



Development cooperation and multilateralism in times of global crises: prospects and challenges for cooperation between Republic of Korea and Germany

Time: 17 and 18 October 2022

Venue: German Institute of Development and Sustainability (IDOS), Tulpenfeld 6, 53113 Bonn, Germany

Organised by Ewha Womans University Graduate School of International Studies and IDOS

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Context and workshop objective

This conference is organised in the context of a joint research project between by Ewha Womans University and the German Institute of Development and Sustainability (IDOS), which explores synergies between Korean and German development cooperation and their wider multilateral engagement.¹ The joint project benefits from a networking grant that is provided by the National Research Foundation and its German counterpart the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG)

As a first activity in the context of this project, the project partners convened an informal workshop was convened at Ewha Womans University / Seoul on Wednesday the 22nd of June. This hybrid workshop brought together around 30 participants. Most participants represented various academic research institutions, complemented by some participants with a policy and practitioners background (Global Climate Fund, UNDP, EU Delegation etc.).

Building on the exchanges during this first workshop, a conference is hosted at the IDOS offices in Bonn on 17 and 18 October to discuss advanced academic paper proposals by researchers based in Korea and Germany, and to explore related policy discussion and other topics of mutual interest. While primarily catering to continuing academic discussions and exploring opportunities for cooperation, the conference will also include possibilities for exchanges with policy makers – both from the German federal government and the nearby UN offices in Bonn.

¹ From 1964 until the 24th of June 2022, IDOS was named German Development Institute / Deutsches Institut für Entwicklungspolitik (DIE).

Draft agenda

Monday 17 October 2022

8.30hr: Participants arrival

9.00hr: Introduction and welcome: Stephan Klingebiel (IDOS)

9.30hr: Session 1: Development and climate finance governance, transparency and reporting (Moderator: Steffen Bauer, IDOS)

Germany and Korea are long-standing and ambitious contributors to global development, including by being key providers of Official Development Assistance (ODA) and climate finance. This session takes a broad look at international structures and processes that seek to promote transparency, accountability and learning on the provision and results of such international public finance.

- How Development Finance works in OECD donor countries studying how donor countries and the developing world can benefit from the OECD statistics reporting system (Miji Choi, Ewha Womans University)
- Current Issues of Green ODA (Suh-Yong Chung, College of International Studies of Korea University)
- Making finance flows consistent with the Paris Agreement: is the financial/investment architecture fit for purpose? (Pieter Pauw, Eindhoven University of Technology)

Discussant: Professor Taekyoon Kim, Seoul National University (invited, to be confirmed)

12.00hr: Lunch break

13.00hr: Session 2: The evolving focus on the private sector in Korean and German development policy (Moderator: Stephan Klingebiel, IDOS)

As leading export-driven economies, the development policies of both Korea and Germany include a strong focus on supporting the private sector and broader 'aid for trade' cooperation. This session looks both into the practical implications and challenges of promoting private sector support and involvement, as well as the broader (geo)political trends that these endeavours can be associated to.

- A Study on Partnership with Private Enterprises in International Development: Private sector engagement Program in Korea (Eunju Kim, Hansung University)
- The (geo)politicisation of international development policy: comparing trends in Korea and Germany (Stephan Klingebiel and Niels Keijzer, IDOS)
- Environmental and social safeguards and their applicability to development initiatives with private sector engagement (Nancy Y. Kim, Ewha Womans University)

Discussant: Professor Jae Sung Kwak, Kyung Hee University (invited, to be confirmed)

14.00hr: Coffee break

14.30hr: Session 3: Current development policy priorities in Korea and Germany (Moderator: Niels Keijzer, IDOS)

While Korea and Germany have distinct political systems, they both experienced recent changes in country leadership with each facing the same highly challenging set of domestic and global challenges. This session will present papers looking into the emerging policy priorities of both, evolving patterns of public support, and the extent to which changes in policy and practice draw on evidence on what worked in the recent past.

- Reforming or Repackaging Korean ODA? The Yoon Suk-yeol Administration's uncertain activism on development cooperation policy (Min Joung Park, Sookmyung Women's University)
- Analysing the use of evidence in German and Korean development cooperation (Heiner Janus and Daniel Esser, IDOS)
- Public opinions on development policy in Korea (Yasemin Derabasi, UNSPC)

Discussant: (to be confirmed)

16.30hr: Evening walk and dinner

Tuesday 18 October

9.00hr: Session 4: Interfaces between ODA and climate finance (Moderator: Mariya Aleksandrova, IDOS)

Germany's new government plans to gradually increase its international climate finance target in line with its 2015 Paris commitments. The Korean government is also strongly committed in the area, while also hosting the Green Climate Fund as a key climate finance provider. This session features research that considers the nexus between ODA and climate finance Yet the increasing and competing demands on development finance as well as related climate action challenges.

- Aid-climate nexus: Domestic driving forces on Korean development policy preferences during the President Lee administration (Melis Baydag, University of Bochum)
- Fostering Communities of Practice (CoPs) for Urban Transformations in Response to Climate Change (Hanna Kang, Minji Han & Tae Kun Kim, Green Technology Center)
- The Green Climate Fund and the mobilization of the Private Sector for Climate Finance in the Global South (Thomas Kalinowski, Ewha Womans University)

Discussant: (to be confirmed)

11.00hr: Coffee break

11.30hr: Closing session: next steps and opportunities for joint research (Moderator: Professor Thomas Kalinowski, Ewha)

This closing session will seek to identify key topics and questions that are of mutual interest to German and Korean policy and academic networks, so as to inform the further engagement in the context of this project. It will specifically look into possibilities for joint publication and joint panels at relevant academic conferences

12.30hr: Lunch break

13.30hr: Travelling to the UNSSC's Knowledge Centre for Sustainable Development

14.00hr: Roundtable discussion: Germany and Korea as partners in promoting global sustainable development (Participating UN staff: Patrick van Weerelt (Director of the Centre) and Samant Veer Kakkar)

In 2016, the UN System Staff College (UNSSC) launched the Knowledge Centre for Sustainable Development in January 2016 in Bonn to support staff and partners in responding to the challenges of the 2030 Agenda and Paris Agreement. In 2020, the UNSSC Knowledge Centre for Sustainable Development was formally recognized by the Federal Government of Germany as a self-standing UN Agency based in Bonn.

In the context of this workshop, we will visit the knowledge centre to engage in an open discussion to identify opportunities and challenges for Germany and Korea as partners in promoting sustainable development in today's challenging global environment.

16.00hr: Closing of the conference