

Seoul 50+ International Forum 2017

50+ Possibility through Learning & Sharing

Executive Summary

September 25th - 27th, 2017

Seoul, Republic of Korea

Executive Summary

Under the theme of “50+Possibility through learning and sharing,” the <Seoul 50+ International Forum 2017> was co-organized by the Seoul Metropolitan Government, Seoul 50 Plus Foundation and Encore Network from 25th to 27th in Seoul, Republic of Korea. More than 440 participants from government and local authorities, research institutes, private sector, to civil societies participated throughout the three-day event. As a pre-session, the <Training-of-Trainers(ToT) Workshop on 50+Education for 50+Program Developers> designed to share experiences on EU recognized pre-retirement workshop to empower seniors was conducted by Mr. Poul-Erik Tindbaek of En3Karriere on the first day. The main event <Seoul 50+International Forum 2017>, which took place on the second day, consisted of opening session, two thematic sessions and closing plenary; and lastly on the 27th, a post-session of <50+ Program Introductory Session on UK’s NESTA> participated by 50+partners to deep-dive on NESTA’s 50+programs.

Day 1 <Training of Trainers Workshop on 50+Education for 50+Program Developers>

- The pre-session of <Training-of-Trainers(ToT) Workshop on 50+Education for 50+Program Developers>, was held to share Mr. Poul-Erik Tindbaek’s EU recognized pre-retirement workshop model to more than 40 staff members of the 50+foundation/campus/center and experts at the Seoul 50 Plus Central Campus.
- In a 3-hour workshop, Mr. Poul-Erik Tindbaek introduced and facilitated frequent group discussions which allowed an organized response and personal reflection on participants to think about their own lifestyle, health, and personal goals for the future linking with post-retirement life planning.

Day 2 <Seoul 50 +International Forum 2017 (Main Program) >

- Main program of the SFIF2017 focused on two main themes: designing the 2nd half of life through learning and education; and sustainable development through 50+generation’s social participation. The forum invited international and Korean experts working with the 50+ generation from research, community, and organizational perspectives to share international and Korean case studies of programs and policies affecting the 50+. Various perspectives were wrapped up at the Closing Plenary titled “Catalyzing a 50+Learning & Social Participation” by seeking ways of collaboration for the 50+.

Day 3 <50+Program Introductory Session on UK’s NESTA>

- The post-session was held for further discussion on the social innovation 50+programs implemented by NESTA UK. Carrie Deacon, Senior Program Manager of NESTA, gave a presentation on 50+innovation programs, followed by a Q&A session participated by 50+partners.

Overall Outcome and Next Steps:

- Overall, international case studies and testimony from domestic 50+ partners were shared with a wide audience to discuss the best and most effective ways to encourage and support 50+ learning, education, and social participation.
- The Foundation should utilize the knowledge and insight gained by the experts to shape its future programs and policies by further developing its funding infrastructure and perform an assessment to

determine which examples will be possible in the Korean context. In addition, the Foundation shall increase its effort develop a platform for international collaboration to share and learn from other 50+ partners around the world, to leverage comparative advantages.

- Seoul 50+ Foundation should increase promotional and advocacy efforts to make sure the 50+ generation is taking advantage of the opportunities available to them



(Pre-session) Training-of-Trainers (ToT) Workshop on 50+ Education for 50+ Program developer (25th September 2017)



(Main Program) Seoul 50+ International Forum 2017 (26th September 2017)



(Post-session) 50+ Program Introductory Session on NESTA UK (27th September 2017)

SFIF2017 Pre-Session

- Title: Training-of-Trainers (ToT) Workshop on 50+ Education for 50+ Program developers
- Time/Date: 14:00-16:00, Monday, September 25th, 2017
- Venue: 4thFloor, Seoul 50+ Central Campus, Seoul, Republic of Korea
- No. Participants: 44ppl (50+foundation/campuses/centers staff, 50+Life School faculty, experts)

Workshop Summary

Prior to the international forum, a pre-session workshop involving 50+ education program developers, mostly who are engaged with the 50+foundation, campuses, and centers, and staff, and experts took place to provide 50+program developers an opportunity to learn and share insight from Denmark's pre-retirement workshop model. The workshop model was introduced by Mr. Poul-Erik Tindbaek, founder and CEO of Danish social enterprise En3karrier and facilitated group discussions on key themes including lifelong learning, senior volunteerism, and the importance of encouraging pre-retirement planning. These were not the only topics discussed, as the workshop provided a platform for participants to also share personal insights and experiences related to life after 50.



<Presentation by Mr. Poul-Erik Tindbaek>



<Group Discussions>

The workshop was divided into five parts, including a brief introduction of the Danish social enterprise En3karrier, and then going on to delve into themes like longevity, coping with the end of working life, pre-retirement, and finding purpose in later life. After each part, participants were invited to share with others the conclusions they came to after each themed group discussion, which ranged from questions about what constituted good and bad lifestyle habits, personal and health-related goals for the future, to discussing methods to expand or maintain one's social network after retirement. During the workshop discussions, many participants reflected on their own plans for retirement, and voiced the opinion that they had not seriously contemplated what sort of life they wanted to lead after retirement. Participants stated that they were motivated to begin the next step of life planning after realizing that they would not be happy simply leading lives of leisure once they retired.

In discussing these topics, suggestions for shaping the direction of Seoul 50+ Foundation's future work emerged. The participants represented diverse interests, and served as resources to each other by collaborating to find unique solutions to encourage 50+ education and participation. Experts participated in the group discussion noted that old age-related norms are under dissolution, bringing more and more attention to the fact that the 50+ population is currently caught in a policy blind spot. Participants of the workshop concluded that reflection on their own post-retirement plans was necessary for them to create more effective, comprehensive programs. It was also concluded that through various efforts, a major perception shifts about 50+ life needs to be triggered to create better conditions for assisting the 50+ in planning for and creating value for themselves in later life.

SFIF2017 Main Program

- Title: Seoul 50+ International Forum 2017
- Theme: 50+ Possibility through Learning & Sharing
- Time/Date: 10:00-17:00 September 26th, 2017
- Venue: 20th Floor, International Conference Rm, Korean Press Center
- No. Participants: approx. 370ppl (government & local authority agencies, academia, research institute, 50+related organizations, etc.,)

Forum Summary

The main program of the SFIF2017 took place on the second day, and was composed of an opening ceremony, two thematic sessions on: (i) designing the second half of life of the 50+ through learning and education, and (ii) sustainable development through the social participation of the 50+, and a closing plenary. The objective of these sessions was to discuss and share ideas about the types of policy support, learning modalities, and education needed by the 50+ generation, to increase their engagement with society and to encourage more participation in socially-contributive activities during their post-retirement years.

Ms. Kyunghee Rhee, CEO of the 50+Foundation, announced the official opening of the forum sharing the foundation's one-and-a-half-year journey on seeking better ways of 50+learning and participation to the society. Mr. Wonsoon Park, mayor of Seoul Metropolitan Government, and Ms. Yangsook Park, Health and Social Affairs Committee Chair of Seoul Metropolitan Council extended their congratulatory remarks with their emphasis to continued support to 50+policy. As a forum co-organizer, Ms. Marci Alboher, the vice president of Encore.org representing the Encore Network, relayed her congratulations through the vide message on the Foundation's 2nd international Forum and expressed their support for Seoul's policy efforts to the 50+generation and as well as on the expectations to the future international partnership.



<SFIF2017 Opening>



<Congratulatory remarks by Ms. Marci Alboher>

At the two thematic sessions, experts and practitioners in the areas of social welfare, adult education, lifelong learning, etc., assisted in shaping a future framework for the development of 50+ programs and education. It was highlighted during the forum that due to the speed of ageing in Korea, the work of the Seoul 50+ Foundation was particularly significant in Korean society. It is the first organization of its kind in Korea dedicated specifically to 50+ issues – other localities outside of Seoul were highly interested in replicating its policies and programs. Forum participants represented various organizations, all offering insight into the different modalities of 50+ learning, as well as post-retirement social and educational programs in the countries Denmark, New Zealand, and the United

Kingdom. As presenting experts stated, ageing is a global phenomenon and organizations around the world should share and collaborate with each other to utilize their respective strengths better to create more effective, comprehensive, and inclusive 50+ programs.

Prof. Brian C. Findsen, an expert in adult and lifelong learning from New Zealand underlined the necessity of enhancing the learning economy to create more social and employment opportunities for older adults, sharing examples of informal learning and education in New Zealand. Mr. Poul-Erik Tindbaek, founder and CEO of the En3karrier offering pre-retirement workshops in Denmark shared that new 50+programs like “internships” for people approaching retirement could be a new method of preparing seniors for the next phase of life, by allowing them to explore new formal or volunteer work options while still being formally employed. Along the same vein, Ms. Carrie Deacon, Senior Program Manager of the NESTA UK also noted the need for innovation and creative thinking when developing 50+ programs, perhaps through inter-generational activities or enabling seniors to create their own programs and policies. Mr. Kwangphil Jung, the dean of Seoul 50+ Life School spoke of various programs currently being run, including socially-contributive activities like urban regeneration projects at the Seoul 50+ Campuses. Some presenters work directly with the 50+ doing community-level activities, and they



<Mr. Poul-Erik Tindbaek presented in the 2nd session>



<Closing Plenary>

emphasized that the expansion of programs will give the 50+ more access to social capital, which is key to successful ageing.

The forum concluded that only through more active learning and social engagement of the 50+, will society be able to capitalize on their social value and benefit from it. Efforts in Seoul in the future will focus on more promotion of its programs and policies, and on bringing together private, public and civil sector partners in a combined effort to help the 50+ better plan the next stage of their lives.

SFIF2017 Post Session

- Title: 50+ Program Introductory Session on NESTA UK
- Time/Date: 14:00-16:00 Wednesday September 27th, 2017
- Venue: Seoul 50 Plus Western Campus, Seoul, Republic of Korea
- No. Participants: 36ppl (Staff members of the 50+foundation/campus/centers, social innovation organizations and 50+partners)

Summary

The last day of the international forum involved a workshop introducing the various 50+ social innovation programs delivered by NESTA UK, a British social innovation organization headquartered in London, UK. This session was an opportunity to look further into NESTA’s 50+programs introduced during the international forum. Its objective was to share with Foundation staff, social innovation organizations, and 50+ partners in Seoul the innovative ideas and practices implemented in the UK. It also aimed to provide inspiration for the future direction of Seoul 50+ Foundation’s work, in order to help tackle the multifarious issues being faced by the 50+ generation in Seoul.

The first part of the workshop centered on sharing NESTA’s operation methods for its 50+ social innovation programs, and the second part delved into NESTA’s methods of incubation and support for social innovation ideas. Ms. Carrie Deacon, Senior Program Manager, shared specific modalities of funding used to generate ideas for programs through the Challenge Prize Centre. Other programs, like the Second Half Fund and the Give More Get More Fund, are used as methods to obtain ideas for socially innovative projects aiming to reach out to the 50+ generation and utilize their talents. What NESTA learned particularly from operating the Second Half Fund, is that breaking down stereotypes of seniors and old age was necessary to fully address the challenges being faced by older generations.

NESTA UK shared the success stories of programs they ran in the past, also giving insights to the lessons learned gained along the way. The organization’s model for social innovation has been successful in the UK because it is not only working to engage and include the 50+, but because it has attempted to create an innovative new system through the development and utilization of new technologies, new products and services, policies and behaviors. Participants were interested in the sustainability of funded programs and challenges faced by social innovation programs, to which the presenter responded that collaboration, programmatic support, and giving power to people to affect their own change was essential. The workshop concluded with the remark that creating opportunities for expanding social value for the 50+ provided more possibilities for the future of ageing.



<50+ Program Introductory Session on NESTA UK>



<Q&A Session>