FEATURE STORY 1

President Moon Jae-in addressed at World Leaders Summit for 26th U.N. Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP26). He made three promises and one proposal:

1. Upgrading its 2030 Nationally Determined Contributions and cutting greenhouse gas emissions by more than 40 percent relative to the level in 2018,
2. Leading collective forest restoration efforts and strengthening inter-Korean forestry cooperation for reforestation in the Korean Peninsula, and
3. Joining the global efforts to reduce coal use by putting a complete end to coal-fired power generation by 2050.

President Moon proposed that the Youth Climate Summit be held on a regular basis and emphasized joint efforts of older and younger generations to achieve carbon neutrality.

Listen to his speech in Korean or English. Read more about what South Korea promised at COP26.

Essay - Korean Media response to COP26

Sohn Ji-Ae, Invited Professor at Ewha Womans University of Korea and Senior Communications Consultant at KGGTF of the World Bank, shared her personal view on how the Korean media covered and responded to COP26. Listen to her essay and find out different perspectives from the Korean media.

* The views expressed in this essay are those of the writer and do not reflect those of the KGGTF.

FEATURE STORY 2

Richard Damania, Chief Economist of the Sustainable Development Practice Group, and Hyoung Gun Wang, Program Manager of Korea Green Growth Trust Fund (KGGTF), had a bilateral meeting with a delegation of three lawmakers from Korea’s National Assembly in Washington DC on November 5th. Richard Damania shared his thoughts on the following agendas:

- The World Bank’s Climate Change Action Plans and COP26 Climate Briefs
- Green New Deal, green innovation policies and the World Bank’s Green, Resilient, and Inclusive Development (GRID) initiatives for post-COVID economic recovery
- The achievements of KGGTF on green ODA projects
- Just transition for workers in energy and motor vehicle industries

The delegation of Korea’s National Assembly, Byung-won Kang, Vice Chairman of Korea New Deal Committee, Dong-ki Shin, and Seung-Kee Hwangbo, visited Washington DC on November 4 and 5, 2021, to have global policy consultations on green new deal, learn US policies and regulations, and build partnerships with key stakeholders for supporting future green new deal policies in Korea.

KGGTF is a global platform to create a synergy of green growth and innovation by developing Korea’s Green and Digital New Deal initiatives into the World Bank’s green digital projects. In line with the Korean New Deal - the Digital New Deal and Green New Deal – announced by the Korean government in July 2020, KGGTF prioritized projects for “Greening the Post-COVID Recovery” when opening Call for Proposals in 2020 and 2021.
KGGTF PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT

I. Agriculture Modernization Project in Uzbekistan - Digital Technology for Soil Testing and Information
TTI: Sergey Zorya, Lead Agriculture Economist, Agriculture and Food Global Practice, ECA

Rural Development Administration of Korea and the World Bank Agriculture and Food team was on a mission with soil experts to Uzbekistan from November 8 to 14, 2021 and shared their knowledge and experience with the Ministry of Agriculture of Uzbekistan on soil information, soil testing, and soil fertility management. In May 2020, the World Bank’s Food and Agriculture Global Engagement Unit and the RDA signed an MOU to strengthen cooperation and promote green growth around the world. Watch how their mission activities were broadcasted in Uzbekistan news media.

The visit of Korean soil experts to Uzbekistan was a part of the technical assistance project financed by KGGTF to promote green growth and better soil management system in Uzbekistan and was facilitated by the MOU. KGGTF initiated the engagement of the World Bank with RDA through a virtual knowledge exchange on Korean experience in soil information system held in July 2020. Explore more about how the Knowledge Exchange seminar evolved into cooperation activities for Agriculture Modernization Project.

II. ICT Platform for Forest Landscape Restoration in Uzbekistan
TTI: Paola Agostin, Lead Natural Resources Management Specialist, Environment & Natural Resources GP

Forest Landscape Restoration co-financed by two Korea funded grant programs, KGGTF and KWPF

Korea-World Bank Partnership Facility (KWPF) approved Window 2 financing for $3 million grants to implement an ICT platform for forest landscape restoration in Uzbekistan. The project is an example of great cooperation of two World Bank trust funds financed by the Korean government, Korea Green Growth Trust Fund (KGGTF) will help with the technical design aspects of the project, and KWPF will support the project implementation in partnership with the Korea Forest Service, as part of the collaboration with the World Bank Environment Global Practice.

NEWS

WBG Korea Office - Korea’s Remarkable Story

WBG Korea Office shared in UpFront Story its astonishing achievement of becoming a Global Center for Innovation and Technology for Sustainable Development. Learning lessons from Korea’s economic growth and poverty reduction, WBG Korea Office matches technical and innovative expertise of Korea and the World Bank with the demand for development from developing countries. Explore more about How WBG Korea Office has grown since its establishment in 2013.

“The Korea Office is not yet ten years old, but we have developed quickly. We focus our technology and innovation work in areas where we have strong Korean partners and strong demand from our client countries.”

— Jason Alford, Special Representative for the World Bank Group Korea, Read an Interview with him, “What’s Cooking In the Korean Office.”

RECENT EVENTS

The World Bank Energy Forum, BEXPO 2021, was held on November 12 (KST) / November 11 (EDT), 2021. Under Senior Energy Specialist, Inchul Hwang’s moderation, the following WB specialists provided their insights on energy transition: Hanul Kitchu on Energy Transition in EAP; Chong Suk Song on Energy Storage program; Juuru Shrestha on Energy Storage and its Potential Pollution Issues; Zaki Khoury on Cybersecurity Risk in Power Sector. The forum was emceed with Korea Office Special Representative Jason Alford’s opening remarks, and Practice Manager of Infrastructure EAP Energy unit Je Kang’s congratulatory remarks.
The WB Energy Forum presented the cases of energy transition in the East Asia and Pacific countries highly dependent on coal power plants, emitting largest amount of GHGs and introduced Korean cases of energy transition technologies. The forum was concluded by the closing remarks of Hyung Gun Wang, Program Manager of KGGTF, the World Bank.

Watch the Forum on Youtube.

The 4th K-Law Forum on Climate Change was hosted by the Korean Society of Climate Change Research (KSCCR) on November 18, 2021. Following up on previous discussions from the bi-weekly meetings of KSCCR on how to cover the COP26, the forum provided useful insights and discussion points.

Listen more about what they discussed on Youtube.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Save the date for the upcoming Global Innovative Growth Forum 2021 (GIGF2021), taking place virtually from December 7-8 at 6:30PM-11PM EST, jointly hosted by the World Bank Group and Korea’s Ministry of Economy and Finance.

GIGF2021 will highlight “New challenges for Innovative Growth in the Post-Pandemic Era”. The forum will be opened by the Republic of Korea’s Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Economy and Finance Nam Kyong-ki and World Bank East Asia and Pacific Vice President Manuela V. Ferro with a line-up of speakers such as Barge Brinda, President of the World Economic Forum and Sung-wook Yoon, Chairperson of the Korean Presidential Committee on the Fourth Industrial Revolution.

KGGTF | WBG KOREA OFFICE GREEN GROWTH INNOVATION TEAM

The Energy and Extractives Team, EEX

EEX team successfully hosted WB Energy Forum at BKPCC: Bilateral International Expo of Electric Power Technology under the theme of Climate Change and Energy Transition in Gwangju, Korea on November 12. The forum was held in a hybrid format with over 200 people attending offline and was streamed over 500 times. The participants were presented with up-to-date technology and policies of energy transition and related projects across the world.

EEX team will continue to work on EAP Energy Transition PASA, getting approval on budget reallocation between Korea Office fund and KGGTF grant.

The Environmental Team, ENB

ENB team is continuing to work on the PASA and developing dialogues with key potential partners including Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy (MOTIE) and its affiliated agencies. The team also joined various outreach activities including the Asia-Korea Conference on Energy in the Asia-Pacific Forum, and Technology. Bilateral International Expo of Electric Power Technology (BKPCC) and Korea International Cooperation Conference on Oceans and Fisheries (KICOF) to present ENB’s operations to promote scientific and technological collaboration and discuss about new modalities of cooperation with Korean government.

The Urban, Resilience, and Land Team, URL

Smart and Green cities PASA - The task team is in the phase of identifying key entry points for TA engagement, based on the client countries’ needs. The team initiated the dialogue with the WB staff and Country Management Units in Indonesia, the Philippines, Cambodia, and Vietnam.

ICT-based Land and Property Valuation PASA – The task team is coordinating with CMUs and property valuation agencies in ASEAN countries for the commercialisation of case studies on property valuation infrastructure. For a pilot project on Indonesia’s mass valuation system, a knowledge-sharing international workshop was held (late October), in which the task team invited the Korea Real Estate Board (REB) to share operational experiences and learning related to mass valuation in Korea.

About KGGTF

The Korea Green Growth Trust Fund is a partnership between the World Bank Group and the Republic of Korea, established in 2011 to support client countries as they shift to green development path. Both partners share a common goal to reduce poverty and promote shared economic prosperity in an environmentally responsible and socially inclusive way.

The Trust Fund finances on-the-ground programs as well as knowledge exchange activities, and to date has approved 185 programs. Based on strong performance, as well as increasing demand for collaborative development implementation programs, the fund now stands at USD138 million.

For more information about KGGTF activities please visit our website www.wbggreen.org

World Bank Group Korea Green Growth Trust Fund