Special event 4: Promoting Inclusion to accelerate innovation (14:45-15:45)

Ahrum Choi on behalf of Dot Incorporation

During COVID, we found that assistive technologies for people with disabilities are often marginalized. Hence, I would like to tell you why we should consider accessing information as one of the basic human rights in this so-called information society.

For example, we can easily find self-service kiosks in stores, train stations, and airports. It's currently underutilized for improving the customer interface. However, there is little consideration for people with disabilities. For them, it's just a display out of reach. Also, we face the challenge when we provide education to students with disabilities. Remote learning does not allow many opportunities.

Dot Incorporation is a tech startup. We focus on these challenges, and we would like to solve these problems with the technologies that we've been working on. Allow me to explain how we address these challenges.

First, we desire to make an accessible kiosk for all. In order to do this, we put a multi-layered tactile display. So, now the visually impaired are able to access information, such as braille and maps. Also, the hearing impaired can access information via a sign-language video on display. Last but not least, through an auto-height adjustment function, the monitor goes up and down automatically when the camera senses a subject. It's available to make access easier for people in wheelchairs. Second, we're working on the smart classroom toolkit. With tactile displays, blind students can access all the educational contents graphs, Excel tables, drawings, etc. like every other student.

Even in the face of challenges, we will get there eventually. However, we cannot do this alone. We need more voices to make the global societies consider this movement to better serve the citizens. I dream of cities with easily accessible facilities, having a variety of disability-friendly places for the next generations to come.