

# Application

## Participant: South Korea Team

### PRELIMINARY QUESTIONS:

As you consider which initiative to put forward for the Open Government Awards, please consider the following questions:

(1) Does the initiative seek to improve a public policy or service?  
 Yes  No

(2) If yes, does the initiative seek to improve the ability of citizens to provide feedback and/or to make decisions in the design or implementation of a policy or service? For examples of initiatives, see: <http://www.opengovguide.com/topics/citizen-engagement>  
 Yes  No

If you have answered "Yes" to BOTH of these questions, please proceed with your application.

### A. THE TEAM

The following information is required to capture a basic understanding of those responsible for your initiative and any partnerships that have helped you to meet your goals.

#### INITIATIVE NAME (required)

Provide the name of the initiative that your team is submitting for consideration by the judges of the 2014 Open Government Awards (under the inaugural theme, Citizen Engagement). If the initiative is operating under one or more alternate name(s), provide the name that is most commonly recognized.

Local Conference on Sustainable Development of Sihwa District (initiated in Jan 2004)

#### THE NOMINATION (required)

Begin by describing how this initiative was selected. For example, mention any nomination or consultation process held with civil society partners or others when selecting the initiative. Please offer your explanation of this process in 200 words or less.

Y The Sihwa district development project kicked-started in 1986 as part of a government-led development agenda. However, the project had faced strong opposition from local citizens' groups due to environmental pollution caused by the project.  
 Y Stakeholders of the project—the central government, K-water (the company in charge of the project), related local governments, environmental and citizen's groups—recognized the necessity of a platform that involves all the stakeholders and decided to organize a regularly held conference to resolve conflicts arising from the project.  
 - Two rounds of consultations with local citizen groups resulted in agreement to establish a public-private conference.  
 - Since January 2004, a total of 352 conferences pertaining to the Sihwa district development project have been held.

#### GOVERNMENT POINT OF CONTACT (required)

Provide the name and title of a single point of contact for the purposes of communicating with your team. The person should be the most senior individual responsible for overseeing the application submission. Provide the phone number(s), email address(es), and physical address of your designated point of contact. You may provide alternate contact information, if it is a direct means for reaching the designated point of contact.

Y Mr. Chul-Heung Kim  
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#### CIVIL SOCIETY POINT OF CONTACT (strongly recommended)

We strongly encourage applicants to submit a joint application from a government agency and a civil society partner. If submitting a joint application, please provide the name and title of a single point of contact at the partner organization. If not, please be sure to focus on the "validation of claims" in Section B (see pg. A-3).

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 Y Mr. Young-bae Yoon  
 President of Hwasung Coastal Environment Cultural Alliance  
 (Conference on Sustainable Development Sihwa District co-chaired by President Yoon and the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, and Transport)  
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#### OTHER PARTNERSHIPS (optional)

If you are partnering with one or more other government agencies, private sector entities, media, or other organizations, please list each partner in 250 words or less, provide a brief narrative of the partnership, including the roles that each partner assumes in the initiative.

Y Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, and Transport (MOLIT)  
 - MOLIT is a central government agency in charge of setting out an executive plan to develop the Sihwa district and selecting specific areas to develop.  
 - The Local Conference on Sustainable Development of Sihwa District (hereinafter referred to as "Local Conference") is co-chaired by MOLIT and the President of Hwasung Coastal Environment Cultural Alliance. MOLIT is responsible for organizing the Conference, drawing a conclusion from discussions, and monitoring how the results of the Local Conference are reflected in the development project.  
 Y K-water  
 - K-water is a company in charge of carrying out the development project in Sihwa district. Not only does it establish an implementation plan according to the executive plan set by MOLIT, but also it conducts various impact assessments.  
 - As it implements the executive plan, K-water should reflect the results of the Local Conference in its implementation plan.  
 - As an assistant to the Local Conference, K-water also provides a range of support to the Local Conference by contacting stakeholders and preparing conference materials.  
 Y Ministry of Oceans and Fishery (MOF)  
 - As a central government agency responsible for ocean conservation, MOF designates certain areas, including Sihwa district, as special marine conservation zones, and controls the pollutant loads in coastal areas.  
 - Lake Sihwa\* is designated as a special marine conservation zone by MOF.  
 \* Lake Sihwa, surrounded by Siheung, Ansan, and Hwaseong, Gyeonggi Province, is an artificial seawater lake that was made as part of the national road map for large-scale land reclamation project (source : www.sihwa-sd.com).

### B. THE INITIATIVE

The Open Government Partnership (OGP) is prepared to celebrate a range of successful applicants to the Open Government Awards. This year's theme is "citizen engagement." To qualify for recognition, we need to understand the various elements of success for your initiative and its sustainability over time.

#### PROBLEM DEFINITION (required)

In 200 words or less, please identify the specific problem your initiative intended to solve. Why was this problem important to solve at a particular time and for the particular context in which you are working?

Y Since the Ansan-Sihwa district development project was launched in 1986, various environmental problems including water pollution of Lake Sihwa and air pollution from the Sihwa-Barwol Industrial Complex have arisen.  
 Y Local communities and environmental/citizen's groups held the Sihwa district development project responsible for the water and air pollution, condemning the government-led unilateral development and strongly opposing any additional development in the region.  
 Y Social conflicts should be resolved first to meet the high demand for industrial land and build developed cities with eco-friendly tourism and leisure activities.  
 \* Northern part of Lake Sihwa: Development of the Sihwa Multi Techno Valley (9.96 km<sup>2</sup>)  
 \*\* Southern part of Lake Sihwa: Development of the Songsan Green City (55.60 km<sup>2</sup>)

#### TARGET POPULATION (required)

In 100 words or less, please identify the target population who may benefit from this initiative. Highlight your understanding of the needs or demands of the target population that were addressed by your initiative.

A. Environmental and Citizen's Groups  
 Civil society demanded that serious air and water pollution problems be resolved first and transparent development plans that takes environmental impacts into account be established.  
 B. Local Residents  
 Local people demanded that living standards of their residential area be improved through the address of environmental pollution that development plans be established in a more environment-friendly manner.

#### INITIATIVE DESIGN (required)

In 350 words or less, describe your initiative's goals and objectives. Focus specifically on how the initiative was designed to meet those objectives. For example, identify stage(s) of the policy/service design or implementation when you solicited citizen participation. What kind of participation did you seek from citizens (e.g., feedback, consultation, joint decision-making, monitoring of activities, etc.)? Explain why this particular approach was best suited to achieve the initiative's goals. How did you encourage citizens to participate? Describe any innovations in the design of the initiative.

Y Goal: To solve problems caused by the limit of a government-led unilateral development and improve the transparency of development projects  
 Y Objective: To come up with measures to address environmental pollution and establish an environment-friendly development plan through engaging not only the central government but also local residents, civil society, and local governments  
 Y Initial Stage of the Local Conference: Public-private consultation forum (not legally binding from Jan 2004 to Dec 2007)  
 - A total of 198 regular conferences on environmental improvement and urban planning, 7 focus group discussions, 30 seminars, and 63 group studies were held.  
 - Special measures to address environmental problems and development plans for Lake Sihwa and its adjacent areas were concluded.  
 <Major Accomplishments>  
 - Roadmap to improve environmental conditions in Sihwa district (15 projects for air pollution and 9 for water pollution)  
 - Environment-friendly development plans (e.g. downsizing the Sihwa Multi Techno Valley)  
 - Eco-friendly development plans (e.g. developing an eco-friendly Songsan golf course and eco-system restoration project)  
 Y Current Stage of the Local Conference:  
 Converting the Local Conference to a legally binding public-private consultation forum (from Apr 2008 to present) that ensures\* that the result of consultations is well-reflected in the implementation stage.  
 \*Order no. 43 of the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, and Transport (enacted on Apr 8, 2008)  
 Y Appropriateness: Reaching an accord through mutual understanding and persuasion  
 - Company in charge of the development project: vertical work process converted to horizontal one  
 - Environmental and citizen's groups: outright rejection to compromise (able to accept an environment-friendly development mechanism)  
 - Decision-making process: Reaching a conclusion after a thorough discussion (identifying the cause of difference in opinions and problems; understanding each other's values)  
 - Information disclosure: Updating the Local Conference that uploaded on its website (www.sihwa-sd.com)

#### INITIATIVE OUTCOMES (required)

In 250 words or less, describe the intended outcomes and the actual outcomes that the initiative achieved. Who were the ultimate beneficiaries, and what benefits did they experience? For example, list any concrete improvements in policy, services, behaviors, or power relations between the government and citizens. Try to present your case from the perspective of the various stakeholders involved (e.g., your agency, citizens, Civil Society Organizations, media, et al.). If there are any baseline indicators or standards to measure the outcomes of the initiative, please describe them in detail.

Y An agreement between the public and private sectors was reached, and the public trust was restored through the Local Conference.  
 - Measures to address environmental pollution in Sihwa district were made through engaging civil society and local residents.  
 - By implementing those measures, environmental conditions were improved, and the public trust was restored.  
 Y Moving away from the Decide-Announce-Defend approach, the government made a decision through prior consultations with stakeholders to establish an environment-friendly development plan (approved in Mar 2007).  
 - In the northern part of Lake Sihwa, the land to establish the Sihwa Multi Techno Valley was developed.  
 \* 2.9 km<sup>2</sup> of green areas (27.5%) and 0.4 km<sup>2</sup> of migratory bird sanctuary were included.  
 - In the southern part of Lake Sihwa, eco-friendly Songsan City was developed with its focus on tourism and leisure activities.  
 \*The city was designed with low population density of 40 persons per hectare, 3.7 km<sup>2</sup> of migratory bird sanctuary, and eco-friendly areas (waterways and green fields).  
 Y Environmental conditions were improved thanks to special measures to address environmental pollution that take into account the agreement between the public and private sectors.  
 Y The development of the Sihwa Multi Techno Valley as well as the Local Conference gained positive feedback from the public.  
 - About 67% to 79% of local residents approved the work of the Local Conference.  
 - About 87% of local residents gave positive feedback on the development plan for the Sihwa Multi Techno Valley.

#### INITIATIVE SUSTAINABILITY (required)

In 200 words or less, please describe any plans for scaling up and/or sustaining the initiative in the future. Base your description of the strategy on information provided in the previous sections, such as how you intend to leverage your current success and increase your reach or capacity. Address any threats or operational challenges to your initiative and describe how you intend to manage those risks on a regular basis.

Y Until the development projects for the Sihwa Multi Techno Valley and Songsan Green City are successfully completed, the Local Conference will be held on a regular basis as a forum to hear the voices of the public and resolve conflicts, thereby restoring the public trust and improving the transparency of the development projects.  
 Y The exemplary case of the Local Conference will be utilized for other public development projects.

#### VALIDATION OF CLAIMS (required)

While it is strongly encouraged that each initiative includes partners, such as Civil Society Organizations, private sector agencies, media entities, etc., it is not a requirement. However, you are required to secure and upload documents from one or more credible nongovernmental actors who can attest to the veracity of any claims made in your application.

You are only allowed to upload one file. If you have multiple documents, please zip them into a single file first. The file types that are allowed to be uploaded have an extension of .ZIP, .PDF, .DOC, .DOCX, .XLS or .XLSX.

Letter of Recommendation.docx

### C. THE PITCH

The following information allows each applicant to make their strongest (and final) case for consideration.

#### BEST CASE (required)

In 250 words or less, please present the most compelling facts for why your initiative should be recognized. This is an opportunity to distinguish your initiative, based on any factors that you have not had the opportunity to describe in the previous sections. What is your best argument for why your initiative has achieved a meaningful outcome? What elements of the initiative make it different and better than others, that have been tried and tested? Be creative and concise.

Y Agreements were made through a thorough discussion process among stakeholders and experts.  
 - Many consultations were held to understand each other's position thoroughly and overcome the mistrust and difference in opinions among stakeholders.  
 <Case Study: Development of Borrow Pits>  
 In order to make a compromise that reflects different opinions about soil volume, post-use management, location of borrow pit, and others, a subcommittee was organized under the Local Conference with the involvement of local residents. Two focus group discussions and 10 general meetings were held to finally establish an agreed plan and get an approval from the government.  
 \* Soil volume was adjusted from 54.2 million m<sup>2</sup> to 25.96 million m<sup>2</sup>; the borrow pits would be restored after use; the number of borrow pits was reduced from three to two.  
 Y The Local Conference became an exemplary case to resolve conflicts arising from the national development projects through a mutual agreement.  
 - The development projects were those decided by policymakers on a legal basis, and civil society agreed on the projects through their involvement in consultations with all the related stakeholders including the government.  
 Y Stakeholders who were in the center of the conflict actively participated in the consultation process; the transparency of the process was ensured through information disclosure.  
 - All the updates from the Local Conference were posted on its website (www.sihwa-sd.com). Active public participation was encouraged by making the local residents feel free to observe the Local Conference, and various opinions were considered to ensure fairness and transparency.

#### VIDEO SUBMISSION (recommended\*)

OGP does not offer a venue for applicants to meet our judges during the application process. In order to provide the opportunity for making a personal connection, you are encouraged to upload a short video to complement your application. You may also depict an individual participant in your initiative and describe his or her experience. We do not need to know actual names or personal details. Take this opportunity to tell a story, to connect with our panel of experts, so that they might better understand your attention to specific needs.

Video submissions should follow these guidelines:  
 - Maximum length of 3-4 minutes.  
 - Please focus on personal stories and experiences; it's not necessary to develop a sophisticated or polished video.

Here are some logistical and technical suggestions:  
 - Video cameras, digital cameras, and phones are easy ways to record a video.  
 - Laptop and desktop computers can typically record video through Skype or other software.  
 - If possible, set to a low resolution to reduce file size. This will enable an easier video uploading process.  
 - If you are having difficulty uploading the video files, try logging out of the application and logging back in using another Internet browser.

Here are general suggestions for delivering a high-quality video pitch:  
 - Include the following:  
 - Introduce yourself and your initiative.  
 - Focus on describing your intended benefits and/or services and how they have been effective.  
 - What is unique about your initiative, partners, or technical approach?  
 - Have your content:  
 - Keep your description and language simple.  
 - Demonstrate passion through your words and enthusiasm.  
 \*If the burden of developing a video presentation is either prohibitive or might not reflect the best characterization of your initiative, then you are not required to submit one, and the judges are instructed not to discount your application because it may not include a video. We hope that this option offers a new and inventive way in which you can best express the results of your work.