



International Association of Educating Cities (IAEC) Asia-Pacific Network

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## 2024 IAEC ASIA-PACIFIC REGIONAL NETWORK Technical Staff Meeting

### Nearly 20 participants from member cities in Korea joined the discussion sharing best practices and exploring ideas for local programs

The 2024 International Association of Educating Cities (IAEC) Asia-Pacific Regional Network Technical Staff Meeting was held on December 12, 2024, at CECO Changwon Convention Center.

The meeting was attended by Changwon, a member of IAEC Executive Committee and the coordinating city of the Asia-Pacific Regional Network, along with 13 member cities in Korea, including Gunsan, Andong, Gongju, Gumi, and Daegu Suseong-gu.

Changwon and Gunsan shared their best practices at the meeting, followed by an overview of the IAEC's ongoing programs and a discussion on ways to design more robust programs for IAEC Asia-Pacific Regional Network member cities in Korea.

"It was a meaningful occasion for the IAEC member cities in Korea to reinforce cooperation and understand how education can foster urban development. As the coordinating city, we'll continue to engage member cities both in Korea and globally for various network opportunities and work towards becoming a sustainable educating city," said Lee Dong-ho, head of the Lifelong Education Division in Changwon.

The IAEC Asia-Pacific Regional Network aims for education-centered, sustainable urban development through cooperation and engagement among its member cities. The IAEC Asia-Pacific Regional Meeting, taking place every other year, will be held in 2025 in Daegu Dalseo-gu.



Asia-Pacific Regional Network Technical Staff Meeting

## The 17th International Congress of Educating Cities in 2024

The International Congress of Educating Cities, which takes place biennially, was held for four days from May 21 to May 24, 2024, in Curitiba, Brazil. A total of 136 member cities from 12 countries attended the congress. Changwon, a member of IAEC Executive Committee and the coordinating city of the Asia-Pacific Regional Network, along with Andong and Gunsan, joined the other member cities for the event.

Under the motto 'Sustainability, Innovation, and Inclusion in the Educating City : Transforming the Present!', the agenda for the congress included the Executive Committee meeting, General Assembly, best practices workshop, Educating Cities Award, and learning programs. At the General Assembly, the member cities agreed to modify Article 36 of the Statutes to support the incorporation of Portuguese as an official IAEC language. In addition, a new Code of Ethics, highlighting the importance of cultural diversity, was approved. The slogan for the 2024 International Day of the Educating City was also finalized.

A total of 49 cities, including Andong and Gunsan, were selected for best practices and gave presentations about their programs, sharing insight and ideas with the participating members. The Congress serves as a crucial international platform for member cities to seek growth and cooperation through education. The next event will be held in 2026 in Granollers, Spain.



2024 IAEC Executive Committee Meeting



2024 IAEC General Assembly

## 2024 IAEC Asia-Pacific Network Member Cities' Key Programs and Policies

### Changwon, Gyeongnam

#### Nae-il School of Changwon, sharing best practices as a lifelong education city locally and globally

In the year 2024, Changwon showcased its lifelong education programs as best practices both locally and globally. Ken Stern, president of Palisades Media Ventures, visited the city on March 14 to learn more about its ongoing activities. As the founder of the Longevity Project in collaboration with the Stanford Center on Longevity, Ken Stern reviews various programs carried out by cities around the world as they prepare for the era of 100-year lifespans. He chose Changwon out of 195 educating cities and paid a visit to explore Korea's lifelong education city policies. Changwon introduced the 'Nae-il School of Changwon' and the overall approach to reorganizing the lifelong education city system. The core values and visions of the city in terms of lifelong education were also shared. The programs and policies of Changwon were featured on the podcast 'Century Lives' hosted by Ken Stern. Changwon was also selected as a best practice institution at 'the 4th Gyeongsangnam-do Lifelong Education Award' held on October 9 at the Changwon Convention Center. The Gyeongsangnam-do Education Superintendent's Award was presented to the city for the 'Nae-il School of Changwon', a lifelong career education platform for citizens supported by the local government, universities, and regional industries. The program was highly regarded for creating an effective lifelong career education framework.

※ 'Nae-il' in Korean suggests the tomorrow of Changwon citizens and the work of each citizen.



#### '2024 Changwon Lifelong Education & Science Festival' celebrating 20 years as an Education City

The '2024 Changwon Lifelong Education & Science Festival' was attended by nearly 20,000 citizens over two days from November 2 to November 3 at the Changwon Convention Center. Under the theme 'Operation Changwon, JUMP UP 20!', the festival reflected on the past 20 years as a lifelong education city and explored the future vision of Changwon through various exhibitions, interactive programs, and lectures. In celebration of the 20th anniversary of being designated as a lifelong education city, 300 citizens from different professions and age groups participated in 'Changwon Runway', a meaningful and impressive opening performance. Also, a total of 116 lifelong education and science institutions joined the festival, offering exciting interactive programs and events for the citizens. "Our goal was to organize an event together with citizens and it was rewarding to have active participation. We'll spare no effort in growing into a lifelong education and science city that is closely aligned with the citizens," said Hong Nam-pyo, Mayor of Changwon City.



Changwon Lifelong Education Division ☎(+82)55-225-2405

Gumi, Gyeongbuk

**Program** | Gumi Children's Global Citizenship School & Global Citizenship Golden Bell

**Objective** | Foster elementary school students in the region as Gumi's future talents by educating on global citizenship through topics including character building, climate and environment, child labor, and leadership.

**Period** | 2024. 8. 6.(Tue) ~ 8. 8.(Thur) | 9:00~12:10

**Location** | Classrooms and assembly hall at Gumi Wondang Elementary School

**Participants** | 100 students (4<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> grade elementary school students in the region)

**Curriculum**

Time   Date	2024. 08. 06.(Tue)	2024. 08. 07.(Wed)	2024. 08. 08.(Thur)
1st Period(09:00~09:40)	Find the fake news!	If the world were a village of 100 people	For a better world
2nd Period(09:50~10:30)	Rules are changing?	Map of poverty and disease	Global Citizen Friendship Bracelet
3rd Period(10:40~11:20)	The net of the world	1.5°C to save the Earth	Global Citizenship Golden Bell
4th Period(11:30~12:10)	Two wolves in the mind	Our peaceful classroom	

**Program Poster**

**2024 구미어린이 세계시민학교 여름방학캠프 참가자 모집**

세계 변화를 이끌어갈 어린이 여러분을 초대합니다!

**대상** 초등학교 5~6학년 100명  
**일시** 2024.08.06(화)~08.08(목) 3일간 오전 9시~오후 12시  
**장소** 구미원당초등학교 (1개반 10명 편성 후 교실 안내)  
**강사** 대구교육대학교 예비교사 10인  
**일정** 2024.08.06(화) 100명의 세계 마을 더 나은 세상  
 1교시(09:00~09:40) 가짜뉴스를 찾아라! 빈곤과 질병 지도 세계 시민 우정팔찌  
 2교시(09:50~10:30) 규칙이 변한다고? 지구촌 살리는 1.5°C 세계시민공헌벨  
 3교시(10:40~11:20) 세계의 그물 아름다운 우리교실  
 4교시(11:30~12:10) 마음 속 늑대 평화로운 우리교실

QR신청

더노크교육연구소 054-600-7000, 구미시평생학습원 054-480-4332



Gumi Lifelong Education Institute (☎+82)54-480-4333

Gwangju-Gwangju Institute for Talent & Lifelong Education

The city of Gwangju and Gwangju Institute for Talent and Lifelong Education launched the <My Job, Tomorrow - Bit(bitgoeul or village of light), Si('si' meaning senior), Na(nanum meaning sharing)> initiative to senior citizens, providing one-stop support from education to employment and business activities. Gwangju city, the Institute, and 5 self-governing districts collaborated on the initiative, which was selected as the <2024 Regional Lifelong Education Support Project> by the Ministry of Education and received national funding of 44 million won this year. The initiative and its lifelong education helped the senior citizen engage in the societal and economic activities while facilitating interaction among different generations. Nearly 500 citizens participated in 5 projects and 18 programs, supported by a working-level task force formed among the city, self-governing districts, and the Institute. In particular, the 'gerontology' program covering essential information for older adults in Gwangju toured 5 self-governing districts and held special lectures for about 700 elderly residents. More information about the <My Job, Tomorrow - Bit, Si, Na> initiative is available on the Gwangju Institute for Talent & Lifelong Education website (www.gie.kr).



Gwangju-Gwangju Institute for Talent & Lifelong Education (☎+82)62-600-5241

Dong-gu, Gwangju

Bit.Si.Na Project 'Dong-gu Silver & Joy Lifelong Education Group'

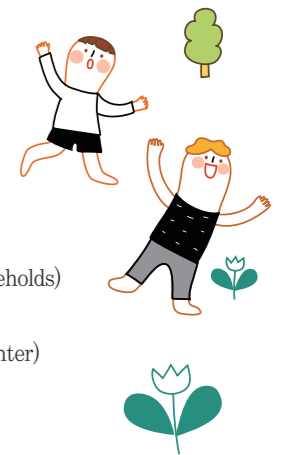
**Period** | 2024. 6. ~ 11.(6 months)

**Participants** | 115 residents (75 elderly residents aged 65 and older, 40 college students)

**Location** | Dong-gu Lifelong Education Center, Chosun College of Science & Technology

**Curriculum** | Brain health and dementia prevention instructor certification course and 4 other subjects

**Key achievements** | Doenjang & gochujang donation for low-income households in Seonam-dong (25 households)  
 Silver beauty healthcare (talent donation by Dong-gu Senior Welfare Center)  
 Dementia prevention instructor course (talent donation by Dong-gu Senior Welfare Center)  
 AI job counseling with 4 participants employed (28 participants total)  
 Health promotion report (collaboration with Nam-gu)  
 19 participants obtained certifications (13 senior citizens, 6 college students)



Silver & Joy Lifelong Education Group Inauguration



Talent Donation

Gwangju Humanities Urban Policy Division (☎+82)62-608-2633

## Suseong-gu, Daegu

### 2024 lifelong education policies and achievements

Suseong-gu opened "Suseong Future Education Center (S-NEXT)" last June, offering various digital-based next-generation learning opportunities in line with the era of great digital transformation. The center features a multi-purpose intelligence exhibition hall on the first floor, smart classrooms on the second floor, an immersive media room on the third floor, and an imagination rooftop on the fourth floor. It offers customized interactive courses including generative AI learning, drone soccer, and robot coding. In cooperation with UNESCO Asia-Pacific Centre of Education for International Understanding (APCEIU) to spread global citizenship education in the region, Global Citizen Campus Daegu has been set up in the center to give students opportunities to participate in global citizenship education and model international conferences. On October 19, the Future Education Day was celebrated with a youth ICT program, generative AI program, magic, sports, maker faire and other digital learning courses.



Daegu Suseong-gu Future Education Division (☎(+82)53-666-4235)

## Gangseo-gu, Seoul

Gangseo-gu was designated as a 'lifelong education city for people with disabilities' by the Ministry of Education. A customized lifelong education program was offered to enhance the learning accessibility and meet the needs of people with disabilities. The Ministry of Education National Institute of Special Education has been promoting the Lifelong Education City Public Content Project to local governments across the country since 2020. Gangseo-gu successfully created a lifelong education system for people with disabilities by running courses tailored to different disabilities or linked with job opportunities. The program included ▲reading class for visually impaired individuals ▲astronomy & space class for families of individuals with developmental disabilities ▲drone pilot training and ▲crafts, calligraphy, and job interview makeup. In particular, Gangseo-gu leveraged excellent education resources and networks in the region such as welfare centers, libraries, science centers, and private lifelong learning institutions to come up with systematic and professional programs designed for people with disabilities. As a result, the lifelong education accessibility for people with disabilities was further improved. Various lifelong learning courses will be offered in the future to reinforce the lifelong education system for people with disabilities and strengthen their rights and quality of life.



Seoul Gangseo-gu Education Support Division (☎(+82)2-2600-6982)

## Yongsan-gu, Seoul

Yongsan-gu implemented several lifelong education programs in 2024. One great example is 'Yongsan Senior Instructor Group.' In response to the residents' need for self-reliant lifelong education, a group of individuals with professional knowledge formed the 'Yongsan Senior Instructor Group,' and led learning communities. This program contributed to the development of a global education city driven by the residents.

### Program Overview

**Period** | Spring communi

**Location** | Yongsan-gu Lifelong Education Center, other lifelong education institutions in Yongsan-gu

**Participants** | Yongsan-gu residents aged 55 and older

**Program** | Job program designed for senior citizens and support for instructors



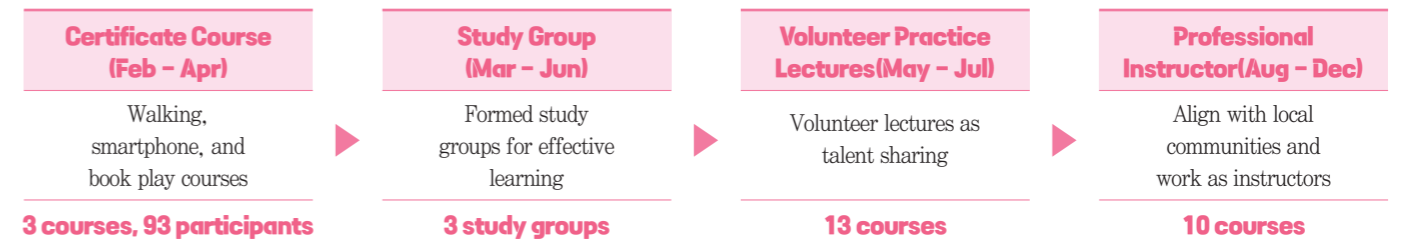
### Background

- The program provided systematic and professional training to help the residents with professional knowledge work as instructors.
- The program set up lifelong education infrastructure by nurturing human resources.
- The residents led the lifelong education programs by leveraging their own knowledge and talent.



### Result

- **Certificate courses** | 3 courses were offered (walking, smartphone, book play), 93 participants
- **No. of certificates** | 60 participants earned certificates
- **No. of certified participants who joined the 'Yongsan Senior Instructor Group'** | 25 participants
- **'Yongsan Senior Instructor Group' courses** | 23 courses were offered



### Expected Benefits

- Integrate lifelong education with social contribution activities to give more learning opportunities and promote community development.
- Leverage the knowledge and capabilities of the residents to offer resident-led, self-reliant lifelong education programs.



Seoul Yongsan-gu Education Support Division (☎(+82)2-2199-6494)

**Jecheon, Chungbuk**

**Remodeling and relocation of the Lifelong Education Center**

Due to safety concerns regarding outdated facilities, the remodeling and relocation project of the Lifelong Education Center is underway to enhance user accessibility and contribute to lifelong learning.

**Lifelong Education Unity Festival**

A festival was organized to promote lifelong education, providing a platform for learning and interactions. Booths featuring various content and performances welcomed attendees of all ages.

**Diverse lifelong education programs**

Lifelong education programs for the first and second halves of the year, on-the-go literacy education, lifelong learning for people with disabilities, park golf programs, and more.



Chungbuk Jecheon Lifelong Education Division (☎(+82)43-641-5462)

**Gunsan, Jeonbuk**

**Happy Point & Learning Up Support Programs**

**Objectives** | ① Provide opportunities for advanced learning through happy points and support for learning cost.  
 ② Establish infrastructure using lifelong education resources in the region and seek mutual growth among lifelong education institutions.

**Period** | 2023~2024

**Participants** | Residents of Gunsan (children and adults)

**Program** | Enroll in lifelong education courses ⇒ Earn happy points ⇒ (for 30,000 points) claim book voucher  
 Financial support for self-improvement education when residents sign up for courses at lifelong education institutions in the region.

**Budget** | 76 million won (51,000 euros)

**Performance (2024)** | 681 applicants, 154 participants who earned 30,000 points



**Specialized Courses for Employees of Jeonbuk Citizens' University Industrial Complex**

**Objective** | On-the-go lifelong education for industrial complex employees with limited access to learning

**Program** | AI course by a college professor for industrial complex employees

**Period** | '24. 11. 13. ~ 11. 28. 19:00~21:00 (6 sessions)

**Location** | (Theory) Gunsan Industrial Complex Multi-purpose Culture Center classrooms  
 (Practice lessons) Gunsan Saemangeum Campus computer rooms

**Course** | Chat-GPT helps you get things done faster

**Participants** | 40 participants (Gunsan National Industrial Complex employees)

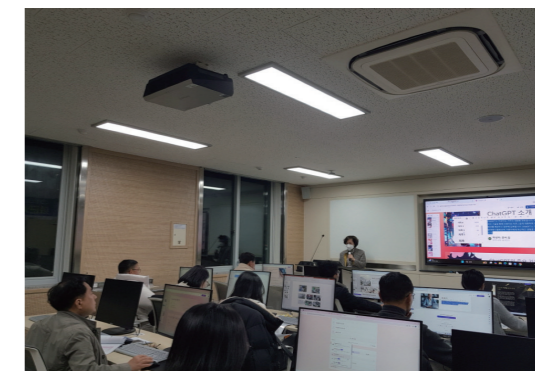
**Learning cost** | Free

**Format** | Through a consortium with local universities

**Budget** | 5 million won (3,400 euros)



Happy Points & Learning Up Support Programs



Specialized AI Course for Industrial Complex Employees



Jeonbuk Gunsan Education Support Division (☎(+82)63-454-2604)

**Gyeongju, Gyeongbuk**

**"Key Policy" Gyeongju Smart Future Education City "Season 2"**

**Background and objectives**

- Set up diverse digital learning infrastructure and provide relevant support to continuously grow as a 'smart future lifelong education city' in the era of digital transformation and lifelong education transformation.
- Develop and utilize infrastructure including 'Gyeongju Smart Lifelong Education Center and Smart Learning Senior Center' to offer accessible and convenient lifelong learning opportunities to citizens and enhance lifelong education happiness index.
- Reinforce the 'Gyeongju Smart Education City' brand through narrowing the digital gap among underserved groups (elderly or people with disabilities) and expanding the support for online learning.

**About Gyeongju**

- A UNESCO World Heritage City and Korea's leading historical and cultural tourism destination.  
 (※ After successfully coping with COVID-19 in 2020, Gyeongju was selected as 'the world's best travel destination' by National Geographic.)
- Host city for the 2025 Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Summit.
- Designated as a lifelong education city in 2013 and joined the International Association of Educating Cities (IAEC) as a new member in 2021.
- Newly designated as a lifelong education city for people with disabilities in 2023.

🔊 Programs and achievements

**Created a 'digital learning ecosystem' for lifelong education in line with digital transformation.**

- Established the Smart Lifelong Education Center ⇒ Enhanced digital accessibility and convenience for lifelong learning.
  - ① Installed large multi vision (1 unit) and digital signage at each room (16 units) to improve digital accessibility.
  - ② Developed an app for 'advanced smart attendance management' and enhanced user convenience.
- Expanded Gyeongju Smart Learning Senior Center ⇒ Installed conference call system at 50 centers (total of 100 centers)

**Offered online learning for underserved groups (elderly and people with disabilities) and expanded support.**

- Facilitated online engagement between the centers and offered more courses : 4 courses, 40 centers, 632 participants.
  - ① Smartphone and digital training : 10 centers, 120 participants
  - ② Mini online hangung course & competition : 10 centers, 209 participants
  - ③ Fun sports – online terring course : 10 centers, 193 participants
  - ④ Online upcycling crafts course : 10 centers, 110 participants
- 'On-the-go Imagination Bus Smart Experience Center' that provides disability awareness training using digital devices : 3,156 participants
- Metaverse 'Online Learning Courses for People with Disabilities (yoga, socks neck crafts)' : 23 participants



Online Crafts Course



Mini Online Hangung Competition among Smart Learning Senior Centers

Gyeongbuk Gyeongju Lifelong Education Family Center (☎+82)54-779-8924)



**Andong, Gyeongbuk**

**Andong designated as a lifelong education city for people with disabilities**

Andong City has been selected as a '2024 Lifelong Education City for People with Disabilities' by the Ministry of Education National Institute of Special Education, due to its continued efforts in providing lifelong learning opportunities to people with disabilities. The Lifelong Education City for People with Disabilities project, driven by the Ministry of Education, aims to increase the accessibility of lifelong education and offer courses customized for each region and target. Ultimately, the project empowers people with disabilities to become a part of our society and enhance their quality of life. Andong City had allocated a total budget of 120 million won including the government funding this year for programs such as lifelong education support council, instructor training, DB and information network implementation, customized activities based on type or degree of disabilities, integrated programs for people with and without disabilities, on-the-go learning courses for people with severe disabilities, and camps for families of people with disabilities. With the upcoming second year of the program, Andong plans to expand the customized lifelong learning courses for people with disabilities and assist relevant organizations with their projects and club activities. These initiatives are designed to help people with disabilities interact and stayconnected with society.



Gyeongbuk Andong Education City Division (☎+82)54-840-3734)

**Buk-gu, Daegu**

**On-the-go Happy Buk-gu Classrooms 'Vroom Vroom Learning Car'**

🔊 Background

- Transform a car into an on-the-go lifelong education classroom to provide residents with a place for learning and increase lifelong education opportunities.
- Ensure lifelong education for all ages and create an on-the-go learning space for underserved groups to bridge gaps in lifelong education.

🔊 Program

- **Period** | 2024. 3 ~ 12
- **Method** | Provide instructors and cars to groups of 5 to 9 residents who enroll in a course
- **Courses** | Humanities and liberal arts courses using internet resources and visual aids



🔊 Achievements

- **2024 performance** | 20 courses including Understanding Origins of Place Names in Buk-gu and Create a Herb Smudge Stick, 463 participants
- **Visited sites** | Seobyeon Bookie Land, Distribution Center Park, Hamji Park, Chilgok Market, Geumho River Wind Sound Trail Festival, and more
- **Received 2024 Buk-gu Administration Innovation Contest Grand Award**



Programs on the Outside (Bookie Land)



Programs in the Inside (Wind Sound Trail Festival)

Daegu Buk-gu Education Youth Division ☎(+82)53-665-2714

Gongju, Chungnam

Gongju City is fostering an inclusive lifelong learning city by implementing lifelong learning programs tailored to different life stages, promoting sustainable village communities, and linking learning with civic engagement. This year, we collaborated with citizens to create a carbon-neutral, eco-friendly festival. The 9th Gongju City Lifelong Learning Festival brought together 70 organizations and groups, attracting more than 4,000 participants. Signboards were made from recycled cardboard, and single-use plastics were banned. Through these efforts, the festival successfully reduced carbon emissions by 916 kilograms. Additionally, we organized a special performance to commemorate the International Day of Educating Cities in 2024. The stage featured the slogan of the day: "Learning, Citizenship, and the Educating City as a Laboratory for Social Transformation." Seventeen representatives, including the Mayor, the City Council Chair, and citizen leaders, participated in a handprinting activity alongside the IAEC symbol and slogan. The handprinting event carried profound significance: promoting education within the city, highlighting the role of local governments as educational agents, fostering solidarity and mutual learning among member cities, and improving governance for sustainable development.



Gongju Division of Lifelong Education ☎(+82)41-840-8383



2024 International Day of the Educating City Celebrations



Changwon Lifelong Education Celebration & The International Day of the Educating City Event



Daegu Suseong-gu The International Day of the Educating City Event



Gunsan Promotion on the International Day of the Educating City



Seoul Yongsan-gu Lifelong Education Festival & The International Day of the Educating City Event



Gongju Lifelong Education Festival & The International Day of the Educating City Event

# The 17<sup>th</sup> International Congress of Educating Cities in 2024



## About the International Association of Educating Cities(IAEC)

### Organization Name

International Association of Educating Cities

### Founded Date

1994 ⇒ The 3rd International Congress of Educating Cities(Bologna, Italy)

### Headquarter

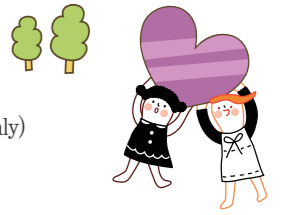
Barcelona, Spain

### Vision

- Improve the quality of life of citizens by promoting better learning environment and lifelong education
- Facilitate joint research on education and share actual cases / projects among member cities

### Membership

● 486 cities in 28 countries (As of December 2024)



Total	28 countries	486 cities
Africa	4 countries	4 cities
America	10 countries	98 cities
Asia · Pacific	4 countries	24 cities
Europe	10 countries	360 cities

### Main Activities

- **International Congress** | every two years (workshops, project presentations, study visits)
- **General Assembly** | annually (budget, planning, and other agenda)
- **Executive Committee Meeting** | biannually (site selection for International Congress, decisions on major agenda, etc.)
- **Regional Network** | regional meeting (every two years), working-level meeting (annually), newsletter (annually)

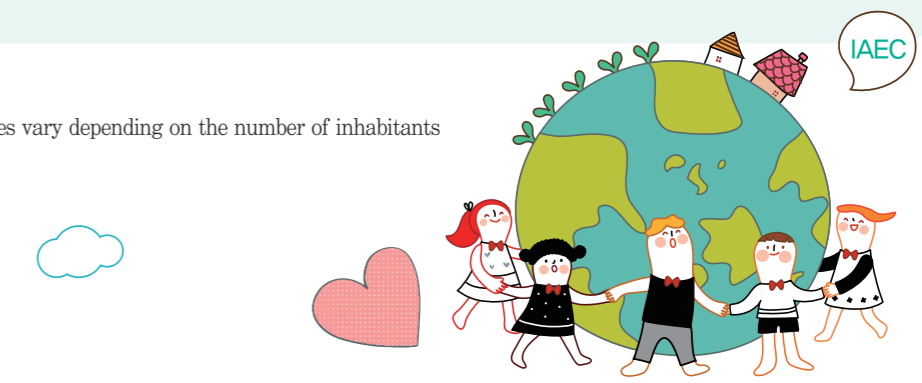
### ✧ Asia · Pacific Network

- Formed in June 2009 following a suggestion by Changwon
- Coordinating City : Changwon
- Executive Cities : Andong, Gunsan
- 24 cities in 4 countries have joined the network(Adelaide in Australia, Bethlehem in Palestine, Phuket in Thailand, and more)



### Membership Fee

fees vary depending on the number of inhabitants







## To join the IAEC

### IAEC Asia-Pacific Network Coordinating City

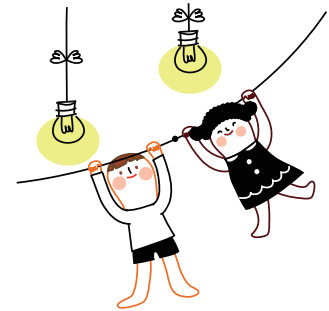
#### Changwon Department of Lifelong Education

- **Tel** | (+82)55 225 2402~5
- **Fax** | (+82)55 225 4704

### IAEC Secretariat Office (Barcelona)

#### International Association of Educating Cities (IAEC)

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- **E-mail** | [edcities@bcn.cat](mailto:edcities@bcn.cat)
- **Website** | [www.edcities.org](http://www.edcities.org)
- **SNS** | @educatingcities



## 2025 International Association of Educating Cities(IAEC) Programs

2025. 2. 25.	2025. 3. 19. ~ 3. 21.	2025. 10.	2025. 11. 30.
IAEC Executive Committee Meeting	IAEC General Assembly	The 12th Asia-Pacific Regional Network Meeting	2025 IAEC The International Day of the Educating City
Online	Brussels(Belgium)	Dalseo-gu, Daegu	Each member city

