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**CURRENT EMPLOYMENT:** PhD Researcher, Institute of Development Studies

**DATE OF BIRTH:** 23 August 1988

**NATIONALITY:** South Korean

**LANGUAGES:** Korean, English, Spanish

**THEMATIC EXPERTISE:** Agricultural commercialisation; food system; rural development; social capital; innovation

**GEOGRAPHICAL EXPERTISE:** Colombia, Peru, Paraguay, Argentina, Indonesia, Philippines, Mongolia

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## OVERVIEW

Kyumi Ahn is a rural sociologist whose work mainly focuses on small-scale family farm engagement in the agricultural food markets and the role of farmers' social relations in the access to the markets. Her current doctoral research delves into the relationship between the farm commercialisation pathways and social capital in the Andean region of Colombia, under the supervision of Seife Ayele and Prof Rachel Sabates-Wheeler. Her current interests include food systems, circular farming, agricultural innovation adoption, and rural poverty reduction. She also provides consultancy for design and evaluation of policy and programmes that aim to address socioeconomic vulnerability and inequality in rural areas of developing economies. Prior to joining IDS, Kyumi has worked as a researcher in Korean Rural Economic Institute, where she coordinated ODA projects with Asian and Latin American countries and conducted policy research on agricultural cooperation strategies. Throughout her career, she has acquired quantitative and qualitative research skills.

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## EDUCATION AND QUALIFICATIONS

**2013 - 2014** **MSc (Globalisation and Latin American Development)**  
University College London, UK

**2007 - 2013** **BSc (Forest Environmental Science) and BA (English)**  
Seoul National University, Korea

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## RECORD OF EMPLOYMENT

**2015 – 2017** **Researcher, Korea Rural Economic Institute, Korea**  
Supporting research and coordinating projects on agricultural development cooperation.

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## SELECTED EXPERIENCE

**2020** **Tutor, IDS, UK**  
Leading seminars of Research Design modules for MA Development Studies.

**2019-2020** **Teaching Assistant, IDS, UK**  
Assisting in teaching for MA Development Studies.

**2019** **Consultant, KOICA, Korea**

Providing expertise on agricultural development and performance management in preliminary studies for KOICA-UNODC project of Sacha Inchi commercialisation and KOICA-WFP project of women economic empowerment in conflict areas in Colombia.

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## SELECTED PUBLICATIONS AND OUTPUTS

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### Publications

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Tan, W., Thompson, S., and **Ahn, K.** (2020) The political economy of food, *Agroecology and Sustainable Food Systems*, 44:2, 279-281, DOI: 10.1080/21683565.2019.1680477 The political economy of food (Book review).

Lee, D. and **Ahn, K.** (2016) A Way Forward to Sustainable International Forestry Cooperation: A Case Study of the 'Greenbelt Plantation Project in Mongolia.' *Journal of Rural Development/Nongchon-Gyeongje*, 39 Special, 10.22004/ag.econ.251932.