

Gwangmyeong City

South Korea

Certifiers Evaluation Report

on the Gwangmyeong's application

To be Designated as an International Safe Community

**INTERNATIONAL SAFE COMMUNITIES
CERTIFYING CENTRE**



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Certifiers

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Generals Comments:

Community Overview

Gwangmyeong has been established as a city 42 years ago in 1981 with an ambition to create a sustainable development environment that would value innovation, growth, and co-prosperity with active participation from the citizens. In recent years safety promotion and injury prevention activities have been prioritized among the other development goals as well.

The city has an area of 38.5 km² which is located in the central-western part of Gyeonggi-do, bordering Seoul to the east and north. There are approximately 600 factories representing various industries in the city and therefore the city is recognized mostly as an industrial city. The city is now emerging as an economic powerhouse. The community has an excellent urban accessibility, with expressways and the city is developed to a translation hub. The community attracts many tourists.

Gwangmyeong has a population of 285,198 persons (March 2023). The population is slightly declining since 2012. The number of elderly people aged 65 and over, continues to rise and are counted 45,498 (6.0% of the population) in March 2023.

Certifiers' Comment: In page 12 of the application (Fig 2) the population of Male aged 0-5 and 6-11 in 2023 reported "0" which needs to be adjusted with the real number.

Vulnerable populations in the city include 10,603 elderly persons living alone (23.5% of the total elderly population), 9,045 beneficiaries of the national basic livelihood security program, 12,638 persons with disabilities registered, and 6,182 foreigners.

Certifiers' Comment: Is there any other minorities which can be reported under Vulnerable groups? (Page 13 of the application)

In terms of administrative divisions, Gwangmyeong is comprised of 19 dong, 510 tong, and 3,249 bahns.

The city is divided into five major zones. The city has a website:

<https://www.gm.go.kr>

which is presented mostly in Korean language however it is possible to translate the content in English with the help of browsers. There are a lot of useful information available including visions, strategies, short-term and long-term plans in the city's Manifesto.

Certifiers' Comment: We will appreciate to see more visible information about the activities in the field of Safe Community on the website, preferably with a headline in the first page.

Overview of Community Injury Risks

According to the application injury mortality rate in Gwangmyeong decreased until 2018, but the rate has increased since 2019. By the year 2021, the rate per 100,000 population was lower than the national rate but higher than that of Gyeonggi-do. The rate of 119 emergency medical service (EMS) has decreased compared to 2017 but has shown fluctuations. When examining it by injury mechanism, the rate of 119 EMS due to falls has consistently ranked as the highest, except for 2019. The rate of 119 EMS for road traffic accidents has experienced a slight decrease.

The incidence rate of road traffic accidents caused by drunk driving is decreasing and is lower than the national and Gyeonggi-do averages.

The incidence of child abuse and elder abuse, rape and forced molestation, and violence has been on the rise. However, the incidence of murder and the rate of Accident and poisoning experience have shown some decrease.

Certifiers' Comment: There is no discussion in the application about the quality of the different sources for data and how different confounding factors can occur and make the statistics difficult to analyze. We cannot find any discussion about the traffic density with many actors from other communities and what the impact is on the rate of traffic mortality and injuries.

Plan for continuous Implementation after Designation

The description in the application is very impressive and illustrative giving us certifiers a good information of the implementation of the Safe Community program in Gwangmyeong.

Step by Step action plans with short-term, middle & long-term plans for citizens and the city are well described to result in being designed as an International Safe Community. It is very impressive for certifiers that the policy vision for safety in Gwangmyeong is creating a "Citizen-Centered Safe Community" that prioritizes "Safety" through collaborative efforts with its residents.

The safe community work is well integrated in the governing of the community and the description is clear and logic. Gwangmyeong's municipal philosophy set by its leadership, and the Gwangmyeong Sustainable Development Goals are closely interconnected with the objective of reducing injuries among the citizens. This connection is evident through the inclusion of goals directly or indirectly related to injuries within the detailed objectives of the Sustainable Development Goals, such as the promotion of a 'Safe community' and the establishment of a 'Women and Children Friendly City.' Gwangmyeong is actively working towards the creation of

a safe environment in line with these goals.

Indicator 1: Governance

According to the application Gwangmyeong and its civic organizations reached an agreement to promote the International Safe Community Project 2018. The 'Gwangmyeong Safe Community Ordinance' was enacted in 2019 consequently.

We certifiers are a little astonished when we read in the application that Gwangmyeong's safe community project can be regarded as the country's first model of an international safe community project, driven by citizens themselves who recognize the importance of safety and propose community safety enhancement initiatives to local governments.

Certifiers' Comment on Page 22 (3rd paragraph): Our opinion is that the other safe communities in Korea also has good participation by the citizens and different NGO:s within your political system of representative democracy in Korea. The collaboration between the elected local parliament and its organizations can be organized a little different but it is a question of different solutions within the same role of the local government and not another way of governing.

We understand that Gwangmyeong has established a Safety Management Division to oversee the implementation of the International Safe Community Program. The team consist of a team leader, and staffs who are responsible for managing all aspects related to the city's designation as an International Safe Community. The International Safe Community program has also a budget.

Certifiers' Comment on page 23:

1- We will appreciate if the budget of the Safety Management Division can be specified in the budget description.

2- The budget for Safe Community (showed in table 4 page 23) is decreased every year since 2019 to 2022. Has the decreased budget effected "Economic Incentives to Promote Safety"?

Under "Economic Incentives to Promote Safety" in the application are information about all economic resources allocated to the program presented and not specific the incentives to stimulate individuals, groups or organizations to a safer behavior.

Certifiers' Comment: Gwangmyeong has enacted ordinances related safety community project

addressing relevant When we read what the city allocate money to in the safe community program we want to know if for example the money allocated for snow removal is extra money because of the project and contribute to more and better snow removal because of the safe community program. This question can be explained in relation with CCTV as well, because the proportion of its budget is highest in page 24. It would be interesting to know when CCTV started in the city.

We appreciate how Gwangmyeong actively collects and incorporates feedback from the citizens and facilitates discussions to explore avenues for project development. It is also clear according to Article 3 of the Gwangmyeong Safe Community Ordinance that the mayor is responsible of in ensuring the sustainability of the International Safe Community program.

Certifiers' Comment: We would like to know more details about monitoring and follow-up of mayor's responsibility which is explained in page 31 while the chairperson of the Safe Community Committee is the Vice Mayor.

Gwangmyeong has enacted ordinances related safety community project addressing relevant areas of safety.

- **Certifiers' comment on page 32: We are interested to know what the reason is behind combining industrial safety and fall prevention in one subcommittee.**
- **Certifiers' comment on page 34 (Table 10): We certifiers will appreciate if some examples of the activities in the field of Safety Culture Movement can be mentioned and explained.**
- **Certifiers' comment on page 35 (Table 10): NGOs related industrial safety and fall prevention are missed.**
- **Certifiers' comment on page 36 & 37 (Table 11): We certifiers appreciate Table 11 however it seems difficult to corollate between the subcommittees and the descriptions. And the descriptions are repeated in all rows.**
- **Last comment on the governance: Certifiers would like to know if there is any financial aid to the NGOs which are involved in the Safe Community program.**

Indicator 2. Injury Surveillance

According to the application Gwangmyeong utilizes both administrative statistics and self-survey data

collected to assess injury risks, identify safety vulnerabilities, and set the direction of safe community programs, in calculating various indicators related to injuries, such as injury mortality, injuries, accident occurrences, safety awareness and behavior, and the presence of injury-prone environments.

Certifiers' comments on indicator 2:

1- We certifiers appreciate that Gwangmyeong also collect data about safety culture.

2- In the presentation we can't find how the quality of the data is valued and weakness about the data. The data is collected from different sources. How are such data compiled and how to ensure that data are from the same or different cases? One big problem - not described - is normally under-reporting of data. We know that under-reporting is rather common specially for some kind of injuries. The consequences are that this kind of injuries also are under-estimated as a problem. For example, injuries from family violence are underestimated in many countries due to under-reporting of injuries.

In the application report we can read "Administrative statistics offer the advantage of providing reliable and continuously updated data, ensuring representativeness and comparability in objectively assessing the safety level of local governments."

3- For us that information show that the problem with administrative statistics is not well understood and can contribute to wrong priorities. As also described administrative statistics do not provide detailed information of the characteristics. Therefore, you also add surveys of the safety awareness of residents, government officials, and project managers. You also add data from your surveys on the local policy base, monitoring of project, and project. Your system is very clear, and logic described in figure 16 "Gwangmyeong Community Safety Indicator System".

- **Certifiers' comment: For us it is important that you present the result from your "Efforts to Find Underreporting or Hidden Injuries" as well as the "Activities to control the quality of Injury Surveillance System and injury data". (Page 44)**
- **Certifiers' comment on page 48 (Selection of priority management indicators): What is the reason behind choosing Mortality rate due to RTI among the adolescence group (12-18 years old)?**
- **Certifiers' comment on Setting of Target Values for Core Indicators: We certifiers will appreciate if we receive some more explanations about the Table 15 in page 48.**
- **Certifiers' comment on Table 16 page 49: Why the traffic mortality in age 19-44 has increased significantly?**

- **Certifiers' comment on Table 17 page 50:**
 - 1- **Why the baseline in this table is 2016 while in the Table 16 is 2018?**
 - 2- **What is difference between "119 EMS use due to falls" and "119 EMS use to falling down"?**
- **Since suicide is the leading cause of death among adolescents aged 12-18 years in 2021, Certifiers are interested to receive more information about the possible causes of suicide among this group.**

Indicator 3: Comprehensiveness

Certifiers' comment: We certifiers understand that using word "Inclusiveness" is not wrong however will appreciate employing the same word which is used in the Safe Community indicators.

We certifiers appreciate very much that Gwangmyeong City has actively implemented programs in collaboration with a wide range of organizations, public institutions, private institutions, and civic groups. The Gwangmyeong City has also a good balanced combination of active interventions (education, counseling, publicity, and campaigns, etc.) and passive interventions (environmental and engineering improvements, and policy regulation and reinforcement).

Certifiers' comments:

- **In the projects we certifiers can't find projects about how politicians and officials in the city organization can act as trendsetters when it comes to safety for example always safety first, and also how the city can be forerunner by only use cars with high-tech safety and alco-lock and require that for example all taxi-cars has such installed.**
- **There is no description about how the city use urban and city planning in order to decrease the need of private cars and lorries and how public transportation is used for that purpose.**
- **We cannot see that you have includes risk-environment in suicide prevention. We know that bridges, rocks, railways and water sometimes can be risk factors.**
- **According to the introduction 35.9% of the area of Gwangmyeong is covered by forest and 18.4% is farming fields.**

We will appreciate if you can provide more information relevant to works you have done for these parts.

- **As it is explained in the overview Gwangmyeong benefits from excellent urban accessibility to KTX Gwangmyeong Station, 2nd Gyeongin Expressway, West Coast Expressway, Gangnam Circular Expressway, and Suwon-Gwangmyeong Expressway. Furthermore, the upcoming Gwangmyeong-Seoul Expressway, Sinansan Line, Wolgok-Pangyo Line, So the Safe Transportation is very important for the Citizens and passengers. Could you present and explain how you promote for citizens and passengers to use City Public transportation?**
- **As we understood Gwangmyeong is a beautiful city where has 8 Spots, which attract many tourists. These spots include Gwangmyeong Cave, Chunhyeon Museum, Gwangmyeong Traditional Market, Gwangmyeong Mt.Dodoksan Campground, and Gwangmyeong Anyangcheon Water Playground. Are there any data about the tourists' injury in the spots, and any improvement events in past and future for prevention the tourists' injuries?**
- **Considering many active industries in the city, certifiers would like to receive more information about safety interventions in the factories and industries in relation with safe community activities.**
- **Certifiers would like to receive more information about “Advancing transportation culture” which is mentioned in tables 10, 18, 25 and 26.**
- **Certifiers are interested to know if there is any anti-bullying project in the schools.**
- **Please provide information about the primary care activities in relation with fall prevention in elderly.**

Indicator 4: Vulnerable Groups

There are many good and interesting projects that you have presented under indicator 4.

Certifiers' comment: In the categorization of the vulnerable groups, you have not followed the checklist in the application form we have in International Safe Community certifying Centre. We cannot find for example following categories: “Socio-economic risk groups”, “People participating in unsafe sports and recreation settings” and “People at risk due to religion, appearance, ethnicity or sexual preferences”. On the other hand, we don't have classified all infants and children as a vulnerable group only them who also have other risks factors. Please read our checklist and make

additional comments during the site-visit.

Indicator 5: Evaluation

The evaluation is interesting to read and, in some ways, can serve as a model for other International Safe Communities. It is interesting to see that changes in socioeconomic injury costs are included. Also, that the project operations are “categorized into the project implementation process and the project foundation. The process of project implementation includes the entire process of inputs (manpower, budget, planning factors, etc.), processes (training, monitoring, feedback, etc.), outputs (operational results, satisfaction, participation, contribution, etc.), and results (degree of changes in risk factors by strategy for each project target), and monitoring has been conducted after each project. The project foundation includes monitoring safety awareness of residents/public officials and project performance capabilities of project managers.”

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