



Youngtae Cho

Professor Youngtae Cho is tenured full professor of health demography at the School of Public Health, Seoul National University. He achieved both Master's and Doctorate degrees in demography from the University of Texas at Austin in 2002. Prior to his appointment at Seoul National University, Youngtae was an assistant professor of sociology at the Utah State University (2002~2004).

He was a steering committee member for the Asia-Pacific Global Action for Health Equity Network (2011~2013), and served as a consultant for the WHO Western Pacific Regional Office (2012). Activities for these two organizations were compiled into a report entitled “An Asia Pacific Spotlight on Health Inequity: Taking Action to Address the Social and Environmental Determinants of Health Inequity in Asia Pacific” in 2011.

Youngtae served as a member of international organizing committee (2011~2013) of the 27th IUSSP International Population Conference held in Busan, Korea in August 2013. He was the MC of the closing ceremony.

Since 2012, Youngtae has shared his expertise and knowledge on fertility and development with various government organizations in Viet Nam (e.g., General Office for Population and Family Planning, Development Strategy Institute, and the National Assembly) through UNFPA Viet Nam office. He has just conducted a research project funded by UNFPA that attempts to project future TFRs of Vietnam based on the sociostructural perspective. Further, he is currently with the General Office for Population and Family Planning in Hanoi, Viet Nam as a visiting scholar.

His areas of academic expertise include demography and social epidemiology. He has published a number of journal articles (28 international and 33 domestic) since 2001 on the health of migrant populations in the US and in Korea, on suicide issues in Korea and Japan, on unequal social distribution of health and mortality, and on lowest low fertility phenomenon in Korea.

Recently, Youngtae and his research team at the School of Public Health, Seoul National University have developed a new study area that applies mobile devices (e.g., smartphones and wearable devices) and various types of Big Data into the field of population studies. For example, they have attempted to explore a way that smartphone can substitute conventional census and to measure individual's life boundaries using smartphone's geographic sensor data. Further, they have developed an algorithm to predict infectious diseases outbreak and prevalence using SMS and search query data within the context of Korean culture and linguistic uniqueness.