



POST-WEBINAR REPORT

Webinar on CJK Smart Cities: *Synthesizing Smart City Initiatives*

August 5, 2020 | 14:00-16:00 (CST) | 15:00-17:00 (JST/KST) | Online

Summary

The Trilateral Cooperation Secretariat (TCS) and the World Smart Sustainable Cities Organization (WeGO) co-organized the Webinar on CJK Smart Cities for their respective members, partners, and stakeholders in China, Japan, and Korea, ahead of plans to jointly establish a smart city cooperation platform for launch at a subsequent “CJK Smart City Forum.”

This report presents facts and figures on the webinar, key takeaways from the discussions and responses to the survey, and the next steps to be taken over the coming months.

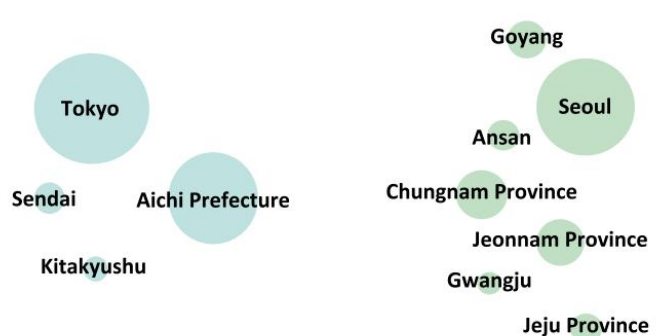
Facts & Figures



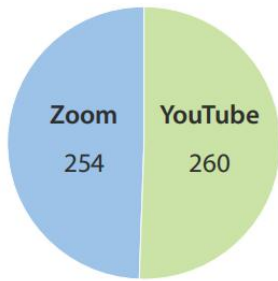
China | Japan | Korea
24% of the World's GDP

Beijing | Tokyo | Seoul
~USD **\$4 Trillion** by 2035

CJK Webinar at a Glance



*Local governments sized by population and scaled for domestic comparison only.



TOTAL **514**

Session 1

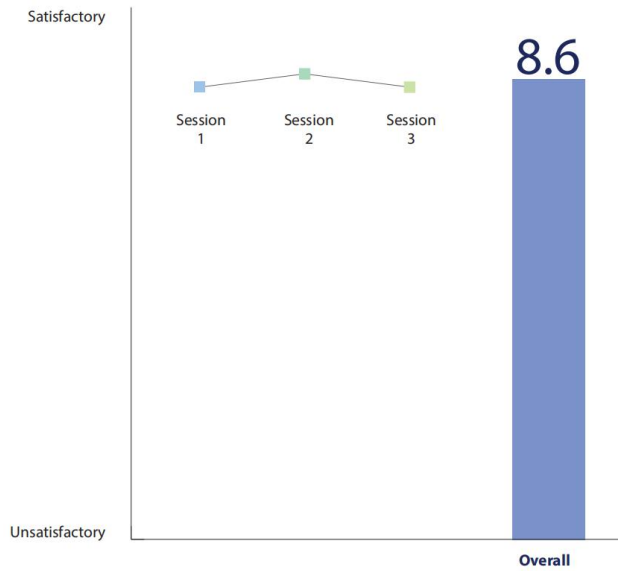
CJK Smart City Initiatives and Need for Cooperation

Session 2

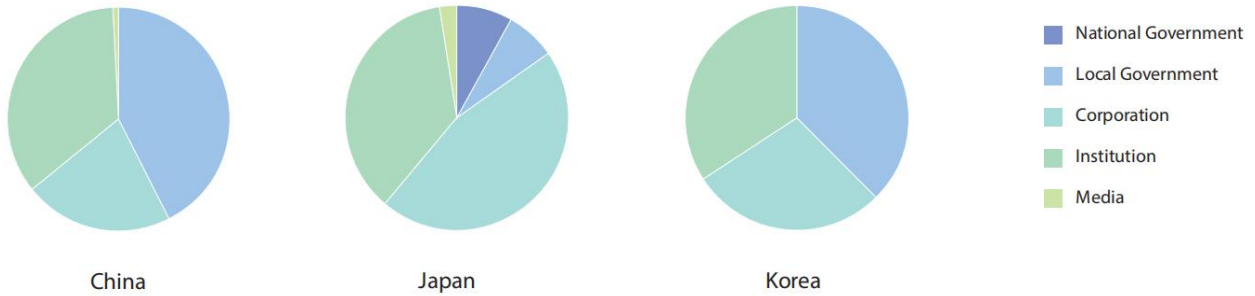
Local Government Initiatives in CJK

Session 3

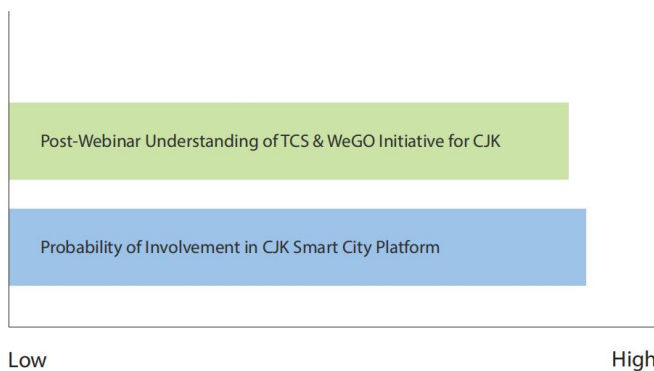
Synthesizing CJK Smart City Initiatives with the Private Sector



Based on responses to the post-webinar survey, the majority expressed a high degree of satisfaction with the content, with an average score of **8.6 out of 10**.



The webinar saw a balanced presence of international, regional, and national institutions, with a **high turnout of local governments from China and Korea and corporations from Japan.**



Survey respondents generally felt properly informed by the content of the webinar, and confidence in the involvement of their organizations in a smart city cooperation platform to come was even higher.



Key Takeaways

In terms of representation, **more local governments from Japan** coupled with **more corporations from China and Korea** in further webinars and other related events could achieve a more trilaterally balanced representation of the public and private sectors.

Comments from the survey revealed the below needs for consideration:

- ❖ **Broader description of smart city development in the context of each country.**
- ❖ **Deeper discussion on urban planning.**
- ❖ **Examples of smart city initiatives in more cities.**
- ❖ **Examples of trilateral joint projects to benchmark.**
- ❖ **Panel discussions that bring together cities and corporations.**
 - Aligning needs with solutions.
 - Narrowing the gap between cities' and corporations' financial priorities.

Next Steps

As TCS and WeGO further build on the momentum of this webinar, actions to be taken over the coming months will include the below:

- ❖ **Coordination with network partners** including the China Center for Urban Development (CCUD), Smart City Institute Japan (SCI-Japan), Smart City Association (SCA), and others newly identified.
- ❖ **Outreach to more local governments and corporations.**
- ❖ **Data collection on projects** for needs analysis of cities in the region.
- ❖ **Engagement with national and local media** for increased coverage.
- ❖ **Preparation for a “CJK Smart City Forum”** with governors and mayors, possibly in Japan with the support of SCI-Japan.



OUTLINE

Welcome Remarks

Kyong-yul Lee, Secretary General of the World Smart Sustainable Cities Organization (“WeGO”), welcomed presenters and observers to the first webinar on trilateral cooperation for smart cities across China, Japan, and Korea. He expressed his hopes to establish a regional network in which shared policy and institutions create a smart environment in partnership with the private sector and citizens. He explained that WeGO is ready to work with countries and cities to plan, implement, and deploy smart city projects by connecting them with strategic partners and developing “solution packages” for effective and efficient smart city development.

Hisashi Michigami, Secretary-General of the Trilateral Cooperation Secretariat (“TCS”), expressed his gratitude to WeGO for working together on this webinar and expressed his wish for the webinar to serve as an opportunity to learn more about collaboration in the area of smart cities. He mentioned that the role of smart cities has been emphasized due to COVID-19, and that TCS would be continuing its support for the development of smart cities to enhance prosperity across the region.

CJK Smart City Initiatives and Need for Cooperation

Eunbyul Cho, MC, invited the presenters from network organizations to share their strategies, visions, and expectations in the area of smart city cooperation across the region.

Mingmei Zheng, Director of Smart and Low-Carbon Development Division at the China Center for Urban Development (“CCUD”), introduced the status of urban development in China and mentioned that rapid development has led to various urban problems, such as traffic congestion and environmental degradation. To tackle these problems, Zheng mentioned that China is actively using its rapidly developing ICT infrastructure by developing “smart communities” in areas such as transportation and health. She also mentioned that China is also developing not only its large cities but also its smaller scale cities into smart cities by introducing an “evaluation index” for smart cities that looks into the level of public participation as well as the policies implemented in each city. For further smart city development, Zheng emphasized the importance of trilateral cooperation in the form of policy, industry, and human resource exchange. She finished her presentation by highlighting the immense market potential of smart cities.



Takehiko Nagumo, Executive Director of Smart City Institute Japan (“SCI-Japan”), mentioned that, in the case of Japan, a low birth rate alongside a rapidly aging population brings forth the need to better manage a limited set of resources, make local resources more accessible and actively used, and increase the productivity of limited human resources. On this note, he mentioned that Japan seeks to solve these problems through smart techn. Nagumo emphasized that Japan has already developed smart city models and is now in the process of promoting interoperability across cities to make Japan a “smart nation” by 2030. For this, he mentioned that Japan has already developed a “reference architecture” which would serve as a guidebook for cities to develop into smart cities and better manage their limited resources through smart technology. Nagumo finished his presentation by expressing his deep interest in sharing knowledge on how to promote smart cities that focus on the health and livelihoods of citizens.

Kayun Jin, Center Manager of Smart City Association (“SCA”), introduced her association and mentioned that it focuses on supporting R&D projects and policy, hosting exhibitions and tour programs to promote smart cities, cooperating with member companies, and working on smart city standardization. She suggested that trilateral cooperation focus on exchanging relevant information and developing joint projects across the region. In particular, Jin emphasized the need to develop an Asia-specific smart city standard since the current available standards have been developed by non-Asian agencies such as the IEC, ISO, and ITU.

Local Government Initiatives in CJK

Eunbyul Cho, MC, invited the presenters from cities to share their policies, visions, and expectations in the area of smart city cooperation across the region.

Niandong Gao, Deputy Mayor of Daxing District within the People’s Government of Beijing Municipality, mentioned that the three countries have been collaborating over the last twenty years. He emphasized that Beijing is considered as the standard model of smart city development in China, and that it is in the process of integrating available data sources while developing data management rules to make better use of public-private data. Gao mentioned that within Beijing, Daxing District is considered to be a prominent smart city that utilizes big data and IoT, makes most of its limited human resources, and has international policies that promote creative synergies.

Masafumi Yonazu, Senior Director of the Office for Strategic Policy and ICT Promotion at Tokyo Metropolitan Government, emphasized that Japan is focusing on creating smart cities that connect citizens with infrastructure. He introduced the “Tokyo Data Highway” initiative which focuses on creating specific output in the form of disaster prevention, energy efficiency, and enhanced well-being, among others. For this, he argued that a digital platform that enables data sharing for such output should be in place, and in this line, he mentioned that an “open government” is a must for smart city development. While Tokyo has already prepared a separate fund for such purpose, he emphasized that



the development of such a platform should be in collaboration with the private sector, sharing knowledge and opinions on how to best take advantage of the resources.

Jung-hoon Lee, Chairman of the Smart City Committee at Seoul Metropolitan Government, mentioned that through his ten years of experience in the field of smart city development he has realized that smart cities should not be considered in the lines of mere infrastructure development but as a platform for innovative growth. In this line, he mentioned that Seoul is preparing its five-year strategy for smart city development in the post-COVID-19 era. He introduced the “6S” smart city platform which emphasizes citizens’ role in developing smart cities. Lee gave the example of the night owl bus which uses the mobility data of citizens during particular hours to create and modify its routes, when necessary. He finished his presentation by emphasizing that Seoul focuses on further developing its smart city by promoting citizen participation and running test beds to ensure no one is left behind.

Panel Discussion on Synthesizing CJK Smart City Initiatives with the Private Sector

Anna Kwak, Moderator, introduced and invited the presenters to share their current smart city projects and openly brainstorm ways to collaborate across the three countries.

Jun Yang, Senior Expert of AliResearch at Alibaba, introduced the notion of a “city brain,” which is currently being implemented in Hangzhou and is considered as the next step in modernizing city governance. He described how the city brain focuses on consolidating all data to create customized services for citizens. Yang gave the example of traffic congestion and argued that the city brain would help to manage the flow of traffic by adjusting the traffic light cycle, among other ways. He said that such examples can be seen in at least 20 cities in China and is also being implemented in Macau and Kuala Lumpur.

Yasunori Mochizuki, Fellow at NEC, introduced three projects that NEC is implementing in the field of IoT and smart city development. He mentioned that many projects are focused on breaking data silos among domains, departments, and regions, and are oriented toward multi-stakeholder collaboration. Mochizuki mentioned that NEC’s projects focus on translating Japan’s “Society 5.0” vision of developing smart cities within the national reference architecture which promotes interoperability, data exchange, and scalability.

Sung Jin Park, Principal Consultant for the Strategic Business Development Group at Samsung SDS, mentioned that the role of the private sector is expanding in the area of smart city development. She argued that the digital transformation in cities is led by the explosion of Fourth Industrial Revolution technologies, including IoT, AI, blockchain, and cloud services.

Anna Kwak, Moderator, asked all presenters how the lives of citizens could be improved through trilateral cooperation.



Jun Yang, Senior Expert of AliResearch at Alibaba, opined that, for the lives of citizens to be improved, smart data should be promoted. He went on to mention that for data to be compiled into big data and used to provide customized policy recommendations and public services, data integration across silos is crucial. In order to reach this, he argued that more interest should be oriented toward data infrastructure development. Yang also commented that citizen feedback and iteration is crucial for such infrastructure and smart data systems to work and actually improve the lives of citizens.

Yasunori Mochizuki, Fellow at NEC, noted that Japan is undergoing severe population aging and, hence, digital technology is oriented toward producing inclusive, prosperous, and sustainable results using limited resources. In this sense, he argued that smart cities are not an “end” goal but rather a tool to solve urban problems. As such, Mochizuki argued for deep consideration on how to improve the management of smart cities in a way that actually improves the lives of citizens, rather than mere smart infrastructure development.

Sung Jin Park, Principal Consultant for the Strategic Business Development Group at Samsung SDS, reiterated that nowadays smart cities tend to be developed in conjunction with the private sector and citizen participation, and that small-scale projects are also frequently seen. She also emphasized that more focus has been set on data and smart city innovation. In this line, Park suggested that three institutional improvements could take place: (a) enhanced understanding of new technologies by the public sector; (b) increased capability of the public sector to perform better in small-scale projects; and (c) development of a trilateral common standardization system for smart city development to ensure the private sector is guaranteed a certain level of profit when pursuing projects through trilateral cooperation.

Q&A

Eunbyul Cho, MC, addressed a question from the audience to Takehiko Nagumo, Executive Director at SCI-Japan, about Japan’s plans to launch the first official meeting of this trilateral cooperation.

Takehiko Nagumo, Executive Director of Smart City Institute Japan (“SCI-Japan”), answered that while there are not any concrete plans as to when and how the first meeting is to be conducted, he suggested that this fall or next spring would be viable options worth exploring. He emphasized that before the actual meeting, brainstorming of the final goal of the trilateral cooperation should take place.

Eunbyul Cho, MC, asked each city representative about the key sectors their cities feel they have strength in and any where they may wish to benchmark from the best practice of others.

Niandong Gao, Deputy Mayor of Daxing District within the People’s Government of Beijing Municipality, mentioned that Beijing is interested in the areas of public service, city governance, and



environmental protection through data management. He welcomed all discussions and collaboration in these areas.

Masafumi Yonazu, Senior Director of the Office for Strategic Policy and ICT Promotion at Tokyo Metropolitan Government, noted that Tokyo has a large population as well as a large economy. In this sense, he mentioned that the city is simultaneously dealing with various urban problems and is in the process of adopting digital technologies to address the pending problems. He welcomed knowledge sharing in this regard.

Jung-hoon Lee, Chairman of the Smart City Committee at Seoul Metropolitan Government, mentioned that Seoul has extensive experience in the area of mobility and that it is willing to learn from the Japanese experience in the area of health and use of robotics. He added that Seoul would additionally welcome knowledge exchange in the area of innovation, more specifically, how to promote actionable smart city collaboration between corporations in innovation free-zones.

Closing Remarks

Do-ho Kang, Deputy Secretary-General of TCS, thanked WeGO and all presenters for the webinar and expressed his hopes for continuous collaboration across the three countries.