

[Meaningful Meeting with a Korean Local Government] is a special corner to introduce local governments in Korea that wish to explore or expand relations with foreign local governments. If you have any additional questions, please contact Stella Jeon of the Governors Association of Korea at mandookong1@gmail.com.

Meaningful Meeting with a Korean Local Government

Sejong Special Self-Governing City gives happiness to all

In July 2012, Sejong Special Self-Governing City became one of the 17 metropolitan cities and provinces in the Republic of Korea, with the aim of addressing the problems associated with overpopulation in the Seoul Capital Area and of pursuing balanced national development. Over the past eight years, more than 60% of the government ministries have moved here: 43 central administrative organizations and 19 public institutions. We took the lead in launching the World Administrative Cities Association (WACA) and actively seek out collaboration opportunities to rise beyond the center of the world.

Written by Sejong Special Self-Governing City



01 Smart city leader, Sejong Special Self-Governing City

Sejong Special Self-Governing City, an administrative capital of the Republic of Korea, is establishing a high-tech smart industrial complex, which is expected to enhance urban sustainability. In 2018, Sejong was selected by the British Standards Institution (BSI) as one of the top five smart city pilots in the world for the construction, promotion, and certification of smart cities. With a KRW 155.8 billion investment, we will realize a smart city capable of executing multiple functions in the industry, housing, administration, and research by 2030.

02 Support for healthy eating through smart farming and local produce

We developed Sejong Creative Village, a rural innovation model that combines the existing agrotechnologies with information and communications technology (ICT)—which is touted as a step forward into the creative growth of agriculture and rural communities. The Sejong Local Food Campaign is also conducted in order to encourage local food consumption and to improve competitiveness. ‘Fresh Marketplace’ carries healthy and quality food—150 types of agricultural, livestock, and processed products—and observes the three principles of ‘freshness,’ ‘safety,’ and ‘reliability.’

03 City where women and children live happily

In Sejong Special Self-Governing City, as of May 2020, there are 81,436 children under the age of 18, accounting for 23.6% of the total population. With a view to alleviating the burden of child-rearing, we endeavor to offer a one-stop service that encompasses pregnancy, delivery, and care. In recognition of our multifaceted efforts towards making women and children happy, Sejong was awarded a women-friendly city by the Ministry of Gender Equality & Family in 2016 and a UNICEF child-friendly city in 2017. Moreover, together with our citizens, we are devoted to maintaining a clean and beautiful environment and to designing a safer city for all.

04 Alliance with administrative capitals and smart cities throughout the world

To raise to a higher position, we forge a friendship with administrative capitals across the globe. As a key member of the World Administrative Cities Association (WACA), we foster prosperity and cooperation with five global administrative cities.

We consolidate relationships with Shanxi and Guizhou, China and Ankara, Turkey in such fields as administration, culture, and sports. Based on our unique strengths, we will build the most advanced smart city and nurture global partnerships with smart cities in Japan and many other cities.