



KOICA

GRADUATE SCHOOL OF GOVERNMENT AND BUSINESS

KOICA–Yonsei Master's Degree Program in Social Economy

Building TRUST, Innovating Social Economy

Study the K-Social Economy in Wonju, the cradle of Korea's cooperative movement, at a world top 50 university and return home with a policy or project plan for inclusive and sustainable development.

DEGREE

Master of Public Policy

PROJECT PERIOD

Feb 2026 – Dec 2030

LOCATION

Wonju, Republic of Korea

Maeji Lake, Mirae Campus



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Program Introduction

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A World-Class University

Yonsei University, the lakeside Mirae Campus and three decades of graduate education for public leadership

02

Why Social Economy, Why Wonju

A field shaping inclusive development, studied in the cradle of Korea's social economy

03

A Well-Designed Program

Program overview, vision and framework, five modules, course list and the 17-month journey

04

Ready to Deliver

Key strengths, faculty, field learning, campus life and admission

Study at a World Top 50 University

A Yonsei degree carries global weight and a 140-year legacy of Truth and Freedom.

Founded in 1885 by Christian missionaries, Yonsei University cultivates global leaders who embody its founding values of Truth and Freedom. More than 400,000 alumni lead innovation across government, business and civil society around the world.

Yonsei operates the historic Sinchon Campus in Seoul and the Mirae and International Campuses, with more than 5,000 faculty, 21 graduate schools and 22 colleges. It has been ranked the No. 1 private university in Asia for four consecutive years.

#43

**QS World University
Rankings 2027**

First Korean private university
in the global top 50

No.1

Private university in Asia

Ranked first for four
consecutive years

400,000+

Alumni worldwide

Leaders across government,
business and civil society

A Lakeside Campus for Every Season

Established in 1977 on about 500 acres of forested hills beside Maeji Lake, roughly 100 km east of Seoul, the Mirae Campus offers a calm environment for rigorous study, reflection and cross-cultural exchange in every season of the year.



SPRING

Cherry blossom avenue



SUMMER

Maeji Lake and forested hills



AUTUMN

The golden ginkgo road



WINTER

Snowfall over the lake

8,000 students **850+** faculty **54** academic departments Specialized in **social economy and sustainable development**

Three Decades of Education for Public Leadership

A Strategic Academic Hub since 1990

Since March 1990, the Graduate School of Government and Business has integrated public administration and management to address complex social and economic challenges, and has long partnered in the sustainable development of developing countries.

Twelve Years of KOICA Programs

From “World Poverty Alleviation and Rural Development Leadership” to “Enhancement of Women’s Agricultural Policy Capacity,” the school has trained senior officials and policymakers from across the developing world.

Research Excellence through BK21

Since 2013, the public administration department’s BK21 education and research group has trained next-generation students under Korea’s premier government-funded research program, blending theory with data-driven policy analysis.



The Field Shaping the Next Decade

Growth that includes the people and places left behind without sacrificing prosperity.

Across the world, governments are turning to the social economy to confront inequality, regional decline and unemployment. Cooperatives, social enterprises and community businesses have become engines of inclusive and sustainable development creating decent work, delivering local services and building social capital where markets and states alone fall short.

GLOBAL MOMENTUM

2022 The International Labour Conference adopted a resolution and conclusions on decent work and the social and solidarity economy.

2023 The UN General Assembly adopted its first resolution on promoting the social and solidarity economy for sustainable development.

THE TRIPLE BOTTOM LINE

People	Social value, decent work and inclusion
Planet	Environmental responsibility and resource circulation
Prosperity	Self-reliant organizations and local economies

ALIGNED WITH THE UN SDGs



From poverty reduction to climate action.



THE WONJU MODEL

"Not just theory. A model that actually worked and one you can bring home."

02 · THE WONJU MODEL

The Cradle of Korea's Social Economy

01

Where It Began

Wonju is the living birthplace of Korea's social economy. For decades, citizens here have built cooperatives, mutual-aid networks and social enterprises to meet needs that neither the market nor the state could serve alone. Grassroots organizations and our university grew together, creating a dense local ecosystem.

02

A Model You Can Bring Home

Local experiments in Wonju informed Korea's landmark national frameworks, including the Social Enterprise Promotion Act and the Framework Act on Cooperatives. Students study this path as a replicable playbook and adapt it to the policy and community context of their own countries.

03

A Living Laboratory

Wonju continues to evolve. Students engage directly with active cooperatives and social enterprises, learning how community organizing and strategic public support reinforce each other in practice.

A KOICA–Yonsei Partnership, 2026 – 2030

20

Participants per cohort

17

Months in Korea

34 · 39

Credits, thesis · action plan

MPP

Master of Public Policy

Project Period and Cohorts

The KOICA–Yonsei program runs from February 2026 to December 2030. Students of the 2027 cohort reside in Korea from February 2027 to June 2028, and the Master of Public Policy is conferred in August 2028.

Who It Is For

Government officials, staff of public and national research institutes, and practitioners in cooperatives, social enterprises, community organizations and NPOs from KOICA partner countries.

Fully Funded

The KOICA scholarship covers tuition, living allowance and on-campus accommodation, so students can focus entirely on learning, research and building a lifelong professional network.

From Vision to Development Impact



VISION

Sustainable Social Economy for Developing Countries through Innovation and Solidarity

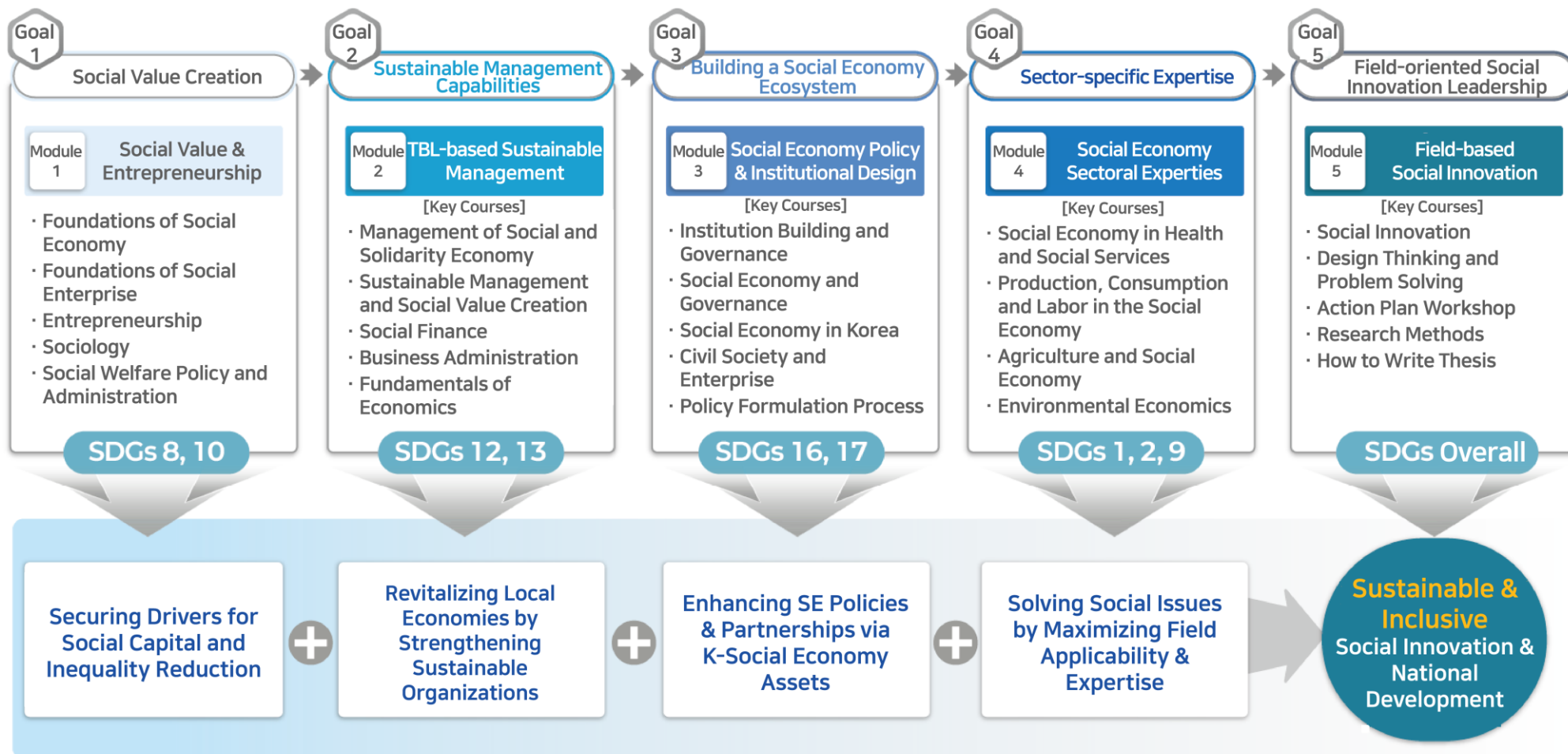
GOAL

Educating social economy experts who lead social innovation in developing countries

FIVE OBJECTIVES THAT BUILD TRUST

T	Transformation	Individual · social value creation
R	Resilience	Organization · sustainable management
U	Unity	Policy · social economy ecosystem
S	Specialization	Sector · sector-specific expertise
T	Top-tier	Praxis · field-oriented leadership

Five Goals, Five Modules, One Mission

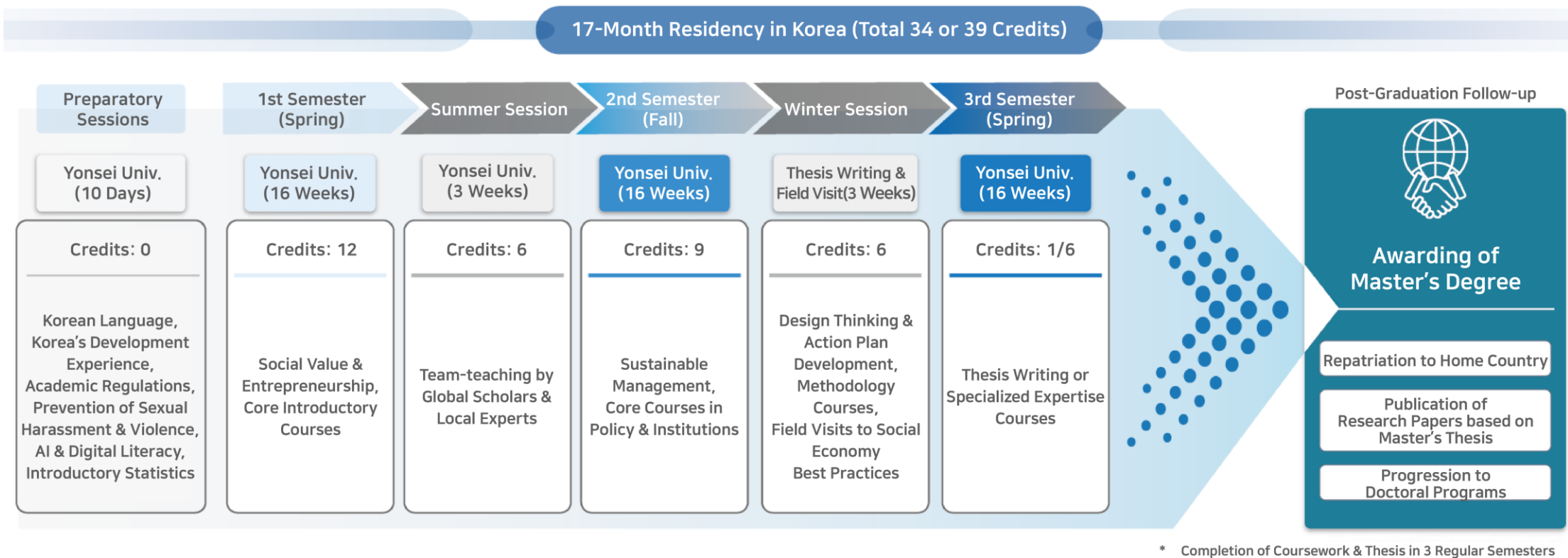


Curriculum at a Glance: 31 Courses in Five Modules

Module	Required	Electives
T Social Value & Entrepreneurship	Foundations of Social Economy · Foundations of Social Enterprise	Entrepreneurship · Sociology · Social Welfare Policy and Administration
R TBL-based Sustainable Management	Management of Social and Solidarity Economy	Sustainable Management and Social Value Creation · Social Finance · Business Administration · Fundamentals of Economics · Public Financial Administration
U Social Economy Policy & Institutional Design	Institution Building and Governance	Social Economy and Governance · Social Economy in Korea · Civil Society and Enterprise · Policy Formulation Process · International Development Cooperation · Global Crisis and Sustainable Development
S Social Economy Sectoral Expertise	—	Social Economy in Health and Social Services · Production, Consumption and Labor in the Social Economy · Agriculture and Social Economy · Environmental Economics · Global Health and Development · Gender and Development
T Field-based Social Innovation	Track-specific (see note)	Social Innovation · Design Thinking and Problem Solving · Action Plan Workshop · Quantitative Research Methodology · Qualitative Research Methodology · Research Methods · How to Write Thesis (1 credit)

All courses carry 3 credits (48 contact hours) unless noted. Thesis Track (34 credits): How to Write Thesis and Directed Research (P/NP) are required. Action Plan Track (39 credits, by committee approval): Action Plan Workshop and one additional course are required.

From Arrival to Graduation



THESIS TRACK

34 credits · How to Write Thesis and Directed Research required

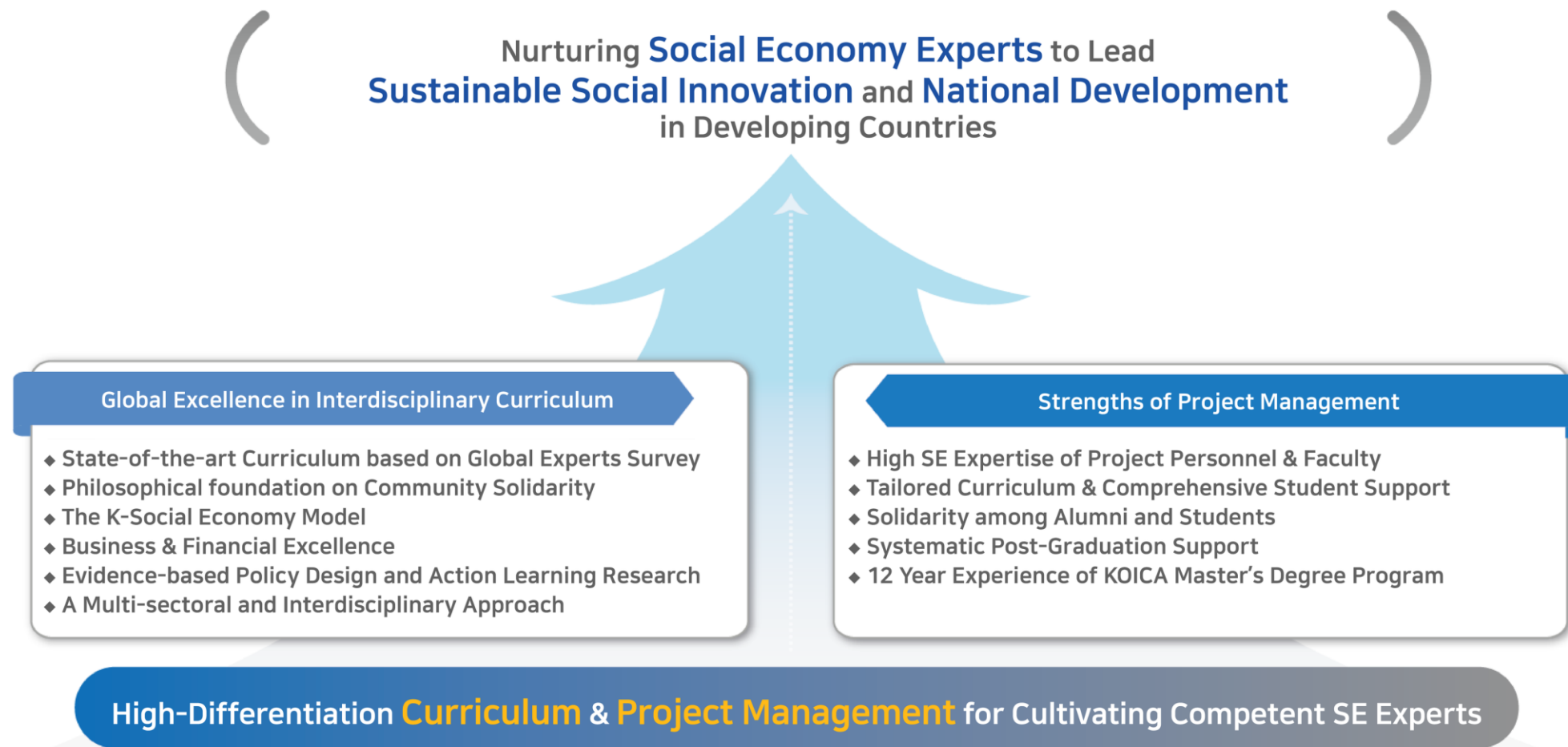
ACTION PLAN TRACK

39 credits · by committee approval · Action Plan Workshop and one additional course (3 credits) required

STAY IN KOREA

Feb 2027 – Jun 2028 · degree conferred in August 2028

Highly Differentiated Curriculum and Project Management



Architects of the K-Social Economy



PROGRAM DIRECTOR

Sang-Il Han

Social economy, public management
Ph.D., University of Southern California



PERFORMANCE MANAGER

Sung-Jin Park

Accounting
Ph.D., University of Texas at San Antonio



ACADEMIC MANAGER

Miyang Jun

Public and social policy
Ph.D. in Social Policy, University of York

23 faculty from Yonsei and Korea's leading institutions

Jong Ick Jang

Social & Solidarity Economy · Hanshin Univ.

Ji Ae Seo

Social Economy · Hankuk Univ. of Foreign Studies

Alan Dixon Brown

Social Economy · Chonnam National Univ.

Casper Hendrik Claassen

Korea's Social Economy · Seoul National Univ.

Minjeong Park

Social Innovation · Yonsei Univ.

Jang Saeng Kim

Community Development · Yonsei Univ.

So Yon Paek

Entrepreneurship · Yonsei Univ.

Seungjoo Han

Public Personnel Management · Yonsei Univ.

Inyoung Cho

Political Economy · Yonsei Univ.

Jin Won Noh

Global Health Policy · Yonsei Univ.

Seohyun Lee

Global Health Policy · Yonsei Univ.

Javier Lopez-Prol

Environmental Economics · Yonsei Univ.

Kang Mo Koo

Urban Economics · Yonsei Univ.

Youn Suk Lee

Agricultural Marketing · Yonsei Univ.

Hak Yeon Lee

Public Financial Management · Yonsei Univ.

Yeon Seob Ha

Public Financial Management · Yonsei Univ.

Joo Myung Lee

Design Thinking · Yonsei Univ.

Eun Ho Ha

Statistics · Yonsei Univ.

Sung Jo Kim

Korean Modern History · Yonsei Univ.

Seok Ju Ko

Korean Language · Yonsei Univ.

From Classroom to the Field

Through a Living Lab pedagogy, students work alongside cooperatives, social enterprises and local governments across Korea and leave with an Action Plan ready to implement at home.



Wonju & Anseong

Medical welfare social cooperatives and community healthcare networks



Seongnam

Korea Social Enterprise Promotion Agency; traditional and new social economy models



Hongdong Village

Community-based social economy and local governance collaboration



Gochang

Asset-sharing and village welfare investment using communal resources



Uiseong

Resident autonomy and local governance linked to social economy



Culture & Industry

Gyeongju, Jeonju Hanok Village, the DMZ and leading Korean companies



FACILITIES

Teaching and research facilities on the Mirae Campus

04 · CAMPUS LIFE AND SUPPORT

A Home for Learning and Exchange

01 Living on Campus

Students live in furnished on-campus dormitories, Seiyeon and Cheongyeon Halls, in rooms shared by two. The main library offers a 24-hour study room, and PC labs, cafeterias, a fitness center and banking services are all on campus.

02 Learning Korea, Together

Korean language and culture classes, one-to-one mentoring with Korean students, the Global Village dormitory program and the Global Pioneer Lecture Series connect students with the campus community.

03 Health and Wellbeing

A campus health care center provides everyday care, and Wonju Severance Christian Hospital, a 900-bed university hospital, offers English-language coordination for appointments and check-ups.

Who Can Apply, and How

ELIGIBILITY

- Officials of central or local governments, or staff of public and national research institutes
- Practitioners and activists in social economy organizations: cooperatives, social enterprises, village unions and NPOs
- From a KOICA partner country, with a government-recognized bachelor's degree
- Proficient in spoken and written English
- No prior participation in a similar KOICA program

Round 1 · KOICA

Through the KOICA country office or Korean Embassy

1

Application via the KOICA office or Korean Embassy

2

Document screening

3

On-site interview

4

First-round results

Round 2 · Yonsei University

For candidates who pass Round 1

1

Online application to Yonsei Univ.

2

Document screening

3

Medical check-up and online interview

4

Final results and original documents

For the 2027 intake: KOICA round from July 2026; university round from September to December 2026. Schedules are announced each year by KOICA and the university.



KOICA

THANK YOU

KOICA–Yonsei Master's Degree Program in Social Economy

We look forward to working with partners around the world to grow the next generation of social economy leaders.

PROGRAM DIRECTOR

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