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## GKS Alumni Get Ready to Connect Korea to the World

- The Ministry of Education and the National Institute for International Education (NIIED) hosted a GKS farewell event, celebrating the graduation of international students (i.e. 29 undergraduate course students, 381 master's course students, 61 doctoral students, and three researchers) who earned a degree in Korea under the GKS, the Korean Government scholarship for international students, on August 18 at the NIIED headquarters.
- The 474 GKS grantees came from 110 countries and studied at 64 universities in Korea.
- More specifically, students were from Asia (249 students, 52%), Europe (79 students, 17%), Africa (82 students, 17%), and America (64 students, 14%), and they acquired their degrees in humanities and social studies (269 students, 57%), science and engineering (187 students, 39%), and arts and sports (18 students, 4%).
- A Seoul National University graduate student Steciuk Maria Katarzyna from Poland thanked her professors and friends who helped her adjust to Korea, and affirmed that she would strive to bridge Poland and

Korea once she returns home.

- ☐ This year, the Ministry of Education has turned the GKS alumni network into a non-profit body to systematically support its exchange and alumni activities going forward.
  - The president of the alumni network, Zahid Hussain, attended and delivered remarks, encouraging active participation of all alumni in various activities, including one-on-one mentoring and volunteering activities.
- ☐ The Global Korea Scholarship is a government-funded program in Korea which began in 1967, designed to support students from all around the world to earn an undergraduate or graduate degree in Korea.
  - To date, 7,400 grantees received the scholarship, and many of them are serving as leaders in various field all around the world, including in politics, business and academia.
- ☐ Director General Park ji-young of International Cooperation Bureau at the Ministry of Education said in her congratulatory remarks, "I would like to wholeheartedly congratulate all of the graduates for successfully completing their studies in Korea, which will most certainly serve as important assets for the future as global talent, acting as a bridge between their home country and Korea."