

January 2021 NEWSLETTER



1. STARTING THE YEAR 2021



The Year of the Ox, an animal valued highly for its role in agricultural history. It serves as a good reminder of the positive value of hard-work – a fitting theme during this time of rebuilding global economies damaged by the pandemic.

Seollal, Korean Lunar Year is a holiday and three-day celebration where families gather together to eat, play games and honor their ancestors.

GRANTS AWARDED FUNDING – 2021

What challenges is KGGTF working to solve this year?

The 21 teams receiving KGGTF grant funding have just completed their onboarding meetings. Energy in Ethiopia, transportation in East Africa, air quality in the Kyrgyz Republic, and climate-smart agriculture, along with drone solutions in East Africa are just a few of the challenges that teams on the ground are engaged with clients to tackle using green growth strategies and solutions supported by KGGTF. [Read the full list of grant summaries.](#)

2. Green Growth Innovation in Africa

Each month, the KGGTF Newsletter will highlight green growth innovation in a region.

REDUCING Global Hunger? Perhaps Novel Protein: Insect flour, bread, noodles and cereals? How could humanity contribute to solving global hunger in the space of a year? Starting this year, KGGTF is funding a new World Bank program exploring how insect farming as a novel-protein source could feed humans and animals. This complete protein takes only a month to mature (compared to many months for crops or animal protein), they can feed on organic waste, and requires a fraction of the water and land to produce compared to traditional field farming.

The KGGTF grant ‘Novel Protein: Insect Farming for Food and Feed for a Circular Green Growth Economy’ is looking to leverage cutting-edge knowledge and technology being designed in Korea. The World Bank is envisioning to collaborate with countries in Africa and the Rural Development Agency (RDA) of Korea, Korean insect farming companies, and Korean universities in this new two-year project to create knowledge on insect farming for food and feed. This will increase food security and support the application of new-disruptive technologies for resilience-building, and insect production and processing in Africa.



“There is an urgent need to increase food security in a climate friendly and green way Globally. I am pleased to work with Korean counterparts including RDA, universities and the private sector, in an effort to increasing the access to novel protein, focused in insect farming for food and feed in Africa. Korean is probably the world’s most advanced country in farming of insects and have developed a full food system approach to this micro-livestock sector, including training, technical assistance, and finance to farmers, value addition along the way, and research and development and regulatory systems, just to mentioned a few areas. More can be read in the joint work and new report we aim to publish in the Spring of 2021.”

Dorte Verner, Lead Agriculture Economist, SAEA3

3. KGGTF K-PARTNERS

Korea's Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (**MAFRA**) is pioneering the concept for how this novel type of protein can be processed into flours for use in breads, cereals, noodles and other recognizable food types.

The Rural Development Administration (RDA), is a **national agricultural R&D institution**, and a key partner of KGGTF. RDA develops technologies that improve agricultural productivity; smart farming, disaster warning service for farmers, soil information systems, plant virus diagnostic systems, edible insect breeding technologies, and more. Additionally, they work on technologies to produce bio, medical, and energy materials from agricultural products. RDA has a globally recognized genetic resources center, National Agrobiodiversity Center, designated as a backup world seed vault.

KGGTF and RDA partnered in July 2020 to share Korea's agricultural innovation experiences to World Bank and clients in Uzbekistan. RDA participated in 'KGGTF Virtual Knowledge Exchange on Soil Testing' and shared Korea's soil management technologies with Uzbekistan. KGGTF and RDA co-authored the Knowledge Exchange Sector Guide Book on Agriculture as well. [Learn about innovations transforming the field of Agriculture.](#)



4. WBG Korea Office Green Growth Innovation (KGGI) Team Environment, Natural Resources, and Blue Economy (ENB)

Jan 13, 2021 Webinar Leveraging Tech for Clean, Green & Blue Environment

Based on a recent GreenTech Virtual Knowledge Exchange organized with Open Learning Campus (OLC) and K-POK the program showcased global and Korean examples related to clean, green, blue, and integrated approaches for a sustainable environment.

Energy & Extractives (EEX)

Energy team discussed co-financing potentials on the Vietnam Last Mile Electrification project with KWPF secretariat and KEXIM EDCF. Korea Energy Agency sent proposal letter for WB-KEA joint knowledge note.

Urban, Disaster Risk Management, Resilience and Land (URL)

Meetings conducted between: Korea Real Estate Board (KREB), Land and Geospatial Informatix Corporation (LX), and Korea Land and Housing Corporation (LH) to identify ICT-based Land and Property Valuation solutions for Smart Cities in ASEAN region. Future collaboration being explored with; KOICA, National Geographic Information Institute (NGII), Seoul Metropolitan Government, Korea Agency for Infrastructure Technology Advancement (KAIA), and Seoul National University.

5. UPCOMING EVENTS

Joint Webinar “Doughnut Economics and post-COVID recovery”, Feb 24 (Wed), 2021: Kate Raworth will present Doughnut Economics, with introduction by Juergen Voegelé (SD VP). Co-hosted by the [Green Growth Knowledge Partnership](#)

Korea Green Innovation Days (KGID) 2021 Korea Spring 2021 (Date to be confirmed)
KGID is the World Bank’s annual flagship green growth knowledge sharing event that promotes Korea’s innovative green growth practices to a global audience. This year, we are taking a regional approach and will host regional KGIDs virtually. The first KGID will focus on Korean audiences and opportunities for KPartnerships. This tailored format will support Korean institutions and companies explore potential cooperation with the World Bank and client countries.

P4G Summit, May 30-31

The 2021 P4G (**Partnering for Green Growth and the Global Goals 2030**) Seoul Summit will explore how country and investment priorities can scale and support market-based solutions to support climate action and sustainable development.

6. KGGTF KNOWLEDGE LIBRARY



[Solutions to Tackle Rural Poverty...](#)

Saemaul Undong was a rural community driven development program launched in the 1970s to address widespread rural poverty. It became a key government policy in helping to close the urban-rural wage gap by increasing the rate of growth in rural income.

From small beginnings...

Find out how South Korea transformed agriculture from small scale farming into a global leader. Policies, technologies and stakeholder engagement are producing climate smart solutions, technology innovations and ideas that are reshaping food production. [Find out more.](#)

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 165 programs. Based on strong performance, as well as increasing demand for collaborative development implementation programs, the fund now stands at US\$138 million.

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

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