



# Blue Skies & Net Zero 2050 Campaign Round Table: Media Clippings



Sept. 7, 2020

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Seoul,  
Republic of  
Korea



<https://koreajoongangdaily.joins.com/2020/09/07/national/diplomacy/GGGI-Blue-Skies-and-Net-Zero-2050-Campaign-International-Day-of-Clean-Air-for-Blue-Skies/20200907175800437.html>

## Meeting in Seoul, climate leaders call for global cooperation



From fifth from left, the Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI) President and Chair Ban Ki-moon; Yoo Young-sook, chairwoman of the board of directors at the Climate Change Center; and British Ambassador to Korea Simon Smith join representatives of other members of the "Blue Skies and Net Zero 2050 Campaign" at GGGI's conference on the campaign on Monday at the institute in central Seoul. [PARK SANG-MOON]

Recognizing Monday as the International Day of Clean Air for Blue Skies, the Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI) and embassies in Seoul called for global efforts to work with civic groups to combat greenhouse gas emissions, climate change and other air pollution crises.

last year adopted by consensus the resolution to designate this day to help improve air quality, raise awareness of air pollution and acknowledge that air quality and climate change mitigation are very closely linked."

He continued, "Active collaboration among government agencies, embassies, civil society groups and international organizations, like GGGI and the Green Climate Fund, are key to reducing air pollution and tackling climate change."

The conference was joined by members of the "Blue Skies and Net Zero 2050 Campaign," launched last December by GGGI and the Climate Change Center, which includes the embassies of Denmark, France, Britain, Canada, Italy and the Netherlands, along with the European Delegation in Korea and civic groups including Green Environment Youth Korea.

In addition to addressing the fine dust issue in Korea — Seoul ranked as one of the worst cities in terms of worst air pollution problems in 2017



"Today, Sept. 7, is a special day," Ban Ki-moon, president and chair of the GGGI, said during his opening remarks for a climate change conference at the institution in central Seoul on Monday. "Led by the Korean government, the UN General Assembly

— the campaign aims to request that the Korean government define its long-term strategy for the country to achieve net-zero emissions by 2050.

“Net-zero” refers to removing greenhouse gas emissions at the same rate as they are being produced — typically achieved through a combination of aggressively cutting emissions and undertaking measures like forest restoration to offset those new greenhouse gases being introduced into the atmosphere.

The most recent government plan to address the issue — the so-called Green New Deal — does not specify annual reductions in greenhouse gas emissions needed for Korea to go net-zero by 2050, a goal being adapted by many nations around the world, especially signatories to the Paris climate agreement.

Civic groups present at the conference Monday emphasized that Korea needs all hands on deck to reduce its emissions.

“I firmly believe that the Green New Deal will be led by the government but must be completed with civil societies,” said Yoo Young-sook, chairwoman of the board of directors at Climate Change Center, a nongovernmental organization on climate change in Korea. “The center will be sparing no effort to expand and strengthen the role of civil society [...] to successful implementation of the Green New Deal.”

It is also part of the campaign’s goals to outline a five-year Nationally Determined Conditions (NDC) target for the Paris Agreement in the lead up to the 26th United Nations Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP 26) scheduled for 2021 in Glasgow. Korea has yet to submit its NDC target set through 2025, due at the end of this year.

“Korea is one of the world’s top-10 global emitters [...] Korean 2050 net-zero declaration will be an immense statement of leadership in raising the global ambition on climate change,” said Simon Smith, British ambassador to Korea. “COP 26 will be one of the last chances for the international community to mitigate damaging risks for climate change.”

BY ESTHER CHUNG [chung.juhee@joongang.co.kr]



Climate leaders meet in Seoul, urge global cooperation

From fifth from left, the Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI) President and Chair Ban Ki-moon; Yoo Young-sook, chairwoman of the board of directors at the Climate Change Center; and British Ambassador to Korea Simon Smith (third from left) are among the members of the “Blue Skies and Net Zero 2050 Campaign” at GGGI’s conference on Monday at the institute in central Seoul.

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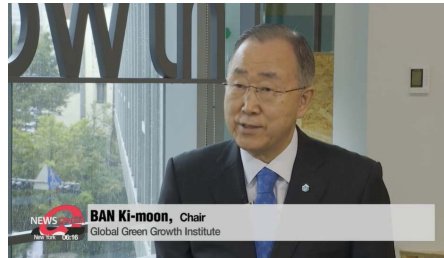
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[http://www.arirang.com/News/News\\_View.asp?nseq=264588](http://www.arirang.com/News/News_View.asp?nseq=264588)

# ‘Blue Skies and Net-zero 2050’ campaign urges S. Korea to legislate reducing emissions



Succeeding generations won't see blue skies unless the world cuts greenhouse gas emissions to net-zero within 30 years. This is the strong message the members of the Global Green Growth Institute hope to send with its 'Blue Skies and Net Zero 2050 Campaign'. And the United Nations accepting South Korea's proposal of having an 'International Day of Clean Air for Blue Skies' is a hopeful first step.

"This really means and highlights the exceptionally strong interest and commitment of the international community to really claim for the people of the world to enjoy, to breathe fresh air, clean air"

However, the UK ambassador to South Korea says reducing emissions and green house gases are two of the most pressing issues. And introducing new legislation has helped guide private sectors into making the transition.

"We are convinced in the UK that green economy is the economy that will grow, we are convinced that accelerating the change from traditional fossil fuels to renewable energy is good for our economy and

we've legislated to make sure that we stay bang on target to do that."

Society also plays a pivotal role in putting the plan into practice. The Chair of Climate Change Center says the public should be willing facilitators in building a social consensus for large-scale financial commitments.

"Governments have many stakeholders to consider. It's the civil societies that can strongly demand to a move towards the right path. With a fierce will to fight and sufficient knowledge, they must remain balanced and make the right changes."

Arirang TV is also taking part as it has signed an MOU with the Global Green Growth Institute. The international broadcaster will actively participate in further campaigns and events organized by GGGI and will together help raise awareness of environmental issues.

Choi jeong-yoon, Arirang News.  
Reporter : jychoi@arirang.com

<https://gggi.org/blue-skies-and-net-zero-2050-campaign-round-table/>

## Blue Skies and Net-Zero 2050 Campaign Round Table



SEOUL, Republic of Korea; Monday, September 7, 2020 – Today, the Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI) and the Climate Change Center co-hosted the Blue Skies and Net-Zero 2050 Campaign Round Table to raise awareness of the twin air pollution and climate crises and build support for ambitious action to tackle these challenges.

President and Chair of GGGI, Mr. Ban Ki-moon, delivered the opening remarks of the event sharing, “We need to build stronger public awareness of both the air pollution and climate crises and demonstrate support for ambitious, bold action. I would be very proud if the Korean Government can find more ways to ramp up climate action, create green jobs, & set clear targets—such as Net-Zero 2050.”

“As we all know, there is an urgency to set a clear deadline on making ourselves carbon free. We have no other planet,” shares Mr. Ban Ki-moon.

H.E. Simon Smith, British Ambassador to the Republic of Korea, delivered the Welcome Remarks of the Round Table, sharing that the UK aims to phase out coal completely by 2024 and, last year, the UK was the first industrialized nation to legislate a 2050 net-zero target. During his presentation, he explains that, in most parts of the world, solar and wind energy are already cheaper than fossil fuels and, since 2010, the cost of solar power has fallen by 85%, and that of wind power by 49%.

“Climate change is everyone’s business. As we have seen in the UK and elsewhere, climate leadership can and must come from all sectors of society. It is in everyone’s interest to care,” shared Ambassador Simon Smith. “It’s no longer a question of whether green and economic growth can go together. For the sake of all of us, and that of future generations, they simply must.”



Following the welcoming remarks, a keynote speech was delivered by Dr. Yoo Young Sook, Chairperson of the Board of the Directors of the Climate Change Center and Former Environment Minister of the Republic of Korea, to share that we must believe in our capacity and unite to take actions to achieve Blue Skies & Net-Zero emissions.



At the close of the first session, GGGI Director-General, Dr. Frank Rijsberman, delivered a presentation to introduce the Blue Skies and Net-zero 2050 Campaign and emphasize the need to beat air pollution, explaining that combatting the climate crisis and meeting the goals of the Paris Agreement could save a million lives per year by 2050 solely from reductions in air pollution. During

the presentation, Dr. Rijsberman also provided information on GGGI’s collaboration with the Green Climate Fund to [enhance access to climate finance through readiness support](#).

Watch the recording of [Session 1 here](#).

The 2nd session of the event featured a panel discussion for participants to share diverse best practices to achieve net-zero emissions, including experiences presented by representatives from national and local governments, private sector organizations, and civil society groups. Speakers included, H.E. Joanne Doornewaard, Dutch Ambassador to Korea; Ms. Park Yeonhee, Director of Korea Office, ICLEI-Local Governments for Sustainability; Mr. Lee Sang-kyoo, Vice President of Environment & Quality Management Department of Korea South-East Power Corporation; Mr. Lee Wookyun, Director of OJJeong Resilience Institute of Korea University; Ms. Ha Jiwon, President of Ecomom Korea; Mr. Choi Dongmin, CEO of Green Wave; and Ms. Cho Gyuri, President of GEYK (Green Environment Youth Korea).

Ambassador and Deputy Minister for Climate Change for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Korea, Mr. Yoo Yeon-chul, delivered the closing remarks of the event. “As Chair Ban Ki-moon emphasized, air pollution and climate change are two sides of the same coin. Air pollution and climate change are not challenges that a single country can address ... whether it’s COVID-19 or climate change, to overcome them, we require global solidarity on going green,” explained Ambassador Yoo Yeon-chul.

Watch the recording of [Session 2 here](#).

# Media Photos from the Blue Skies and Net-Zero 2050 Campaign Round Table



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<http://www.newscj.com/news/articleView.html?idxno=776843>

# KOEN, ‘제1회 푸른 하늘의 날’… 다양한 캠페인 활동 펼쳐



7일 열린 푸른하늘과 2050 순배출 제로 달성을 위한 2020 라운드 테이블에서 이상규 남동발전 환경품질처장이 패널로 참석해 2050 순배출제로 달성계획 등에 대해 발표하고 있다. (제공: 한국남동발전) ©천지일보 2020.9.7

[천지일보=김정자 기자] 한국남동발전(KOEN)은 ‘제1회 푸른 하늘의 날’을 맞아 전직원 및 인근지역 주민들에게 푸른 하늘의 날 제정 의미를 알리고 환경보전 인식개선을 위한 생활 속 대기개선 실천습관 동참을 유도하는 캠페인을 시행했다고 7일 밝혔다.

푸른 하늘의 날은 우리나라가 제안해 지정된 최초의 UN 공식 기념일이자 국가 기념일이다. 지난해 9월 문재인 대통령이 UN 기후행동 정상회의에서 제안해 같은 해 12월 UN총회에서 매년 9월 7일을 ‘푸른 하늘을 위한 국제 맑은 공기의 날’로 지정하는 결의안이 채택된 바 있다.

남동발전은 이날 푸른 하늘의 날의 제정 의미를 알리기 위해 사옥 내외부 전광판과 전자리플렛을 활용해 환경부가 지정한 슬로건인 ‘모두를 위한 맑은 공기, 우리가 만드는 푸른하늘’과 실천 수칙을 홍보함과 동시에 전직원을 대상으로 대기환경 상식을 주제로 한 기후변화 퀴즈대회를 개최했다.

또 미래세대를 책임지는 처실별 대표직원들이 한자리에 모여 온실가스, 미세먼지 감축정책을 공유하고

토론하기 위한 Blue Sky Meeting을 코로나 방역수칙을 준수한 가운데 시행했다.

같은 날 서울에서는 푸른 하늘의 날을 맞아 글로벌 녹색성장 기구(GGGI), 기후변화센터 주관으로 ‘푸른하늘과 2050 순배출제로 달성을 위한 2020 라운드 테이블’이 개최됐다. 반기문 GGGI 의장, 유연철 기후변화대사, 주한외교단과 기업, 학계, 시민사회 등 분야별 대표자들이 참석해 넷제로 달성을 위한 각자의 노력과 사례 등을 공유했다.

특히 남동발전은 기업계를 대표해 이상규 환경품질처장이 패널로 초청돼 과감한 에너지전환 성과와 그린뉴딜 과제 및 앞으로의 2050 순배출제로 달성계획 등을 발표했다.

유향열 남동발전 사장은 “앞으로도 남동발전은 환경경영을 기업경영 최우선가치로 인식해 친환경적인 전력을 안정적으로 공급할 뿐만 아니라 푸른 하늘의 날을 계기로 국민이 체감할 수 있는 맑은 공기, 푸른 하늘을 만드는 데에 앞장서는 발전공기업이 되도록 최선을 다할 것”이라고 말했다.

출처 : 천지일보(<http://www.newscj.com>)

<https://www.edaily.co.kr/news/read?newsId=04001606625897824&-mediaCodeNo=257&OutLnkChk=Y>

## 기후변화센터, 온실가스 순배출 제로 라운드 테이블 개최



[이데일리 문승관 기자] 기후변화센터는 7일 글로벌 녹색성장연구소와 '제1회 세계 푸른 하늘의 날'을 맞아 '푸른하늘과 2050 순배출 제로 캠페인 라운드 테이블'을 개최했다고 밝혔다.

2050 순배출 제로는 2050년까지 다양한 수단을 통해 온실가스 총 배출량을 0으로 만드는 것이다. 반기문 GGGI 이사장의 환영사로 시작한 이번 라운드 테이블은 사이먼 스미스 주한 영국대사의 축사와 유영숙 기후변화센터 이사장의 기조연설로 진행했다.

반기문 GGGI 이사장은 “‘세계 푸른 하늘의 날’ 제정은 기후변화 대응에 함께 협력해야 한다는 글로벌 합의에 따른 것”이라며 “GGGI는 그린 리커버리에 대한 리포트를 통해 재생에너지 투자로 창출할 녹색 일자리가 매우 매력적인 녹색투자의 결과물임을 지속적으로 밝혀 왔다”고 말했다.

유영숙 기후변화센터 이사장은 “시민사회가 순배출 제로 목표연도 설정과 함께 공정하고 정의로운 전환을 정부에 요구해야 한다”며 적극적인 시민사회의 행동의 필요성을 역설했다. 이후 이어진 라운드 테이블에서는 최재철 기후변화센터 공동대표의 진행으로 요안느 도너바르트 주한네덜

란드대사, 조규리 청년단체 GEYK 대표, 이상규 한국남동발전 환경품질처장, 이우균 고려대학교 오정리질리언스연구원장, 하지원 에코맘코리아 대표, 최동민 그린웨이브 대표, 박연희 이클레이 한국사무소장 등이 참여해 다채로운 논의를 이어갔다.

조규리 GYEK 대표는 “석탄화력발전 투자 철회가 선행해야 푸른하늘의 회복과 순배출 제로를 달성할 수 있다”며 “GEYK은 석탄투자 철회에 대한 정책제안과 인식제고 활동을 펼치고 있다”고 말했다.

이상규 남동발전 환경품질처장은 “남동발전은 2050년 순배출 제로를 선언한 한국 최초의 회사로서 태양광, 풍력 등 체계적인 에너지 전환을 통해 석탄 발전을 단계적으로 철폐할 예정”이라고 설명했다.

유연철 외교부 기후변화대사는 폐회사를 통해 “코로나19 대유행으로 우리는 다시금 글로벌 위기에 경계가 없다”며 “이를 극복하기 위해서는 녹색으로 향하는 국제적 연대가 필요하다”는 것을 알게 되었다. 이날 캠페인은 내년 국내에서 열릴 P4G 정상회의에서 경제 위기와 코로나19 여파를 극복하는 과정 중에 강조될 글로벌 협업의 일부가 될 것이다”고 언급했다.