

EMPTY CAGES[®] **Alternative Careers Program**

presented by:
Save Korean Dogs USA Foundation Inc.



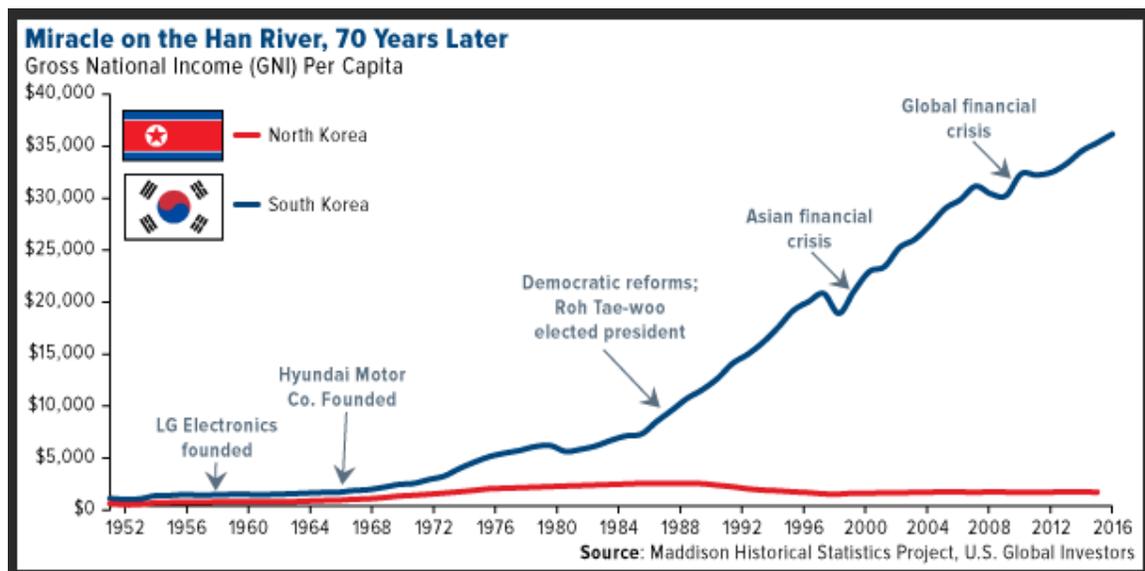
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Empty Cages is a revolutionary job development program providing former owners of permanently closed dog meat farms pathways to launch alternative careers that will lead them to respectable and profitable sources of income for their families. The dog meat trade and the country's painful lack of animal protection laws for all animal species have critically damaged South Korea's global image. A simple Internet search about South Korea results in multiple listings of worldwide petitions and media coverage condemning the vile dog meat trade. As more city and regional governments are recognizing the complex myriad of environmental, safety, health and economic issues surrounding the dog meat trade, officials are closing dog meat farms, auction sites, and slaughterhouses at a significant rate. However, what happens when the dogs are removed, the cages are dismantled, and that source of income is gone? Those former dog meat farm owners will require alternative methods to generate an income, and in turn, begin a new and productive way of life.

1.0 - Global Perspective

South Korea is home to 51.5 million people and global companies including Hyundai, Kia, Samsung, LG, Daewoo, SK Telecom and POSCO. The country is known around the world as an industrial and technological leader.

South Korea's gross national income (GNI) continues to steadily increase each year and is now reported to be \$39,434 per capita. "A country with \$30,000 in per capita GNI is considered an advanced nation," Shin Seung-cheol, director of the national accounts division at the Bank of Korea, said in a briefing. "South Korea has pulled off remarkable economic growth since the Korean War." [1]



South Korea has a unique cultural heritage. An estimated 14 million tourists visited Korea in 2019, yet millions more, appalled by the horrific dog meat trade, stayed away and chose to travel to other destinations.

After decades of rapid economic growth and global integration, South Korea has become a high-technology, industrialized, trillion-dollar economy, but President Moon faces daunting challenges that include an aging population, low worker productivity, and the need to implement a structural shift away from overreliance on an export-led growth model.[2]

Now is the time to generate innovative methods to increase worker productivity while improving a massively damaged global image due to the dog meat trade and the lack of animal welfare and protection laws in South Korea.

2.0 - Business Model

Empty Cages Alternative Careers Program comes at a time when cities across South Korea are undergoing economic revitalization and beautification projects.

We applaud the city of Gimpo for the closure of an illegal dog meat auction site in August 2019. Mayor Jeong Ha-young and his team are making significant progress toward cleaning up their city and improving the quality of life for all residents through a multi-million-dollar revitalization project. As a result, several illegal dog meat farms have been shut down. Unfortunately, however, some other farms from Gimpo have relocated to Ganghwa Island or nearby cities.

Known as the “Valley of Dog Meat”, Mayor Jeong has requested that Gimpo’s city officials create a blueprint to becoming dog meat free. The Empty Cages Alternative Careers Program can be part of that mission.

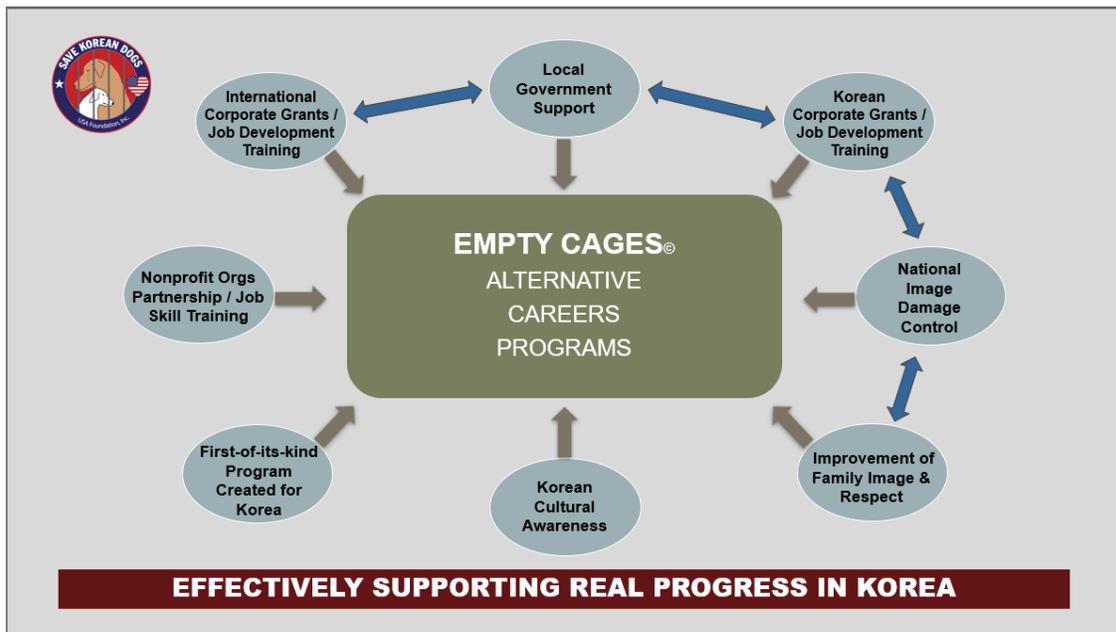
Additional examples of progress include the city of Bucheon which has made tremendous efforts during recent years to become a dog-meat free zone by closing dog farms. The closure of the Moran Market in Seongnam City for revitalization of that area has opened up opportunities for those dog meat vendors to begin new careers.

Commonly, when the closure of dogs farms is forced by government action, the owners are facing significant fines for violating sanitation, environmental and human health laws due to soil and water contamination. It would be a much wiser decision for these dog farm owners to voluntarily shut down their operations to avoid such fines, as well as complaints from their neighbors and legal action. Often times, the families’ younger generations are ashamed of the kind of work their parents or grandparents perform.

While the voluntary closure of dog farming operations makes sense from a legal and environmental perspective, we are fully aware that many of the owners have never performed any other kind of work. They may have continued farming dogs as their parents did before them. They may not have a higher level of education or experience to even know how to begin looking for a different job.

In situations like these, Empty Cages Alternative Careers Program could help provide job skills training and guidance toward alternative careers in an ongoing effort to create a more profitable, healthier and respectable way of life. In turn, the former dog farm owners must sign a contract making a lifetime commitment to never return to any sort of animal farming.

Empty Cages Alternative Careers Program will be funded through corporate, government and nonprofit grants, as well as private donations. Partners in the corporate, nonprofit and government sectors will provide the training, guidance and support required to assist with creating opportunities to launch new careers. Save Korean Dogs USA Foundation, Inc. will seek the funding, manage and orchestrate the job development program.



A primary goal of this Alternative Careers Program is to generate opportunities for re-purposing the property that previously contained cages filled with dogs. The cages will be dismantled, the property cleaned up, and the land put to use for healthy, compassionate and respectable purposes. Program coordinators will work with the former dog farm owners to match new opportunities for them based on a variety of

factors, including (but not limited to) education, skill sets, usable size of their property, environmental aspects, personal / family needs and goals.

The table below lists a few potential options for alternative careers, and the options could expand as the program develops with time.

POTENTIAL ALTERNATIVE CAREER OPTIONS AND/OR LAND USE		
Vegetable Farming	Vehicle Repair	Solar Power
Fruit Crops	Construction	Wind Power
Flower and Plant Crops / Florist	Manufacturing	Technology
Rice Fields	Steel Production	Retail
Hemp Crops	Transportation	Candle Making
Tobacco Crops	Tourism Services	Beekeeping

The Empty Cages Alternative Careers Program will not be successful without cooperation and support from local and regional governments within Korea. Government leaders must work as a team with the Program’s coordinators to ensure the recipients are carrying out their commitments by following through with their job skills training and actively seeking alternative employment or land use options. These changes will take time, commitment and cooperation from all involved.

3.0- The Dog Meat Trade is a Human Concern

An estimated 30 MILLION dogs are slaughtered annually for human consumption across Asia; approximately 2 MILLION of them within South Korea, or the equivalent of more than 100,000 metric tons of dog meat. Thousands of farms are spread across the Korean countryside where dogs spend their entire lives from birth to slaughter in barren cages, without proper food, access to clean water, healthcare, or protection from the sun, rain, heat and cold. The dogs are typically fed human food waste. Many suffer from injuries and diseases without any care. Dogs are killed by electrocution, hanged, bludgeoned or boiled alive. While more dog meat is consumed in South Korea during Bok Nal than any other time of the year, the product is consumed year-round. Intentional neglect, brutality and torture is in no way an aspect of Korean culture, but rather a deplorable industry fueled by greed.

The World Health Organization (WHO) warns that the trade, slaughter and consumption of dogs poses human health risks from trichinosis, cholera and rabies. WHO has

explicitly highlighted the dog meat trade as a contributing factor to the spread of rabies in Indonesia.

Consuming dog meat puts individuals at risk for infection from deadly parasites such as E. Coli 107 and salmonella (commonly found in contaminated meats), as well as, at risk of contracting other serious and potentially deadly bacterial diseases such as anthrax, brucellosis, hepatitis and leptospirosis.[3]

Confirmed rabies deaths in China originate almost entirely from infections contracted in regions where dogs are commonly eaten and raised for meat. Dog meat has been linked to the spread of rabies that kills approximately 10,000 dogs and 350 people per year in the Philippines.[4] Evidence has shown that rabies is present and potentially transmitted throughout all stages of the dog meat industry—sourcing, trading, slaughtering and consumption. The Philippines has an objective of eliminating rabies by 2020, a target that cannot be achieved unless the dog meat trade is eradicated—a fact that lawmakers in that country understood when they included a prohibition on the trade of dog meat in the 2007 Rabies Act.[5]

Across Asia, opposition to the dog meat trade and all animal cruelty is growing stronger and louder. People are demanding change in their countries. People are demanding answers from their government leaders, and they are demanding improved laws for the welfare of animals and the protection of human health.

Dog meat is banned in Hong Kong, the Philippines, Taiwan, Thailand, Singapore; and most recently, Indonesia has pledged support for a ban.

Will South Korea step up and be next?

4.0 - About Save Korean Dogs USA Foundation Inc.

Save Korean Dogs USA Foundation, Inc. (SKD USA) is a nonprofit organization (501c3) in the United States that works in partnership with Save Korean Dogs SK, founded by Nami Kim and located in Gimpo, South Korea. The two nonprofits working together comprise the Save Korean Dogs Organization.

Kim, a former university professor and author of multiple books, took an early retirement in 2012 to devote her time and financial resources to rescuing dogs, having placed more than 3,200 rescued dogs into loving homes around the world. However, saving lives is just the first step. Kim has spent years educating people about the health and environmental atrocities that result from dog meat farms. She continues to deliver petitions with thousands of signatures from around the world while meeting with

government officials, owners of dog meat farms, slaughterhouses and restaurants, other animal rescue groups, and the general public with an end goal of eradicating the vile dog meat trade in her beloved country once and for all.

SKD USA, formed in early 2019, is governed by a board of directors with combined skills and experience in the fields of communication, legal, accounting, education, tourism, graphic design, marketing, protocol and animal rescue. We believe change is coming to South Korea, and we want to support and encourage that change effectively through revolutionary projects such as the **Empty Cages Alternative Careers Program**—ultimately improving the quality and stability of life for generations to come.

This document is provided for informational purposes only. Save Korean Dogs USA Foundation, Inc. invites further discussion for the purpose of defining the scope, parameters, and implications of developing this Alternative Careers Program.

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[1] The Korea Times, 03/2019

[2] 2019 Index of Economic Freedom

[3] Sirius Global Animal Charitable Trust. (2007). International ban on dog meat products [report submitted to the World Health Organization]. Retrieved from <http://www.siriusgao.org/submission/Submission%20-%20International%20Ban%20on%20Dog%20Meat%20Products%204.pdf>

[4] Clifton, M. (2015, March 18). More medical warnings link dog meat to rabies. Retrieved from <http://www.animals24-7.org/2015/03/18/more-medical-warnings-link-dog-meat-to-rabies/>

[5] Animal Welfare Institute, retrieved from <https://awionline.org>