



Green Korea 2006

A Beautiful Environment and A Healthy Future



MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT
REPUBLIC OF KOREA



A Beautiful Environment and A Healthy Future





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Air
Noise
Water (river & stream, lake, groundwater)
Drinking Water (tap water, bottled water, public well)
Soil



The Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Korea (MOE) will exert strenuous efforts to make the Korean Peninsula and the earth a place full of life and a healthy eco-community, and I believe that Green Korea 2006 will work as a great tool to realize that goal.

Minister's Message



The most important value of the 21st century is the Sustainability that integrates the environment, economy, and society, and the environment is particularly important in that the quality of life is interconnected with the environment.

Due to the growth policy that started in the 1960s, Korea was under serious environmental pressure. However, we have succeeded to overcome environmental problems, and we are carrying out various policies to build A Beautiful Environment and A Healthy Future in which human beings and the ecosystem live in harmony.

This year, the Korean government had the 2nd Environmental Performance Reviews published by the OECD in September. According to the OECD reviewers, since the first Environmental Performance Review in 1997, Korea has made "striking progress" in air management, water infrastructure, water management, waste management, and nature/biodiversity protection. OECD made 54 recommendations, and the Korean government promised to set up an implementation plan to follow up with the recommendations. MOE will take the lead in this mission.

These remarkable achievements are particularly rewarding and valuable since they were not borne out by the government's regulations but by Korean people's environmental awareness and commitment.

Currently, we are shifting the paradigm of supplier-oriented policy to receptor-oriented policy, focusing on various priority projects including implementation of environmental health policy for the people, conservation of healthy and lively national environment, improvement of living environment, and establishment of sustainable economy.

While each country's environmental policy is different from one another, the principle of Harmonizing Development and Conservation would be common to all countries. When the global stakeholders like each country, international organization, and environmental group gather heads and work together, a win-win synergy will be created, and when every country's environmental policies and experience are put together, each country will benefit from them through minimizing the trial and error in their policy.

In an effort to share the Korean experience with the world, MOE has collected the cases of Korea's environmental policy and published them in Green Korea annually since 1999.

Upon the publication of Green Korea 2006, MOE has added new contents to the existing environmental policies including Korea's environmental status in each area such as air, water quality, and waste.

Also, more detailed explanation on the well-received policies including the Comprehensive Ten Year Environmental Health Plan, Recommended Indoor Air Quality Standards for Newly Constructed Apartments, Strategic Environmental Assessment, and Electronic Waste Manifest System are included in this publication.

I hope that Green Korea 2006 helps raise the awareness of the importance of environment and also contributes to resolving global environmental problems.

December 2006

이치범

Lee Chi-Beom
Minister of Environment
Republic of Korea



Overview of Korea



and its Environment

- Republic of Korea in Figures
- Korea's Environment at a Glance
- Comprehensive Plan for National Environment (2006-2015)



Republic of Korea(ROK) in Figures

Area :	99,646.16 km ²
Population :	47,041,434 (end of 2005 est.)
Capital :	Seoul
Government Type :	Republic
Religion :	No affiliation 46.48%, Christian 18.32%, Catholic 10.94%, Buddhist 22.8%, Confucianist 0.22%, Other 1.24%
National Assembly :	Unicameral National Assembly or <i>Kukhoe</i> (299 seats-members elected for four-year term; 243 in single-seat constituencies, 56 by proportional representation)
Administrative Divisions :	9 provinces(<i>Do</i>) and 7 metropolitan cities(<i>Gwangyoks</i>)
GNI per capita :	\$ 16,291 (2005 est.)
Currency :	South Korean Won(KRW)
Climate :	Four seasons, temperate, with rainfall heavier in summer than winter

Map of Korea



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