



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

South Bay Workforce Investment Board
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South Bay Workforce Investment Board Hosts Delegation from South Korea for Knowledge Exchange on Workforce Development

Hawthorne, CA — The South Bay Workforce Investment Board (SBWIB) proudly hosted a distinguished delegation from the Human Resources Development Service of Korea (HRDK) on December 16, 2024. The delegation, consisting of 11 officials and representatives responsible for administering and implementing Korea’s National Competency Standards (NCS)-based training programs, visited SBWIB as part of their tour of the Western United States to gain insights into U.S. vocational education and workforce development systems.

The meeting, led by Jan Vogel, Executive Director for SBWIB, provided an opportunity for both organizations to share best practices, innovative strategies, and insights into workforce development. Topics discussed included:

- **Vocational Education and Training Systems:** An exploration of SBWIB’s innovative workforce training models, including work-based learning and apprenticeship programs.
- **Training and Certification Frameworks:** Insights into SBWIB’s employer-driven approach to certifications and career readiness, highlighting how industry-recognized credentials are incorporated into its programs.
- **Workforce Development Strategies:** Discussions on recruiting and retaining diverse talent, including strategies for underserved communities and wraparound services.
- **Technology Integration in Vocational Education:** A showcase of the SBWIB’s regional training provider directory called I-Train and the SBWIB’s processes for maintaining a properly vetted and qualified list for the public to access training options that lead to industry recognized credentials and jobs.
- **Public-Private Partnerships:** A focus on SBWIB’s collaborative approach with industry leaders to bridge skill gaps and create tailored training opportunities.

The delegation’s visit highlighted areas of mutual interest and opportunities for collaboration between the two organizations. The Human Resources Development Service of Korea shared details about their National Competency Standards (NCS), a comprehensive framework defining the skills, knowledge, and attitudes required for success in specific jobs across industries. This system mirrors SBWIB’s commitment to aligning workforce training with employer needs.

Jan Vogel, who led the discussions, commented, “We are honored to host the HRDK delegation and exchange ideas on workforce development. This meeting reaffirms the importance of international collaboration in addressing the evolving demands of the global economy. By sharing best practices, we can create more inclusive and effective systems to empower our workforce.”

The delegation expressed their appreciation for SBWIB's innovative programs and discussed potential avenues for continued knowledge exchange and collaboration. Both parties emphasized the value of learning from each other's experiences to enhance workforce readiness and career development in their respective countries.

This visit marks another milestone in SBWIB's ongoing commitment to fostering partnerships that drive workforce innovation and support economic growth.

For more information about SBWIB and its programs, visit www.sbwib.org.

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About the South Bay Workforce Investment Board

The South Bay Workforce Investment Board is a nonprofit organization committed to supporting workforce development and providing innovative programs and services that connect job seekers with employers. Through partnerships with local businesses and workforce training programs, SBWIB offers its services at no cost, empowering individuals and businesses to thrive in an ever-changing economy. SBWIB's initiatives are designed to create pathways to high-demand careers and drive economic growth in the South Bay region and beyond.

About the Human Resources Development Service of Korea (HRDK)

The Human Resources Development Service of Korea (HRDK) is an agency under the Ministry of Employment and Labor, dedicated to workforce development and skill enhancement. Through its National Competency Standards (NCS) and other initiatives, HRDK ensures a robust, skilled workforce that supports Korea's economic growth and innovation.



Photo caption: South Bay Workforce Investment Board hosts delegation from South Korea for knowledge exchange on Workforce Development on December 16, 2024.



