

**JUNE
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ISUS NEWSLETTER

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Prof. Hyeon Park's visit to Tanzania

In an Africa Regional Seminar on Public Private Partnership (PPP) in Tanzania, Prof. Hyeon Park Connected with ISUS Alumni as an Expert and Educator

Invited as a keynote speaker at a PPP seminar held in Zanzibar, Prof. Hyeon Park enhanced the capacity of African officials and interacted with ISUS alumni specializing in the roads sector

The Tanzania Roads Association (TARA), supported by the Ministry of Works of Tanzania, collaborated to organize the 'Africa Regional Seminar and Workshop on Public Private Partnerships and EPC+F (Engineering, Procurement, Construction & Finance) for Road and Transport Sector Stakeholders' from May 13th to 17th, 2024, in Zanzibar, Tanzania.

Prof. Hyeon Park, Head of the Master of Urban Development (MUD) program, had the opportunity to share Korea's experiences, achievements, and challenges in PPP as an invited speaker. He also presented the results of Value for Money (VfM) Tests conducted on three road projects in Korea, crucial for assessing whether PPP is a more efficient procurement option compared to conventional government projects.

Around 60 government officials responsible for the road sector in Tanzania, Zambia, and Kenya attended this seminar. The main objective of the seminar was to promote PPP as a solution to Tanzania's substantial infrastructure gap, with a focus on capacity building for government officials to facilitate this approach.

When asked what policy recommendation he would prioritize if he could suggest one for activating PPP in the African road sector, the professor responded,

"First and foremost, we need to meet the basic requirements. We should establish robust regulations to ensure transparency and predictability in PPP implementation. Ultimately, creating an enabling environment where investors can confidently invest in African road projects is crucial."

During the seminar and following his duties as a speaker, Prof. Park spent time with ISUS alumni from Tanzania. Many of them work in Tanzania's road sector, and five had a pleasant reunion with the professor during the seminar.

After the seminar concluded, they explored the city twice. They also visited Stone Town of Zanzibar, a UNESCO Urban Heritage site, and explored the local market together. Additionally, they took a boat trip to Changu Island in Zanzibar, also known as Prison Island, which is home to a population of Aldabra giant tortoises.

Prof. Park says about the recent trip, *"It is always a pleasure to meet ISUS alumni on such occasions and reunite with long-time friends from distant countries."*

Teaching PPP myself has been particularly rewarding as it allows me to continuously contribute to the capacity building of the alumni in this field."



“Urban Infra Forum: The 88th Session Rocks with Dr. Tae Yong Jung from Yonsei University!”

Sustainable Development and Carbon Neutrality

The 88th Urban Infra Forum, held on 8th May 2024, was a great success. Held on our bustling campus, the event featured Dr. Tae Yong Jung from the Graduate School of International Studies (GSIS) at Yonsei University. Dr. Jung delivered an engaging talk on “Sustainable Development and Carbon Neutrality.”

Dr. Jung began by explaining the basics of sustainable development and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). He clarified these important concepts so well that even newcomers could easily follow along. Drawing from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) 6th Assessment Report, he discussed the urgent need for carbon reduction and its impact on project development. His points were clear, his delivery engaging, and his passion evident.

The event attracted a large audience, not just due to the relevant topic but also because of Dr. Jung’s engaging personality. He made complex ideas accessible, and his anecdotes and insights kept everyone interested.

ISUS students were enthusiastic and asked many questions, showing their keen interest in the environment. The Q&A session covered practical steps for achieving carbon neutrality and the role of urban planners in sustainable development. It was lively and intellectually stimulating.

Dr. Tae Yong Jung’s session was both educational and inspiring, leaving students with new ideas and enthusiasm for making a positive impact on the world. We look forward to more such enlightening forums at ISUS!



“Digital Dream Team: Bringing Smart E-Services to Habiganj!”

To enhance the clarity and effectiveness of stakeholder analysis, Team Tiger from the Global Project Development (GPD) class is spearheading a Focus Group Discussion (FGD) with the Mayor and senior officials of Habiganj, a vibrant municipality in Bangladesh. The discussion, aptly titled "Electronic Services of Habiganj Municipality: A Digital Transformation for Citizen Prosperity," aims to revolutionize the way services are delivered to the citizens of Habiganj through a cutting-edge smart e-service system.

The proposed e-service system will focus on six key areas essential to the well-being and development of the community: healthcare, career development, feedback management, billing, civil registration, and cultural services. Each of these areas will benefit from a streamlined and efficient digital approach, making services more accessible and user-friendly for the residents.

Team Tiger, bringing this vision to life, comprises four diverse and talented individuals: Lamro Triwandes Simatupang from Indonesia, Mohammed Javed Iqbal Chowdhury from Bangladesh, Nicole Estefany Montenegro Aparicio from Panama, and Ikechukwu Victor Udeh from Nigeria. They bring a wealth of international experience and insight, having witnessed successful e-service implementations in Korea, Singapore, and Indonesia. Their diverse backgrounds and collective expertise will be invaluable in tailoring the digital transformation to meet the unique needs of Habiganj.

One of the core principles of the proposal is the emphasis on the crucial role of local stakeholders. Professor Jae Teuk Chin, the instructor of the GPD class, consistently emphasizes that ensuring the ownership and sustainability of such initiatives lies with the local community. The FGD will therefore not only present innovative ideas but also actively involve the Mayor and senior officials in the planning and execution process. This approach guarantees that the solutions are grounded in the local context and have the support and engagement of those who will ultimately oversee their implementation.

Through collaborative efforts, innovative ideas, and a commitment to local stakeholder involvement, this initiative aims to bring about lasting positive change, ensuring a prosperous future for the citizens of Habiganj.



A delegation of African students from the ISUS met with their President during the Korea-Africa Summit

During the recent Korea-Africa Summit held on June 3rd at KINTEX (Korea International Exhibition Center) in Goyang, a delegation of Sierra Leonean students in Korea, including those from ISUS, had the opportunity to meet His Excellency President Julius Maada Bio. This event facilitated a meaningful exchange on key issues affecting African students abroad and strengthened the connection between the students and their home country's leadership.

The Korea-Africa Summit aims to foster collaboration and understanding between Korea and African nations, making it an ideal platform for such interactions. The participation of Sierra Leonean students in this event highlights the significance of the African community abroad in contributing to their home countries' development and fostering international relations.

During the meeting with President Bio, the students discussed educational challenges, scholarship opportunities, and ways to enhance support for Sierra Leonean students in Korea. The dialogue was constructive, allowing students to voice concerns and share experiences directly with the President.

The students expressed gratitude for studying in Korea and highlighted the benefits of gaining international exposure and expertise. The meeting with President Bio reinforced their sense of national pride and determination to contribute positively to Sierra Leone's future.

In another significant summit event, Her Excellency Dr. Samia Suluhu Hassan, President of Tanzania, visited Korea, strengthening ties between the two countries. During her visit, President Hassan met with Tanzanian students, including those from the ISUS, emphasizing bilateral relationships and mutual benefits in education and cultural exchange.

President Hassan's engagement with Tanzanian students highlighted educational opportunities and scholarship programs. She reaffirmed support for students studying in Korea and recognized their role in Tanzania's development.

The students appreciated President Hassan's visit and shared their experiences and future contributions to Tanzania. Her engagement reinforced the importance of educational exchange and bilateral cooperation, inspiring students to contribute meaningfully to Tanzania's progress and fostering deeper connections with Korea.

These interactions at the Korea-Africa Summit were pivotal in strengthening ties between African nations and Korea, empowering students with renewed commitment to contribute positively to their countries' development upon their return.



Reflecting on his time at ISUS, an alum shares how the experience influenced his work at TARURA (Tanzania Rural and Urban Roads Agency)

1. How has your education and experience at the ISUS influenced your career development and your approach at TARURA?

My education and experience at ISUS have been crucial in shaping my career at TARURA. The advanced knowledge and innovative methodologies I gained in Korea have significantly influenced my professional journey. Upon returning, I was promoted from District Manager to Principal Planning Engineer at TARURA headquarters. In this role, I implemented cutting-edge techniques in road planning and development, contributing to more efficient and sustainable infrastructure projects. Subsequently, I advanced to Director of Roads, where I oversee the entire Directorate of Roads. The comprehensive education I received, especially in urban planning and development, has enabled me to introduce fresh perspectives and strategies, improving TARURA's overall effectiveness. Moreover, my international exposure at ISUS has broadened my understanding of global best practices, which I consistently apply to enhance rural road infrastructure projects across Tanzania.

2. How has the international expertise and exposure gained from your studies in Korea influenced TARURA's approach to road planning and development?

Studying in Korea provided me with invaluable international expertise that has deeply influenced TARURA's approach to road planning and development. Learning from distinguished professors and collaborating with classmates from diverse backgrounds equipped me with a wide range of skills and perspectives. These experiences empowered me to introduce innovative planning techniques and sustainable development practices at TARURA. Applying the advanced methodologies and technologies I learned in Korea has enabled us to enhance the efficiency and quality of our road infrastructure projects. Additionally, maintaining professional relationships with my peers and professors, such as facilitating Prof. Hyeon Park's participation in Tanzanian road policy initiatives, has further enriched TARURA's strategies. This ensures that our approaches align with international standards and best practices in road planning and development.

3. Based on your professional journey, what advice would you offer to current students pursuing careers in urban planning?

Based on my professional journey, here's my advice for current students pursuing careers in urban planning: Embrace continuous learning and seek international exposure. Engaging with diverse educational environments, such as my time at the ISUS, offers invaluable insights and broadens perspectives. Building a robust professional network is equally vital; maintaining connections with peers and mentors opens doors to collaborative opportunities and knowledge exchange. Additionally, prioritize practical applications of theoretical knowledge. Real-world experience, whether through internships or field projects, is essential for developing the skills necessary to address complex urban planning challenges. Lastly, stay adaptable and embrace

innovation. Urban planning is dynamic, and being open to new ideas and technologies ensures you can contribute effectively to sustainable and impactful urban development.

4. Reflecting on your time as a student in Korea, what memorable experiences or lessons have influenced you the most?

During my studies at the University of Seoul, I encountered rigorous academic challenges and received invaluable mentorship. Working closely with international classmates underscored the significance of teamwork and diverse perspectives. Immersing myself in Korean culture enriched both my personal and professional life, highlighting the importance of adaptability and cultural sensitivity. These insights have been instrumental in shaping inclusive and innovative strategies at TARURA.



Hayday of MIPD, the fun farming in the Cheongpyeong

"Cheongpyeong Bound: MIPD 6's Farm-tastic Getaway!"

On May 18, 2024, the Master of Infrastructure Planning and Development (MIPD 6) students decided to swap their laptops for a little adventure in Cheongpyeong! After weeks of juggling endless assignments, these Seoul boys and girls found an oasis in their Sahara-like schedules. They escaped to the countryside for a day of fun farming. They planted barley, berries, and a bunch of quirky plants, laughing and bonding over their newfound green thumbs. It was a day of fresh air and unforgettable memories - a perfect break from their hectic academic lives!



MUAP 16 class participated in Seoul Future Tour

"MUAP 16 Discovers Seoul's Hidden Treasures on the Future Heritage Tour!"

Students from the Master of Urban Administration Planning (MUAP 16) recently set out on the Seoul Future Heritage Tour. This walking adventure highlighted Seoul's upcoming heritage sites, demonstrating their closeness and ease of access through informative video guides. The tour included visits to iconic locations such as the Bank of Korea, the historic Haechang Tailor Shop (established in 1929 and visited by CEOs and former Korean presidents), the Hwangudan Altar, Seoul Station Square, Seoullo 7017, and of course the famous Namdaemun Market. It aimed to serve not only foreign tourists exploring Seoul but also local citizens eager to uncover the city's abundant cultural and historical gems firsthand.

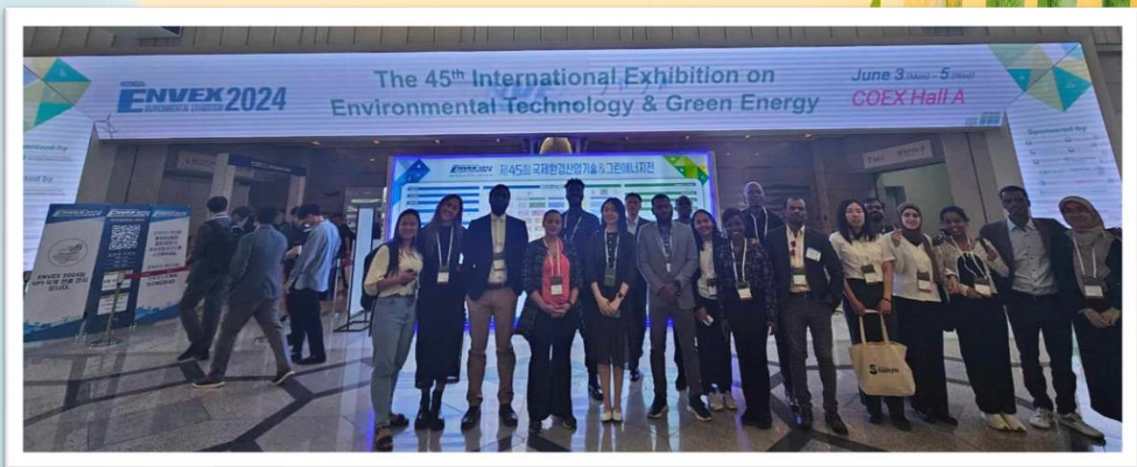


MGLEP 9 Attends Korea - MDB (Multilateral Development Banks) Green Cooperation Forum at InterContinental Seoul COEX

On June 3rd, 2024, the MGLEP 9 attended the 3rd Korea-MDB Green Cooperation Forum at the InterContinental Hotel at COEX. This event was organized by MGLEP's sponsor, KEITI (Korea Environmental Technology & Industry Institute), and the Korea Ministry of Environment. The forum explored cutting-edge environmental strategies and sustainable development initiatives through collaboration with Multilateral Development Banks (MDBs), including the World Bank, the Asian Development Bank, the Inter-American Development Bank, and the African Development Bank, among others.

The forum brought together leaders and innovators in environmental science to address global challenges and promote sustainable practices. Key topics included climate change mitigation, sustainable energy solutions, and smart green technologies in urban planning. Experts from MDBs shared their experiences and success stories in funding sustainable projects worldwide.

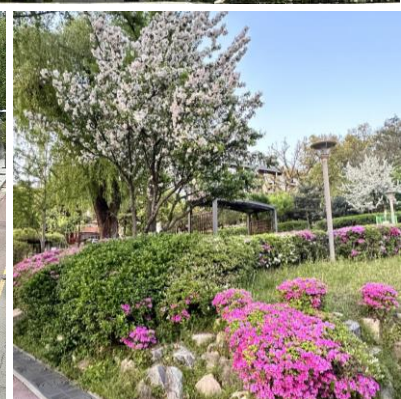
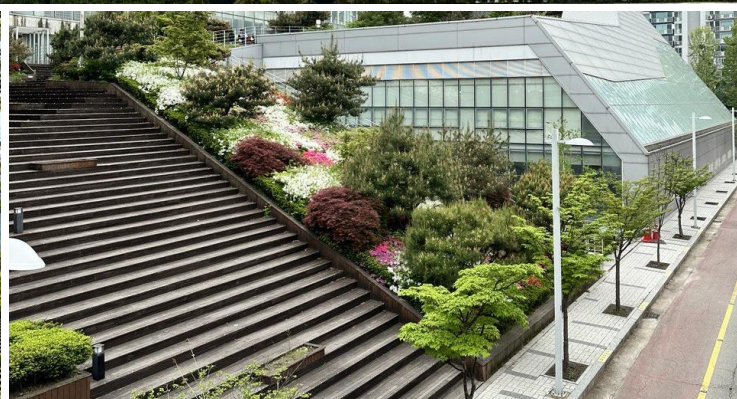
For the Mglep 9 students, the forum was an enlightening experience, offering deeper insights into global environmental management and international cooperation. Following the conference, the group made a move to the International Exhibition on Environmental Technology and Green Energy, conveniently located right next door - COEX Exhibition Hall and were free to explore the fashionable Gangnam area if they so wanted.



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