



Knowledge Sharing / Capacity Building



Water Culture and Citizen Forum

Date / Venue

Sep. 4 to 6, 2019/ #211, #306, #322 and Hallway(3F), EXCO

Hosts

Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport, Daegu Metropolitan City, K-water

Organizer

Korea Water Forum

Program organizers

Green Future, TheARC, Daegu Green Environment Center, Korea Water Forum

Overview

The Water Culture and Citizen Forum is designed for better understanding on local and global water issues and identify citizen's water agenda by close communication among citizens, civil organizations and water experts from public and private sectors. It is an open platform to provide a ground for communication and discussion that will encourage citizen's participation and action for the water challenges.



| Outcomes |

Programs were 'Water education activity for children and teachers', 'River Basin Management in the view of civic activists', 'Special talk on action on water' and 'Youth water talk concert'.

About 100 children and NGOs activists learn more about water and water education. 155 youth and Daegu citizen enjoyed sharing stories and experiences related to water.

Program	River Basin Management in the view of civic activists
Organizer	Green Future

Watershed water management is being pushed forward with the implementation of the Integrated Water Management Policy, but from the water activist's point of view, this is not working properly. As a result, discussions were set up to suggest the correct watershed management direction and to prepare specific plans.

- Regarding the launching of the National Water Management Committee, the issue of barrage is the biggest issue and how to solve these problems and how to resolve conflicts among stakeholders with different positions will be important.
- Capacity Building is the key for civil society organizations to develop specialties and to prepare to lead the group by gathering voice on policies. For future generations, civil society organizations need to focus on environmental education and nurture instructors. NGOs cooperate and communicate with local governments, and water quality management and watershed management in cooperation with local governments are the points of success.
- Sustainable water management is about discussing how to use water without breaking the flow of the watershed. I think the Watershed Management Committee will be a forum for public discussion and communication.

Program	Water education activity for children
Organizers	Green Future, TheARC

Water education lessons for children to help them understand water properly and to practice it at home through scientific experiences and experiments. About 100 children experience hands-on learning about various topics related to water.

- Increasing the value of water and ecological susceptibility in ecosystems by raising terrarium, hydroponic plants.
- Using globe ball play to understand earth's water distribution (clouds, soil, sea, rivers, lakes, animals, plants, etc.) and creating droplet bracelets to understand the earth's water circulation system.
- Learning about the principles of environmentally friendly water bottles and the severity of plastic pollution. Learning how to reduce plastics.



Program	Youth water talk concert
Organizer	Daegu Green Environment Center

The 2019 Youth 'Water' Talk Concert was aims to provide young people with the opportunity to recognize global water issues, such as global water shortages and water pollution, and to find solutions for them to use sustainable water.

- There were two presentations about Sustainable Water uses and the activities of Water Industry Supporters.
- Youth raised Sustainable Water and Awareness of Global Water Issues.
- It was the opportunities for youth to raise awareness of national water industry cluster and water industry.

Program	Water educator workshop
Organizer	Korea Water Forum

To educate water educators for continuous water and environmental education by utilizing the educational program of the Project WET (Water Education for Teachers) Foundation, which provides easy and fun water education programs.

- Students are able to express the flow of water flowing through rivers and basins as a whole, while learning about the amount of water that varies with season and climate, and explain the major components of the watershed.
- Understand the harmful effects of aquatic alien species arising from climate change on existing native ecosystems and gain a deeper understanding of alien species that threaten biodiversity.

Program	Special talk on action on water
Organizer	Green Future

After listening to the experience of water movement from senior activists, it is possible to reflect on the current water movement.

- Prof. Jang-Chul Chin, Co-chair of Five Rivers Basin Council : Civil movements have more to be addressed by social science than natural science, and water also needs a social science approach. In order for the civil movement to succeed, it is necessary to establish good governance. I think good governance is governance that can only be achieved by forming rational persuasion and emotional consensus among the people.
- Prof. Gye Woon Choi, Professor of Incheon University: In order to have a competitive edge in water, a characteristic water culture forum should be conducted. In each region, specialized water cultures should be developed and held in forums, and international competitiveness should be built around specialized forums.