

South Korea's Capital Markets Act Amendment — A Sanction-Free Mandate for One Female Director

Gender Equality · Good practice · South Korea

Quality score: 82/100

Evidence strength: Observational / pre–post

Summary

South Korea's 2020 Capital Markets Act amendment bars listed companies worth 2 trillion+ KRW from having all-male boards. Companies with a female director rose from 37 to 62 within a year, though the law carries no legal sanction for non-compliance.

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Transferability / replicability	1/3
Impact on gender equality	1/1
Effectiveness	1/1
Efficiency	0/1
Evaluated outcomes	1/1
Sustainability	1/1
Achievement / evidence	1/1
Gender-mainstreaming embedding	1/1
Curator validation	1/1

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

[C-NAPSE web research](#) — accessed 2026-09-22

[Financial Services Commission \(Republic of Korea\)](#) — accessed 2026-09-22

[Kim & Chang — New FSCMA Provision Requires Female Director](#) — accessed 2026-09-22

[Korea Times — Companies desperate for female board members](#) — accessed 2026-09-22

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