



IN FOCUS

A New Phase of the World Bank Group Korea Office

In December 2020, the [World Bank Group \(WBG\) Korea office](#) reached an agreement with the Republic of Korea's Ministry of Economy and Finance (MOEF) on phase three (fiscal years 2022 to 2024) of the office. With financial support from MOEF, the new phase will focus on establishing the office as a global center for innovation and technology for sustainable development. The programs in the WBG Korea office build on two major pillars: crosscutting innovation and technology and green growth innovation.

Disruptive digital innovations are at the core of the first pillar, including in areas such as data governance, digital finance, digital skills, innovation promotion policies, and cybersecurity. A newly established East Asia and Pacific (EAP) Regional Technology and Innovation Lab will be established to support the experimentation and scale-up of innovative technology-enabled solutions in World Bank projects. The second pillar on green growth innovation will build on existing programs by supporting engagements on climate change, marine plastics, green energy transition, and smart, green sustainable cities.

LATEST UPDATES



The International Development Association (IDA)-Korea Workshop – “Innovation and Digital Technology in the Post Pandemic World.”

Hear from World Bank Victoria Kwakwa, Akihiko Nishio and Ministry of Economy and Finance Taesik Yoon on how COVID-19 has highlighted the significant role of digital technology and learn about Korea’s New Deal. (November 2020)

[Learn more](#)



The second annual Global Innovative Growth Forum – “Innovative and Sustainable Growth in the Post COVID-19 Era.”

Hear from speakers such as Vinton G. Cerf and Saeed Amidi on the unprecedented impact of the pandemic on global innovation and the search for new drivers of growth through digital and green innovation. (December 2020)

[Learn more](#)



The WBG Korea office signed Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) with the Korea Institute of Energy Technology Evaluation and Planning (KETEP) and Korea Electric Power Corporation (KEPCO) to expand partnerships in energy innovation such as helping developing countries respond to climate change through decarbonization, decentralization, and digitalization of the energy sector. (November 2020)



The seventh annual Korea Green Innovation Days (KGID) focused on Greening the Post-COVID Recovery. KGID is the annual conference of the Korea Green Growth Trust Fund (KGGTF). The virtual KGID

showcased innovations in green growth and building back better in the post-pandemic recovery. (April 2021) [Learn more](#)



Interview: Innovation and Technology Leaders
Meet Jaeuk Park (CEO of SOCAR) on leveraging smart mobility solutions for sustainable urban development.

[Learn more](#)

EAP Regional Technology and Innovation Lab
The newly established EAP Regional T&I Lab in the WBG Korea office will support WBG teams and clients to explore, share knowledge, and operationalize emerging technologies.

Partner Events Participation

2020 ASEAN+4 HRD Forum(November 2020) [Learn more](#)

Korea Herald Finance Forum (November 2020) [Learn more](#)

KOTRA MDB Project Plaza (November 2020) [Learn more](#)

Korea Blockchain Week (November 2020) [Learn more](#)

8th ASEAN connectivity Forum (January 2021) [Learn more](#)

PUBLICATIONS

WBG Korea Office Innovation and Technology Note Series

Digital Banks: Lessons from Korea [Learn more](#)

The Power of Effective Geospatial Information Management in South Korea: Development and Application [Learn more](#)

Republic of Korea's COVID-19 Preparedness and Response [Learn more](#)

Emerging Technologies Curation Series

Korea Blockchain Ecosystem [Learn more](#)

Other Korea related World Bank Papers

Response to COVID-19: Preparing for School Re-Opening – The Case of South Korea [Learn more](#)

Supporting Early Learners and Their Families during COVID-19: A Reflection on Korea's Response [Learn more](#)

KNOWLEDGE AND LEARNING

WBG Korea Office Innovation and Technology Webinar Series

Series #14: Digitization in Korean Power Sector: Post COVID-19 New Normal (September 2020) [Learn more](#)

Series #15: Open Banking for Inclusive Digital Finance (December, 2020) [Learn more](#)

Other Korea related Webinars

From Remote Work to Smart Work in the Post COVID era: An Illustrative Case for Leapfrogging into Smart Government (February, 2021) [Learn more](#)

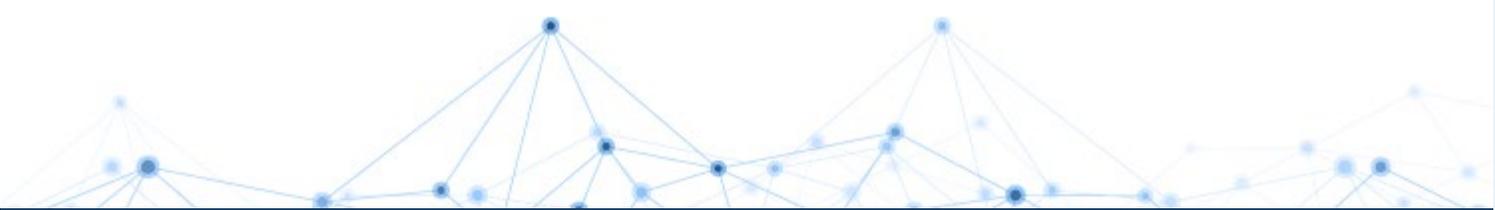
Virtual Knowledge Exchanges

Greentech: Mainstreaming Technologies in Green, Blue and Clean Operations (November-December 2020) [Learn more](#)

Greentech E-Book [Learn more](#)

Innovative Business Models for Expanding Broadband and Closing the Access Gap (December 2020) [Learn more](#)

Entrepreneurial Talent's House of Opportunities and Supports (ETHOS) Program (April-May 2021) [Learn more](#)



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