IAEC declared November 30 as International Day of the Educating City to celebrate establishment of the Charter of Educating Cities November 30, 1990 and agreed to commemorate with 485 member cities across the world. Korean member cities of IAEC Asia-Pacific Network agreed together to celebrate the International Day of the Educating City at the Gamcheon Culture Village which received the Educating Cities’ Award by IAEC. The Mayor of Saha-gu gave a lecture to the participants to share the success story of urban rehabilitation of the village.

At the event, 39 participants from 18 member cities including Changwon joined to recite the Manifesto of International Day of the Educating City and reiterated the importance of education once again.

Dear Friends,

I am proud to inform you that the objectives set in the action plan have been mainly achieved by means of concrete actions. During this period the IAEC has focussed on the reinforcement of four priority axis connecting with the aims of the network.

As of the increase of the political impact, the IAEC was invited to contribute to the global debate on sustainable development at the 5th UCLG Congress World Summit held in Bogota, Colombia. The Summit saw the adoption of the joint statement on the New Urban Agenda, which was presented at the Habitat III Conference.

With the aim of reinforcing its visibility internationally and to give recognition to its members the IAEC launched an Award to Best Practices on Better Living Together. The city of Saha-gu was one of the 3 winning cities selected by the Jury and was invited to present their initiative at a special session held on the occasion of our 14th International Congress held in Rosario, Argentina. The celebration of this Congress was a good opportunity to reinforce the cooperation between our members, and for the exchange of experiences and best practices. My acknowledgments to the IAEC Asia-Pacific Region for the active participation of its members on this edition.

It was also in 2016 that the IAEC General Assembly agreed to declare November 30th the International Day of the Educating City. More than 120 Mayors worldwide raised their voice in favour of inclusive quality education and lifelong learning opportunities for all.

I encourage you to keep active in this commitment so as to inspire more local leaders in the Asia-Pacific region. I am convinced that the Educating Cities are contributing positively to face the enormous challenges ahead. May this continue to be the case in the New Year!

Ms. Marina Canals Ramoneda
General Secretary
International Association of Educating Cities
The 14th IAEC Congress

The 14th IAEC Congress in Rosario, Argentina, ended with great success. Around 1,200 representatives from 113 cities of 23 countries across the world attended the 4-day event from June 1, 2016 under the theme ‘Living Together in Our Cities’, including Lee Young-ho, Director of Bureau for Planning and Budget of Changwon and Lee Kyung-hoon, the Mayor of Saha-gu, Busan as a representative of Asia-Pacific Network. 27 representatives including 8 municipal governments of Korea attended the opening ceremony, workshops and thematic study visits to expand international educating network through active interaction with participants from all over the world. Especially, as Gamcheon Culture Village at Saha-gu, Busan was one of the 3 winners of the 1st Educating Cities’ Award of IAEC, it offered a great chance to promote good practice, representing Asia-Pacific Network. In addition, the Mayor of Saha-gu was invited to the round table meeting of mayors to highlight active participation of Asia-Pacific members. Besides, Changwon announced that Korean member cities will celebrate the 1st International Day of the Educating City with a joint event and 6 cities including Gun-san made presentations on local good practices at workshops. The 15th IAEC Congress will be held in Cascais, Portugal, in 2017.

Review on participation of the 14th IAEC Congress

Mr. Lee Kyung-hoon
Mayor of Saha-gu, Busan

I am Lee Kyung-hoon, Mayor of Saha-gu, Busan Metropolitan City in Korea and I am honored to deliver my remark for you.

With 113 member cities from 23 countries attending, the 14th IAEC Congress was held in Rosario, Argentina, in June 2016. Undoubtedly, it achieved a huge success.

In particular, Saha-gu received the 1st Edition of the Educating Cities’ Award. Also, the construction of Pagoda Tree Spring Park in Goe-jeong was designated as an excellent case at the workshop space, where we had the opportunity to introduce our efforts to create a leading educating city to many distinguished participants.

The award was given to the “Creative Regeneration, Gamcheon Culture Village” in acknowledgment to the project’s contribution to the social, cultural and economic regeneration of an underprivileged village through culture and arts by setting a participatory process that strengthened the capacities of its inhabitants, the creation of new social bonds and the sense of belonging.

Also, the IAEC secretariat invited us to represent the Asia-Pacific region. We had the privilege to participate in the Roundtable with Mayors, a special forum of six mayors from the world’s leading Educating Cities, to explain our seven agendas to create a space of co-prosperity. We also introduced our varied institutional frameworks to make an inclusive community in which individual and cultural differences are recognized.

I believe the event served as a meaningful venue, where we informed the world of our achievements. All these efforts have consolidated Saha’s status as a leading Educating city.

In order to create a sustainable Educating city, I will continue to attract active and voluntary participation from relevant institutions, citizens, and the civil society.

To create and enhance Educating Cities, I propose that all the IAEC member cities make concerted efforts. I wish the development of our member cities and the good health of you all.

Thank you.

Mr. Kim Yang-won
Deputy Mayor of Gunsan

This IAEC International Congress made me feel and think a lot, being Gunsan, a trading port city of Northeast Asia, the opposite side of the globe.

One of the most impressive of these was the urban regeneration policy of Rosario, which was very similar to the project promoted by Gunsan, a city of modern history and culture.

It gave me a very strong impression that the old grain warehouse was recycled and used as an international conference venue, and this explained a lot why Rosario set the theme “Living Together in Our Cities” for the International Congress of Educating Cities.

I was able to feel the warmth of the citizens of Rosario through the spectacular performance at the Congress. Our city made a presentation about the policy ‘Find and Visit Lifelong Education’ at the workshop space. It was a great experience to share educational policy with other member cities.

Gilles Lipovetsky, a French educational philosopher, emphasized that a city should actively undertake its responsibilities because education becomes basics for the life of citizens in the opening lecture on “Educating Cities, Creative Cities : Ways for Living Together.” Being responsible for city policy operation, the lecture found a strong echo in my heart.

I would like to express my gratitude again to the city authorities of Rosario, who meticulously prepared the International Congress, and to the smiles of the volunteers who warmly welcomed our party throughout the Congress. ‘Muchas Gracias’
As coordinating city of IAEC Asia-Pacific Network with 28 member cities of 6 countries, Changwon City hosted 2016 H1 IAEC Technical Meeting on January 28 and asked for proactive participation of IAEC member cities from Korea in the upcoming 14th IAEC Congress. Moreover, Changwon officials introduced the details about the Changwon-UNESCO joint meeting to be held in Phuket from May 9 to 11, 2016, which is the first of its kind for local governments, to encourage the participation of IAEC member cities in Korea and promote IAEC to representatives from many cities in the Asia-Pacific region in an effort to expand its membership.

Mr. Lee, Weonyul
Deputy Mayor of Gyeongsan

Hello, I am Lee Weonyul, Deputy Mayor of Gyeongsan City. Gyeongsan took part in the 14th International Congress of the International Association of Educating Cities (IAEC) during which we had the occasion to strengthen our international network, share good practices and contribute to the emergence of a global educational environment.

I personally learned a lot of different cultures from many other countries. From now on I will try to participate in as many IAEC events as possible to expand the global network and promote the leading lifelong learning programs of Gyeongsan.

Mr. Lee Young-ho, Director of Bureau for Planning and Budgetary at Changwon

Hello, I am Lee Young-ho, Director of Bureau for Planning & Budgetary at Changwon.

It was a great pleasure for me to attend the 14th IAEC Congress in Rosario, Argentina, as a representative of a city member of the IAEC Executive Committee and chair city of Asia-Pacific Network.

lt was a long trip of 40-hour flight, almost half of the globe. However, it was a great experience for me to interact with the representatives of 113 domestic and foreign member cities and learn diverse culture and great practices. As a coordinating city of IAEC Network, Changwon will save no effort and will actively participate in Executive Committee meetings and Congresses.

Changwon presided IAEC (International Association of Educating Cities) Asia Pacific Network Technical Meeting on September 9 (Friday) alongside with 2016 Changwon Lifelong Learning & Science Festival. For this meeting, over 30 representatives and officials from 23 member cities including Saha-gu, visited Changwon, the city of culture and Arts and at the same time an international Educating City, to discuss details of the 1st IAEC International Day of the Educating City and the 8th IAEC Asia-Pacific Network regional meeting in 2018.

2016 하반기 IAEC 아·태 네트워크 실무자 간담회 개최

일시 : 2016. 9. 9. (금) 15:30 ~  장소 : 창원컨벤션센터 302호

2 2016 H1 IAEC Asia-Pacific Technical Meeting

As coordinating city of IAEC Asia-Pacific Network with 28 member cities of 6 countries, Changwon City hosted 2016 H1 IAEC Technical Meeting on January 28 and asked for proactive participation of IAEC member cities from Korea in the upcoming 14th IAEC Congress. Moreover, Changwon officials introduced the details about the Changwon-UNESCO joint meeting to be held in Phuket from May 9 to 11, 2016, which is the first of its kind for local governments, to encourage the participation of IAEC member cities in Korea and promote IAEC to representatives from many cities in the Asia-Pacific region in an effort to expand its membership.

3 2016 H2 IAEC Asia-Pacific Technical Meeting

Changwon presided IAEC (International Association of Educating Cities) Asia Pacific Network Technical Meeting on September 9 (Friday) alongside with 2016 Changwon Lifelong Learning & Science Festival. For this meeting, over 30 representatives and officials from 23 member cities including Saha-gu, visited Changwon, the city of culture and Arts and at the same time an international Educating City, to discuss details of the 1st IAEC International Day of the Educating City and the 8th IAEC Asia-Pacific Network regional meeting in 2018.
Changwon, member city of the IAEC Executive Committee, co-organized the Asia-Pacific Regional Education Conference with UNESCO Bangkok Regional Bureau for Education and the Korean National Commission for UNESCO from 9th to 11th of May, 2016, conference promoted debate and discussions on the theme ‘The New Paradigm of Community Learning Centre through Online Lifelong Education towards the Sustainable Society.’ In a media conference attended by 26 media agencies of Thailand, Park Jae-hyun, the 1st Deputy Mayor of Changwon explained why they chose Phuket as the venue of the conference saying “It is essential to expand network with global communities for tourism and high-tech industry projects of Changwon.” The Deputy Mayor also shared the progress Changwon has been making in the arena of international education with 26 local media, saying “Since the foundation of Changwon International Education Centre in Cambodia in 2012, we have been striving to expand humanitarian support projects for the region to contribute to educational development of Asia-Pacific.” During the thematic meeting under the title of ‘Types of Online Lifelong Education and Local Education Centres’, Changwon gave presentation on the status and scale of various online lifelong education programmes together with diverse educational contents, leveraging the latest technologies of the city. Besides, an exhibition booth showing tourism attractions and lifelong learning devices and facilities of Changwon was widely welcomed, attracting 190 visitors on the site.

Among the participants from 25 Asia-Pacific countries, Ms. Zhangli, Director of Global Cooperation in Asia-Pacific Region from Harbin, China, said “I am very impressed by Changwon’s competence to host this large-scale international event outside of the nation,” and added “I would like to invite Changwon to the Harbin International Ice and Snow Sculpture Festival scheduled for January 2017. I am looking forward to seeing you at the festival.” Participants from IAEC member cities said “We are very impressed that a municipal city like Changwon can host such an international level event,” and added “Many local cities of Korea would like to congratulate Changwon’s success and this will be an exemplary case for other cities that are considering hosting of an international event or conference.”

Gunsan is rapidly emerging as a centre of future international trade and logistics and aims at becoming a “Child Friendly City” and a “Lifelong Learning City that Grows Together”. The city government promoted various lifelong learning policies to improve the quality of life of citizens and it is recognized as a front-runner in the field of literacy education in Korea. Gunsan is promoting various lifelong education policies to encourage community spirit and enhance quality of life through the fulfillment and spread of citizens’ lifelong learning needs. Currently, there is one lifelong learning centre, 61 lifelong educational institutions, 90 lifelong learning clubs are in operation with 410 instructors. The citizens can access to an information site on lifelong learning (lll.gunsan.go.kr) and an online lifelong learning centre (cyberedu.gunsan.go.kr) for free online education and lifelong learning information.

In order to revitalize lifelong education in the city, since 2014 Gunsan began the construction of a 4-story building for lifelong learning with a total floor area of 1,566㎡ on a site of 828.2㎡ with a total project cost of KRW 3.8 billion. It was completed in September 2016.

From October, Gunsan is conducting test operation of 26 lifelong education courses including foreign language, coffee dripping, and nail art. It will expand the curriculum from 80 to 100 in 2017.

In addition, Gunsan plans to establish lifelong learning centres at each community in order to implement lifelong learning policies tailored to its characteristics.
The weekend school of Experience with Grandparents & grandchildren

The Personalized Lifelong Learning Programme targets grandparents which are taking care of their grandchildren. This initiative has been designed so as to establish a special learning event on Saturdays for grandparents and their grandchildren. In addition, it takes advantage of the Know-how of local universities on the planning and management of Integrated Programs.

Asian Culture Centre

At the core of Gwangju, the cultural hub of Asia, lies the Asian Culture Centre which sublimates the historical meaning of the May 18 Gwangju Democratization Movement. It is a world-class multicultural centre where people can exchange ideas and dialogue around Asian culture. It’s also a place where culture-based content is produced, showcased, performed and distributed. The monumental underground structure of the “Forest of Light” is an impressive sight to see. The centre is housed on the former Jeollanam-do Provincial Office site and is comprised of five buildings: ACC Culture Exchange, ACC Creation, ACC, Archive & Research, ACC Theatre and ACC Children.

The lifelong learning program coming to a village

Main Contents

1. Purpose
   ● To face the challenge of low learning opportunities in rural areas.
   ● Give answer to the educational needs of local residents by running a lifelong learning program.

2. Action overview
   ● Name: Lifelong learning program coming to a village.
   ● Period: 2016. 3 ~ 12.
   ● Scale: rural area (eup·myun) (7) / village (13)
   ● Participants: around 300
   ● Programme: Art consultation, song class, Life gymnastics, minyo class, dado class, etc.

Message of Peace in the Capital of Global Citizenship Education, Global Geumjeong

invitational concert of UN Orchestra “Music for Peace”

In commemoration of the UN Day 2016, Geumjeong-gu (Mayor Won Jeng hee), the World Federation of United Nations Associations (WFUNA) and Music for One (M4one) invited the UN Orchestra and held a “Music for Peace” concert on the 27th of October at Geumjeong Culture Centre providing a chance for UN members and all residents to communicate through music.
We support your happy marriage!

On July 13th 2016, Dalseo-gu District of Daegu City launched a Marriage Promotion Team for the first time in the nation in order to provide education, information, and services about marriage such as awareness information, wedding preparation and counselling on married life. The team is doing its best to promote a good marital culture by giving information on the advantages of having a healthy family and by underlining the importance of forming a family as well as by planning and undertaking policies for the increasing number of single-person households. It also works to raise awareness that marriage is an option, not an obligation as well as to address various issues concerning low birth rate.

Effective Educational Support System for Disabled Adults

The educational support provided by the government for disabled people guarantee effective education from toddlers to teenagers, yet it is rather insufficient for adults. Along this line, people having developmental disabilities hardly have the opportunity to engage in lifelong education.

To face this situation, it has been proposed to establish an administrative support system with personalized programs for disabled adults so that we can help them to find their own talents and hobbies and continue to provide them the opportunity to engage in activities.

Andong Hangul Class
“80-year Old 1st Graders Published A Book of Poetry”

City of Andong (Mayor Kwon Young-se) hosted an event to celebrate the publication of a poetry book “The Flower of Letters Bloom in Literacy Education” written by old students of the “Visiting Hangul (Korean Alphabet) Class” at the Andong Dam World Water Forum Centre in a ceremony held last November 12 which included poetry performances and an exhibition.

The book is a collection of poems written by Elders for an adult literacy class essay contest. Although they were not expert handwriters, elders wrote their own poems. These creative pieces have been collected for a publication. A 2-week exhibition was also organized to share the blooming new literary life of 68 elder students. Their children were invited to celebrate the meaningful moment together.

Saha-gu held Lifelong Learning Year End Exhibition 2016

Lifelong Learning Year End Exhibition 2016, displaying the fruitful results of the lifelong learning programs in the past year, was held on November 17 and 18 at Dangni Station in Saha-gu.

A number of lifelong learning classes and participants voluntarily took part in the exhibition to show their accomplishments such as 19 lifelong learning promotion booths, 15 performances including dance and singing and 13 booths which provide the guests with their first-hand experience to make their own gifts. Over two thousand visitors came to the venue to enjoy the program and obtain information about lifelong learning.
Making Happy learning center & Learning village

Ulsan Jung-gu was the main centre of Ulsan for a long time. However, during the industrialization, Jung-gu wasn’t developed as other neighbour cities. Nowadays Jung-gu is becoming a city of culture and lifelong education. The city has promoted the development of LEARNING VILLAGES and HAPPY LEARNING CENTERS with programs and activities that match the needs of the residents of the village and of the town itself.

During 2016, seven HAPPY LEARNING CENTERS and two LEARNING VILLAGES have been established in 13 districts of Jung-gu.

And in November 15, Jung-gu opened the first Lifelong Learning Center of Ulsan. There, Residents can exchange information about education and receive guidance on Schools and Happy Learning Centres. Through these activities, is aimed at strengthening the participation of residents into lifelong education and bring a butterfly effect that causes light wavelengths leading to regional development.

Horno Ludens!

When you see your kids playing a video game what would you do? You may probably think about to take it away and to give a book instead. As an alternative, Jincheon is trying to change the conceptual mind-set of games into educational tools.

To achieve this, 44 game trainers were sent to the schools and kindergartens to teach kids how to play educational games using smartphones or portable game machines. This project has provided kids the possibility to learn easily through fun and interesting activities in their day-to-day life.

The Book Train of Paju

The Gyeongui-Jungang Line, which is being used annually by 84 million passengers, has transformed one carriage into a running library with over 500 free books and 4 e-books. This small library on the track also host a variety of reading culture services including talks with writers and book presentations to create a healthy reading environment. The initiative has tripled the amount of reading passengers and educated Book Train volunteers.

Building a Natural Healing City without an illiterate

Jechon promotes young people as assistant teachers for literacy

Jechon local government is planning to train young men, ranging from 19 to 39, as assistant teachers for literacy as a part of a strategy to tackle unemployment among young people as well as a part of the project “Building a Natural Healing City without an illiterate.”

The training program is running from 29, September to 8, December. Students will take a course of 30 hours in total, 3 hours a week. 20 students took the first class in Daewon college last 29, September.

Participants are supposed to serve as part-time assistant teachers combined with full-time instructors for literacy and give lectures to senior citizens from Centres for the Elders and Community Halls throughout the region 2 hours a week.

This program offers students the opportunity to experience and get used to society, eventually strengthening bonds of sympathy between generations. It is expected to make a big contribution towards happiness for citizens.

Heongseong County operates a programme of School Elders(Lifelong Learning Classes)

Hoengseong County supports a programme of 12 School for Elders which contribute to the personal development of elder people helping them to make a good use of their leisure time and to have a further participation on the day life of their community. The School for Elders operate during 30 weeks of 10 months from March to December. The programme offers various activities such as laughter therapy, health education, singing class, culture lecture.

The total amount of participants (the data from December, 2016) is 1,361 and is increasing every year. Due to the elderly’s enthusiastic response, a new school was created this year. Hoengseong County plans to provide continuous consideration and support to Elder people.
Pohang is a city of light where the spirit of Yeonohrang and Seohnyeo is still alive. It is also known as the hometown city of the global enterprise POSCO and leaders of Successful Korean New Deal Movement with indomitable will. The city that was on the lead to overcome national disasters with strong dedication and patriotism. The great city that experienced the miracle of Young-il Bay at the forefront of industrialization and modernization of Korea. A city of maritime tourism full of charming attractions including Homigot, the best place to enjoy sunrise in Korea. A city of Lifelong education with 530,000 citizens passionate of education. This is Pohang, the hub of the East Sea Coast of Korea.

Designated as a city of Lifelong Learning in 2012 by the Ministry of Education, Pohang is the main city of the North Gyeongsang Province. The city is committed to sustainable & creative lifelong learning and has a job training programme aiming at ensuring the necessary education for a career and welfare in an era of 100 years longevity and allowing a good connection between talent and skills and donation and volunteer work.

The Lifelong Learning Center of Pohang is the largest in Korea and is serving as a control tower to open a new chapter in the lifelong learning of the nation and striving hard to improve happiness of 530,000 citizens with a lifelong learning adapted to their lifestyle.

Pohang is committed to the Charter of Education Cities and will be a responsible member of the International Association of Educating Cities.

Holding the 5th R.O.K. Lifelong Learning Expo

The R.O.K. Lifelong Learning Expo was first held as an outdoors event in a county instead of a national event mainly based on a convention center in large cities for 4 days (2016. 9. 22. ~ 25.) 310 organs & groups (national lifelong learning cities, lifelong learning organs, domestic & overseas universities, etc.) participated in the 2nd largest scale Expo in history. Diverse activities such as thematic/publicity/experience halls, official and informal events were organized in different parts of the territory of Geochang-gun to better satisfy the participants. Various conferences, the 2nd General meeting of National Lifelong Learning City Council in 2016 and events in diverse areas of lifelong learning such as domestic & overseas symposium & fine arts grand writing contest, national debating contest of Hwabaek Wisdom, national juveniles robot contest were held.

Project of Learning Activities Club

Welcome to 2017 IAEC new member city: Pohang

Introduction of Pohang

Pohang is a city of light where the spirit of Yeonohrang and Seohnyeo is still alive. It is also known as the hometown city of the global enterprise POSCO and leaders of Successful Korean New Deal Movement with indomitable will. The city that was on the lead to overcome national disasters with strong dedication and patriotism. The great city that experienced the miracle of Young-il Bay at the forefront of industrialization and modernization of Korea. A city of maritime tourism full of charming attractions including Homigot, the best place to enjoy sunrise in Korea. A city of Lifelong education with 530,000 citizens passionate of education. This is Pohang, the hub of the East Sea Coast of Korea.

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Pohang is committed to the Charter of Education Cities and will be a responsible member of the Association which will fulfill the missions stated in the Charter, including the development of various policies as member of the International Association of Educating Cities.

Agenda in 2017

IAEC General Assembly & Executive Committee meeting : March (23–24), Granollers (Spain)

IAEC Territorial Network meetings
1) Argentinian Meeting of Educating Cities : December 14 (2016), Godoy Cruz (Argentina)
2) Catalan Meeting of Educating Cities : March (22), Granollers (Spain)
3) 7th Portuguese National Congress of Educating Cities May (25–27), Guarda (Portugal)
5) Latin American Meeting Place 2nd semester of the year (TBD)
6) Spanish Meeting of Educating Cities January 2018 (exact date TBD) Lleida

IAEC Executive Committee Meeting : Oct–Nov. (Date to be confirmed), Cascais (Portugal)

IAEC international Day of Educating Cities : 2017. 11. 30.