

Government Structure for Soil and Groundwater Pollution Management in Korea

- ✓ Primary Office: Soil and Groundwater Management Division, Ministry of Environment, Republic of Korea

<Simplified Table of Organization Related to Soil and Groundwater Pollution Management>

Minister of Ministry of Environment			
Vice-Minister			
Bureau of Water Environment Policy (among 5 Bureaus)			
Soil and Groundwater Management Division (among 7 Divisions)			
Soil Environment Management Team	Groundwater Management Team	Drinking Water Management Team	Military Environmental Management Team

<Subsidiary Organizations>

- a. Analysis and Measurement Divisions in 7 Regional Environmental Offices**
- b. Soil and Groundwater Research Division (NIER, National Institute of Environmental Research)**
- c. Department of Soil and Groundwater (KECO, Korea Environment Cooperation)**
- d. Soil Environment Center (KEITI, Korea Environmental Industry and Technology Institute)**

<Missions of Teams>

1) Soil Environment Management Team

- Amend the Soil Environment Conservation Act and improve related regulations
- Establish and supervise ‘The Basic Plan for Soil Conservation’ for central and municipal governments
- R&D projects for soil and groundwater: Strategic Planning
- Survey and control soil contamination of abandoned mines (metal, coal, asbestos) and industrial complexes
- Create database for soil (survey the actual nationwide state of soil contamination)
- Nurture specialists in soil and groundwater

2) Groundwater Management Team

- Amend groundwater related laws and improve regulations
- Survey the actual nationwide state of groundwater quality
- Environmental management for carcass burial sites
- Groundwater contamination inspection and clean-up measures
- Management of the environment surrounding geothermal facilities
- Quality control for local groundwater
- Improve laws and regulations for small scale water supply system

3) Drinking water Management Team

- Amend the Drinking Water Management Act and improve related systems
- Set standards for and inspect drinking water quality
- Permit the development of potable spring water, issue quality certificates for potable spring water, and inspect potable spring water and its bottles for import
- Industrialize potable spring water and supervise potable spring water businesses
- Manage public drinking water facilities and natural radioactive substances in groundwater

4) Team for Environmental Management of Military Compounds

- SOFA environmental subcommittee, USFK Environmental Governing Standards (EGS)
- Conduct environmental survey and risk assessment for properties subject to grant and/or return
- Conduct environmental survey for the areas neighboring the properties granted to USFK
- Counteract to environmental pollution occurred by USFK
- Monitor soil and groundwater of Korean military installations
- Establish and run a collaboration center between military and environment

<Missions of Subsidiary Organizations>

A) Analysis and Measurement Divisions in 7 Regional Environmental Offices

- Manage a nation-wide soil contamination measuring network and a groundwater quality measuring network
- Conduct post environmental impact assessment for abandoned mines which have gone through the mine pollution prevention program

B) Soil and Groundwater Research Division(NIER, National Institute of Environmental Research)

- Conduct research on policies and pollutions related to the Soil and Groundwater Division, Ministry of Environment

C) Department of Soil and Groundwater (KECO, Korea Environment Cooperation)

- Carry out environmental research and remediation projects for soil and groundwater commissioned by the Soil and Groundwater Division, Ministry of Environment

D) Soil Environment Center (KEITI, Korea Environmental Industry and Technology Institute)

- Carry out soil and groundwater R&D projects commissioned by the Soil and Groundwater Division, Ministry of Environment