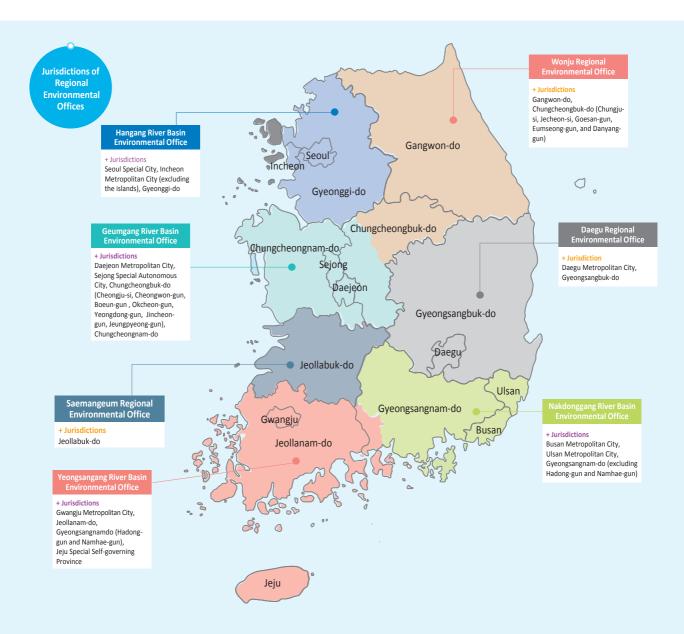
## Regional Environmental Offices

The Ministry of Environment has four River Basin Environmental Offices at Hangang, Nakdonggang, Geumgang, and Yeongsansang and three Regional Environmental Offices in Wonju, Daegu, and Saemangeum as specialized local administrative agencies to manage the watersheds of the four major rivers, and the Metropolitan Air Quality Management Office as an exclusive organization in charge of improving the metropolitan air quality.

Regional Environmental Offices handle such affairs as: (1) Formulation and implementation of environmental management plans in each area of influence; (2) Consultations on the Prior Environmental Review System (PERS) and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA); (3) Conservation of natural ecosystems and other natural environments; (4) Environmental pollution source investigations and environmental pollution measurements and analyses; (5) Nurturing of and support for environment-related businesses; (6) Management of businesses that discharge or handle specified wastes; and (7) Guidance and supervision regarding environmental infrastructure operation.



The four River Basin Environmental Offices are responsible for operating the watershed management committee, managing the watershed management fund, approval of local government water quality improvement projects, approval and evaluation of Total Water Pollutant Load Management System (TPLMS) implementation plans, imposing and collecting water use charges regarding dedicated water supply business operators, and other aspects of river basin management, in addition to duties prescribed under the special act on watersheds. The Metropolitan Air Quality Management Office, in accordance with the Special Act on the Improvement of Air Quality in Seoul Metropolitan Area, is in charge of preventive and wide-area metropolitan air quality management such as emission-cap management in business establishments, reduction of vehicle gas emissions, and assistance for air quality improvement in small and medium-sized establishments.

