



City Innovation Snapshot INCHEON, Korea

Overview

- ▶ **Mayor:** Park Nam-Chun
- ▶ **Term:** 2018–2022
- ▶ **Innovation Lead:** Choi Gi-Gun
- ▶ **Population size:** 3.021 million (2019)
- ▶ **Innovation / open data website:**
<https://www.incheon.go.kr/data/index>

What is the organisational structure?

As an independent department, Incheon's dedicated innovation team consists of **10 staff**.

Staff skills and profiles include:

- Public Administration
- Community Engagement



Spotlight | Participatory Budget System

Building on the idea that citizens should play a more active role in policymaking, Incheon has expanded its scope of civic participation through the Incheon Metropolitan Participatory Budget System. The city has organised and implemented a budget process that is directly managed by the local residents' council. Incheon also makes a concerted effort to provide accurate data and information that helps inform citizens' decisions. This policy innovation enhances the transparency and accountability of local government, while also enabling the administration to be more responsive to the needs of residents.

What is the city's innovation vision?

Like 50% of cities surveyed, Incheon has a **formal innovation strategy**.

The city most closely associates innovation capacity with:

- **Behavioural economics, nudging**
- **Resident engagement**

What is the city's innovation approach?

Similar to more than half of cities surveyed, Incheon approaches innovation capacity **both from a holistic / macro level and in specific areas**.

The top two priority policy areas for the city's innovation work are:

Social Welfare /
Social Services

Resident
Engagement

What innovation partnerships exist?

Incheon has developed partnerships to **promote innovation capacity** with other public agencies and city residents/resident associations.

To **improve data use**, the city has also developed data partnerships with academia and think tanks to collect and analyse data.



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What funding is available?

Like 81% of cities surveyed, Incheon has dedicated funding to support innovation capacity, which comes from the following source:

- **Municipal budget** (operating budget)

Incheon's funding for innovation capacity is generally directed towards **training staff and building capacity, and investing in digital systems.**



How is innovation helping the city?

- ✓ **Improving service delivery**
- ✓ **Simplifying administrative procedures for firms and residents**
- ✓ **Improving internal government operations**

The most critical success factors in supporting the city's innovation work are a **dedicated innovation team, a culture of innovation within the municipal administration and leadership from the Mayor.**



How is data used?

Incheon does not currently use data to align its budget process with its strategic priorities. Challenges preventing the use of data to support innovation goals include a **lack of reliable data, technical infrastructure** as well as **limited compatibility of data across policy areas.** The city also reports having **insufficient interaction with data producers** and that **data are seldom shared among agencies.**

Incheon **publishes open data to a central, public online location.**



How are outcomes measured?

Policy areas **with sufficient data** or **without sufficient data** to support innovation capacity in the city.

Transport / Mobility	Economic Development	Housing	Policing and Law Enforcement	Health
Government Finance	Waste and Sewage	Labour Market and Skills	Environment and Climate Change	Education
Culture	Social Inclusion, Equity	Public Works	Tourism	Digital Governance