

15th Korea Green Innovation Days
May 6 – 8, 2026
Sejong, South Korea

Day 2. Breakout Session

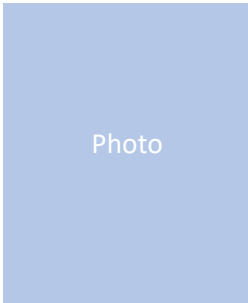
Climate Finance Session | Unlocking Climate Finance: Scaling Investment for Real-World Impact

Speakers Bios



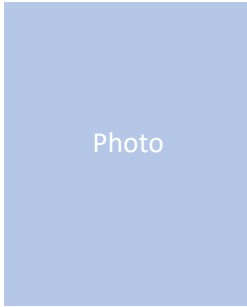
Joonyeol Yoon, Program Analyst, World Bank

Joonyeol Yoon is a Program Analyst at the Korea Green Growth Trust Fund (KGGTF), where he supports grant operations and partnership engagement. With a diverse professional background spanning the World Bank Group, private sector companies, and NGOs, Joonyeol has contributed to initiatives in climate finance, sustainable development projects, and corporate social responsibility across multiple sectors and country contexts. He has hands-on experience in carbon market-related activities, project design, and market-based financing approaches. He holds an MSc in Economics and Environment from SOAS, University of London.

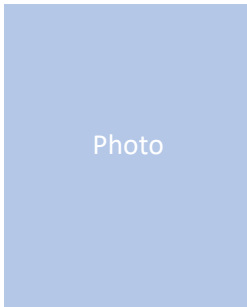


Chandra Shekhar Sinha, Lead Climate Finance Specialist, World Bank (virtual)

Zhou Cheng, Senior Climate Finance Specialist, World Bank Group (virtual)



Taehoon Kim, GVCM Unit, GGGI



GaYoung Choi, Senior Researcher, NIGT



Gayoung Choi, Ph.D., is a senior researcher at the National Institute of Green Technology (NIGT). She holds a Ph.D. in Forest Environmental Sciences from Seoul National University. Her research is centered on the critical intersections of carbon markets, nature-based solutions, and public-private partnerships, with a specialized focus on incubating and scaling up innovative climate technology enterprises.

Dr. Choi has a distinguished record of project execution with leading international organizations, including the UNEP-CTCN, the World Bank, the Mekong-Korea Cooperation Fund (MKCF), and the Asian Forest Cooperation Organization (AFoCO). Domestically, she has provided her policy expertise to key governmental bodies, such as the Office for Government Policy Coordination Prime Minister's Secretariat, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and the Ministry of Science and ICT.

Kwangnam Ryu, CEO, NewTonne

Kwangnam Ryu is a climate-tech entrepreneur and policy contributor working at the intersection of AI and international carbon markets. He is the Founder and CEO of Newtonne Inc., where he leads the development of Gravitonne, a



GraphRAG-based AI for carbon project evaluation, and Digitonne, a field digital MRV platform — together serving Article 6.2 ITMO and voluntary carbon market workflows across Southeast Asia. He also leads Climate Tech Korea, a WEF Global Shapers initiative to activate Korea's climate-tech ecosystem. He recently served as a Member of the Republic of Korea's Presidential Commission on Carbon Neutrality and Green Growth, contributing to national policy on industrial GHG reduction and international mitigation cooperation. Earlier in his career, he developed the power demand forecasting model for Korea's 10th Basic Plan for Long-term Electricity Supply and Demand. He holds a B.S. in Civil & Environmental Engineering and an M.S. in Green Business & Policy from KAIST.

Haewon Kim, CEO, Thanks Carbon



Dr. Haewon Kim is the Founder and CEO of ThanksCarbon, a climate-tech company tackling rice methane emissions with satellite- and AI-powered digital MRV solutions. A social scientist by training, she specialized in cultural studies and ethnographic research as a professor at Ewha University before founding ThanksCarbon with her students, driven by a passion to solve climate challenges. Today, her team empowers smallholder farmers in Vietnam, Cambodia, Bangladesh, and Korea through carbon financing incentives, building partnerships with governments, NGOs, and companies to scale climate-smart agriculture.

Young-jun Cho, Executive Director, KCCI



Mr. Cho has been serving as a president of Sustainable Management Institution at Korea Chamber of Commerce and Industry(KCCI) since 2022 and is supporting companies' efforts to cope with climate change and carbon neutrality.

He serves as a chairman of the environmental subcommittee of the Seoul Sustainable Committee and the environmental pollution damage relief member of the Korean Ministry of Environment.

Recently, KCCI has established and operated its Center for Carbon Reduction Certification to create a voluntary carbon market(VCM) to support carbon neutrality of companies.

In the future, we plan to expand this certification center into Asian VCM through cooperation with Asian countries.