

## Establishment of Framework for Bilateral Cooperation on Spatial Data with Ethiopia and Tanzania

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## MOLIT signed a MOU with Ethiopia and made future plans with Tanzania during visits of the two African Ministers to S. Korea on the occasion of Smart GEO Expo 2022

Ahead of Smart GEO Expo 2022 (scheduled on 2 ~ 4 Nov. at KINTEX in Ilsan), the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport (MOLIT, Minister WON Heeryong) revealed as it is going to build cooperative system including the areas of computerization of administration in land affairs and national base mapping both with the Ministry of Urban and Infrastructure, Ethiopia (Minister Chaltu Sani Ibrahim) and the Ministry of the Land, Housing and Human Settlements Development, Tanzania (Minister Angeline Mabula) at the Korea Territorial Development Exhibition Hall located in Seoul at 17:00 on 1 November.

The two separate meetings with the Ethiopian and Tanzanian Ministers held on the day were to discuss the need for Korea-Ethiopia and Korea-Tanzania cooperation on geospatial information and, particularly, to sign the MOU with Ethiopia for bilateral cooperation in the field.

The MOU signed this time between Korea and Ethiopia is expected to serve as a bridgehead for Korean spatial data companies to participate in and vitalize the Korea-Ethiopia Official Development Assistance (ODA project). Currently, Ethiopia has been carrying out a consulting project under the consortium with Korea Land and Geospatial Informatix Corporation (LX) & Private Enterprise to construct a cadastral information system and is planning to kick off subsequent ODA projects with the MOLIT.

In terms of Tanzania, discussions on ODA projects that the country has been carrying out with the MOLIT, such as founding an innovation center for geospatial data and a project to foster geospatial data experts, were delivered. This is expected to be a new opportunity for the success of the consultation project on constructing 'integrated cadastral management system', which will be promoted from the year of 2023 by resulting a relevant MOU in the field of geospatial data in near future.

The establishment of cooperating partnerships in the field of geospatial information this time is regarded as a successful case of a type of overseas expansion in packages, that are from data accumulation projects such as cadastral survey and digitizing urban information to urban planning and management projects including land value evaluation, land development and use, as well as projects for solving urban issues by using digital twins.

The Minister WON of MOLIT stated, "This will be the beginning of an opportunity to showcase Korea's excellent geospatial data technology to the global market.", adding that he would support domestic geospatial data companies to pioneer new markets by keeping cooperative relationships with various countries for Korea to be a leading country in that industry upcoming future.

On the other hand, MOLIT is hosting the Smart GEO Expo 2022 at KINTEX in Ilsan between 2 and 4 November for 3 days having domestic and overseas businesses related to geospatial data, government officials, and Multilateral Development Banks (MDBs), etc. to share their cutting edge technologies with the general public by featuring seminars and exhibitions.