

Curriculum Vitae



PERSONAL SUMMARY focused on Geopark

Soojae LEE graduated in 1996 with a Ph.D. in Geological Science from the Seoul National University in Korea. From 1996 to 1997 he was employed by the Basic Science Institute, Seoul National University, from 1997 to 1998 he visited Department of Geology and Geophysics, University of Wyoming, USA as a Post-Doctoral Researcher and from 1998 to 1999 he was employed by the Korea Institute of Geoscience and Mineral Resources. He now works at the Korea Environment Institute as a policy researcher mainly focused on the environmental conservation.

He introduced the concept of geopark into Korea in 2002 and drafted the national law on the geoparks of Korea promulgated in 2011. With his efforts of promoting the geoparks of Korea, it has now 4 UNESCO Global Geoparks, and 4 aspiring UGGPs based on the 13 National Geoparks in Korea.

He served as a Vice-Coordinator of Asia Pacific Geoparks Network in 2017-2019. He published several research reports and papers on the geoparks and geological heritages with many presentations and talks. He has done numerous advisory visits to foreign countries for the progress of Geoparks.

He is interested in the sustainable development of local area through the Geoparks activities in combination with ecotourism and geotourism. He is now putting more of his energy and time to boost the geoparks for a better tomorrow.

FIELD OF INTEREST

7G: Geology, Geological Heritage, Geopark, Geotourism, Geodiversity, Groundwater, Gaia.

ACADEMIC QUALIFICATION

1980 - 1984 B. Sc. Seoul National University, Geological Sciences.

1984 - 1986 M. Sc. Seoul National University, Geological Sciences.

1989 - 1996 Ph. D. Seoul National University, Geological Sciences.

CAREER HISTORY

1999.10. - Present Chief Research Fellow, Korea Environment Institute.

2010.9. - 2011.8. Visiting Scholar, University of Missouri at Kansas City, USA.

1998.10. - 1999.9. Researcher, Korea Institute of Geosciences and Mineral Resources.

1997.10. - 1998.10. Post-Doc. Geology/Geophysics, Wyoming University, USA.

1996.9. - 1998.3. Researcher, Basic Science Institute, Seoul National University.

RESEARCH AWARDS

Excellent Research 2009, 2012, 2013 (topics: Geoparks, geological heritages, natural conservation).

GEPARK and GEOLOGICAL HERITAGE ACTIVITIES

Member, UNESCO Global Geoparks Council (2018~2021)

Vice-Coordinator, Asia Pacific Geoparks Network (2017~2019)

Evaluator on the roster of UNESCO Global Geoparks Field Evaluation Team.

- Participated in several field missions as an evaluator or observer.

Member of Advisory Committee, Global Geoparks Network.

Member, Korean IGCP committee.

Member of the Committee on the International Designated Areas of Jeju Special Self-Governing Province (subcommittee on the Jeju UNESCO Global Geopark).

Member of the Korea National Geoparks Committee (2012-2018, three consecutive terms, legal duty).

Geopark Advisory for the Korea Geoparks Network and Korea National Geoparks Secretariat.

Councilor (2014-2020, three consecutive terms), Geological Society of Korea.

Councilor (2016-2018), Petrological Society of Korea.

Founder of the Geological Heritage Sub-committee at the Geological Society of Korea.

SELECTED RESEARCHES and PROJECTS

(Italic: principal researcher, underlined: awarded excellent research)

The aspiring Jeonbuk West Coast UNESCO Global Geopark project (Funded by Jeonbuk Province, 2019-2021)

Development of monitoring indicators for the Cheongsong UNESCO Global Geopark (Funded by Cheongsong County, 2018-2019)

The aspiring Ulleungdo-Dokdo UNESCO Global Geopark project (Funded by National Geoparks Secretariat, 2018; 2020)

The Incheon National Geopark project (I, II) (Funded by Incheon City, 2015-2018).

The Danyang National Geopark project (Funded by Danyang County, 2016-2017).

A study on the Revision of National Geoparks Operational Regulations in relation to UNESCO Global Geoparks (Granted by Korea Environment Institute, 2016).

Strategy on the extension of protected areas in Korea (Granted by Korea Environment Institute, 2015).

Identification and documentation of geological heritages in the Capital area and establishment of the criteria for the evaluation (Funded by National Geopark Secretariat, 2014-2015).

A study on the introduction of the National Geotrails System in Korea (Granted by Korea Environment Institute, 2014).

Integrated management strategy for the Jeju International Designated Areas (Funded by Jeju Special Self-Governing Province, 2013-2015).

- *Part of the above was included in Managing MIDAs. Harmonising the management of Multi-Internationally Designated Areas: Ramsar Sites, World Heritage, Biosphere Reserve and UNESCO Global Geoparks (Rodrigues and Schaaf, 2016, IUCN)*

East Coast Nakdongjeongmaek Geopark project (Funded by Gyeongsangbukdo, 2013-2014)

Geopark master plan and establishing certification criteria. (Funded by National Park Service, 2012).

Gyeonggido Imjingang Geopark project (Funded by Gyeonggido, 2012).

Ulleungdo Geopark Project (Funded by Gyeongsangbukdo, 2012).

Policy research on establishing Geopark legal system of Korea (Funded by National Park Service, 2010).

A study on the Global Geopark (Granted by Korea Environment Institute, 2009).

The Jeju Island Geopark project (Funded by Jeju Special Self-Governing Province, 2008).

Geological Heritage and Management of Korea: Construction and management of Data Bases of the Korean geological heritage. (Granted by Korea Environment Institute, 2009).

Strategy for the protection of geological and geomorphological heritage in Korea (Granted by Korea Environment Institute, 2003).

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