

## Korea inks MoU with Ecuador for global health R&D

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**The global collaboration to explore areas of infectious disease research, epidemiology, and vaccine R&D.**



The International Vaccine Institute (IVI) and Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Human Mobility of Ecuador exchanged a memorandum of understanding (MOU) on 24 Nov 2020 at IVI headquarters in Seoul, Republic of Korea to explore areas of collaboration in infectious disease research, epidemiology, and vaccine R&D.

Dr. Jerome Kim, Director General of IVI, and His Excellency Luis Gallegos, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Ecuador, signed the MOU during a bilateral meeting while the Minister makes his official visit to Korea.

“We’re pleased to pursue greater opportunities with Ecuador, an early supporter of IVI and state party to the organization’s establishment treaty, to advance vaccine science and strengthen pandemic preparedness,” said Dr. Kim. “The COVID-19 pandemic has made clear the critical importance of global cooperation in vaccine research, development, and delivery, and IVI welcomes closer bi- and multilateral partnerships.”

The International Vaccine Institute (IVI) is a nonprofit inter-governmental organization. Headquartered in Seoul, South Korea, IVI was the first international organization hosted by Korea. IVI has 36 signatory countries and the World Health Organization (WHO) on its treaty, including Korea, Sweden, India, and Finland as state funders.

**Image Caption:** His Excellency Luis Gallegos, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Ecuador (left), and Dr. Jerome Kim, Director General of IVI (right)