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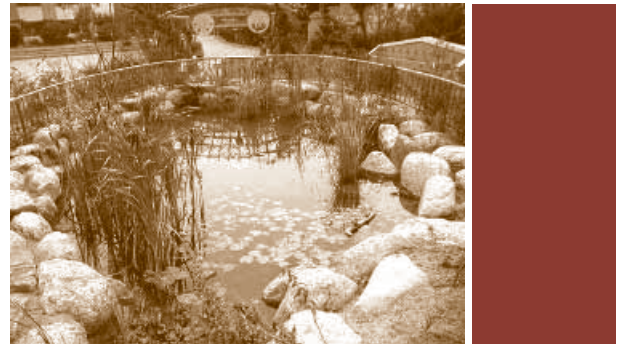
Korea's School Grounds Projects

Joohun Park

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Entrance to the Fragrance Garden at the Gochang Girls High School in North Cholla Province



Weonil Elementary School in Gyeonggi Province: Walking path, Pond with a living ecosystem

Expectations about the effects of the Green School Project are growing. It is hoped that the project will serve to improve educational activities and the urban environment, restore a local-community culture and expand green areas. The project is expected to be a turning point for increasing educational attainment levels in addition to enriching the learning environment.

A second project for improving the outdoor school environment by developing wooded areas is currently being promoted by Forest of Life's School Grounds Committee. The **School Forest Pilot Project** is co-financed by the government (Office of Forestry) and a private company (Yuhan-Kimberley, Corp.). For this project, 127 schools were chosen out of 298 applicants.

The national government plans to reward efforts to improve school grounds. The Minister of Education's Award will be given to school staff and community groups that actively participate in the two projects. And

to encourage local authorities to invest funding in school grounds, the ministry will acknowledge local authority heads with an official letter of recognition.

In an effort to exchange information and develop contacts between those responsible at the provincial offices of education and schools participating in the Green Schools Project and School Forest Pilot Project, a workshop was held at the Education Information Institute in Gyeonggi Province in June under the aegis of the School Grounds Committee.

For more information, contact:
Joohun Park
Director, Education Facilities Planning Division
Ministry of Education and Human Resources
Development
Korea
Fax: 82 2 730 6068
E-mail: parkjooh@moe.go.kr