

World Bank Group Korea Office Newsletter

Inside this issue

| | |
|----------------------------|-----|
| Activities Updates | 2-5 |
| Partnership In Focus | 6-7 |

March 2019



About the World Bank Group Korea Office

세계은행그룹 한국사무소

The World Bank Group (WBG) Korea office, established in 2014 in Songdo, is a global operational and knowledge hub for WBG-Korea partnership. Its main objective is to partner with Korean public institutions and private enterprises to support and engage in developing countries, by leveraging Korea's resources, expertise and development experience to the benefit of developing countries. The office currently has about 30 staff, consultants and secondees, from the World Bank, International Finance Corporation (IFC) and Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA). The WBG Korea office is led by the Special Representative Mr. Hoon Sahib Soh (소훈섭 한국사무소장), with the IFC Korea office managed by Mr. Joon Young Park (박준영 대표) and the MIGA office by Mr. Jaehyung Kwon (권재형 대표).

The World Bank program in the office is organized into four thematic areas: i) financial sector development, through the Seoul Center for Financial Sector Development; ii), the Sustainable Development program that promotes development in energy, environment, and land and spatial infrastructure; iii), support for fragile, conflict and violence afflicted states (FCV); and iv), knowledge exchange and management. The IFC Korea office supports outbound investments of Korean firms through direct investments and loans, and the MIGA office supports Korean investments abroad by providing political risk insurance guarantees.



Korea successfully developed from one of the poorer countries in the world to a high income country. It is now a major emerging donor dedicated to helping other developing countries reach their full potential. Korea's recent transition to a high income country and a dynamic innovation and technology intensive economy offers many valuable lessons for developing countries. The WBG has collaborated with Korean partners in diverse areas such as digital government, spatial technology, smart cities and ICT in agriculture, and the WBG Korea office is looking for more opportunities to leverage Korea's innovation and technology capabilities to help developing countries take advantage of disruptive technologies and manage the associated risks.

Learn more about the WBG Korea office www.worldbank.org/korea

WB and KDI School Co-Host Global Delivery Initiative (GDI) Case Study Workshop (March 27, 2019)

The GDI Secretariat, in collaboration with KDI School of Public Policy and Management (KDIS), conducted a workshop to train participants in writing delivery case studies for supporting and improving the quality of development interventions. The workshop consisted of 5 modules; introduction of GDI, key concepts of case study, defining the scope, and methods of tracing implementation and formulating interview questions. KDIS as an active GDI partner has engaged in producing delivery case studies to illustrate how Korea has addressed development challenges through innovative solutions.



Study Visit on Forensic Audit in Digitized Environment for Iraq Federal Board of Supreme Audit (March 25-29, 2019)

The World Bank and the Audit and Inspection Training Institute (AITI) of the Board of Audit and Inspection of Korea (BAI) conducted a study visit on Forensic Audit in Digitized Environment for the Iraq Federal Supreme Audit (FBSA) and Kurdistan Region Government (KRG) Board of Supreme Audit (BSA). The study visit was joined by 19 FBSA and BSA officials, led by the FBSA Deputy Acting President. Mona El-Chami, World Bank Senior Governance Specialist, highlighted that the study visit aims to advance forensic audit capacity at both the institutional and individual levels, leveraging digitized financial management system for fraud control and enhancing collaboration with law enforcement agencies and citizen participation in the audit process.



Annual Business Planning Meeting with the Ministry of Economy and Finance (March 22, 2019)

The WBG Korea office staff and the MOEF Development Finance team, led by Director General Huh Chang and including Director Dong Jun Kim, conducted a meeting in the Korea office in Songdo. The Korea office presented progress so far under phase two (2018-2021) of the Korea office and a draft forward looking strategy for the office, including a proposal to strengthen programs in innovation and technology. Each team, including IFC and MIGA, also provided an update of their respective work programs and presented their annual business plans. Each presentation was followed by comments and feedback from MOEF participants and subsequent open discussions.



IFC and D.CAMP Co-Host D.DAY to Engage Young Entrepreneurs (March 20, 2019)

Through its in-depth engagement in digital economies in other parts of the world, IFC, a member of the World Bank Group, supports Korean start-ups when they seek to move to new markets. At the event co-hosted by IFC and D.CAMP (Banks Foundation for Young Entrepreneurs), Korean start-ups showcased their creativity and competitiveness, and affirmed that digital solutions could address challenges in real time and benefit people in emerging markets. Joon Park, IFC Resident Representative in Korea, said, “D.CAMP has a strong engagement with the Korean startups and IFC can help startups to enter emerging markets.” Nine startups which have competitive technology and creative ideas in education, healthcare, finance, and agriculture presented their business plans for possible funding and advice provided by a panel of experts.



Technical Knowledge Exchange on Solid Waste Management for Cambodian Government Officials (March 10–15, 2019)

The Korea Green Growth Trust Fund (KGGTF) facilitated a technical knowledge exchange on Solid Waste Management for Cambodian government officials and World Bank staff. Over the past 40 years, Korea has developed a robust SWM system - from a starting point of open dumping to one which focuses on waste recovery and extracting value from waste. High-level officials from the Ministry of Economy and Finance, Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Public Works and Transport, and City Officials from Phnom Penh and Siem Reap attended the week-long program involving a deep dive into the best practices from Korea’s SWM experience, including national and municipal SWM policy frameworks, planning, budgeting, investment and institution building.



PEMNA Treasury Community of Practice (T- CoP) Meeting in Seoul (March 6-7, 2019)

Attended by all 14-member countries including the host country, Korea, the subject of the T- CoP meeting was “Digital Transformation in Government Treasuries in East Asia” and the key themes were centered around sharing of country experiences of Digital Transformation and Reforms in East Asia and the challenges faced. Separate sessions and country presentations focused on Treasury Systems and Cash Flow Forecasting, Procurement, and Payments including various aspects of digital transformation related to payment and analysis of country experiences of on-line payments for government services.



Mr. Martin Raiser becomes the World Bank’s New Director for Korea (March 1, 2019)

Mr. Martin Raiser, a German national, became the World Bank's new Country Director for China and Mongolia and Director for Korea, effective March 1. He will be based in Beijing. Mr. Raiser succeeds Mr. Bert Hofman, who will be retiring from the World Bank. Mr. Raiser has had a long and distinguished career at the World Bank and other international development organizations. Prior to this new assignment, he was the World Bank Country Director for Brazil, the largest country and World Bank borrower in Latin America and the Caribbean. Before moving to Brazil in 2012, Mr. Raiser was Country Director for Turkey, one of the World Bank’s largest clients and the largest borrower in Europe and Central Asia.



World Bank Group Senior Vice President Speaks at the Global Engagement & Empowerment Forum on Sustainable Development (GEEF) (February 14, 2019)

Speaking at the “Health: holistic approaches to healthy lives for all” session, Senior VP Mahmoud Mohieldin stressed that universal health care cannot be achieved without the active participation of global institutions. He further explained that because quality health and education programs are unattainable without financial support, the World Bank is currently establishing global partnerships to extend the coverage of universal health care. Co-hosted by Yonsei University, Institute for Global Engagement & Empowerment (IGEE), Ban Ki-moon Centre for Global Citizens, KOICA, and the Seoul Institute, GEEF is a global conference to evaluate the status of the United Nations’ (UN) 2030 Agenda: Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).



KGGTF Provides Just-in-Time Support to Integrated Urban & Regional Development in Uzbekistan (January 30, 2019)

The Korea Green Growth Trust Fund (KGGTF) and the World Bank Uzbekistan office co-hosted a workshop in Tashkent to provide technical inputs and engage with Uzbekistan counterparts for the Medium-Size Cities Integrated Urban Development Project (MSCIUDP). Approximately 100 participants attended including Uzbekistan government officials, international technical experts, representatives from the private sector. Participants engaged in technical discussions around urban and regional development, transport and logistics planning.



WDR Forum Discusses Changing Nature of Work (December 5-7, 2018)

The 2019 edition of the World Bank’s flagship publication World Development Report(WDR) is about the changing nature of work. Co-hosted with the KDI School of Public Policy, the conference discussed changes impacting work across different country contexts studied in the WDR 2019, and presented policies and programs related to skills development, labor mobility, worker protection, and social inclusion to help countries adapt to the changing nature of work.



Seoul Center Facilitates Study Visit on Early Warning System (December 5-7, 2018)

The Seoul Center for Financial Sector Development of the WBG Korea office facilitated a study visit for 20 government delegates from Cambodia. The delegates learned about Korea’s successful development experience to strengthen the Early Warning System (EWS) in the financial sector. They also met with the relevant institutions such as the Korean Institute of Finance, the Korean Center for International Finance, the Financial Supervisor Services and the Bank of Korea.



Workshop Discusses Ways to Expand Korean Geospatial Information Industry into Overseas Market (November 30, 2018)

World Bank team led by Senior Land Administration Specialist Kathrine Kelm of the Korea office presented at the workshop on "Expanding Korean Geospatial Information Industry into Overseas Market" hosted by the National Geographic Information Institute. Around 25 industry representatives attended the event to learn more about international development work and the strategic World Bank and United National Geospatial Information Management (UN-GGIM) Integrated Geospatial Information Framework (IGIF).



Korea Invests to Support Development of Science and Technology Skills Across Sub-Saharan Africa (November 23, 2018)

The International Centre of Insect Physiology and Ecology (ICIPE) in Kenya signed an initial US\$ 3.8 million grant agreement with the World Bank, as part of a larger US\$ 9 million grant by the Government of Korea to support the Regional Scholarship and Innovation Fund (RSIF). RSIF focuses on transformative technologies that have a far-reaching positive impact on society. It is currently funded partly by contributions from the Government of Korea, the World Bank and African governments.



WB Director for Korea Delivers Keynote Speech at 2018 ASEM Conference (November 22, 2018)

Mr. Bert Hoffman, former World Bank Director for Korea, discussed the opportunities and challenges of the 4th Industrial Revolution in his keynote speech. He stressed that while digital technology can accelerate growth and productivity, digitization is lagging in emerging markets and distribution of gains can be unequal and favor the more skilled and well endowed. He stressed that the World Bank is developing a corporate strategy for disruptive technology to support its client countries.



Korea Office Hosts BBL Webinar on Data Platforms for Smart Cities (November 21, 2018)

As the first of a series of BBLs that showcase partnerships between the World Bank and Korean partners, the BBL explored how the Korean Government, together with the private sector, is improving traffic management, energy efficiency and the environment. In particular, the BBL highlighted the use of data platforms that make use of a variety of data into all kinds of applications and services in Korean smart cities. The BBL is also available on the Bank’s Open Learning Campus platform as a bite-sized learning module.



ASEAN+3 HRD Forum: Digital Economy and Shared Future: Innovation, Policy, and Governance in Skills Development (November 13-15, 2018)

The fourth in a series of annual events on skills development in the ASEAN+3 region, the forum brought together global experts, policymakers, and private sector representatives to discuss how the ASEAN+3 countries can work together for effective human resource development in the face of the Fourth Industrial Revolution.



Leaders in Urban Transport Program (LUTP) Seoul 2018 (Oct 28–Nov 3, 2018)

The World Bank, the Korean Transport Institute and the Asian Development Bank jointly organized the 6th LUTP in Seoul. Participants from eight different countries attended the seven-day workshop that offered a holistic view of various components of urban transport and their linkage to land use, energy, climate change, etc. The participants engaged in extensive case studies and group exercises on problem diagnostics, strategic planning, governance and financing. They also conducted site visits to learn from Seoul’s experience in public transport reform, multi-modal integration and intelligent transport systems.



IFC Innovation Day Discusses Jobs of the Future (October 23, 2018)

The third Innovation Day organized by IFC Korea brought together Korean and international thought leaders, entrepreneurs, and venture capitalists in Seoul. They shared insights on creating jobs and healthy entrepreneurship ecosystems in Asia, especially in a rapidly aging population environment. Speaking as a panelist, the WBG Korea office Special Representative Hoon Sahib Soh stressed that with an aging and declining population, countries like Korea need to maximize the use of its high quality labor force, including its female workers.



Forum Discusses New Approaches toward Violent Conflict Prevention (October 22, 2018)

Pathways for Peace: Inclusive Approaches to Preventing Violent Conflict is the first report on conflict prevention prepared jointly by the World Bank and the UN. Its lead author Alexandre Marc (World Bank) and Henk-Jan Brinkman (UN) presented the report’s findings at Yonsei University in Seoul. The forum discussed how to apply and implement the main findings and recommendations of the report in the Asia context and to explore Korea’s role in building stronger and inclusive partnerships for prevention of violent conflict at all levels.



25 Countries Learn from Korea’s Digital Development Experience (October 15-19, 2018)

The World Bank co-organized with Korea’s National Information Society Agency (NIA), a five-day workshop in Korea on digital development. Representatives from the Digital Development Partnership (DDP)’s client countries, the Smart Africa Alliance, and the World Bank’s strategic partners had the opportunity to discuss, exchange, and learn from each other and Korea’s experience in implementing digital government policies and building the foundations of a digital economy. Korea became the first donor of the DDP to host a focused workshop.





Seoul Center for Financial Sector Development

The Seoul Center for Financial Sector Development housed in the World Bank Group Korea Office is placed at the forefront of sharing such expertise and providing operational support to the Bank’s client countries leveraging is partnerships with Korean financial sector related institutions. In close consultation with the Korean Finance Ministry and reviewing current demands from client countries, the Seoul Center develops thematic and regional priorities to design it program.

Naturally, the Seoul Center has a focus on engaging Korean institutional partners to share Korea’s financial development experience when advising relevant issues in World Bank client countries. For example, one way Korea strengthened its financial oversight of the financial system after the crisis was to establish an integrated financial supervisory framework under the Financial Supervisory Service (FSS).

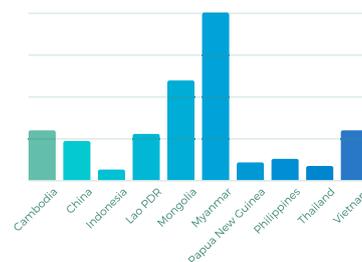
Korea’s development experience has been a source of inspiration for many developing countries. Learning from Korea’s success, its effective policy setting and decision-making offers valuable guidance for policy makers in developing countries. Recognizing the value leveraging Korea’s experience and expertise in development work, the World Bank has partnered with Korea through technical cooperation and knowledge transfer in several areas.

Financial sector is no exception. For many developing countries, Korea’s experiences in managing financial stability and building stronger systems following the 1997 financial crisis provides useful lessons to assess, adapt and design their own policy options.

FSS’s experience and expertise as a supervisor is well recognized across the globe and the Seoul Center signed an MOU with

SEOUL CENTER FOR FINANCIAL SECTOR DEVELOPMENT

STRENGTHENING FINANCIAL SYSTEMS IN EAST ASIA PACIFIC, LEVERAGING KOREAN PARTNERSHIPS



“The experiences of Korea suggest that, amid rapid financial globalization and innovation, developing economies must support financial stability by improving prudential financial regulation and supervision.”

Sameer Goyal, Program Manager of the Seoul Center

them in 2015 to collaborate in knowledge sharing and technical assistance for the Bank’s client countries. Besides FSS, the Center has established partnerships with more than 20 Korean financial agencies such as Bank of Korea (BOK), Financial Services Commission (FSC), Korea Deposit Insurance Corporation (KDIC), Korea Securities Depository (KSD), Korea Financial Intelligence Unit (KOFIU) and Korea Asset Management Corporation (KAMCO) to date. The Seoul Center also creates opportunities to leverage financial experts of Korean partner institutions to enhance World Bank analytical and advisory services to client countries in EAP.

Since 2012, the Seoul Center has supported a total of 17 advisory and analytical programs for the Finance, Competitiveness and Innovation (FCI) GP in the EAP region, representing 10 countries and 4 regional initiatives. Of the 17 projects, 8 are completed and most of the remaining projects are scheduled to be completed by December 2018. Several critical reforms were supported, and many diagnostic and advisory services were delivered through these programs.

Since 2012, the Seoul Center has supported a total of 17 advisory and analytical programs for FCI GP in the EAP region, representing 10 countries and 4 regional initiatives.

Promoting innovation in finance and related regulation is one of Seoul Center’s important goals and that’s why together with the FSS and Asian Development Bank (ADB), the Seoul Center co-organized a financial regulators conference in 2016 on “Fintech - Avoiding the Pitfalls, Reaping the Benefits” in Seoul. The conference brought together 50 participants from APEC country central banks, securities commissions, other financial regulatory agencies and standard-setting bodies as they exchanged ideas and views on fintech’s impact on regulation and how regulators should respond to this innovation.

The Seoul Center’s Korea-based team continued to provide direct technical support to EAP engagements by leading or participating in missions and producing analytical reports. In FY18, the team supported NPL resolution, SME finance and agriculture finance in the Philippines, securities market supervision in Vietnam, capital market development and development bank reform in Mongolia, and assessment of correspondent banking in Samoa. The team also provided technical review for the WBG-AFD Partnership Concept Note, Thailand insurance sector advisory work, and Malaysian Hub report on “Survey on Development Banks”.

For further information about the activities in this newsletter, please contact Mr. Jung Choi, Communications Officer, World Bank Group Korea Office jchoi4@worldbank.org / 032-713-7031

DONOR COMMITMENT
\$26M
as of March 2019
 Korea Trust Fund for Seoul Center

GRANT CUMULATIVE
\$17.6M

AVERAGE GRANT SIZE
\$785k
 PHASE 1 PHASE 2
\$807K \$655K

KEY MILESTONES

- 2011 | SEOUL CENTER PARTNERSHIP MOU
- 2012 | SEOUL CENTER PHASE 1 LAUNCHED
- 2014 | WBG OPENS OFFICE IN KOREA
- 2015 | SEOUL CENTER LOCATES TO KOREA
- 2017 | SEOUL CENTER PHASE 2 LAUNCHED

STRONG PARTNERSHIP NETWORK

30+ Financial Sector Partners
10 Formal MOUs

