

Chair: **Kisung Ko (Professor, Chung-Ang University / NCP for Cluster 1 & 6)**



Dr. Kisung Ko is a Professor in the Department of Medicine, Chung-Ang University College of Medicine, Seoul, Korea, where he has served since 2012. He received his B.Sc. from Seoul National University in 1991, and his M.Sc. (1996) and Ph.D. (1999) in Plant Molecular Biology and Biotechnology from Cornell University, USA. He subsequently undertook postdoctoral research at Cornell University and later held a faculty research position at Jefferson Medical College in the United States, focusing on Molecular Immunology and Cancer Biology.

Dr. Ko's academic career includes appointments as Assistant Professor at Wonkwang University (2006–2011), Associate Professor (2012–2015), and full Professor (2016–present) at Chung-Ang University. He also served as a visiting scholar at Harvard Medical School (2020–2021). He is currently Director of the Biomedical Research Institute and the Center for Molecular Bio-Convergence Design at Chung-Ang University. He currently serves as the Korean National Contact Point (NCP) for Horizon Europe Cluster 1 (Health) and Cluster 6 (Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment), appointed by the Ministry of Science and ICT.

Dr. Ko is a recognized leader in biopharmaceutical production and immunotherapy research. His current work focuses on Fc-fusion proteins, cancer vaccines, and therapeutic antibody production using heterologous expression systems, as well as functional immunogen discovery and AI-based binder design platforms. He has published extensively in high-impact journals such as *Plant Biotechnology Journal*, *ACS Nano*, and *PNAS*.

Dr. Ko holds key national and international roles: he is currently the National Contact Point (NCP) for Horizon Europe in Korea, appointed by the Ministry of Science and ICT, and he serves as President of the Korean Society for Glycoscience. He is also on the editorial boards of several international journals, including *Monoclonal Antibodies in Immunodiagnosis and Immunotherapy*, *Molecular Biotechnology*, *BMB Reports*, and *Frontiers in Biotechnology and Bioengineering*.

Throughout his career, Dr. Ko has been actively involved in national science policy and research planning, having served as a review panelist for the National Research Foundation of Korea (NRF), and as a biosafety committee member for the National Institute of Environmental Research and the Rural Development Administration.

Co-Chair: **Heesoo Song (PhD Candidate, VIB-KU Leuven / PR director, KOSEABE)**



Heesoo Song graduated BSc. Molecular Biotechnology at Ghent University Global Campus in South Korea and MSc. Bioinformatics at Ghent University in Belgium, where she completed her thesis in Yvan Saeys Lab. In 2023, she started her PhD entitled "High-resolution spatial maps of the tumor microenvironment during checkpoint immunotherapy" at the Lab of Translational Genetics (VIB-KU Leuven) under the supervision of Prof. Diether Lambrechts. In November 2024, she was awarded an FWO PhD fellowship strategic basic research, fully funded by the Flemish government. In addition to her academic work, she serves as the PR director of KOSEABE (Korean Scientists & Engineers Association in Belgium).