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ISUS UOS NEWSLETTER

International School of Urban Sciences
University of Seoul



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01 DETOX DEVELOPMENT

Repurposing Environmentally Harmful Subsidies

A launch event for a report titled "Detox Development: Repurposing Environmentally Harmful Subsidies" was held on May 11th at the GKEDC centre, Seoul. The event was co-hosted by The World Bank Group (WBG) and the Korea Development Institute Global Knowledge Exchange and Development Center (KDI GKEDC). The concept of detox development involves transitioning towards sustainable and environmentally friendly practices in economic development to reduce negative impacts. Several students from MUAP, MURD, MGLEP and MIPD had the opportunity to attend the event, and gain valuable knowledge.

The report highlights several key findings. It reveals that subsidies for fossil fuels, agriculture, and fisheries amount to an astonishing US\$7 trillion annually and the fact that around one-third of energy sector subsidies are allocated to fossil fuels, indirectly contributing to poor air quality and an estimated 7 million premature deaths. The report also emphasizes the significance of repurposing environmentally harmful subsidies in detox development. By redirecting subsidies towards supporting clean technologies and sustainable practices, governments can foster the growth of environmentally friendly sectors and expedite the transition to a greener economy.

The report presented at the seminar holds immense significance as it empowers countries to uncover the hidden impacts of subsidies and adopt more effective measures to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The success of detox development relies on the presence of viable alternatives to the industries being phased out. Investment in research and development, innovation, and infrastructure is crucial for creating sustainable alternatives and facilitating a seamless transition.



02 44th International Environmental Technology & Green Energy Exhibition (ENVEX)

The 2nd Korea-Multilateral Development Bank (MDB) Green Cooperation Forum was held as part of ENVEX-23 at the Intercontinental Hotel, COEX. The forum was organized by the Ministry of Environment and Korea Environmental Industry and Technology Institute (KEITI). ISUS students attending MUAP and MGLEP programs participated in the event.

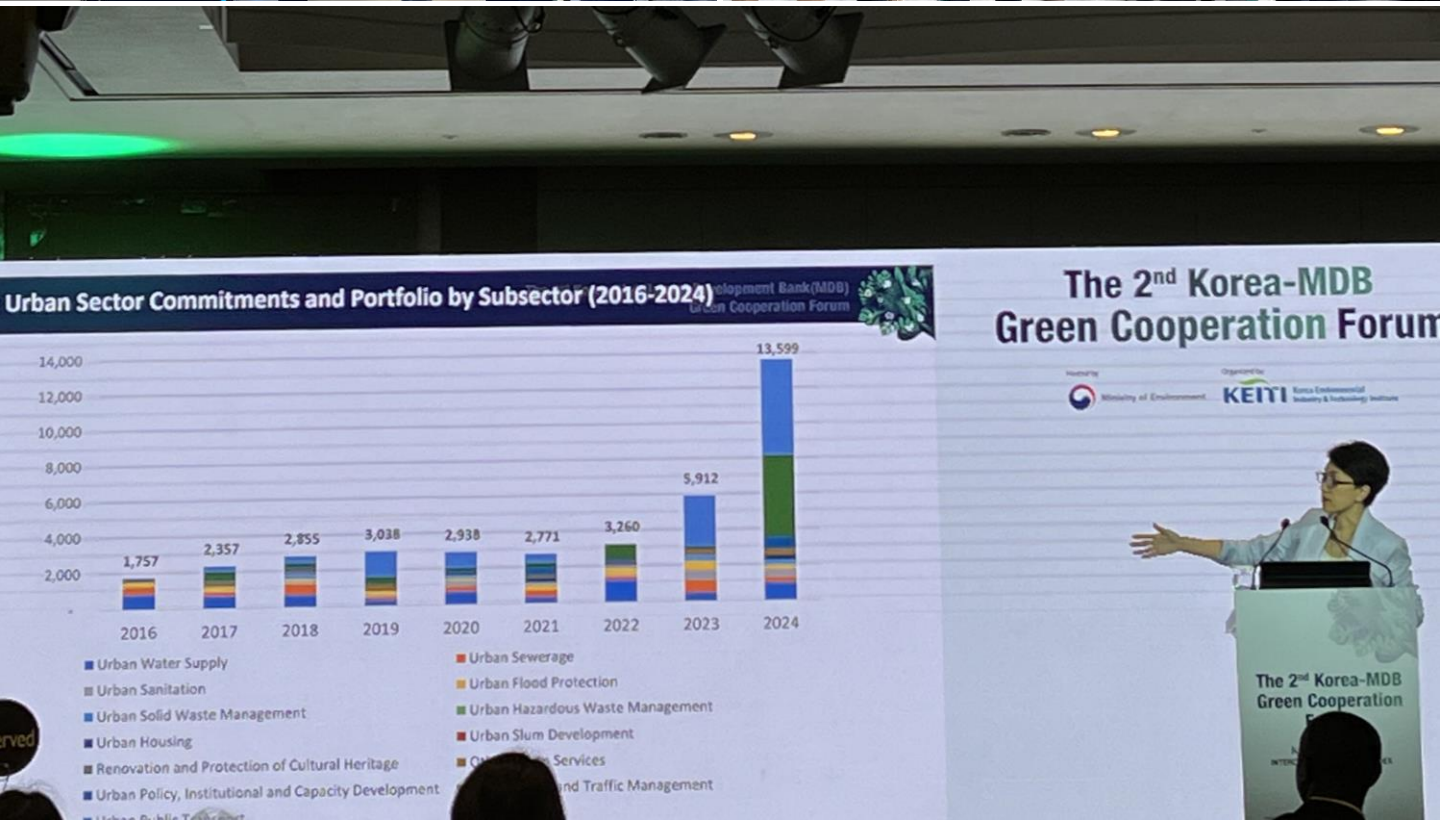
The first session of the meeting focused on the MDB's strategy and project opportunities for sustainable development. It featured presentations from leading institutions such as World Bank (WB), Asian Development Bank (ADB), Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), and Central American Bank for Economic Integration (CABEI) and African Development Bank (AfDB). The second session featured presentations on case studies related to "Korea's Project in Collaboration with MDBs" delivered by the Director General of KEITI, representatives from the Export-Import Bank of Korea (K-EXIM), and Korea Overseas Infrastructure & Urban Development Corporation (KIND).

MDB session was followed by a guided tour of the exhibition where students visited various Korean organizations/companies working primarily in the fields of water management, waste management, and air pollution technologies.

- **ISUS students as guest speakers at ENVEX 2023**

A Seminar for Investment in Overseas Environmental Market was also held at ENVEX 2023. Following a request from the Investment & Technology Promotion Office Korea and United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), two ISUS students were invited as guest speakers at the Seminar.

Faisal Jawad from Pakistan and Shawkat Imran Arafat from Bangladesh both from MGLEP-8 represented ISUS and gave an overview of the 'Environmental policies and public-private partnership processes' of their respective countries.





03 A DEEP DIVE into Seoul's Urban Development

MURD Field Trips to the Seoul Museum of History (10 May) and the Korea Territorial Development Museum (14 June)

A field trip was organized for MURD students to the Seoul Museum of History and the Korea Territorial Development Museum on 10th May. The trip, arranged under the guidance of Professor Myounggu Kang and Gahye Kim was designed to provide a hands-on understanding of the city's urban development. The Seoul Museum of History is a testament to the city's rich past and dynamic present. As students walked through the exhibits, they were transported back in time, witnessing the transformation of Seoul from the Joseon Dynasty to today's bustling metropolis. The museum's detailed exhibits on the city's infrastructure development, such as the evolution of transportation systems and public spaces, provided students with a deeper understanding of the complexities of urban planning.

A month later, on June 14, 2023, MURD visited the Korea Territorial Development Museum; an initiative by MOLIT Korea. The museum's diverse displays, from old territorial planning maps to modern urban planning models, showed a tangible connection to the theoretical concepts taught in class. One of the highlights of the visit was the exploration of the five maps of Korea, each representing a Comprehensive National Territorial Development Plan (CNTP). The professors brilliantly explained the respective strategies of each CNTP, providing us with a deeper understanding of the evolution of Korea's territorial development. The class was able to learn about the development of transportation, particularly railways, in South Korea. For instance, we enjoyed the opportunity to virtually drive a KTX high-speed train. Many other interactive displays also offered information about the development of the country's land, spatial patterns, and industry.

As we progress in our studies, we are excited to apply the knowledge we've gained from these experiences. We are eager to contribute to the future of urban planning, using the lessons we've learned from Seoul's history and Korea's territorial development to create sustainable, resilient, and livable cities. Overall, it was a fruitful and enjoyable trip that our class learned a lot from.





04 WORLD CLIMATE INDUSTRY EXPO and Global Green Hub Korea Expo at BEXCO, Busan

World Climate Industry Expo (WCE) and Global Green Hub Korea Expo (GGHK) were held in Busan from 25th to 27th May 23. On the eve of said event, a field trip to Busan was organized for MGLEP 8 & 9, in collaboration with Korea Environmental Industry and Technology Institute (KEITI).

On Day One, students participated in an open session of the Global Green Vision Forum, hosted by KEITI, and Korea Trade-Investment Promotion Agency (KOTRA). The forum was focused on “Circular Economy and Sustainable Development as a New Growth Engine”. Specialists from the World Bank and Green Climate Fund (GCF) presented subjects related to the growth of global green industry and the role of GCF in promoting circular economy and sustainable development in climate finance, respectively. The students also visited the GGHK exhibition held at BEXCO, which showcased the latest technologies in the global climate environment and energy fields to address the climate crisis.

On May 26th, MGLEP students participated in the Project Briefing Session which was attended by overseas clients from eight international and approximately 100 domestic companies. The agenda for the session covered presentations on various projects from six countries, mainly on topics related to the environment, waste management, water supply and energy.

On the last day of the trip, a one-on-one buyer meeting was organized, allowing students representing their respective countries to engage with Korean companies and organizations.

The participating countries were Bangladesh, Cambodia, China, Colombia, Ethiopia, Ghana, Indonesia, Mexico, Pakistan, Rwanda, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Ukraine, and Uzbekistan. Discussions revolved around the projects of the students' countries and explored potential mutual goals for the future.

The trip was aimed at fostering networking opportunities, engaging in meaningful discussions with Korean companies, and exploring the latest technologies and policies in the global climate and energy sectors.

Besides the official commitments, the MGLEP students had the unique opportunity to visit Korea's second most populous city. They savoured the local cuisine, visited famous beaches and coastline aboard the Blue Line train, enjoyed panoramic views from Busan's tallest building, visited the famous Jagalchi fish market and the Gukje market in old Busan, and had great fun on an hour-long yacht trip.





05 A JOURNEY TO ESTABLISH Construction Standards in Uzbekistan

Getting Started

As part of the 'Technical Cooperation Project for Modernization of Uzbekistan's Construction Regulations,' jointly conducted by ISUS, the Korea Institute of Construction Technology, and the Korea Institute for Construction Policy Research, I embarked on a business trip to Uzbekistan. The goal of the project is to update and modernize Uzbekistan's construction regulations using Korea's expertise in rapid development.

Travel highlights

The journey began with a seven-and-a-half-hour flight from Incheon to Tashkent, the capital of Uzbekistan. The following day, we held an initial review meeting at the office of the Construction Research Institute. We discussed the project roadmap and adjusted the scope of work to account for recent changes in the Uzbekistan side of the project.

During our stay, we had the opportunity to enjoy Uzbek cuisine, which consisted mainly of bread and meat dishes, predominantly lamb and beef due to cultural influences. The meals were delightful, and I particularly enjoyed indulging in shaved ice for dessert. The weather was hot during our visit, with temperatures reaching up to 30 degrees Celsius, but the shade provided relief from the heat.

When participating in the midterm report meeting, we presented the progress made in the project's first and second years, discussed local challenges, and explored how to incorporate the UBC Code. Witnessing the success of an ISUS alumnus utilizing their international knowledge in their home country inspired me to continue my personal growth.

I left Uzbekistan with fond memories and a strong desire for increased collaboration between Uzbekistan and Korea. I am grateful to Professor Chunho Yeom for providing me with this valuable opportunity, and I cherish the connections I made in Uzbekistan.

Written by Jiyoung Kim

Researcher at Global Urban & Infrastructure Research Center

University of Seoul





06

ISUS 80th URBAN INFRA FORUM

Policy Process of Korean Government: The Case of Covid-19 Response

The ISUS 80th Urban Infra Forum(UIF), was held on Wednesday, May 17th, from 07:00 to 8:30 PM as an offline forum as well a webinar via Zoom, Prof. Kilkon Ko from the Graduate School of Public Administration, Seoul National University delivered a talk on the above-mentioned topic. The participants were granted a valuable opportunity to learn about the Korean government's policy process during the COVID-19 response.

UIF is a discussion forum on Infrastructure, Sustainable Urban Development, Construction, Environment, and other related issues with invited speakers. Participants are mainly ISUS members who consist of Foreign Public Officials and Domestic Practitioners. With a combination of their expertise, the forum has served as a platform for international networking and mutual learning.



You can find the lecture materials of UIF on the website below.

<https://bit.ly/ISUS80ThUIF>

ISUS homepage > community > Urban Infra Forum





07 ALUMNI OF THE MONTH

Julio Cardenas

Q1. Please introduce yourself and share your academic journey and experiences in Korea?

I am Julio Cardenas, a Civil Engineer from Panama. I attended MUAP 12 from the ISUS, UoS. My academic journey in Korea surpassed expectations, offering challenges, personal growth, and profound learning. Immersed in new culture, I explored unfamiliar places, and forged lifelong friendships while pursuing my Master's degree. Although I initially felt apprehensive about the future, I embraced new experiences that enriched my personal and professional life. Undoubtedly, my time in Korea was remarkable and rewarding, filled with delightful moments, cherished friendships, and a multitude of emotions.

Q2. Please, summarize your organization's role, and the impact of your Korean experience?

I work at SAMAN Corp., a leading multidisciplinary engineering firm in Korea, overseeing major construction and development projects worldwide. As the Design Coordinator for the Panama Metro Line 3 (PML3) Project, my key responsibilities include reviewing deliverables, managing technical reports, drawings, and submissions, and monitoring the design progress.

My experience in Korea was fundamental in securing this position, as my understanding of Korean culture enhanced my qualifications. Working with SAMAN has granted me valuable opportunities to collaborate with stakeholders in the Panama Metro Lines projects, paving the way for potential contributions to Panama's metro line development in the future.

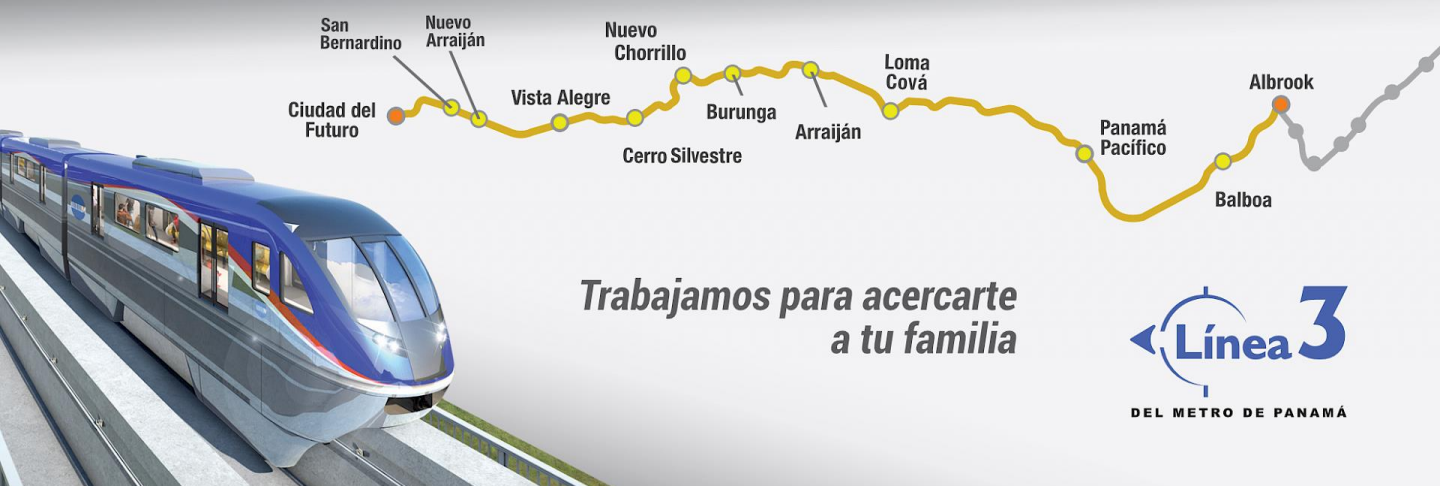
Q3. Could you please explain the importance of Panama Metro Line 3 (PML3) in your country?

Panama Metro Line 3 is a vital project launched in 2021. It aims to connect Panama City with Panama Oeste province. This province is known as bed-town where residents travel daily to work in Panama City, resulting in lengthy commutes of 2-3 hours for a 38.8km distance each way. The metro line is likely to significantly boost transportation, improve quality of life and alleviate traffic congestion.

The Phase I of this monorail project is 24.5 km long with 14 stations. It marks a crucial milestone for Panama Metro Lines master plan, inspiring further transportation improvements and enhancing the country's development efforts.

Q4. Can you kindly provide words of advice for the current ISUS students?

The Korean experience offers unique opportunities for professional growth, cultural exploration, and international connections. Discover and enjoy the country's beauty while giving your best in class, embracing new learning experiences, and stepping out of your comfort zone. Upon returning home, put into practice everything you have learned in Korea, no matter how small. Remember, even the smallest actions can have a significant impact.





In May 17-18th, the annual **Asian Leadership Conference 'The Era of Upheaval: The Road to Collaboration and Innovation'** was held in Seoul. Anna BOKLAN (MGLEP8) from Ukraine participated in this event. It gathered for 2 days former and current politicians, statesmen including the former UK Prime Minister Boris Johnson, scientists, and top managers of organizations from different countries to discuss contemporary problems and present achievements.

Among the topics of this year, the use of Artificial Intelligence in various fields of human activity, the issue of climate change, and security challenges were particularly highlighted. The President of Rep. of Korea and the First Lady of Ukraine Olena Zelenska had a speech during the opening ceremony. The conference was organized by The Cosun Media. and the host provided the opportunity for students to attend and to communicate.

ISUS KICKS OFF MIPD ADMISSION FOR 2023!!

We announced **Full scholarship Master's Program for Infrastructure Planning & Development, MIPD**, starts its admission for 2023. Currently, the admission is ongoing, and we at ISUS are excited to welcome new students!



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