

## 15<sup>th</sup> Korea Green Innovation Days

May 6 – 8, 2026

Sejong, South Korea

### Day 2. Breakout Session

#### Urban Session 1. Shaping Urban Futures in East Asia and Pacific: From Strategy to Practice

#### Speakers Bios

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(Moderator) **Narae Choi, Senior Urban Development Specialist, World Bank Group**

Narae Choi is a Senior Urban Development Specialist at the World Bank. She is based in the Korea Office as part of the Urban, Resilience and Land Global Practice for the East Asia Pacific and is leading the urban policy dialogue in Malaysia and the Philippines. At the World Bank Headquarters in DC, she led the Global Smart City Partnership Program (GSCP) and Inclusive Cities Program. She joined the World Bank in 2013 as a Young Professional and has worked on the national community empowerment program of Indonesia, and led urban operations in Rwanda, Tanzania and Kenya, as well as a number of analytical works in Africa. She holds a PhD (DPhil) in International Development from the University of Oxford, specialized in development-induced displacement and resettlement, slum upgrading and affordable housing.

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**Yoonhee Kim, Practice Manager, Urban GD-EAP, World Bank Group**

Yoonhee Kim is the Practice Manager for Urban, Disaster Risk Management and Land (East Asia Region) within the Urban, Disaster Risk Management, Resilience and Land Global Practice at the World Bank, effective July 2023. She brings a wealth of expertise as the former Lead Urban Specialist and Program Leader for Sustainable Development (SD) in China, Mongolia and Korea at the World Bank, where she coordinates the SD programs consisting of environment, natural resources and blue economy, water, social sustainability and inclusion, urban, resilience and land, and agriculture and food. Prior to assuming the role of SD Program Leader in July 2020, she worked more than 13 years at the Bank as an Urban Specialist in a number of countries in South Asia and Latin America and the Caribbean Regions, where she led multi-sectoral and complex lending operations and policy dialogue on urban housing, local government support, and green and sustainable municipal infrastructure. She also led and participated in a number of publications on urbanization review, housing policy and municipal service delivery. Yoonhee has a B.A. in political science from Yonsei University, Korea, and graduate degrees in

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international economics from Johns Hopkins SAIS and in urban economics and policy from the University of Maryland.



**Socheat Khemro Benghong, Director-General of Land Management and Urban Planning, Ministry of Land Management, Urban Planning and Construction, Cambodia**

Dr. Socheat Khemro Benghong is a Cambodian expert in land management and urban planning who currently serves as the Director General of the General Department of Land Management and Urban Planning. After earning a bachelor's degree in civil engineering, he pursued a postgraduate and a PhD in development planning from University College London. Since 2000, he has joined senior leadership at MLMUPC. Alongside government service, he lectures at leading Cambodian universities and has consulted for international organizations, with publications focused on urbanization, land management and information settlements in Cambodia.



**So Young Lee, Senior Researcher, Korea Research Institute for Human Settlements (KRIHS)**

So Young Lee, Ph.D., is a Senior Researcher at the Global Development Partnership Center of the Korea Research Institute for Human Settlements. Her research focuses on urban spatial analysis, housing affordability, residential location choice, and low-income housing in developing countries. She applies econometrics, spatial analytics, and machine/deep learning methods. She has substantial experience in urban and housing research, including through her work at the World Bank and the Inter-American Development Bank. She holds a Ph.D. in Urban Planning from the National University of Singapore and a Master's degree from Seoul National University.



**Sanghun Lee, Deputy Director, Global Cooperation Department, Korea Real Estate Board (REB)**

Sanghun Lee is Deputy Director of the Global Cooperation Department at the Korea Real Estate Board (REB), specializing in mass property valuation, land policy, and land information systems. He has led and supported international projects with the World Bank, KDI, and Korea's MOLIT in countries including Pakistan, Lao PDR, Thailand, Indonesia, and Ethiopia. He holds a BA in Economics from the University of Michigan.

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