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## KDIS-IU O'NEILL SCHOOL VISIT TO MPB

The Ministry of Planning and Budget (MPB) hosted a policy discussion on May 21, 2026, for students participating in the "Public Finance, Policy, and Democratic Governance" program, jointly run by the KDI School of Public Policy and Management and the O'Neill School at Indiana University.

This policy discussion was held as the first official field visit of a four-week curriculum running from May 18 to June 14. This course includes 13 KDIS students and 13 O'Neill School students, with each student from one school paired with a student from the other. They participate in classroom lessons, government and public institution visits, practitioner discussions and joint research programs.

Their visit to MPB is particularly meaningful, as both Korean and American students had the opportunity to study and discuss Korea's fiscal management practices and budgeting system. MPB serves as the central agency overseeing national fiscal management and budget formulation, playing a key role in financially supporting government policy priorities and integrating medium- to long-term national development strategies into the budget. This visit was not merely an institutional tour; it took the form of a policy discussion designed to provide students with hands-on understanding of Korea's budgetary processes and fiscal strategies. Students engaged with MPB officials in discussions on the linkage between medium- and long-term national development strategies and budget formulation, the sustainability of public finances amid demographic changes, innovations in budgeting systems during the digital and AI transition, and a comparative analysis of budget governance between Korea and the United States.

MPB officials participating in the discussion included Director General for Economic Affairs Budget, Director General for Strategy Mission Unit, and Director of International Fiscal Cooperation Division. They shared Korean fiscal management experience and major policy initiatives. Officials presented the role and responsibility of the Ministry, Korea's overarching fiscal management framework and sectoral budget priorities, illustrated the linkage between long-term national development strategies and public finances, and explained the management of government fund operations and measures to ensure fiscal sustainability. These topics then served as the basis for active discussions with the students.

Following this visit to MPB, the KDI School of Public Policy and Management and Indiana University's O'Neill School plan to continue their field-based learning at key government and public institutions, including the Ministry of Finance and Economy, the cities of Seoul, Daejeon, and

Sejong, the Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA), National Agency for Administrative City Construction, K-Water, and Global Knowledge Exchange and Development Center. The program will conclude with a final presentation on Friday, June 12, where students will share the outcomes of their four-week learning experience.