

YOKOHAMA INTERNATIONAL DIGEST

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7th Asia Smart City Conference Digest
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7th Asia Smart City Conference held in Yokohama

The Asia Smart City Conference (ASCC) is an international conference that brings together city leaders from emerging economies in Asia and experts from international institutions and the private sector for practical discussions on realizing sustainable urban development that balances economic growth with sound urban environment practices.

This year, the 7th ASCC was held from November 13 to 15. The conference this year welcomed a record 500 participants from some 30 cities and national-level organizations across 14 countries, including delegates from local governments, representatives from the private sector and academia, and other related stakeholders.

The 7th ASCC was the first to be jointly organized by the World Bank Tokyo Development Learning Center (TDLC) and the Asian Development Bank Institute (ADBI), and featured the theme of "Fostering a Market Place for Co-Innovation."



Sustainable facilities toured on Day 1

On the first day of the conference, visitors from overseas were taken to visit sites of interest in the city.

City officials from overseas municipalities, representatives of international organizations, and members of the local private sector, around 70 in all, divided into three groups that visited either the new City Hall under construction, the Hokubu Sludge Treatment Plant, or the Tsuzuki Incineration Plant and the Midori Recyclable Resources Separation Center.

Thematic sessions held on Day 2

Following tours of local facilities on the first day of the conference, participants attended eight thematic sessions.

The sessions identified challenges facing developing urban areas, such as waste management, transportation, energy saving, and resilience. Discussions of potential solutions also helped participants gain insight on the impact of new technologies on cities.

During the sessions, city leaders shared their specific issues and needs. Solution providers, including both foreign and domestic businesses and academic institutions, proposed technologies, products, and capacity development support to address these challenges.



Panel discussions, keynotes, and "Yokohama Declaration" on Day 3

On the third and final day, panel discussions, keynote speeches, and roundtable sessions further informed the conversations at the conference.



Yokohama Mayor Hayashi addressed the conference during the opening session.

The "7th Asia Smart City Conference Yokohama Declaration" was delivered during the closing session to incorporate the results of the conference.

Co-located Event: "Business Forum" organized by Nikkei BP, "Youth Event 2018" featuring Yokohama City University Students

Nikkei Business Publications presented a "Business Forum: Sustainable City with SDGs supported by Enterprise and Local government" as a co-located event to promote the important role of the private sector in enacting sustainable growth policies.

Additionally, students from Yokohama City University presented the findings of their research at the "Youth Event 2018."



Networking event: Yokohama Info-Market held in cooperation with YUSA

Organized in collaboration with the City of Yokohama and the YOKOHAMA URBAN SOLUTION ALLIANCE (YUSA), the "Yokohama Info-Market" event showcased local companies' proprietary technologies and introduced Yokohama's urban design know-how.

The event also provided opportunities for emerging cities facing urban development issues to network with organizations offering solutions.

