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12th Annual Conference and Exhibition

SMART AI CITIES ASIA

2026

**Building Smart Cities with AI
for a Sustainable Future**

**KLGCC Convention Centre
Kuala Lumpur**

8 October 2026



Register Here



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Smart Cities Asia



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Overview

The **12th Smart AI Cities Asia 2026** builds on more than a decade of regional impact as one of Asia's leading platforms for city leaders, policymakers, technologists, and AI innovators to advance the development of future-ready cities. As Malaysia progresses the Malaysia Smart City Framework, the 13th Malaysia Plan (RMK-13), and the transition from Smart Cities to AI Cities, the event provides a timely platform for collaboration and innovation. Under the theme **"Building Smart Cities with AI for a Sustainable Future,"** it will examine how AI is transforming urban governance, infrastructure, mobility, public services, cybersecurity, sustainability, and climate resilience to create intelligent, trusted, and people-centric cities.

Key Verticals

AI-Powered Urban Management

Machine learning for traffic, predictive maintenance, and municipal resource optimisation.

Climate-Ready Infrastructure

Resilient design, green corridors, and sustainable building frameworks for net-zero cities.

Smart Mobility and Transport

EV ecosystems, MaaS platforms, autonomous transit, and integrated urban logistics.

Energy Transition and Smart Grids

Renewable integration, demand response, microgrids, and urban energy storage strategies.

Urban Health and Safe Communities

AI surveillance, smart emergency response, and data-driven public health infrastructure.

Digital Governance and Smart Nation

Open data, GovTech, citizen digital IDs, and interoperable public service platforms.

Inclusive and Equitable Urbanisation

Affordable housing tech, accessibility frameworks, and community-centred city planning.

Investment & PPP Models

Financing smart city projects through public-private partnerships and green bonds.

Attendee Profile

Government & City Officials

Mayor · Ministry Director · Urban Planner · Regulatory Body · Public Administration

Technology & AI Leaders

CIO / CTO / CDO · AI & Data Architect · Cybersecurity Expert · Digital Transformation Lead · Smart City Startup

Urban Planning & Engineering

City Planner · Infrastructure Director · Transport Authority · Climate & Sustainability · Municipal Engineer

Finance & Investment

Fund Manager · Green Bond / Sukuk Issuer · DFI / MDB Representative · PPP Advisor · ESG Analyst

Research & Academia

Urban Researcher · Policy Analyst · PhD / Postdoctoral Fellow · Think Tank Fellow · University Faculty

Property & Development

Property Developer · Smart Building Specialist · PropTech Innovator · Contractor / EPC · Real Estate Fund

Time	Agenda
08:00 – 09:30	Registration for 12th Smart Cities Asia 2026
09:30 – 10:15	Panel Discussion: Mobility Without Drivers – The Race Toward Autonomous, Connected, EV Ecosystems From autonomous buses and AI-powered traffic management to EV ecosystems, drone logistics, and Mobility-as-a-Service (MaaS), this session explores how intelligent mobility networks are transforming the movement of people and goods across future cities.
10:15 – 10:25	Opening Remarks by Selva Nagappan, Organising Chairman, 12th Smart Cities Asia 2026 and Managing Director, Knowledge Group of Companies
10:25 – 10:45	Keynote Address: Malaysia's AI City Roadmap – From RMK-13 Vision to Reality This keynote examines Malaysia's national strategy for AI-powered urban development, highlighting key priorities under RMK-13, digital government transformation, trusted data ecosystems, and opportunities for public-private collaboration.
10:45 – 11:15	Morning Refreshment and Tour to the Exhibition Space
11:15 – 12:00	Panel Discussion: The Predictive City – How AI is Transforming How Cities Think, Learn and Respond Cities are evolving from reactive management to predictive action. This session examines how machine learning, digital twins, and Agentic AI are transforming city operations and decision-making.
12:00 – 12:30	Building Cities that Survive Tomorrow's Climate: Resilient Design for Southeast Asia SEA is among the world's most climate-vulnerable regions. Urban heat, flash flooding, sea-level rise, and extreme weather are reshaping how cities must build. This session presents specific engineering frameworks, green corridor standards, and net-zero building codes being adopted by leading cities.
12:30 – 13:00	Green Sukuk, Municipal Bonds and Blended Finance: How Do Malaysian Cities Pay for AI Infrastructure? This session covers the mechanisms that actually fund smart city projects, green sukuk, blended finance structures, PPP contractual models, and how cities can access Malaysia's green bond market.
13:45 – 14:00	Networking Luncheon and Tour to the Exhibition Space
14:00 – 14:45	Panel Discussion: Powering the AI City – Smart Grids, Virtual Power Plants and Malaysia's Renewable Transition AI cities consume enormous amounts of energy. Data centres alone are reshaping national grid planning. This session addresses the other side of that equation: how AI-optimised smart grids, demand response systems, virtual power plants and urban microgrids are turning cities from energy consumers into energy managers.
14:45 – 15:30	Mayor's Forum: AI Cities – Designed for People or Designed on PowerPoint? The session explores the gap between smart city visions and ground-level delivery, challenging whether Malaysia is importing Western TOD models that ignore local climate, culture, and community realities. The forum debates equity, participation, and what "people-first" urban AI actually means in Malaysia.
15:30 – 16:00	Smart but Vulnerable: Data Sovereignty, Citizen Privacy and Building Trust in the AI City Smart cities running on sensors, cameras, and connected platforms accumulate vast citizen data, creating both opportunity and risk. This session reframes cybersecurity as a broader question of urban data sovereignty: who owns city data and how is it governed.
16:00 – 16:30	Fireside Chat: Will AI Cities Create Smarter Communities or Deepen Inequality? As cities become smarter, who truly benefits? This discussion challenges whether AI-driven urban transformation will empower communities and improve equity, or it will deepen digital divides, exclusion, and uneven access to opportunity.
16:30 – 17:00	Evening Refreshments and End of 12th Smart Cities Asia 2026