





KDI School of Public Policy and Management  
 87 Hoegiro Dongdaemun Gu, Seoul 130-868, Korea  
 Phone (02)3299-1114 / [www.kdischool.ac.kr](http://www.kdischool.ac.kr)



KDI School of Public Policy and Management  
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THE GLOBE





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Sharing Culture through Cuisine

Reported by Adelide Kamanthe (2010 Kenya, MPP/ED)



On November 5, the KDI School held its 11th international food festival, one of the largest annual events that brings together Korean and international students, faculty, staff and guests from different nationalities, to experience and learn about other cultures through food. Indeed what can be a more accessible medium for learning about a culture than experiencing its cuisine? What we consume, how we acquire it, who prepares for it, who's at the table, and who eats first are all subtle forms of communication rich with meanings.

This year's event was unlike any other in terms of participation, ambience and creativity. The number of total participants was a record 225. The mood was electric, characterized by a beautiful array of colors and cultures so vibrant that it was magical. All delicacies imaginable had been laid out in equally tasteful designs. Each team worked not only to outdo the others but also to share a little bit of their culture with the rest of the participants from different parts of the globe.

There were 9 teams participating under creative names such as Yummy Yummy, East African Community, The LOTUS, Honreung Bulmark, Delicious Friendship, Team "Smacznego", G5, Solidarity Team, and DAAWAT.

Dean Sang-Moon Hahm's speech officially marked the start of the activities, where he invited everyone to enjoy the cultures and food on the display. All the teams then took turns in introducing themselves to the participants in their own special ways.

The venue was packed with people moving from one stand to another to enjoy the various delicacies while learning about equally various cultures. Each team had its mind set on attracting as many guests to their stands, as this was after all a competition. Every team competed for not only the grand prize but also for the pride of representing one's country in the best possible fashion.

There were 9 voting boxes, and participants were required to cast their votes after sampling the different food and cultures. Vote was based on which team presented their food and culture the best. Despite fierce competitions, in the end the East African Team managed to garner the most votes to claim a victory. Anthony Gathogo from Kenya (MPP, 2010), the representative of the East African Community, confided that the secret of their success was "team work and a unique and simple culture that appealed to the guests." He also expressed his gratitude for all who had voted for his team.

As the voting results were announced, participants received their prize amid great cheers. When the East African Community finally claimed the grand prize, there was great jubilation and joyous dancing among the participants. The Dean and other faculty members were at hand to provide congratulatory remarks to all the participating teams.

Without doubt, the food festival was a wonderful culmination to a year of hard work and round-the-clock academic schedules. The message of the day was the one we hope to continue carrying with us long after we have left the KDI School: that we are all winners!



# Korea Field Research and Study

Reported by Janet Chin Shuk Henn (2009 MBA, Malaysia)

From August 24th to 27th, 56 students both international and Korean participated in the annual Korea Field Research and Study. The four day and three night travel offered an opportunity to experience the past and present of industrialization and culture of Korea. Visits to powerful business sites, such as Hyundai Motors and Hyundai Heavy Industries in Ulsan, Postel and POSCO History Museum in Pohang, and Korea Aerospace Research Institute in Daejeon, helped students understand the history of industrial development in Korea. On the other hand, sightseeing in Gyeongju, the capital city of Shilla dynasty, enriched their knowledge on the cultural heritage of Korea.

Yen Thi Hai Dam (2010 MPP/ED Vietnam) said the KFRS trip realized one of her lifelong dreams of visiting Korean conglomerates. She especially enjoyed the lecture on Saemaeul Movement, which was a political initiative launched in 1970 by President Park Chung Hee to modernize the rural economy. "I admire what conglomerates have done to the economic development of Korea to make its name on the world scene. Yen added that the trip was a great opportunity to refresh her mind after a hectic summer semester and to bring friends closer. "Wherever we live in the world, good memories of friendship will live inside us forever."

Yen works for The Center of Business and Consulting on Management at Hanoi University of Technology, as a coordinator of Business Incubator Center as well as a team leader of Development Department. Her responsibilities include implementing start-up business projects and executing online training sponsored by World Bank, Microsoft, USAID, etc.

Anthony Gathogo Gathoni (2010 MPP Kenya) believes that developing nations need to take the initiative in finding ways to use the resources that they so abundantly have, which the world so greatly depend on. "Korea is a nation that was not blessed with natural resources," he elaborates. "Yet Korea proved to the world that when you utilize what you do have with skills and knowledge, you can accomplish outstanding development." Like Yen, he also liked the lecture on the Saemaeul movement which he found to be very educational and useful. "I believe the knowledge that I gathered from this trip will help me make viable decisions for the sake of my country, especially on the issues pertinent to the rural development. What I learned on the trip will also contribute to achieving my academic goals."

Anthony works with the Ministry of Finance in Kenya as an economist/statistician. His responsibilities include project preparation, budgeting, monitoring and evaluation, information and data management, as well as policy formulation. He is also a part of the Ministerial Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) committee.

# International Field Research Study

Reported by Janet Chin Shuk Henn (2009 MBA, Malaysia)

Thirteen Korean students, led by Professor HunJoo Park and Mr. Kang Sung-Mook of Academic and Student Affairs, made their way to the United States from August 18th to 26th as a part of the International Field Research and Study Program. This annual affair presents a unique opportunity to experience business and government in action, and to directly interact with corporate or public policy leaders to learn about best examples of international practices. This trip consisted of lectures from renowned business academics and practitioners, tours to the University of California, San Diego, and Stanford University in conjunction with company visits to Hewlett-Packard, Betterplace Inc., Wells Fargo Bank, and Hynix Semiconductor for America, to name just a few.

Lee Byung Sun (2010 MPP) was impressed by new business models and green innovation at Silicon Valley, highlighted by the "Silicon Valley 5.0" lecture given by professor Marguerite Gong Hancock from Stanford University. He also picked up some ideas at the "California Center for Sustainable Energy" in San Diego on how to apply cutting-edge green technologies to the development of sustainable tourism. The center was established for promoting recent developments in renewable energy sources. "I find this trip very rewarding and helpful in prepping me for my further studies at the Graduate School of Urban Planning at Rutgers University, starting from this December."

Lee has worked for Korea Tourism Organization for eighteen years. He was mainly in charge of overseas marketing, specializing in Russian market in particular, due to his three-year work experience at Moscow office. His latest position was deputy director at the audit bureau.

Bang Joong Kwon (2010 MPP)'s favorite lecture was the one given by Miles Kahler at University of California, San Diego. Kahler's interesting views stirred up a hot discussion during the Q&A session. "Kahler argues that even though Asian countries' economic power has been increasing, they are unlikely to challenge the current global governance because the current system has been helpful for Asian development." When asked about an unforgettable moment during the trip, he said it was seeing the vast, productive agricultural fields in California. "Why can't excess produce be properly distributed on the global level to eliminate starvation in some countries?" He inquires. A million dollar question indeed.

Bang is an economist at the Bank of Korea where he works on several papers that support decisions of the Monetary Policy Committee.



# The 12<sup>th</sup> Gimje Horizon Festival



Reported by Janet Chin Shuk Henn (2009 MBA, Malaysia)



At approximately 9am on October 9th, 42 international students from 27 countries made their way to the Gimje Horizon Festival for a two day and one night visit. Located on the western region of Jeollabuk-do Province, Gimje is the birthplace of Korea's rice-farming culture. This annual affair aims to promote Gimje city and traditional Korean activities/games and has been recognized as the best cultural and tourist festival for five consecutive years. The popularity of this event caused some delay in the traffic. Consequently, the students reached Gimje three hours later than schedule and had to miss the much anticipated Korean traditional games and wedding ceremony, as well as the Injeolmi-Duk challenge (making of a 1,233meter-long rice cake). However, they were just in time to fly their kites, an activity that symbolized friendship, love, harmony and hope. It was a perfect day for kite flying. Though some ended up tangled with other kites by the river bank, the lucky ones were brought home as souvenirs. After an interesting dinner which consisted of a variety of mushrooms with beef and seafood, they headed back to the festival to witness beautiful fireworks that marked the end of the first day.

The following day started with an early morning call at 6:30am to join the other participants by the misty seaside for a breakfast of shellfish porridge. After breakfast, everyone piled back on the buses to be transported to the festival destination. A brief stop was also made by the roadside for group photos to be snapped amidst the beautiful scenery. However, as the smell of fresh cow manure wafted towards the enthusiastic cameramen and models, everyone quickly found oneself running back to the buses. Upon arrival, the students were immersed into a rice cake making contest. The contestants were organized by countries, with Uzbekistan, Ghana, Pakistan, and a joint Ethiopia and Tanzania team representing the KDI School. Although the first place was claimed by Nepal, our Uzbekistan and Ghana teams managed to secure the second place, with Pakistan and Ethiopia and Tanzania coming in third. For lunch, the students had a wide variety of international food stalls to choose from, accompanied by pleasant songs performed by a live Peruvian band. To help digest their full stomachs, students dressed in farmers' clothes and participated in a rice-harvest. At approximately 11pm, the tired bodies reached home. Although the schedule was quite demanding, the trip was a memorable experience that undoubtedly increased and enhanced the students' understanding of the Korean tradition and culture.

## Juggling a successful professional career and student life



Reported by Adelide Kamanthe Mutinda (2010 MPP/ED, Kenya)

Han Soo Hyok (MAM, 2009 Korea) is a Masters of Asset Management (MAM) student at the KDI School. While being a student is a full-time task for some, he is engaged in another full-time job as a director at the Yonhap Infomax Ltd, which is a subsidiary of the Yonhap News Agency. Before moving to his current position, Soo Hyok had been working for Yonhap News Agency since 1987 until 2000 when he moved to a newly spun-off company, Yonhap Infomax Ltd. Between the two equally demanding occupations, he balances himself by dividing his time into two parts: weekdays are devoted to work and weekends exclusively to studies. You can usually catch a sight of him in the library on weekends, even in late evenings. His hard work seems to have paid off, since Soo Hyok made the Dean's List for summer semester 2010.

Yonhap Infomax, a subsidiary of Yonhap News Agency that launched in 2000, is the specialized arm for financial news, data and analysis. They donated state of the art Infomax equipment to the KDI School in 2009, as well as to Seoul National University and other institutions in the country. The donation was admittedly a marketing strategy to familiarize potential consumers with the technology, but it also helped the faculty and students gain easier access to raw financial data, which is particularly useful for research and event study.

Many would wonder why Soo Hyok would decide to return to a student life with years of experience and a successful career under his belt. In response to the question, he recalls the Asian financial crisis in 1997 and global financial crises in 2008-2009. He was shocked and disappointed that all the media, observers and financial experts had seemed to have been caught unaware. They not only failed to predict and prevent those crises but also to mitigate the aftereffects. It made him realize the need to learn about the practical side of the financial market. He felt his knowledge on the financial market was insufficient to cope with the challenges of a rapidly developing global financial system. The financial technology and jargon that had evolved with the advent of financial innovation and globalization such as CDOS (Collateralized Debt Obligation) and CLN (Credit Linked Notes) convinced him that he needed to improve his knowledge on the practicalities of the financial market in order to provide better services for his clients.

One might ask what made him choose the KDI School once he decided to pursue further education. "I have many friends working in the financial sector and they strongly recommended KDI School to me," Soo Hyok explains. In particular one of his close friends who is currently working for a financial management company spoke highly of the strength of KDI School's academic programs and the faculty with whom he still maintains good relations. He actually wrote his recommendation letter to the KDI School.

Soo Hyok's advice for the KDI School students is to work closely with other students in order to attain a successful student life. He stresses that he has learned a lot from his fellow students and feels indebted to them. He also adds that it is important not to miss any classes and try to participate in every class and appreciate the professors for their work.

Soo Hyok is also an avid runner and usually runs 10km on Saturday mornings.



# Story of Zaytun Troop told by Iraqi students

# “We are friends”



Reported by Janet Chin Shuk Henn (2009 MBA, Malaysia)



JALAL, Bashdar Hamza(2010 MPP/PM, Iraq)

“We are Friends” or Ema Dosti Ewaeen in Kurdish language was the motto of the Zaytun Division Korean Military in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq. Simple as it may be, the phrase means so much to the Kurdish people.

The Zaytun Division was a contingent of Republic of Korea Army troops operating in Northern Iraq from September 2004 to December 2008, carrying out peacekeeping and reconstruction tasks. They built and outfitted the facilities with modern equipment, engaged in training government employees, supplied local citizens with medical treatment, provided education to young people so that they can find employment, and assisted the Ministry of Interior and security forces in Kurdistan.

“No Friends but the Mountains.” This is a common saying among the Kurds. It relates to the tragic history of Kurdish people who have been betrayed or ignored by great powers despite their promises. Yet since 2003 when the Hussein regime was overthrown, the Kurdish people have been able to create many substantive and long-lasting partnerships, especially with Koreans.

Most of the countries who helped the Kurdish people in the past focused on projects in Kurdistan cities, and very rarely in rural areas. The Koreans did the opposite. The Division conducted the “Green Angel” operation to visit different little villages on a weekly basis to assist in providing medical treatment and developing infrastructure, such as building a secondary road that connects with a main road. Villagers participated in rebuilding their villages and were introduced to the Saemaul Undong movement. Some of them were invited to Korea in order to better understand the movement and to witness its evolution still effective to the present day. If you visit the villages in the Kurdistan Region you are likely to see at least a road, a primary school, a health clinic, or water supply facilities built by the Korean troops.

The Vocational Training Center set up by the Zaytun Division equipped young people with various skills necessary to find a job. The program helped them to become mechanics, home appliances electricians, and so on.

Later the Zaytun Division expanded their activities to include building primary schools, providing clean water, and establishing health clinics. The Zaytun Library, the biggest Library in Erbil, is also one of the legacies left behind by the Korean troops, which will be used and remembered for many generations to come.

The daily actions of the Division proved that Koreans are faithful friends of the Kurdish people. H.E. Kurdistan Region President Masoud Barzani said that Zaytun troops are true friends of the Kurdish people.

This story was shared by Tawfiq Rahman Hamad and Bashdar Hamza Jalal, who served the Zaytun Division at some point in their lives. Both are currently MPP students at the KDI School.

Tawfiq worked for about a year and a half at the Zaytun Hospital and said he was proud to have been a part of it. Thousands of Kurdistan citizens visited the hospital for medical treatment. The medical expertise of Korean physicians is well known by all the people in Kurdistan.

“When I was working at the Zaytun Hospital at the Korean Military Compound in the Kurdistan Region, I felt that there must be a secret behind their admirable work ethics, which motivated me to travel from the Kurdistan to Korea—to discover the secret of success these great people have, from whom we should take lessons.”

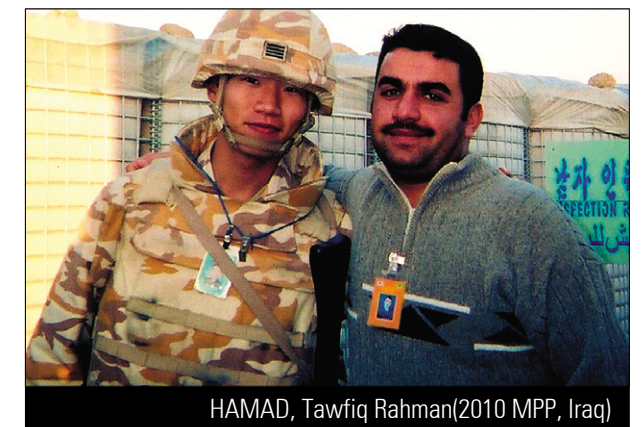
He added that the difference between the work of Korea’s Zaytun Division and that of other countries was obvious. No other countries engaged themselves so fully and directly in helping his people on the ground. The skills learned from the Zaytun Troop will last for the entire lives of Kurdish people and continue to transform their future.

Tawfiq, a KOICA scholarship recipient, works for the Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG) Department of Foreign Relations and is currently in his final semester at the KDI School. His reasons for choosing to study at the KDI School were mainly due to the nature of his current job. “Our task is to understand how public policy works and how to play an important role in international relations. Being in an environment with students from all across the globe helps me learn to deal with different stakeholders with different positions and interests.”

Meanwhile, Bashdar worked as an interpreter for the Zaytun division from Sep. 2005 to Dec. 2008. He said he will not forget the endless challenges the Korean troops faced in establishing their base. Terrorist threats and missile attacks were part of a daily life and he expressed his gratitude towards the brave soldiers who left their family behind to protect, build, and reconstruct a foreign country.

He revealed that it was through the help of his old friend, Major Park from the Zaytun division, that he managed to get admission into the KDI School. In order to meet the deadline of the admission process, Major Park personally delivered Bashdar’s application documents to the school and thereby realized Bashdar’s dream of studying abroad.

Bashdar said that the Korean people’s kindness was evident from the moment he arrived Korea this fall. He is constantly being offered assistance by Koreans, people unknown to him. “I am truly grateful to the Korean people for their work through the Zaytun Division, and their kindness towards me during my stay in this country. This experience will remain forever in my memory.”



HAMAD, Tawfiq Rahman(2010 MPP, Iraq)





# 2010 Global Government Officials Seminar on International Policy

Reported by Mikyung Byun (2010 MPP/ED, Korea)

The seminar for global government officials was held by the KDI School of Public Policy and Management (KDI School) and the Central Officials Training Institute (COTI). It was aimed at about 180 participants who work for domestic and international public sectors, including Korean government officials in the fields of financial administration and economy, as well as international policy workers currently studying at the KDI School. The seminar was designed to enhance understanding of the changes in global policy and to build networks between Korean and international participants. The seminar dealt with critical issues in Korea and around the globe.

The Korean governmental officials said it was somewhat challenging to listen to lectures and participate in discussions in English, but it became more comfortable as time went by. They emphasized that the session on conflict resolution and negotiation simulation was particularly helpful because they had to more actively interact with their foreign partners as a team and with international students from other groups to play their role. They also enjoyed the outside activity as it increased camaraderie with foreign students. They suggested the option of engaging in such an activity at the beginning of the seminar as to encourage natural relationship-building between Koreans and foreigners in a casual and fun setting.



The international students said that the seminar gave them a better understanding of the Korean culture and a meaningful opportunity to network with Korean government officials with whom they might potentially work in the future. Mr. Jung-hyuk Son, one of the Korean government officials, said that it was a fruitful experience as the insightful lectures enhanced their interest in current international issues. He explained that the seminar in general helped to develop broader and more diversified points of views. He also believes that the time spent was a valuable experience, for it helped him prepare for future international conferences and served as a stepping stone for effective exchanges and cooperation with other countries. According to Jihyun Kim, another Korean government official, although they learn about many countries, it is hard to fully comprehend their situations unless they pay special attention to them. However, this seminar allowed Korean government officials to directly converse with public workers in developing countries, raising greater interest in those nations along with a more grounded understanding. Moreover, this seminar made them think about Korean public policy in more depth; by more accurately comprehending how the Korean economic policies are manifested in reality, they were given the chance to consider what directions should be taken for the better future.



# Theorist and Practitioner of NGOs, Professor Victor Hsu



Reported by Mikyung Byun (2010 MPP/ED, Korea)

Dr. Victor Hsu is a visiting professor in the Master of Public Policy in Economic Development (MPP/ED) program of the KDI School. His fall semester lectures cover topics such as development assistance and the role of Non Governmental Organizations (NGOs). Dr. Hsu hails from Taiwan and served as National Director for World Vision DPRK (The Democratic People's Republic of Korea), having led relief works on North Korea, South East Asia, Africa, Iraq, and so forth. He has been engaging in the provision of humanitarian aid in the DPRK since the middle of the 1990s and working at World Vision as a mediator among the UN, American government, and Congress on many issues that developing countries face. He is

one of the few that can teach courses pertaining to the structuring, planning, implementing, monitoring, and evaluating development aid drawing from his own experiences. Dr. Hsu is a theorist who emphasizes self-help, a new approach in development cooperation. He stresses identifying the root of poverty and promoting ways to overcome it by building self-help within the local people in developing countries. His teaching is expected to help set the groundwork for establishing a systematized curriculum for NGOs as well as for ensuring their internal stability, providing a greater understanding to those interested in international NGOs.

When I went to his office to interview him, he welcomed me even in the midst of his busy schedule. He said that it has been stimulating for him to teach at the KDI School because he has to build the framework for the course and determine his students' English levels and their understanding of the material. He seems to be enjoying the teaching process, although he is still adapting to his new life in Korea and struggling with some inconveniences. I asked him what guidelines students should follow if they want to work for international organizations. He emphasized the importance of improving one's English speaking ability, which will be necessary for clear articulation of opinions and effective facilitation of various tasks. He also emphasized that the students must thoroughly research the culture, practice, priorities, and experiences of the organization to which they are applying. For example, students should not expect to be provided with a high income at an NGO. In order to minimize disappointment, it is very important to make sure they are a good fit for the organization they are interested in. Finally, individuals who would like to work for international organizations should learn to broaden their overall perspectives. Dr.

Hsu provided several suggestions to achieve this. Firstly, they may choose to travel around the world in order to gain a better understanding of the diverse perspectives of people in different countries. Secondly, he recommended that students attend international conferences, especially the ones held in the south of the globe. One's thoughts and views can be further expanded thereby. Lastly, he advised students to take on volunteer work in developing nations. It will certainly provide students with connections, and these connections may secure opportunities to work for international organizations. In fact, it is very hard to find a chance to be involved in international organizations

unless you are working as a government official.

He also did not forget to advise the Korean government to regularly post notices on the website of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MOFAT) regarding NGO meetings that are open to the general public. In regards to the development of Korean NGOs, he especially emphasized that they must take on a more active attitude. Attending various NGO meetings held world-wide and building networks is crucial, but Korean NGOs have not been participating in such international events as much. They also have to study English in order to communicate well internationally; otherwise, getting information and claiming needs will be very limited. Most of all, Korean NGOs need to have a set agenda and learn how to manage the NGO as an organization. The concept of the NGO is quite new to Koreans, so they are not very well trained to run their organization as effectively. Therefore, it is important that they are educated in the area, actively attend NGO meetings, and draw applicable lessons from other successfully operating NGOs with a longer history.

Since Korea became a member of the Development Assistance Committee (DAC) in 2009, the role of NGOs is becoming more important. The Korean government and agencies are also looking to cooperate with them more closely as well. It can thus be said that it is high time for KDI school students to learn about NGO, a relatively new and often elusive concept, from a renowned practitioner. Dr. Hsu's teaching will help students not only understand

NGOs in a global context but also get equipped with a right attitude and perspectives to work for international organizations in the future.



With child from Anju Kindergarten, South Pyongan Province, July 2006



With tent and SUV : Flood Relief, Warehouse of Ministry of Public Health, WVI SUV, September 2007



With water drilling rig : Chilbongri, Yontan County, North Hwanghae Province, September 2009



## KDI School signs MOU with Korea University Anam Hospital

Reported by Mutinda Adelide Kamanthe (2010 MPP/ED)

The KDI School signed an MOU with the Korea University Anam Hospital. Dean Sang-Moon Hahm of the KDI School and President Chang-Duck Kim of the Korea University Anam Hospital signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) concerning the provision of medical services to the international student body of the KDI School.

The Anam hospital is now a designated medical institution for the KDI school. Through this MOU, the school aims to facilitate professional medical service and counseling as well as health care services to its international students. All services will be conducted in English for the convenience of the international students. Dana Aleskic (MPP/ED 2010) from Serbia was among the first students to utilize this opportunity. Although she went in for a simple vaccination, Dana commended the staff for their efficiency and cooperation. She also added that the location is convenient and easy to find, and the doctor spoke in English. She recommends the Korea University Anam Hospital to the international students because of the "hassle-free and fast service in a pleasant atmosphere."



## KDI School hosts Special Lecture

Reported by Mutinda Adelide Kamanthe (2010 MPP/ED)



The KDI School hosted a special lecture by Grant Aldonas on September 15th, titled "The Role of the International Financial Institutions during the ongoing global financial crisis; the pros and cons over proposal to reform International Financial Institutions." Grant Aldonas is Principal Managing Director at Split Rock International, a Washington D.C based trade and investment consulting firm he founded in 2006. Prior to launching the Split Rock, Mr. Aldonas had a distinguished career in law and business, and was former US undersecretary of Commerce for International Trade, and a diplomat. He delivered an intriguing presentation in which he called for an architectural reform of the global finance in light of financial crisis. Some of the guiding principles he proposed included the need to absorb the lessons learned from previous crises, the urgency to rethink institutional incentives in financial architecture, the need to reinforce capital adequacy standards, the importance of transparency to discipline excessive leverage and moral hazard, and the significance of a gradual exit strategy. He also mentioned Korea's unique opportunity as G20 chair whose effective leadership could spur much needed global reforms as well as progress toward deeper economic integration in Asia and the Pacific.

# The KDI School holds the 2010 Open House

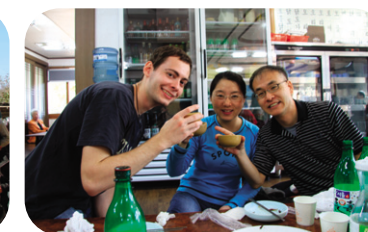
Reported by Mutinda Adelide Kamanthe (2010 MPP/ED, Kenya)

On October 9th, the KDI School held its annual open house at Lincoln Hall. The annual event that aims to introduce the KDI School to prospective students was a lively and packed affair. There were over 170 participants overall consisting of 136 prospective students, 19 professors, staff, and current students.

Associate Dean Hun Joo Park started off by introducing all the faculty members who were present at the Open House. After that, he provided an information-packed presentation which touched on several aspects of the KDI School including its academic programs, student life, and extracurricular activities. The next hour was spent on a lively Q & A session between the prospective students and the faculty members. Afterwards, the faculty members and current students hung around to provide more information to the prospective students who were still eager to learn more about the KDI School. One of the prospective students complimented on the support and dedication of the staff, faculty, and current students, and she added that it was a sign of commitment she greatly admired.



## Mt. Hiking







## How many hats can this girl possibly wear?

Reported by Janet Chin Shuk Henn (2009 MBA, Malaysia)

Adelide Kamanthe Mutinda (2010, MPP/ED Kenya) or “Adi,” as she is more commonly known, is a veteran when it comes to life as a foreign student in Korea. She first set foot on Korean soil in year 2006 upon receiving a full scholarship from Ewha Womans University to pursue a bachelor’s degree in international studies. What would usually take four years to complete only took Adi three. The following three months, she worked as an intern in the C40 division of the Seoul Metropolitan Government, after which she returned to Kenya to work as a guest relations officer at Safari Park Hotel which is operated by the Paradise Group, a private Korean owned company. She found herself back in Korea again six months later, on a Global Ambassador Fellowship from the KDI School. For the past two semesters, Adi has done extremely well for herself; she has been working as a reporter for the KDI School Globe newsletter as an administrative assistant in the External Relations and Development Division of the School. On top of that, she has been on the dean’s list of distinction. Recently, she was also placed runner up in the economic essay contest by The Korea Times with her article titled “Seoul Should Represent Both G20 and Non-G20 Countries.”

As of August this year, she has donned another hat as a part of radio show panel in a segment called “Africa Now” on Transport Broadcasting Station (TBS). Acting as a radio ambassador for Africa, this segment gives a voice to Africans as Adi discusses topics related to current affairs in Africa, some of which include Naomi Campbell and the blood diamonds, workers on strike in South Africa, and Africa’s growth prospect in the new century. Adi said she not only enjoys what she is doing, her understanding of the African continent has dramatically increased.

When asked how she can manage all these responsibilities and still maintain excellent academic results, she said “It’s a matter of finding the right balance. Sometimes I feel like I’m taking on too much, but since I’m still young, I want to achieve as much as I can.”



## Faculty News

## Updates



**Professor Wook Sohn** was awarded the 4th KAFA Best Bank Management/Investment Bank Research Award at the 2010 New York Financial Management Association Meetings. He also gave conference presentations on two of his papers respectively, about monetary policy and stock market.



**Professor Shragge Abraham** has published a book that he had been working on during the past ten years. It is a memoir of a Jewish soldier--a US Army combat medic--captured by Germans during the World War II. He found Mr. Brenner's story remarkable in a number of respects. First, trained only to render first aid to wounded soldiers, he was put in charge of a surgery at the infirmary in his prison camp. Second, he was drafted into a German underground movement to end the war. Third, he managed to keep his Jewish identity from his captors, which was certainly a key factor in his survival. And last, he fought against severe Post-traumatic Stress (from which he still suffers) to lead a long and productive life.



Professor Abraham is hoping to have another book published next year.



**Professor Victor Hsu** delivered a paper in November on "NGO Perspective on Development Assistance Impact Evaluation" at a conference sponsored by the KDI School at the Shilla Hotel. He also gave a special lecture to the Korea Sharing Movement, a South Korean NGO. The lecture was titled as “Lessons learned in delivering humanitarian assistance to North Korea”

On Dec 2-3, he participated in an international conference on North Korea in London, sponsored by Chatham House and the School of Advanced International Studies of John Hopkins University.

## School News

## Students and Staff won NIIED prizes

December comes with many happy occasions every year, but a special celebration is called for at KDI School this year: a KDI School student and one of our staff members won prizes from National Institute for International Education Development (NIIED).



**Tadachi Shiho** (2010 MPP, Japan) won the second place award in the NIIED essay contest for her engaging article describing the experience of studying in Korea.



**Jasoon Lee** (Head of Student Affairs Division) was awarded appreciation plaque for her exemplary cooperation with NIIED and her continued dedication to the NIIED students at KDI School.

The award ceremony is going to be held at El tower in Seoul on December 21, together with an end-of-the-year party. This event will encourage both the foreign students on the Korean Government Scholarship (KGSP) and the schools they are attending.

Affiliated with the Ministry of Education, Science, and Technology, NIIED is a government organization that aims to develop and foster human resources in the age of globalization.



## KOREAN PASSION IN TANZANIA

# KOICA's 55<sup>th</sup> educational volunteer Jung Keun Kim (2002 MBA, Korea)



Reported by Dong Hee Kim (2009 MBA, Korea)

October 2009. Seoul, Korea



"I'm going to go to Tanzania as a volunteer lecturer of Mosh University. It will be an amazing opportunity for me." Alumnus Jung Keun Kim said to me with a great smile on his face. "Congratulations, sir. It'll be a great experience for you. I envy you." I didn't have much time to talk with him, my chamber-mate, about the new adventure he was soon embarking on. However, I could certainly feel his excitement and happiness. Jung Keun Kim had previously served as branch director of the Korea Exchange Bank, and also as lecturer of Junju University. When he was a student at the KDI School, he could often be seen conversing with students in the chamber. As we parted ways, he said "Take good care, and see you after I finish my mission with KOICA." Mr. Kim was about to embark on a new chapter of his life, an adventurous one even for a young professional. His enthusiasm for embracing the road less taken at a later stage in life is certainly commendable, which will inspire many to follow.

## KOREAN PASSION IN TANZANIA



August 2010. from Tanzania

Jung Keun Kim sent an e-mail from Tanzania!

His second hometown is located near Kilimanjaro Mountain and he has a view of the mountain through his hotel window.

Life in Tanzania is slower and less efficient. In order to send an e-mail, he had to wait for half the day. Fortunately, after a training period, he was given an office which allowed him a little more convenient life.

The lectures at Mosh University are mainly taught by young MBA graduates. The university has approximately 2,000 students and the major fields of research are regional development and business/finance.

Although the facilities are still lacking, the students have a lot of passion for learning. Many faculty members are also interested in acquiring lessons from Korea's economic development experience and want to study at the KDI School to gain various know-hows. In fact, many faculty members request scholarships from KOICA and the KDI School.

According to his email on the first week of August, Mr. Kim will be giving a lecture about Korea's economic development in November. He is expected to present his experiences from the Korea Exchange Bank and the Economic Planning Board of Korea.

His vigorous and positive spirit seems to emanate even from his pictures.





## KDI School! Spring board for the High Season

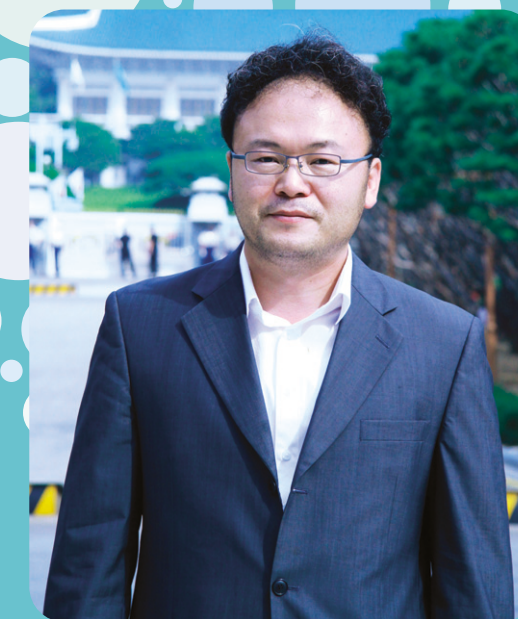
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## nterview



with **Byung Ok Park** (1999 MPP/2001 Ph.D. Korea),  
incumbent Blue House Secretary of  
Ordinary Person Policy,  
and former President of the Citizens  
Coalition of Economic Justice.

“A precious time to gain  
a broader perspective :  
The KDI School of Public Policy  
and Management, MPP”



Reported by Dong Hee Kim (2009 MBA, Korea)

"A precious time to gain a broader perspective: The KDI School of Public Policy and Management, MPP"

Mr. Park is quick to reveal that the KDI School is special to him indeed. When he entered the KDI School in 1999, 10 years of his career in the Citizens Coalition of Economic Justice, "a nationwide citizens' movement based in Korea, working for economic justice, environmental protection and democratic development<sup>1</sup>," had just been completed. Nevertheless, due to continuously struggling finance of civic groups he was unable to continue life as a civic activist. In such circumstances, attending the KDI School gave him the chance to reflect upon his past and achieve new perspectives for the future. Continuing on to the Ph.D. program at the KDI School, he acquired the mind to deal with the civic movement in relation to public policy, gained broader and objective perspectives in his specialty, and improved upon his English skills.

The time spent at the KDI School provided the opportunities to

see Korean society and the civic movement in a bigger and updated global framework. He was able to see the future direction of Korean civic movement by studying and reassessing the past civic movements in Korea and the world. Based on the knowledge and experience gained from the KDI School, and as the former president of the Citizens Coalition of Economic Justice, he was able to conceptualize more substantial plans in relation to the civic movement for overcoming worldwide poverty and tackling other relevant concerns within a collaborative framework.

Last July of 2010, he was appointed as Blue House Secretary of Ordinary Person Policy and has been working in civic policy since. Using his extensive experiences from civic groups he had worked for, and building on the knowledge garnered from the KDI School, he will devote himself to creating an ideal society for all citizens.

<sup>1</sup> "The Citizens' Coalition for Economic Justice," last modified October 26, 2010, <http://www.ccej.or.kr>.





## On writing an outstanding thesis

Interview with the 2009 outstanding thesis award recipient  
**Setiyo Wibowo** (2008 MBA, Indonesia)

Reported by Dong Hee Kim (2009 MBA, Korea)

Continuing the series of outstanding theses, the Globe interviewed Mr. Setiyo Wibowo this fall semester, who received the outstanding thesis award in 2009, to ask for words of advice on writing theses.

In retrospect to the time when he was writing his thesis, Mr. Wibowo emphasized the influence of worldwide historic events: global financial crisis and Indonesia's unavoidable sufferings thereafter. It made him focus on the issues pertinent to the contemporary situation. Furthermore, as a private banker of Indonesia, he wanted to share his knowledge from the field and his learning from KDI School. He said, "I started to write my thesis in December 2008. The global economy was in crisis at the time, which had a direct impact on capital market around the globe. Many investors were in shock. The whole situation inspired me to research on timing skills of fund managers during a certain period of time that encompasses upturn and downturn markets. Indonesia was one of the emerging markets in Asia that suffered the most from the global crisis, so I focused my research on Indonesia's capital market."

Motivated by the current state of affairs, he decided on his thesis title to be "Market timing ability of domestic equity funds in Indonesia". He examined 28 sample performances of Indonesian public equity funds that range from July 2000 to September 2008, and found out that the domestic equity funds have positive market timing ability. He proceeded to examine the market timing performances based on funds characteristics and performance persistence under different market conditions.

"The main objectives of my thesis were basically to observe the market timing ability in emerging markets such as Indonesia. I also wanted to assess fund managers' skills for their timing ability," He explained. He employed a couple of classic market timing tests developed by Treynor and Mazuy (1996) and Henriksson and Merton (1981), which proved to be efficient in answering the questions he set out with.



Like other outstanding thesis writers, he also emphasized that what you are most interested in is what you can write best. "I think the most important thing is writing on a topic that really interests you," he said, "so that you are really willing to spend your time and energy to observe, study, and write about it."

At the end of the interview, he mentioned big and small unforgettable events in the school. He said that every moment at KDI School was special, and he misses the student life here.

"I want to be an outstanding professional consumer banker, to be recognized not only domestically but also regionally, at least in Southeast Asia"

Let us look forward to witnessing his promising aspirations unfold.

### Checklist for your thesis submission



To help you with the final submission of your Thesis, we have included a checklist. Before submitting to the Office of Academic & Student Affairs for graduation, please take a moment to make sure you have included these sections (1-12), and that you have followed the proper format (13-17):

1. Cover Title Page
2. Title Signature Page
3. Abstract
4. Copyright Page (optional)
5. Dedication (optional)
6. Acknowledgements (optional)
7. Table of Contents
8. List of Tables (as appropriate)
9. List of Figures (as appropriate)
10. Text
11. Appendix or Appendices (as appropriate)
12. Biography
13. Letter quality 12 point font
14. Double-spaced text
15. Margins: 1" left, 1" right, top and bottom
16. Page numbers: all within required margins (lower case Roman Numerals for introductory pages, Arabic numerals for text). All pages are numbered except for the 2 title pages (and optional copyright page).
17. Minimum 30 pages (Recommended)



# Alumni News Updates

Reported by Byun Mi Kyung (2010 MPP/ED, Korea)



BO, Wen (1999 IR, China) is admitted at 2011 Spring program of Global Leadership and Public Policy for the 21st Century by Harvard Kennedy School Executive Education.



BROADEN, John (2002 MBA, Canada) launched [www.ClipEnglish.co.kr](http://www.ClipEnglish.co.kr) and is co-founder with another Korean partner.



DVORAKOVA, Veronika (2003 MBA, Czech Republic) and VACULOVIC, Radim (2003 MPP, Czech Republic) have welcomed a new member into their family, named Matej Vaculovic (Mathew), who was born on June 10, 2010.



CHO, Young Eun (2003 MBA, Korea) is currently in the UK, working for Samsung Electronics Research Institute (Part of Samsung Electronics UK) as market intelligence analyst, within the Technology Strategy & Partnership Group, mobile business.



LEE, Eun-Sun (2004 MBA, Korea) currently works at Carnegie Mellon University as a faculty member of the Master's Program in e-Business under the School of Computer Science.



YONG, Chamroeun (2004 MPP, Cambodia) will get married on November 25th, 2010.



JO, Won-Gab (2006 MFDI, Korea) currently serves as First Secretary of the Embassy of the Republic of Korea in Malaysia.



KIM, Joong-Min (2006 MBA, Korea) was promoted to a manager of financial strategic team at the financial management department in Korea Housing Finance Corporation and is in charge of setting up hedging strategy and trading derivatives such as futures and swaps.



KIM, Wang kyung (2006 MBA, Korea) was assigned Standing Advisor to Doosan Capital Co., effective April 19th, 2010. He has also served the company as President and CEO since December 20th, 2006.



MOEUNG, Leakhina (2006 MPP, Cambodia) works for Kookmin Bank Cambodia, as manager in charge of Strategy and HR. Her family was officially invited to make a visit to Korea from October 3rd to 8th, 2010 to join the Home Coming Event at ROK-Army College in Daejeon. There were 10 representative families from 10 countries (France, Canada, Cambodia, Indonesia, Philippine, Turkey, Venezuela, Mongolia, Germany, and Thailand).



SEO, Jong-Kun (2006 MAM, Korea) moved to the newly established Korea Finance Corporation as of October 2010, where he works as team manager.



ULLAH, Shakir (2006 MBA, Pakistan) recently got a job as a lecturer at the University of Southampton, UK. He has been working with Euromonitor International, London, on a range of market research projects including a recent one on "Luxury Market Trends in 2020" for Jaguar, a UK based luxury car maker. He has also done projects for Microsoft, Walt Disney, MasterCard, Honda and many more while working with Euromonitor International, Singapore. He has published four research papers with Professor Kun-ho Lee of the KDI School, the latest one due to appear in the International Journal of Islamic and Middle Eastern Finance early next year, and another one also in the queue.



DU, Hana (2008 MBA, Korea) opened up a social commerce company called "Ticket Talk." Visit <http://www.tickettalk.co.kr> if you are interested in her company.



LEE, Jeong Soo (2008 NAM, Korea) works for the wrap management department in Shinhan Investment Corporation. In October 2009, he published a book titled "Is your portfolio okay? WRAP ACCOUNT".



WIBOWO, Setiyo (2008 MBA, Indonesia) works as Vice President and Head of Individual and Investment Products at Bank Mandiri, the largest bank in Indonesia.



## Growing Alumni Network

# Our alumni network is growing

Mr. Chen Ping (1998 MPP, China)'s visit to Seoul brought the school's very first alumni members in September 2010. In October of 2010, the class of 2004 members gathered at three different venues at three different times. The separate gatherings were the result of alumni's vastly different work places and exceedingly busy schedule. On October 14, thirteen members attended Gwanghwamun-region gathering, including Kap-soo Kim, who has just come back from London office of Korea National Tourism Organization. Also present were Associate Dean Hun Joo Park and two KDI staff members from External Relations and Development Division. At Kangnam/Gyeonggi-region gathering, Jang Hoon Lee, Hong Kook Kim, Byung Woon Suh, and Hyuna Park shared their memories and dynamic energy on October 20. Lastly on October 28, ten alumni gathered in Yeoido with Associate Dean Hun Joo Park. Dr. Park suggested that regional alumni often have causal meetings over lunch.

The MAM (Master's in Asset Management) alumni sat down with a group of current students for dinner at Yeoido on November 19. Approximately 60 members were present, consisting of MAM alumni from the class of 2006, 2007, and 2008, along with 2009 MAM and 2010 MPP finance concentration students. Prof. Wook Sohn, Prof. Jin-Soo Lee, Prof. Woochan Kim and KDI staff members from External Relations and Development Division have also participated. This was the first official alumni gathering that current students took part in, and the success of the meeting showed the current students' eagerness to meet and talk with alumni.



## 2010 End of the Year Party

The KDI School Alumni Association invites alumni and current students together to the 2010 End of the Year Party, held at 7:30 pm on Thursday, Dec. 16, 2010. It will be the very first meeting where both alumni and current students of all programs can mingle and create rich and constructive network.

To mark this special occasion the school has prepared a photo exhibition, which will either make you reminiscent of the old days or just provide a good laugh.

Free gifts await you as well. Early birds will be gifted with a wine bottle. You may also claim a round trip to Jeju Island and many more!

- Time: 7:30pm, December 16 (Thurs.) ● Venue: 7<sup>th</sup> floor, KDI School ● Attendance fee: 30,000 KRW (50,000 KRW for couple)
  - Contact: InHyook Koo (2005 MBA, Industrial Bank of Korea) 010-6558-0713 / Ho-Jung Ha (Staff in charge, KDI School) 02-3299-1281
- Please RSVP by December 10 (Fri.) to [alumni@kdischool.ac.kr](mailto:alumni@kdischool.ac.kr) or 02-3299-1281.



How much do you know about the school?



Reported by Adelide Kamanthe (2010 MPP/ED, Kenya)

## A BLAST FROM THE PAST

"Every end is a new beginning"  
-Proverb

Winter is here again. The cold howling winds and short days so reminiscent of just a few months ago when we joined the KDI School; it feels like we have come full circle.

They say time flies and indeed it does, but what is even truer is that all good things must come to an end. It seems like only yesterday when we came to the KDI School, and marveled at this gorgeous mountainous country, the rich culture, and driven people that define South Korea. We have gained new friends along the way, made new memories to cherish for a lifetime, and acquired new knowledge.

The highlight of the fall semester is the commencement ceremony. Indeed the word commencement seems apt as this merely marks the beginning of a new chapter. It is always important to remember that many others have walked the same path and emerged as a better self at the end of the journey. As we forge ahead, let us join together in looking back at those moments from yesteryear.



# Taekwondo Black Belt from El Salvador



Reported by Janet Chin Shuk Henn (2009 MBA, Malaysia)

The fact that we both live in the same dorm and had never crossed paths stimulated my interest in this guy named Oscar Arturo Vargas Del Cid. Several unsuccessful attempts to set a date for an interview made me all the more curious about him. When I finally caught up with him in the library lobby, I was pleasantly surprised by his good looks and warm personality. We clicked right away and chatted like old friends. Before coming to Korea, Oscar worked as a junior analyst for 3 years in the Department of Economics and Social Studies in FUSADES, the Salvadoran Foundation of Economic and Social Development. It was from his classmate in an English class that he first heard about the KDI School. The classmate, a government officer with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in El Salvador,



had come to Korea several times for official visits and was aware of the School's reputation. When he mentioned the school to Oscar, he was looking for an opportunity to pursue further studies abroad. Oscar added that he chose Korea because he was impressed with Korea's rapid economic

growth which earned the reputation as one of the Four Asian Tigers. Enrolled in the MPP/ED program this fall, Oscar manages to find time for extracurricular activities for healthy body and mind: going to church on Sundays, taking part in soccer practices, attending sessions at a fitness club, and practicing taekwondo. On the subject of taekwondo, Oscar is a force to be reckoned with. He has learned the art for 5 years and wears a black belt around his waist. Although his time in Korea is short, he said he will always remember "Palli palli", which means "hurry up" in Korean. "For me, that's the essence of the economic development model of South Korea; everything should be done quickly, as time is always scarce."

Before we wrapped up, Oscar expressed his hope of working for organizations related to economic development when he graduates, such as the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB). He would also like to pursue a second master in Economics eventually, which was his original major at the Central American University.



Coatepeque Lake



Mounment to the  
Savior of the World

## Country Profile



El Salvador, which is Spanish for 'the savior' is located in Central America. With a total area of 8,123 square miles (21,040 km<sup>2</sup>), El Salvador is the most industrialized and densely populated state in Central America, with a population of 6.7million.

About 2.1 million people live in the capital city of San Salvador, which means 'holy savior' in Spanish. The city has a long history, dating back to the Spanish conquest of the Pipil tribes.

El Salvador declared its independence from Spain on Sept. 15, 1821. For decades after its independence, El Salvador went through numerous revolutions and wars against other Central American republics. From 1931 to 1979 El Salvador was ruled by a series of military dictatorship regimes.

On Jan. 16, 1992, the government signed a peace treaty with the guerrilla forces, formally ending the 12-year civil war that had killed 75,000. The nation came to be the first Central American country that entered into a free-trade agreement (CAFTA) with the U.S. in March 2006.

Spanish is the official language, although some indigenous people still speak their native tongues. German and French are taught as secondary languages. English has been taught by the British in El Salvador for at least 50 years. Historically, Salvadorans have had the choice of attending French, Salvadoran, or British schools.

According to a survey in 2008, 52.6% of El Salvador's residents are Catholics and 27.9% are Protestants. Pentecostals and Mormons are new religious trends since the Salvadoran post-civil war era.

85% of Salvadorans are mestizo (mixed Native American and European origin). 12% report their race as being white and 1% is indigenous.

### Cool facts



- It is the smallest country in continental America and is affectionately called the "Tom Thumb of the Americas".
- More than 2 million Salvadorans live in the US.
- It is the only Central American country that does not have a Caribbean coastline.
- El Salvador is the only Central American country that has no visible African population because of its lack of an Atlantic coastline and attendant access to the slave trade which occurred along the east coast of the continent.
- In 1969, El Salvador invaded Honduras after Honduran landowners deported several thousand Salvadorans. The four-day war became known as the "football war" because it broke out during a soccer game between the two countries.



The Cathedral of  
Saint Anne



Izalco Volcano



# Korea : German Exchange Students' Take



## Korea - Country of Traditions

Korea is a country rich in traditions, boasting landmarks like ancient Buddhist temples, traditional architectural design called Hanok, and traditional dress named Hanbok. Many festivals take place throughout a year to bring the ancient history to the present. Bibimbap Festival is one of them, annually held at Jeonju, the city of Bibimbap. Bibimbap is a famously nutritious dish with rice and vegetables, served in a hot stone bowl with a raw egg on top. We thoroughly enjoyed mixing the Bibimbap ingredients: beef, rice, minced cucumber, garlic, alga, bean spouts, and eggs.



## Korea - Country of impressive Economic Growth

With its rapid economic growth in the 1960s, South Korea took its place among the leading economic countries in the world. Highly motivated people and advanced technologies made Korea the 4th largest economy in Asia. Koreans are proud of their globally recognized brands such as Samsung, LG, and Hyundai. That is why advanced electronic products and cars can be seen everywhere in Seoul. On the 11th and 12th of November 2010, Korea hosted the G20 Summit in Seoul. While we did not have the chance to actively join in this event, we did attend (no-less-important) International Water Conference in Gumi to discuss important water issues with Korean mayors.



## Korea - Country of Mountains

Over 70% of the territory being mountainous, mountains are an important element of Korea's impressive scenery. We already took on a few challenges to climb to the Korea's highest peaks. First, we conquered Mt. Halla on Jeju Island, a volcano peak of UNESCO World Heritage. At 1950m, it is South Korea's highest mountain. Last week we climbed the 3rd highest mountain in the country. After 800 almost vertical steps and a demanding hike, we finally reached the top of 1905m-high Mt. Seorak. Greetings from the top!



## Korea - Country of beautiful Beaches

Island Jeju, Korea's largest island, is called "Hawaii of Korea" for reasons. A mixture of beautiful sand beaches and palm trees is surrounding the island with rocky cliffs. Swimming in the bright blue water of the yellow sea makes you want to stay there forever. It is not a surprise that the island is a magnet for many Korean honeymooners, who wear matching shirts, go to the Teddy bear museum, and love sharing food in each other's plate. The only disadvantage is that the temperature begins to drop quite low by the end of September.



## Korea - Country of Table Grills

Traditional Korean food was one of the highlights during our stay. The range is vastly multifarious. Octopus, especially, is eaten in all variations starting from dried snacks to tentacles still moving. Spicy, fermented cabbage called Kimchi is part of every Korean meal. Our personal favorites were restaurants with table grills, where you grill meat by yourself. As Germany is the ultimate Grill nation, this kind of food was not only familiar to us but was also the most scrumptious part of the Korean cuisine. We highly recommend black pork!



## KDI School - School of Diversity

KDI School is not only renowned for its research accomplishments in the field of public policy and management but also for the diversity of its student body. Students from over 60 countries study here, many of whom working as public officials in their respective countries. Reading through course materials and spending long hours in the library is only a part of KDI life. We had the chance to visit several prestigious conferences and to participate in fun activities like hiking trips or International Food Festival where students present their national cuisine. Here was the only place you could taste German-Vietnamese cuisine, which claimed the second place in our cooperative efforts.



*Sent from JENTZSCH Sarah and FLOREV Ivelina  
(HHL-Leipzig Graduate School of Management, Germany)*