

City Seoul	
Country	Republic of Korea
Population	9,766,886
Title of policy or practice	The Beginning of Public-Private Governance
Subtitle (optional)	Seoul Food Citizens' Committee
URL video	
Category	Governance
SDGs	SDGs: 2,3.
Brief description	<p>The mayor of Seoul and a representative from the Citizens' Committee are co-chairing the Committee. Currently, 140 people are hard at work within 10 different subcommittees. Over the past two (2) years, the Citizens' Committee has held more than 100 meetings and overseen 26 tasks for the Food Master Plan of Seoul. In addition to exploring a variety of agendas, the committee has also been conducting surveys on the status of food in the 25 local autonomous districts of Seoul, developing a number of public participation projects for food education and to build consensus among residents, and operating a working group with the aim of establishing the Food Master Plan 2030 for Seoul.</p> <p>This committee, which has a system for open online recruitment and an innovative system which utilizes a citizen-led, bottom-up style of administration, is pivotal for the implementation of an integrated food policy and is a symbol of the public-private cooperation going on in Seoul.</p>
Date of start and state (ongoing/completed)	11/2017 Ongoing
Actors and stakeholders involvement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, the Ministry of Health and Welfare; • The Citizens' Health Bureau, the Planning and Administration Office, Women & Family Policy Affairs Office, Welfare Policy Office, 25 Local Autonomous District Offices; • Food production and merchandising organizations, social economy enterprises; • Universities, research institutes.
Approach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collect opinions from related divisions, experts and civic groups for the enactment of the Seoul Metropolitan Government Food Standards Act. • Host a civic group public hearing with the Seoul City Council • Enact the Seoul Metropolitan Government Food Standards Act. • Form the Seoul Metropolitan Government Food Citizens' Committee and develop a management plan.
Innovation	<p>The Citizens' Committee for Food consists of 140 people, 17 official members and 123 publically recruited members who were selected through public recruitment and a fair screening process opened with a notice on the Internet.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At the time of initial recruitment in 2017, 243 people applied and 110 were selected (not including official members, such as department managers). <p>The Committee consists of 10 departments in total which deliberate and advise on general food policies in Seoul. The Planning & Mediation Committee deals with differences of opinion of the various subcommittees and determines the overall direction and goals of the Citizens' Committee.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 Subcommittees: Public Meals, Urban Agriculture, Food Safety, Mutually Beneficial Urban-Rural Relationships, Sustainable Dietary Lifestyles, Food Related Social Economy, Food Related Self-Governance, Education and Promotion of Food Culture, Food Ecology and Food Welfare. <p>This huge Citizens' Committee, which is formed by 140 people, has an innovation which differentiates it from existing ones. This committee has a bottom-up style administration in which citizens take part as active leaders. Unlike the existing framework of administrative organisations, citizens are involved in planning and implementation of the policies.</p>
<p>Impact</p>	<p>The Citizens' Committee for Food is working as a representative public and private collaborative effort in Seoul, and this new system of openly recruiting members has been gradually adopted by other committees, and has contributed greatly to breaking the barriers to committees.</p> <p>The Citizens' Committee for Food has also been established in Gyeonggi Province, headed by the Citizens' Committee for Food of Seoul and there is an increasing number of autonomous districts that are adopting this model. This is a prime example of the public-private collaboration that the city of Seoul has been pursuing and this is attracting attention both nationally and internationally, including from the national government.</p>
<p>Inclusion</p>	<p>The composition of the Citizens' Committee for Food includes citizens from different sectors, such as on-site food experts, academics, people from public institutions, internal public officials, and even city councillors for regulating and revising ordinances and the budget.</p> <p>Most food related policies, which are distributed between 11 departments of the Seoul city government, are mainly debated through the Food Citizens' Committee. The Committee's debate results are then sent back to the relevant departments in order to implement a cooperative framework that is reflected in the policy.</p> <p>The Citizens' Committee for Food was in charge of the Food Culture Innovation Week, a gathering for food-related educational activities and events each held by a governmental agency, which promoted food policies by integrating a wide variety of programs that share themes with civic groups into a weeklong event.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outcomes of the Food Culture Innovation Week 2018: it was held from Nov. 9 to Nov. 18 and 16 private organizations participated. A total of 27 programs were conducted with a total of 13,248 participants.
<p>Adversity coefficient</p>	<p>140 committee members have different opinions regarding the same policy based on their different affiliations and expertise. The biggest challenge was to determine the priorities and the method of policy enforcement that each member wanted and then to develop policies that reflected that. In order to solve this problem, Seoul conducted 10 workshops and citizen forums each year and has dedicated time to communication. In addition, the city has been trying out a variety of methods to adapt to different opinions by holding discussions with subcommittees during a monthly Planning and Mediation Committee meeting.</p> <p>Since there are many significant differences in the positions taken by the various administrative departments of the Citizens' Committee for Food, Seoul continues to try and reduce such discrepancies. In particular, by dividing into subcommittees, operational efficiency has been improved allowing rigorous deliberation and advising. In addition, the Committee was structured to enable a real cooperation through the involvement of department managers as mandatory members of the committee.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The chairman of the entire committee (co-chairmen: Seoul city Mayor, a representative of the Citizens' Committee); • Committee: Planning and Mediation Committee (co-chairman: a deputy mayor, a