

10:00 - 10:10, Monday 10, August 2020  
The 4th SDGs Youth Summer Camp

[Welcoming Remarks by Park Chan Ho, Vice Chairman of K-eco]

Distinguished Students and honorable Dean of HASS(Humanities, Arts and Social Science Division) of Yonsei University, Soojin Jun and acting president of UNOSD, Jean D’Aragon.

Good morning! Welcome to the 4th SDGs (Sustainable Development Goals) Youth Summer Camp. I am pleased to be here today with talented students from all around the world.

My name is Park Cha Ho, a Vice Chairman of Korea Environment Corporation.

First of all, I would like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude to UNOSD and Yonsei University for hosting this Youth Summer Camp with K-eco even in a difficult situation caused by COVID-19.

Rapid industrialization and urbanization result in climate changes, water scarcity and contamination, resource depletion and other collateral damage to the entire world. We need to take an action to challenges we face before it is too late.

Our world is home to 1.8 billion young people between the ages of 10 to 24, the largest generation of young people in its history. About 90 percent of youth population live in developing countries. With such numbers, it is clear that sustainable development cannot be achieved unless young people do not create the conditions which allow them to reach and unleash their full potential.

Dear Young Friends,

I would like to point out that “Young people are a vast source of innovation, ideas and solutions who push for the needed change in technology, climate action, inclusivity and societal justice.”

There are four roles the world has expected for young people to play to accelerate SDGs implementation.

**First, Change-maker:** Young people have the power to change others through motivation

**Second, Innovators:** Young people often have direct knowledge and insights into issues that the older generations tend to have difficulty understanding.

**Third, communicators:** Young people can be partners in communicating the development agenda to their peers and communities at the local level, as well as across countries and regions.

**Last but not least,** when young people are empowered with the knowledge of their rights and equipped with leadership, they can drive change as leaders.

Dear Young Friends,

K-eco is a governmental organization under the Ministry of Environment and it aims at becoming a total environment services provider all over the world.

Based on its mission to contribute to the realization of eco-friendly national development, K-eco has been implementing a wide range of environmental management tasks from air & climate, water, waste treatment, resource circulation, environmental health to environment facilities.

As we approach new era of the SDGs to ensure that no one is left behind, K-eco will always work on the path of achieving SDGs side by side with you.

I hope this event will serve as a venue for our young people to play a big role in sustainable development activities. Therefore, someday, somewhere I will see you play remarkable roles in SDG good practices.

Thank you.