

Korean Perspective on the Dark and Quiet Skies for Science and Society

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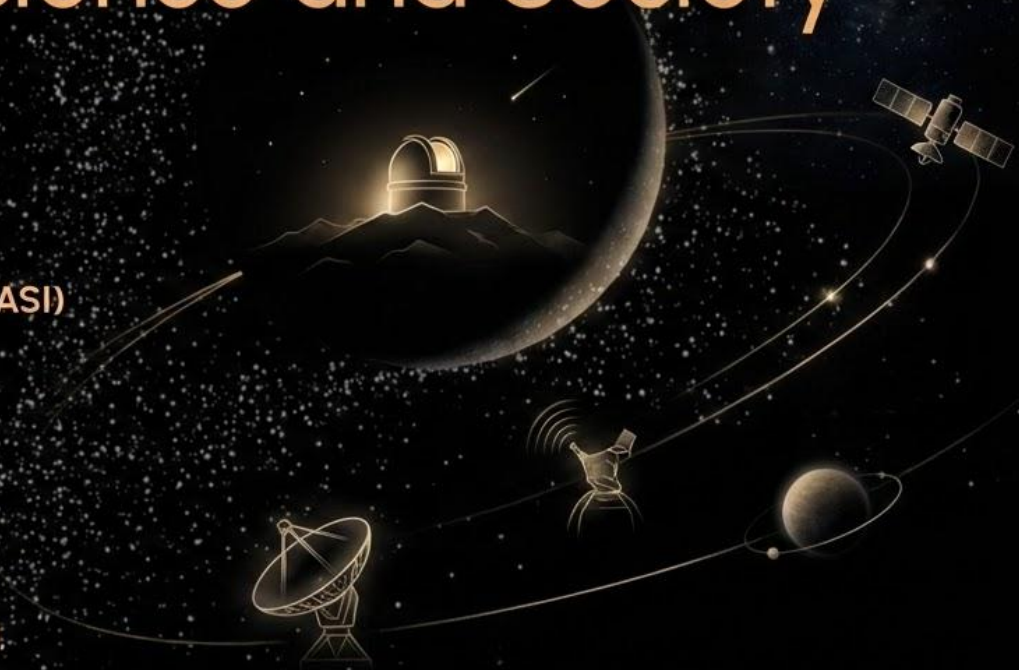
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Recognizing the Value of the Dark and Quiet Skies

- Korea as a country of light; still recognizes the importance of DQS, and peaceful use of space
 - Operating multiple nation-wide and world-wide observing & space monitoring facilities
 - Big supporter of the ground-based & space-based astronomy and space projects
 - International Gemini Observatory, Giant Magellan Telescope (GMT), and KMTNet
 - ALMA, SKA, and international VLBI network
 - SPHEREx, KPLO (Danuri) missions, ARTEMIS accord
- ROK's support of DQS for Science and Society led to ROK's Joining DQS Group of Friends (May 2025)

Support of DQS Across Multiple Domains

- Korean Astronomical Society
 - Special Session on the Dark and Quiet Sky for Astronomy (Oct. 2024)
 - Official Statement supporting the protection of Dark and Quiet Sky (Feb. 2025)
- Korean Space Science Society - Special Session on the Sustainable Space (Oct. 2024)
 - DQS is a core part of the Sustainable Use/Development of Space
- UN COPUOS
 - Support the adoption of DQS agenda item to STSC since June 2023
- ITU-R WRC-27
 - Protection of radio astronomy (RA) in specific Radio Quiet Zones (RQZs), and in the frequency bands allocated to the RA service (AI 1.16, 1.18)
 - Vision for Astronomy on the Moon: ITU-R discussions to protect the RA in the Shielded Zone of the Moon (SZM)

Dark Sky Protection: Connecting with the Legacy

- Civil Society and Government Initiatives:
 - (1992) Nationwide stargazing and dark sky promotion events by civil support groups.
 - (2004) "Turn off light to turn on starlight" campaign with Government support.
- Legislative Milestones:
 - (2010) Local Government Ordinance on the Prevention of Light Pollution.
 - (2014) Enactment for the Prevention of Light Pollution by Artificial Lighting.
- International Recognition:
 - (2015) Yeongyang Firefly Eco Park - Asia's first Dark Sky Park approved by Dark Sky International.
- Recent Work:
 - (2025) Korean translation of the Dark and Quiet Sky brochure by IAU CPS.



Way Forward for DQS in Korea

- Real Case Studies with Korean owned & operating observing facilities
 - Introduction of mitigation measures for science productivities
- Connecting with Government, Industries, and Academies
 - DQS working group at KASI: coordinates actions and responses to international bodies (e.g., COPUOS, ITU-R)
 - Formation of Inter-Agency Discussion Group (KASA, KASI, KARI, etc.)
 - Provide advice to Policy makers
 - Proactive engagement with Industries
- Sustainable Public Outreach
 - Promoting citizen science activities: stargazing parties and sky brightness monitors
 - Contributing public lectures and articles
 - Creating materials for Journalists

Thank you

