

Rural Development And Saemaul Undong in Korea

August 2014
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Korean Experience

In the 1950s:

Least developed country in the world

Pervasive with hunger & poverty

- 1910~45: Colonized by Japan
- 1948: Separated into Two Koreas
- 1950: Korean War (3 years)

**Korean war destroyed almost everything and therefore,
Korean people had to start from the ashes**

Korean Experience

In the 1960s:

Hunger & Poverty were icon of the period

- Alcohol & gambling were pervasive
- People were desperate for the future
- Depended on outside help

Overcome hunger & poverty, and achieve rural development were the most important issue for the country

Korean Experience

In the 2000s:

One of advanced industrialized Countries in the world

OECD member in 1996

7th of World Trade Volume in 2012

Within 50 years,

Korea overcome poverty and achieved development and becomes one of advanced industrialized countries.

Major Economic Indicators

		1960	1970	1990	2000	2010
GDP growth rate		2.3	10.0	9.5	8.5	6.2
GDP/capita		85	250	5,210	10,841	20,753
Industrial Structure	Agriculture	36.0	26.0	8.7	4.9	2.6
	Mining & Manufacturing	14.7	22.5	29.8	29.8	38.9
	SOC & others	49.3	51.2	63.0	66.8	58.5
Investment ratio to GDP		11.6	26.3	37.1	28.8	29.2
Saving ratio to GDP		5.0	14.8	36.2	32.3	32.0
Population growth rate		2.9	1.9	1.0	0.8	0.46
Export(billion US\$)		0.03	0.84	65.0	172.3	466.4
Import (billion US\$)		0.34	1.98	69.8	160.5	425.2

Question:

**How Korean people
overcome Hunger & poverty
and
achieved such a development
within a short period?**

Rural Situation in Korea in the 1960s

GNP/capita : US\$ 87 (1962)

Poor infrastructure

- Car accessible villages: 60%
- Electricity accessible villages: 20%
- Repeated natural disasters
- Low agricultural productivity

Rural poverty ratio in 1967: 34% in absolute term

Rural Development was an urgent Issue for poverty alleviation

Introduced Saemaul Undong(SU) in 1970

SU Performance: 1971~1981

Total US\$ 7,203.2 Million Invested

Government invested 51%

Community people invested 49%

- 64,686km of rural road were developed
- 6,187km of rural road paved
- 82,596 new bridges were built
- 39,231 community halls were built
- 258,000 houses were newly built
- 3,047 villages were reconstructed

Poverty reduced from 34% to 6% during 1967-1984

International communities have questions

“How and Why people participated in SU so enthusiastically?”

How was it possible?

- ◆ Based on traditional community working mechanism through self-help & cooperation among community people
- ◆ Mobilize resources from the community through participation
- ◆ Strong government sponsorship to motivate , participate, and to change attitude & awareness for the rural development

What is Saemaul Undong?

Saemaul Undong: New Village Movement

One of rural development model

For the betterment of Living Conditions of community people

in the ways of

Self-help and Cooperation

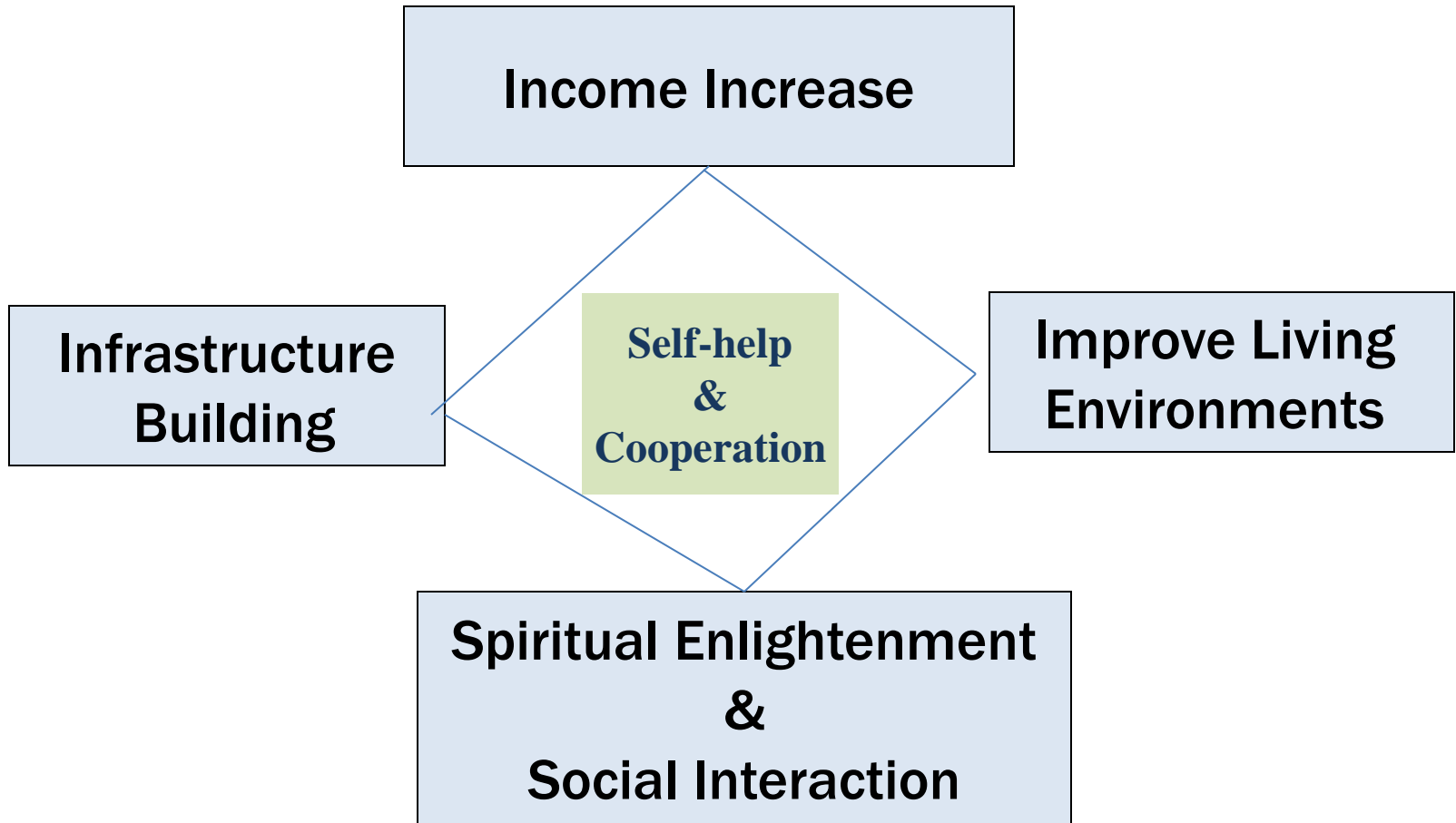
under the

Government Sponsorship

Goals

- ◆ **Immediate goal is to improve the living condition of individual**
 - in the way of self-help and cooperation
 - with community resources & outside support
- ◆ **Ultimate goal is to build a better and sound community by community people, which bring the country strong**

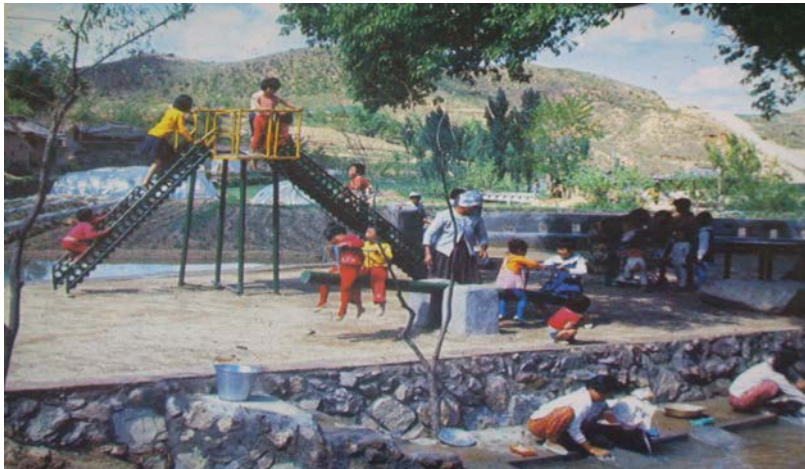
Means



What kinds of Projects?

Community beautification

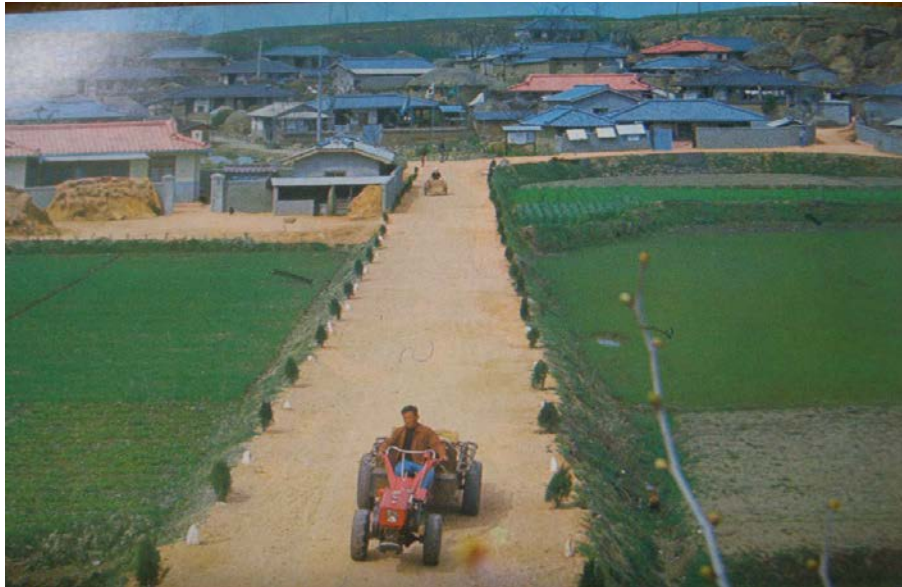
- Easy to show the evidence of improvement
- Meet the people's needs



◆ Infrastructure building

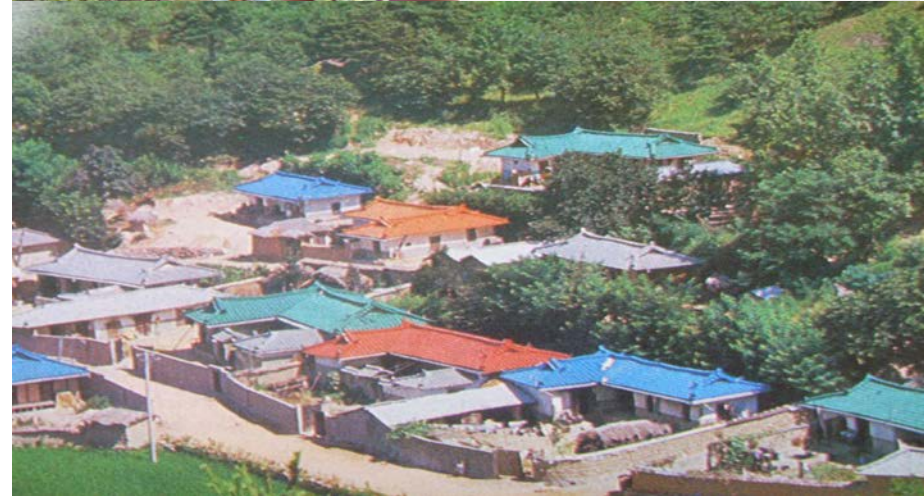
- Increase agricultural productivity, prevent natural disasters
- Provide conveniences for daily living





◆ Housing

- Amenity & Comfortability
- Living conveniences





◆ Kitchen, toilet & bathroom

- Conveniences & energy saving
- Clean & sanitized



◆ Forestation & environment conservation

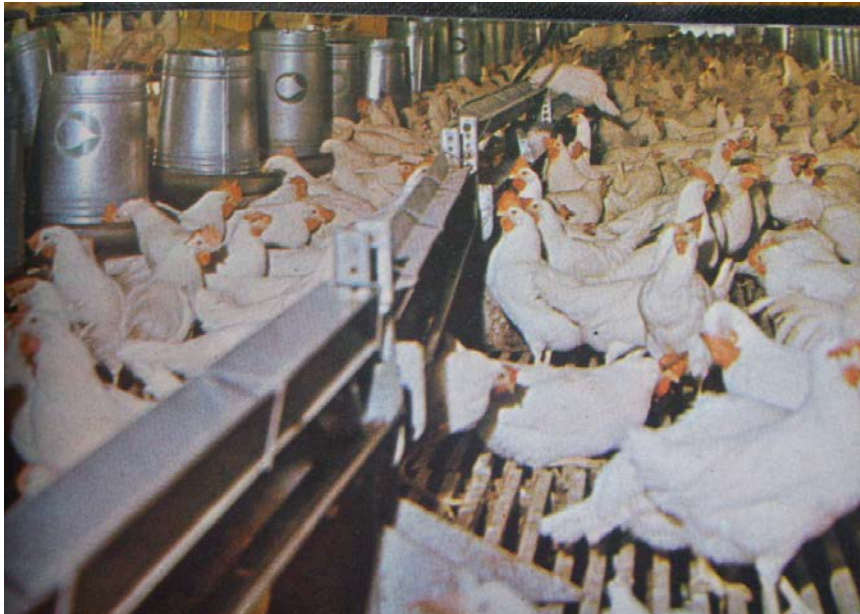
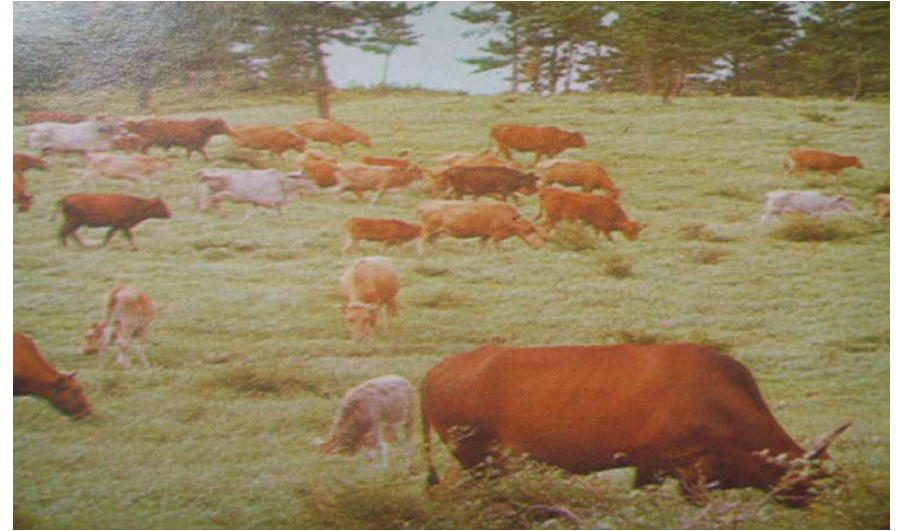
- Wood production
- Prevent soil erosion, drought, flooding, pollution



◆ Community cultural centers

- Meeting place, community festival
- Community solidarity













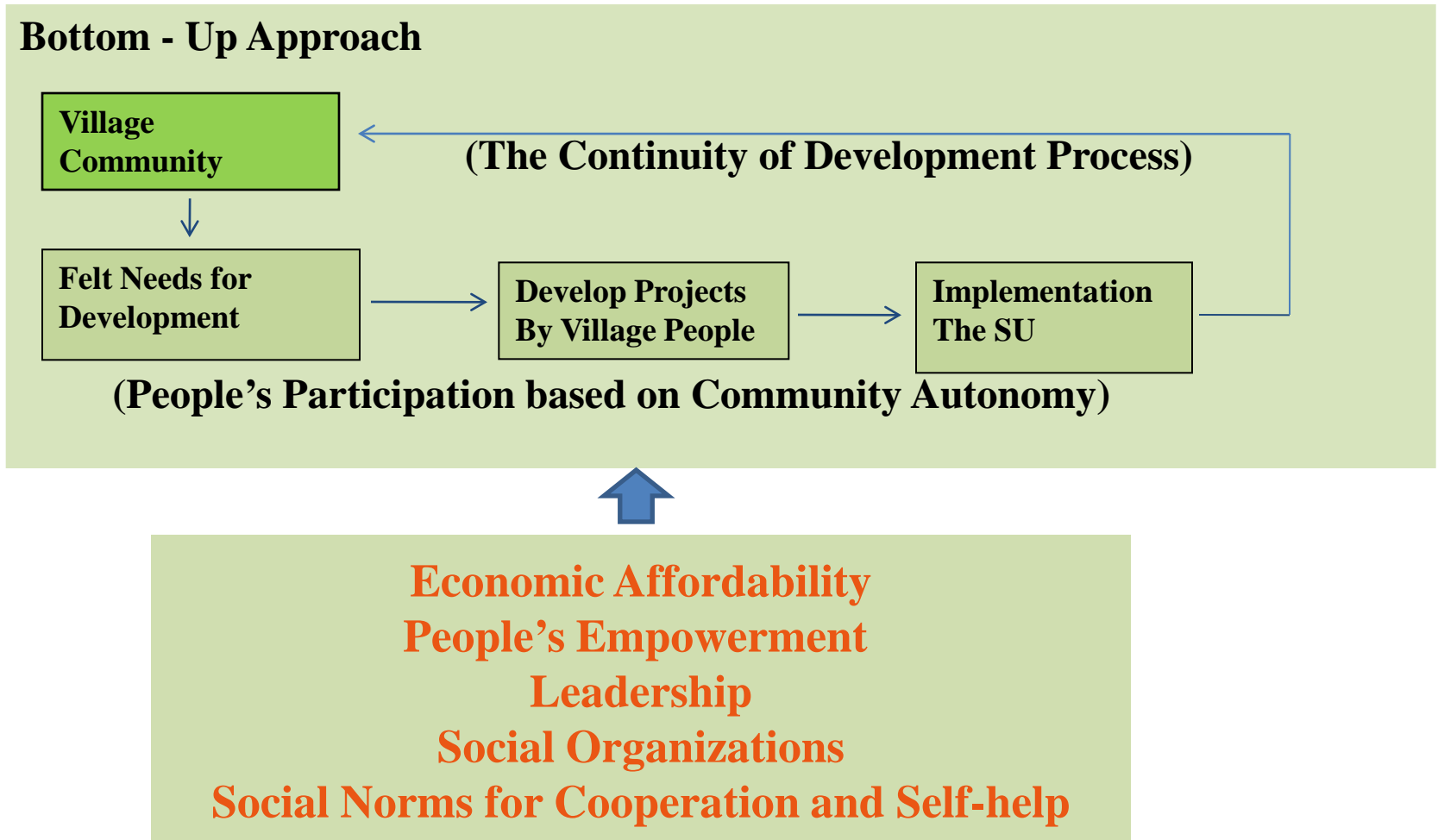
Strategies

- 1. Village Community as Development Unit**
- 2. Government Initiating Bottom-up Approach**
- 3. Integrated Approach**
- 4. Comprehensive Approach**
- 5. More Support for the Better Performance**
- 6. Mutual Learning**

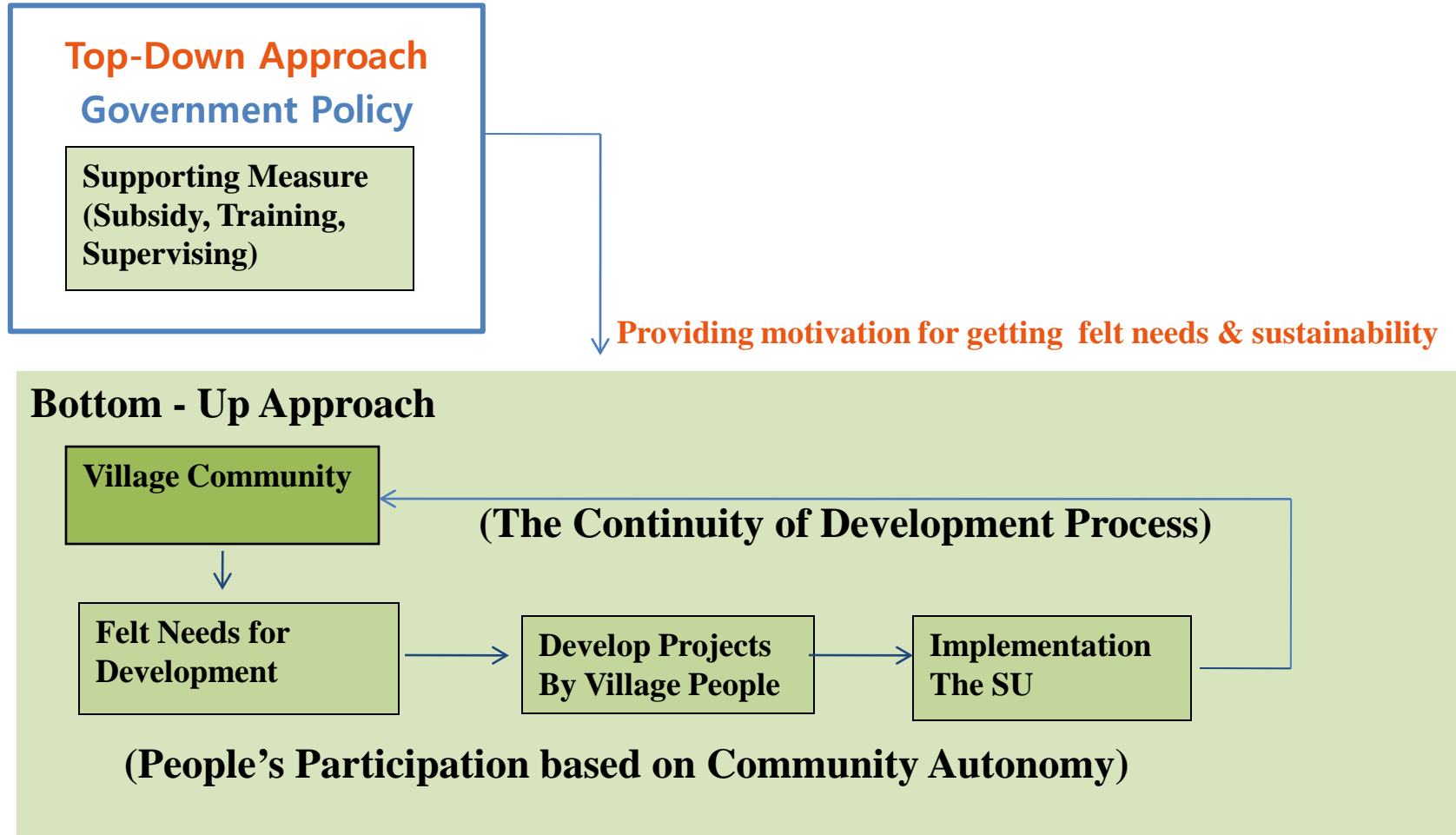
1. Village Community as Development Unit

- **Village as a Community**
- **Social interaction & commonalities**
- **Administrative unit**
- **Planning & Development unit**

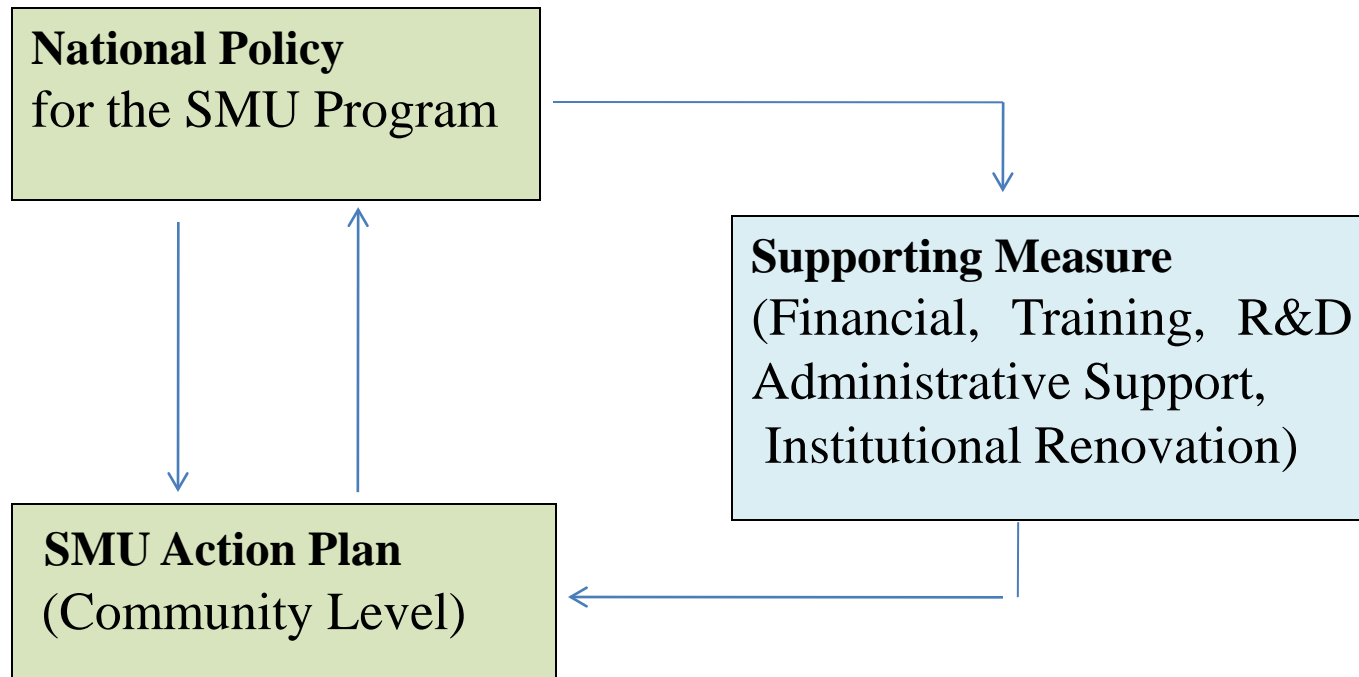
2. Bottom-up Approach



Government Initiating Bottom-up Approach



3. Integrated Approach (vertical integration)



National Policy for Supporting SU Program

1. Dual price policy for guaranteeing income
2. Agricultural income increase policy
3. Side job income increase policy
4. Rural industrialization policy
5. R&D and agricultural extension program
6. Agricultural cooperative fostering policy
7. Farm mechanization policy
8. Agricultural infrastructure development policy
9. Rural education, med-care policy
10. Special budget for SU
11. Integrate important local development policies to SU

4. Comprehensive Approach



5. Support More for Better Performance

- ◆ **Support more for the better performed community**
 - Reward villages leaders for the success
 - Increase subsidy for the better performance
 - Reduce subsidy for poor performance and let them benchmark the successful villages

- ◆ **Continuous support until the community reaches to the level of self-reliance & empowerment**

6. Mutual Learning

- ◆ **Saemaul Undong Training: learning from others**
 - Ministers, government officials, professors, and community leaders
 - Lecturing & discussions

- ◆ **Spiritual Enlightenment**
 - Self-help & cooperation
 - Leadership building

Evaluation of SU in Korea

1. Physical Infrastructure Development

Improved rural infrastructure & living environments

Farm income increase

2. Spiritual Enhancement

Can Do spirits

Community initiative and capacity building

3. Institutional Development

Partnership between local government and community people

Democracy in Grassroots community and local government

Capacity building for local government officials

Lessons from Korean Saemaul Undong

- 1. Community Based and Utilize Community Operational Mechanism**
- 2. Participating Qualified SU Leaders Sacrificing for Village Development**
- 3. Government Initiating Bottom Up Approach**
- 4. Comprehensive Approach**
- 5. Partnership between Government and Village community (New Governance System)**
- 6. Strong Political Commitment of State Political Leader**

Global Saemaul Undong as ODA Program of Korean Government

1.. Initiating from 2012

2014: Myanmar, Vietnam, Cambodia, Lao PDR, Rwanda

2015: Expanding Saemaul Undong in Asia, Africa

2. Contents of Global Saemaul Undong Program

- Formulate Master Plan for sustainable SMU as a policy of rural development
- Build Saemaul Undong Training Center for fostering Saemaul Undong leaders
- Building pilot model villages to replication to other areas in the country

Thank You