

# World Environment University : Mission and Design<sup>1</sup>

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## Abstract

The University will contribute, through its high quality of education, training and research, to the containment, reduction and management of the problems confronting humanity in the transition to sustainable way of life utilizing the latest technologies of distance learning. Through international collaboration and leadership, it will generate, mobilize and share knowledge, experience and skills throughout the world so as to promote equitable and sustainable progress and to preserve and enhance the natural world on which humanity depends.

As merit of the location of center in Northeastern Asia and North and South countries, Jeju Island has a remarkable natural beauty matching with unique environmental culture tradition, and a wide range of expertise, connections and capabilities in regard to global commerce, finance and transportation, and to the management of watersheds and biodiversity as a newly established international free city, all of which are relevant to world environment of sustainable development.

### Key words :

World Environment University, Mission, Design, Partnership, Collaboration

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1) This part comes from Chapter 3. Mission and Design of the University(pp. 184-189) and Chapter 4 : Partnership and Collaboration (PP.190-191) of A Feasibility Study on the Establishment of World Environment University in Jeju Special Self-Governing Province, The Republic of Korea (Appendix 9), Korea, Jeju Regional Environmental Technology Development.

## Introduction : Justification and Mission of the University<sup>2</sup>

A. It is estimated in a study published by the US National Academy of Sciences and cited by Lester Brown in his recent book, "Plan B 3.0," that "humanity's collective demands for resources of all kinds first surpassed the earth's regenerative capacity around 1980." The same study further estimated that "global demands in 1999 exceeded that capacity by 20% and that the gap, growing by 1% per year is now much wider." In addition, as it is expected that world population is expected to increase from around 6.8 billion now to around 9 billion and that living standards for many will rise, this will put significant added pressures on the global environment, on limited energy and resources and on the ecological life systems on which we depend. These fundamental trends are compounded by the growing impact of climate change.

B. For these and other reasons, the current path of economic growth and world development is unsustainable. This was stated by some of the world's most influential business leaders at the Earth Summit in 1992 when they said that the current economic system is not viable and called for a fundamental "change of course". This poses important ethical, intellectual and practical challenges to humanity at every level – from global cooperation and action to the values and decisions of the individual. There is a need for new knowledge, new thinking, new policies and new leadership and these must be founded on a sound understanding of the complex issues involved and on respect for diverse values, cultures, aspirations and conditions.

C. It is to contribute to the creation and application of knowledge on the vital issues of sustainable development which directly affect the future of the people of South Korea and of humanity as a whole, the Government of the Republic of South Korea has decided to establish The World Environment University

D. The University will contribute significantly to facing the vital challenges of sustainable economic development. It will contribute also in a variety of ways to the achievement of the United Nations Millennium Goals to which the Government of

South Korea is committed. Its purpose and mission can be stated as: The University will contribute, through its high quality of education, training and research, to the containment, reduction and management of the problems confronting humanity in the transition to sustainable way of life utilizing the latest technologies of distance learning. Through international collaboration and leadership, it will generate, mobilize and share knowledge, experience and skills throughout the world so as to promote equitable and sustainable progress and to preserve and enhance the natural world on which humanity depends.

E. The University will be located in Seogwipo city of Jeju Island but it will design and implement its program on a truly international basis. It has a remarkable opportunity to innovate in defining its activities. Its program will be designed from a fresh start and can focus on critical issues in an integrated, interdisciplinary way, drawing systematically on the best international advice available.

## Facilities<sup>3</sup>

A. The high quality of the facilities already established, particularly New Seogwipo City Hall Buildings will be utilized for the University before the new campus will be constructed. The substantial investment in these facilities is not likely to produce its intended results unless it can attract world-class programs and experts. The University would meet need at only a modest portion of the capital cost of these facilities. The government of Jeju and the central government of ROK would need to meet these costs. Existing facilities particularly the programs of Jeju National University could provide immediate and adequate accommodation for the University in its initial stages.

B. The Tamna (old name of the Jeju Island as independent country) University already established on an attractive site might have been a suitable venue for the University. But it is now in complicated financing difficulties and deteriorating conditions which would not make it a feasible choice initially. Later if financial and other difficulties can be resolved, it could possibly become an undergraduate

<sup>2</sup> We cited a part of 3.1 Justification and Mission of the University. *ibid.* pp. 184–185.

<sup>3</sup> On 4th of November, 2011, Maurice Strong, Hanne Strong and Jihee Kim make a trip to Segwipo city. After looking at Jeju English city and Jeju Peace Institute of Chungmun Complex, Maurice is O.K. two candidate is suitable for its campus.

University with a relationship with University. But this would not seem to be practical at this time and should simply be regarded as a future possibility.

C. At the same time, it would be important to allocate a tract on which the permanent University facilities could be constructed at land (owned by Jeju Special Self-Governing Province or Office for Education of Jeju Special Self-Governing Province) in Seogwipo city, as an outstanding example of the latest ecological technologies and techniques. Provision will also need to be made for appropriate accommodation for faculty and staff.

#### Undertaking its mission<sup>4</sup>

A. At its campus of Seogwipo city in the Jeju Special Self-Governing Province in South Korea<sup>5</sup>. A rigorous academic teaching program will be implemented, focused in a coherent, multidisciplinary way on specific themes in the broad field of world environment, its inter-action with the economy and transition to sustainable development. The program will contribute to creating the human capabilities \_ knowledge, skills, leadership and motivation\_ which are the basic drivers of action. In the initial stages, the academic program will concentrate initially on teaching at the Masters level, on short courses for professionals in the World Environment and Peace Summer School. Curricula and methodology will be to the highest international standards. Courses will be taught by international faculty drawn from different backgrounds and cultures. The academic program will also include the development of materials for wide public education for sustainable development to stimulate the awareness and individual action on which real social and economic change and also the support for national policies depend.

B. The University will have a virtual global campus involving teaching and research in partner organizations worldwide. It will disseminate and exchange knowledge on issues of world environment and sustainable development to partner centers of learning across the world. It will use the capacities of modern ICT to make multimedia teaching materials available to its

partners so that thousands of people can benefit from the sharing of knowledge and experience.

C. The University will undertake an active program of research on sustainable development. This will include both academic research to deepen our understanding of the concepts, content and methodology of sustainable development and also targeted research to establish a sound basis of knowledge to support policies and action and to improve effectiveness in the use of the resources of all kinds which must be mobilized to promote sustainable development. This research will recognize the interactions between the key trends and issues, it will be aware of the non-linear, systemic nature of many of the processes at work and it will be sensitive to diverse cultural and environmental situations and basic human needs.

D. The University will implement a program of policy research and the development of materials to bridge the gap between analysis and decision making. The aim will be to increase the understanding by policy makers, officials and leaders in all walks of life of the challenges of sustainable development and of the measures necessary to face them.

E. The University will develop innovative analytical and methodological approaches. New approaches are needed to understand and respond to the systemic, inter-related nature of the issues we face in the field of sustainable development and to generate improved data, indicators and knowledge on which analysis, modeling, decision making and action may be soundly based;

F. The University will be explicitly organized on the basis of collaboration and networking with partners in the creation and sharing of knowledge in South Korea itself and across the world, fully utilizing the potentials of modern multimedia, information and communications technologies.

G. The University will establish a Documentation Center on Sustainable Development and a Public Outreach Program. Through conferences, publications and networking, the University will promote public understanding of the central issues of world environment of sustainable development.

3.4 The Advantages as the Location of Jeju Island for the University.

In deciding to establish the University for World Environment of Sustainable Development in Jeju Island, the Korean Government has concluded that Jeju Island offers a unique combination of

4) This part comes from 3.3. Undertaking its mission of Chapter 3. Mission and Design of the University( idid. pp. 184-188).

5) He asked research intern, Jihee Kim to look at some apartments such as both Belache in Jeju city and Lotte Castle in Seogwipo city because he wants to live here to complete World Environment University in November 2011.

advantages in various points:

A. As merit of the location of center in Northeastern Asia and North and South countries, Jeju Island has a remarkable natural beauty matching with unique environmental culture tradition, and a wide range of expertise, connections and capabilities in regard to global commerce, finance and transportation, and to the management of watersheds and biodiversity as a newly established international free city, all of which are relevant to world environment of sustainable development. The University and the UICWEP will benefit from these global perspectives, contacts and expertise. It will also benefit in its work from the rich cultural diversity of the people of Jeju and their culture:

B. The University will also benefit from the explicit financial support of the Government of South Korea while being established in the Special Self-Governing Province in South Korea as an autonomous academic institution. The clear and active support of the host government will be an important factor for many reasons in ensuring the rapid and sustained development of the University:

C. The environmental value or status of the Jeju Island as site designed in 2002 UNESCO Jeju Halla Biosphere Reserve, 2007 UNESCO World Natural Heritage of Jeju Volcanic Island and Lava Tubes, 2009 UNESCO World Intangible Cultural Heritage of traditional ritual, and 2010 UNESCO World Geology Park have already qualified it as a leader in this field. In the consultations with the Jeju Provincial Government and with the Korean Ministry of Environment, a number of specific areas were identified where students and researchers at the University could assist in developing knowledge, indicators, models and methodologies which would help to underpin the major investments envisaged. Conversely, the mega-project to expand the Jeju International Free City or the Jeju Tourism Organization will provide a wide variety of unique field experiences to the University's students. The World Association for Island Studies ([www.peaceisland.asia](http://www.peaceisland.asia)) and The World Environment and Island Institute WEII of JNU is a well established, dynamic organization with a wide variety of domestic and international partners, including academic, scientific, governmental and non-governmental institutions as well as private businesses and international organizations. Together with the Jeju Development Center,

(JDC), and with UICWEP of the Seogwipo Innocity and English-only City at the same location, it provides an immediately available framework for the efficient establishment of the University and also a framework for knowledge management. In particular, it runs the World Environment and Peace Summer School, Tamna International Film Festival TIFF: World Environment. Islands: Peace Film Festival with help of trans: Asia screen culture institute of Korea National University of Arts, Peace Island Culture Olympics PICO, and World Haenyeos Culture Festival with sponsorship of the University, the UICWEP, the WEII of Jeju National University cooperatively and collaboratively providing or sharing knowledge, experiences of world environment of sustainable development, and skills with the public and world citizens every summer.

D. The academic, official, intellectual and commercial communities of Jeju Island, in particular its universities and other institutions of learning, can provide a variety of high quality expertise and knowledge in support of the University.

E. In its teaching and research, the University will build on the existing, close relationships with the institutions and corporations which are partners of the WAIS. It can also rapidly utilize the facilities of the existing campus for faculty and student accommodation and for teaching and research.

F. Due to the excellent travel and communications links of Jeju Island, the WAIS will build building of UICWEP at Seogwipo InnoCity. It can provide a space for UICWEP, including UNEP, UNDP, UNICEF and others. These institutions will provide the University and the Center with access to facilities for its worldwide knowledge and activities, to on-going research and international negotiations on major issues relevant to environment and sustainable development. Jeju Island is also the hub for Korean, Asiana, Jeju Airline companies with easy access to all other countries in East Asia including main cities of Tokyo and Osaka of Japan, Beijing and Nanjing of China, Seoul and Busan of Korea, Taipei of Taiwan and so on.

G. Jeju Island offers a "living laboratory" for research on a wide array of relevant issues, such as watershed management, hydrology, the management of marine and coastal resources, eco-tourism, support for indigenous peoples and local cultures, urbanization and the preservation of a remarkably rich biodiversity. It is also in a unique

geographic position as a link between East Asia and Pacific, North and South countries, of great importance to ecology and biodiversity, and it borders on two oceans, the Asia and the Pacific. Important opportunities are therefore available for students to gain work experience and to benefit from field trips and case studies. The World Environment and Island Institute and the Subtropical Horticulture Research Institute of Jeju National University, long-established in Jeju Island, Korean Center for Climate Change, Training Center for UNESCO World Heritage can offer a solid base for work on ecological issues.

H. Korea enjoys close political and economic links with the countries of Eastern and Southern Asia and the Pacific, and with countries across the globe as a result of its dynamic economy, its strategic location and its role in maritime transport and communications. The committed support by the Government of Jeju Special Self-Governing Province for this initiative can stimulate valuable relationships and support for the University, including through its Korean-ASEAN, Mainland China, Japan and India relationships.

### The advantages to Jeju Island and Korea<sup>6</sup>

A. The University will bring the following advantages to Jeju Island and Korea: A specific component of the University's program will be devoted to research, data collection, modeling, analysis and training related to the expansion of the Jeju Island and Korea. This will contribute to pre-investment activities in advance of the major investments now planned. Also, the expertise, the world class contacts and the visiting experts of the Jeju Island and Korea can be used to strengthen the teaching and research of the University.

B. The program will make valuable contributions to the education system of Korea, in close collaboration with universities, schools and other related institutions.

C. Faculty and students will contribute through research, analysis and field activities to managing the issues of sustainable development, the conservation of ecological systems and environmental protection within Jeju Island, including the related issues

6) This part comes from 3.4. The Advantages as the Location of Jeju Island for the University of Chapter 3. Mission and Design of the University (idid. pp. 188-189).

of poverty, and health and the preservation of indigenous cultures. etc.

D. The innovative academic and research program of the University, coupled with the access provided through its worldwide networks of knowledge and experience, will enable Korea and Jeju Island to participate significantly in global efforts and negotiations to contain and manage the critical issues of climate change and sustainable development.

E. The creation of an international university engaging faculty, staff and students from across the world will demonstrate commitment of Korea and Jeju Island to add new dimensions to its highly successful services economy by moving further towards a knowledge economy<sup>7</sup>.

### Partnerships and Collaboration

#### Partnerships<sup>8</sup>

A. Main and solid focus of the University is to provide proper high quality of education to students who wants right perspective and best outputs from world class education of world environment over the world. In developing and implementing its program, the University will collaborate with a wide variety of partner institutions. This collaboration will extend across the full range of issues which are integral to the concept of sustainable development, such as ethics and values, culture, ecology and environment, economic and social issues, scientific and technological progress, international and human security, international law and policies for development etc.

B. Partnerships with and support of business and industry as the principal instruments through which we impact on the economy must be given high priority. Collaboration with Jeju Association of Businessmen, including Jeju National University, will be undertaken to develop the programs of the University and fully engage their capacities in preparing business and industry for its essential leadership in the transition to sustainability.

C. Collaboration will range from: cooperation with universities in the design and development of

7) Maurice Strong emphasizes sustainable and green economy of World Environment University which is supposed to contribute to Jeju Island Economy.

8) This part comes from 4.1 partnerships of Chapter 4. Partnerships and Collaboration (idid. pp. 191-191). He emphasized good relationships of key partners such as IUCN, the Jeju Development Center and other United Nations. During his visit on May of 2012, he visited JDC.

academic methodology and curricula; cooperation with partner universities and schools in the dissemination of knowledge; and cooperation with private enterprises, governmental organizations and NGO's in education, training and research.

D. A systematic survey will be undertaken during the preparatory process to identify the main academic and other institutions with relevant activities in the fields on which the University will focus its program. An initial selection can then be made of a limited number of partners to be involved in the first phase of the University's development.

E. At this stage, a number of key partners can already be identified, such as IUCN, the Jeju Development Center, United Nations Agencies and other public and private organizations, corporations and research institutions such as the Subtropical Horticulture Research Institute of Jeju National University, and universities and other centers of learning within Korea. It will have a special partnership with the UICWEP in the Seogwipo Innocity. Through the partnership, the University will not only work together conducting research for the development of marine tourism packages and world environment issues, but also run the Islands of 20 I-20 as the World Environmental Leaders' Forum.

F. It is not the intention to build a traditional university. The University will systematically utilize the potentials of modern information and communications technologies to build a wide range of networks and partnerships, benefiting from Jeju Island's location as a major node in world communications systems.

G. Although the University will benefit from and contribute to domestic and international partnerships, it must rapidly develop and sustain its own competence and credibility by assembling a critical intellectual mass of faculty and researchers. Only in this way can it ensure the innovative character and coherence of its programs and participate effectively in international knowledge networks.

Collaboration<sup>9</sup> – will be established with the program of World Environment and Peace Summer School WEPSS, run by the World Association for Island Studies and the World Environment and Island Institute of Jeju National University. In

order to contribute to the understanding of World Environmental Issues and Climate Change, Marine tourism, World Heritages, Global Leadership, and Peace Education Courses internationally, the University will participate in running annual summer school programs in collaboration with Jeju National University of Korea, Suffolk University of USA, American Paris University of France, Hiroshima University of Japan, and University of Tasmania of AU among others.

#### Languages<sup>10</sup>

The main language of the University will be English. However courses at Jeju National University and some others would be in Korean and administrative matters related to Korean host arrangements will also normally be in Korean. Cooperating organizations in other locations would be free to conduct their courses and administration in their local language with relevant course material translated into English for distribution to others in the network.

9) This part comes from 4.2. Collaboration of Chapter 4. Partnerships and Collaboration. idid. p191.

10) This part comes from 4.2. Collaboration of Chapter 4. Partnerships and Collaboration. idid. p191.

## Conclusion

Since February 2 of 2020, we have discussed about issues such as Establishment of World Environment University and ASIAPARC Federation through opening World Environment University Online School in 2020 with collaboration of PREMISES IN STRASBOURG, FRANCE VISION DRAFT (February 2, 2020). According to its participants list, WEU is included :

China Trust : 25% Provider of Capital to secure premises, architectural drawings, IT installations, construction and furnishings

WEU : 10% WEU to Establish Sister University to "World Environment University", Jeju Island, S. Korea.

Watico Limited: 25% Asset Manager, Administration and Coordination.

Treasury : 40% Held in Corporate Treasury Sinking Fund

We develop solid curriculum for WEU which is possible making it available weu on line school.

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Receiving Date : May 14, 2020

Reviewing Date : May 21, 2020

Reporting Date of Article Appearance: May 28, 2020