

KDI GKEDC's Signature Annual Event

2026 Knowledge Exchange Days (KED)

“Painting the Future: Life after the AI Singularity”

BACKGROUND

The Global Knowledge Exchange and Development Center of KDI (KDI GKEDC) organizes its signature annual event, **Knowledge Exchange Days (KED)**, as part of its vision to serve as a global platform for knowledge exchange.

** (2024 KED) Digital Transformation for Better Lives (Oct. 31–Nov. 1)*

** (2025 KED) Enhancing the Effectiveness of Climate Action Projects: An Integrated Policy, Technology, and Finance Strategy (Nov. 6–7)*

2026 KED will be held on **Friday, October 23**, under the theme **“Painting the Future: Life after the AI Singularity.”** This year's event brings together citizen, academia, businesses, youth and international organizations to discuss how AI may reshape individual lives and society, and to explore ways forward by identifying the hopes and concerns associated with these possible futures.

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Title	2026 Knowledge Exchange Days (KED)
Theme	Painting the Future: Life after the AI Singularity
Date	October 23 (Fri), 2026, 09:00-19:30
Venue	Global Knowledge Exchange & Development Center (GKEDC) <i>* Address: 47 Hoegi-ro, Dongdaemun-gu, Seoul, Republic of Korea</i>
Host	Ministry of Finance and Economy (MOFE) and Korea Development Institute (KDI)
Participants	Approximately 150 participants including general citizens, youth, experts, etc.

PROGRAM COMPOSITION

Component		Description
Forum	09:00-15:20	[Keynote] How Far Has AI Come and Where Is It Headed?
		[Session 1: Individual Choices] How will I earn a living, and where will I spend my time?
		Networking Luncheon & On-site curation
		[Session 2: Society's Choices] The future we hope for and worry about — how might society change?
Career Talk	15:40-17:15	First-hand insights into career paths in international cooperation
KED Night	17:15-19:30	Cultural exchange and networking activities

Forum

Theme	Individual lives and social change after the AI singularity
Date & Time	October 23(Fri), 2026, 09:00–15:20
Format	A “Future Dialogue” featuring citizen panels, together with an expert panel discussion
Participants	Approx. 100 people, including about 60 selected citizen panelists
Language	Korean (real-time AI translation will be provided)

FORUM PROGRAM

Time	Description	
Keynote Session		
09:00-09:10	[Opening] Event Introduction	
09:10-09:55	[Keynote Speech] How Far Has AI Come and Where Is It Headed?	
[Session 1: Individual Choices] How Will I Earn a Living, and Where Will I Spend My Time? A participatory “Future Dialogue” in which participants imagine their lives after AI based on their current lives and experiences, and articulate the changes, hopes, and concerns they expect in their own words.		Selected participants only
10:00-12:00	[Session Opening] Introduction	
	[My Life Today] How Do I Live Today?	
	[Stepping into the Future]	
	[My Future Self] How Might My Life Change after the AI Singularity?	
	[Hopes & Concerns] What Do I Hope for and Worry About in That Future?	
12:00-13:30	[Invited Participants] Networking Luncheon	
	[Experts] Luncheon & On-site Curation	
[Session 2: Society’s Choices] The Future We Hope for and Worry About — How Might Society Change? Experts and participants explore how their expected futures may translate into broader social and institutional change, and under what conditions different outcomes may emerge.		
13:30-15:20	[Session Opening] What Future Do We Hope for and Worry About? - Dongsoo Kang, Executive Director, KDI GKEDC	Open to all
	[Panel & Floor Open Discussion] How Might Our Institutions and Social Environment Change in the Future? - Moderator: Dongsoo Kang, Executive Director, KDI GKEDC - Discussants Sekyung Park, Senior Research Fellow, KIHSA Chul Chung, President, Korea Economic Research Institute Gunmin Kim, Director, Ministry of Planning and Budget TBD TBD	
	[Closing] What Has Today’s Dialogue Made Me Think About Differently? ✓ Participants share how their thinking about the post-AI future has changed or what new intentions they have formed.	

* The schedule is subject to change.

Career Talk

Theme	Career Pathways and Key Competencies in International Cooperation
Date & Time	Friday, October 23, 2026, 15:40–17:15 (Small-group mentoring: 17:30–18:00, separately)
Format	Individual presentations, roundtable discussion, open Q&A, and small-group mentoring
Participants	Up to 120 undergraduate and graduate students interested in international cooperation
Language	English (real-time AI interpretation provided)

CAREER TALK PROGRAM

Time	Description	
15:40-15:45	[Session Opening] Session Briefing	Open to all
A communicative career session in which practitioners in international cooperation share their career paths and field experience.		
15:45-16:15	[Individual Talks] Career Journeys in International Cooperation - Moderator: Son Ji-ae, Professor, Ewha Womans University - Speakers - Jaehyung Kwon, Korea Representative, IFC, World Bank - Haena Kang, Senior Climate & Energy Officer, British Embassy Seoul - TBD - TBD	
16:15-16:40	[Roundtable Discussion] with all speakers	
16:40-17:10	[Open Q&A]	
17:10-17:15	[Closing] Key Takeaways	
Small Group Career Mentoring Session		Selected participants only
17:30-18:00	• Each speaker meets with three pre-selected participants for a 30-minute small-group mentoring session. • Open to pre-registered participants only	

* The schedule is subject to change.

KED Night

Theme	Painting the Future Together
Date & Time	Friday, October 23, 2026, 17:15–19:30 (The food truck will open at 17:15. Food coupons will be provided to early-bird registrants.)
Participants	Up to 200 participants
Language	Korean (real-time AI translation will be provided)

KED Night PROGRAM

Time	Description	
17:15-	[Networking] Food trucks available	Open to all
18:00-19:30	[Cultural Night] KED Night	

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