



# FREE THE RIVERS

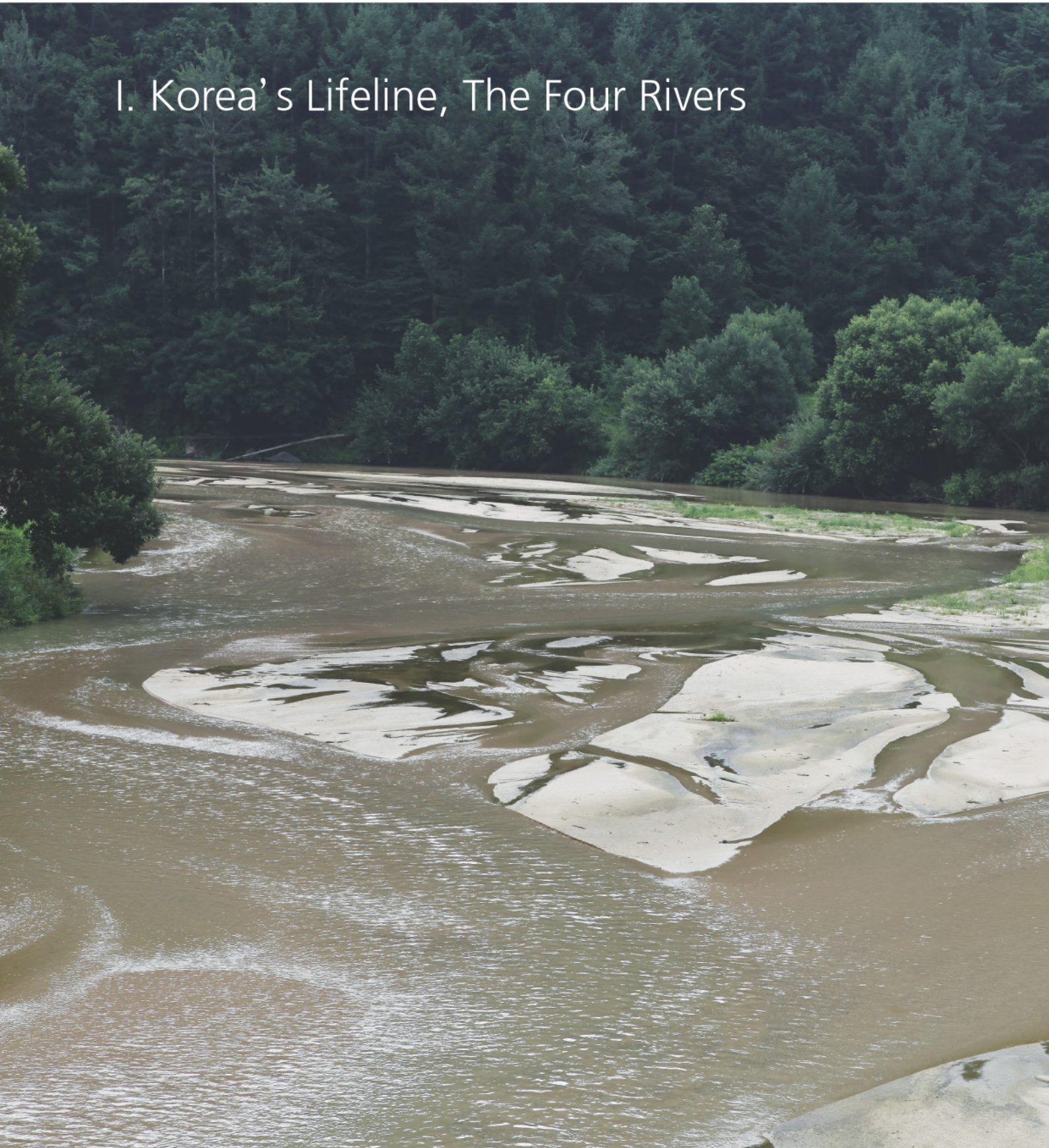
The Reality of the 4 Major Rivers Restoration Project in the Republic of Korea  
- Dredging, Constructing Dams, Devastating River Diversity -

October 2010

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# I. Korea's Lifeline, The Four Rivers





The Han, Geum, Nakdong and Yeongsan rivers have been a life base for all living creatures on the Korean Peninsula for centuries.

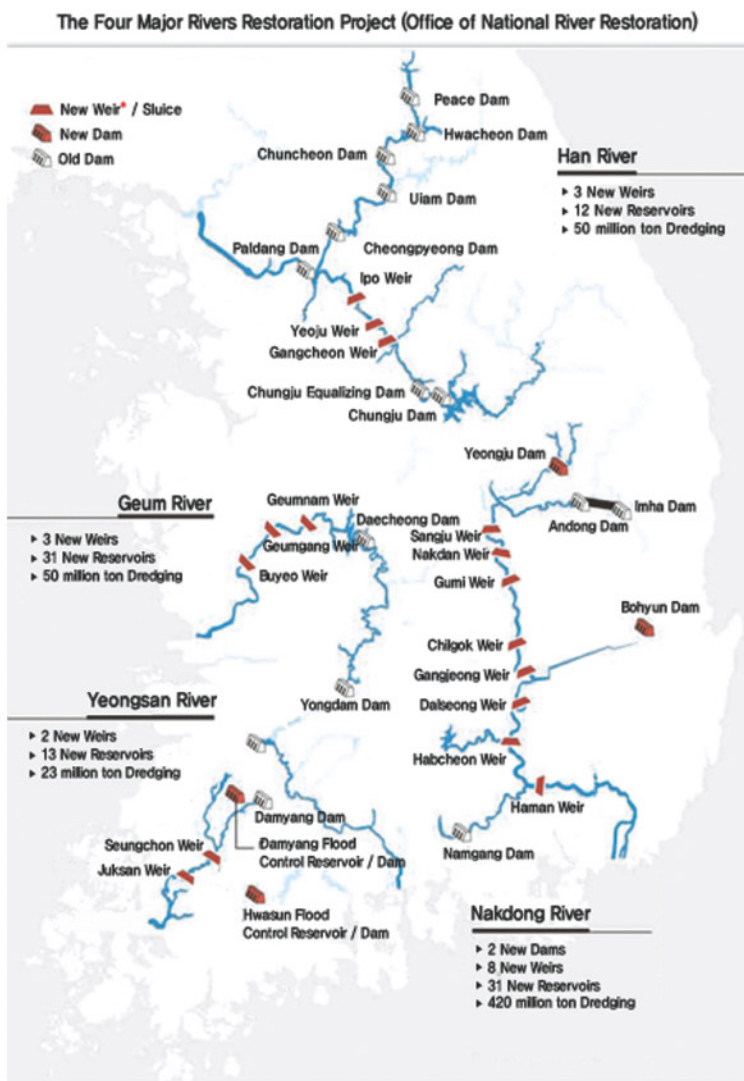
Therefore, Koreans still regard those rivers as our blood line and feeding lines. On the Korean Peninsula, especially in the southern regions of Korea, culture and civilization have developed along with the four major rivers from the era of pre-history to modern society. As most of the upstreams on the four major rivers still has its original forms since the pre-historic era, they are treasury areas for wildlife and a resting place for people along the riffles, shoals and wetlands. As there are many places where unexplored relics are buried keeping their original forms, these upstreams are important destinations for anthropologists and cultural researchers. As big cities industrialized along the estuary areas of these rivers, the previous government had designated the Four Major Rivers as 'National Rivers', committed to managing and protecting them. The government built sewage systems, spending limited budgets for the development of these rivers, especially rivers supplying drinking water resources while it had uncovered already polluted rivers.

In the meantime, people nationwide are realizing that river developments such as the construction of dams, estuary dykes, artificial levees, and sand and gravel mining during industrializing are actually polluting these rivers rather than providing benefits, and that the only way to save them is to preserve them without any change. However, since the inauguration of Lee Myung-bak's administration in 2008, the long term efforts to save the rivers have all been disrupted. Although all attempts for changing the river's original landscapes have been proved to be useless and ineffective all over the world, now the Korean government under the guise of 'saving' rivers, reversing the clock, attempts to forcibly change the rivers by digging river beds out, building huge dams, and changing natural riversides into artificial amusement parks.

## II. The Four Major Rivers Restoration Project is a national disaster!

President Lee, in his presidential campaign in 2007, suggested his pledge for the so-called 'Grand Canals for the Korean Peninsula' which would change the four major rivers - the Han, Geum, Nakdong and Yeongsan rivers and make roads for river transportation. But after his inauguration, his plan faced national protests and finally he promised to give up the plan in his national address as long as people are against the plan. However, President Lee deceived the people, cleverly renaming the same plan to 'The Four Major Rivers Restoration Project' in June 2009. He decided to carry out the plan investing more than 22.2 trillion KRW of the national budget and finish it within 4 years of his term, even though more than 70% of the public are against it.

### Key issues in the master plan for the Four Major Rivers Restoration Project



\* Government uses the word "weir" for new constructions.

- This plan is to build 1,376km into bicycle paths and construct 16 dams by digging up river beds that amount to 570 billion m<sup>3</sup> with investment of 22.2 trillion KRW. This plan is supposed to be completed within his 5 year term.

- The government asserts that the purposes of the Four Major Rivers Restoration Project are to improve ecosystems, environments and solve problems related to flood, drought and water quality, and to establish better culture·tourism·leisure consequently recreating national lands.

- Government is advertising that the Four Major Rivers Restoration Project is a very lucrative business which generates 230 KRW of profits only by investment of 100 KRW

**There is no rationale for water scarcity and preventing flood.**

- Government insists that 800 millions ton for 2011 and one billions ton for 2016 would suffer from water scarcity based on data from Population Action International (PAI), a civil organization in USA. In

## [Budget for the Four Major Rivers Restoration Project]

Department in charge	Budget	Businesses	
Ministry of Land, Transport and Maritime Affairs	15.4 trillion KRW	River Improvement	New
			Existed and continues
		Building dams	
		Remodeling farm lands	
Ministry of Agriculture, Food, Forest and Fishery	2.9 trillion KRW	Heightening bank of reservoirs	
		Estuary bank for Yeongsan River	
Ministry of Environment	3.9 trillion KRW	Improving water quality - sewage systems and other facilities	
Sum <sup>1)</sup>	22.2 trillion KRW		

1) Total budget 2010 of the Republic of Korea = 293 trillion KRW

addition, government argues that 16 dams are indispensable for preventing floods which occurs once per 200 years.

- If this is true, Korea would suffer from drinking water scarcity for a month and half by 1,040 people due to 0.8 billion of drinking water scarcity in next year. However, it has no evidence for drinking water scarcity yet even at now when three and half months are left till next year.
- The rationale for water scarcity in Korea is manipulated by the government which wants to build 16 dams in the Four Major Rivers and dredge rivers by very large scale.
- Even regarding flood, only branched streams or valleys branched from the Four Major Rivers are damaged by flood without damaging the Four Major Rivers. Moreover, the utmost plan of 'A long-term plan for water resource development' in Korea's water resource asserted that Conceptional changes which more focuses on spaces (including downstream and flood area of surface conception) rather than linear conception (down stream and bank) to reduce and distribute flood damages is necessary.
- In most recent 10 year's flooded areas, east and south coast area, northern area of Gyeonggi and inland of Yeongnam are critically damaged by flood but main stream of the Four Major Rivers, targeted land for the Four Major Rivers Project are not so much damaged. And if the government is really concerned about flood damages, it should more invest on areas mentioned above.
- The Four Major Rivers Project is a business for feeding construction companies and manipulating Korea's political environments for benefits of Lee's administration.

### Ignoring various laws and regulations

- Violating national financial laws: national financial laws suggests that 'Preliminary feasibility studies' for preventing poor quality are necessary for large scaled national projects. But the Korea government changed national financial laws and interpreted them at its own discretion in order for president to carry out a project with a large amount of 22.2 trillion KRW of people's tax.
- Violating laws on rivers: according to these laws, various plans are reviewed, modified and audited to build 16 dams and dredge rivers of 570 million m<sup>3</sup>. But this government ignored all the processes mentioned above.
- Poor environmental impact assessment: the government carried out preliminary environmental evaluation within 2-3 months, which is at least for 1.4 years for normal process. Consequently it ignored creatures in danger of extinction and forced the project to be carried out.
- Violating laws on preserving cultural assets: The government carried out survey on cultural asset indexes poorly taking only 2 months and to make it worse, there was no authorized contractor for underwater-licensed contractors among 23 organizations.



**Speed only focused way without considering water quality and ecology.**

- The government is accelerating the Four Major Rivers Project more than ever before in order to complete it within Lee’s term (2008~2012) and under this environment, water quality and ecology is deteriorating.
- In general, civil projects take around a year and half or 3 years from environmental effects evaluation, to basic design and actual design. But the Four Major Rivers Project took only 7 months for its plan.
- Its environmental impact assessment which should be carried out for long time is superficial or not complied with actual environments and ignored distributions of animals and plants.
- In addition, Korea’s lawmakers appealed that there are various problems such as pollution of drinking waters in capital areas with 23 millions of population, water pollution by muds and others. Korean society is severely divided into two parts by objection and agreement of the Four Major Rivers Project.

**[Comparison between general civil projects and the Four Major Rivers Project in terms of construction periods]**

Area	Environmental Impact Assessment	Basic design	Actual design	Completed	Remark
General civil projects	1~2 years	3~6 months	3~6 months	More than 2 years	At least more than 5 years
Four Major Rivers Project	3 months	Less than 2 months	Less than 2 months		A total of 2 years

## 70% of Korean are against the Four Major Rivers Project

How are people's opinions for the Four Major Rivers Project which is under process destroys rivers and ignoring various laws? It's very rare for such a many people to be against a single issue in Korean society and it's also very rare for such objection to be persistent not diminished for a long time. Based on various polls, around 70% of Korean are reported to be against the Four Major Rivers Project. In fear of this objection, the government put a pressure on a TV program (MBC PD Notes) which expressed programs related with the Four Major Rivers Project.

### Protests for the Four Major Rivers Project presided by 4 major religious groups

- Bishop's association of Korean Catholic asked the government to stop the Four Major Rivers Project and all catholic churches hold life & peace missa hanging banner for protesting of the Four Major Rivers Project.
- The central buddhism association, an utmost lawmaking organization of Buddhism in Korea expressed their opinions of objection to the Four Major Rivers Project and hold religious meeting against the Four Major Rivers Project. And it is under processing with an established arbitration committee for establishing social agreements.
- On May 31, 2010, a Buddhist monk 'Munsu' burned himself with fire for protesting the Four Major Rivers Project.
- Protestant and Won Buddhist groups hold praying meeting for stopping he the Four Major Rivers Project and deployed objectional activities such as pilgrimaging to the Four Major Rivers.

### Professors' Alliance to stop Grand Canal Project

- 2,400 professors from 115 universities nationwide established "Professors' Alliance to stop Grand Canal Project"
- Many professors from various areas such as environments, civil engineering, sociology, law and economics have persistently presented their reports for problems related to the Four Major Rivers Project.

### The Four Major Rivers Project is under justifying process by people of Korea.

- Legal actions for the Four Major Rivers Project which goes ignoring laws on environments, administration and cultural assets is under processing.
- Legal actions for the Four Major Rivers Project is being carried out with 10,000 people of plaintiffs.

### Whole civil societies of Korea work to stop the Four Major Rivers Project by their activities.

- They continue to monitor construction sites of the Four Major Rivers Project, publishing animals and plants in

danger of extinction which are omitted from environmental impact assessment while they disclose illegal procedure of the construction.

- Establishing joint organizations, citizen and farmers who are against the Four Major Rivers Project are deploying activities for protesting meeting, mass-rally, campaign, advertisement and visiting construction sites.
- Environmental activists performed 'High-location protest' at the top of Ipo Dam on the South Han River and at the top of a crane on the construction site of the Haman Dam, the Nakdong River.

### Resistant activities from farmers whose lands are robbed of

- Approximately 300,000ha of lands near the Four Major Rivers Project will disappear and farmers have lost their lands near them.
- Paldang organic farm lands are a mecca of Korea's organic agriculture, where world organic farming fair is supposed to be held in 2011. But the government has plan to remove all those farm lands and then make bicycle paths.
- Farmers near the Four Major Rivers Project including those who are living at Paldang organic farm lands are protesting for the Four Major Rivers Project stopping the construction.

### A critical issue for politics in Korea is "the Four Major Rivers Project"

- On last June, 2, the ruling party completely lost local elections. Many local governors and chiefs of local institutions who promised to stop the Four Major Rivers Project won the election. It's because national welfare systems have got worse due to the Four Major Rivers Project and the government forced the Four Major Rivers Project without sufficient communication with people pressing freedom of speech.
- At on-going parliamentary inspection of the administration on October, which is called "A parliamentary inspection of the administration only for the Four Major Rivers Project", it continues to be controversial over the Four Major Rivers Project during all sessions.

## III. Life is being destroyed right before our very eyes!

As mentioned above, a large scaled government project is under processing for such a short period. According to the master plan for the Four Major Rivers Project, it is a project which is based on benchmarking economic development in the Tennessee Valley (Tennessee Valley Authority, TVA) and persistently manages the rivers with investment of large budget for short period by overall government management, which means that the Four Major Rivers Project is for managing all rivers by same methods. Therefore, river diversity and biological diversity in the river habitats rapidly are being reduced and river ecosystems are seriously devastated.

### 1. Breaking the river system down

Dredging river beds and mining aggregate of 570 million m<sup>3</sup> and constructing 16 dams are under processing simultaneously all over the Four Major Rivers. Therefore, geomorphic features of rivers are physically transformed and if the project is completed, their ecosystems will be seriously changed because lotic ecosystem is changed into lentic ecosystem in river.

#### 1) Dredging, Sand & Gravel Mining

- As shown in below photographs, a huge amount of dredging and aggregate collecting under processing simultaneously all over the Four Major Rivers Project areas
- According to the master plan, amount of dredging is reported to be 50 million ton both from Han River and Geum River, 23 million ton from Yeongsan River and 420 million ton from Nakdong River.
- This amount is 40 times more than yearly amount of aggregate collection.



Sands and gravels from dredging river beds are heaped up like mountains.



## Opinions of river experts who visited the Republic of Korea for surveying construction sites of the Four Major Rivers Project

### Prof. Mathias Kondolf, a fluvial geomorphologist and a professor of UC Berkeley

He said that “A river without sands and gravels due to dredging is called as a hungry river. In Germany or Japan, they periodically add sands to rivers which are eroded on the contrary to dredging.”

“Dredging main stream of rivers affects branch streams in terms of river and topograph. Different height of river bed between main and branch streams makes flow rate of branch stream faster, which causes serious corrosion. Collapse of a Sinjin Bridge and banks, which occurred at Yeonyang tributary, Ganmae tributary, Geumdang tributary which are branch streams of the South Han River, came from a large scaled dredging for the Four Major Rivers Project.”

“The Four Major Rivers Project is totally different from management of river in advanced countries. In Europe and United State of America, they need not dredging and bank installation because there are installed spaces where rivers are swirling and inundated.”

### Dr. Alfons Henrichfreise<sup>2)</sup>, a river expert from Germany

“The Han River and Nakdong River are currently being changed irrecoverably. Their beds are changed into a squared type, which is expect to make river’s flow rate even faster. When river bed is lowered through dredging, volume of water flowing in rivers is getting larger and there is no space for bypassing water flow. In this case, when water flows into branch stream, it is very likely to face water floods”

“In Germany, dredging is prohibited by laws because it may cause bad side effects such as flood, underground water scarcity and changed flow rate.”

2) He had worked from 1976 to 2008 as a public servant at Dept. of River and Floodplain Ecosystems in German Service of Environment located in Bonn, Germany.

## 2) Damn Dams!

- A total of 16 dams (Weir) are under construction along with the Four Major Rivers
- According to the master plan for the Four Major Rivers Project, it is called ‘weir’ but it is dam in terms of functions and size.
- Besides 16 dams, multi-purposed dams including Yeongju dam at the Naeseongcheon(1st tributary of the Nakdong river) are scheduled to be built with special purpose named “Securing water for maintaining river levels”



Dams which Korean Government calls as weirs.

## Opinions of river experts who visited the Republic of Korea for surveying construction sites of the Four Major Rivers Project

**Dr. Alfons Henrichfreise, a river expert from Germany**

“When a dam is built at river, a clay layer is created, which plays a role for water-proof coating preventing water on the ground from flowing into underground. Consequently, farmlands nearby the river may suffer from water scarcity. Securing rainfall for preparation of drought should be solved not by surface water but by underground water”

**Randolph T. Hester, an expert of river restoration, Professor Emeritus of Landscape Architecture & Environmental Planning and Urban Design at UC Berkeley**

“What is being constructed for the Four Major Rivers Project is dam in terms of its scale and functions”

“Dams can’t prevent floods. On the contrary it deepens risks for floods in mid and upstream of rivers. In case of LA in USA, river banks was removed and lower ponds are created purchasing surrounding lands and consequently water quality was improved and frequency of flood was decreased.”

“Currently, in USA, removal of artificial structures installed dams and banks is under processing. USA has carried out at least 37,000 businesses for restoring rivers with investment of 17 billion dollar for last 15 years.”



Past and current landscapes of Bawineubgubi wetland at the South Han River

### 2. Devastation to protected species and their habitats

After the government clears natural wetlands, willow community, shoal, alluvial islands and water dropwort fields at the riverside, ecological parks such as small rivers, artificial wetlands, wild flower garden, fish ponds, bicycle paths and trekking courses will be made. And it is named ‘a national project for restoring ecosystems’ and ‘Saving the rivers’.



*Aster altaicus* var. *uchiyamae*



#### 1) Plants | Sands and gravels at the riversides

*Aster altaicus* var. *uchiyamae*, that is Endangered II wild plant, is transplanted into flower garden, its alternative drawn from its native habitats. All habitats for *Aster altaicus* var. *uchiyamae* which are found only at the South Han riverside worldwide, are currently dugged out.



Death en masse of *Hemibarbus labeo* at the Han River Restoration Project site



Devastated Haepyeong wetland, taken on 11th October 2010 ©Heeseop Lee

## 2) Fishes | Ripples and Ponds

- Ponds and ripples which enhance river diversity by providing good habitats are all disappearing due to dredging from the Four Major Rivers Project.

- Death en masse of fishes are common in construction site for the Four Major Rivers Project. Death en masse of *Hemibarbus labeo* and *Gobiobotia macrocephala*

## 3) Migratory birds | Sand dunes and Paddy fields near the rivers

Haepyeong wetland located Gumi city of Kyeongsangbuk-do province is an interim habitats where *Grus monacha* moves to Izumi of Japan. It is a heaven's land for numerous *Grus monacha* to safely take rest with surrounded by wide farm lands along with rivers while there are shoal, sand bars with shallow river flowing smoothly. Currently, Haepyeong wetland is occupied by excavators and devastated.

## Conclusions suggested by river experts who visited the Republic of Korea to survey construction sites of the Four Major Rivers Project

**"The Four Major Rivers Project, even after it is completed, is being carried out irrecoverably. The best we can do is to stop it now."**

(Dr. Alfons Henrichfreise, a river expert from Germany)

**"As a healthy river is one with its own space for self-curing, it's best policy to preserve river without any change."**

(Prof. Mathias Kondolf, a fluvial geomorphologist and a professor of UC Berkeley)

## IV. Problems of Korean-styled 'Green Growth'

Global warming is a worldwide issue. President Lee of Korea has expressed at various international presses that Korea will take leading actions for global warming with spirits of 'early mover' and 'green leader'. However, Korea's 'Green growth' is almost focusing on 'Growth' rather than 'Green'. For this reason, scholars and civil organization are criticizing Lee's administration while they argue that 'Green growth' is a rusted shovel motion toward a construction & architectural country'. 'Green growth' focusing on growth inevitably results in damages on environmental and moreover, it is not harmonized with trends of international 'Green growth'. To make it worse, Lee's administration is advertising that the Four Major Rivers Project, although it is indeed a large scaled national land breaking project, is a major business for 'Green Growth'.

### **The government announced Korea-styled 'Low Carbon and green growth'**

- President Lee suggested on August, 2008 that 'Low carbonized would be a new critical national vision. Moreover, the government advertised that 'Green growth' is a paradigm for a new national growth which creates new growth power and opportunity for new employment.
- For this reason, the government announced on Jan, 2009, 'Green New Deal business' which is supposed to implement a full-fledged green growth and on Feb Lee organized the committee for green growth as a presidential advisory organization. To make it worse, the government paved activating nuclear power plants, commercializing tap water and the Four Major Rivers Project under the name of so-called green growth.
- 'Low carbonized green growth', which is declared as a vision for new millennium by the government, is indeed regarded as a construction and architectural activation focusing on a short-term based economy stimulus. In addition, core businesses for green New Deal business, which was announced on Jan, 2009 is also about the Four Major Rivers Project.

### **Korea is ranked as 94th of 163 countries in environmental performance index**

- According to a publication from World Economic Forum, DAVOS, Swiss 2101, Korea was ranked as 94th of 163 countries in environmental performance index. And a report from Ramsar Convention indicates that Korea was ranked as 133 of 159 countries in its area of wetland.
- Although Lee's administration suggested 'Green growth' as an alternative plan of world economic recession, consequently his administration is focusing on a large scaled construction such as the Four Major Rivers Project and civil engineering business, forced goal of reducing greenhouse gas from industries and loosening various regulations for development.
- World Economic Forum indicated that the Four Major Rivers Project is not helping Korea to improve its environmental performance index. Korea's environmental performance index is expected to be deteriorated more and more.

### **Ministry of Environment plays a role for promotion department of the Four Major Rivers Project**

- Ministry of Environment of Korea changed its role into promotion for 'Green Growth' especially for the Four Major Rivers Project. This is not an abrupt transition in its role. Most people believe that Ministry of Environment

### [Variations in environmental performance index for Korea]

Year	Rank	Remark
2006	42 out of 133 countries	1st New Zealand, 42nd Korea with 75.2 point
2008	51 out of 149 countries	1st Swiss with 95.5 point, 51st Korea with 79.4
2010	94 out of 163 countries	1st Iceland with 93.5, 94th Korea with 57.0



should preserve natural environments, and further global environments not activate construction and civil engineering businesses.

- Website for Ministry of Environment is actively promoting the Four Major Rivers Project with a slogan of 'Ecology, Environment and life-centric Four Major Rivers'. Moreover, the administration doesn't allow civil groups to report omitted contents for animals & plants in danger of extinction in press center of the Ministry due to the Four Major Rivers Project.

- In addition, Korea Environment Institute (KEI), an state-owned environment research center under prime minister, indicates through its report "Research for securing suitable river space in preparation of global warming" that "a structural approach such as dredging, reinforcing banks and constructions focused by the Four Major Rivers Project has its limitation enduring increasing floods due to global weather change and also it has some problems in terms of accessibility and hydrophilicity" and "Its economic aspects are same". Ministry of Environment also knows it well.

### Questions to United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

- United Nations Environment Programme, UNEP announced Global Green New Deal on Mar, 2009 for leading world green economic initiatives and as its follow-up process it published Korea's case as its first report while it publishes reports for each country.

- Its report says that "Green growth of Korea is a transition from "From brown economy to Green one" and Korea pursues for a transition toward low carbonized-quality enhanced growth escaping from "Paradigm of quantitative growth during industrialization"

- The report, especially for the Four Major Rivers Project, indicates that "the Four Major Rivers Project is a multi-purposes businesses including "Solving water scarcity, preventing floods and activating local economy", which mimics assertion of Korea Government like a parrot.

## We have questions to United Nations Environment Programme

1. Has United Nations Environment Programme ever heard from opinions regarding the Four Major Rivers Project from Korea's environment progressive groups before the report was published?
2. Has United Nations Environment Programme ever been to the construction site for the Four Major Rivers Project and surveyed them in Korea?
3. United Nations Environment Programme mentioned that Korea is suffering from water scarcity. And what's a specific rationale for water scarcity in Korea?
4. Management of river areas is known to live together with flood areas over the world, which means existing banks and dams are not a solution to prevent floods, if so, why is United Nations Environment Programme supporting the Four Major Rivers Project especially 16 dams construction in Korea?
5. United Nations Environment Programme reported that Korea would be able to create 340,000 jobs thanks to the Four Major Rivers Project and ultimately it would help Korea economy. Here, creating 340,000 jobs is now very controversial even between domestic scholars and also it has doubt about manipulation. Has United Nations Environment Programme known the fact mentioned above?
6. United Nations Environment Programme says that "Possible problems which may occur from the Four Major Rivers Project have solutions for various reduction plan based on environmental impact assessment. However environmental impact assessment was finished only for 3 months and it omitted several animals and plants in danger of extinction. How could United Nations Environment Programme explain this?"
7. Has United Nations Environment Programme known that green growth of Korea especially 'Green New Deal', announced on Feb, 2009 included the Four Major Rivers Project, immersion of civil engineering and architectural industries? In addition, energy policies of Korea are favoring nuclear power plants?
8. Unless United Nations Environment Programme clearly answers the questions above, we are desperately asking United Nations Environment Programme to visit and survey the construction site of the Four Major Rivers Project with Green Korea United.

## Korean do not understand why President Lee got CBD Award from UN Convention on Biological Diversity.

On last August, Executive office of UN Convention on Biological Diversity, CBD awarded president Lee for his contribution. Lee said in his speech for the award that "Forest has been well recovered and nourished since Korean War, but rivers haven't been well preserved and their surrounding ecological systems have been broken" and "the Four Major Rivers Project is not to be developed, instead the project is for recovering rivers and ecology systems". Korean environment groups and world wetland networks, hearing the news, have sent a protesting letter to CBD. It's because they can't forgive president Lee who digs out natural wetlands near riversides and sand fields of rivers and then makes amusement parks and bike roads and destroys biodiversity severely.

Most of Korean do not believe in president Lee's opinions in which he says that all rivers are dead, even if there are many wildlife and beautiful wetlands and shoals, while his administration attempts to make build dams and sluices there to save rivers. It is expected that president Lee's CBD award would seriously damage reliabilities for efforts of preserving biodiversity and international societies. We think that various international organizations such as CBD and UNEP should know that they play only roles for immunizing Lee's administration which is breaking environments while they do not check situations of Korea exactly and relying only on promotional data from Korea.

## V. To the international society!

### **Please visit the Republic of Korea and see what is happening here at the Four Major Rivers.**

We are asking that all of you, not just relying on reports published by Korea government, visit the Four Major Rivers in the Republic of Korea accompanying environment groups and experts of Korea and see what is happening here at the Four Major Rivers.

(Contact : Ms. Sihnae Lee, Eco-Activist, Green Korea United, ☎ +82-2-747-8500, [sihnae@greenkorea.org](mailto:sihnae@greenkorea.org))



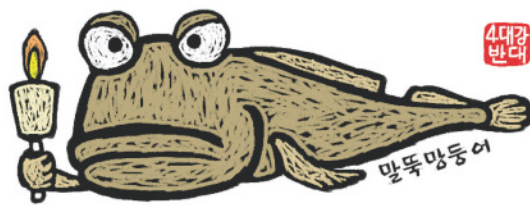
### **We ask international society to protest against Korean government.**

We are asking that you through following e-mail and telephone, as world citizenship loving rivers, protest against president Lee and its steering groups including Ministry of Environment which carry out the Four Major Rivers Project.

- Office of the President <http://english.president.go.kr> ☎ +82-2-730-5800
- Office of National River Restoration <http://www.4rivers.go.kr/news/eng>  
- Minister Myung-Pil Shim ☎ +82-2-2110-6063 / - Environment Administrator ☎ +82-2-2110-6056
- Ministry of Environment <http://eng.me.go.kr>  
Minister Maanee Lee ☎ +82-2-2110-6501
- Korea Water Resources Corporation (K-water) <http://english.kwater.or.kr>  
Bureau of the 4-Rivers Project ☎ +82-42-629-3950

### **We want international presses to cover the Four Major Rivers Project exactly as it is and release news related to it.**

We don't want international presses to become a false news provider only by copying reports from Korea government without checking true nature of Korea, and we want you to report it clearly and exactly without any bias.



Green Korea United (GKU) has taken actions for the beautiful planet Earth since 1991. GKU actively involves the conservation of the ecological habitat and wildlife based on fieldworks by tackling destructive developments including roads, electronic power lines and nuclear powers, dams, mines through human interventions to protect mountain ranges, rivers, wetlands and seas, endangered wildlife animals and plants, and making alternatives with people.

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