

Session Outcome Document

CitiVerse: Envisioning Inclusive, Sustainable, and People-Centered Cities

ITU and WeGO

May 28th 14:30

<https://www.itu.int/net4/wsis/forum/2024/Agenda/Session/167>

Key Issues discussed (5- 8 bullet points)

The WSIS session on “CitiVerse: Envisioning Inclusive, Sustainable, and People-Centered Cities” covered various key topics and initiatives, including:

- The role of the World Smart Sustainable Cities Organization (WeGO) in promoting smart technologies and sustainable practices within the CitiVerse initiative, showcasing Dhaka's exemplary use of digital tools and sustainable solutions to enhance livability and resilience.
- An overview of the transformative potential of the metaverse, highlighting its ability to redefine urban environments, enhance connectivity, and generate significant economic value towards a people-centered CitiVerse.
- ITU's activities in promoting sustainable digital transformation, data-driven urban planning, and fostering global collaboration among city stakeholders.
- The importance of accessibility and inclusion in the metaverse and the potential of CitiVerse to create inclusive, sustainable, and people-centered urban environments.
- The transformative potential of the CitiVerse in Korean cities, highlighting its ability to integrate physical and virtual worlds through a cyber-physical system (CPS) to enhance decision-making and augment reality.

Towards WSIS+20 and WSIS beyond 2025, please share your views on the emerging trends, challenges, achievements, and opportunities in the implementation of the WSIS Action Lines to date (5-8 bullets)

The WSIS session on “CitiVerse: Envisioning Inclusive, Sustainable, and People-Centered Cities” covered several important trends and developments, including:

- The use of metaverse technologies like AR, digital twins, and blockchain to enhance urban management and sustainability.
- The achievements of cities like Seoul, Shibuya, and Dubai in harnessing the metaverse for enhanced community engagement and economic growth.



- The potential of virtual spaces like the CitiVerse to offer unique opportunities for multi-stakeholder engagement and digital inclusion.
- The trend of using technologies like digital twins, integrated city operation platforms, and open city data hubs to enhance urban management and sustainability in Korean cities.

Tangible outcomes (such as key achievements, announcements, launches, agreements, commitments, figures, and success stories (3-5 bullet points))

- Emphasized the potential of CitiVerse to generate significant global value by 2030, with projections of \$5 trillion and the integration of the metaverse into daily activities for enhanced urban living.
- Highlighted the approval of deliverables by WG8 on Sustainability, Accessibility, and Inclusion, providing guidelines for building an accessible metaverse.
- Showcased Korea's achievements in deploying integrated city operation platforms across over 200 local governments and the establishment of an Open City Data Hub with a budget of 130 million dollars.

Actionable plan and key recommendations (2-5 points)

- The session recommended continuous efforts to make the CitiVerse inclusive, sustainable, and people-centered by adopting universal design principles, ensuring digital access, and prioritizing cybersecurity.
- It is also recommended to foster collaboration among stakeholders to ensure universal accessibility standards in the metaverse.
- The session recommended to foster mechanisms for shared overarching goals to enable multi-department collaboration on developing inclusive, sustainable, and people-centered cities in the CitiVerse.

Suggestions for thematic aspects that might be included in the WSIS Forum 2025 (one paragraph)

- *Recognizing* the crucial role of local and subnational governments in developing and implementing digital policies, and the metaverse's impact on urban planning, digital inclusion, smart city technologies, community engagement, accessibility, sustainable development, multi-stakeholder partnerships, WSIS (or Member States) shall remain actively engaged with all aspects of the CitiVerse.