1. creating jobs through business attraction (industrial economy),
2. policy for happy ageing (serving elders; the welfare of the elderly),

3. the era of classy tourism culture in Yesan County (cultural tourism),
4. expanding investment for future generations (nurturing talent),
5. living together as a community; a warm welfare county (health and welfare),
6. building a more livable rural area (agriculture, forestry, and livestock),
7. creating a better living environment (living environment),
8. commitment to revitalising original county centre (urban regeneration),
9. acceleration of the development of Naepo New Town (coexistence and development),
10. expanding intraregional traffic network (transportation).

Among the ten goals, the goal number 2, 5 and 7 (pledges)—policy for happy ageing, living together as a community; a warm welfare county, and creating a better living environment— are related to the International Safety culture is established, and a consensus is formed for policy goals.

In the "Visions and policies": **Safety not included** (page 8), even it thrives to be an industrial tourism county.

In the application the county has mentioned two projects as excellent, and it is
1. The suicide prevention project
2. The disaster prevention project (Disaster prevention projects (supply every household with the fire extinguisher. independent alarm and gas timer clock)

The effects 2016-2020 of the Safe Community work are presented.

Comments:
1. It had been interesting to compare with the same figures for other communities and counties in Korea and for national figures.
2. It is very good that the county supports a wide range of safety matters such support for use of public transportation, awareness raising in a lot of fields, support to parents for safety equipment for children etc.
3. How about the cars and other vehicles used by the county as owners or contractors? Does the county require higher safety in order to be a forerunner in safety?
4. It is interesting to know that "…Yesan County was the first local government in Korea that supplied fire extinguishers to each household and installed independent alarm-type detectors to prevent large-scale casualties from burns/fires proactively."
5. The presentation is very interesting. Despite of all the work and also the increase of awareness and CPR capacounty the result seems to be limited. One question is if the under-reporting of injuries has decreased because of the work for higher quality of registration, under Safe Community program?
6. Falls and violence data are not completed. It'd be a questionable lacking.

Resources for the Safe Community work

Manpower: Yesan has Safety Management Department as the head department for the International Safe Community Project. One assigned staff for safety management.

Budget

It is noteworthy that Yesan has invested almost 247. 7 million WON during 2018 -2021 (Table B2). However, in table B3 (International Safe Community Budget for each project strategy per cause of injury) we see a total of 281.6 million WON during same period.

Overview of injury risks in the community

Suicide is a challenge in Yesan authority. The mortality rate from suicide was the highest, with 57.6 persons per 100,000 people, in 2020. The age-adjusted death rate of Yesan county decreased from 109.8 persons per 100,000 in 2010 to 65.2 persons per 100,000 in 2020. The ratio of injury mortality compared to the entire mortality also reduced, from 11.8% to 9.2% in 2010 and 2020, respectively. During 2020, Yesan County's age-adjusted death rate was higher than Korea's rate (37.6 persons) and Chungnam's rate (50.0 persons). It is good indicators of injury prevention activities.

It is to be note here that, information from 0 - 6- and 13-15-year age groups are not completed (pages 15 -16).

For 19 -44 age group the most frequent problem was suicide and RTI; for 45 -64 age group: suicides and falls; for 65+ age groups: suicides, RTIs and falls. The trend showed a downwards slope. However, 2020 has shown opposite trend.

Comments:
1. Why age-adjusted death rate of Yesan county is increasing since 2018?
2. Why injury mortality for men increasing since 2017?
3. Why injury mortality for women decreased since 2015 but increased substantially in 2020?

Unintentional Injury

Road Traffic Injuries (RTIs):

Mortality rate: Decreased from 28.1 persons per 100,000 in 2016 to 17.9 persons in 2020. It is very good that there was no under 18 deaths from RTIs. Driving and pedestrian behaviour were very impressive. Seatbelt use among car occupants are not so good and even less among bus riders.

Comments:
1. Why has helmet use not shown increasing trend since 2016?

Falls

Presentation is not easily understandable.

Comments

1. How do deaths from falls typically occur in different age groups? How large proportion of fall-related deaths is caused by falls from height? What proportion is due to hip fracture?
2. Do you have a strategy to make the fitness training more accessible?
3. Do you use passive/engineering fall prevention measures (hip protectors, soft floors, guardrails in bathrooms and on stairs, fall-protective fences on construction sites and high buildings, anti-slip surface coverages, socks or shoe pads, etc.)?
4. Are there safety inspections in residents' homes to eliminate dangers for children and the elderly?
5. Do you use IT technologies for fall prevention (mobile apps for home safety inspections, proper medication, and smart watches for detecting fatigue and balance problems)?

Intentional injuries

Suicide

Suicide is the biggest challenge for the Yesan community. The mortality rate for suicide continuously increased. It was 45.2 (37 deaths) persons per 100,000 in 2016 and increased to to 57.6 (45 deaths) in 2020. It was 61.0 persons (11 deaths) for 19–44 age group, 62.5 persons (17 deaths) for 45–64 for 19–44 age group and 70.9 persons (17 deaths) for 65 or older people.

Comments:

1. What are the most commonly used means of suicide?
2. Did Yesan SC team investigated why the suicides are increasing?
3. Have you more information about the background for suicide and information about how to commit suicide?

Violence

The mortality rate from homicide/assault decreased from 1.2 to 0 persons per 100,000 in 2016 and 2020. "The incidence rate of the five major crimes (homicide, robbery, rape/indecent assault, theft, assault) has increased slightly over the past five years (2016–2020), from 617 (7.54 cases per 1,000) to 619 cases (7.93 cases per 1,000 in 2016 and 2020, respectively [Figure C.11]. In terms of gender, the rate for men(victims) increased, from 352 (8.57 cases per 1,000) to 362 cases (9.23 cases per 1,000) in 2016 and 2020, respectively, while the rate for women(victims) decreased slightly, from 234 (5.75 cases per 1,000) to 216 cases (5.56 cases per 1,000) in 2016 and 2020, respectively".

Theft is the biggest challenge.

Comments:

1. How about violence against women and children? These are major problem around the globe, especially during Corona pandemic.

Goals of the International Safe Community Project
1. Establishing a Foundation for International Safe Community Governance
2. Establishment of a Foundation for Sustainable Project Implementation
3. Establishment of a local safety evaluation system

Economic allocations:

Total SC budget: Yesan has a 378 million WON dedicated for SC programs.

Yesan has used some example as economic incenticves.

Comments:

Safe Community in Yesan has a pertinent committee, very good governance under the leadership of the Mayor. We have Legal Ordinances for Safety Promotion in Yesan County. A department was assigned to manage and promote each project of the International Safe Community Project.

Indicator 1: An organization responsible for inter-sector cooperation to promote safety

The organisation is clear for us certifiers and the duties and responsibilities are logic and well described.

Input of resources in the budget is also interesting presentation. As nearly everywhere resources allocated to prevent falls are very little in compared with resources to other form of accidents.

Economic incentives are used to improve awareness through education and campaigns, economic support in goods or cash, and improving the environment through maintenance of dangerous areas in Yesan County

Yesan establish a standardized system to evaluate the effectiveness of the project. Yesan plans to calculate the indexes that should be continuously managed as the core index and calculate them by injury type. Key indexes are designed to monitor the nation's safety promotion goals, linked with the local safety index currently calculated by the Ministry of Public Administration and Security. Yesan County believes that high utility value can be achieved by enabling an understanding of the overall status of the nation and local governments.

The previous International Safe Community Project management indexes lacked a connection with key management indexes managed by the nation, leading to little change in the nation's management indexes even after the International Safe Community Project was executed. It was a widely held view that there was a lack of motivation for the department and persons conducting the Safe

 Community Project to implement the changes. Accordingly, Yesan County supplemented the indexes of the evaluation system, and core indexes were established in connection with the local safety index, which is currently being used as evaluation criteria by the Ministry of Public Administration and Security.

Yesan County's Safety Management Department has reinforced awareness of the creation of a Safe Community through repetitive education of department heads every year and selected key

projects for the Safe Community Project based on the diagnosis of the status of injuries in Yesan County. <= It is very much appreciated.

Comments:
1. The role and responsibilities for the county urban planning administration is not described.
2. Interesting development of a system to evaluate the effectiveness of the projects.

Economic incentives

It is not clear how the economic incentives are used for us certifiers it seems to be used as synonym to economic allocation.

Traditionally economic incentives are used to stimulate community individuals to serve as a good model for others for example:
- Bonuses or economic compensation for "good" behaviour among the citizens or NGO's;
- Bonuses to employees to always use helmets on bikes and electrical motorbikes.
- In contract of performance for employees within the administration to always be a good example on safe behaviour.
- For parents to rent for example a child safety seat or to buy them at a reduced price;
- To sponsors helmets for bicycles or motorbikes;
- To sport-clubs to use safe transportation and always require safe behaviour even under training of the actors.

Local regulations

In the application we have found a lot of local ordinances for safety promotion.
But not if there are any local regulation for safety? Examples in traffic are speed limits there the risks for pedestrians are present or no stop, no parking and no U-turn.

Indicator 2. Long-term sustainable programs covering genders and all ages, environments, and situations

It is clear that Yesan has a comprehensive suite of good programs covering all ages and genders, environments, and situations. Information from the Injury surveillance systems and community surveys are used for priority setting and problem identification. The community has identified and focused on 14 safety areas:
1. Traffic safety
2. Homes safety
3. Leisure times safety
4. Children safety
5. Elderly safety
6. Work safety
7. Violence prevention
8. Suicide prevention
9. Disaster preparedness and response

10. Safe public places
11. Hospitals safety
12. Sports safety
13. Water safety
14. Schools safety

Comments:

1. An example is that Yesan SC provides 100,000 KRW worth of local gift certificates to drivers over the age of 70 who have voluntarily returned their drivers' licenses and submitted their license revocation decision notice. Different measurements are used in the world to reduce the risk with elderly drivers in the traffic. More precise tools are regular tests, obligation for medical dr to report their patients when they have different medical problems, education to old drivers about symptoms they must have observation on.

2. Safety at home and leisure: Example or further clarification is warranted: Vitalize and operate leisure programs at senior community centers and senior welfare centers.

3. Elderly safety: Operate walking exercise programs for senior centers. We need more clarifications.

4. Industrial safety: How about occupational injuries. We need information.

5. Assault prevention: Demolish homes that were neglected for one year, or remodel them to rent for free to vulnerable groups. Very good initiative. We wonder what happened to the poor owner of the unrepaired house. If it was already vacant then it is a very good example.

6. Assault prevention: Guidance on 6 major areas of public welfare (food hygiene, public hygiene, livestock hygiene, country of origin, teenagers, environment) => we are not convinced how livestock hygiene could be helpful for assault prevention?

7. Suicide prevention: Dementia prevention education, early detection of dementia. We know that Individuals diagnosed with dementia had a 54% increased risk for suicide within the 1st year after diagnosis. Did Yesan SC committe examined the duration of diagnosis of dementia and suicide?

8. How do you provide dementia prevention education? It could be a good material for other Safe Communities.

9. School safety: How 'free meal ' helps school safety -please explain.

Indicator 3. Programs that target high-risk groups and environments

The high-risk groups were divided into eight—low-income, employees at dangerous workplaces, victims of intentional injury, disabled persons, participants in high-risk sports/leisure activities, high-risk groups for injury, social minorities, and single-person households—to realize safety justice. Yesan County conducted injury prevention projects for these high-risk groups.
It is evidence-based and data driven. However, we need more information. It seems presentation is elsewhere. It'd be better to be specific here.

Indicator 4: Evidence-based promotion programs in place

It is well planned and trend setting. Yesan has witnessed a positive result under process index of suicide prevention.

Indicator 5: A system in place for recording the frequency and causes of injuries

The surveillance consists on

    1. The injury pyramid is conducted, including—injury mortality, injury, accident incidence status, risk factors that cause injuries (safety awareness, safety behaviors, vulnerable environmental factors).

    2. Administrative data for the nation, as well as for Yesan County, is collected to determine key indexes, which are calculated and managed every year. The determined key indexes are mainly utilized for project evaluation and as basic data for establishing Yesan County's programs.

Yesan County has carried out safety awareness surveys with various groups of people to understand the Yesan County residents' safety: awareness, knowledge, and behaviors, and the environments in Yesan County where people are vulnerable. The injury surveillance data for each topic was recorded by the investigators directly after they had been trained by the investigating agency or the data was entered and managed by persons in charge at each investigation agency

Indicator 6: A method in place for assessment of the effect of the safety promotion programs, working process and change

YISS continuously monitors injury-related data to use for project evaluation. Indexes (key and management index by project) are continuously calculated through the YISS,

The evaluation results of the projects are shared with departments that managed the project and related organizations and reflected in the project plans for the following year. They are reported to the manager with policy-making authority, opinions on important matters about the project are shared through the Safe Community Commission, and results are used for major decision-making on project development.

For the continuous management of the International Safe Community project, Yesan County has developed safety project management cards and conducts regular training on card management methods for project managers. Every year, all projects are planned to be written out on project management cards for management, through which management indexes for each project can be calculated and compared with key indexes.

After planning and implementation of International Safe Community Projects, all projects are evaluated through the established YISS. This was utilized for setting injury reduction goals for

each project and selecting high-risk targets for projects when setting Yesan County International Safe Community project goals.

The evaluation results serve as base data for identifying the strengths, weaknesses, vulnerable aspects, improvement points, and decision-making for the Safe Community Project. The results are also published for the public on Yesan County's website (www.yesan.go.kr), aiming to continuously raise awareness on the county's efforts to conduct various Safe Community Projects for the wellbeing of the county residents, and continuously encourage the participation of related
institutions and county residents.

The evaluation of the Yesan County International Safe Community Project and the positive injury results of the injury prevention programs from the YISS are shown in Project Implementation. After analyzing the cause of injury incidence in each class through the operation of the YISS, it is shared with the Safe Community Commission and the Working-level Committee. The development and operation of a program that can further supplement injury results are supported, based on this analysis. Through regular meetings with consultative bodies, the program's progress is inspected, modified, and supplemented

Indicator 7: Active participation in activities related to local and international safe community networks

We have found that Yesan county fulfils this indicator. However, we strongly recommend participating in national and international Safe Community Conferences regularly.

SUGGESTIONS
1. Yesan can plan for using
    i)   surveys for generating primary data. It'll help for better analysis to get more accurate injury and violence scenario. E.g. domestic violence, child abuse, bullying.
    ii)   Evidence-driven programs. It is recommended to consult other Korean Safe Communities, ISCCC website or to contact Safe Community experts for better implications of evidence.
2. Please try to conduct risk factor analysis. It'll strongly help for better planning of the injury prevention and safety promotion programs. Detail data mechanism from surveys and primary data collection should help a lot.
3. Please focus on occupational injuries also.
4. There are some missing information in report but presented in power pints (as you received them after application report). Please complement the final report before submitting to ISCCC.

Proposals for good examples

We certifiers propose following as good example after have taking part of the application:

1. Awareness of the creation of a Safe Community through repetitive education of department heads every year and selected key projects for the Safe Community
2. To supply every household with fire extinguisher. independent alarm and gas timer clock
3. The development of safety project management cards and the regular training on card management methods for project managers
4. The standardized system to evaluate the effectiveness of the project

"The overall performance meets the seven criteria of the safe community, and it is recommended that Yesan County can be designated as a member of International Safe communities."

Koustuv Dalal   Lu pai   Guldbrand Skjönberg

Leading Certifier   Certifier   Certifier