

**Section of
Public Relations**

Hyo Jung Kim
Section Chief
(+82) 62-715-2061

Nayeong Lee
Senior Administrator
(+82) 62-715-2062

**Contact Person
for this Article**

Soo-il Kang, Administrator
International Environmental Research Institute
062-715-3371

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International Environmental Research Institute selected for a technical support project to supply Hope Water Purifiers to Cambodia for free

- GIST (Gwangju Institute of Science and Technology, President Kiseon Kim) International Environmental Research Institute (IERI, Director Kyoung-Woong Kim) was selected for a pro bono (free) technical support project* according to the UN Convention on Climate Change. The project execution period is one year from December 2020 to November 2021.

* pro bono technical support project: a technical support project in which the implementing agency provides free technical support for proposals received from developing countries

- Through the Climate Technology Center-Network (CTCN)*, GIST plans to provide village-specific and household gravity-type membrane water purification devices to rural villages in Cambodia to help improve the health of villagers.

* Climate Technology Center-Network (CTCN): an international organization based on the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change to promote the development and transfer of climate technology based on demand from developing countries for energy-efficient, low-carbon, and climate-flexible development

- This project aims not only to supply safe drinking water, but also to secure carbon credits through registration for greenhouse gas reduction projects in the long term.

- International Environmental Research Institute developed a gravity membrane filtration device and provided it to more than 20 countries over the past 15 years. This is an innovative device that does not require energy for water purification and can be used semi-permanently as a non-powered device. It has been proven to effectively filter out suspended solids, contaminants, and bacteria in an environmentally friendly manner.
- Director Kyoung-Woong Kim said, "This project is a result of the Hope Water Purifier Project and the second phase of the UN Development Program (K-UNDP) project, which has been steadily carried out since 2006. It is meaningful that it is the first case of a supplier-led counter-proposal pro bono project, which was achieved by proposing the technology developed by the International Environmental Research Institute to the consumer."
- Since its establishment in 2001 with the aim of establishing research institute for the UN University, the GIST International Environmental Research Institute has been operating the UN University-GIST Sustainable Science and Technology Joint Program from 2004 to 2018.
- This research center has been contributing greatly to international R&D cooperation, fostering environmental experts, and strengthening the capacity to solve environmental problems in developing countries. Since 2014, the water field has been promoted through the UN Development Program (K-UNDP) project, and it has been engaged in international development cooperation activities. Since 2016, it has been participating in international climate technology cooperation and response to climate change through the technology mechanism of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).



▲ [Photo 1] Hope Water Purifier donated to flood-stricken areas of Laos



▲ [Photo 2] Hope Water Purifier installed in a well at a village in Atok, Philippines