



“Global Urban (Korea) Competitiveness Report”

Press Release

Led by Professor Pengfei Ni (Chinese Academy of Social Sciences) with Professor Peter Karl Kresl (Bucknell University, USA), economic experts and scholars from many countries and regions, as well as the members of the Global Urban Competitiveness Project group completed the “2009-2010 Global Urban Competitiveness Report” (hereinafter referred to as Report) and the Report will be released on June 22, 25th, 2010 in Seoul and Nanjing.

In the sample of 500 cities worldwide, 11 cities in Korea are selected in this Report. From the perspective of competitive output, input and process, we compare the three aspects of value system, elemental environment and industry chain system (marked in brackets is the city global ranking) and release the “Global Urban (Korean) Competitiveness Report” (the global rankings are signed in the bracket) .

1.Comprehensive competitiveness: Seoul in the first place, the overall ranking is rising. The top 3 cities are: Seoul (9), Ulsan (172) and Suwon (183). Seoul is far ahead over other South Korean cities. But South Korean cities’ global competitiveness is uneven. 4 cities are in the world's top 200, while others in the 201 to 340.

Economic scale: Seoul gets obvious advantage, and all the South Korean cities are half up half down. The top 3 cities are: Seoul (6), Busan (47), Incheon (52).

Development level: Ulsan is far ahead Seoul, the overall is at the middle level. The top 3 cities are: Ulsan (59), Seoul (193), Ansan (195).

Economic aggregation: Seoul is absolutely dominant, and there are wide gap between cities. The top 3 cities are: Seoul (8), Suwon (75), Ansan (109).

Economic growth: Ulsan is slightly predominant, and the overall are in the downstream. Top 3 cities in terms of global urban economic growth are: Ulsan (179), Incheon (228), Gyeongju (267).

Patent application: Suwon outshines others, while Seoul should be improved. The top 3 cities are: Suwon (28), Daejeon (139) and Seoul (150).

International influence: Seoul is at the top, and the rank is unstable. The top 3 cities are: Seoul (10), Busan (168), Gyeongju (377).

2. Competitiveness growth: Most cities rise, while a few down. Compared with the 2007-2008 annual report, the South Korean cities which are at the head of the rankings are on the rise, Among them, the global rankings of Busan and Jeonju rise by 20 and 26, which get a quick development.

3. Element environment competitiveness: Seoul is significantly dominated, overall in the middle level. The op 3 cities: Seoul (7), Busan (194), Ulsan (215). All the cities are intruding into the global top 300, most of which are gathering in 200. Most of the cities are at the middle level. Seoul’ factor environment competitiveness



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is far ahead the other cities, while the gaps between other cities are becoming small.

Enterprise quality: Seoul is at the top while many cities are rearward. The top 3 cities in terms of global urban patent application are: Seoul (7), Busan (198), Ulsan (248).

Local element: the overall is slightly dominated, but Gyeongju should be strengthened. The top 3 cities are: Seoul (6), Suwon (40), Daejeon (64).

Local demand: Seoul heads up in the country, and the overall rankings are good. The top 3 cities are: Seoul (44), Seongnam (117), Suwon (123).

Internal connection: Seoul has a little advantage, and the overall rankings are at the upper-middle of the top 500 cities on the world. Top 3 cities in terms of global urban local demands are: Seoul (88), Daegu (132), Incheon (136).

Global connection: Seoul is far away before the others, and the overall rankings are at the downstream. The top three cities are: Seoul (14), Busan (190) and Incheon (223).

4. Industry chain competitiveness: dominant semiconductor industry, the overall level to be raised

The top three cities in South Korea's banking sector are: Busan, Seoul, Ulsan; the top three cities in software industry are: Seoul, Busan (Gyeongju, Daejeon, Daegu are neck in neck), Suwon; the top three cities in media industry are: Seoul, Suwon, Daejeon; the three cities in semiconductor industry are: Seoul, Incheon, Suwon; the top three cities in consumer durables are: Seoul, Gyeongju, Busan; the top three cities in hardware industry are: Seoul, Busan (Incheon, Daejeon, Ansan are neck in neck).

5 Future potential: Comparison of comprehensive competitiveness and factor environmental competitiveness. By comparing the competitiveness and environment elements of these cities, it is found that in most cities of South Korea were listed in sequence: Jeonju, Gyeongju, South, Daegu, Ansan and Seoul. Potential city occupies most in top 500, and it means that Korea keeps relative dynamics in the future competitiveness. Jeonju plays a role as the centre of culture and economics in Jeollabuk-do of Korea as well as the famous rice original place in Korea.

This “2009-2010 Global Urban Competitiveness Report” will be published by the Edward Elgar Publishing Limited. It is the third Biennial report written by the Global Urban Competitiveness Project group. The Report is composed of general report, regional report, function city report, best city case report and city statistics report. The rich content and detailed data also provide important significance and reference value for government, especially for the city government departments, enterprises at home and abroad, research institutions, as well as the social public.

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