

# 2026 KRIHS World Campus

*Learning from Korea's Spatial Planning and  
Development Experience*

Supported by UN-Habitat and the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank



**KRIHS**  
Korea Research Institute for  
Human Settlements



**KRIHS**  
World Campus

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# Welcome Message

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The Korea Research Institute for Human Settlements (KRIHS) is pleased to present the 2026 KRIHS World Campus, a capacity-building program that shares Korea's national and urban development experience with policymakers, practitioners, and researchers around the world.

Korea's rapid transformation—driven by institutional innovation and sustained policy reform—offers valuable lessons for countries facing complex urban challenges. Our experience, including both achievements and challenges, provides practical insights for sustainable and inclusive growth.

Since its launch in 2022, KRIHS World Campus has developed into a structured hybrid program that combines online learning with a selective invitational in-person training program in Korea. Outstanding participants are given the opportunity to further develop their Project Concept Papers (PCPs) through mentoring with KRIHS experts, institutional visits, and presentation programs. Through this process, they are able to enhance the feasibility and practical applicability of their proposals.

In 2026, the program continues its core curriculum on Korea's territorial planning, urban policy, housing, land management, and infrastructure systems. In addition, specialized lectures developed in collaboration with UN-Habitat and the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) provide broader global perspectives. These lectures address topics such as National Urban Policies, People-centered Smart City, Urban-rural Linkages, Metropolitan Management, Financing Sustainable Urban Infrastructure, and Urban Climate Resilience.

Through expert-led lectures, interactive live sessions, and structured PCP development, the program moves beyond knowledge sharing toward practical implementation.

We look forward to your participation in the 2026 KRIHS World Campus.

# 01

## Organizing and Partner Institutions

- 1) Korea Research Institute for Human Settlements (KRIHS)
- 2) Global Development Partnership Center (GDPC)
- 3) United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)
- 4) Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB)

# 1

## Organizing and Partner Institutions

### 1) Korea Research Institute for Human Settlements (KRIHS)

#### Overview

The Korea Research Institute for Human Settlements (KRIHS) was established in 1978 to contribute to the balanced development of the national territory and the improvement of quality of life through comprehensive, policy-oriented research on the efficient use, development, and conservation of territorial resources.

KRIHS conducts future-oriented and practical research grounded in actual territorial conditions. Its main tasks include exploring mid- to long-term national policy agendas, supporting government policies, and analyzing and addressing territory-related social issues. The institute's research activities are organized into five divisions comprising 16 centers.

#### Mission

KRIHS is committed to creating a sustainable, inclusive, and resilient national territory in Korea. To fulfill this mission, the institute advances research on sustainable territorial development, the balance between development and conservation, and the provision of housing and infrastructure, thereby contributing to evidence-based policy making and national territorial strategies.

### ***Key Areas of Work***

KRIHS conducts interdisciplinary research across five major divisions:

- **National Territorial & Regional Research:** National and regional planning, spatial strategies, regional economies, industrial location, and related policies
- **Urban Research:** Urban regeneration and development, planning and design, disaster prevention, and environmental management
- **Housing & Real Estate Research:** Housing and land policy, real estate markets, construction, and private investment
- **National Infrastructure & Geospatial Information Research:** Transportation and infrastructure planning, and spatial information policy including digital technologies and data-driven analysis
- **Global Development Partnership Center:** Joint research, capacity building, and policy consulting in cooperation with international organizations and partner countries



**Website** <https://www.krihs.re.kr/eng/>



## 2) Global Development Partnership Center (GDPC)

### Overview

The Global Development Partnership Center (GDPC) was established in 2010 to facilitate global development partnerships in the fields of regional and urban development. As a specialized center within the Korea Research Institute for Human Settlements (KRIHS), GDPC shares Korea's experience in national territorial and urban development and supports capacity strengthening in partner countries.

GDPC engages in research, capacity-building programs, policy consulting, and collaborative initiatives with governments, public institutions, multilateral development banks (MDBs), and international organizations.

### Key Areas of Work

GDPC conducts its activities across four principal areas:

- **Capacity Building Programs:** In cooperation with partner organizations, including the World Bank, Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), Asian Development Bank (ADB), and UN-Habitat, GDPC provides lectures, site visits, policy dialogue, and action plan workshops. Major initiatives include multi-year programs such as the KRIHS-IDB Urban Development Academy (KIUDA) and the KRIHS World Campus, a hybrid learning platform combining online education and in-person study visits.
- **Research and Consulting:** GDPC undertakes joint research and advisory projects with MDBs and partner governments on spatial planning, housing policy, urban regeneration, climate-responsive cities, public space, and smart city development.
- **Knowledge Exchange:** Through visiting scholar programs, internship programs for government officials, special lectures, and academic seminars, GDPC fosters a global network of experts and policy practitioners.
- **International Cooperation:** GDPC maintains institutional partnerships with leading international organizations and MDBs, coordinating joint workshops and research projects to advance sustainable territorial and urban development.

 Website <https://www.krihs.re.kr/gdpc/>



### 3) United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)

#### Overview

The United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) is mandated by the United Nations General Assembly to promote socially and environmentally sustainable human settlements. It serves as the focal point for all urbanization and human settlement matters within the United Nations system.

Working in over 90 countries, UN-Habitat works with partners to build inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable cities and communities. UN-Habitat promotes urbanization as a positive transformative force for people and communities, reducing inequality, discrimination and poverty.

#### Mission

UN-Habitat works toward a better urban future by ensuring adequate housing, land, and basic services for all. Adequate housing is a human right and the foundation of health, dignity, opportunity, and the SDGs. Yet poverty, climate change and displacement are pushing it further out of reach.

Its Strategic Plan 2026–2029 puts housing, land and basic services at the centre of sustainable development, delivered through planning, governance, partnerships, innovation and finance.

#### Key Areas of Work

Together with partners, UN-Habitat works to ensure everyone, everywhere has access to adequate housing, land and basic services.

- **Normative and Research Work:** Setting standards and principles, producing authoritative global research on urban trends, and supporting the formulation of urban policies and governance frameworks.
- **Technical Assistance and Project Implementation:** Delivering tailored support to countries through expertise in sustainable urbanization and crisis response.
- **Advocacy and Global Platforms:** Mobilizing political and public support for sustainable urban development through initiatives such as the World Urban Forum (WUF) and the World Urban Campaign (WUC).
- **Partnership and Capacity Development:** Collaborating with governments, UN agencies, civil society, academia, and the private sector to strengthen capacity and foster sustainable urban transformation.

## 4) Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB)

### Overview

The Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) is a multilateral development bank established to finance sustainable infrastructure and promote regional connectivity. With 111 approved members worldwide, AIIB supports infrastructure investments that enhance economic development, strengthen resilience, and advance environmental sustainability. AIIB operates under the principles of being Lean, Clean, and Green, emphasizing efficient operations, strong governance, and environmentally responsible investments.

### Mission

AIIB's mission is to finance infrastructure for sustainable development by mobilizing capital, fostering innovation, and strengthening regional and global connectivity. Through its Corporate Strategy, AIIB advances climate action, supports technological transformation, and promotes private sector participation in infrastructure development.

The Bank places strong emphasis on climate-aligned financing and long-term sustainability, recognizing infrastructure as a critical driver of inclusive growth and economic resilience.

### Key Areas of Work

AIIB focuses on delivering sustainable infrastructure through the following areas:

- **Green Infrastructure:** Supporting renewable energy, sustainable transport, water and waste systems, and climate-resilient infrastructure aligned with global climate commitments.
- **Connectivity and Regional Cooperation:** Financing cross-border and regional infrastructure to enhance trade, integration, and economic cooperation.
- **Technology-Enabled Infrastructure:** Promoting digital innovation and advanced technologies that improve infrastructure efficiency, governance, and resilience.
- **Private Capital Mobilization:** Catalyzing private investment and developing innovative financing mechanisms to address infrastructure funding gaps.

Through these priorities, AIIB contributes to sustainable economic development and supports countries in addressing evolving infrastructure and climate challenges.

 **Website** <https://www.aiib.org/en/index.html>

# 02

## The KRIHS World Campus Program

- 1) Background and Objectives
- 2) Vision and Learning Framework
- 3) Program Structure
- 4) Program Development

## 2

# The KRIHS World Campus Program

## 1) Background and Objectives

The KRIHS World Campus was launched in 2022 as a hybrid capacity building program designed to share Korea's national territorial and urban development experience with government officials, practitioners, and researchers worldwide.

The program was developed to systematize Korea's development experience into structured learning content and to provide an accessible educational platform in the fields of territorial planning and urban development.

KRIHS World Campus aims to facilitate knowledge exchange, strengthen development capacities, and support participants in examining policy issues in their respective countries.

## 2) Vision and Learning Framework

KRIHS World Campus delivers knowledge and experience through three major areas of learning:

- **Academy:** Provides structured learning programs on Korean territorial planning and development, including online courses, global lecture series, capacity building programs, and visiting scholar programs.
- **Insight:** Examines past and current policy efforts and provides guidance on planning, implementation, and evaluation through technical webinars, conferences, policy reports, documentaries, and expert mentoring.
- **Network:** Facilitates engagement with experts and key stakeholders, including policymakers, practitioners, and researchers.



### 3) Program Structure: Hybrid Biennial Model

KRIHS World Campus operates as a hybrid program implemented in a biennial cycle.

#### **First Year: Online Program**

A four-week online training program is conducted.

The curriculum consists of:

- Core courses covering Korea's development experience, balanced regional development, urban development and planning, housing and land policies, industrial development and infrastructure, spatial data and digital governance, and environment and climate policies
- Specialized courses on global issues developed in collaboration with international organizations

The online program includes lectures, quizzes, live sessions, mid-term assignment, and the submission of a final Project Concept Paper (PCP).

#### **✓ Selection for the In-Person Program**

Upon completion of the online program, outstanding participants are identified based on program performance and evaluation results. An interview process is conducted to select participants for the subsequent invitational in-person training.

#### **Second Year: Invitational In-Person Program**

In the following year, selected participants are invited to Korea for a one-week in-person training program.

The in-person program includes:

- Expert lectures
- Site visits
- Mentoring programs
- Presentation of Project Concept Papers

This sequential structure ensures that the online program serves as the foundation for selective in-depth engagement in the subsequent year.

## 4) Program Development

Since its launch, KRIHS World Campus has been implemented in a biennial cycle alternating between online and in-person programs.

### *KRIHS World Campus – Phase 1 (2022-2023)*

- **The 1<sup>st</sup> KRIHS World Campus (Online, 2022):** The 10 thematic courses were introduced, and the program engaged 145 participants from 42 countries over a two-month period.
- **The 2<sup>nd</sup> KRIHS World Campus (In-Person, 2023):** Outstanding participants from the online program were invited to Korea for a five-day training program.

### *KRIHS World Campus – Phase 2 (2024-2025)*

- **The 3<sup>rd</sup> KRIHS World Campus (Online, 2024):** The curriculum was restructured into core and specialized tracks. In collaboration with UN-Habitat, four global issue courses were newly developed. The program engaged 82 participants from 33 countries.
- **The 4<sup>th</sup> KRIHS World Campus (In-Person, 2025):** Selected participants from the online program were invited to Korea for a five-day training program.

### *KRIHS World Campus – Phase 3 (2026-2027)*

- **The 5<sup>th</sup> KRIHS World Campus (Online, 2026):** The program continues collaboration with UN-Habitat and introduces additional courses developed with the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB).

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## The 2026 KRIHS World Campus

- 1) Program Overview
- 2) Program Components
- 3) Thematic Areas
- 4) Application Process

## 3

# The 2026 KRIHS World Campus

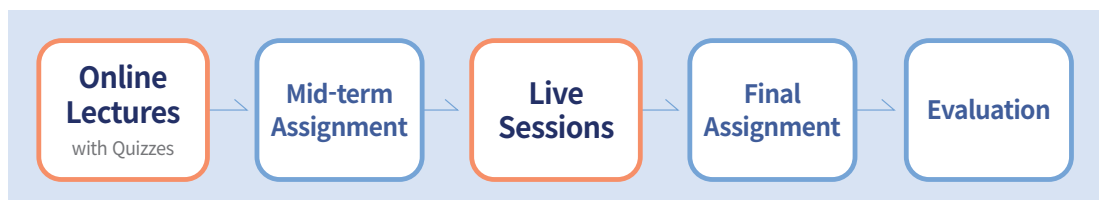
## 1) Program Overview

The 2026 KRIHS World Campus supported by UN-Habitat and AIIB will be implemented as an online capacity-building program from May 11 to June 19, 2026. The program continues its collaboration with UN-Habitat and engages the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) to address emerging global urban challenges. The program is designed to strengthen participants' capacity in policy analysis and project formulation through structured online learning and outstanding participants will be considered for invitation to the 2027 in-person program.

## 2) Program Components

The program integrates guided learning and interactive engagement. The program consists of thematic lectures, quizzes, Project Concept Paper (PCP) submissions, live sessions, and a structured evaluation process.

### Learning Flow



### ① Thematic Lectures

The Online program is organized into 13 thematic areas, including:

- 7 core themes on Korea's urban and territorial development
- 6 global issue themes developed in collaboration with UN-Habitat and AIIB

Participants are expected to complete all assigned lectures and quizzes within the designated learning period.

## ② Assignment: Project Concept Paper

The Project Concept Paper (PCP) is the core academic output of the program.

- Participants will first submit a Mid-term Assignment, identifying a key territorial or urban policy issue in their country that is linked to one of the thematic areas covered in the program lectures, and reflecting on lessons learned from Korea's development experience.
- Building on this assignment, participants will develop a Final Project Concept Paper, presenting a practical policy or project proposal tailored to their national context.

## ③ Live Sessions

Live Sessions will be organized after the lecture period to deepen understanding and enhance interaction.

During these sessions:

- Questions submitted during the learning period will be addressed collectively;
- Experts will provide thematic insights and practical guidance.

## ④ Evaluation and Certification

Participants will be evaluated based on attendance, participation, quizzes, and PCP submissions.

Evaluation Criteria	Certificate Requirements
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Attendance</b> : At least 80% of course sessions</li><li>• <b>Quiz Score</b> : Minimum 60% on each quiz</li><li>• <b>Assignments</b> : Submission of assignments (PCP)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Attendance</b> : 20%</li><li>• <b>Mid-term Assignment</b> : 30%</li><li>• <b>Final Assignment</b> : 50%</li></ul>

Outstanding participants, based on overall performance will be shortlisted for interviews for the 2027 invitational in-person program.

### 3) Thematic Areas

The 2026 KRIHS World Campus online program covers a wide range of thematic areas in national territorial and urban development. Each thematic area consists of two to four lecture videos, each approximately 30 minutes in length.

#### *Core Theme : Korea's Experience in Urban and Territorial Development*

Theme	Overview
<b>Korea's Development Experience</b>	This course introduces Korea's national spatial planning system and examines its role in supporting economic growth and balanced territorial development. It reviews key land-use planning practices, development processes, and institutional frameworks that have shaped the country's long-term spatial transformation.
<b>Balanced Regional Development Policies</b>	This course examines national development strategies and policy instruments designed to promote balanced spatial and regional development during periods of rapid economic growth. It highlights institutional reforms and the evolution of regional development policy frameworks.
<b>Urban Planning and Spatial Development</b>	This course explores Korea's urbanisation trajectory and policy responses to emerging urban challenges. It examines new town development models, urban regeneration policies, and strategic approaches to enhancing urban competitiveness.
<b>Land and Housing Policy</b>	This course reviews the evolution of housing and land policies implemented under fiscal constraints in the post-war period. It examines large-scale housing provision programmes, public rental housing schemes, and land development instruments such as land readjustment.
<b>Industrial Development and Infrastructure Provision</b>	This course introduces the development of industrial complexes and the expansion of national transport infrastructure, including highways, railways, airports, and seaports. It examines infrastructure investment programmes and industrial policy as key drivers of economic growth and regional connectivity.
<b>Geospatial Information Systems and Digital Governance</b>	This course examines the evolution of Korea's National Spatial Data Infrastructure, from conventional mapping systems to advanced geospatial and digital technologies. It highlights the application of geospatial data in spatial planning, public governance, and everyday urban management.
<b>Environmental Sustainability and Climate Policy</b>	This course reviews Korea's transition from industrialisation-led growth to more sustainable approaches to land and environmental management. It examines key policy reforms and highlights transferable lessons for diverse national and development contexts.

***Global Theme : In Collaboration with UN-Habitat and AIIB***

Theme	Overview
<b>National Urban Policies</b>	This course highlights the role of National Urban Policies (NUPs) in addressing urbanisation challenges and harnessing the development benefits of urban growth. It introduces global NUP frameworks and implementation pathways, while examining Korea’s national territorial planning experience, including the 5th Comprehensive National Territorial Plan.
<b>People-centered Smart Cities</b>	This course introduces the concept and core principles of people-centred smart cities, distinguishing them from technology-led approaches. It reviews global trends and policy frameworks, while examining Korea’s experience and best practices in inclusive and sustainable smart city development.
<b>Urban-rural Linkages</b>	This course explores strategies to strengthen urban–rural linkages and promote more balanced territorial development. It reviews global policy frameworks and development initiatives, while examining Korean policy experiences and case studies on urban–rural integration.
<b>Metropolitan Management</b>	This course emphasises the importance of integrated metropolitan governance in the context of rapid urbanisation. It reviews global policy initiatives and innovative governance arrangements, while examining Korea’s experience in metropolitan coordination and management.
<b>Financing Sustainable Urban Infrastructure</b>	This course examines the rising demand for sustainable urban infrastructure and the fiscal and financial challenges cities face in mobilising adequate investment. It introduces key urban infrastructure financing mechanisms including municipal finance, debt financing instruments, public–private partnerships, and land value capture while highlighting strategies to diversify funding sources and strengthen revenue mobilisation.
<b>Urban Climate Resilience</b>	This course highlights the growing importance of strengthening urban resilience in the context of rapid urbanisation and escalating climate risks. It examines integrated resilience strategies including grey infrastructure, nature-based solutions, and institutional capacity-building measures supported by practical case studies and urban resilience investment perspectives.

## 4) Application Process

### Eligibility

The program is open to international public officials and government-related professionals working in fields related to national territorial and urban development.

Applicants should:

- Hold a bachelor's degree or higher in a relevant field;
- Have at least two years of professional experience in a government or public-sector institution;
- Be proficient in English;
- Be a non-Korean national.

### How to Apply

Applications will be accepted during the designated registration period from April 1 to April 28 2026.

To apply, please complete the online application form available at the following link: **[Register via Google Form]**



Selected participants will receive an email notification with further instructions for accessing the online learning platform and orientation materials.

### Program Timeline

	Period	Activity
2026	April 1 ~ April 28	Application Period
	April 29 ~ May 7	Participant Selection and Announcement
	May 7	Orientation
	May 11 ~ June 7	Online Learning Period
	May 22	Mid-term Assignment Submission
	June 8 ~ June 12	Live Sessions
	June 19	Final Assignment Submission
	Late 2026 / Early 2027	Interviews for 2027 In-Person Program

## 5) Contact Information

For further information regarding the 2026 KRIHS World Campus, please contact us as follows.

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### **Korea Research Institute for Human Settlements (KRIHS)**

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