



## Future Forest - Turning Today's Desert into Future's Forest

### Message of Ambassador Kwon about "Save the Earth Eco-village":

"I don't know how long it will take to build such a village. But I am sure we can and must do it because we have no other choice but to keep our Earth alive, the only habitat for humanity."

**Future Forest** is a non-governmental organization based in Korea which was established in 2001. Kwon Byong Hyon, former Korean Ambassador to China, experienced severe yellow dust storms (Asian dust or yellow sand) during his service in China, realizing the necessity of combating desertification. He began tree-planting projects with young Korean and Chinese volunteers aiming to prevent soil erosion and land degradation which were main causes of yellow dust storms afflicting Northeast Asia, including China, Korea and Japan.



Poplars planted in the desert

Since 2002, **Future Forest** has trained Green Corps which consists of some 100 young volunteers, dispatched it to deserts in China and planted trees with Chinese youths. Every spring when yellow dust storms arise, Future Forest's Green Corps wages war against yellow dust storms and desertification with shovels and saplings. As a result of continuous efforts by Future Forest and numerous volunteers, the desert is turning into a forest with willows and poplars.



Green Corps members planting trees

The Great Green Wall, a 16 km-long windbreak forest in the Kubuqi desert in Inner Mongolia, China is said as one of the most successful projects in fighting desertification. The Kubuqi desert was the closest desert to Korea as well as one of main sources of yellow dust storms blown to Beijing and Seoul. In cooperation with the All-China Youth Federation and the local Dalateqi Government, **Future**

**Forest** initiated a large-scale afforestation project to stop the eastward expansion of the Kubuqi desert in October, 2006. At first some scientists opposed the project because they thought a moving sand-dune desert cannot be stopped by tree-planting. However, the Great Green Wall consisting of more than six million trees already took shape at the easternmost area of the desert, preventing the desert from expanding. You can see the vivid contrast between before and after tree-planting in the area from satellite view through Google Earth.



Before (in 2005 from Google Earth)



After (in 2012 from Google Earth)

**Future Forest** encourages people to join in its effort to save the Earth for our next generations. It aims to build "Save the Earth Eco-village" in the Kubuqi desert where the environment and human can co-exist in harmony.

For more information about **Future Forest**:

Future Forest's Homepage: [www.futureforest.org](http://www.futureforest.org)

Taming the Yellow Dragon: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bQqScEwc4M>