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## Ministry of Education and Provincial Education Authorities Collaborate to Promote Korean Language Education for Attracting International Students

- Nine Provincial Offices of Education are selected for 2024 Korean Language Education-based International Exchange Promotion Project
- It is expected to revitalize Korean language education, attract overseas talent, and enhance local global competitiveness

On January 9, the Ministry of Education (led by Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Education Lee Ju-Ho), is set to unveil the outcomes of the selection process for provincial offices of educations participating in the Korean Language Education-based International Exchange Promotion Project.

This project, supported by a special grant of 10.4 billion won and slated for launch in 2024, is a follow-up measure to the "Plan to Enhance Competitiveness of International Student Education," announced in August of the previous year. Its primary objectives include the promotion of Korean language education abroad and the optimization of the demand for studying in Korea. This is achieved through collaborative efforts with local education departments and the Korean Institute of Education, as outlined in the plan. The project extends its reach to 43 educational institutions across 19 countries, dedicated to providing ongoing education for overseas Koreans, propagating Korean language and culture, and facilitating activities to attract foreign students.

In the inaugural year of 2024, nine provincial education offices – Gwangju, Gyeongbuk, Daegu, Busan, Seoul, Incheon, Jeonnam, Chungnam, and Chungbuk – have been chosen to spearhead the Korean language education-based international education promotion project. These offices are slated to allocate a total of 22 billion won in local education finance grants. The funds will be

directed towards initiatives that foster international exchange and cooperation projects tailored to local needs and conditions. The project involves the deployment of Korean language specialists and general staff at overseas Korean Education Centers to support the dissemination of Korean language and the attraction of international students.

**< Affiliation of Provincial Office of Education  
and Korean Education Centers Abroad >**

Provincial Offices of Education	Affiliated Korean Education Centers Abroad (tbc)	Provincial Offices of Education	Affiliated Korean Education Centers Abroad (tbc)
Gwangju	Tashkent, Osaka, Germany	Incheon	Ho Chi Minh, Thailand, Tashkent
Gyeongbuk	Ho Chi Minh, San Fransisco, Germany	Jeonnam	Ho Chi Minh, Malaysia, LA
Daegu	Tashkent, LA, Sydney	Chungnam	Tashkent, New York, Sydney
Busan	Hanoi, Chicago, Osaka	Chungbuk	Ho Chi Minh, Tashkent, Almaty
Seoul	Malaysia, Atlanta, France		

This initiative of the Ministry of Education aims to significantly amplify the integration of the Korean language into local elementary and middle schools abroad. The strategic objectives encompass the systematic identification of study abroad demand, the enhancement of efforts to attract international students, and the facilitation of diverse exchange activities. These activities include collaborative classes between domestic and overseas schools, the provision of overseas career and vocational education, and support for student exchanges with migrant backgrounds. Building on the outcomes of this year's pilot program, the Ministry intends to broaden the program's scope and increase participation from additional school districts.

Song Keun-hyun, Director General of the Global Education Planning Bureau of the Ministry of Education, emphasized the foundational impact of international exchanges that leverage local characteristics. "Through these exchanges, we aim to establish a solid groundwork for revitalizing Korean

language education and drawing in international talent." He added, "This endeavor is anticipated to bolster the international capabilities of the region, contributing substantially to regional development and mitigating the risk of regional depopulation."

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