Building Track 1.5 Network for the Northeast Asia Peace and **Cooperation Initiative**

Sejong Institute

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■The History of the Northeast Asia Peace and Cooperation Initiative (NAPCI) and Its **Achievements**

The NAPCI Forum and global society's understanding and support

- In 2014 and 2015, the NAPCI forum was held twice and made ostensible progress by promoting the global society's understandings about and supports to it, as well as strengthening its functional cooperation with global partners.
- In spite of the growth, there remains a problem of the delay in implementing the initiative, doubts about the possibility of functional cooperation amid the tense security situation in Northeast Asia, and a question about its sustainability after the term of the incumbent government.

The advance in discussions on private-public sector cooperation and functional cooperation

• For the safety of nuclear power in Northeast Asia, the government initiated a pilot project to organize a nuclear safety consultative body and hosted

- a symposium on Northeast Asian cooperation on nuclear safety, the Top Regulators' Meeting (TRM) of Korea, China and Japan, and the third TRM Plus (TRM+).
- For cooperation on environmental issues, the government hosted the Tripartite Environment Ministers Meeting (TEMM), the Peace and Biodiversity Dialogue, the East Asian Biosphere Reserve Network (EABRN), the Northeast Asian Sub-regional Programme for Environmental Cooperation, and an international workshop on Biodiversity-Based Industries.

■ Establishment of a Private-Public Network

Organization of Northeast Asian epistemic community and shared narrative

• To bring the diverse specialized scopes under the umbrella of the NAPCI, the government needs to suggest a clear narrative that reflects the mutual awareness and interests shared in the Northeast

Human and knowledge exchanges and activation of















private-public cooperation programs for the NAPCI

• By designating concrete roles and functions, and allocating financial resources, the government should produce visible results of exchanges such as workshops and research in each field, and activate private-public cooperation programs for the NAPCI, based on them.

Institutionalization of the NAPCI based on privatepublic consortium

• A private-public consortium, consisting of working level officials, should be set up to discuss financing and action plans for the NAPCI to the end of ultimately expanding it into an overseas network.

Designation of private research institute as overseas focal point and establishment of country-specific strategy

- The government should designate a private institute in each country which plays a role (NAPCI Secretariat) similar to Sejong Institute and set up a focal point at ad hoc institutes for each issue.
- The Institute for National Strategy of Mongolia has made an official proposition to the NAPCI, but the government could not advance the talks

due to the absence of concrete means and a mechanism of cooperation.

Publicity campaign for the public

- As the NAPCI is not properly recognized by the press and scholars, to say nothing of the public, there should be a publicizing strategy.
- There should be a publicity mechanism to mention and register the NAPCI at conferences on regional cooperation.

Policy Implications

Suggestions to establish a private-public network for the

- •The government should help in raising mutual awareness to make the NAPCI a long-term agenda and make a gradual approach to regional cooperation.
- To help the NAPCI make a meaningful advance amid the unstable security environment of Northeast Asia, governmental support and cooperation should be accompanied by the civic efforts.

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