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ISUS UOS NEWSLETTER

International School of Urban Sciences
University of Seoul



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01 MoU BETWEEN THE UNIVERSITY OF SEOUL (UOS) AND KOREA OVERSEAS INFRASTRUCTURE AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (KIND)

The University of Seoul signed an MoU with KIND-Korea on the 27th of April 2023 which will allow for mutual exchanges and cooperation between ISUS and KIND-Korea in multiple domains.

The UoS was led by President Yongkul Won while President Kang Hoon Lee headed the delegation of KIND-Korea. The signing ceremony was also attended by Prof. Shin Lee (Dean ISUS), Prof. Joon Park (Vice Dean ISUS) and Prof. Hyeon Park (Head of IUDP Program) from UoS while Mr Byung Chul Won (Executive Vice President), Mr Heung Seop Lim (Head of Planning and Coordination Division), and Mr Ji Wook Ahn (Head of Management & Coordination Department) represented KIND-Korea at the occasion.

The MoU focuses on cooperation between the two organizations in the realm of overseas project opportunities, educational programs, infrastructure exchange, cooperative research for policy export in the field of infrastructure and fostering professional development through human resource exchange programs. Under the agreement, employees of KIND will be admitted to the ISUS master's program while Kind-Korea will not only provide internship opportunities to IUDP students but will also facilitate field trips for ISUS students to KIND facilities.

The ISUS faculty is indeed excited about the possibilities that this partnership brings for our students as well as the mutual benefits which can be accrued by both organizations.



02 56th ANNUAL MEETING OF ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK (ADB)

The 56th Annual Meeting of the ADB took place from 2nd to 5th May in Incheon, Republic of Korea. The event brought together representatives from international organizations, the private sector, and the media under the theme "Rebounding Asia: Recover, Reconnect, and Reform". Several students from ISUS had the privilege to attend the meeting, having received accreditation letters from ADB with the support of the Dean's endorsement letter. Their participation in the ADB meeting proved to be an immensely enriching experience, providing them with valuable insights and the opportunity to build a global network with professionals working in international organizations. In this article, we will delve into the experiences of ISUS students at the meeting. Three ISUS participants have shared with us their experience at the meeting.

Inggar Dhea MEDINA, a student from MIPD 5 (Indonesia), attended the "Greening the Economy: A Partnership for Private Sector-Led Growth" seminar and learned about private-sector-led growth towards investment in the green economy. Putting people at the core of participation, particularly through community funding, is now recognized as a new and important approach. The seminar also highlighted that Nusantara (a planned city and the proposed future capital of Indonesia) relocation project prioritizes ESG principles. During the seminar, Medina also got the chance to introduce herself to Mr Pak Bambang Susantono, the chairperson of the Nusantara Capital City Authority, and other officials.

Raphael Jose HABANA, a student from MURD 6 (Philippines), participated in the joint ADB-IMF seminar titled "New Sources of Growth for Asia." He gained valuable insights from professionals in the field. While the World Bank and IMF do not anticipate long-term slow down in the region, there are still significant challenges. Ms. Manuela Ferro, World Bank VP for East Asia and the Pacific, highlighted the slowdown in manufacturing and the significant growth in the service sector.

She emphasized that restrictive policies in services, especially in transportation, finance, and professional services, hinder new growth sources in the region. Mr. Krishna Srinivasan, IMF Director of the Asia and Pacific Department, warned of pandemic-related damage in the medium term and called for more trade agreements to address fragmentation in the region. The seminar also touched upon other issues such as aging, lack of R&D, and vulnerability to climate change.

Michaelangelo SEVERA, another student from MURD 6 (the Philippines), shared his experience that the highlight of the meeting was ADB's launch of IF-CAP, the Innovative Finance Facility for Climate in Asia and the Pacific. IF-CAP is a multi-donor financing partnership aimed at scaling up finance for climate change action in the region. The initial target of \$3 billion in guarantees could generate up to \$15 billion in new loans for climate projects across Asia and the Pacific. IF-CAP-supported projects cover various sectors including transportation, energy, urban development, and agriculture. Given that the battle against climate change will be won or lost in Asia and the Pacific, this initiative represents a significant step towards achieving the ambitious goals of the Paris Agreement and the forthcoming Climate Change Action Plan.

Through their participation in the meeting, ISUS students had the opportunity to gain first hand knowledge of current issues and the practical application of policies from esteemed policymakers and practitioners from across the world. ISUS consistently supports students in their pursuit of international conference participation opportunities and will continue to do so for further professional development of ISUS students.





03 ISUS COMMUNITY BONDS OVER NAMSAN TOWER HIKING ADVENTURE

On May 12, 2023, the ISUS community comprising faculty, staff, Korean and international students, had a memorable hiking trip, scaling the iconic Namsan Mountain stands that tall at an altitude of 262 meters. The group began their adventure at Jangchungdan Park and enjoyed the fresh forest air and beautiful scenery throughout the two-hour hike.

The hike fostered the bonds of friendship among students not only among their own class mates but also across different programs, with the professors and also with the Korean students who joined the venture. It was an excellent opportunity to share thoughts outside the classroom atmosphere. The adventure was filled with laughter, stories, pictures, and a sense of camaraderie. Participants appreciated the beauty of nature and the importance of preserving it for future generations.

Upon reaching the top, participants relished an hour-long exploration of the surrounding area. They basked in the breathtaking panoramic view of Seoul and visited the famous Namsan Tower, a symbol of Seoul City and a major tourist attraction. It was a unique opportunity to experience and appreciate Korean culture as well.

The hiking adventure culminated in a buffet dinner at the PJ Hotel, where members of the ISUS community strengthened their bond and friendship.

Professor Shin Lee, Dean of ISUS, provide a warm and cheerful opening remark inviting participants to enjoy the night. The hosts, Shawkat Arafat (MGLEP8) and Seunga YE (Korean Student attending Master in Sustainable Urban Development) added a touch of excitement to the dinner by organizing an interactive game that required participants to introduce their table neighbours. This game helped break the ice and added to the interaction and communication among everyone.

To further brighten the evening, two students, Andres Omar CAVERO PRADO from Peru (MIPD) and Irene Soledad CARDENAS ROLDAW from Ecuador (MURD), delivered a mesmerizing 'Salsa' performance; a dance famous in South America especially with the Latin American fraternity. It was a spontaneous yet amazing performance that thrilled the audience and added to the evening's festive atmosphere. The event concluded with a special tribute to ISUS professors in honour of National Teachers' Day, recognizing their hard work and dedication to educating the next generation of leaders.

The participants returned to the campus with renewed energy and enthusiasm, ready to tackle the challenges that lie ahead. Overall, the Namsan Mountain hike was a great success, and everyone is already looking forward to the next adventure.





04

INTERVIEW WITH MUAP ALUMNI SANDAB KHIM

Q1. Could you kindly provide an introduction of yourself, including your position, organization, and department?

I am currently serving as Deputy Director in the Department of Green Economy (DGE), which falls under the supervision of the General Directorate of Policy and Strategy at the Ministry of Environment. DGE's primary responsibility is to develop and coordinate policies and their implementation on a countrywide basis. Thus, DGE works on strategic environmental assessment, sustainable city development, sustainable consumption and production, circular economy, eco-label, green industry, and green public procurement. My role is to oversee the sustainable lifestyle office, which primarily focuses on sustainable city development initiatives in Cambodia.

Q2. How does the building project 'Guidelines and Certification for Green Buildings in Cambodia' work, and what is your role in its development?

The goal of this project is to create guidelines and certification standards for green buildings in Cambodia, boosting green job creation and enhancing living standards. The guidelines and certification scheme will be promoted through industry-specific training and awareness-raising workshops for architects and construction companies. The green building rating system is being employed as a marketing tool, which is likely to increase the competition among building and architectural firms.

As a project official, my responsibilities include identifying energy-efficient and green building practices, developing and implementing training programs, designing a marketing plan, analysing project experiences, and organizing meetings and workshops.

I also explore project feasibility, build stakeholder relationships, and facilitate study tours for green building best practices to other countries.

Q3. Could you please explain the impact and significance of this project for your country?

The 'Green Building Project' aims to reduce energy and water consumption, increase efficient use of natural resources, and improve living environments. It is expected that Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) will create more green jobs and commercial opportunities, while residents will benefit from improved living and working conditions. The project helps to align with green building standards in Mekong Countries and draws on recognized certification systems such as DGNB (Germany), G-SEED (Korea) etc.

This project will not only facilitate knowledge exchange within the Mekong countries but will also help to create a partnership with Korea through the KICT for peer-to-peer learning on green building certification systems. A regional workshop to potentially develop a regional standard for Green Building Design and Certification to support the building industry's supply chain in meeting regional green building standards can be a good step towards promoting this initiative. Such programs can be developed by ASEAN under their sustainable cities working group.

Q4. How has ISUS experience aided your professional growth, and what advice do you have for the current ISUS community?

ISUS has been instrumental in providing me with the knowledge and experiences necessary for my professional career and daily work related to sustainable urban development and green building concept. I would like to take this opportunity to extend my gratitude to the honourable professors and colleagues at ISUS for their continued support and engagement.





05 FIELD TRIP TO ANYANG SMART CITY INTEGRATION CENTRE

On April 29, the students of MURD 6 and MIPD 5 (from Infrastructure Development and Planning class) visited Anyang Smart City Integration Centre located in Anyang City Hall. The trip was led by Professor Sang Keon LEE. The officer in-charge of smart city integration centre Mr. Jungho YOON, gave the students an overview of the facility. The professor and Mr. YOON highlighted the fact that new technologies are being applied to the Smart City project each year to enhance the efficacy of the facility. For example, the signal control technology called "smart intersection" is the latest addition which is becoming more accurate and versatile each passing day.

The name integration centre is rightly given to the facility since it serves as a hub for gathering and interpreting all related information about the Smart City project. By analysing data from various sources and applying advanced analytics tools, the centre provides insight as to how different aspects of the city's infrastructure are performing and where improvements can be made. This information is crucial for making informed decisions about how to allocate resources and prioritize initiatives that will have the greatest impact on citizens' lives. With such kind of flow of information, it is then up to the Policy makers and the people managing the integration centre to decide how to use this knowledge to enhance people's quality of life.

The visit provided students with detailed insight into the various factors especially the scientific breakthrough involved in the development of a smart city, highlighting the role of technology in info-analysis and the importance of using this analysis by the policymakers for the betterment of the citizens through correct decision-making.



06 MUAP 15 FIELD TRIP TO ILSAN, PAJU

A field trip to Ilsan and Paju was organized for MUAP students (attending Housing and Land Policy class) on 21st April 2023. The trip was led by Dr. Jeongho MOON, former vice president of the Korea Research Institute for Human Settlements (KRIHS). The purpose of the trip was to gain a deeper understanding of the development of Korean new towns.

The students explored Ilsan lake park; the biggest artificial lake in Korea. The visit became more interesting due to the detailed explanation of new towns' history by Dr Moon. The students learnt that new towns were constructed in the early 1990s as a government-led plan to manage the growth of the Seoul metropolitan area by providing massive housing with a residential land use. The group also visited Odusan Unification Tower in Paju. The tower is a symbol of peace and unification. The visit provided the students with the opportunity to see North Korea's territory.



Overall, the field trip was very informative and provided students with a unique opportunity to experience the practical application of their classroom learning. They were able to see first-hand how urban planning and housing policies are implemented in real-world scenarios. The exposure was a valuable addition and further augmented the theoretical learning on the subject.

What is MUAP15 Cooking?

Celebrating the melting pot of cultures, MUAP15 hosts a monthly international kitchen where each student takes turns showing off their culinary skills and sharing their favourite national dishes. For their first international kitchen, Indonesian dishes Martabak Manis, Thai dishes Pad Thai, Laab Gai Tod, and Tom Yum Gung, and South African dishes Jollof Rice were cooked and shared.



ISUS Instagram

ISUS has started Instagram
Please show a lot of
interest and follow for follow

Id: **isus_uos**

ISUS students participate in the official launch of the World Bank flagship report



"Detox Development: Repurposing Environmentally Harmful Subsidies" prepared by the Sustainable Development (SD) Global Practice, the World Bank will hold its launch event in cooperation with Global Knowledge Exchange and Development Center (GKEDC) at Korea Development Institute (KDI) on May 11. More on this in the June issue.

79th Urban Infra Forum

Urban Infra Forum(UIF) is a monthly seminar of ISUS. The seminar is a discussion forum on urban sciences covering contemporary issues on urban development, construction and infrastructure development, environmental policies, and international cooperation.

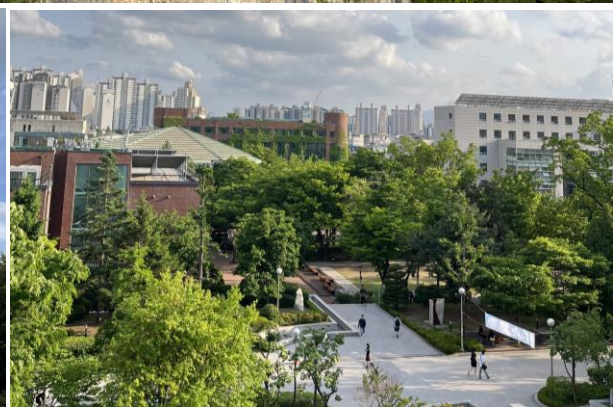
- DATE & TIME : 2023.04.19 (Wed) 7:00 p.m (KST)

Dr. Daeyeon Cho, Chief Director of the Future Strategic Division at KAIA (Korea Agency of Infrastructure Technology Advancement) discussed "Urban Transformation by Smart City". We could get into know how smart cities are revolutionizing urban environments through advanced technologies, data-driven decision-making, and sustainable infrastructure.

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