

# Partnering for Growth: Empowering South Korea's Digital Future

As one of the most technologically advanced nations in Asia, South Korea has cemented its position as the 11<sup>th</sup> largest economy in the world. To fully embrace the 4<sup>th</sup> industrial revolution, Koreans need to be empowered with future-ready skills today.

## Creating Real Impact in South Korea

Over the last decade, Microsoft partnered with public authorities, nonprofits and universities to equip Koreans to create real impact in the digital age.



## THREE BUILDING BLOCKS

### 1 Equipping Korea's youth and educators with future-ready skills

Youth employment rate has been improving, reaching 43% in 2018. However, it is still critical that we work alongside authorities, schools and nonprofits to further equip youth with future-ready skills.

#### Scaling our programs to more youth, educators and parents



Microsoft partners with nonprofits and Microsoft Innovative Educators in schools to build the capacity of educators on computer science education. In 2018, we engaged over 48,000 youth, parents, educators and government officials at the National SW Education Festival hosted by the Ministry of Science and Technology and the Ministry of Education.



In 2015, Microsoft started to run the Future Ready campaign in Korea. This engagement led to a Memorandum of Understanding signed with the Busan Metropolitan Government. The city is leveraging Microsoft technologies for K-12 students, in support of the local government's goal of creating a software-oriented society.

### 2 Creating diverse and inclusive workplaces

To ensure sustained and continuous growth, we must unlock the potential of women and underserved communities by equipping them with skills and tools for a digital future.

#### Creating opportunities for women in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM)



As part of our partnership with the Center for Women In Science, Engineering and Technology (WISSET) to foster female talents in cybersecurity, 150 female professionals attended the Women@Security Summit 2018. To reduce the gender gap in STEM, 150 young women also joined our DigiGirlz and mentoring programs to meet female role models and connect coding with real-world challenges.

#### Harnessing the power of technology for inclusive communication



A voice-to-text app called Sharetyping was developed by AUD, a nonprofit supported by Microsoft. Built on Azure cloud, the solution empowers the hearing impaired for effective team collaboration using speech recognition.

#### Unleashing the potential of students with special needs



JA Korea and its team of Coding Heroes provided computer science training to 3,800 youth, including youth with physical disabilities. JA Korea also led computer science training to over 530 special education trainees to scale inclusive computer science education across Korea.

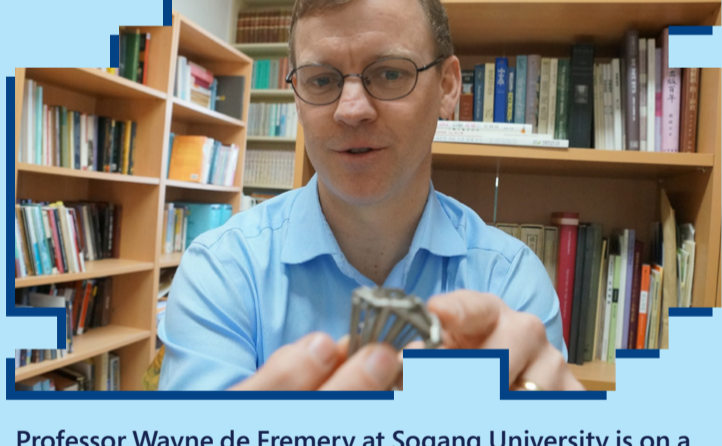
*"Instead of packing in more information, it was more important to us that every single student got to finish the mission. That's what made it a success for us."*

**Geon-hoon Lee, tutor to Tae-yang, a hearing impaired student**

### 3 Transforming nonprofits for the digital era

Microsoft is working with nonprofits – big and small – to transform their operations and workplaces, creating bigger societal impact.

#### Preserving Korean culture with AI



Professor Wayne de Fremery at Sogang University is on a mission to preserve well-known literary works with an innovative approach – 3D modelling. Through the use of Azure Machine Learning, the MoXoN project has created wearable accessories from the Korean literature. The project has received a research grant from Microsoft to advance the project in preserving Korea's literary history.

#### Empowering nonprofits to achieve more



Enabling nonprofits through technology is critical to increase their social impact. We engaged hundreds of nonprofits to increase their operational efficiency through cloud technology, upskilled 1,500 nonprofit staff to effectively use cloud, and addressed pressing IT issues of nonprofits with the support of TechSoup and Microsoft Most Valuable Professionals.

#### Making Beautiful Coffee with Cloud



*"With this program, Beautiful Coffee will continue to find partners until fair trade represents 1% of global output. I'm confident that it will create an ecosystem for ethical consumption."*

**Han Sujeong, Secretary General, Beautiful Coffee**

Beautiful Coffee is a nonprofit that advocates for fair trade in South Korea. It educates customers and suppliers on the importance of sustainable farming, and supports producers to lift themselves out of poverty.

By adopting Microsoft Cloud services, Beautiful Coffee is able to:

- Integrate information better within their existing processes
- Enhance collaboration between partners and workers
- Increase the productivity of workers who can follow up on tasks via a mobile CRM app
- Identify more fair trade partners through a centralized information system

## POWERING SOUTH KOREA'S FUTURE GROWTH 2019 OUTLOOK

#### Reskilling the Workforce

We will support the transformation of South Korea's workforce by:

- Partnering with local authorities to reskill women for industries with a shortage of talent
- Raising awareness for workforce innovation through cloud-related skillsets
- Partnering with LinkedIn to deliver online training for in-demand jobs

#### Igniting Interest on Digital Skills

We will continue our efforts to build future-ready generations by:

- Training 15,000 youth in computer science education
- Reskilling 1,000 educators and trainers on digital skills
- Inspiring 2,500 girls to embrace careers in STEM

#### Leveraging AI for Good

We will harness the power of AI to address societal challenges by:

- Partnering with local authorities for AI projects supporting community initiatives
- Developing AI solutions to empower people with disabilities

WE MADE THIS POSSIBLE IN PARTNERSHIP WITH

