



Ministry of Land,  
Infrastructure and Transport

## **Smart GEO Expo 2022 Ended in Great Success**

Released Date: 8 November 2022

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### ***Discussions with MDBs to explore cooperative measures for supporting Korean businesses entering Asian and African markets***

Smart GEO Expo 2022 was successfully over on 4 November following the safe and smooth running for three days.

Smart GEO Expo 2022, hosted by the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport (MOLIT, Minister WON Hee-ryong) and managed by seven organizations including Korea Land and Geospatial InformatiX Corporation (LX) and Korea Land & Housing Corporation (LH), was held for three days from 2 November at KINTEX, Ilsan. The Expo was joined by guests from home and abroad, including geospatial information experts from 20 countries namely Ethiopia, Tanzania, and Cambodia, etc. More than 80 business meetings, including those between invited countries and Korean businesses along with 32 conferences were held in great success during the Expo.

MOLIT had meetings with three MDB\*s – the World Bank, the Asian Development Bank (ADB), and the African Development Bank (AfDB) – for the

cooperation in the field of geospatial information. The details of the discussions are as follows.

\* A Multilateral Development Bank (MDB) is an international financial institution established for providing financial support on economic growth of developing nations. An MDB does not restrict eligibility to its membership and may consist of multiple developing and developed nations and donor countries as members.

① World Bank - Discussion regarding cooperation in the field of digital twin technology for climate change countermeasures: MOLIT and the World Bank agreed to have more detailed discussions on planning to conduct a joint research project in identifying new areas for digital twin application, such as countermeasures against climate change.

② Asian Development Bank (ADB) – Discussion on providing support in geospatial information for developing countries in Asia: MOLIT and the ADB discussed diverse measures to share knowledge over geospatial information with developing countries in Asia. Such measures include provision of Korea’s advanced geospatial information technologies (e.g. ICT-based land information system), sending geospatial information experts, and arranging workshops, etc.

③ African Development Bank (AfDB) – Discussion about conducting an assessment on the level of geospatial information system development: the AfDB presented the necessity of assessing each country’s level of development in geospatial information systems. MOLIT proposed to jointly conduct the assessment on the countries’, announce the assessment result, and discuss further measures for cooperation based on the result.

For Korean businesses wishing to venture overseas, the World Bank and AfDB sessions were held, where explained current status of the Asian and African

markets and ongoing projects in the regions. Korean companies and potential project clients in the field attending the Expo also had chances to engage in discussions through 1:1 business meetings.

On the last day of the Expo (4 November), a roundtable meeting was held joined by the representatives from key client countries\* in the field of geospatial information.

\* Seven countries: Laos, Mongolia, Ethiopia, Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan, Tanzania, and Paraguay

Each country presented its geospatial information system and the status of technology development, and the Joint Declaration 2022 for International Meeting for the Advancement of Geospatial Information Cooperation\* was adopted at the roundtable.

\* Joint Declaration 2022 for International Meeting for the Advancement of Geospatial Information Cooperation is to help each country recognize the importance of innovative technologies as a tool for improving productivity and agree to actively share utilizing cases of such technologies with other countries.

Director OH Sung-ik from the Spatial Information Promotion Division of MOLIT stated, “The success of the 2022 Smart GEO Expo will be a new momentum for Korea to become a leading country in the geospatial information industry, and help Korean companies in the field to venture into the overseas markets.”

Adding that “The government will spare no effort in proving policy support to Korean businesses so that they can win projects on geospatial information infrastructure in Asia and Africa and open up new markets overseas.”