



Ministry of Land,
Infrastructure and Transport

Capacity Building Program for Public Officials from the Americas being in charge of Geographical Names and Spatial Information

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*National Geographic Information Institute held an invitational training program for
PAIGH member states from 15 to 17 November*

The Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport (MOLIT, Minister WON Hee-ryong) and the National Geographic Information Institute (Director General CHO Woo-seok) held the “2022 Program for Reinforcement of Geographical Names and Geospatial Information Capability for the Pan-American Institute of Geography and History (PAIGH) Member States” at the Suwon Convention Center for 3 days from 15 to 17 November (hereinafter referred to as the ‘Capacity Building Program’).

In the capacity building program, 18 public officials and experts from government agencies related to geographical names and geospatial information in *17 countries over the Americas will participate as representatives for each country.

* Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala,

Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Dominican Republic, Uruguay, and Colombia

National Geographic Information Institute's capacity building program consists of a variety of lectures on the theme of: ① Understanding the geographical name system of Korea; ② Domestic and foreign toponymic research trends and implications; ③ Introduction to Korea's geospatial information policy; ④ Utilization of national land satellite information and new technologies,

And provides experiential exploration programs of:

⑤ Geography of Korea viewed from the Demilitarized Zone (Cheolwon); ⑥ Visit to the National Geographic Information Institute (Map Museum, Korea Territorial Satellite Center); and ⑦ Suwon Hwaseong Fortress, in search of its history, etc. so that participants could experience and share Korea's geographic and spatial information on the spot.

The PAIGH was established in 1928 to promote, coordinate, and disseminate research related to cartography, geography, history, and geophysics in the Americas. It has 21 member states, such as the United States and Mexico, and five permanent observer countries including South Korea as the only Asian country together with Spain, France, Israel, and Jamaica.

Korea joined as a permanent observer country in 2019 and promised to provide the capacity building program in the field of geographical names and spatial information to PAIGH member states.

“Last year, an online capacity building program was held due to the spread of COVID-19 pandemic,” General Director of National Geographic Information Institute said,

Also, mentioning that “For this is the first year to invite participants to Korea, the occasion could be a great opportunity to share the experience and expertise of National Geographic Information Institute, which is the central organization of policies and systems in producing and providing geospatial information of Korea, with the participants from around the world, and to build capabilities in related fields together.”