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### Gwangju Consortium, including **GIST**, selected for priority national projects

- The Gwangju Consortium \*, a coalition of four outstanding research and planning institutions in Korea, including GIST (President Seung Hyeon Moon), was selected by the National IT Industry Promotion Agency (NIPA) on June 26, 2018, for “Preliminary planning and research services for artificial intelligence-based science and technology start-up project” worth 5.5 billion won.

\* The Gwangju Consortium consists of the Gwangju Institute of Science and Technology (GIST, President Seung Hyeon Moon), Gwangju Information and Culture Industry Promotion Agency (GITCT, President Jeong Hyun Lee), Korea Testing Laboratory (KTL, Director Dong-hee Jung), and Technovation Partners (TENOPA, CEO Hyojung Kim).

- The artificial intelligence-based science and technology development project was jointly planned and proposed by GIST, GITCT, KTL and Gwangju Metropolitan City, and this project was adopted as a campaign promise in the 19th presidential election. It was selected as one of Gwangju development plans for the fiscal year.
- In this regard, in December 2017, the Special Committee on Budget and Accounts of the National Assembly organized a budget of 1 billion won for the preliminary feasibility study preliminary planning of this project.

- The artificial intelligence-based science and technology business park development project is a national business plan to create start-up business for the the global market while promoting the development of artificial intelligence research and skilled professionals.
- This project will require an investment of investment of KRW 1 trillion (including government expenses, local expenses, private companies, etc.) to create a self-sustaining artificial intelligence centered enterprise park in the Gwangju, Jeonnam R&D special high-tech district.
- In addition, this project is the first plan to create a research-and-start ecosystem based on artificial intelligence in Korea with advanced artificial intelligence research, education, and entrepreneurship to create future jobs that will aid economic growth in the region.
- The Gwangju Consortium will conduct expert consultation and joint research projects with Korean and international academic and research institutions in the field of artificial intelligence for the next 5 months for the feasibility study.
- GIST President Seung Hyeon Moon said, “As our consortium has been selected as the preferred negotiating body for the performance of national research projects in Gwangju area, we will cooperate with related organizations such as Ministry of Science, Technology, and Information, to ensure that this project contributes to sustainable economic growth in the country and region.”
- As the main research institute in the consortium, GIST will host the Maekyung-GIST Forum on July 11, 2018, to coordinate cooperation and communication between local industries and academia.
- The Maekyung-GIST Forum will be held for a second time later this year, and about 150 artificial intelligence experts and citizens from around the world will participate under the theme: “Future Social Changes from Artificial Intelligence.”