

Season's greetings from the Seoul Metropolitan Government and the World Smart Cities Organization (WeGO).

It is my great pleasure to inform you that WeGO, under the leadership of its President City Seoul, will be launching the **Seoul Smart City Prize**. This prize will be committed to promoting the vision and value of a "people-centered smart city". It will acknowledge model cases of smart cities – policies and technologies – and share these exemplary cases around the world. It will also recognize individual, corporate, and institutional efforts as well.

The COVID-19 pandemic has only accelerated the digital transformation in our societies. On the one hand, this has brought about tremendous growth and innovation across our industries, transcending time and space. But on the other hand, it has caused numerous people, especially vulnerable groups, to be excluded from the benefits of a digital society and has widened the digital divide even further. Seoul and WeGO are cognizant of the importance of an innovative yet inclusive smart city model that looks after underprivileged groups, and will pursue close cooperation with fellow cities, companies, and organizations around the world to find exemplary cases and commend them through the Seoul Smart City Prize.

Starting from March 2023, the Seoul Smart City Prize will receive applications until May 31st, 2023. Cities, companies, organizations, and individuals that have developed or contributed to innovative and people-centered smart cities – in fields such as transportation, safety, environment, welfare, culture, and governance – are encouraged to apply. Winners of the Prize will be invited to the Prize Ceremony set to be held during mid-September this year at the World Cities Summit Mayors Forum which will also be held in Seoul. Winners will also be able to participate in a capacity building training program the following year which will facilitate peer-to-peer learning among leading cities and organizations.

WeGO, together with Seoul, would like to extend an invitation to you to take part in the Seoul Smart City Prize. We believe that your engagement in this Prize will shed light on the significance of innovative and inclusive smart cities. We would also appreciate it if you could share this invitation with city governments, companies, organizations, and individuals who may be eligible to apply. Kindly visit the official website of the Prize (<https://seoulsmartcityprize.com/>) where you can find more details, including the application form. We look forward to receiving your applications. Please contact us if you have any questions (info@seoulsmartcityprize.com). Thank you.

Best regards,



Se-hoon Oh
Mayor of Seoul; President of WeGO



Jung Sook Park
Secretary-General of WeGO