

Open City Portal

By 2020, about half of the world population will be concentrated in urban areas. Cities and local governments are facing different types of challenges and opportunities.

The goal of OCP is to help local government to gain an e-government capability to meet with its growing number of citizens' needs. Many people in cities even in the developed countries are not fully utilizing their city portals for obtaining necessary information, reducing transaction costs, and increasing communications with government, or among citizens simply because the portals are not made interactive, citizen-oriented and inclusive. Many local governments cannot afford to install and maintain such an effective e-government system.

Open City Portal is an open-source platform for the cities to create and maintain their own portal site without significant budget or IT specialists. It is customized to the need of the city. When the city identifies their service categories, the portal frame will be created with a few clicks. Content of the portal can be developed and updated by every city employee without special authoring tools. So everybody close to the service delivery can input the content. is being considered for linkage to

Open City Portal can achieve major goals of e-government, such as interactive communication with citizens, inclusion of citizens for the content development of community information, download all the public information, and make citizens participate in the policy making process.

Open City Portal is also a knowledge sharing tool among partner cities. They can share others' best practices, lessons learned and global tutorial and tool kits. The focus of the knowledge sharing is revitalizing local economy through various participatory urban development strategies; "sustainable cities," "creative cities," "regional innovation system," "local digital agenda," "age-friendly cities" and so forth.

In the last **Windsor Knowledge Management Roundtable**, the participants wanted to support the Open City Portal initiative in the following directions:

First, Open City Portal is being considered for linkage to the **UNPAN global knowledge management network** so that the OCP's tutorials system and global knowledge content will be widely used by UNPAN users.

Second, we will together create an **Open City Network** of cities, universities, training institutes and international organizations to support pilot implementation, creating global knowledge content, and, designing a good training system for cities based upon the participants' experience.

For universities, joining the network provides good research opportunities to work with 100 cities investigating success factors for cities' performance in innovation, entrepreneurship, sustainability and creation of "quality of life." **For training institutions**, they can use the OCP action learning system so that the trainees can actually produce their city portals while learning.

I hope during the NY conference, we can make a progress on the detailed scheme and commitment among core members

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