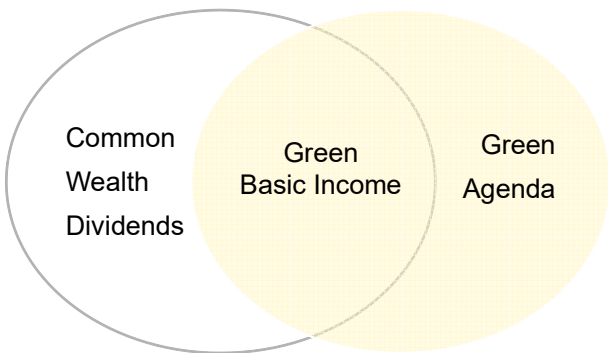


The Implications of Advocating for
Basic Income and Common Wealth Dividends
in the Context of Ecological Transformation
: Focusing on the Perceptions and Experiences of Young Eco-activists
in South Korea

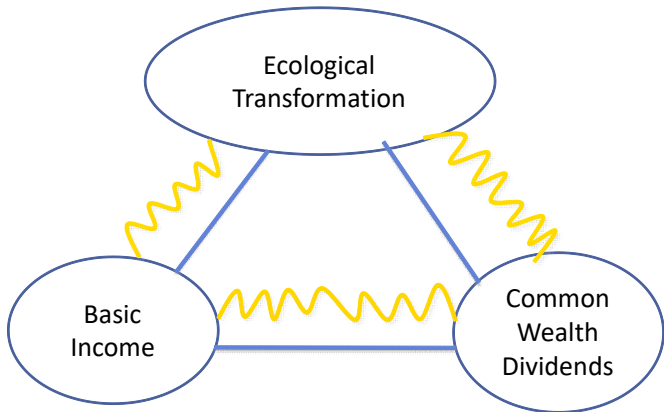
Ji-eun Lee Ph.D. Candidate, Chung-Ang University

In-jung Han Ph.D. Student, Catholic University of Korea

Background of study



Conversion & Diversion



Research Participants

- Living in the major agricultural areas :
- Gokseong, Namwon, Miryang, Hongseong, and Gwangju
- Living in the metropolitan city :
- Extinction Rebellion Korea and the Basic Income Party

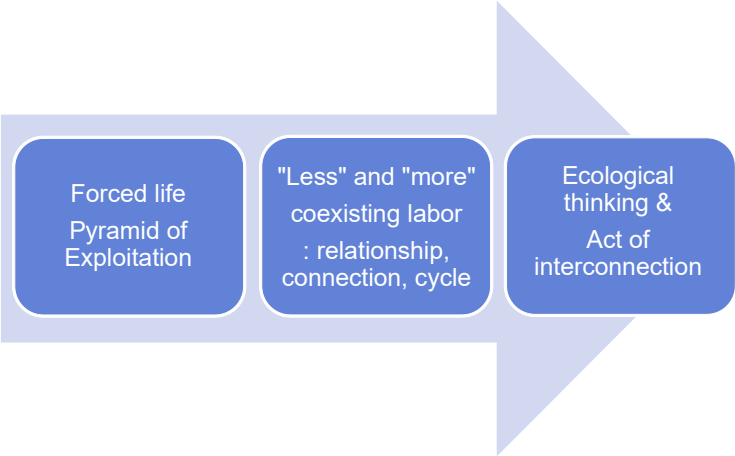
	Gender	Residential area	Main ecological activities
A	F	Gokseong-gun, Jeollanam-do	Living in the countryside, prepare for being a farmer, Veganism
B	F	Gokseong-gun, Jeollanam-do	Living in the countryside, farmer, Veganism
C	M	Namwon-si, Jeollabuk-do	Returning to the countryside, local activist(employed), Jirisan Gathering, Veganism
D	M	Hadong-gun, Gyeongsangnam-do	Returning to the countryside, Filmmaker, Jirisan Gathering, Veganism
E	M	Miryang-si, Gyeongsangnam-do	Living in the countryside for farming with native Korean seeds, Veganism
F	F	Miryang-si, Gyeongsangnam-do	Living in the countryside for farming with native Korean seeds, Veganism
G	F	Gwangsan-gu, Gwangju	farming with native Korean seeds, Musician, Veganism
H	F	Hongseong-gun, Chungcheongnam-do	Living in the countryside for natural farming, Veganism
I	M	Hongseong-gun, Chungcheongnam-do	Living in the countryside for natural farming, local activist(employed), Veganism
J	M	Hongseong-gun, Chungcheongnam-do	Returning to the countryside, Organic farmer, local activist(employed)
K	F	Anyang-si, Gyeonggi-do	Extinction Rebellion Korea(activist, volunteer), Animal right activist, Veganism
L	F	Goyang-si, Gyeonggi-do	Extinction Rebellion Korea(activist, volunteer), Animal right activist, Veganism
M	F	Seoul	The Basic Income Party, Animal right activist, Veganism
N	M	Seoul	The Basic Income Party, Animal right activist, Veganism

Semi-structured questionnaire

(the case for natural commonwealth dividend)

	Model1	Model2	Model3	Model4	Model5
Managed for	Private	Public (national)	Public (national)	Public (local)	Commoners
Management goals	Maximize market value	Maximize long-term value	Maximize long-term value	Long-term stewardship of resource and the ecological system in which it is embedded	Reservation for commons
Type of commonwealth	Tangible benefit (monetary value)	Tangible benefit (monetary value)	Tangible benefit (monetary value)	Tangible benefit (monetary value)	Intangible benefit (non-monetary value)
Who will receive a BI?	Equitable distribution of all people	Equitable distribution of all people	Equitable distribution of residents	Equitable distribution of residents	none
Types	Universal BI (private-public)	Universal BI (public/national)	Local BI (public/national)	Local BI (public/local)	No UBI

The meaning of Ecological Transformation



Forced life
Pyramid of
Exploitation

"Less" and "more"
coexisting labor
: relationship,
connection, cycle

Ecological
thinking &
Act of
interconnection

The meaning of Ecological Transformation



"Natural farmers look at the ground closely because they work as HOMI. I know more about which grass and which bugs are in which period. I don't know the name, but I'm careful with homing. ... I dug up potatoes that I was attached to, and someone asked me, "How much is this?" and I felt insulted. This potato is something else that connected to me. I'm digging potatoes again this time, this big, ugly things. There's a small one. I picked them up. I would have thrown it away in the past. Now I eat everything." (H)

The meaning of Ecological Transformation



“Since I lived like this, I thought of this. I have to create the world I want. Because we can’t all farm.” (D)

Solid precariats with solid alternatives (unrecognized labor, unstable livelihood, blind spots in policies)

The perception and opinion of BI

- Overall, all respondents were fully aware of BI and many cases recognized from **Green channels** *(C,B,H,I,J)*
 - ✓ Green Review journal; Local BI experiment; supportive activities at the Green Party; sequential forums of BI for ecological transformation at Institute for Green Transformation
- Its findings were not captured in the existing research and surveys
- A majority of the participants were **preferable to BI**, cited **unconditionality** as its largest advantage *(E,J,K,L,M,N)*
- Most of them **dismissed the propositions** that if BI is provided, people will quit paid work and overspend on their budget
 - ✓ a lack of trust in humans and not a matter of a BI; the different modes of consumption between cities and rural areas; communication with people and deliberation must be essential

The perception and opinion of Common wealth dividends

- Most of participants, except for a few, were **familiar with the common dividends** (A,B,C,D,E,G,H,I,J,K,M,N), including Alaska PFD (A,B,G,K)
 - ✓ As a BI was known by green channels, this concept was familiar to them
 - ✓ This result is contrary to previous studies
- Although the majority of the participants were in favor of BI and fundamentally agreeing with the distributive justice of common dividends (C,E,G,I,J,K,L,M,N), **most of them were against the dividends of natural commons** (A,B,C,E,F,G,H,J,K,L,N)
- Most participants objected to the development of natural resource, such as extracting oil in Alaska, and complained about it as monetary value *post-development, de-commodification, anti-extractivism*

The perception and opinion of Common wealth dividends

- Most participants preferred **Model 5**, which is for degrowth (*A,B,E,G,H,E,F,G,J,K*) and **Model 4** which refers to producing and consuming locally also partially agreed (*A, E,J,K*)
- **It showed a contradiction.** Although most of the respondents were supportive of BI and agreeing with the conception of common dividends, when it comes to the dividend of natural commonwealth, such as Alaska PFD model, were strongly objected
- It explains the gap as to whether the restoration of the commons can lead to the justification of the automatically reified common dividends
- Although its distributional definition is fair, the ecological effect may be different depending on the commonwealth

Model4	Model5
Public (local)	Commoners
Long-term stewardship of resource and the ecological system in which it is embedded	Reservation for commons
Tangible benefit (monetary value)	Intangible benefit (non-monetary value)
Equitable distribution of residents	none
Local BI (public/local)	No UBI

BI and Common wealth dividends for the ecological transformation

A life of discovering relationships, being reconnected, and continuing the labor of coexistence

