

e-Newsletter



MESSAGE FROM ASOCIO CHAIRMAN

David Wong

WEBINARS:

FITIS

Smart Cities Network
Global Victoria/MABC

MOU

MOU with Smart Cities Network (SCN)

EVENTS IN 2020

Updates and Upcoming Events from Member Economies

AI POLICY PAPER EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Message from ASOCIO Chairman DAVID WONG

The first half of year 2020 has been a turbulent year indeed. What seemed like a localized influenza infection turned into a global pandemic that crippled the world economy this year. Many countries have opted for lockdowns, closing of the borders, halting economic activities and instituting social distancing norms to curb the spread of the virus. This has proven successful in containing the pandemic especially in the ASOCIO region.

All that comes with some pains. Many of us had to adjust to the new way of life. From doing business to social interactions. Countries had to grapple with the slowing economy and the impact of a recession and unemployment. Stimulus fiscal and financial incentives had to be put in place to keep the economy going and unemployment at bay. Even with those measures, many countries recorded double digit contraction in their economies in 02 2020.

As we enter the second half of the year, the storm clouds have not cleared yet. Economic activity that ground to a halt has returned albeit at a slower than usual pace. Travel restrictions are still enforced while social distancing and Work-From-Home have been come the new normal.

At ASOCIO, we have also taken cognizant of the developments. The pandemic has affected many of our member associations in the region. The board of ASOCIO has met and taken steps to mitigate some of the impact of the pandemic.

One of the first measures ASOCIO has undertaken is to increase our reach to webinars. We have partnered our members are brought a series of webinars to you. These include:

- 1st webinar Forum in collaboration with FITIS: Global ICT Opportunities in the New Normal held on 5 May
 2020
 - The virtual forum discussed on ICT opportunities deriving as Post Covid-19 response reciprocities available in the Asia Pacific region
- 2nd ASOCIO Webinar: Digital Roundtable-Transforming & Enabling Smart Cities of Tomorrow (In collaboration with SCN) 10 June 2020
 - This Digital Roundtable aims to provide the opportunity for key stakeholders from the national and city governments and industry leaders to gain perspectives on how leaders of smart cities would put in place a strategy with execution capabilities of their staff and ecosystem stakeholders.

- 3rd webinar in collaboration with Global Victoria, through the Victorian eCommerce Network, and the Malaysia Australia Business Council (MABC): '\$300 billion by 2025. Southeast Asia's internet economy'
 26 August 2020
- Another upcoming collaborative webinar with Smart Cities Network will be held in September 2020 and will be on **Investments for a Smart Indonesia**

We can also look forward to our Smart Cities Summit. This year the event will be held in conjunction with PIKOM's TechFest2020 and Road to WCIT from 18-20 November in Penang, Malaysia. This event will be a hybrid of physical and virtual.

As part of our efforts to deepen collaboration with the Smart Cities Network, ASOCIO has inked a Memorandum Of Understanding (MoU) effective from 1 August 2020 till 31 December 2022. The purpose of the MoU will be to work on programs inline with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDG).

I am also happy to report that the ASOCIO Policy Task Force has released an Al Policy Guidance on 26 June 2020. A report is included in this newsletter and you may also access the full report on our website. A special thanks to the team consisting of:

Chair : Seiichi Ito, JISA
Vice Chairs : Mac Yokozawa JISA

See Kiat Yao, SGTECH Bunrak Saraggananda, ATCI

Rajesh Nambiar, NASSCOM

John Choi, FKII Abdullah Kafi, BCS

I would also like to put on record our sincere appreciation to Mr Woon Tai Hai, who has served diligently and effectively as Secretary General of ASOCIO from 1 March 2019 to 30 April 2020. In his tenure will ASOCIO, he has driven a number of initiatives including the publishing of policy papers, organizing of the ASOCIO Digital Summit in Kuala Lumpur and the ASOCIO Coffee Table Book. As an interim measure, PIKOM will step in to support the Secretariat until a permanent Secretary General is selected. This would only take place towards the end of this year.

Another person that I would like to thank is Ms. Junko Kawauchi, JISA who has resigned end of May 2020. My sincere thanks and appreciation to Ms Junko who has given her fullest support to ASOCIO.

While Covid-19 has cast a pall on the horizon, the technology industry is full or promise and opportunities. During the period of lockdown, demand for IT services, e-commerce and technology in general have seen a spike. The time for digitalization is now.

I look forward to engaging with you.

Thank you.

David Wong
ASOCIO Chairman

AI POLICY PAPER

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Artificial Intelligence (AI) — digital systems that can learn, reason, make decisions and act on their own to achieve design goals — has mixed perceptions because of the way it is sometimes presented as challenging human autonomy in negative ways. In contrast, mature AI systems have been safely used for many years with very positive effects — where AI includes 'expert systems' support medical diagnoses, 'big data' enables more accurate weather forecasting, 'neural networks' support the spellchecking of this document, and 'machine intelligence' guides us around traffic jams.

Al is evolving rapidly: as humans collaborate increasingly with machines, there is potential for fundamental economic and social transformations bringing with them significant new and existing market growth opportunities. The economic benefits arising are estimated to be equivalent to 14% additional global Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth by 2030 - almost \$US16 trillion. Asia's GDP will rise by between 5.6% and 10.4%, depending on the region. Positive social outcomes flow from economic growth and development through better healthcare, more accessible, individual learning opportunities, more effective resource allocation to avoid poverty and starvation including water conservation, among many.

Realising these benefits require existing and new technology companies in the ASOCIO region to engage with and seize the opportunities presented by AI. To facilitate this, governments must ensure they have a clear, national strategic framework for AI – covering both development and adoption. Key elements of a strategy include; investing and supporting research and development (R&D); enabling the digital infrastructure; building human capacity for both AI development and use, as well as preparing for labour market transformation; and cooperating internationally to facilitate trade and development.

Concurrent with national strategic planning and business development of AI systems, all stakeholders especially government and industry - must ensure trust and confidence, the keystone of the networked digital age — is protected and kept front of mind. Systems must incorporate "good practices:" they must have effective governance and clear accountabilities; privacy must be maintained; data secured to preserve its integrity and confidentiality; and applications tested and audited to ensure outcomes reflect design objectives without biases.

Common, regional and global frameworks are central to ensuring trust and confidence in Al. Many nations and organisations have identified typical, now well-established elements of such frameworks, highlighted by the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) in five key principles around "good practice" Al:

- 1. Openness, transparency and explainability, ie, transparent and responsible disclosure to people that they are dealing with Al, and what the Al system does;
- 2. Reliability and safety, ie, the Al system functions in a robust, secure and safe way in foreseeable use or misuse;
- 3. Privacy and security, ie, the AI system is designed and functions so as to respect the rule of law, human rights, democratic values and diversity;
- 4. Inclusiveness, ie, Al is developed and operates to benefit all people and the planet; and
- 5. Accountability, ie, those developing, deploying or operating Al are held accountable for their proper functioning.

ASOCIO urges all AI stakeholders — especially developers, those deploying AI, governments, system users and, indeed, consumers — to understand, advocate for and accept AI systems based on these principles. Adopting this approach will enable ASOCIO region economies to participate fully in the large economic and social opportunities enabled by AI with safety, security, trust and confidence.

+ WEBINARS

1st WEBINAR: Collaboration with FITIS - 5 May 2020

OPPORTUNITIES IN THE NEW NORMAL WAS A RESOUNDING SUCCESS

FITIS / ASOCIO first ever Asia Pacific virtual collaboration held on Tuesday, 5th May 2020 was a resounding success. It was attended by over 600 professionals across the Asia Pacific region around 20 countries including but not limited to ICT Industry and business leaders, CIO's regulators, and other senior executives.

The virtual forum discussed on ICT opportunities deriving as Post Covid-19 response reciprocities available in the Asia Pacific region. The virtual forum featured David Wong Chairman ASOCIO as Keynote speaker together with Abbas Kamrudeen, Chairman of FITIS, Dr. Manchanayake, Vice Chair ASOCIO and ICT industry leaders from 13 countries in the Asia Pacific region.

The other leading experts featured were, Wong Wai Meng, Chairman of SGTech from Singapore, Rajesh Nambiar, Ex board member of NASSCOM from India, Reggie Wong, Vice Chairman ASOCIO from Hong Kong, Masayuki Osuka, Corporate Advisor, CAC Holdings Corporation from Japan, Brian Shen, Chairman CISA from Taiwan, Abdulla Kafi, Past Chairman ASOCIO from Bangladesh, John Choi, Deputy Chairman ASOCIO from Korea, Shahzad Shahid, Chairman of P@SHA from Pakistan, Bunrak Saraggananda, Honorary Chairman of ATCI from Thailand, Nguyen Thi Thu Giang, General Secretary of VINASA from Vietnam and Phub Gyeltshen, Past President of BICTTA from Bhutan.



2nd ASOCIO Webinar: Collaboration with Smart Cities Network (SCN) - 10 June 2020

DIGITAL ROUNDTABLE-TRANSFORMING & ENABLING SMART CITIES OF TOMORROW

This Digital Roundtable aims to provide the opportunity for key stakeholders from the national and city governments and industry leaders to gain perspectives on how leaders of smart cities would put in place a strategy with execution capabilities of their staff and ecosystem stakeholders.





3rd webinar - Webinar: Collaboration with Global Victoria/MABC - 23 August 2020

\$300 BILLION BY 2025: SOUTHEAST ASIA'S INTERNET ECONOMY



Victorian **eCommerce** Network

Webinar: \$300 billion by 2025. Southeast Asia's internet economy









'\$300 billion by 2025. Southeast Asia's internet economy'.

Online connectivity is transforming Southeast Asia. Just over a decade ago, four in five Southeast Asians had no Internet connectivity and limited access to the Internet. Today, Southeast Asians are the most engaged mobile Internet users in the world. There are 360 million Internet users in the region and 90% of them connect to the Internet primarily through their mobile phones. They buy products, they order food and they make payments online.

Powered by these fundamental changes in consumer behaviour, the Internet economy continues to grow at an unprecedented pace. It has soared to \$100 billion for the first time in 2019, more than tripling in size over the last four years. e-Commerce continues to beat the most optimistic of predictions. By 2025, the Internet economy in Southeast Asia is expected to grow to \$300 billion.

"Adapted from the Google & Temasek / Bain, e-Conomy SEA 2019 Report

Moderated by Leigh Howard, A/g to Southeast Asia, Victoria State Government, our expert panellists include:

- David Wong, Omnichannel Fulfillment, Chairman SnT Global and MABC Executive Committee
- · Hans-Peter Ressel, CEO Momentum Commerce, Co-Founder of Lazada
- · Amy Zheng, Health food eCommerce Entrepreneur. Co-Founder, Amazin' Graze











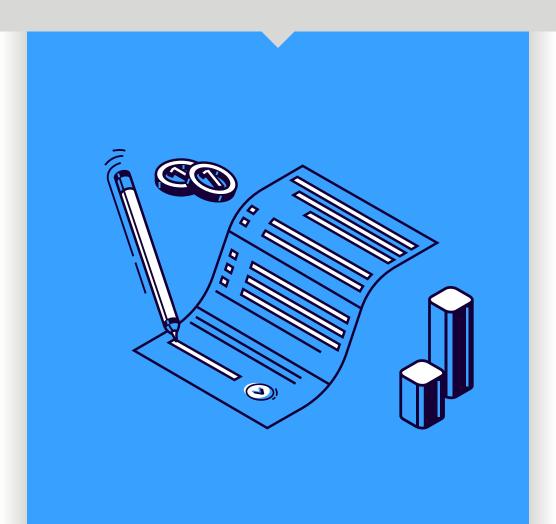
+ MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU)

MOU SIGNING BETWEEN ASOCIO AND SMART CITIES NETWORK (SCN)

The Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was signed on 1st August and will be effective till 31 December 2022

OBJECTIVES:

- Collaborate as partners to support the United Nation (UN) Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in the Asian and Oceanian countries
- With this partnership, both organizations have fulfilled one of the UN SDGs, which is SDG #17 Partnership for the Goals
- Members of ASOCIO will be invited to collaborate in one or any of the activities organized by SCN (collaboration projects to be scoped and mutually agreed in separate arrangements between SCN and ASOCIO members).



+ EVENTS IN 2020 FROM MEMBER ECONOMIES

Updates and Upcoming Events from Member Economies

Singapore - SGTech

REPORT ON DIGITAL ECONOMY

Movement restrictions and safe distancing measures implemented in Singapore to curb the spread of COVID-19 created the unavoidable impetus for companies to turn to digital tools to continue to operate as best as they could despite the disruption of being remote. It also revealed that some segments of the economy were less ready or able to adapt than others.

In June 2020, Singapore announced the formation of a Ministerial Committee for Digital Transformation, to accelerate Singapore's adoption of digital technology. The committee's key focus is to work with companies and the labour movement to create jobs in the info-communications and technology (ICT) sector and help small and medium enterprises survive and thrive through the use of technology. Another area of focus is to ensure all segments of the population benefit from the digitalisation push, starting with hawkers and seniors. This committee will oversee the execution of policies, and coordinate the work of the many agencies and groups involved.

PAST & FUTURE EVENTS IN 2020

Upcoming events

Date	Event	Register
13 August 2020	Go International - Entering China #4 (Trade)	https://www.sgtech.org.sg/web/ EventDetail?EventKey=INT130820
18 August 2020	Go International: ICT Opportunities in the Philippines	https://www.sgtech.org.sg/web/ EventDetail?EventKey=INT1808201
21 August 2020	Go International: High-Growth Potentials for Vietnam	https://www.sgtech.org.sg/web/ EventDetail?EventKey=INT2108201
27 August 2020	Go International - Entering China #5 (M&A)	https://www.sgtech.org.sg/web/ EventDetail?EventKey=INT2708201
22 September 2020	APEC CBPR Discussion and Sharing for Singapore and Japanese companies	tbc

Singapore - SGTech

SGTech Webinar Series

In late March, SGTech launched a webinar series to help our members and other SMEs and startups by providing actionable insights to survive this challenging time. Up to the end of June, 19 webinars were conducted, reaching close to 5,000 participants. The webinars are ongoing.

The webinars share information in two tracks, firstly on business or management, such as managing employees remotely, managing liquidity; secondly, on technology-related topics such as e-commerce, collaboration tools, cybersecurity and data protection.

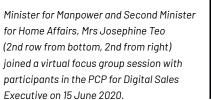
SGTech also created a "Solutions Toolbox", corresponding to each topic, to help companies identify solution bundles that they can consider. In a typical solutions toolbox session, each solution provider gives a focussed 5-min description of the problem their solution solves, and how it does so.



Senior Minister of State, Ministry of Trade & Industry and Ministry of Education, Mr Chee Hong Tat (top row, centre) together with other panellists at the "Grow Digital, Go International" webinar on 22 June 2020.

Professional Conversion Programmes

SGTech appointed was Programme Manager three Professional Conversion Programmes (PCPs) in the first half of 2020: Digital Sales Executive, SAP Consultants Salesforce Platform and Professionals. These **PCPs** operate under the Place-and-Train model whereby PMETs interested to switch to "tech lite" roles are selected and hired by participating companies before undergoing training.





Korea - The Federation of Korean Information Industries (FKII)

THE KOREAN NEW DEAL

1. Digital New Deal

As the transition to the digital economy accelerates with the Corona 19, the drive to foster "digital countries + non-face-to-face promising industries" will take place.

A. DNA Ecosystem Hardening

To enhance productivity in the Korean economy, the company will spend 38.5 trillion won by 2025 to create 567,000 jobs. In order to achieve this goal, the government is planning to establish a K-cyber quarantine system based on 5G and Al, as well as to build, open, and utilize data in areas close to people's lives

B. Digital Transformation of Educational Infrastructure

To create an online and offline convergence learning environment for elementary, middle and high schools, universities, and vocational training institutions across the country, the government will spend 1.3 trillion won on the project by 2025 to create 9,000 jobs. To achieve this goal, the government will create digital-based education infrastructure in all elementary, middle and high schools, and strengthen online education at universities and vocational training institutes across the country.

C. Fostering Non-face-to-face Projects

The government will spend 2.5 trillion won on the project by 2025 to create 134,000 jobs. To that end, the government will push to build smart medical and care infrastructure, expand telework for small and medium-sized companies, and support online businesses for small businesses.

D. SOC Digitization

The company will invest 15.8 trillion won in total to create 193,000 jobs by 2025. To achieve this goal, the government will establish digital management systems for infrastructure in four major areas: transportation, digital, water resources, and disaster response, digital innovation of space in cities and industrial complexes, and smart logistics systems.

2. Green New Deal

As the importance of responding to climate change and changing low-carbon society is highlighted in the wake of the Corona 19, it will be promoted in a direction toward a carbon-neutral society such as "infrastructure and energy green conversion + innovation in green industries"

A. Green Transformation of Urban, Spatial, and Living Infrastructure

The total project will invest 30.1 trillion won by 2025 to create 387,000 jobs. In order to achieve this

goal, the government will push for zero energy for public facilities, restoration of green ecosystems in national lands, oceans and cities, and establishment of a clean and safe water management system.

B. Diffusion of low carbon and distributed energy

The government will invest 35.8 trillion won in total project costs by 2025 to create 209,000 jobs. To achieve this goal, the government will establish an intelligent smart grid for energy management such as smart power grids and underground wires, establish a foundation for the spread of new and renewable energy, support fair conversion, and expand the supply of green mobility such as electric and hydrogen cars.

C. Building an Innovative Ecosystem for Green Industries

The government will invest 7.6 trillion won in total project costs by 2025 to create 63,000 jobs. To achieve this goal, the government will foster promising green companies, create low-carbon and green industrial complexes, and create a foundation for green innovation such as R&D and finance to reduce greenhouse gas and cope with fine dust.

3. Strengthening Safety Net

This is due to the emergence of future changes in the structure of the job market as well as the focus on overcoming the short-term employment shock caused by Corona19, which will be promoted in the direction of "strengthening the employment and social safety net + expanding human investment."

A. Employment and Social Safety Net

The government will invest 24 trillion won in total project costs by 2025 to create 159,000 jobs. To this end, the government will push for the establishment of an employment safety net, including the expansion of employment insurance and industrial insurance for the entire nation, strengthening the inclusive social safety net that lives well together, including basic living security and the reorganization and introduction of corporal benefits, support for life and job security in blind spots of employment insurance, support for young people entering the job market, and innovation in industrial safety and working environment.

B. Human Investment

The government will create 180,000 jobs by investing 4.4 trillion won in total business expenses by 2025 to expand inclusive human investment, including training of manpower, job support, and narrowing the digital gap to move to new jobs. In order to achieve this goal, the government is planning to reform the system into a future-adaptive vocational training system and strengthen the digital accessibility of farming, fishing and vulnerable groups.

Korea - The Federation of Korean Information Industries (FKII)

PAST AND FUTURE EVENTS IN 2020

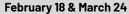
January 22

2020 Digital Policy Forum

1. Title: Strategies and Challenges to Become a Powerful Al Country

2. Contents:

- A. Al National Strategy (Released by Ministry of Science and ICT)
- B. Presentation and Discussion: Al/data current status and challenges, Al-based business possibilities and challenges, Al powerhouse priorities



Board of Directors Meeting & 38th General Assembly

1. Appointment of executives.

- A. Chairman: Jhinsup 'JJ' Jhung, Chairman of Open Base Group (newly appointed)
- B. Vice Chairman: Ki-hong Song, President of IBM Korea, and Lee Kwang-sung, Advisor to Doosan, (newly appointed)
- C. Director. Hyuk-sang Kwon, President of KCC Information and Communication (new), and Byung-jin Hong, President of Lemon Healthcare

2. Relocation of the main office (4/4) Mapo-gu, Seoul → Gangnam-gu, Seoul

May 15, July 8 & September 9

Digital Leadership Forum: Morning Seminar 1st & 2nd

Conducting expert lectures on topics (social change, humanities, and future prospects) to help CEOs and executives of ICT.SW companies

No.	Date	Topics and Instructors
1 st	5/15(Fri)	'Phonosapiens' and Pandemics Shock Era, How to Survive (Professor Choi Jae-Bung of Sungkyunkwan University)
2 nd	7/8(Wed)	Tools to Read the Future, Demography (Professor Cho Young-tae of the Graduate School of Public Health at Seoul National University)
3 rd	9/9(Wed)	To be Updated





September 16

2020 Innovation Solution Day

Presentation and showcases of solutions that promote digital and non-face-to-face business innovation and productivity improvement according to COVID-19

*Attendees: 200 employees of the user companies in ICT industry (free of charge)

Early October

2020 Korea-Japan IT Webinar

Seminar in which both Korea and Japan share information on the latest issues and technologies in the ICT industry every year

1. Contents: Corona 19 Response and Cooperation Plan between Korea and Japan

2. Method: Online (Webinar)

*Co-organized by FKII (Federation of Korean Information Industries) and JISA (Japan Information Services Industry Association)

Taiwan - The Information Services Industry Association (CISA)

Al Solutions & Cybersecurity - Online International Press Release Conference - 4 September 2020

The Information Service Industry Association (CISA) and Taiwan External Trade Development Council (TAITRA) cohosted on Friday an international press release conference, showcasing Taiwan's breakthrough solutions in AI and Cyber Security, supported by the Industrial Development Bureau (IDB) over the Digital Application Forum Week.

The purpose was to build a platform for international marketing and business development for Taiwan solutions providers. The conference successfully attracted more than 160 international buyers and press from 16 respective countries such as the U.S., Japan, Malaysia, Singapore, Bangladesh, Myanmar, Philippines, Thailand, Vietnam, Germany, Italy, Brazil, India, Indonesia and Egypt for registration resulting in 200 views online.

With the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, digitization, interconnection and intelligence are trending in a major way for global enterprises. Al solutions have gradually been applied in fields such as smart manufacturing, customer service and retail, showing the importance of data integration and cyber security.

At this conference, six top Taiwanese brands – iEi, ticc, ZYXEL, THE SYSCOM GROUP, Bankpro and LaFresh —showcased their newest products and share the latest trends in Al solutions and Cyber Security.



Top Taiwanese brands showcased their newest products and shared the latest trends in Al solutions and Cyber Security in an international press conference organized on Sept. 4, 2020. (Courtesy of TAITRA)

+ UPCOMING EVENT

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ASOCIO Smart Cities Summit 2020

18 - 20 November 2020 @ TechFest LIVE 2020, Penang, Malaysia



ASOCIO Smart City is the leading event for cities, the place where the future of cities is discussed and the most inspiring ideas for exploring our urban future are brought to stage.

ASOCIO Smart City exists in order to empower cities and collective urban innovation across the globe through promoting socila innovation, establishing partnerships and identifying business oppuertunities. The events is dedicated to creating a better future for cities and theiar citizens.

+ UPCOMING EVENT

VIETNAM DX DAY 2020



CONTACT:

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