

2024 CLM International Meeting RMU CLM Report



Member of CLM Korea



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Q1. If CLM in your RMU is a body of water, what would it be like?

Various shapes and sizes of LMs have come together like water droplets to form the community called CLM Korea. So, if CLM Korea is a body of water, it would be like a river constantly flowing with diverse water droplets gathering. This is essential to our lives and leads us to move forward. Despite the current situation in the Region of Korea, which seems to be precarious due to factors such as individualism, population decline, hierarchy, clericalism, and a lack of trust between some, the river is always flowing, changing, and interconnected. Thanks to the strong faith and beliefs each of us possesses, water flows, new life grows, and we strive to overcome the reality and progress towards mutual relationships, influencing each other positively.



**Q2. Water never stops flowing, how is CLM working well in your RMU?
Why is it working well?**

- CLM Korea has been stretching our capacity to make the water flowing in the Region. We have a commitment to engaging and involving with the Columban priorities of the Region and the Society such as JPIC, IRD, SIM and vocation etc. Also, mutual support with the Region is one of our priorities, too.
- CLM Korea has been working well in the Region. First, we have strong teamwork and everyone supports one another. Second, we are always learning and striving to improve.
- We are not afraid of a new adventure for changing our lives and a creative idea comes from our hearts.
- We all have our respective trust and respond to God's calling and journey with faith and trust regardless of all the obstacles.
- The reason CLM Korea can continue is because there are people who at least do their best to fulfill their responsibilities in their respective positions.

Q3. Just as water erodes even the strongest of rocks, persistence and hard work can overcome any obstacle. What areas of CLM in your RMU need attention and why? What are you doing to address those areas for your RMU?

- We need to consider and make efforts to strengthen our identity as Columban missionaries (not only CLM) and how we can strengthen solidarity and provide mutual support within the community. Individual ministry is important, but how it is shared and invited within the CLM and the Region is also important.
- One area where CLM could be improved is social qualifications on spirituality for visa process for possible sending LMs such as Taiwan and the US etc.
- We need to raise our voice about the Society's future more than before. Active listening and openness to the challenges lead us to open dialogue as we walk together.
- We need more missionaries working directly with the grassroots outside the comfort zone, especially, for the voiceless people in the society by sharing God's love, living together, respecting one another and voicing out for justice, peace and human rights.
- Sometime, we strongly feel the voice of CLM Korea is unheard under the current leadership.

**Q4. The depth of water holds infinite possibilities.
What new possibilities within CLM are emerging in your RMU?**

- In Korea, there are still a number of youngsters searching for faith and mission.
- The Region of Korea is going to restructure its system in the offices in December 2023. The new system might be a challenge and also, an opportunity to see another future of the Region.
- The Regional leadership has decided on the system of contact person for CLM Korea until a new Regional CLM Coordinator is coming, which is expected in June/July in 2024. Once we have a Regional CLM Coordinator, a new possibility will open.

Q5. Do you have any other comments?

- Five-year-suspension of the orientation program means that we are going the way of the end of the CLM. CLM Korea strongly suggests continuing the CLM orientation program. International orientation program with other combined structures among LMs would be an option.
- The current CLM structure is too heavy considering the decreasing number of LMs. Amalgamation or zonal restructuring is an alternative for the future CLM.