



SMART SUSTAINABLE CITIES FOR ALL

2026 CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES



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Overview of 2026 Activities

WEGO ACTIVITIES KICK-OFF EVENT 2026

WeGO Activities Kick-off event 2026
WeGO-Advisory Board

Mar | Seoul
Year-round

SEOUL SMART CITY PRIZE

Seoul Smart City Prize Ceremony

Oct | Seoul

GOVERNANCE ACTIVITIES

7th WeGO General Assembly

Nov | São Paulo

FEASIBILITY STUDY & PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

Seoul Smart City International Cooperation Program
Matchmaking Session: Solutions Meet Cities

Year-round
Year-round | Online

CAPACITY-BUILDING

WeGO Sustainable Smart City Champions
WeGO MENA Regional Office AI & Smart Cities Training Program
2026 Training Program for Seoul Smart City Prize Winner

Apr-Nov | Hybrid
Year-round | Online
Jun-Oct | Hybrid

RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT

WeGO Smart Sustainable Cities Index

Year-round

NETWORKING & KNOWLEDGE-SHARING

Conferences, Expos, & Webinars

Year-round | Online & Offline

REGIONAL ACTIVITIES

Africa Smart Cities Network (AFSCN)
ASEAN Smart Cities Network (ASCN)
Latin America Smart Cities Network (LASCN)

Year-round | Africa
Year-round | Asia
Year-round | Latin America

ABOUT WEGO

The World Smart Sustainable Cities Organization (WeGO), is a membership-based international association of local governments, smart tech solution providers, and institutions committed to the transformation of cities into smart sustainable cities through facilitating public-private partnerships (PPP).

WeGO was founded by 50 member cities in 2010 as the World e-Governments Organization, hence the acronym. In response to the evolving concept of smart cities, WeGO expanded its vision and mandate at the 4th WeGO General Assembly (2017) and its name to the World Smart Sustainable Cities Organization.

WeGO's Secretariat is based in Seoul, Korea, and has regional offices in East Asia (Chengdu, China), Middle East & North Africa (Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates), Latin America (Cuenca, Ecuador), and Central Asia (Almaty, Kazakhstan).

As the leading platform on smart city development, WeGO's mission is to share knowledge and good practices in e-Governance; strengthen administrative efficiency and transparency; advance digital capacity; facilitate civic involvement; bridge the digital divide and inequality; and promote cooperation solidarity among cities and local governments around the world.

WeGO serves for its members as their international platform to improve the quality of life, innovate in the delivery of public services, and strengthen regional competitiveness.

WEGO ACTIVITIES KICK-OFF EVENT 2026

“ This year, WeGO is advancing an expanded range of initiatives to promote human-centered smart cities, further strengthening our commitment to green and sustainable urban development, while encouraging greater collaboration and knowledge exchange among member cities and partners. ”

As part of its annual engagement efforts, WeGO hosted the 2026 Activities Kick-off in March to introduce its key priorities and programs to ambassadors and members of the diplomatic corps, WeGO Advisory Board members, Seoul Smart City Prize Committee members, and domestic WeGO members.

The event showcased WeGO's core initiatives for 2026, with an emphasis on green and sustainable smart city development, particularly the Seoul Smart City Prize and the 7th WeGO General Assembly. It also encouraged active participation from members and fostered cooperation with embassies to enhance international engagement. The event provided a platform for corporations, local governments, diplomatic missions, academia, and experts to exchange ideas and explore potential areas for collaboration. The event contributed to aligning stakeholders with WeGO's strategic direction, strengthening partnerships, and mobilizing broader support for its major initiatives throughout 2026.



WeGO Advisory Board

YEAR-ROUND

WeGO Advisory Board is meant to enhance WeGO's promotion of smart cities through Public Private People Partnerships (PPPP) and elevate the organization's profile via connections and consultancies. In alignment with the WeGO 2030 Master Plan, the distinguished group of advisory board members will continue offering insights and guidance, ensuring WeGO's missions and activities align coherently. Each advisory member will serve as an ambassador, promoting WeGO within their respective networks.

Throughout the year, the Secretariat will coordinate meetings, whether individual or group, to facilitate information exchange and updates.

See the full list of WeGO Advisory Board members on the [official webpage](#).





4TH SEOUL SMART CITY PRIZE

The Seoul Smart City Prize, organized in partnership with Seoul Metropolitan Government, aims to promote an inclusive smart city model addressing underprivileged groups in the Fourth Industrial Revolution. It consists of Tech-InnovaCity, Human-CentriCity, and Leadership categories, emphasizing a balance between human-centric and technology-centric approaches. The prize, in its fourth edition this year, aims to recognize efforts in people-centered digital transformation, encourage inclusive development in public service digitalization, facilitate global discussions on digitalization's future, and foster networking among smart city stakeholders. Prize winners will receive benefits such as:

- Awarded at the Seoul Smart City Prize Ceremony 2026
- Appointed winners will be invited to Seoul Smart City Prize Ceremony 2027 as one of the prize presenters
- Appointed winners will be given an opportunity to share and promote the winning project in various global stages including a tailored capacity-building training program, a dedicated exhibition booth and speakerships at international events
- Among the winners, selected projects will be given an opportunity to collaborate on a smart city project implementation on various models such as feasibility study*
- Gain global publicity via official website, publication, press releases, and media channels

*Award benefits may be adjusted depending on budget availability and operational conditions.

Theme: *Fostering digital transformation through innovative and inclusive approaches for sustainable smart cities*

Category: Tech-InnovaCity, Human-CentriCity, Leadership

Eligible Applicants: Cities, Companies, Institutions, Individuals

Application Period: February 13 - May 29, 2026

Ceremony: October 06

To know more about the program and apply, visit our official website www.seoulsmartcityprize.com or contact info@seoulsmartcityprize.com.



HIGHLIGHT

Seoul Smart City Prize Ceremony

The 4th Seoul Smart City Prize ceremony will be held in Seoul on October 6th, 2026 during the Seoul Smart Life Week, and it will bring together the distinguished recipients of the prize, encompassing WeGO members and partners such as corporate members, local governments, diplomatic missions, academia, institutions, and experts in smart city development. This event will culminate in the official Prize Ceremony for the finalists, where the winners will be honored for their outstanding contributions to the advancement of smart cities.

7TH WEGO GENERAL ASSEMBLY



The 7th WeGO General Assembly (GA), to be held in November 2026 in São Paulo, Brazil, is WeGO's triennial flagship event, convening members and partners from around the world to shape the organization's agenda and direction for the next three years.

Held under the theme "Smart Cities for People: Building Peaceful and Inclusive Urban Futures," the Assembly will explore the role of smart technologies in advancing sustainable, human-centric urban development. The three-day program will feature the General Assembly session, the Executive Committee (EXCOM) Meeting, a Mayors' Meeting, Smart City Index sessions, thematic panels on urban innovation, safety, digital inclusion, and advanced technologies, as well as technical and cultural visits.

As host city, São Paulo—a founding member and current Vice President City of WeGO—offers a dynamic setting as one of the world's largest and most diverse urban centers. The city has demonstrated strong leadership in smart city development, notably through its **Accessible Services Network Map (ASNM)**, which received the Seoul Smart City Prize in 2023 for advancing digital inclusion and accessibility. Building on this achievement, São Paulo was selected as the first beneficiary of the 2024 Seoul Smart City Prize International Cooperation Program, further enhancing the initiative through data-driven approaches and scalable, human-centric public service solutions.

By hosting the 7th WeGO General Assembly, São Paulo reinforces its role as a global hub for sharing best practices, fostering international collaboration, and advancing inclusive, sustainable urban innovation, particularly within the Latin American context.

In line with the GA cycle, the WeGO Secretariat is pleased to announce a Call for Bids for the following:

EXCOM
Meeting 2027

EXCOM
MEMBERS
2026-2029

8th WeGO
GENERAL
ASSEMBLY

REGIONAL
OFFICES
(Europe, Africa)

SEOUL SMART CITY INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION PROGRAM - FEASIBILITY STUDY & PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

The Seoul Smart City International Cooperation Program is an initiative jointly launched and facilitated by the Seoul Metropolitan Government, the World Smart Sustainable Cities Organization (WeGO), and the Seoul Urban Solutions Agency (SUSA) as a follow-up mechanism to the Seoul Smart City Prize. As part of the benefits granted to selected prize winners, the program enables cities to undertake a pre-feasibility study to further develop their award-winning projects through in-depth technical analyses, pilot system development, and the design of long-term sustainability strategies.

In 2024, the program supported São Paulo in upgrading its Accessible Service Network Map (ASNM), enhancing accessibility for persons with disabilities through comprehensive analysis, database development, and strategic planning. In 2025, Addis Ababa—one of the 2024 Prize winners—was selected to receive support for the project “Operational Study and Implementation Support for the City Action Lab (CAL-Addis): Establishing a Fully Functional, Data-Driven Decision-Making Hub.” This initiative focuses on developing a prototype Mayor’s Dashboard, benchmarking the “Smart Seoul View” platform, analyzing existing systems, and establishing institutional frameworks and a long-term roadmap for integrated data governance.

The program, accessible to Seoul Smart City Prize finalists, provides feasibility study opportunities to assess technical viability and investment adequacy, or offers consulting services to further strengthen awarded projects. In 2026, a new project from among the 2025 prize winners will be selected to continue this cycle of international cooperation and smart city advancement.



[Read More](#)

YEAR-ROUND | ONLINE

MATCHMAKING SESSION: SOLUTIONS MEET CITIES

The Solutions Meet Cities matchmaking session serves as a platform for knowledge sharing, collaboration, and partnership building across the WeGO network, connecting cities with peer cities and corporate partners to address urban challenges through practical smart city solutions.

The program is structured around two core tracks. The City-to-City component enables cities to share their ongoing projects and challenges, engage in direct exchanges with peer cities, and learn from real-world implementations and best practices. The City-to-Corporate component facilitates targeted matchmaking between cities and technology providers, helping cities identify suitable solutions through curated meetings and on-demand engagement with corporate partners.

Through regular exchanges and follow-up actions, the program supports the development of concrete partnership outcomes, including joint project proposals, MOUs, and collaborative funding applications. By turning dialogue into action, Solutions Meet Cities aims to foster meaningful cooperation and deliver practical impact for sustainable urban development.

CAPACITY-BUILDING

WeGO Sustainable Smart City Champions

YEAR-ROUND | HYBRID



Initiated in 2022, the WeGO Sustainable Smart City Champions (or 'WeGO Champions') is an initiative open to students and young leaders worldwide, aimed at enhancing their skills in the field of smart city development. An online course with nineteen (19) lectures is available for free for all students interested via www.cityresiliencetraining.com, with more lectures coming in 2026 on the topic of housing governance. The WeGO Champions program will also continue with in-person workshops in global cities such as Athens, Baku, Brescia, Cairo, Geneva, New York, and Seoul.

Additionally, in 2025, WeGO launched the Global Youth Award which is renewed for its second edition in 2026. The initiative aims to recognize exceptional global youth leaders excelling in areas such as smart cities, advanced technologies, net-zero, youth entrepreneurship, culture, leadership and SDGs.



Online Lecture



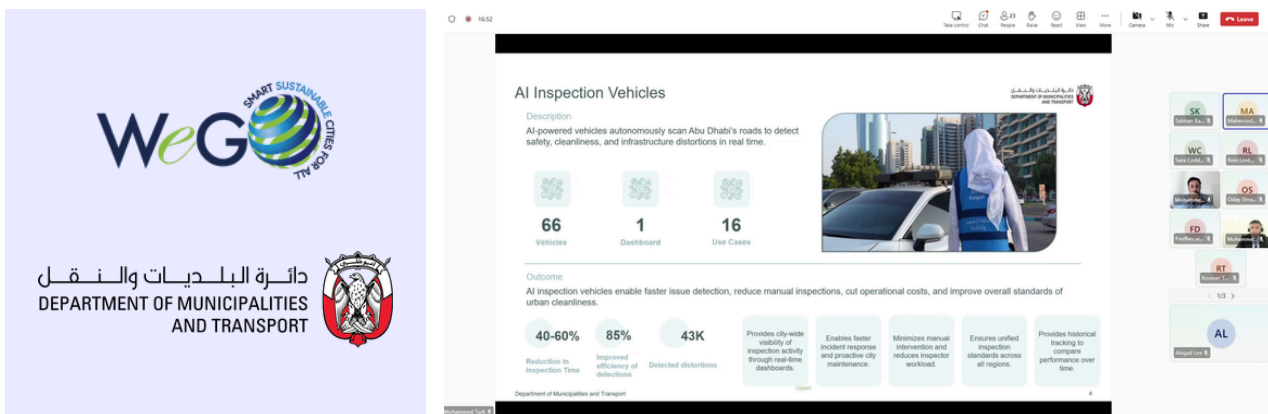
- PART 1** Accelerating, Benchmarking, and Communicating Smart and Sustainable Cities' Transitions
- PART 2** Frameworks, Technologies, and Solutions for Urban Sustainable Infrastructures
- PART 3** AI for Smart and Sustainable Cities
- PART 4** Driving the Change in Housing (*Launching in 2026*)

WeGO MENA Regional Office AI & Smart Cities Training Program

YEAR-ROUND | ONLINE

The WeGO MENA Regional Office organizes the “AI & Smart Cities Training Program”. The virtual session showcases Abu Dhabi’s leading AI and smart city initiatives, providing practical insights and best practices for cities seeking to adopt AI-driven urban solutions.

The program brings together city leaders, professionals, and students to explore emerging technologies shaping smart urban development and digital transformation. One on One Sessions are also welcomed.



2026 Training Program for Seoul Smart City Prize Winners

JUNE-OCTOBER | HYBRID

The 2026 Training Program for Seoul Smart City Prize Winners offers finalists a unique opportunity to experience Seoul’s leading smart city innovations firsthand. Held in conjunction with Smart Life Week 2026, the program brings together global experts and participants for knowledge exchange, collaboration, and the exploration of practical solutions for sustainable urban development.

City finalists will take part in a program delivered by the Seoul Human Resource Development Center (SHRDC), featuring virtual lectures and curated city tours designed to provide practical insights and immersive learning experiences. Through this program, participants are expected to enhance their understanding of smart city strategies, strengthen their capacity to implement innovative solutions, and build meaningful networks for future collaboration.



RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT

WeGO Smart Sustainable Cities Index



WeGO has officially launched the Cities Future Readiness Index (CFRI), a comprehensive global benchmark analyzing 102 cities. The 2025 edition of the index was developed in partnership with the Descartes Institute and United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)-University of Geneva (UNIGE) Center of Excellence for Smart Sustainable Cities. London has been named the world’s most future-ready city in 2025, followed by San Francisco, Boston, Paris, and New York.

As a leading international organization of city governments and partners facilitating global public-private partnerships (PPPs) to build smart and sustainable cities, WeGO has been actively involved in smart city index development through institutional partnerships. As cities confront unprecedented challenges, this experience highlighted the need for a more accurate and future-focused assessment of a city’s current state to chart its future course. To guide this urban digital transformation with human-centric innovation, the new CFRI was created in line with WeGO’s core mission, designed specifically to prioritize human-centric innovation.

The CFRI distinguishes itself from other city assessment indices through its innovative, dual-structure approach. Developed by a globally recognized team, it overcomes the limitations of opinion-survey-based indices by utilizing readily available, hard city-level data. This method ensures independence, rigor, and adaptability as data quality and coverage evolve. The index aims to represent a diverse range of global cities, with a limit of approximately 100 cities to maintain credibility. Furthermore, it is designed as an actionable tool to better inform stakeholder decisions. At the core of the CFRI is the "POSITIVE" model, a comprehensive evaluation framework designed to provide a transparent, dual-perspective look at a city’s smart and sustainable development, organized into eight pillars and two dimensions.

In 2026, WeGO will continue its partnership and launch a second edition of WeGO Smart Sustainable Cities Index, empowering cities to accelerate their digital transformation, fostering a global dialogue on best practices and ensuring they evolve into more human-centric, resilient, and inclusive environments for all citizens.

NETWORKING & KNOWLEDGE SHARING

Conferences, Expos & Webinars

WeGO, together with its members, will seek to actively participate in significant smart city conferences, seminars, and workshops, aiming to network, create opportunities for new collaborations, and broaden WeGO's network. The organization will identify and share occasions where members and partners can explore both online and offline participation, ensuring their continued involvement in global smart city discussions. Members keen on taking part in any of the mentioned conferences are encouraged to inform the Secretariat in advance, allowing us to offer tailored assistance for their participation.

Possible conferences include:

Jan 22-31 Washington, DC	The United States Conference of Mayors 94th Winter Meeting
Feb 22-Mar 08 Spain	Expansion of Partnerships in Spain: Madrid, Zaragoza, Barcelona, Córdoba, Seville, and Las Rozas de Madrid
Mar 14-20 China	Expansion of Partnerships in China: Chaoyang District and Guangzhou
Mar 17-21 Taipei & Kaohsiung	Smart City Summit & Expo 2026
Apr 20-24 Singapore	ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 42 Artificial Intelligence Plenary Meeting
May 13-16 Chengdu	2026 Chengdu International Friendship Cities Cooperation and Development Conference (by invitation only)
May 17-22 Baku	World Urban Forum 13
Jun 14-16 Singapore	World Cities Summit (WCS) 2026
July 06-10 Geneva	WSIS: World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) Forum
Sep 07-09 Dubai	AIM Congress
Sep 09-11 Busan	World Smart City Expo 2026
Oct 06-08 Seoul	Seoul Smart Life Week & Seoul Smart City Prize Ceremony
Nov 03-05 Barcelona	Smart City Expo World Congress
Nov São Paulo	WeGO EXCOM Meeting & 7th WeGO General Assembly

REGIONAL ACTIVITIES

AFRICA SMART CITIES NETWORK (AFSCN)

In line with the initiation of the Africa Smart Cities Network (AFSCN), WeGO aims to broaden its influence in the region by proactively reaching out to potential members. The focus will be on actively participating in regional dialogues related to smart city development to further promote the organization's initiatives.

ASEAN SMART CITIES NETWORK (ASCN)

Continuing the efforts initiated in 2019, WeGO has been actively supporting ASCN cities through activities like matchmaking, knowledge-sharing workshops and mayoral roundtables. Looking ahead to 2026, WeGO is poised to actively participate in numerous conferences and forums involving cities, businesses, and experts at the highest levels, fostering discussions on strategies to promote the development of smart cities.

LATIN AMERICA SMART CITIES NETWORK (LASCN)

Following the successful launch of the LASCN and acknowledging the importance of continuous involvement, WeGO is determined to identify pertinent smart city-related events and meeting opportunities in Latin America. This effort aims to effectively engage with stakeholders and promote WeGO's work, including the esteemed Seoul Smart City Prize. WeGO remains steadfast in its commitment to identifying opportunities for strengthened cooperation and expanded presence within the region.

For those interested in participating in any of the WeGO's programs for 2026 please fill in the [Expression of Interest Form](#) or reach us directly at secretariat@we-gov.org.



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