



# Seoul Outdoor Library

The world's first model where the concept of the library space is expanded from the inside a building to the outdoor space.





# Why was the innovation developed

## Seoul Metropolitan Library



COVID-19 testing center



Seoul Outdoor Library



Seoul Plaza



Gwanghwamun Square



Cheonggye Stream

The needs for **safe social space** and the citizens' desire for **culture and rest** increased as people experienced depression and social disconnection after COVID-19. The square in front of Seoul Metropolitan Library has **turned into Seoul Outdoor Library**, a space for citizens in 2022. It is **an innovative model** that expands the space of the library from the inside a building to the outdoor space. Seoul Outdoor Library has been expanded to various spaces at Seoul in 2023.





**01** As the world's first model to extend the library space from the inside a building to outdoors, it represents a new library that consistently operates year-round rather than hosting one-time events like ordinary libraries.

➤ **It's the world's first sustainable outdoor library, operating continuously.**

**02** The outdoor library is a building-free library that minimizes carbon emissions associated with construction and operation. Citizens who interact with nature also become aware of the importance of the environment.

➤ **It's an eco-friendly library that minimizes carbon emissions.**

**03** It's not just changed to an open space where anyone can use books without the need for membership or borrowing procedures, but also a delightful space offering various programs that couldn't be materialized within the confines of a traditional quiet library building.

➤ **It's a delightful library easily accessible to everyone.**



It is a model of innovative change in social places and public services to improve the quality of life for citizens, as proven by 1.6 million visitors



# What is Seoul Outdoor Library



93% of the visitors were satisfied with it



94% of the visitors showed their intention to revisit



83% of the visitors read at least one book



There are various programs such as books, music, movies, play areas and cultural exchange experiences

Enjoy yourself



With family, friends, and lovers



Even foreigners



It is a fun and interesting library to lower the barriers to entry for public place



# What partners were involved in the innovation process



Seoul Outdoor Library is a social platform for local cooperation