

2022 KIPA-UN DESA Forum

Public Administration and Governance for Sustainable Development in the Era of COVID-19

Co-organized by
Korea Institute of Public Administration (KIPA)
United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA)

14 October 2022
13:00 PM – 16:30 PM Seoul (GMT+9)

Venue:
2F, Main Auditorium, Korea Institute of Public Administration (KIPA)
&
Via YouTube (<https://bit.ly/3Cj693z>)

I. Background

Natural disasters such as the increased frequency and intensity of extreme climate-related events and borderless public health emergencies such as the COVID-19 pandemic are the challenges currently shared by the global society. The call for decisive actions to avoid climate catastrophes and ensure sustainable development in the era of COVID-19 calls for innovative public governance whilst unlocking the potential of digital and data technologies. While responses to COVID-19 required the acceleration of digital transformation, the active utilization of digital and data technologies allowed countries to make informed, transparent, and accountable decisions during the pandemic. This emphasized the importance of public administration and governance in the current times, with less than a decade to act on the promises under the [2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development](#).

In 2018, the [High-Level Political Forum \(HLPF\) on Sustainable Development](#) issued a Ministerial Declaration which emphasized that digital and data technologies could act as powerful tools to realize the 2030 Agenda.¹ Digital and data technologies act as new mechanisms for innovation and are regarded as an asset to realizing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). As such, strengthening digital data governance is important for the promotion, innovation, and investment in digital and data technologies for countries to declare a climate emergency, to accelerate climate action, and to address any COVID-19 pandemic related issues on an emergency footing.

In 2022, the UN Project Office on Governance (UNPOG), an integral part of the Division for Public Institutions and Digital Government (DPIDG) of the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA), has organized several capacity development workshops and webinars on establishing

¹ UN DESA. High-Level Political Forum 2018. <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/hlpf/2018>

effective, inclusive, and accountable public governance, unlocking the potential of data and digital technologies through instituting digital data governance, and enhancing public-private-people partnerships (PPPPs) to overcome the adverse impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and climate change. Moreover, UNPOG has also been developing three Handbooks: i) Strengthening Resilience in Cities and Local Communities through Innovation and Digital Government; ii) Promoting Local Innovation for Inclusion of People in Vulnerable Situations and Leaving No One Behind; and iii) Effective National to Local Governance for Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation, as part of the Handbooks on Innovative Local Governance, to support the capacity development of member states in their effective, innovative, and resilient responses to COVID-19 and climate crisis.

The Korea Institute of Public Administration (KIPA) has conducted a research project on *Public Administration and Governance for Sustainable Development in the Era of COVID-19*, which encompasses the topics: i) Building Public-Private Governance for Development Effectiveness and Sustainable Development Goals; ii) The Types of Political Systems to Address the COVID-19 Pandemic; iii) The European Union (EU)'s Public Governance for the Carbon Neutral Economic System and the Green Deal Strategy; iv) Strengthening Public Governance towards a Green and Sustainable Recovery from COVID-19; and v) Strengthening Digital Data Governance for Achieving Climate Neutrality.

Against this background, the United Nations Project Office on Governance (UNPOG/DPIDG/UN DESA) and the Korea Institute of Public Administration (KIPA) are co-organizing the Forum on **“Public Administration and Governance for Sustainable Development in the Era of COVID-19.”** As part of the continued collaboration between UNPOG and KIPA to co-organize the annual forum, it will explore innovative public governance approaches and methods to leverage digital transformation to achieve the 2030 Agenda and address climate crisis. The Forum will be held in hybrid format, where presenters and discussants will be expected to share experiences based on concrete country cases focusing on the factors that either promote or hinder efforts on the topic.

II. Objectives

- I. Examine the importance of public-private governance for the effective and sustainable achievement of the 2030 Agenda;
- II. Exchange different public governance approaches including the national and local-level strategies, institutional frameworks, and policy implementations for carbon neutrality;
- III. Discuss innovative country practices in public governance and strengthening digital data governance for climate neutrality;
- IV. Exchange innovative solutions and suggest recommendations in strengthening public governance for a green and sustainable recovery from COVID-19;
- V. Share effective approaches in utilizing data and digital technologies for climate neutrality and in overcoming COVID-19.

III. Thematic Focus

I. Session I. Inquiring Innovative Governance in the Pandemic Times (KIPA)

Achieving the cross-cutting Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in these turbulent times requires a shift in partnership that goes beyond the public and private sectors. Innovative and creative governance approaches by leveraging the public-private-people partnership (PPPP) can bring greater efficiency and sustainability to the achievement of the Goals. With the most recent pandemic having emphasized the importance of whole-of-society efforts in overcoming the pandemic-related challenges, the PPPP is expected to assist governments in tailoring their responses and national goals

to the local context. PPPP can also increase resilience and bring more sustainable solutions, improve access to infrastructure and services, and mobilize high-level political action during the pandemic times.

The COVID-19 pandemic has illustrated how vulnerable and exposed the world is to global threats. With the effects of rapid climate change being one of those threats, the road to reducing Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions by 2030 and achieving net-zero by 2050 will require efforts across all society and sectors. The European Union (EU)'s Fit-for-55 Package is often mentioned as an exemplary case when it comes to achieving carbon neutrality and mobilizing public governance for all levels of government, industrial sectors, and society in underpinning the bloc's pledge to cut GHG emissions by at least 55% in 2030 compared with 1990 levels. With the package to fundamentally transform the paradigm of partnership and cooperation amongst national and local governments, private sectors, and other related stakeholders, developed and developing countries alike are on the lookout for EU's innovative governance approaches to climate change.

This Session aims to discuss the innovative governance strategies to enhance coordination between the public and private sectors for the effective and sustainable achievement of the SDGs. It will converse on how policy coherence through institutional coordination, inclusive and participatory governance, transparent and accountable governance can contribute to addressing the unprecedented challenges from the COVID-19 pandemic and climate change.

II. Session II. Exploring Innovative Strategies for SDG Implementation (UN DESA)

The socio-economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and the exacerbating impact of the climate crisis are the major defining crises hindering efforts to achieve the SDGs by 2030. These challenges present the need for governments to adopt different approaches and strategies to achieve the SDGs, aside from the ones they have previously implemented. Amongst those, strengthening public governance is considered as one of the key implementation strategies for achieving the 2030 Agenda and [building forward together](#). As governments will continue to be at the center of coordinating response measures to consequent pandemics and climate crisis, this calls for the strengthening of effective, transparent, accountable, and inclusive whole-of-government approach at national and local levels. Consequently, identifying the appropriate roles and responsibilities of institutional actors by breaking down silos, increasing cooperation and collaboration, and ensuring inclusivity so that no one gets left behind during the green and sustainable recovery from these crises would be crucial.

The abovementioned crises require governments to increase investments in innovative technologies. While data and digital technologies effectively coordinated widespread testing, contact tracing, and contagion containment during the COVID-19 pandemic, these technologies likewise have the potential to contribute to climate mitigation and adaptation efforts through carbon profiling and providing accurate environmental and climate data to analyze and predict future climate-related challenges. This emphasizes the importance of digital data governance that is composed of the following: i) people (how different stakeholders are involved in the governance paradigm), ii) process (the legislative framework that engages diverse stakeholders starting from the public sector to the private sector, academia, civil society, and individuals), and iii) technology (the digital and data technologies such as AI, data analytics, GIS, and citizen science involved in the process).

The objective of this session is to explore different implementation strategies to strengthen public governance for a green and sustainable recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. Moreover, it aims to

discuss how strengthening digital data governance at national and local levels and actively utilizing data and digital technologies contribute to achieving climate neutrality by 2050.

IV. Structure and Methodology

The Forum will feature two sessions run by the respective institutions, thematic presentations, a Q&A and interactive discussion session, and panel discussion. The Forum will also provide the opportunity to introduce UN DESA/DPIDG's Curriculum on Governance for the SDGs, present key findings from DPIDG's analytical work, and share the outcomes and policy recommendations from other recent capacity development activities, including webinars, reports, and workshops.

The Forum will be conducted in an in-person format – at the Korea Institute of Public Administration (KIPA). The Forum will be convened for one day for 4 hours. It will be conducted in English with simultaneous English-Korean translation.

The recording, presentations, and the final report will be made available after the Session on the UNPOG website at <http://www.unpog.org/>.

V. Target Audience

This Forum will bring together national and local government officials in Korea and from abroad responsible for coordinating and leading the national efforts in achieving the SDGs, addressing climate crisis, and overcoming COVID-19. Participants will be composed of policymakers, public governance experts, practitioners, private sectors, civil society organizations, and the academia. At the end of this Forum, they will benefit from a more innovative, sustainable, and resilient approaches to sustainable development, together with the importance of leveraging digital technologies and strengthening governance for a sustainable and resilient approach to climate action.

VI. Co-organizers

Korea Institute of Public Administration (KIPA)

KIPA is committed to researching the development improvement of the administrative system. It collects and manages information and data related to public administration. It also aims to contribute to national administrative development by promoting the exchange of information among domestic and overseas research institutes. KIPA has a vision of a 'vibrant research environment, leading the innovative and inclusive government' and it has a mission to lead scientific, autonomous, and innovative research to devise public administration policy. KIPA promotes research for government innovation to realize social values and it is mandated to foster leadership to lead the inclusive nation, expand research networks to lead future changes, strengthen research capacity, and establish active organizational culture for everyone.

UN DESA/DPIDG/UNPOG

UN DESA holds up the development pillar of the UN Secretariat and works to promote the social, economic, and environmental dimensions of sustainable development. UN DESA promotes capacity development as a link between global and regional processes and development at the country level. The mandate of DPIDG is to assist the Member States in fostering effective, efficient, transparent, accountable, innovative, and citizen-centered public governance, administration, and services for sustainable development. United Nations Project Office on Governance (UNPOG), as an integral part of UN DESA/DPIDG, is mandated to address the strengthening of the capacities of public

administration in Asia and the Pacific and Eastern Africa to translate the SDGs and other internationally agreed goals into institutional arrangements, strategies, and programmes at the country level.

VII. Draft Agenda

Time (KST, GMT+9)	14 October 2022 (Friday)
13:00-13:15 (15 mins)	Opening
Moderator: Ms. Ga-Young So Associate Research Fellow, Korea Institute of Public Administration	
13:00-13:05 (5 mins)	Opening Remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Jae Ho Eun Senior Research Fellow, Korea Institute of Public Administration
13:05-13:10 (5 mins)	Welcoming Remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Keping Yao Senior Governance and Public Administration Expert, UNPOG/DPIDG/UN DESA
13:10-13:15 (5 mins)	Group Photo
13:15-13:20 (5 mins)	Break
13:20-14:50 (90 mins)	Session 1 (KIPA): Inquiring Innovative Governance in the Pandemic Times
Moderator: Ms. Ga-Young So Associate Research Fellow, Korea Institute of Public Administration	
13:20-13:40 (20 mins)	Presentation 1: Building Public-Private Governance for SDGs through Private Sector Engagement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Jin Wook Choi Professor, Department of Public Administration, Korea University
13:40-13:50 (10 mins)	Panel Discussion: Building Public-Private Governance for SDGs through Private Sector Engagement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Hyun-Joo Chang Professor, Department of Public Administration, Hankuk University of Foreign Studies
13:50-14:10 (20 mins)	Presentation 2: Does the Type of Political System Matter for the Wicked Problem of the COVID-19 Pandemic? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Jaekwon Cha Professor, Department of Political Science and Diplomacy, Pukyong National University
14:10-14:30 (20 mins)	Presentation 3: EU's Public Governance for the Carbon Neutral Economic System and the Green Deal Strategy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Sang-Chul Park Professor, Graduate School of Knowledge-based Technology and Energy, Korea Polytech University
Moderator: Ms. Ga-Young So Associate Research Fellow, Korea Institute of Public Administration	

14:30-14:40 (10 mins)	Panel Discussion: <i>Does the Type of Political System Matter for the Wicked Problem of the COVID-19 Pandemic?</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Fiona O. Yap Professor & Head of School, Economics and Public Policy, University of Adelaide
14:40-14:50 (10 mins)	Panel Discussion: <i>EU's Public Governance for the Carbon Neutral Economic System and the Green Deal Strategy</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Pawel Pasierbiak Professor, Maria Curie Sklodowska University
14:50-15:05 (15 mins)	Break
15:05-16:05 (60 mins)	Session 2 (UN DESA): Exploring Innovative Strategies for SDG Implementation
	Moderator: Ms. Hye Yong (Hailey) Kim Associate Research and Policy Analysis Expert, UNPOG/DPIDG/UN DESA
15:05-15:25 (20 mins)	Presentation 1: Strengthening Public Governance towards a Green and Sustainable Recovery from COVID-19: A Comparative Study between Bangladesh and Korea <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. M Aslam Alam Chairman & Executive Director, Bangladesh Institute for Information Literacy and Sustainable Development (BIILSD)
15:25-15:45 (20 mins)	Presentation 2: Strengthening Digital Data Governance for Achieving Climate Neutrality – An Effective Approach to Unlocking the Potential of Data and Digital Technology <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. John Hongsup Song Representative Partner, Green Transformation Lab (20 mins)
	Moderator: Ms. Hye Yong (Hailey) Kim Associate Research and Policy Analysis Expert, UNPOG/DPIDG/UN DESA
15:45-15:55 (10 mins)	Panel Discussion: <i>Strengthening Public Governance towards a Green and Sustainable Recovery from COVID-19: A Comparative Study between Bangladesh and Korea</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Ramiz Uddin Head of Experimentation, Accelerator Lab, UNDP Bangladesh
15:55-16:05 (10 mins)	Panel Discussion: <i>Strengthening Digital Data Governance for Achieving Climate Neutrality – An Effective Approach to Unlocking the Potential of Data and Digital Technology</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Keping Yao Senior Governance and Public Administration Expert, UNPOG/DPIDG/UN DESA
16:05-16:25 (20 mins)	Roundtable Session
	Moderator: Mr. Tae Young Kim Professor, Department of Public Administration, Kyung Hee University
16:05-16:25 (20 mins)	Roundtable Discussants: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Jaekwon Cha Professor, Department of Political Science and Diplomacy, Pukyong National University • Mr. Sang-Chul Park

	<p>Professor, Graduate School of Knowledge-based Technology and Energy, Korea Polytech University</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. M Aslam Alam Chairman & Executive Director, Bangladesh Institute for Information Literacy and Sustainable Development (BIILSD) • Mr. John Hongsup Song Representative Partner, Green Transformation Lab
16:25-16:30 (5 mins)	Wrap Up & Closing
Moderator: Ms. Hye Yong (Hailey) Kim Associate Research and Policy Analysis Expert, UNPOG/DPIDG/UN DESA	

VII. Contact Information

Korea Institute of Public Administration
Ms. Seojeong Park
Researcher, Institute of Public Administration (KIPA)
lyricpoetry@kipa.re.kr

UN DESA/DPIDG/UNPOG
Mr. Kyu Chang Ko
Head
UNPOG/DPIDG/UN DESA
kyu.ko@un.org

Ms. Hye Yong (Hailey) Kim
Associate Research & Policy Analysis Expert
UNPOG/DPIDG/UN DESA
hyeyong.kim@un.org