

16th Global Greenhouse Gas Conference Kicks Off in Seoul

- Reviewing national greenhouse gas reduction strategies and discussing key takeaways

The Greenhouse Gas Inventory and Research Center of Korea (President Choi Min-ji), under the Ministry of Environment, will hold the 16th International Greenhouse Gas Conference on Friday, August 1, at the EL Tower in Yangjae, Seocho-gu, Seoul.

At this conference, strategies for implementing the Paris Agreement goals will be shared through case presentations from various countries, including Singapore, Japan, the United Kingdom, Germany, and the European Union (EU).

Presenters of international case studies include: René Freitag, Chief Advisor at the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ); Kevin Ong, First Secretary at the Embassy of Singapore in Korea; Mikiko Kainuma, Senior Research Advisor at the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES) in Japan; Jonathan Woodland, Head of Climate, Energy & Enablers, Economic Diplomacy Team at the British Embassy in Korea; and Jonghan Lee, Environment and Climate Policy Officer at the Delegation of the European Union to Korea. On the Korean side, Hyungkwan Ryu, Director of the Climate Change Strategy Division at the Ministry of Environment, will present on behalf of the Korean government.

In the following discussion session, Professor Seungjick Yoo of Sookmyung Women's University will serve as moderator. The panel will include Youngjoon Cho, Executive Director of Sustainable Management Institution at the Korea Chamber of Commerce and Industry; Sangjae Ryu, Co-Representative of the

Korean Youth Climate Change Network BigWave; and Yoon Sowon, Researcher at the Greenhouse Gas Inventory and Research Center. They will review the greenhouse gas reduction levels and implementation strategies of various countries and discuss the implications.

Prior to the main event, a side event will be held in the morning under the theme “Lessons from the First Biennial Transparency Report (BTR),” where government experts from six countries, namely, Rwanda, Zimbabwe, the Philippines, Türkiye, Sri Lanka, and Argentina, will share their experiences and challenges in preparing their BTRs and discuss the technical and institutional support needed for implementing transparency frameworks.

This side event was organized as part of the “2025 International Greenhouse Gas Experts Training,” which has been underway since July 14 at Sejong University, hosted by the Greenhouse Gas Inventory and Research Center and the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) Secretariat.

Choi Min-ji, President of the Greenhouse Gas Inventory and Research Center, stated, “The 2035 Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) is not just about setting a target; it’s about designing policies with real implementability.” She added, “We hope this conference serves as an opportunity for countries to take a more proactive approach to the climate crisis and seek practical solutions.”