

Korea Communications Commission

## **NEWS RELEASE**

## KCC LEADS IN REDUCING THE SMART TECHNOLOGY GAP FOR MARGINALIZED GROUPS

## Initiation ceremony for instructors of On-site Communications Training

GWACHEON, April 13, 2017 – The Korea Communications Commission (KCC) and the Korea Administration for ICT Promotion (KAIT) held the 2017 initiation ceremony for "Onsite Communications Training" instructors today at the Seoul LW Convention Center. This initiative aims to help socially marginalized groups such as the elderly, disabled, and multicultural families better understand and utilize broadcasting and telecommunications services, as well as protect themselves from potential harm resulting from use of these services.

The On-site Communications Training program has been in place since 2010 to narrow the gap in smart technology knowledge and utilization between social classes and strengthen consumers' skills in using telecommunications and broadcasting services. This year, 164 instructors with experience and expertise in using communications services were chosen to provide customized instruction for different social groups.

Also this year, the initiative formed partnerships with advocacy groups for marginalized people to provide customized education. Taking into account the characteristics of each group, the initiative developed and provided the following at on-site training and on the website for users (wiseuser.go.kr).

- ▶ textbooks (48,000) and educational videos for the elderly
- ➤ textbooks for agricultural and fisheries workers (8,000)
- > textbooks in foreign languages (1,000 books in English, Chinese, Japanese,

Vietnamese) and e-learning updates for multicultural families

- books (1000) and e-learning (sign language and captions) updates for the hearing impaired
- ▶ braille books (1000) and audio materials for the visually impaired
- ▶ regular textbooks (1,000) and videos, e-learning program updates
- ▶ textbooks (1,000) and videos for youth

Instructors assigned to each specific group received customized education at the event to build upon their expertise and capabilities and afterwards they were awarded their certificates of appointment. The ceremony also included an MoU signing between KAIT and the Korea Blind Union.

At the event, KCC Standing Commissioner Kim Suk-jin commented, "moving forward we will do our utmost to continuously expand education for socially marginalized groups on the use of communications services and how consumers can protect themselves against potential harm so that all Koreans can safely and conveniently use these services."

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