

WeGO

e-Newsletter

Q2 2022

Issue 30



SÃO PAULO

SÃO PAULO São Paulo is one of the largest megacities in the world, and the one with the largest agglomeration in Latin America, with a population of more than 12 million inhabitants. And it is from this large population that the city blooms in a beautiful color.

São Paulo is a blending of dozens of neighborhoods, each decorated with a diversity of traditions and customs. In one of the neighborhoods, Senegalese restaurants serve French breakfast, in another, dozens of markets with signs in Japanese open amid a fair of African fabrics. There are neighborhoods that preserve the essence of the culture and language of Italians, Jews, Bolivians, and many other nationalities. This multiculturalism is what makes São Paulo unique – and perhaps the city that embraces more cultures in the world.

São Paulo is also considered the most influential metropolis in Latin America in relation not only to its racial diversity but also to its air connectivity, service production, technology, media and economic power. The city is still in constant development in all these aspects.

This distinctive and thriving city is one of the founding members of WeGO since the organization was established in 2010, and has been active ever since. Below is a timeline of its activities with WeGO and a special interview.

02 RECENT EVENTS



WeGO Smart City Champions

May - June

The very first edition of WeGO Smart City Champions finished with great success in June 2022. This 15-week program was planned and organized by WeGO, with lectures and team activities aiming to empower young leaders around the world and build their capacity in thinking and developing ideas for smart sustainable cities.

The winners were 3 teams of students from different universities around the world: Aced Millennials, S:MILE, and MECA. In addition, a Special Recognition Award was given to the Citipedia team, for its good performance over the course of the program. These 4 teams were selected out of more than 500 participants from 100 universities in 20 countries grouped together in teams of 5 people.

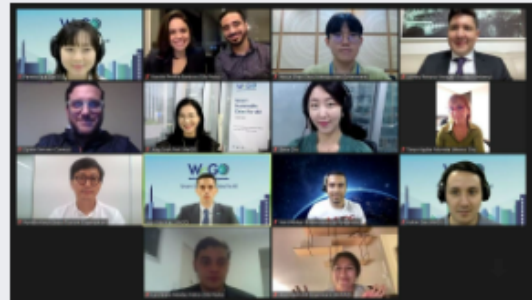
The winners received prize money and the WeGO President Award signed by the Mayor of Seoul. Also, the winners will showcase their projects to international audiences during the Seoul Leaders Forum organized by the Seoul Metropolitan Government in partnership with WeGO in September. WeGO will work with the winning teams to further incubate and develop their innovative ideas into practice.

[Read more.](#)

Latin America Smart Cities Network (LASCN) Webinar

June

The Latin America Smart Cities Network (LASCN) webinar took place in June 2022, under the theme of digital tourism, with the title "Reactivating Tourism in Latin America in the Post-COVID Era".



The webinar aimed to present solutions based on smart technologies for Latin American cities with real needs to overcome challenges in the post-COVID-19 tourism industry and with development plans. The main participants were representatives of the tourism area in Buenos Aires de Punta Arena, Cuenca, and São Paulo, as well as experts in smart tourism and metaverse from public entities in Seoul and a private company based in Denmark.

[Read more.](#)

03 WeGO Secretariat Activities



Every month, embassies from different States meet WeGO to understand how their representation can make a difference in the sustainable development of their countries. During this quarter, WeGO met representatives from five embassies: Peru, Colombia, Azerbaijan, Ecuador, and Belarus. WeGO took part in the dinner reception in honor of Dr. Jorge Muñoz Wells, mayor of the City of Lima (April 19), the gathering on behalf of the International Civil Aviation Organization in honor of its Secretary-General Mr. Juan Carlos Salazar Gómez from Colombia (April 27), the commemoration of the 30th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Azerbaijan and the Republic of Korea (May 24), the Gala dinner on the occasion of the 200 years of Ecuadorian Independence (June 28), and the celebration of the National Day of the Republic of Belarus (June 29).

The second quarter of the year was full of external events. WeGO Secretary-General Jung Sook Park was invited as a speaker for a session at the World Bank's Virtual Knowledge Exchange Event on "Smart Cities for Global Frontier Infrastructure". She shared her remarks at the High-level Mayor's Dialogue on "Smart Cities, Drivers of Innovative Sustainable Development" of the World Summit on the Information Society Forum 2022, organized by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) and Geneva Cities Hub, and the 23rd International Conference on Electronic Commerce (ICEC 2022) in Daegu, where WeGO was invited by the Korea Intelligent Information System Society (KIIS).

WeGO also participated as a commentator for the UN Committee of Experts on Public Administration (UN CEPA) session that took part in the Korean Association for Public Administration International Conference (KAPA 2022).

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On June 22, WeGO was invited to the 23rd International Conference on Electronic Commerce (ICEC 2022) in Daegu by the Korea Intelligent Information System Society (KIISS). WeGO Secretary-General Jungsook Park delivered a congratulatory remark during a special session with attendees from institutions under different affiliations (Daegu Technopark, DGIST, Kyungbuk Small and Medium Business Export Club, Yeungjin University), IT and software related private companies (easyMSoft, JFIX, SmartOp) and companies in the automotive industry (Sambo Motors, Youngshin Components). WeGO took the time to talk about its story and vision along with everyone present on the day. The session was soon led in an interactive way, involving conversations such as the need to give importance to public-private partnership initiatives.

04 UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

01 World Cities Summit 2022

July 31 – August 3 / Singapore, Singapore

This year, the World Cities Summit aims to deepen the discussion on how a city can remain effervescent and deal with the remnants of the biggest problems encountered today, such as the pandemic and climate problem. The summit aims to create a productive interaction where diverse actors from almost 500 cities around the world, including mayors of cities, private business leaders, and subject matter experts can share their points of view and align ideas on the topic "Liveable and Sustainable Cities". This event comprises the main conference and a series of highlights in between, including the Lee Kuan World Price Lecture, Award Ceremony and Banquet, WCS Mayors Forum, and WCS Young Leaders Symposium.

WeGO will be participating in the summit, with the presence of the Secretary General Jung Sook Park. Members will have the chance to hold conjoint and bilateral meetings in person. Current WeGO members, Seberang Perai, Dhaka South and Rotterdam, have already confirmed their presence in this event. You can see who's coming [here](#). Register in the [website](#) and participate.

If you are interested in attending the event, please reach out to WeGO Secretariat and get a special discount.

02 WeGO-NIA Joint Workshop 2022

September / Online

WeGO and the National Information Society Agency (NIA) are once again co-organizing a joint workshop, especially focusing on the innovation of digital platform on smart city and digital government. This workshop will be opened to all WeGO members and non-members interested in better understanding policies and services in smart cities and improving digital capabilities to address urban challenges and social crises. A certificate of graduation will be issued to all participants who have completed the online training course fulfilling the program requirements. WeGO encourages its members to participate in this workshop.

More information will be soon announced through our channels, please reach out to WeGO Secretariat if you are interested in taking part in the program.

03 Seoul Leaders Forum

September 27 - 29 / Hybrid

Seoul Leaders Forum organized by the Seoul Metropolitan Government in partnership with WeGO, invites WeGO members to share smart city trends and worldviews, and enrich the smart city cooperation around the world. The theme of the conference will be focused on "Metaverse" and how it can be connected to citizens everyday live. Celebrating the successful story of WeGO Smart City Champions 2022, the winners will present their innovative projects and how it can contribute to making smart sustainable cities.

More information will be soon announced through our channels, please reach out to WeGO Secretariat if you are interested in taking part in the program.

04 Solutions Meet Cities

September / Hybrid

Solution Meet Cities is WeGO's flagship program which gives a space for WeGO member cities to share their current challenges and obstacles in urban development, and identify strategic partners who can design solutions that meet the city's context and its resources. Through this matchmaking program, WeGO will support cities in question to successfully plan, finance, and deploy their projects.

More information will be soon announced through our channels, please reach out to WeGO Secretariat if you are interested in taking part in the program.

05 Jeju Peace Forum 2022

September 14 - 16 / Jeju, South Korea

The Jeju Peace Forum 2022 will be conducted under the theme of peace and prosperity, and entitled "Beyond conflict, towards peace: Coexistence and cooperation". The topics to be discussed during the forum are several, including "sustainable peace, including prosperity" and "reinventing multilateral cooperation: pandemic and human security". This year, WeGO will host a smart city focused session during the forum where a dynamic discussion on how smart city cooperation can contribute to peace and prosperity in the post-pandemic era.

More information will be soon announced through our channels, please reach out to WeGO Secretariat if you are interested in taking part in the program.

Read more about Jeju Peace Forum 2022, [here](#).

06 Smart City EXPO LATAM Congress

November 15 - 17 / Barcelona, Argentina & Online

Smart City Expo opens the door to a record-breaking edition for everyone within the smart city ecosystem. The biggest brands around the world, and more than 1000+ corporations and cities, in addition to guest speakers and visiting stakeholders, are already on the list of participants. WeGO members are invited to express your interest in participating in the event as a partner, exhibitor, speaker, or visitor to the event. Special discount is available to WeGO members upon prior coordination.

More information will be soon announced through our channels, please reach out to WeGO Secretariat if you are interested in taking part in the program.

[Register here.](#)

07 WeGO Regional Office Bidding

August 15 / Online

WeGO Regional Office represents WeGO and supports its members in the respective region in order to enhance the smart city development with region focused aspects and strengthen the collaboration between members and partners in the region. Marking the 5th year of the operation led by Mexico City and Beyoglu, Istanbul, WeGO Latin America Regional Office and WeGO Mediterranean Regional Office are open to find a new host city for the term of 2022 to 2027. Members interested in hosting the WeGO Regional Office in the aforesaid regions are invited to submit the Bidding Package to the WeGO Secretariat before August 15, 2022.

Please refer to the [Guidelines for WeGO Regional Office Bidding Package](#) which can be found on the website.

New members

CUENCA / Ecuador



Cuenca is a place where you can walk down the cobblestone streets listening to the sounds of nature. This city is the largest town of the Azuay Province of Ecuador, with population of over 400,000 living in the urban area.

Cuenca joined as a WeGO member in June, 2022, demonstrating its great interest in exploring new and good practices of WeGO's member-cities and partners regarding smart cities and local sustainable development.

The city recognizes the importance of digital urbanization and improvement of service provision to increase the quality of its citizens' lives. Currently, the city government is incorporating a series of digital services to enhance digital connection.

WeGO is delighted to have Cuenca as one of our members. We hope the city connects to other member cities and builds a constructive and beneficial relationship.

NINGBO / China

Ningbo is one of China's urban municipalities that tries to balance the green of nature amidst the concrete. The municipality is governed by 6 districts, 2 counties and 2 county-level cities, with population of over 5.43 million.

Ningbo was present at WeGO's Inaugural General Assembly in 2010, which made it one of the founding members. However, Ningbo was absent from WeGO's programs until the new leadership officially expressed its interest to reengage in June, in order to stay in alignment with trends in the field of smart cities, in addition to share initiatives and experiences with the wider network of entities provided by WeGO.

Ningbo has been expanding applied technology within its municipality by building stringent broadband access channels and improving wireless network signals in urban and rural areas. WeGO hopes to support Ningbo to find the best sustainable solutions in the midst of its rapid development. We are enchanted to have them as one of our members.



Smart City Trends



Citizen smart city platform expands to support local tourism

The privately funded South African platform has added an In the City function that aims to encourage citizens to better connect with and explore local attractions and places of interest.

[Read more.](#)



Which cities are top for urban resilience?

The Savills 2022 Impacts program examined 500 cities using metrics around economic strength, knowledge economy and technology, environmental and social governance, and real estate investment.

[Read more.](#)



Smart city partnership reduces energy usage by two-thirds

RealTerm Energy and Ubicquia claim that by converting to LED lights and adding lighting controls, US and Canadian cities reduced energy consumption by 3,721,673 kWh annually.

[Read more.](#)