

2020 ANNUAL REPORT

BAN KI-MOON FOUNDATION FOR A BETTER FUTURE



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Greetings



**Chairman
 Ban Ki-moon**

Chairman of the Ban Ki-moon
 Foundation for a Better Future
 Former Chairman of the
 National Council on Climate
 and Air Quality
 Former 8th Secretary General
 of the United Nations

Allow me, first of all, to express my sincere gratitude to everyone who supports the "Ban Ki-moon Foundation for a Better Future."

Your attention and encouragement for the Foundation enabled us to publish this 2020 Annual Report which put together the previous year's activities of the Foundation.

This Report also reflects your calls for the Foundation to further its passion and dedication to realize a better future for all.

We are fully committed to continuously doing our utmost to meet your expectations through various activities based on the Foundation's core values of wisdom, courage, hope and challenge.

Human beings are now faced with challenges of global scale which require fundamental changes in our daily lives. In the midst of uncertainty, we stand against the climate crisis and for the sustainable development agenda. Without overcoming the climate crisis, we cannot guarantee sustainable development. For sustainable development, mankind must respond to the climate crisis based on a sense of common destiny.

The UN SDGs require more political will and commitment from the world community and wider participation from women and young people.

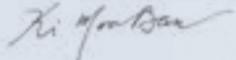
Recently, I have proposed to the UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres to hold the "SDGs Special Summit 2025" through the SDGs research report "Redesign our future" published by the Foundation.

The Paris Climate Change Agreement which starts its full scale implementation in 2021 should be completed successfully as scheduled.

The 2050 carbon neutrality target will be at the centerpiece and this year the world community is expected to make bold and substantial progress through various summit meetings.

The coexistence, co-prosperity, and better future of the global community will be possible only with strong solidarity and close cooperation of multilateralism among nations. This constitutes a key to the solutions for overcoming the COVID-19 pandemic.

I pledge to faithfully do my part in the journey of facing up to the challenges and embracing changes.

Ban Ki-moon
 Chairman of the Ban Ki-moon Foundation for a Better Future 

Congratulatory Remarks



Advisor Kim Hwang-sik

- Chairman of the Hoam Foundation
 - Former Prime Minister of Korea
 - Former Director of Audit and Inspection

2020 was a year of fear for the 7.8 billion people of the world. The unprecedented COVID-19 pandemic has driven our lives into quarantine, containment and every-man-for-himself. However, mankind has learned the lesson that solidarity and cooperation with others, and caring and responsibility for others are far more important to overcome this catastrophe. At the same time, I realized that our prosperity and development would be sustainable when we coexist with nature. I am proud that the Ban Ki-moon Foundation was energetically engaged in many activities last year to deliver wisdom and courage to the world constructed on these lessons and values. Hoping the Foundation will contribute to solving global challenges such as peace and safety, climate environment and public health, and sustainable development, I sincerely congratulate the Foundation for the publication of the 2020 Annual Report.



Advisor Yoo Chong-ha

- President of AHED Korea
 - Former President of the Korean Red Cross
 - Former Minister of Foreign Affairs

This year marks the second anniversary of the "Ban Ki-moon Foundation for a Better Future." The Foundation's projects planned at the beginning of the year were not fully implemented due to the COVID-19 Pandemic. However, I believe that the Foundation has produced substantial results in 2020 in key areas such as climate change and health security. Let me express sincere congratulations on the publication of the first annual report of the Foundation since its establishment in 2019. In 2021, I hope that the COVID-19 situation will improve so that the Foundation's core projects in areas such as climate change, sustainable development goals, international peace and security will achieve greater results. Lastly, I hope that the Ban Ki-moon Foundation will continue to develop into an exceptional entity that effectively embodies the three pillars of peace and security, human rights and development which the United Nations stands for.



Advisor Gong Ro-myung

- Senior Advisor to the East Sea Foundation
 - Former Chairman of the East Asian Foundation
 - Former Minister of Foreign Affairs

Humanity has made remarkable progress so far, as they learned the importance of cooperation among themselves. However, the climate change, natural disasters and frequent outbreaks of infectious diseases that we are frequently witnessing these days indicate that the cooperation has been done in a wrong way. In order to realize the Foundation's dream of a "better future," we need to realign the way of cooperation from 'among humanity' into 'with nature'. Nature is not the object of domination but the subject of coexistence. Congratulations on the publication of the Foundation's 2020 Annual Report, and I look forward to seeing great results in efforts of the Foundation to deal with climate change crisis, which Chairman Ban Ki-moon has addressed with enthusiasm during his tenure as the UN Secretary-General.



Advisor Lee Dong-kurn

- Chairman of the UN Global Compact Korea
 - Former Chairman of the International Rotary Foundation
 - Former Chairman of the Community Chest of Korea

The SDGs adopted by Chairman Ban Ki-moon of the Foundation during his tenure as UN Secretary-General should be fully implemented within ten years period from now. In this vein, the Ban Ki-moon Foundation has reviewed the implementation of SDGs up to date and presented an insightful vision of the direction which will shine the way for the remaining 10 years to achieve them. As we are well aware, the enterprise environments are rapidly shifting these days into a sustainability paradigm such as ESGs, and internalizing SDGs in corporate management strategies and their implementation are also becoming increasingly important. Therefore, the role of the Ban Ki-moon Foundation is all the more crucial to suggest proper guidance to the enterprises in adapting themselves to the changing environments. Congratulating on the publication of the 2020 Annual Report, I kindly ask for the Foundation's continued efforts to create a better world.

Introduction

The Ban Ki-moon Foundation for a Better Future will work towards a more equal, sustainable and resilient world, for a more peaceful and safer world, and a more just and fairer world, moving forward together for a better future. forward to the future together.

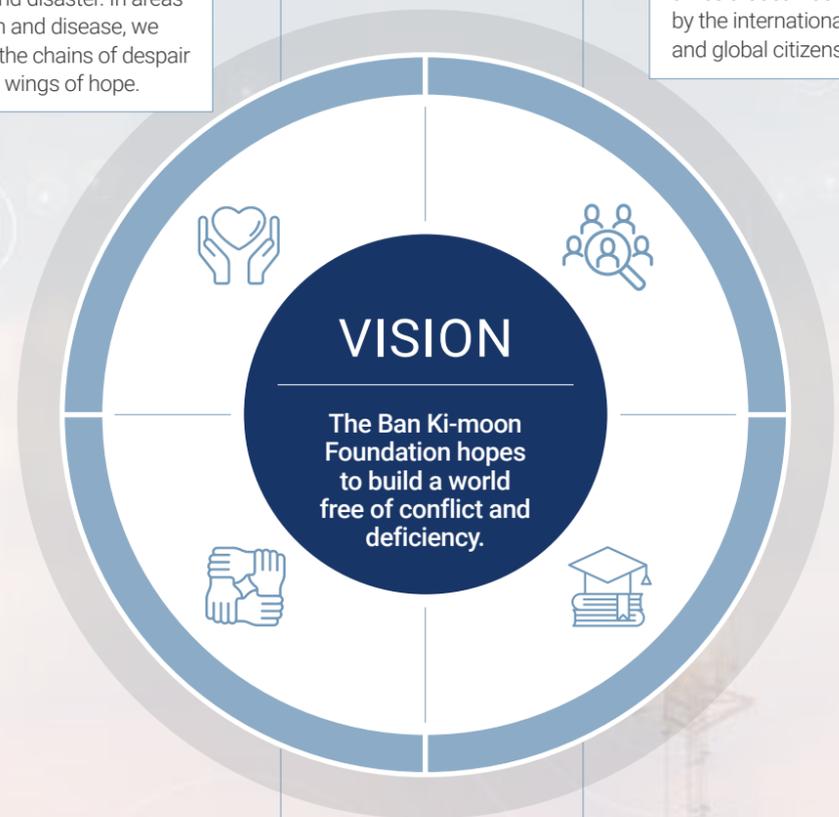
Vision

The future we seek is a world where we share dreams and sufferings.

The Ban Ki-moon Foundation will be anywhere in the world, for anyone in the world. We will identify the cause and plant the seeds of resolution at the scene of conflict and disaster. In areas of starvation and disease, we will remove the chains of despair and present wings of hope.

We will constantly bring pieces together to the world until we put an end to conflicts and deficiencies based on inclusion and audacity.

Our wisdom and capabilities will pave the way for a better future. We will create the spirit of the times that can be sympathized by the international community and global citizens.



The Ban Ki Moon Foundation will practice the values of integration, communication, coexistence and commitment.

All activities of the foundation will contain our passion to open up the past, present and future of the global community. Together with the world, we will take the initiative in creating a new world of prosperity and cooperation.

The Ban Ki-moon Foundation is a platform for people around the world to design and build a better future.

Let us build a world where knowledge is produced, information is shared, and culture is exchanged.

Mission



First, we will carry out three-dimensional activities at home and abroad to develop and spread the philosophy and vision of the 8th UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon. To this end, we will devote our enthusiasm to the implementation of the SDGs agenda, the implementation of the Paris Agreement, and academic research and policy proposals in human rights that everyone deserves as a universal value.



Second, we will channel our efforts into the permanent settlement of peace on the Korean Peninsula and the promotion of peace in Northeast Asia and the world.



Third, Third, we will actively engage in future-oriented and value-setting activities to protect human rights for all individuals, including women, adolescents and children who should not be treated differently under any circumstances.



Fourth, we will develop and carry out various support programs as well as activities to fight poverty and disease in developing countries.



Fifth, we will play a leading role in fostering talent and global citizenship education collaborating with various international organizations including the United Nations, domestic and overseas civic organizations, academic educational institutions.

Organization



History

2019

- 03.05 Ban Ki-moon Foundation Promoter's General Assembly
- 04.15 Permission to establish the Ban Ki-moon Foundation for a Better Future (Ministry of Foreign Affairs)
- 04.18 Registration of the Foundation
- 05.10 Ban Ki-moon Foundation founding congress
- 08.05 KINGOLD Group MOU
- 09.30 Designation of donation organizations (Ministry of Economy and Finance)
- 10.30 Boao Forum for Asia MOU

2020

- 01.28 1st Ban Ki-moon Peace Forum
- 04. Broad Group MOU
- 07.29 Activity Report for the First Half of Year 2020
- 11.30 Publication of the "Redesign our Future" report
- 12.04 Hanmaeum Education Volunteer Corps MOU

Foundation board members

Advisor



Kim Hwang-sik Advisor
Present) Chairman of the Board of Directors at Ho-Am Foundation
Former) Prime Minister of the Republic of Korea
Former) Chairman of the Board of Audit and Inspection



Gong Ro-myung Advisor
Present) Standing Advisor of East Asia Foundation
Former) Chairman of the Board of Directors at East Asia Foundation
Former) Minister of Foreign Affairs



Yoo Chong-ha Advisor
Present) President of AHED Korea
Former) President of the Korean Red Cross
Former) Minister of Foreign Affairs



Lee Dong-kurn Advisor
Present) President of the United Nations Global Compact Network Korea
Former) Chairman of Rotary International Foundation
Former) Chairman of Community Chest of Korea

Board of Directors



Ban Ki-moon Chairman
Present) Chairman
Former) Chairman of the National Council on Climate and Air Quality
Former) 8th Secretary-General of the United Nations



Kim Sook Executive Director
Present) Executive Director
Former) Chairman of Strategic Planning and Coordination Committee at the National Council on Climate and Air Quality
Former) Ambassador of the Republic of Korea to the United Nations



Lee Bong-wha Auditor
Present) Visiting Professor at Myongji University
Former) Vice-Minister of Health, Welfare and Family Affairs
Former) First President of Social Security Information Service(SSIS)



Kim Young-hye Director
Present) Lawyer (Lee & Ko's Litigatio & Arbitration Practice Group)
Former) Standing Commissioner on the National Human Rights Commission of Korea
Former) Chief Judge in Seoul Central District Court



Nam Sung-wook Director
Present) Professor in Department of Reunification and Foreign Affairs at Korea University
Present) Guest Commentator on North Korea Issues at KBS
Former) Dean of Graduate School of Public Administration at Korea University
Former) Secretary General of the National Unification Advisory Council(NUAC)



Sohn Jie-ae Director
Present) Visiting Professor at the Graduate School of International Studies at Ewha Woman's University
Former) CEO of the Korea International Broadcasting Foundation (Arirang TV & Radio)
Former) Blue House Secretary for Overseas Public Affairs



Ahn Young-soo Director
Present) President of the International Graduate School of English(IGSE)
Former) Dean of College of Humanities at Kyung Hee University
Former) Dean of the Institute of International Education at Kyung Hee University



Um Ki-young Director
Present) President of Institute for Korea Development Strategy
Former) Chairman of Public Relations & Communication Committee at the National Council on Climate and Air Quality
Former) CEO of Munhwa Broadcasting Corporation(MBC)



Yu Myung-hwan Director
Former) President of Sejong University
Former) Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade
Former) Ambassador of the Republic of Korea to Japan



Ryu Seung-min Director
Present) Athlete Member of the IOC
Present) Executive Committee of the International Table Tennis Foundation(ITTF)
Present) President of the Korea Table Tennis Association (KTTA)
Present) President of International Sport Strategy Foundation (ISF)



Lee Sang-hee Director
Present) Honorary Chairman of Korea Research Institute for National Strategy
Former) Minister of National Defense
Former) Chairman of the ROK Joint Chiefs of Staff



Chung Rae-kwon Director
Former) Member of the National Council on Climate and Air Quality
Present) Head of Judging Panel for Global Energy Prize
Former) Ambassador for Climate Change of the Republic of Korea

Managing Committee

(in Korean alphabetical order)

Kang Woong-sik

Former) Ambassador of the Republic of Korea to Mexico
Former) Advisory Ambassador for international Relations in Daejeon Metropolitan City

Kang Chun-suk

Present) Editorial Advisor of the Chosun Ilbo
Former) Executive Editor of the Chosun Ilbo
Former) Managing Editor of the Chosun Ilbo

Kang Tae-sun

Present) President of Korea Scout Association
Former) Vice-President of Seoul Sports Council
Former) Vice-Chairman of Korea Alpine Federation

Kwon Tae-shin

Present) President & CEO of the Korea Economic Research Institute(KERI)
Former) Chief of Prime Minister's Office (ministerial level)
Former) Ambassador in the Representative of the Republic of Korea to the OECD

Kim Sung-hwan

Present) Chief of Army Reserve
Former) Commander of Unconventional Warfare Task Forces(CUWTF)
Former) 42nd Chief of Staff of the Republic of Korea Army

Kim Sung Hwan

Present) Chairman of the Board of Directors at East Asia Foundation
Former) 36th Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade
Former) Ambassador of the Representative of the Republic of Korea to the United Nations in Vienna and Austria

Kim Yong-hak

Former) 18th President of Yonsei University
Former) Vice President of College of Social Sciences at Yonsei University
Former) Dean of Admissions at Yonsei University

Kim Jong-sup

Present) Chairman of Samick Musical Instruments
Present) Chairman of Alumni Association of College of Liberal Arts and Sciences at Seoul National University
Former) Vice President of the Korean Red Cross

Kim Jong-hoon

Present) Chairman of the Board of Directors of SK Innovation
Former) Member of the 19th National Assembly of the Republic of Korea
Former) Trade Minister in Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

Kim Ji-yong

Present) Director of Kookmin University
Former) President of Korea Swimming Federation

Kim Chun-sik

Present) Chairman of the UNITIATIVE
Former) 20th Vice Minister of Unification

Kim Hyung-jun

Present) Professor of Humanities and Liberal Arts at Myongji University
Former) Member of the Constitutional Amendment Advisory Committee in the Korean National Assembly
Former) President of the Korean Association of Electoral Studies

Kim Hong-il

Present) Representative of Shin & Kim LLC
Former) 25th Chief Prosecutor of Busan High Public Prosecutors' Office
Former) Senior Prosecutor of Central Investigation Department, Supreme Prosecutors Office

Sohn Myeong-sae

Present) CEO of Right Fund
Present) Honorary Professor of the College of Medicine at Yonsei University
Present) Member of International Health Regulations Enactment Committee of WHO(World Health Organization)

Son Yeon-jae

Former) Rhythmic Gymnast of the National team

Song Ho-keun

Present) Chair Professor at POSTECH(Pohang University of Science and Technology)
Former) Chair Professor at Seoul National University

Ahn Chung-si

Former) Seoul National University Asia Center(SNUAC)
Former) Honorary Professor at Seoul National University
Former) President of the Korean Association of the International Studies

Yang Chang-soo

Present) Chairman of Prosecutors' Investigation Deliberation Committee in Supreme Prosecutors' Office
Present) Chair Professor of the College of Law at Hanyang University
Former) Supreme Court Judge

Oh Byoung-joo

Former) Vice Minister of the Prime Minister's Office
Former) Chief Prosecutor in Seoul District Public Prosecutors Office

Oh Yeon-cheon

Present) President of University of Ulsan
Former) President of Seoul National University

Yoo Dong-geun

Present) 1st Chairman of the Korea Federation of Broadcasting artists' Organization(KFBO)
Former) 23rd Chairman of the Korean Broadcasting Actors Association
Former) Goodwill Ambassador of Pyeongchang Olympics 2018.

Yu Jung-keun

Present) Chairwoman of the Kyungwon Culture Foundation
Present) Chairman of the UN Academic Impact Korea
Former) President of the Korean Red Cross

Yun Duk-min

Present) Chair Professor at Hankuk University of Foreign Studies(HUFS)
Former) Chancellor of the Korea National Diplomatic Academy(KNDA)
Former) Advisory Committee to the President for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy

Lee Kark-bum

Present) Honorary Professor in the Department of Business and Technology Management at KAIST
Former) 14th Chairman of the Korea Buddhism Promotion Foundation

Lee Gang-yon

Present) Vice Chairman at the Korea-America Association
Present) Advisor at Lee International IP & Law Group
Former) Deputy Commissioner at the Korea Customs Service

Lee Dae-bong

Present) Chairman of the Board of the Seoul Arts Academy (Seoul Arts High School and Yewon School)
Present) Chairman of Charmvit Group
Present) Chairman of Yi Dae-Wung Music Scholarship Association

Yim Sung-joon

Present) Senior Advisor at Dentons Lee International IP and Law Group
Former) Ambassador of the Republic of Korea to Canada.
Former) Chief Secretary to the President for Foreign Affairs and National Security in the Presidential Secretariat

Han Bi-ya

Present) President of Global Citizen School of World Vision
Present) Visiting Professor in Graduate School of International Studies at Ewha Woman's University
Former) Head of the Emergency Relief Team at World Vision Korea

Hong Sung-kwan

Present) Chairman of Sang-Am Energy

Secretariat

Bak Il-ho Manager

Present) Manager of Business Administration
Former) Consul General of the Republic of Korea to Oakland

Yi Byeong-yong Manager

Present) Manager of Policy Planning
Former) Deputy Minister for Political Affairs in the Prime Minister's Office

Choi Seong-ju Manager

Present) Manager of Foreign Affairs and National Security
Former) Ambassador of the Republic of Korea to Poland

Kim Bong-hyeon Advisor

Present) Advisor to Ban Ki-moon Foundation
Former) Ambassador of the Republic of Korea to Australia

Jeong Tae-yong Director

Present) Sustainable Development Program Director
Former) ADB Climate Change Expert

**Global
Public
Health**

**BKM
initiative**

SDGs

01

COVID-19

Publication of the "Global
HealthGovernance & SDG-3" report

Joint project with ADB

COVID-19 medical supplies donation

Collaborative and Participatory Project

Video remarks



Publication of the "Global Health Governance & SDG-3" report



Background and purpose

- Effectively review and improve the global health cooperation system of post COVID-19 world
- Analyze the impact of COVID-19 on SDGs, especially to explore comprehensive measures and linkage for seamless implementation of Goal 3

Content

- Analysis and evaluation of domestic and foreign health care systems
- Case study of five countries' response to COVID-19 (South Korea, Taiwan, Singapore, China and Germany).
- Establishment of a Global Public Health Partnership in conjunction with SDG-3
- Seeking new international cooperation frameworks and recommendations to improve the Global Public Health System and Governance



Analysis and evaluation of domestic and foreign health care systems



Establishment of Global Public Health Partnership



Development of new international cooperation frameworks and recommendations

Timeline

- May 2020, launch report meeting
- June 2020, 1st advisory council meeting
- July 2020, 2nd advisory council meeting
- August 2020, 3rd advisory council and final report meeting



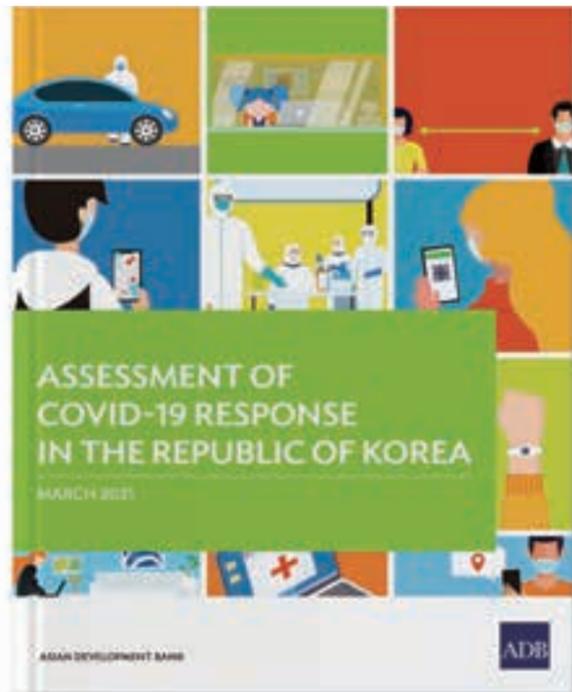
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Key Messages

- 1 Paradigm shift in SDGs frameworks for the post-COVID-19 era is crucial to prepare for a recurrence of global epidemics through new SDGs programs
- 2 COVID-19 is a wake-up call to the global ecological crisis, highlighting the need to identify the root cause of the global epidemic and calling for effective climate action
- 3 A multilateral global health governance system led by the UN Secretary-General should be taken in joint action with WHO and UN organizations to address future global crises
- 4 As existing resources and finances are now concentrated in the COVID-19 response, we should channel tailored resource to meet the demands of many sectors, including the underfunded health and education sectors for the post COVID-19 era
- 5 There requires a platform that provides sustainable solutions for prompt responses to COVID-19. This should be based on a science and research-based decision-making process that combines advanced ICT technology with platform operations to enable effective response to global crises
- 6 Korea and other countries that effectively deal with infectious diseases have maintained transparency and openness, and emphasized the need to study successful cases of effectively containing the crises and protecting citizens' privacy

Joint project with ADB



Background and purpose

- To introduce the "BKM initiative: Global Platform for Corona Response" that complements COVID-19 response program limitations
- To establish a specific platform to supplement and improve the functions of multilateral organizations and public institutions to respond to COVID-19
- To develop effective short-term and sustainable response to the pandemic (public health threat)

Business plan

- A case study of South Korea's response to COVID-19
- Two platforms:



Platform for Rapid Response to Health Emergencies (PRRHE)



Platform for Sustainable health Management Solutions (PSHMS)

Project outcomes

- Online meeting on April 22, 2020 (Foundation: Kim Sook, ADB: Vice President Bambang Susantono)
- Online meeting on 16 June 2020 (Foundation: Chairman Ban Ki-moon, ADB: Vice President Bambang Susantono) agreed on three areas of cooperation with the ADB: COVID-19 Joint Response/Sharing knowledge in the region/Increase response capabilities
- Completed a case study on COVID-19 in Korea ('ASSESSMENT OF COVID-19 RESPONSE IN THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA') jointly with ADB through the first joint project.



Introduction

The COVID-19 pandemic is an unprecedented global crisis. COVID-19 has overturned our interconnected world, caused inequality and exacerbated socioeconomic tensions. COVID-19 has shown that no single country can address this problem alone regardless of the size, economic power and technological prowess of the nation.

These global crises require the establishment of new global cooperation and solidarity, partnerships, global governance and crisis management response approaches consistent with hyperconnected modern society.

The establishment of an IT platform that could deliver vetted, scientific information for rapid response to the pandemic and policy options for sustainable public health management could be a powerful strategy to deal with current and future pandemics and ensures adequate health solutions. The platform will formalize data and information sharing among expert groups and help foster science-based decision-making.

The Ban Ki-moon Foundation presented important elements of Korea's successful response to COVID-19 (Test, Track & Treat) and economic and social response, along with evaluation of Korea's response to COVID-19 through its case study on COVID-19 (ASSESSMENT OF COVID-19 RESPONSE OF KOREA). Management of the COVID-19 pandemic in the ROK has been recognized for its effective outcome without resorting to strict border control and lockdown of its own citizens. The Korean case has been studied as one of the potential models for successful response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The ROK has maintained a high level of transparency and openness in managing the pandemic and presented a unique example of applying advanced science and ICT technology in maximizing the efficiency of coping with the crisis.

In this report, first, we looked into the outbreak of COVID-19 followed by the governance measures to cope with the pandemic situation in the ROK. While in some countries the breach of privacy during the tracing process stirred up sensitive controversies, personal information of confirmed individuals in the ROK have been strictly protected by data privacy and security legislation already in place.

In addition, four main significant factors of COVID-19 response—Testing, Tracing, Treatment, and Transparency—were examined thoroughly by demonstrating detailed examples. In the following chapter, economic and social responses to COVID-19 were explored to help understand how the ROK has strived to stimulate its stagnant economy, as well as mobilize people to adhere to social distancing.

In the future, the Ban Ki-moon Foundation will work with the Asian Development Bank (ADB) to establish a global platform for COVID-19 response and build a medical system in developing countries using it.



Future plans

- Two platforms, a long-term institutional approach and a short-term rapid response, are scheduled by the end of July
- Using long-term and short-term platforms, designing and implementing actual medical systems for member countries of ADB developing countries;
 - Countries with underdeveloped medical systems shall be considered first among Asian regions, but selected through strategic consultations with the ADB.
 - The Ban Ki-moon Foundation only carries out the design for the establishment of the medical system.

Expected results

- Offer consult regarding establishing public health systems in Africa, Latin America, etc.
- Contribute to the promotion of the national interest by playing the role of private diplomacy and public diplomacy as a foundation that serves public interest.

COVID-19 medical supplies donation

The Ban Ki-moon Foundation for a Better Future has donated 1,100 masks, 130,000 protective suits and other quarantine goods to prevent the spread of the virus. The donated quarantine goods were first delivered to domestic public institutions, university hospitals, and local Chinese institutions to government officials, medical staff, and citizens struggling to overcome COVID-19.



Facial masks (in Korea)

1,100,800

Municipalities	39,600
University hospitals	50,400
Government agencies	8,800
Red Cross	1,000,000
Other	2,000

Protective suits (in Korea)

20,000

Municipalities	10,000
University hospitals	10,000



In early 2020, Alibaba's former chairman Ma Yun offered to donate 1 million masks to Chairman Ban Ki-moon. With the masks, Chairman Ban donated them to the Korean Red Cross in consideration of the lack in mask distribution. In early March, the masks were distributed to medical staff, essential workers, and the socially weak.

Quarantine goods delivered by local authorities in China

👤 + 🕶️ + 🧤 + 🧴 + 📦 + 🧴

Protective suits	110,000
Protective glasses	30,000
Protective gloves	250,000
Bottles of alcohol	120,000
Air purifiers	2,127
Bottles of disinfectant	30,000



Collaborative and Participatory Project

Chairman Ban Ki-moon stressed the urgent need for collective response to the COVID-19 crisis as well as the revival of multilateralism and global leadership in speeches and contributions on a number of occasions, including the United Nations General Assembly, Time 100 Talks, the Munhwa Future Report Forum, and the World Knowledge Forum. He also endorsed a call to decisive action on creating an inclusive, sustainable, and resilient future based on efforts to deal with COVID-19.



Address at the Prince Mahidol Award Conference, Bangkok (1/31)

As the World Health Organization declared the outbreak of a novel coronavirus as a global health emergency, flexible healthcare systems and universal health coverage will provide equal protection to all, regardless of nationality.



Keynote speech at the TV Chosun International Forum:

"Quality education during COVID-19" (3/26)



While educational gaps are growing amid COVID-19 the importance of innovation and partnership has emerged. We must work together to give children around the world fair and impartial learning opportunities to help them become a global citizen.

Interview with RT News Network, the United Kingdom: "Going underground" (4/4)



Reflecting Korea's endeavors against COVID-19, information sharing and cooperation are called for without criticism and hostility. Because climate change affects virus transmission, commitments to climate action should be continued.





With a sharp increase in the death toll, the spread of COVID-19 has already had a large negative effect on all sectors in the economy, politics, and society.

JoongAng Ilbo Round Table on the 50th Earth Day:
"Coronavirus, the outcome of ecosystem disturbance in a hyperconnected society" (4/22)

Since COVID-19 has a massive impact on internal and external environments, the practical management of particulate matters and greenhouse gases is necessary. Climate change should be regarded as one of the top security threats.

Interview with the Hankook Ilbo:
"Preventative measures against climate change in the post-COVID-19 era" (4/29)

Compared to last year, the density of ultrafine dust particles has fallen by 27% on average in 2020. Not only the changing situation in China but also short-term seasonal monitoring, which was carried out upon the recommendation of the National Council on Climate and Air Quality, have facilitated such improvements. Korea and China needs to cooperate as the "Northeast Asian community sharing the same air" launch a 'Northeast Asian Respiratory Community.'

At the United Nations Global Compact Network Korea 2020 Annual Meeting:
"COVID-19 and the UN Global Compact" (5/28)

With a sharp increase in the death toll, the spread of COVID-19 has already had a large negative effect on all sectors in the economy, politics and society. Multilateral collaboration will thus support proactive response strategies. Fostering a remote working environment, enterprises should embrace women in the workforce.



Keynote speech during the video conference of the 2nd Global Health Forum of Boao Forum for Asia (6/2)

Multilateral cooperation, especially the exchange of information and experience, is crucial to confront COVID-19. The international community needs to work hand in hand while placing the Global Health Forum at the center.



Commemorative speech at the Cities Against COVID-19 Global Summit 2020 (6/3)

In the process of overcoming challenges in times of COVID-19, economic progress cannot require environmental sacrifice. Pope Francis said that the pandemic could be nature's response to humans ignoring the current ecological crisis. Numerous studies also indicate that there is a clear correlation between environmental degradation and infectious diseases. Therefore, combined attempts should be made to fight coronavirus and climate change; it is necessary to close the gap between advanced and developing economies.



TIME 100 TALKS

FINDING HOPE



Times 100 Talks: "Finding hope" (6/17)

The phrase "building back better" and global cooperation are prominent in recovery plans for the pandemic and recessions. Since 2016, the America First policy has isolated the United States in the global arena and has undermined alliances. Nationalism and protectionism are unable to beat collaboration and partnership.



IE University virtual talk: "Making sense of the world we live in" (7/1)



Climate change is one of the most pressing challenges that need to be solved in view of COVID-19 and fast-changing situations. The pandemic is a global challenge, which needs multilateral approaches based on a spirit of solidarity. A green economy society should be put at the core of a post-pandemic recovery.



Interview with CNBC, the United States (8/4)



Korea's successful COVID-19 response has been triggered by the 3T+P, which refers to three Ts (testing, tracking, and treatment by the government) and one P (citizen participation). Chairman Ban put an emphasis on listening to experts. Lamenting a lack of global leadership, he urged the United States government to return to multilateralism on the occasion of the 75th anniversary of the founding of the United Nations.

Congratulatory address at the Munhwa Future Report Forum (9/3)

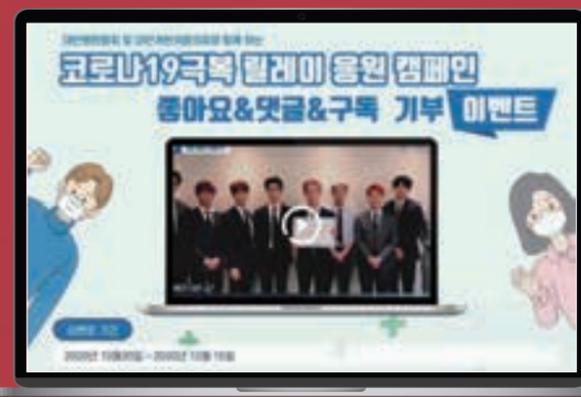


The COVID-19 pandemic is a stern warning from nature, caused by climate change. By boosting positive changes in daily life and industry, we will pave the way to the new normal, where non-face-to-face communication is activated. He calls for the restoration of multilateralism and global leadership in developed countries.

Sports Doctors Campaign to combat COVID-19 (6/19)



Chairman Ban takes took part in the campaign aimed at showing support for medical personnel and the general public, hosted by Sports Doctors, the world's largest health care association.



Special lecture at the Korea International Student Association:

"Lesson from COVID-19 and our mission" (9/14)



In the post-COVID-19 age, new phenomena, such as the expansion of national power and non-face-to-face interaction, will appear. Because sustainable development and climate action become urgent and inevitable, the Green New Deal should have specific concepts and objectives, including setting greenhouse gas emission reduction targets and decarbonizing the economy.

Keynote speech at the 2020 World Knowledge Forum:

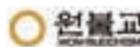
"Pandemics perspective: Toward a new global consilience" (9/16)



It is imperative not only to recover from the COVID-19 pandemic but also to shift to a new paradigm for the world—so that the economy becomes more dynamic and sustainable. In an interconnected world, international cooperation, innovation, and partnership are essential elements under the COVID-19 crisis.

Keynote speech at the celebration of the 50th anniversary of the establishment of United Religion by Daesan from Won Buddhism:

"Role of religion in peacebuilding-Covid-19 and the environment" (9/26)



Dialogue and cooperation among countries and ethnic groups of diverse cultures and religions are the only means to nurture peace and sustainable prosperity. COVID-19 response efforts are related to climate action as well. The Green New Deal for sustainability, the National Council on Climate and Air Quality, and International Day of Clean Air for blue skies are all in line of climate action.

Speech at the United Nations General Assembly:

"Game-changing transformations" (9/29)



As the pandemic could be a chance for innovation and change, Chairman Ban advocated for the integration of multiple disciplines in hopes of building a better world for everyone on the basis of international ties.

Online conversation with the Pardee Center:

"The world after coronavirus: Future of the UN" (9/29)



After overcoming COVID-19, we have to move forward into an inclusive, sustainable, and resilient future. To be prepared to face the different types of attacks, global governance should be systemized. The United Nations needs to initiate worldwide cooperation.



Keynote speech at the 2020 World Peace Forum during the 2020 Busan UN Week (10/29)

Since the environment and climate change are the underlying causes of communicable diseases—COVID-19, it is important to meet the Sustainable Development Goals, implement the Paris Agreement, and identify an optimal energy mix for greenhouse gas reduction. Accordingly, a fundamental shift in the way we live needs to be performed.

Virtual keynote speech at the 1st Boao Forum for Asia International Science, Technology & Innovation Forum (11/10)



Science, technology, and innovation will be able to assist in managing the pandemic and relevant economic problems. In particular, innovation will usher in sustainable growth.

Stay-at-home Book Tour between (4/2-4/30, 9/29~10/19)

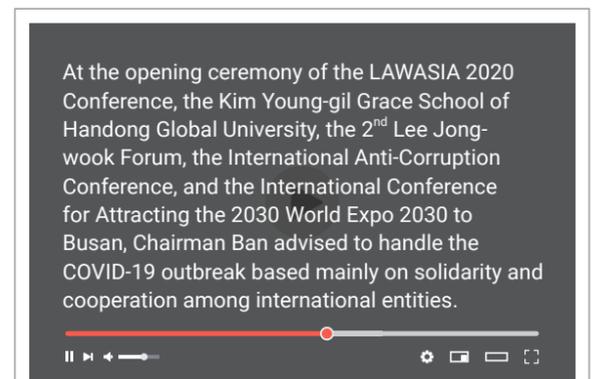
Chairman Ban introduced three books to those who practice social distancing for public health on Thursdays in spring and summer.

Speech in commemoration of the 75th anniversary of the United Nations:

"UN75, COVID-19, and the importance of reinvigorating multilateralism" (10/19)

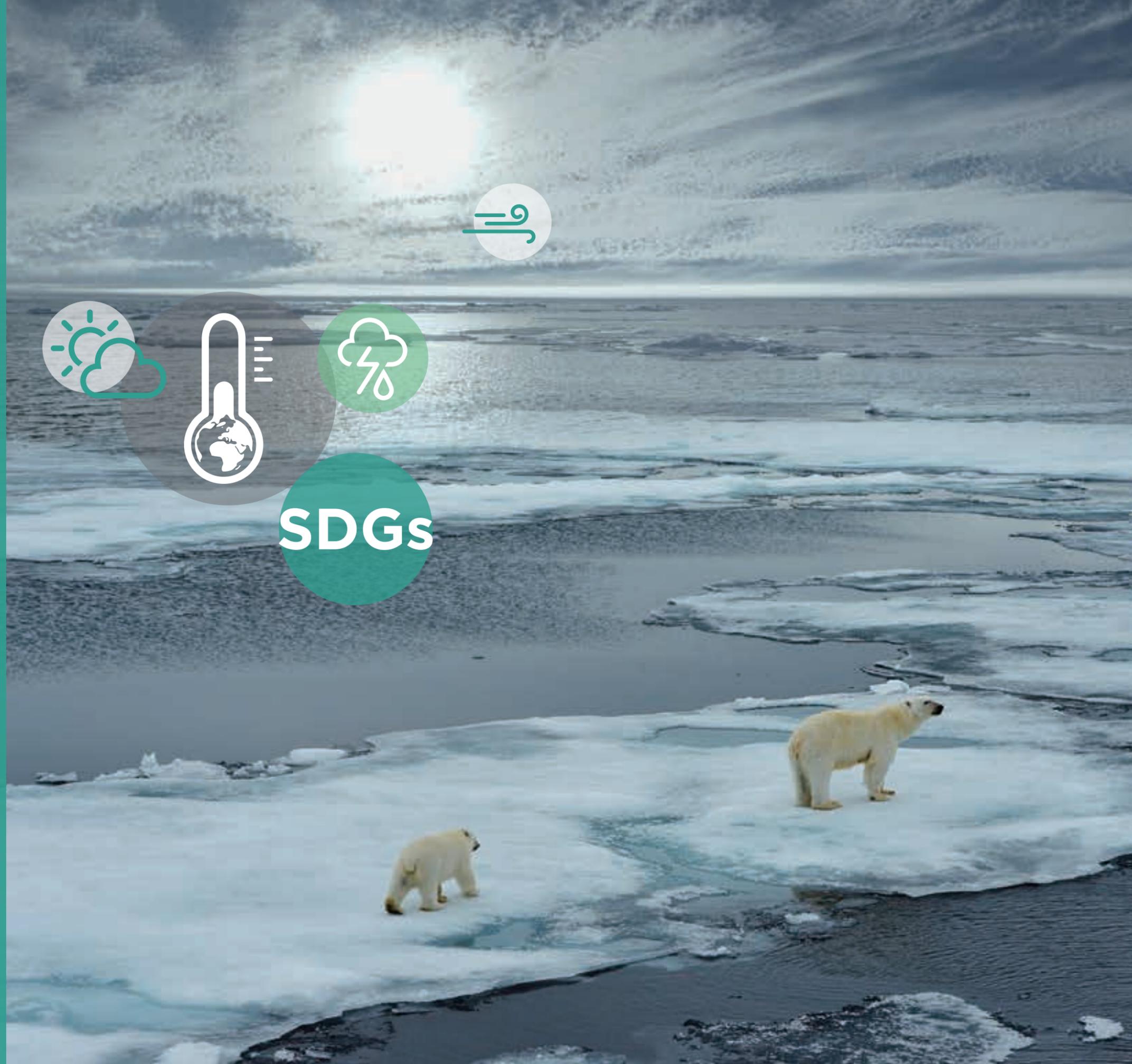


Strong multilateral systems to tackle unprecedented challenges, like COVID-19 and the climate crisis, must stand at the basis of cooperation, solidarity, action, and innovation. Youth empowerment is significant for global partnership.



Video remarks

BAN KI-MOON FOUNDATION FOR A BETTER FUTURE



02

SDGs and Climate Change

Publication of the
"Redesign our future" report

Collaborative and Participatory Project

Video remarks



Publication of the "Redesign our future" report



Background and purpose

- **Background**
 - Conducting an overview evaluation of the continuous implementation of SDGs and activities for establishing networks and developing specific programs with related agencies.
- **Purpose**
 - To make specific recommendations on the objective evaluation of the five-year and ten year implementation of the SDGs and deliver them to the international community.
 - To provide future-oriented specific directions for SDGs implementation to each country and entity.

Content

- **Activity**
 - Identification and quantitative analysis of SDGs implementation trends
 - Building future partnerships to drive SDGs
 - Delivering key messages and recommendations
- 5 Five internal meetings and one interim report publication.
- November 3, 2020 Final Report

Outcomes

- Release of the "Redesign our future" report
- Report distribution around the world
 - 846 key figures at home and abroad, including UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres.
 - 65 UN and international organizations.
 - 37 eminent individuals of each city/state and superintendent of education

Distribution of the SDG Reports (Redesign our future)

UN organizations	33
Government agencies/offices	389
International organizations	50
Embassy in Seoul	113
Media	112
Other	323



Introduction

Many countries in the world have faced challenges in implementing the 17 goals of Sustainable Development since their adoption in 2015.

This issue paper sends 6 key messages from the 8th Secretary-General of the United Nations taking stock of the achievements of the SDGs during the past 5 years based on objective measurements and a concrete implementation plan for the next 10 years.

This paper covers engagement with multiple stakeholders, including government, the private sector, NGOs, civil society, and international organizations. Also, cooperation with relevant institutions and associations is analyzed.

This paper reviews the current progress of achieving the SDGs in both quantitative and qualitative dimensions. By applying quantitative methods in selected countries, this paper draws meaningful implications to support the 6 key messages to the world.



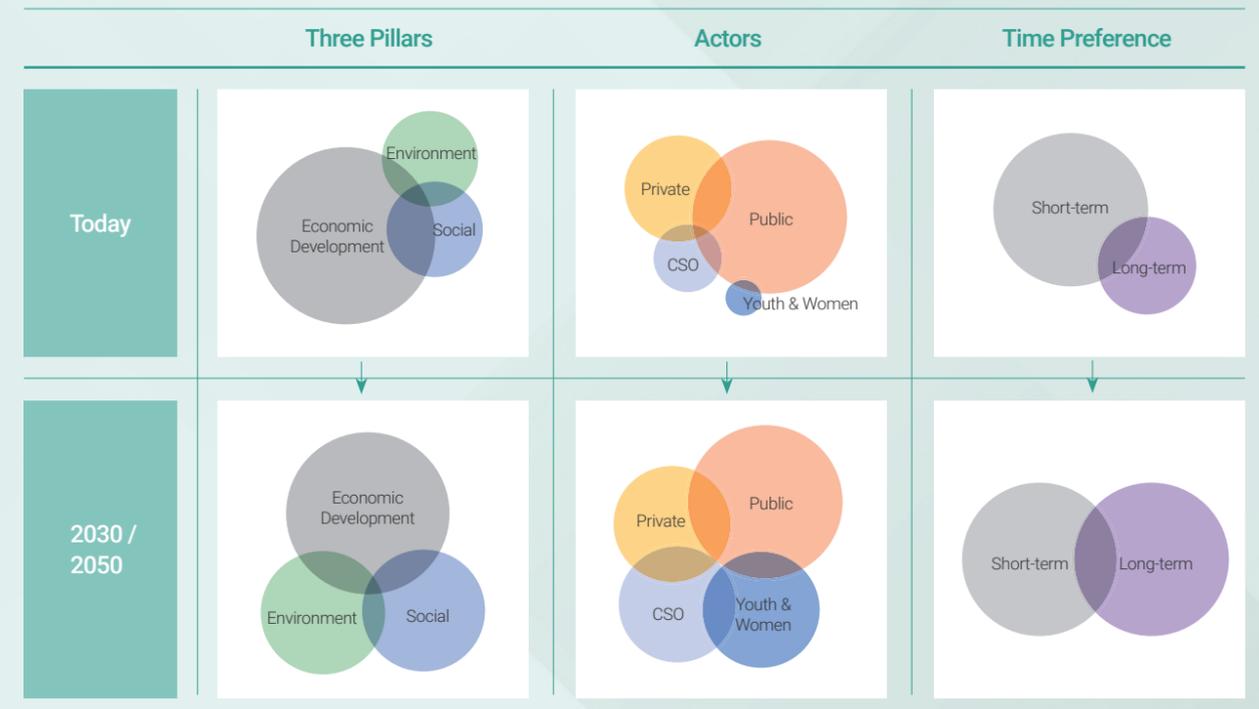
Key Messages



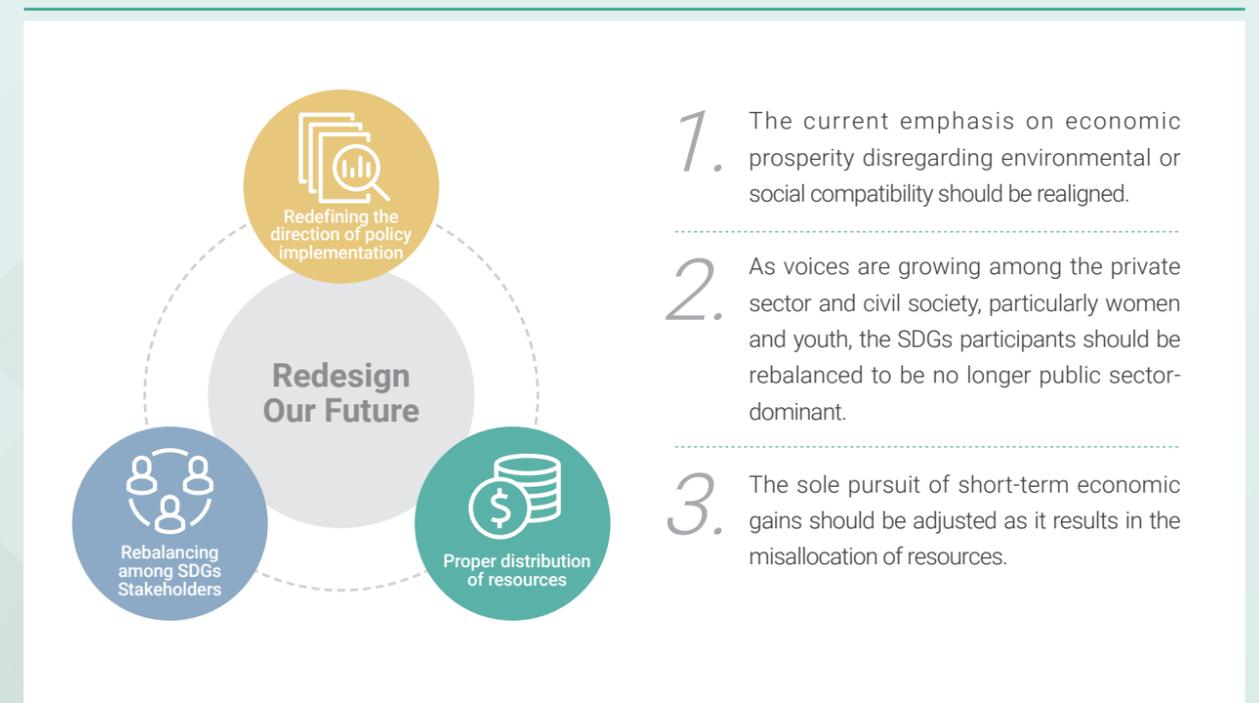
The way forward

1. A global research initiative to identify policy options and conditions to maximize synergies and minimize trade-offs among SDGs should be launched by relevant research institutions and academia.
2. Diverse global platforms to share best practices and experiences of SDGs implementation should be launched at various levels and regions among the relevant stakeholders and interested groups.
3. It is called for that the UN Secretary General Guterres convenes a Special UN SDGs Summit in 2025 to review the progress and to lay out the strategy for covering the last miles left till 2030.
4. A positive partnership among public, private and civil society groups to forge social consensus for effective implementation and resource allocation for the SDGs should be actively explored at the local, national, regional and global level.
5. The private sector should actively grasp the SDGs as new business opportunities and adopt ESG index which measures societal and ecological impact of short-term economic targets. Civil society organizations should actively promote social consensus and provide political support for long-term SDGs investment.
6. The UN DESA and the General Assembly should revise the current VNRs guidelines to clearly outline the monitoring measures and review processes for investigating the synergies and trade-offs between the goals and targets of the SDGs at national level.

Rebalancing the three pillars, actors, and time preference of SDGs



Improvement vision of the SDGs



Collaborative and Participatory Project

Chairman Ban Ki-moon highlighted the importance of the Sustainable Development Goals and planning for climate change through keynotes and contributions at the 1st Round Table Talk on the International Day of Clean Air for Blue Skies, the 53rd Asian Development Bank Annual Meeting, the Jeju Forum for Peace & Prosperity, and the Asian Leadership Conference. In particular, to address borderless climate risks and to build a society that leaves no one behind, he asked all of stakeholders to play an influential role in fulfilling the Sustainable Development Goals.



Meeting with students from GEMS World Academy Model United Nations, Dubai (1/8)



Both students and teachers need to recognize their parts in the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals—particularly, students must cultivate global citizenship and leadership.

Keynote address at GEMS World Academy Model United Nations, Dubai (1/9)



Students are encouraged to deepen their understanding of the Sustainable Development Goals and pledge to leave no one behind. Gender equality and educational quality are two key principles. Chairman Ban underscored their devotion to the Sustainable Development Goals.





Failure to quickly respond to climate change will bring negative consequences to the Sustainable Development Goals; multilateral cooperation is now more than important than ever.



Lecture at the 504th Masan Habpo Literary Club Class:
"Sustainable Development Goals and climate change" (1/16)

Local residents' participation in mitigating particle pollution is recommended.



Keynote speech at the Youth & Leaders Summit, Sciences Po Paris:
"Prospering in a climate impacted society" (1/19~1/20) **SciencesPo**

Failure to quickly respond to climate change will bring negative consequences to the Sustainable Development Goals; multilateral cooperation is now more than important than ever.

Lecture at the Cambridge Union:
"SDGs and women" (1/21)



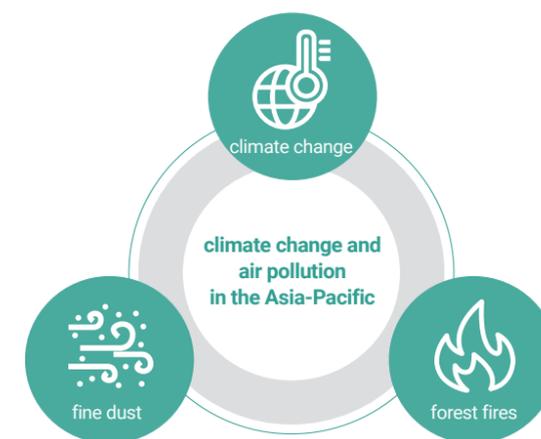
We should focus on multilateralism to cope effectively with protectionism, wars, conflicts, and climate change. Women empowerment will be sure to contribute to reaching the Sustainable Development Goals. It is our responsibility to open doors to a brighter future.

The Alan & Jane Batkin International Leaders Forum by the Brookings Institution, Washington:
"Climate crisis and climate justice: Measures for sustainable development" (1/24) **BROOKINGS**

He points out the danger of climate change and the need for multilateral cross-border solutions. Adaptation to climate change contains understanding, planning, and financial innovation.

Lecture at the United Nations Economic & Social Commission for Asia & the Pacific:
"Understand climate change and air pollution in the Asia-Pacific" (1/31) **UN ESCAP**

As the world suffers unforeseen disasters, including climate change, fine dust concentration, and wildfires, organizations worldwide should work on joint countermeasures.



Chairman Ban pointed out the danger of climate change and the need for multilateral cross-border solutions. Adaptation to climate change contains understanding, planning, and financial innovation.



The United Nations Economic & Social Commission for Asia & the Pacific:
"Decade of Action" (2/14)



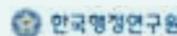
With ten years left to accomplish the Sustainable Development Goals, it is time to evaluate performances we have made over the past five years and identify further strategies, which shall be led by the United Nations.

Conversation with Jeffery Sachs from the SDG Academy (2/20)



During the 1950s and 1960s, Korean children received educational assistance from the United Nations and UNESCO. An encounter with President Kennedy personally inspired him. Teenagers, future global citizens, and people across the globe have to cooperate on the climate crisis.

Conversation with Administration Focus, a periodical by the Korea Institute of Public Administration (2/21)



Regrettably, Korea is called a 'climate villain.' Cooperation with the international community will help us curb particulate matter and climate change.

Lecture on Coursera:
"Sustainable development for the 21st century" (2/26)



Everyone's commitment is required to deliver on the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030.

The Global Center on Adaptation Board Meeting (2/27)



The common awareness of climate change adaption should be raised.

Interview with Agence Francaise de Developpement:
"Climate change initiatives and partnerships" (2/29)



He sees climate change partnership, which aims for climate change mitigation and adaptation, insufficient. He expects that world leaders will accelerate responsibility and cooperation together via the Global Center on Adaptation. The Climate Adaptation Summit 2020 is slated for October.

Meeting with Environment Minister Cho Myung-rae:
"Green New Deal and a coal-free society" (5/21)



A comprehensive interpretation of the scope of the Green New Deal, one of the Korean versions of New Deal, must be explored. We will try to phase out coal power until 2050.

Virtual discussion with UNAI/UN75:
"Role of colleges with respect to climate change" (6/5)



He thinks colleges have the following fundamental functions in the field of climate change: achieving carbon neutrality and sustainability, promoting global citizenship curriculum, and offering innovative solutions through a variety of research and resources and eco-friendly models for the post-COVID-19 age. Colleges are needed to take on a central role in forging solidarity and partnership.

Commemorative address at the 7th Green Round Table (6/24)

COVID-19 affects the way we communicate with others. Making the process of overcoming this crisis environmentally friendly, we shall reduce carbon emissions. We should make 2020 the year to turn the tide on climate change with sustainable and green growth at the core of policies.



**National Assembly policy discussion:
"Climate villain to role model through
the Green New Deal" (6/29)**



As Korea was placed at the bottom of the list among 36 OECD member countries in the context of air quality, it has been named a 'climate villain,' which is our shame. To be a role model in combating climate change, we will need to strive to cut down coal consumption in electricity generation.

Interview with Kyodo News (7/6)



The Trump administration's withdrawal from the World Health Organization is a reckless decision. He is convinced that we all are now responsible for imperative support to the World Health Organization to save human lives—because when large-scale epidemics occur, the world needs governance. The World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, and UN agencies should share tasks, supervised by WHO Director-General or UN Secretary-General.



**Speech at the launching ceremony of
the Carbon-neutral Local Governments'
Association (7/7)**

In the international community, municipalities and corporations tend to engage voluntarily in carbon neutrality by 2050 with the rise of bottom-up climate action. Municipalities demonstrate leadership at the forefront of climate change responses by developing alternative energy sources, suitable for local characteristics, and organizing public activities for the purpose of reducing carbon footprint. Even though the Korean government is poised to start a new climate regime in 2021, including the 2050 Long-term Low Greenhouse Gas Emission Development Strategy, there will be many obstacles during preparation period—defining clear reduction targets, arranging effective reduction measures, and coordinating conflicting interests among industrial sectors. Thus, active engagement of municipalities matter.

**Keynote speech at the 2nd Ecological
Transformation Education Forum by the Seoul
Metropolitan Office of Education:
"Present and future of ecological
transformation education
amidst climate crisis" (7/22)**



Whilst climate change and ecological disasters become more intense, we must give students the right to learn about the environment. In order for future generations to cherish the environment from childhood, elementary, middle, and high school curriculum should encompass subjects associated with climate change and fine particulate matter. We shall put climate change responses first over economic revitalization and youth job creation.

**Interview with the Munhwa Ilbo:
"Climate change may cause
humans to go extinct" (7/29)**

문화일보

The top two emitters—the United States and China—contribute 42% of global emissions. Climate change is an existential threat to humanity's very survival. Therefore, international cooperation is crucial. Korea also needs to step up efforts in response to climate change. Environmental education should be mandated at schools.



**Letter to the Mayor of Gwangmyeong
in relation to climate action (8/3)**

The impact of climate change is far more devastating than that of COVID-19. It is greatly appreciated that the municipalities are taking the lead in the Climate Emergency Declaration and the Carbon-neutral Local Governments' Association.



**Commemorative speech at the GGGI-
Embassy of New Zealand Climate
Discussion (8/4)**



Climate action, one of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals, will foster the achievement of the other goals as well. It is crucial to follow the Paris Agreement targets. In the future, economic policies will be a driver for green growth transformation. Special acknowledgment was made to the dedication of the Global Green Growth Institute, which offers technical support for developing countries, including the Small Island Developing States, with an emphasis on knowledge sharing among members and partners. The Global Green Growth Institute establishes new cooperative frameworks.





2050
Net zero

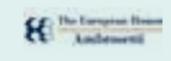


**Speech at the European Forum
Alpbach 2020:**
"Corruption and sustainable
development" (9/1)



Anti-corruption compliance is vital to accomplishing the UN Sustainable Development Goals. Because unequal distribution related to basic needs will worsen inequality, governments are urged to adopt their SDGs action plans according to anti-corruption strategies.

**Opening speech at the
Ambrosetti Forum:**
"World outlook: COVID-19 &
climate change" (9/4)



In an increasingly connected world, global challenges, such as COVID-19 and climate change, must be addressed through collaborative partnership among countries and global governance, which will surely bring a healthy, sustainable, and resilient future to us.

**Opening speech at the Blue Skies &
Net Zero 2050 Campaign Round Table
on the 1st International Day of
Clean Air for Blue Skies (9/7)**

Sharing best practices and broadening partnership among local governments are important for responses to air pollution and climate change. Although the impact of COVID-19 might be temporary, that of climate change is predicted to be permanent and tremendous. We will soon experience the transition to a green economy.

**Virtual interview with the CGTN
Think Tank regarding UN75:**
"Sustainable Development Goals
and human development-
poverty mitigation" (9/13)



Peace and security, sustainable development, and human rights for all are UN's three visions. If global leaders and citizens collective intelligence, the United Nations will be able to solve global challenges.

**Interview with the 2020
Global Philanthropy Forum (9/14)**



While the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals and the Paris Agreement faces difficulties, it is an obligation for every country. Philanthropy connects the spheres of business and development and aligns innovation and entrepreneurship with sustainability. Charitable funding must be allocated first and foremost to emergency operators.

**Interview with the GCA Africa
on Climate Change (9/16)**



African nations are the biggest victims of climate change. The international community should help them intensify capacities to tackle climate change and run regional programs. Climate change adaptation lowers risks and thus calls for large-scale interventions.



The 53rd Annual Meeting of the ADB Board of Governors (9/18)



The current critical global issues are COVID-19, climate change, and education. In particular, international cooperation assists in handling COVID-19 and climate change. The United Nations must expand educational opportunities and cement solidarity, partnership, multilateralism, and global governance, which will ensure a healthy, sustainable, and resilient future.

Embassy of Algeria Forum: "We are one for a better future" (9/21)

The international community should create a healthier society and a rosier future for the whole humanity and make the transition into an eco-friendly economy based on global citizenship, collaboration, and partnership.

Interview with the Chosun Ilbo (10/19)



Currently, climate change responses in Korea arouse concerns. We must include environmental matters in the national agenda. a nuclear power phase-out should be reviewed as one of the climate change countermeasures, and net zero carbon pledges should be made. We must accept the reality of climate change.

Special lecture at the Sejong Institute: "Climate change and sustainable development" (10/27)



Climate change is the problem we face up to. COVID-19 will be a final warning—promptly acting on sustainable development and climate change responses. Korea cannot be a climate villain any longer. We need to convert a carbon-centric energy mix into a green one. The achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals and responses to climate change and particulate matter will be available in accordance with lifestyle changes.





Opening ceremony of the International Conference on Technology & Innovation (11/2)

Promising young start-ups feature technological innovation for clean air. We look forward to programs presented here contributing to a more prosperous world.

Visit to Sejong City Hall and the Sejong City Office of Education (11/2)

In a view that local governments are needed to involve in the implementation of the central government's environmental policies, Sejong's direction towards an ecocity deserves much praise. Mandating environmental education for all grades and teachers in charge, in order to address climate change and particulate matter, would be essential.

Keynote speech at the Jeju Forum for Peace & Prosperity:

How to reinvent multilateral cooperation in the midst of pandemic " (11/6)



The COVID-19 pandemic could be an opportunity to build a better world. Increased action on COVID-19 and the Sustainable Development Goals is anticipated to lead to an inclusive, sustainable, and resilient future. Interconnectivity will serve as a springboard to create the future we imagine.



We are important stakeholders who need to make utmost efforts to protect the environment and elevate sustainability.

Congratulatory speech at the Jeju Forum for Peace & Prosperity:

Earth system and climate emergency governance (11/6)



In the wake of climate change, collective action under the Paris Agreement should be taken. For climate resilience and sustainability, all stakeholders need to perform their duties. In this regard, it is meaningful that Jeju endeavors to go carbon neutral by 2030 and hold the 28th session of the Conference of the Parties.

Commemorative speech at the 2020 Global ESG Summit:

"COVID-19, climate change, and UN SDGs" (11/9)

We are important stakeholders who need to make utmost efforts to protect the environment and elevate sustainability. Our commitment to the Paris Agreement should also be maintained. As leaving no one behind is the central promise of the Sustainable Development Goals for a shared future for mankind, the road to recovery from COVID-19 shall keep up with the Sustainable Development Goals.



Speech at the Asian Leadership Conference: "Rebuilding global leadership after COVID-19" (11/11)

With uncertainty rising, we need to be on the path to fulfilling the Sustainable Development Goals and reinforcing global leadership. Biden's victory means the restoration of U.S. leadership as well as multilateralism and international cooperation.



Zero Waste Zero Hunger Campaign by the World Food Bank (11/19)



This campaign intends to change the world by improving habits, thoughts, and culture. In Korea, zero hunger was attained within just one generation. To end hunger, global commitments and endeavors are needed.

The UNGC Korea Leaders Summit 2020: "New normal and the UN Global Compact" (11/24)



Showing an example, LEAD companies are believed to engage actively with Korea's sustainable management agenda. Multilateral cooperation is needed to deal with the challenges of a fast-changing world. Corporate social responsibility will secure a safer future for the next generation.

Virtual address at the United Nations Department of Economic & Social Affairs Symposium: "Leveraging public governance to accelerate the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals-Transformation, innovation & inclusion" (11/24)



We should embrace an innovative mindset, which will connect each policy and facilitate implementation. Policymakers will have to take new approaches to innovation.



Address at the Hankyoreh Asia Future Forum: "Global collaboration in crisis- For a safe life" (12/2)



To win the war against COVID-19, we should turn the planet into a place of harmonious coexistence between human beings and nature, which will demand global solidarity.



Talk themed "Climate change policies in the Biden era" (12/4)



In an attempt to weaken climate change, Korea, the 7th highest carbon dioxide emitter, vows to become carbon neutral. It is necessary to set mid- to long-term visions for ecological and climate education.



Special lecture at POSCO:
"Journey of POSCO toward
a sustainable future" (12/8)



POSCO's corporate citizenship—seeking a better world beyond profit—should be recognized. In line with the Paris Agreement and the Sustainable Development Goals, POSCO advocates for carbon neutrality and acts as a corporate citizen.

**Luncheon on the occasion of the
5th anniversary of the Paris Agreement,
La Francophonie** (12/11)

In the face of the COVID-19 pandemic, we should understand the seriousness of climate change and strengthen global alliance. Three major events are scheduled for next year: the Global Commission on Adaptation Summit in January, the P4G Seoul Summit in May, and the 26th session of the Conference of the Parties in November. The United States' rejoining in the Paris Agreement is welcomed with hopes of its reclaimed leadership in promoting multilateralism, and international cooperation. The international community should also provide additional support to African and other developing countries.

**Interview with the
Asia Business Daily** (12/15)



The Paris Agreement was adopted unanimously by 195 members in 2015. Climate-related meetings, which will take place in 2021, will serve as a momentum; the P4G Seoul Summit will be a stepping stone to the 26th session of the Conference of the Parties in the United Kingdom in November.

No Planet B Calligraphy Challenge (6/5-6/30)

Celebrating World Environment Day, from June 5 through June 30, the Ban Ki-moon Foundation for a Better Future held the calligraphy challenge, where participants wrote 'No Planet B' with their hands and posted the photo of it on Instagram. We made a 3,000,000 won donation (5,000 won per participation).



Chairman Ban remarked on the reinvigoration of multilateralism and the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals at the Club de Madrid, the World Environment Day ceremony, the Asia Economic Community Forum, the Climate Investment Summit, the Post VNR Forum, the virtual exhibition of the GO ESG ASEAN 2020, and the press briefing about the Asia Poverty Reduction Report by the Boao Forum for Asia.

Video remarks





03

Peace and Security

Ban Ki-moon Peace and Security Forum

Collaborative and Participatory Project

Video remarks



Ban Ki-moon Peace and Security Forum

Purpose

- Ban Ki-moon Foundation's new project on peace and security
 - In-depth discussion on issues of foreign affairs and international security, encompassing the Korean Peninsula and the Northeast Asia
- Strengthen Ban Ki-moon Foundation's competency by building networks with national experts on foreign affairs and security

Organization

- About 20 dignitaries and civilian experts on Korean unification, diplomacy, security and national defense
 - Former senior government officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Unification, and National Defense; experts from think tanks

List of members

Chairman Ban Ki-moon	Yoo Jehseung
Moderator Yu Myung-hwan	Park Hyeong Jung
Secretary Nam Sung-wook	Shin Beomchul
Kim Sook	Shin Euimoog
Choi Sung-joo	Lee Geon-wan
Kim Ki-woong	Lee Su Seok
Kim Sangki	Cheon Seong Whun
Kim Wankyuu	Chung Sang-ki
Kim Ilsoo	Jeong An Ho
Kim Jong-hoon	Jung Yeon Bong
Kim Chun-sig	Han Ki-bum

Operation plan & outcomes

- On January 28th, "Ban Ki-moon Peace and Security Forum" kicked off, hosting its 1st seminar
 - Seminar theme: "2020 Perspective on the Korean Peninsula and Beyond"
 - Discussion followed by a debate session (contents of the seminar were closed to press, and attendees remained politically neutral)
- Upcoming seminars planned to be held bimonthly have been postponed due to COVID-19
 - The seminar scheduled for the end of 2020 also got canceled shortly before the event due to enhanced COVID-19 quarantine guidelines
- Future seminars are planned to be held quarterly in 2021
 - Specialists on UN, multinational diplomacy and new technology are to be recruited
 - A policy proposal by collecting seminar discussion is to be drawn up by the year end the end of the year

Discussion topics

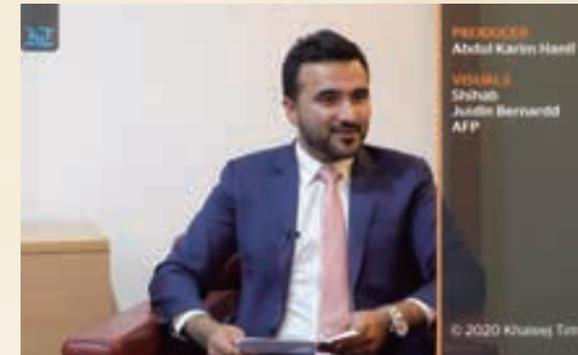
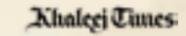
- The 1st seminar (January 28, 2020)
 - Nam Sung-wook: 2020 Prospects and countermeasures on the situation of Korean Peninsula and Northeast Asia
- The 2nd seminar (scheduled on November 25, 2020 but canceled due to COVID 19)
 - Kim Wan-kyu: US-China relations in the Biden era
 - Kim Chun-sig: Current state and evaluation of inter-Korean relationship
 - Yoo Jeh-seung: Deterrence and containment of North Korea's nuclear threat; "Nuclear Alliance" between South Korea and US as a solution to maintenance of the NPT system
 - Shin Beom-chul: Current state, variables and direction of development of the South Korea-US alliance
 - Jeong An-ho: Opinion on the 9.19 Inter-Korean Military Agreement



Collaborative and Participatory Project

On a variety of meaningful occasions, including the United Nations Security Council Public Meeting and the Global Diplomacy & Security Forum Seminar at the National Assembly, Chairman Ban Ki-moon delivered speeches and stressed the importance of multilateral collaboration, solidarity, and innovation to work on appropriate response measures to reduce the impact of climate change and the danger of nuclear energy, and ultimately to promote peace.

Interview with the Khaleej Times (1/9)

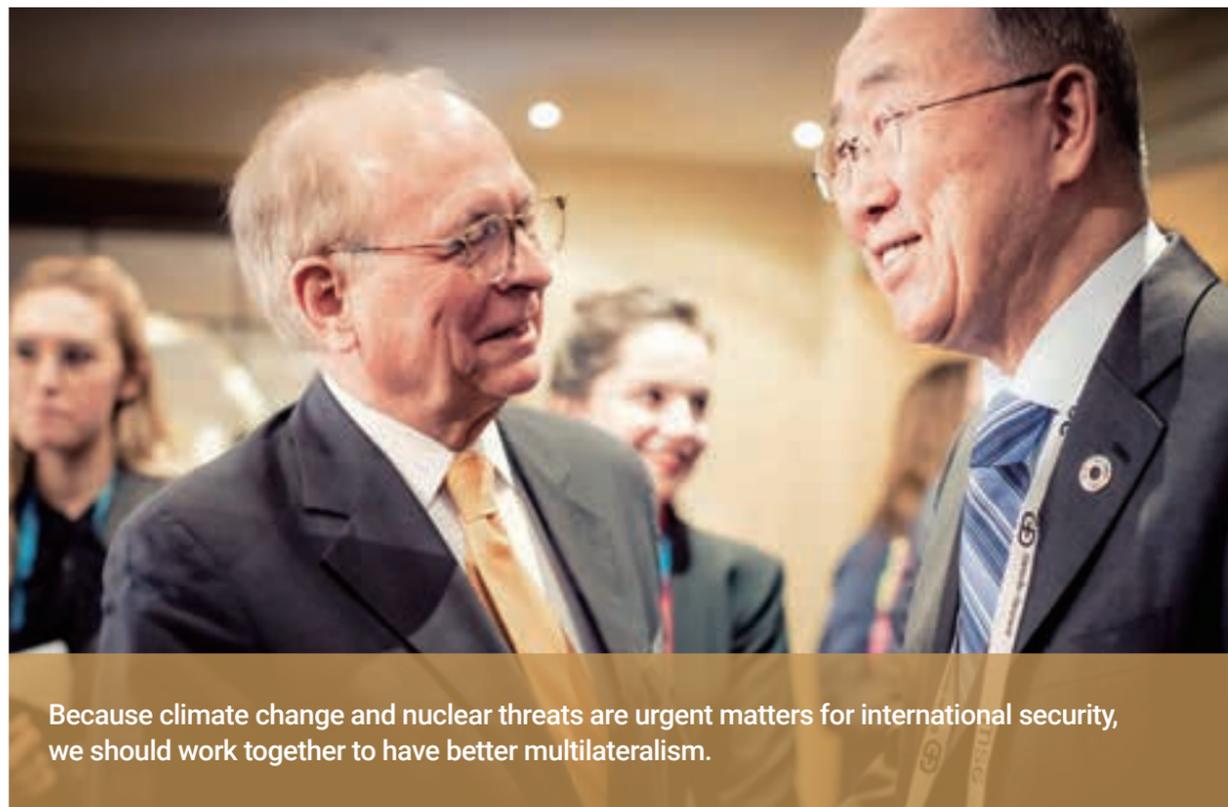


The Domsday Clock event in Washington D.C. (1/23)

Nuclear weapons and climate change are becoming bigger risks. Multilateralism is important as it lays the groundwork for a net zero carbon economy and a nuclear-free world.

Q&A session with Georgetown students at the Domsday Clock event (1/23)





Keynote address at the PyeongChang Peace Forum 2020:
"UN Sustainable Development Goals and world peace" (2/9)



The Sustainable Development Goals must be achieved on time to stop climate change by combining international endeavors and maintaining peace on Earth.



The Munich Security Conference:
"Climate & Security Panel Discussion" (2/13)



Because climate change and nuclear threats are urgent matters for international security, we should work together for stronger multilateralism.

Speech at the TUM Speakers Series:
"Protect multilateralism in 2020" (2/14)



A collaborative global approach is needed to tackle climate change and nuclear threats. In the digital age, solutions and directions must be given to young generations.

Keynote speech at the Global Soft Power Summit 2020:
"Soft power leads to transcendent borders and a bridge of harmony" (2/25)



The Sustainable Development Goals and global citizenship help build soft power and promote peace. Also, soft power can bring the world together through transcendent borders, dialogue, and mutual understanding.

Awarded at the 2020 Skoll Global Treasure Award as a member of the Elders (3/30)



World leaders and citizens must realize that no individual or a country can cope with serious global challenges alone; multilateral cooperation is the only solution.

Interview with Kuwait Television (5/8)

COVID-19 threatens world peace. The United Nations remains the best for peacekeeping, conflict resolution, sustainable development, and climate action. The United Nations Security Council must reform to present solutions to these issues.

Press conference on the occasion of the 70th anniversary of UNESCO (5/25)



Chairman Ban still remembers that UNESCO provided support to Korea, such as textbooks, back when he was in elementary school. Education was the driving force of the development of South Korea. Despite suffering from lack of resources after the Korean War, we have achieved prosperity. It is our turn to transfer expertise to developing countries.





Congratulatory speech at the Gwanghwamun Arirang event to mark the 70th anniversary of the Korean War (6/15)

The patriotism of the Korean War veterans has allowed us to make history over the last 70 years. Unity and concurrence will usher us into the path to peace on the Korean Peninsula. For this, shared memory and history across social classes and generations are important.

Opening remarks at the 2020 UN Global Compact Leaders Summit (6/16)



Continuous attention must be paid to the global problems that existed prior to the outbreak of COVID-19. Therefore, a new level of multilateral cooperation and political volition is needed. Decision makers, corporate executives, and global citizens must no longer delay and change their thoughts and actions.

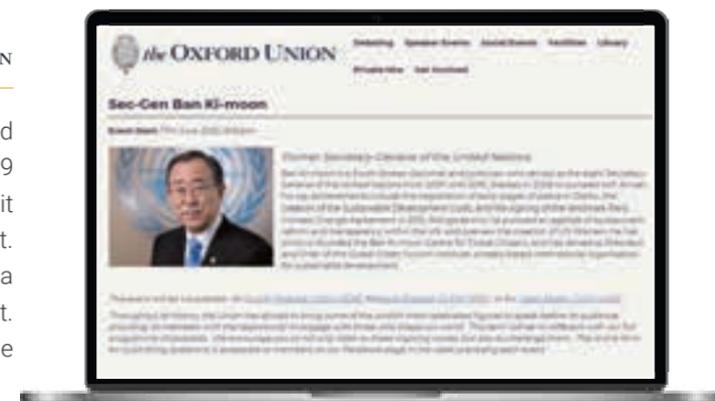
Unity and concurrence will usher us into the path to peace on the Korean Peninsula. For this, shared memory and history across social classes and generations are important.



Interview with the Oxford Union Podcast (6/17)



As the Secretary-General, Chairman Ban negotiated a peace treaty in Darfur. Sudan found peace in 2009 when the war concluded. However, since Sudan split into two countries in 2011, ethnic conflicts still exist. The tension between the United States and Russia makes the United Nations Security Council inefficient. Because of that, Syrian refugees are not getting the help they need.



Lecture at the 2020 Korea-China Senior Leaders Academy (6/29)



Since 1992, South Korea and China have developed diplomatic ties in various fields, such as economic and personnel exchanges. The two countries should consolidate cooperation on both domestic and foreign affairs—free trade and climate change, thereby promoting peace and prosperity in Northeast Asia. He too asks China to respect the ROK-US alliance.



Speech at the memorial service in Osan Jukmiryeong Peace Park (7/5)

With the help of the United Nations and the U.S. forces, South Korea was able to rebuild a nation based on democracy, a market economy, rule of law, and respect for human rights. The Korean War is not the forgotten war but a forgotten victory. For permanent peace and prosperity on the Korean Peninsula, the close bonds formed by brotherhood and mutual trust should be sustained on a solid foundation.



Chatham House Webinar:
"Comprehensive governance and sustainable development-narrowing regional and international gaps" (7/7)



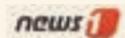
No country can deal with global issues by itself without cooperation and compassion for other people. In particular, climate change is an existential threat, which can only be handled through collaboration based on the principles of cohesion, equality, and inclusivity. COVID-19 is a reminder of human connection and vulnerability. Thus, the whole world must counter the pandemic and other hardships with a renewed sense of solidarity and collective action.

The Global Diplomacy & Security Forum Seminar at the National Assembly:
"Inter-Korean relations in crisis, the future of the ROK-US alliance, and our stance" (7/8)



With a non-face-to-face lifestyle becoming part of the new normal, we must adapt to a post-COVID-19 world. Amid hegemonic confrontation between China and the United States, whilst concerns about the dawn of a second Cold War are growing, South Korea's response will be a critical challenge in relation to security and diplomacy. Three issues must be considered urgently: policies on North Korea and denuclearization strategies, basic rules of diplomacy and security, and a new approach to South-North Korea relations.

Special lecture at the NEWS1 Future Forum:
"The world without global leadership, Korea's choice" (7/16)



It is a relief to see countries determined to return to multilateralism, cooperation between countries around the world. In addition, a weakness in the Green New Deal proclaimed by the Korean government, which raises awareness on the need for long-term climate policies to get to net zero emissions by 2050.

Congratulatory remarks at the 2020 NEREC International Conference on Nuclear Nonproliferation at KAIST (8/4)



International conflicts concerning nuclear weapons have continued for 50 years since the Treaty on Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapon entered into force. Nuclear power is the only source that delivers carbon-free energy. There should be tireless efforts to mitigate climate change by strengthening nuclear power plant safety.

Speech at the video conference of the United Nations Security Council Public Meeting:
"Challenge of the pandemic and sustaining peace" (8/12)



Chairman Ban welcomed the unanimous adoption of Resolution 2532, which calls for a humanitarian ceasefire for nine days around the world. It is known that COVID-19 spreads more easily in groups with inaccessible and excluded health care systems. The 16th SDG—peace, justice, and strong institutions—is the best way to ensure public health. As COVID-19 has facilitated discussions and actions on new threats, such as pandemics, inequality, and climate change, the role of the Peacebuilding Commission is important.

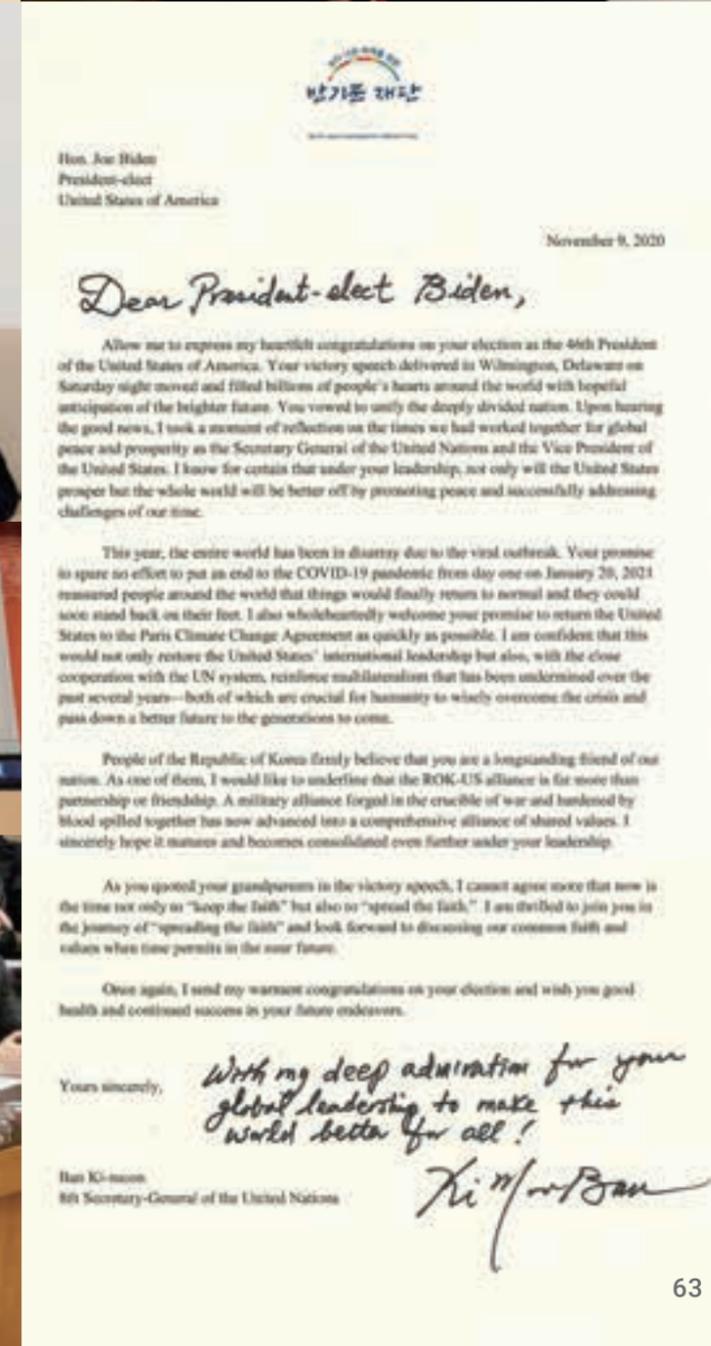
Virtual talk and Q&A with the Biden Institute at the University of Delaware (9/16)



There is a need for multilateralism, innovation, and partnership to respond to the deepening global issues, including climate change and pandemics. To prepare for future pandemics, international trust and cooperation must be reinvigorated to cover an array of topics, like the United Nations and North Korea, individual activity to fight climate change, and UN Women Initiative.

Congratulation letter to President-elect Joe Biden (11/9)

Reflecting working with President-elect Biden for global peace, Chairman Ban expressed his confidence that under Biden's leadership, not only the United States but also the entire world will prosper. Besides, the ROK-US alliance will be solidified even further. He looks forward to seeing Mr. Biden soon to share common values.





Book donation ceremony at the Ban Ki-moon Foundation For a Better Future (9/18)

The Ban Ki-moon Foundation For a Better Future received 572 copies of 'Conversation with BAN KI-MOON' by Wizius, and the donation ceremony was held at the foundation office.

Virtual lecture at Korea National Defense University (9/22)

COVID-19 and climate change are the world's greatest threats. We all need to be involved and proactive.

Hwarangdae International Symposium at Korea Military Academy: "The Korean War at seventy" (9/24)

Attending virtually with former United States Secretary of State Colin Powell, Chairman Ban talked about his childhood during the Korean War, the responsibility of the United Nations, and the importance of the experiences he gained through the war. He elaborated on the ravages of war, which he encountered while he was the United Nations Secretary-General.

Interview with CGTN: Lanting Forum on International Order & Global Governance (9/29)



With an explanation of the function of the United Nations, the challenges the United Nations is currently facing, and difficulties in pursuing change within the United Nations system, Chairman Ban also explained also answers the reason why the United Nations is needed, its capability in global governance, moments when he felt proud, and the picture of the world without the United Nations. In closing, he underscored that multilateralism is more important than ever before.

Talk with the bereaved family of an official killed in West Sea (10/5)

Through the People Power Party's Ha Tae-keung and Cho Tae-yong, he met with Lee Rae-jin, the brother of the deceased official. He accentuated the need to thoroughly investigate this incident. Working with North Korea should be continued in principle.



Virtual conference of the Wilton Park & UN Women (10/7)

Women are encouraged to join the process of mediation and peacekeeping. It is called for that the Middle East makes progress on this issue.

Congratulation letter to the United Nations World Food Programme, a Nobel laureate (10/12)



Chairman Ban sent a letter of congratulations to the World Food Programme on winning the Nobel Peace Prize and conveyed his thanks to their members who care for those without food. Their commitment needs to be recognized as the most vulnerable people stuck in poverty and food insecurity due to climate, public health, and economic slowdown as a result of COVID-19.

Keynote speech at the Global Diplomacy & Security Forum Seminar: "ROK-US alliance and tensions on the Korean Peninsula after the United States presidential election" (11/12)



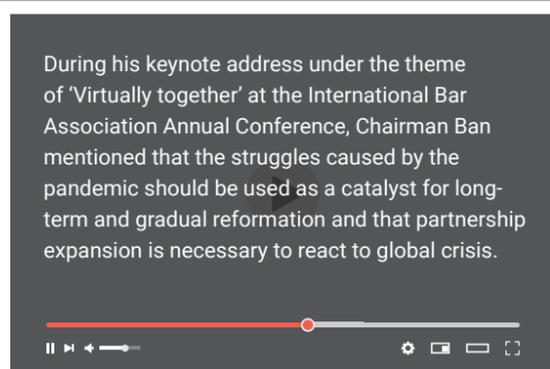
Chairman Ban had many chances to speak with President-elect Biden about world peace, prosperity, and human rights during his 10-year tenure as the Secretary-General of the United Nations. Biden's election will be an opportunity to re-establish the United States' global presence, which will bring stability to the world by increasing predictability in the international community. Also, the value of the ROK-US alliance will be enhanced, causing the extent of friendship and cooperation to be widened further. The denuclearization of North Korea will be executed bottom-up; so, the South Korean government will need to adopt this approach. Under the Biden administration, policies not linked to denuclearization, such as war-ending declaration and the suspension of the ROK-US joint military drills, may come up against opposition from the United States.

Keynote speech at the 28th International Defense Seminar: "Inter-Korean relations, ROK-US alliance, and our future" (11/13)

US President-elect Biden will bring the world stability by increasing predictability in the international community. The restoration of multilateralism and global leadership will also happen, which will be an opportunity to elevate the value of the ROK-US alliance and expand the scope of friendship and cooperation. However, Chairman Ban mentioned that there will be conflicts surrounding the transfer of wartime operational control—since the President-elect will prioritize the existing defense management.

Awarded the Strait of Magellan Award (11/24)

Inheriting Magellan's spirit, we will overcome the ongoing challenges and open up a new path.



Video remarks

BAN KI-MOON FOUNDATION FOR A BETTER FUTURE



Greetings/
 Congratulatory Remarks



Introduction



COVID-19



SDGs and
 Climate Change



Peace and
 Security



**Women and
 Youth**



Appendix



04

Women and Youth

Development of "Environmental Education for the Young" educational materials

Ban Ki-moon Foundation-Hanmaum Education Volunteer Group signing the MOU for Multicultural Families

Support projects for single mothers' families

Collaborative and Participatory Project

Video remarks



Development of "Environmental Education for the Young" educational materials

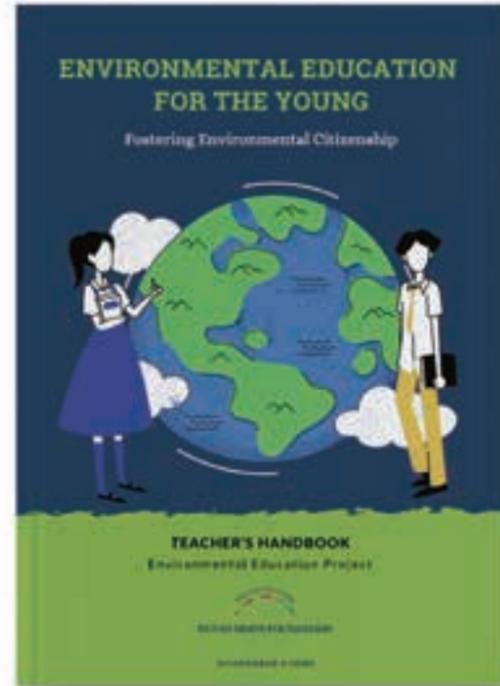
Background and purpose

Background

- Current on-site education in schools is not effective due to limitations such as lack of suitable educational content for students, insufficient knowledge and experience in extracurricular subjects, and low awareness of sustainable development.

Purpose

- To develop global on/offline educational materials related to climate change and combine them with ICT aimed at promoting students' understanding of the concepts, and tasks related to climate solutions and designing class modules that focus on specific activities.
- To support early environmental education for youths and adolescents as part of effective countermeasures against the climate crisis;

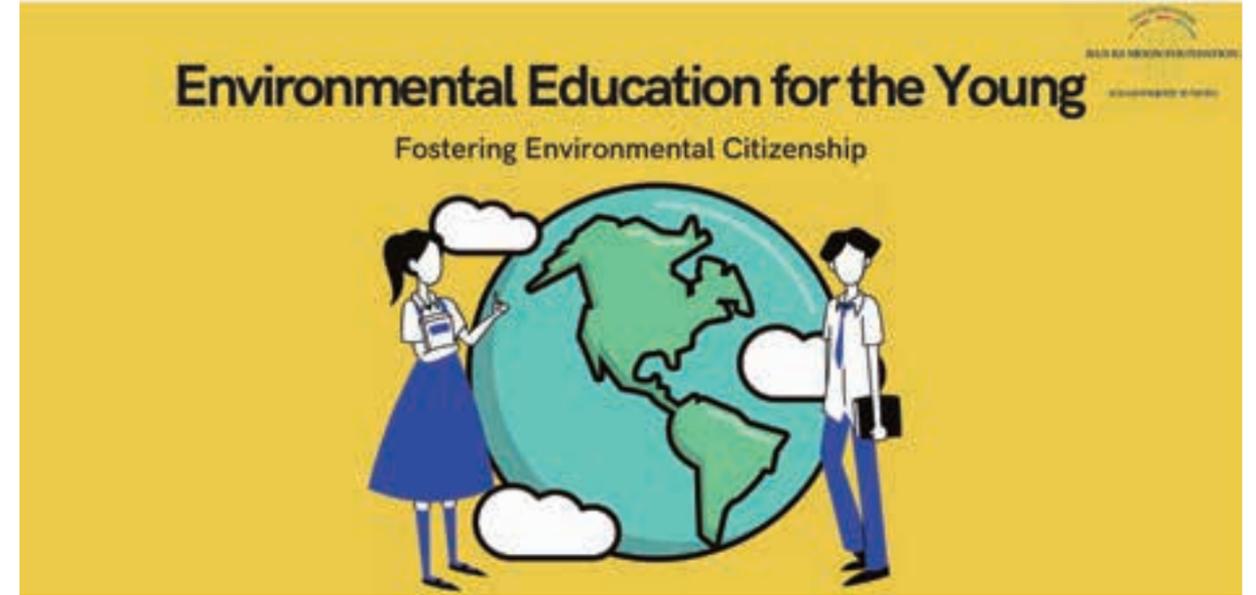
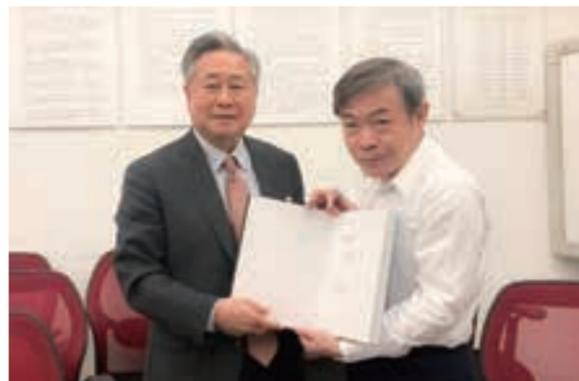


Operation plan

- Collection and analysis of educational data related to environmental and climate change goals;
- Development of educational contents related to SDG13 (Climate Action) in a way that can bring greater impact when collaborating with ICT.
- Development of a program that encourages students to experience and participate in activities that shape their values and attitudes and acquire problem-solving skills, in addition to one that is related to achieving Goal 13.

Content

- Provision of textbooks to teachers, student, national/public libraries, environmental civic groups, educational institutions, and schools through the development of reference materials for environmental education.
- Cooperation with the Brouad Group headed by Zhang Yue to provide textbooks to Chinese schools, environmental institutions and research centers (a work meeting to be held)
- Distribution of textbooks in developing countries by creating online materials



Introduction



Beyond the Industrial Revolution in the 18th century, the world is now witnessing rapid climate change. Many countries have moved to combat climate change, and Italy has mandated climate change education in state-run schools since September 2020.



The Ban Ki-moon Foundation created the Environmental Education for the Young for youth environmental education to establish future generations' values and present directions of practice in real life.



Through this textbook, the Ban Ki-moon Foundation aims to support teachers' and students' environmental learning and promote the implementation of SDGs related to SDG3, SDG4, SDG7, SDG13 through policy suggestions and encouragement.

Ban Ki-moon Foundation-Hanmaum Education Volunteer Group signing the MOU for Multicultural Families

On December 7, Ban Ki-moon Foundation and Hanmaum Education Volunteer Group promised to give active support for multicultural students (primarily middle and high school students) to turn their dreams into reality with pride through the operation of multicultural mother schools and the organization of the Ban Ki-moon Hanmaeum Global School, which provides English and mathematics after-school programs.



Support projects for single mothers' families

Purpose

- To raise social awareness and discrimination against single mothers in Korea
- To provide legal information on single mothers through the Human Library

The Single Mothers Association "Intree" works to build a future for single mothers and their children free of concerns from being discriminated against by elevating their social status, protecting their rights, restoring self-esteem, giving support to help them become economically independent and become the members of our society. Ban Ki-moon Foundation supports these noble missions.



Collaborative and Participatory Project

Through keynote speeches and contributions, Chairman Ban Ki-moon placed an emphasis on data collection and research and gender-related SDGs, respecting women's rights, and insisted on the importance of education with regard to global citizenship and the environment for future leaders. He met the subscribers of the Kid Chosun Ilbo, interviewed with the 2020 Asia Initiative Virtual Gala, and attended the 2020 Gender Summit Global for SDGs, the Alphach Forum, and the Ban Ki-moon Centre for Global Citizens Scholars 2020.

Meeting with the readers of the Kid Chosun Ilbo (1/28)



The greatest accomplishments that Chairman Ban as the former UN Secretary-General, takes pride in are the Paris Agreement, the Sustainable Development Goals, and UN Women. Elementary school students can save the planet by reducing electricity use and waste. These are ways to become a global citizen who cares about others.

Video message marking the 75th anniversary of the UN ESCAP (2/14)



Celebrating 75 years of the United Nations, he requested adolescents to raise climate ambition and unlock their potential to bring about broader change to local communities.



Elementary school students can save the planet by reducing electricity use and waste. These are ways to become a global citizen who cares about others.



UN SDSN Youth Global Schools Program

Endorsement message for the UN SDSN Youth Global Schools Program (6/10)



The role of education is crucial to achieving sustainable development in the midst of climate change and the ecological crisis. If every child could go to school and get educational opportunities for sustainable development, future generations will be sure to thrive. The Global School Program needs to ensure education on sustainable development, provide teachers and schools with necessary resources, and integrate the Sustainable Development Goals into schools around the world.

Interview with Jane Goodall, a recipient of the Ban Ki-moon Award, during the 2020 Asia Initiative Virtual Gala (8/16)



Dr. Goodall, a United Nations Messenger of Peace, has pioneered in highlighting the increasingly fragile ecosystem and has served as a role model for female empowerment for 18 years up to today. For COVID-19 to lead to a new paradigm in healing the planet and humanity, we should conduct 'build back better' in a greener and more inclusive way.

The 2020 Gender Summit Global for SDGs (8/19)

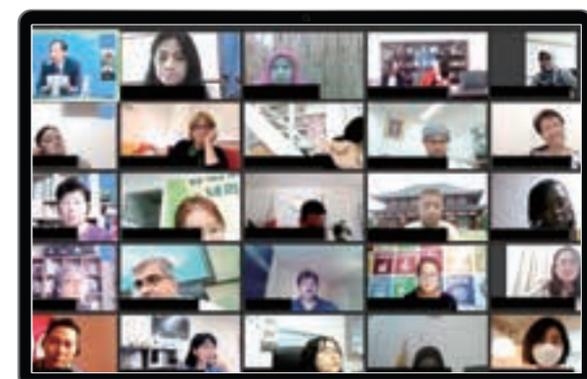


When women and girls are alienated, they are excluded from society and policies too. Qualified and comprehensive data collection and research will empower women and facilitate the implementation of gender-related SDGs. It is our hope to contribute to the world where women's rights are recognized and their voices are heard.

Congratulatory address at the 20th anniversary ceremony of the UNESCO Asia- Pacific Centre of Education for International Understanding (8/25)



Global citizenship education will deepen mutual understanding. Since it is the youth who shall bear environmental burdens, it is important to provide environmental education and help them grow into adults who are environmentally conscious.



Keynote speech at the Alpach Forum: "How to save the world- Youth activism in the spotlight" (8/25)



It is our responsibility as a global citizen to create a more sustainable world, which leaves no one behind. It is more important than ever to embrace and empower young people and women. Focusing on the SDG 4, the Ban Ki-moon Centre for Global Citizens was founded—with a view to providing quality education and opportunities to grow and putting shared values into practice.

Congratulatory remarks for UNAI 10th Anniversary: "Students and universities for 2030: The decade of action begins" (11/18)



The partnership between the United Nations Academic Impact and Millennium Campus Network was built in 2018. He expresses his sincere gratitude to Millennium Fellows for their engagement in more than 750 projects to vitalize communities and reach the Sustainable Development Goals.

Congratulatory remarks at the Ban Ki-moon Centre for Global Citizens Scholars 2020 (12/11)



The Ban Ki-moon Centre for Global Citizens is devoted to nurturing global citizenship. Young individuals who act on principle with integrity are the future of humanity. Chairman expressed his gratitude to those who have extended support in the scholarship program. The world needs young competent leaders for a sustainable future.

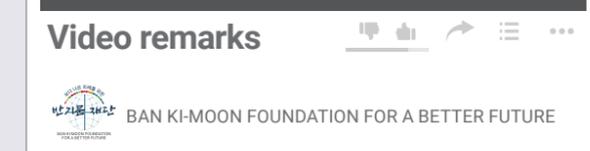
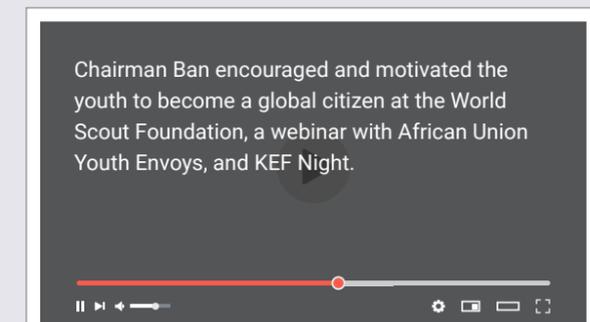


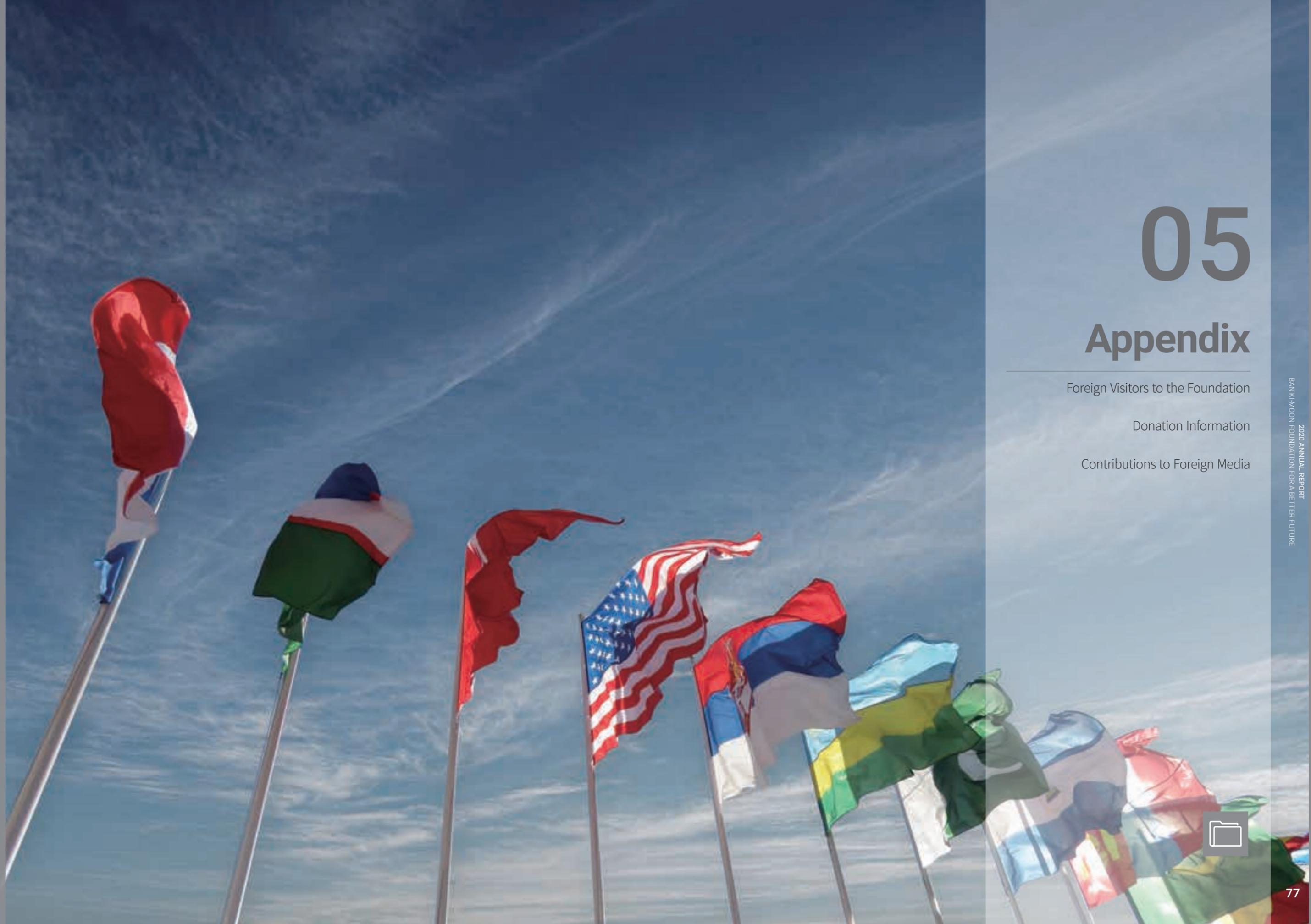
GEMS speech: "Sustainability, education, and the environment" (12/18)



The poorest countries in the world do not meet the needs of students. There is also an education imbalance in developed societies. The obstacle is not so huge that it cannot be overcome. Education is the most important driving factor in transforming the world. If everyone acts as a global citizen with compassion and passion, we can build a better society.

Participation in International Women's Day Campaign "#EachForEqual" (3/8)





05

Appendix

Foreign Visitors to the Foundation

Donation Information

Contributions to Foreign Media



Foreign Visitors to the Foundation



 1/7 **Chau Chak Wing**
(Chairman of KINGOLD Group)



 2/5 **Christopher Robert Hill** (Former Ambassador of
the United States of America to the Republic of Korea)



 2/10 **Tomita Koji** (Ambassador of
Japan to the Republic of Korea)



 2/20 **Wylbur Chisiya Simuusa**
(Ambassador of Zambia to the Republic of Korea)



 2/20 **Xing Haiming** (Newly Appointed Ambassador of the
People's Republic of China to the Republic of Korea)



 3/19 **Sripriya Ranganathan**
(Ambassador of India to the Republic of Korea)



 5/11 **Jerome Kim**
(Secretary-General of IVI)



 5/13 **Alfredo Basco** (Ambassador of the Argentine
Republic to the Republic of Korea)



 6/9 **Al-Saadi Zakariya Hamed Hilal** (Newly Appointed
Ambassador of Oman to the Republic of Korea)



 6/12 **Jacqueline Wambui M. Waiguchu**
(Charge d'Affaires of Kenya to the Republic of Korea)



 6/16 **Mohammed Hassan Al Hayki**
(Ambassador of Qatar to the
Republic of Korea)



 6/22 **Mumtaz Zahra Baloch**
(Newly Appointed Ambassador of
the Islamic Republic of Pakistan
to the Republic of Korea)



6/22 **Liv Torres**
(Director of Nobel Peace Center Museum)

Foreign Visitors to the Foundation



 7/8 James Lynch
(Representative of UNHCR Korea)



 7/10 Eric Teo
(Ambassador of Singapore to the Republic of Korea)



 7/16 Chaim Choshen
(Ambassador of Israel to the Republic of Korea)



 7/23 Sripriya Ranganathan
(Ambassador of India to the Republic of Korea)



 7/8 Hazem M. Fahmy (Ambassador of the Republic of Egypt
to the Republic of Korea)



 7/30 Long Dimanche
(Ambassador of Cambodia to the Republic of Korea)



 8/4 Carlos Victor Boungou
(Ambassador of Gabon to the Republic of Korea)



 8/4 Mohamed El Amine Derragui (Ambassador of the
Democratic and Popular Republic of Algeria to the Republic of Korea)



 8/10 Petko Draganov (Ambassador of the People's Republic
of Bulgaria to the Republic of Korea)



 11/27 Alfredo Basco (Ambassador of the Argentine
Republic to the Republic of Korea)



 12/8 Yannick Glemarec
(Secretary-General of GCF)



 12/14 Pekka Metso (Ambassador of the Republic of Finland
to the Republic of Korea)

Donation Information

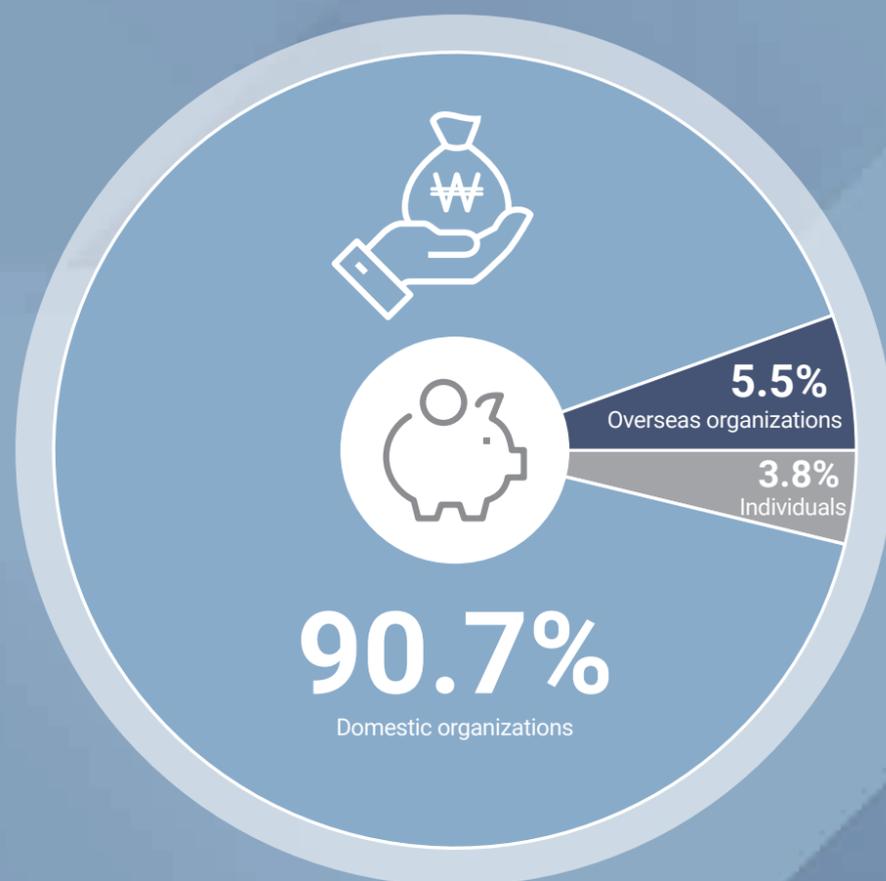
In 2020, the Ban Ki-moon Foundation For a Better Future was committed to the following four projects: the SDGs and climate change, COVID-19, peace and security, and women and the youth.

While COVID-19 swept the globe, we have supported the socially weak and healthcare workers and assisted in public health research. We also made endeavors to address the problems faced by women and the youth, Sustainable Development Goals, climate change, and many other challenges.

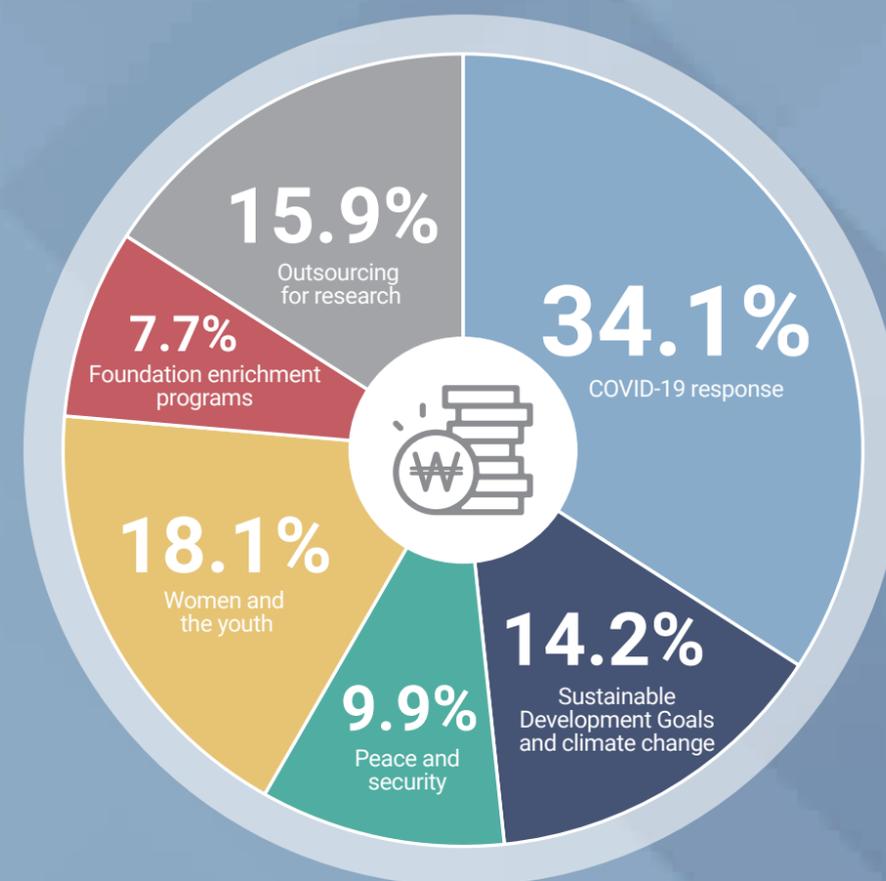
Your generous donations will be of great help to solving global challenges.

In 2021 we will continue to do our utmost for global citizens and contribute to building a better future for all.

Amount of Donations



Project Expenditures



Contributions to Foreign Media

For recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic based on solidarity and multilateralism, the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals and the Paris Agreement on climate change, and the responsibility of international entities for peacebuilding, Chairman Ban published articles in CNN, the Time 100 Community, Newsweek, the South China Morning Post, and Project Syndicate, to name a few.

Not only through major news sources, he also delivered a powerful message that any people can relate to through various channels, including the Elders, the Club de Madrid, Huffpost, Die Presse, the Financial Express, UNK-UK, Die Zeit, the Guardian, Fortune, Red Box, the Independent, the Indian Express, and the Boao Forum for Asia.

The New York Times

2019-11-07

The Climate Crisis in Terms Trump Can Understand

The president is abandoning America's future by quitting the Paris climate accord.

By Ban Ki-moon and Patrick Verkooijen

Mr. Ban was secretary general of the United Nations. Mr. Verkooijen is the chief executive of the Global Center on Adaptation.

Nov. 7, 2019

President Trump made good on his promise this week to withdraw from the Paris Climate Agreement. This wasn't a surprise. But it still baffles us. Try as we might, we cannot see how America's interests are served by this decision.

Our climate emergency does not respect borders. California's forest fires will not burn less fiercely, and rising sea levels will not spare Miami or Mar-a-Lago, just because Mr. Trump has chosen to opt out of a treaty of nearly 200 nations that represents our best and only chance of saving humanity from the catastrophic effects of rising temperatures.

Let us put it in language Mr. Trump might understand. If average global temperatures rise by the end of the century by another one degree Celsius, or 1.8 degrees Fahrenheit, there will be no winners on this planet. Only losers.



Firefighters working to contain the Easy fire in Simi Valley on Oct. 30. Credit...Kyle Grillot for The New York Times

And those immigrants the president rails against? Expect the trickle to become a flood. Climate change could force 1.4 million people to abandon their homes in Mexico and Central America, according to the World Bank. That is because one-third of all jobs in the region remain linked to agriculture and climate change is making those livelihoods more precarious. The best way to keep climate refugees from the United States' doorstep is to support a vigorous and effective climate agreement that helps protect America's neighbors from the ravages of drought and erratic weather patterns. But Mr. Trump is turning his back on this opportunity.

The Paris Agreement is not a trade agreement. There is no trade-off between Detroit, Youngstown and Pittsburgh, on the one side, and Paris on the other. Tariffs and sanctions will not make this problem go away.

Instead, the Paris Agreement is more like a collective insurance policy, into which we all invest to protect our futures. And like most insurance policies, it makes sound business sense. The best investments we can make right now are those that will protect our food, water and energy sources, our transportation, homes and cities, and our businesses and finances from the worst impacts of climate change.

We must invest to adapt to higher temperatures, rising seas, fiercer storms, water scarcity, wildfires — conditions that are now inevitable. The Global Commission on Adaptation estimates that investing just \$1.8 trillion to build climate resilience over the next decade would yield more than \$7 trillion in net benefits. That is a great return on investment.

In other words, we can either plan now and prosper — or do nothing and pay for the consequences later. It seems to us that Mr. Trump is choosing to do nothing and let the country pay later. How is this smart?

The Paris Agreement is a collaborative project, perhaps the greatest collective undertaking ever attempted by mankind. Is it perfect? No. Is it worth keeping? Definitely. Put bluntly, it is the only weapon we have to fight our climate emergency.

Bear in mind that the Paris Agreement is a work in progress. There are standards and targets to be set, compliance measures to be agreed on, budgets to be allocated. One of the best things about the agreement is that nations have pledged to share the fruits of innovation in low-carbon technologies — for clean energy, zero-emissions transportation, greater food security and sustainable businesses and homes. The United States is a great innovator and the Paris Agreement will undoubtedly be the poorer without its participation. But equally, the country had much to gain by joining in this collective endeavor. Why miss out on the greatest technological and economic transformation of our era?

Above all, the world will miss America's talent, leadership and ideas as we map out a low-carbon future. We know American voices will still be heard — notably, the thousands of local and state governments and businesses in the United States that have made pledges to reduce greenhouse gas emissions under a movement called We Are Still In. They are proof that millions of Americans still support the Paris Agreement, even if the current administration does not.

It is not too late for Mr. Trump to reconsider his decision. Staying in the Paris Agreement is the right thing to do, for America's sake and for the rest of the world. Winston Churchill is said to have once remarked that you could always count on Americans to do the right thing, after they'd tried everything else. We hope Mr. Trump proves him wrong and stays in the Paris Climate Agreement — that he does the right thing from the beginning.

Ban Ki-moon was secretary general of the United Nations from 2007 through 2016 and is deputy chair of The Elders, a group of global leaders. Patrick Verkooijen is the chief executive of the Global Center on Adaptation.

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Will we learn lessons for tackling climate change from our current crisis?

Opinion by Ban Ki-moon and Patrick Verkooijen
Updated 23:11 GMT (17:10 HKT) April 9, 2020



Editor's Note: Ban Ki-moon served as the eighth secretary-general of the United Nations and Patrick Verkooijen is CEO of the Global Center on Adaptation, a group that seeks to facilitate climate adaptation by working with the public and private sectors. The opinions in this commentary are their own. View more opinions at CNN.



Ban Ki-moon



Patrick Verkooijen

(CNN)Crises tend to bring out some of the best and the worst in us. We have watched in awe and admiration as health care professionals have responded with superhuman dedication to the Covid-19 pandemic. We have heard neighbors serenading each other across balconies. Car manufacturers are retooling to produce respirators and face masks that are so desperately needed by hospitals right now. Around the world, 1.7 billion people are staying at home to slow down the spread of the virus, according to The Guardian. Never, it seems, have there been so many visible acts of collective solidarity, and of such magnitude.

But there have also been acts of craven selfishness. Cyberattacks on Spanish hospitals, where thousands are in intensive care. Profiteering and hoarding of life-saving medical supplies. World leaders who put their citizens in danger by denying the gravity of the situation.

What this shows is that as individuals and as communities, we have a choice in how to respond to global threats. For the greater good we can accept restrictions on how we live, even at a cost to incomes and livelihoods -- as 20% of the global population is doing right now, as The Guardian wrote -- or we can respond selfishly, seeking only what is right for us, rather than the collective good of humanity.

These choices will continue to be important once Covid-19 is tamed. Because what should be clear is that other threats, most notably our ongoing climate emergency, have not gone away during the pandemic.

Many experts see a link between the two. Inger Andersen, head of the United Nations Environment Programme, says Covid-19 is a "clear warning shot" given that 75% of all infectious diseases come from wildlife, and climate change and the destruction of natural habitats are putting humans into ever-closer proximity to animals.

"Nature is sending us a message," she says, as The Guardian reported. Gernot Wagner, a climate economist

at New York University, tweeted that the virus is "climate change on warp speed."

Pope Francis, meanwhile, praying in a deserted St. Peter's Square on March 28, said: "nor did we listen to the cry of the poor or of our ailing planet. We carried on regardless, thinking we would stay healthy in a world that was sick."

If nature is sending us a message, what is it saying?

It is telling us that we need to heal the planet if we want to heal ourselves. That we must be respectful of the boundaries between humans and other species; that we need to adapt and alter our behavior. And while we make these changes, we need to build our societies' resilience to emergencies of all kinds, because our current planning and preparation for viruses, for rising seas and other effects of climate change, are not enough.

Whether you are dealing with a deadly virus or extreme weather, prevention is always better than cure. It makes economic sense to build greater resilience against climate change now, in the same way that we must strengthen our health care systems before the next pathogen strikes.

The Global Commission on Adaptation estimates that investing just \$1.8 trillion in building resilience against climate change over the next decade could generate \$7.1 trillion in total net benefits. Investment in green technology and resilient infrastructure could help put our coronavirus-shattered world back together again. Renewable energy instead of coal; natural drainage systems instead of more concrete to soak up water and avert floods; reforestation instead of land clearances.

Around the world, governments are launching gigantic stimulus packages to prop up their economies. But these are being targeted exclusively within national borders; more attention must be paid to helping those around the world who need it most.

It is also clear to us that to avert disaster, countries will need to help each other. World governments urgently need to mobilize a global fund to help the world's poorest countries cope with Covid-19. The precedent is there: In the aftermath of the Ebola epidemic, the United

Nations established a trust fund and led the international community to support recovery priorities. We believe the whole UN system, the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund and all regional development banks should come together again to address the aftershocks of the pandemic, including the global economic fallout.

If the virus is a shared global challenge, so too should be the need to build resilience against future shocks. Emerging and developing countries are the least prepared for the arrival of Covid-19, just as they are most vulnerable to the effects of climate change.

To avoid a protracted global recession, Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development Secretary-General Angel Gurría has called for a response "akin to the last century's Marshall Plan and New Deal -- combined." If it does come about, we hope it will not forget those in the developing world. For how these vast sums are invested will determine our future.

Governments could opt for business as usual, perpetuating our old way of life, or they could heed nature's Covid-19 warning and kick-start the transition to a low-carbon future. This means investing in life-supporting systems such as a stable climate, fresh air and clean water, and the preservation of natural habitats.

The lifesaving benefits of building climate resilience are already evident in countries that have invested in early-warning systems against cyclones and hurricanes. Tropical cyclones killed hundreds of thousands of people in Bangladesh, a low-lying delta country, throughout the 20th century, but thanks to investment in warning systems, evacuation drills and strong shelters, millions of people can now shelter in safety before cyclones strike.

This pandemic is far from over, but it has already brought certain truths (which should have been evident) into stark relief: that viruses do not respect borders; that without solidarity, we will not defeat this pandemic, because we are only as safe as our most vulnerable people; that scientific knowledge and advice matter; and that delay is deadly. The same lessons hold true for our climate emergency.

If we are wise, we will start acting on these lessons now.

I Was the Secretary-General of the U.N. Here's How the Coronavirus Crisis Can Bring the World Together



BY BAN KI-MOON
APRIL 16, 2020 7:01 AM EDT

There is no precedent in living memory for the challenge that COVID-19 now poses to world leaders.

The disease stands poised to cause a far-reaching economic depression and a tragically high number of deaths. Its impact will be felt in every corner of the world. To combat this historic threat, leaders must urgently put aside narrow nationalism and short-term, selfish considerations to work together in the common interest of all humanity.

As a former Secretary-General of the U.N., I support the call from my successor António Guterres for an additional \$2 billion in humanitarian aid to tackle the pandemic. This aid—which will contribute to key efforts such as developing and distributing tests, treatments and vaccines—is essential to reducing the virus's spread.

I also urge global leaders, led by the U.N., to consider how to develop a global governance system that can cope more effectively with any pandemics that may occur in the future. They should recommit to the values of the U.N. Charter, and use other multi-lateral bodies—including the G-20, the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank—to proactively support the world's most vulnerable populations.

It is encouraging that G-20 leaders last month committed to implementing any necessary measures to stop the spread of the virus and to injecting \$5 trillion into the global economy. But these commitments need to be translated into immediate, proactive assistance to vulnerable countries in Africa, South Asia and Southeast Asia. Further, to ensure an effective recovery, this cooperation will need to be strengthened

and sustained for some time. It is also crucial that border restrictions and closures, as well as pre-existing sanctions for countries like Iran, which have been severely affected by the pandemic, do not prevent critical medical equipment and supplies from being transported to where they are most urgently needed.

COVID-19 shines a harsh light on the many profound inequalities that scar our planet. Disparities of wealth between and within countries now risk being exacerbated even further by the pandemic.

Similarly, the constraints many countries have imposed on movement and assembly are understandable and necessary under the current circumstances, but legislators and judiciaries must bear in mind that, if not carefully instituted, these restrictions risk accentuating the marginalization of vulnerable groups such as refugees, migrants and racial minorities.

Respect for human rights, solidarity and justice need to be at the heart of our response to COVID-19. We all have a responsibility as global citizens to stay vigilant and not allow authoritarian regimes to exploit the crisis to roll back rights and democratic safeguards. Otherwise, we risk the prospect of a future where rich countries have recovered and reinstate “normal” patterns of social and economic interaction, but poorer states remain ravaged, with their citizens excluded and subject to new forms of discrimination.

Even before COVID-19 took hold, we were confronted by the existential threats of climate change and nuclear weapons. In January, I attended the unveiling of the “Doomsday Clock” in Washington, D.C., when the clock’s minute hand was moved closer to midnight than ever before.

The clock is still ticking, and these threats have been further aggravated since the outbreak of COVID-19. But if the world can show the necessary courage and leadership today, we will be better placed to tackle equally grave challenges tomorrow. Ban is the deputy chair of the Elders, an independent group of global leaders, and served as Secretary-General of the U.N. from 2007 to 2016

This article is part of a special series on how the coronavirus is changing our lives, with insights and advice from the TIME 100 community. Want more? Sign up for access to TIME 100 Talks, our virtual event series, featuring live conversations with influential newsmakers.

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Ban Ki-Moon: The Lesson from COVID-19 is that We Need More, Not Less, Global Cooperation / Opinion

BAN KI-MOON
ON 6/1/20 AT 12:34 PM EDT



Global leadership has been sorely absent in the face of the gravest threat to human life in more than a century. Instead of unity, there is political acrimony. Instead of heeding the advice of experts, they are sidelined, undermined. Instead of international co-operation, there is finger-pointing. COVID-19 has become a blame game of international politics.

I need not dwell on the consequences of this colossal, collective failure of global leadership. The pandemic is still spreading, its death toll now in the hundreds of thousands. The global economy is at a standstill. Hundreds of millions of people are unemployed, and as hunger grows, so will civil strife. According to the UN, a quarter of a billion people may starve this year. What progress we have made on reducing poverty and malnutrition and our other social development goals could be wiped out within months.

In our hyper-connected world, where misinformation spreads faster than the virus, this blame game will get us nowhere. Tweets are no substitute for good policies and political action. It's time to put an end to political bickering and focus on the job at hand: containing the pandemic. To further politicize the current health emergency is not only immoral and irresponsible; it is almost criminal.

Trust is the key to building an effective global response to COVID-19. We know that measures to contain the virus have been most effective in countries where citizens have a high degree of trust in their governments. And we know that global co-operation has succeeded in stopping deadly

pathogens in the past. Smallpox was eradicated with a global immunization campaign led by the World Health Organization. At a critical moment of an Ebola outbreak in Africa in 2014, the UN Security Council pronounced it a threat to international peace and security, and dispatched its first ever mission to combat a disease.

If we have been unable to apply the lessons learnt from previous epidemics, it is because trust between governments, and in our multilateral institutions, is at its lowest ebb. Never have we needed it more. Only by working together will we be able to devise rapid responses to health emergencies such as COVID-19. Shutting down borders and cities, hoarding medical supplies, every man for himself: that is not the answer.

We need new ways of working to rebuild trust in collective action for the common good. A global platform, where best practices and success stories and the most updated data and information can be shared, would be a good place to start. The platform would encourage all stakeholders, including health professionals, researchers, the pharmaceutical industry and policy-makers, to engage in a professional and non-partisan way. It would be a first step towards improving global coordination on rapid responses to health emergencies, while building consensus on how to prevent or deal with future ones.

We need international co-operation, too, on how to reopen our economies and our borders safely. We need commonly agreed international rules to allow travel to resume without again becoming a vector for the deadly virus. And to achieve this we need to tone down the politics and maximize openness and co-operation based on the best available information and data.

Secondly, when the time comes to rebuild, we must rebuild better, with a different set of priorities. As Pope Francis reminds us, nature never forgives. How can we presume to remain healthy in a world that is sick? We need to invest in public health, in social safety nets such as a minimum living wage, in education, sanitation and clean water, in green energy and climate action. In short, we must revive our economies by investing in people and the planet. We can no longer pursue short-term economic growth at the expense of everything else. The Green Deal proposed by the European Union is timely, but it is not a quick fix. In Europe and elsewhere, we need a shift towards long-term green growth.

It is critical to design our Covid-19 recovery for green challenges

Global society has been violently rocked but we must collaborate to change behavior



Ban Ki-moon JUNE 17 2020

The writer is a former UN secretary-general

Heading the UN gave me a new perspective on the world. In a short time, I saw glaciers melting in Antarctica, devastating floods in Thailand and Pakistan, the 2011 tsunami in Japan and Hurricane Sandy in America. In September 2011, I met a young boy in the South Pacific island of Kiribati who could not sleep because he was worried that the rising sea would destroy his home. I learnt that the biggest challenges humanity faces are interlinked. I saw that surviving and emerging from a crisis depends upon our ability to work together, beyond borders and national interests. And I understood that our relationship with nature will ultimately decide our fate. If we fail to keep the equilibrium, the most vulnerable will suffer first and most.

These lessons have become front of mind again as Covid-19 spread quickly around a world that is more connected than ever, yet increasingly divided and inward-looking. The pandemic has shaken our global society to its foundations and tested our ability to collaborate. Now, world leaders are committing unprecedented funds to recovery packages. Their choices will shape our economies and societies for decades, and determine whether we breathe clean air, create a sustainable low-carbon future and possibly even survive as a species. The current pandemic has been brutal, but the challenges ahead will be worse unless we design our recovery to address them. Air pollution has made the impact of coronavirus significantly worse and lies behind 7m deaths every year because of its links to a host of other conditions. It has many of the same root causes as climate change, which threatens our existence. Equally, Covid-19 has shown what is possible when humanity is faced with a tangible and fast-moving threat. Air quality

improved nearly instantly as a result of government lockdowns. The rapid responses and widespread compliance show we can change our behaviour if the health imperative and political mandate exist. We know people want change. A new YouGov poll commissioned by the Clean Air Fund shows at least two-thirds of citizens in diverse locations around the world — Bulgaria, India, Great Britain, Nigeria and Poland — support more laws and enforcement to tackle air pollution. As economies are restarted, a return to toxic air would simply replace one health crisis with another. Governments will never have a better chance to address these issues. They can structure bailouts to wean the sectors they save off fossil fuels. They can prioritise green jobs, renewable energy and clean technology. These measures would pay for themselves many times over. There are also specific steps they can take on clean air. Leaders of some of the world's biggest cities, including London and Milan, are already repurposing city centres to use cleaner energy and technology. They are encouraging us to get out of our cars, to make more journeys on foot, by bike or — in the long term — via public transport, by investing in infrastructure that makes this possible. These ideas need to be expanded and repeated elsewhere, with backing from national governments.

Yet, we could miss this clear opportunity. Governments in countries such as the US and China have lifted environmental restrictions during the crisis; continued relaxation or simply returning to business as usual would be disastrous. In my country of the Republic of Korea, we are introducing a Green New Deal that seeks a new way of life after the pandemic. We want to tackle climate change and air pollution alongside other elements of the UN sustainable development goals, such as inequality and poverty, and to look beyond our borders. That is why we are increasing co-operation with Japan and China to address regional air pollution. But these promising first steps will not be enough. In July, G20 finance ministers will meet to review their collective response to the pandemic. On September 7, the UN is organising the first International Day of Clean Air for Blue Skies. And attention is turning to the COP26 summit in 2021, which feels like our last chance. Governments must seize these opportunities to put clean air and climate justice at the heart of recovery plans, in line with the 2015 Paris climate agreement. This will not be easy, but it can and must be done. The pandemic has taken a heavy toll, but it could be just be a taste of things to come. We owe it to ourselves and future generations to build back better.

Nuclear proliferation needs a multilateral response just as much as the coronavirus pandemic

- The global nuclear weapons stockpile still stands at 13,400 warheads even three decades after the Cold War, with tensions rising across the world
- Pious words about Hiroshima and Nagasaki will ring hollow if today's nuclear powers do not take concrete steps to reduce their arsenals



COVID-19 has shone a light on the acute vulnerabilities of our interconnected world. No country can tackle the pandemic alone, regardless of its size, strength or technological sophistication. The only way to overcome the threat is through international cooperation and transparency. The same principles apply to an equally grave threat to the future of humanity, albeit one that rarely dominates the news. 2020 marks the 75th anniversary of the dropping of atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. The Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) has been effective for the past 50 years, with 190 countries taking part. Yet a nuclear conflict remains a clear and present danger today. According to the latest report from the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute, the global nuclear weapons stockpile still stands at 13,400 warheads even three decades after the end of the Cold War. Tensions are alarmingly high between the two nuclear states of China and India after the deadly clashes between troops in Ladakh's Galwan valley. Furthermore, India and its other nuclear-armed neighbour Pakistan came frighteningly close to war in 2019 over the disputed territory of Kashmir. When it comes to the Korean peninsula, US President Donald Trump's attempts to build a personal rapport with North Korean leader Kim Jong-un have yielded nothing in terms of concrete progress toward North Korea's complete denuclearisation. On

the contrary, North Korea continues to strengthen its nuclear capabilities and has never given up its ambition to acquire de facto nuclear status. All of this bodes ill when COVID-19 consumes world leaders' attention and has put on hold the habitual rhythms and practices of international diplomacy. The nuclear threat was already growing in significance before the pandemic after deliberate assaults on the multilateral system launched by nationalist, isolationist and authoritarian leaders. The US decision in 2019 to withdraw from the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces Treaty was a myopic and retrograde move that harks back to the Cold War and a dangerous arms race on European soil and beyond. In recent weeks, we have seen further alarming signals from Washington that weaken the global architecture of arms control and non-proliferation, including the announcement it intends to withdraw from the Open Skies Treaty and even reports that it is considering a resumption of nuclear testing after a 28-year moratorium. This year should have also been the occasion for the Non-Proliferation Treaty Review Conference, which had to be postponed because of COVID-19. All parties to the NPT should not waste the time afforded by this postponement and take concrete steps to meet their obligations on disarmament and non-proliferation. Those bearing the heaviest responsibility are the five permanent members of the UN Security Council, which have consistently failed to live up to their obligations on disarmament under Article 6 of the NPT. States should exert whatever pressure they can to convince the US administration to agree to extend the New Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (New START) for five years. Its expiry would mean no binding agreement on arms control between the two nuclear superpowers — the United States and Russia — and thus create a serious risk to global peace and security. The US has suggested it wants to broaden New START to include China. While it is important for China to be engaged in the global disarmament discussion, it is disingenuous to make New START's extension dependent on Beijing, given that its stockpiles are one-twentieth the size of those of the US and Russia. The US should instead accept the offer of Russian President Vladimir Putin and immediately agree to an extension. China's inclusion can be separately negotiated subsequently. An effective, rules-based multilateral system is the world's insurance policy against existential threats, from pandemics to climate change to nuclear weapons. Pious words about the victims of Hiroshima and Nagasaki will ring hollow if today's nuclear powers do not take concrete steps to reduce their arsenals and invest in a robust global arms control architecture.

Returning to Multilateralism

BAN KI-MOON

For 75 years, the United Nations has provided an imperfect but unrivaled global forum for advancing peace, prosperity, and human rights, standing as a bulwark against another world war. But the COVID-19 pandemic presents the world's premier multilateral body with its biggest challenge yet.

NEW YORK – COVID-19 has shone a light on the acute vulnerabilities of a deeply interconnected world. No country, regardless of its size, wealth, or technological sophistication, can tackle this crisis alone.

Owing to the pandemic, the United Nations General Assembly this month is being held under exceptional circumstances, with heads of state participating “virtually” rather than traveling to New York City. The unique nature of this year’s gathering should serve as a reminder that the only way to overcome the threat of COVID-19 is through international cooperation, transparency, and adherence to shared rules and regulations.

It is a poignant irony that the pandemic has struck on the UN’s 75th anniversary. Born from the wreckage of World War II – a wholly human-made calamity – the world’s premier international forum embodied post-war leaders’ determination that future generations must be spared from the kind of suffering they had witnessed.

In the Middle East and other conflict-riven regions, the UN and its principles of multilateral cooperation remain indispensable for finding long-term, sustainable solutions that will guarantee peace, stability, and prosperity. The principles of international law are the bedrock of our global order, providing a crucial framework for defending rights and exercising power in the face of global challenges.

We can see this clearly in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, which has lasted for almost as long as the UN itself. The best solution will be two states – Israel and Palestine – for the two peoples, based on the internationally recognized pre-1967 borders and in accordance with UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 2334, among others.

The recent establishment of diplomatic relations between Israel and two Gulf countries, the United Arab Emirates and Bahrain, is a significant political development that I hope can help overcome decades of estrangement and mistrust. But I still believe that the only way to achieve true “normalization” between Israel and the Arab world is for all parties to work toward a durable two-state solution that delivers peace, justice, dignity, and security to Palestinians and Israelis alike. People’s inalienable rights should never be bartered away by others.

In 1945, many hoped that the world had finally learned the lessons of two disastrous world wars. In the words of the UN Charter, the body was created to “save succeeding generations from the scourge of war,” and to pursue peaceful and inclusive paths to global prosperity and democracy. The web of UN-centered international covenants and institutions that have been established since then is far from perfect. Yet, for more than seven decades, it has decisively supported the pursuit

of peace, security, human rights, and economic and social improvements around the world.

To highlight this legacy, The Elders – a group of independent global leaders founded by Nelson Mandela, of which I have the honor to serve as Deputy Chair – recently released a report on the defense of multilateralism. In it, we issued five calls to action for today’s leaders:

- Recommit to the values of the UN Charter;
- Empower the UN to fulfill its mandate for collective action on peace and security;
- Strengthen health systems to tackle COVID-19 and prepare for future pandemics;
- Demonstrate greater ambition on climate change to meet the Paris agreement targets;
- Mobilize support for all of the Sustainable Development Goals.

All countries must recognize that the only way to achieve these objectives is through effective multilateralism, which is ultimately in everyone’s interest. More often than not, the UN’s failure to meet its stated goals has been the result of member states – particularly but not exclusively the five permanent members of the Security Council (the United States, the United Kingdom, France, Russia, China) – not meeting their responsibilities. When countries place narrow national interests above common priorities, everyone loses out.

To be sure, this past July, I welcomed the UN Security Council’s unanimous adoption of Resolution 2532, which called for a global ceasefire to avert further humanitarian catastrophes in the context of the pandemic. I also strongly supported this initiative when UN Secretary-General António Guterres first proposed it in March. Yet I was disappointed to see so many valuable months wasted in arguments over the details of the text.

Squabbles over semantics in the face of bloody conflicts and an unprecedented pandemic sent a terrible message to the global public. Beyond the direct health effects, the economic fallout from the crisis will be long-lasting and severe, creating ripple effects that will be felt in many fragile and conflict-affected parts of the world for some time to come. This was no time to play diplomatic hardball.

Since then, the World Food Programme has warned that we may be headed for the worst humanitarian crisis since WWII, with as many as 600,000 children likely to die from famine and malnutrition in hard-hit countries like Yemen, Somalia, Nigeria, and South Sudan.

The COVID-19 crisis is a somber reminder of our common human bonds and vulnerabilities. If we fail to respond to the pandemic and other shared threats with a renewed sense of solidarity and collective action, we will have dishonored the victims of the virus and betrayed the hopes that the UN’s founding generation had for us.

List of contributions to major foreign media

	The Doomsday Clock Shows we are closer to global catastrophe than ever before – this needs to be a wake-up call for the world(1/23)
	The Elders warn new US ‘peace’ plan for Middle East is unworkable(1/29)
	The Elders call for global resolve and solidarity in the fight against COVID-19(3/18)
	Protecting India: Nation must stay with vision of founding fathers to fight threat to secular democracy(3/20)
	GLOBAL LEADERSHIP FOR THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC IS THE ONLY WAY TO LEAVE NO ONE BEHIND(CLUB DE MADRID (4/3)
	Coronavirus Is A Warning To Us All: We Must Heal Nature In Order To Heal Ourselves(5/2)
	The Elders call for new Middle East peace plan to counter Israeli annexation threat(5/11)
	The Elders call for bold multilateralism to drive global response to COVID-19(5/21)
	OPINION: To avert a COVID-triggered famine, our global food system need to change(5/22)
	A Call to All Governments: Work Together Now to Stop Cyberattacks on the Healthcare Sector(5/26)
	ASEAN must act to save Rohingya refugees in the Bay of Bengal(5/26)
	It’s in our hands(6/3)
	OPINION: Investing in digital agriculture can help Africa beat this pandemic(7/1)
	The Elders urge European leaders to stand firm on Israeli annexation threats(7/3)
	OP-ED: Chairman Ban calls on Germany’s leadership to guide EU towards climate-friendly development(7/17)
	I’m bewildered that Trump would imperil America by abandoning the Paris agreement(7/27)
	America needs a major infrastructure overhaul – and it must be green(7/29)
	To Honor the Victims of Hiroshima and Nagasaki 75 Years on, We Must Lay Down Our Nuclear Weapons(8/4)
	The Elders call on world leaders to take action or risk nuclear catastrophe(8/5)
	A Letter to the International Community(8/17)
	Saving the COVID Generation(8/18)
	Open Letter in Support of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons(9/21)
	SDGs: building back better(10/23)
	A forum for the Shared Future of Asia and the World(10/26)
	America, we’ve missed you. Now please get your act together on climate change(11/13)
	Abandoning aid target sends the wrong signal before Cop26(11/26)



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