

The role of architecture in achieving Society 5.0

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Abstract. This presentation will introduce the concept of Society5.0, proposed as a future society by Government of Japan, and digital policies toward Society 5.0 with emphasis on the impact of architecture. Society 5.0 means "A human-centered society that balances economic advancement with the resolution of social problems by a system that highly integrates cyberspace and physical space." Government of Japan established Digital Architecture Design Center (DADC) in order to design digital architecture in Society 5.0 and has just started some projects while gathering the wisdom of industry, academia and government. DADC will promote digital transformation of society as a whole by collaborating with Digital Agency, which will be established in this September.

Biography

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Mr. Arai is Director-General, Commerce and Information Policy Bureau, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI), Government of Japan. Prior to his current position, he served as Director-General for Policy Planning and Coordination and other two positions in Minister's Secretariat since 2016, where he coordinated wide range of economy and industrial policies. Before 2014, he worked for the Information, Communication, and Electronics Division of METI for 2 years. He has contributed to the growth of electric industries of Japan and expanded its communications and friendships with overseas IT companies. Before 2012, Mr. Arai was based in Washington DC and New York for 3 years. As representative of METI, his responsibilities included TPP (Trans Pacific Partnership), Natural Gas and nuclear energy cooperation between the U.S and Japan, Iranian sanction, China's Rare Earth issue, Electric industries, etc.. He also lived in U.S from 1994 to 1996 and earned his M.B.A in finance from the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania. He also graduated from the prestigious Waseda University in Tokyo, where he earned a Bachelor of Political Science degree.