

ASEAN MAYORS FORUM 2017



50 Years of ASEAN :
Empowering Communities for a Stronger Region

26-27 July 2017 | Taguig City, Philippines

Empowering Communities for a Stronger Region

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We have capped the 3rd ASEAN Mayors Forum on a high note and the beat of the music being played as local leaders from Southeast Asian region signed the Taguig Action Agenda seems to echo to this day. It carries a message of hope and of striding forward.

The 3rd AMF coincided with the 50th anniversary of the ASEAN and thus, was aptly themed “50 Years of ASEAN: Cities and Local Governments Empowering Communities for a Stronger ASEAN.” By producing an action-oriented outcome document, it set into motion the Surabaya and Makassar Declarations of the first and second AMFs, respectively, which both highlight the need to raise awareness and educate people about the ASEAN, and promote a stronger ASEAN Secretariat through cooperation with cities and local governments. As sub-national leaders of Southeast Asia, it is our ardent belief that local authorities possess an important role in realising the ASEAN Vision 2025 and we are committed to enhance our responsiveness to the ASEAN.

Beyond the region, there are global landmark commitments (Sustainable Development Goals, New Urban Agenda, Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, Paris Climate Agreement, Addis Abbaba on Financing for Sustainable Development) that also necessitate better ways of operating at local, national, and international level. Decentralisation will be a driving force in achieving these goals since decision-making and the capacity to act can be brought back to the units that are closest to the people and communities. At the local scale, we need to have better vertical and horizontal coordination, a boost in people’s knowledge, skills and capacities, and exercising inclusiveness for better planning and implementation. An enabling environment that values gender equality and guarantees financing among others, will be an important factor to achieving the common goals and ensuring people’s empowerment.

On behalf of UCLG ASPAC, especially in Southeast Asia, I heartily thank the City of Taguig and the League of Cities of the Philippines for hosting and co-organising the 3rd AMF - and for showing us the renowned Filipino hospitality. I would also like to thank partners for supporting the Forum. Without a doubt, your neighbours in the region have been inspired to showcase their unique culture and values and lessons learnt.

As we come together in the ASEAN Mayors Forum, may it deepen our bonds with one another, and our commitment to serve the people be stronger.

Dr. Bernadia Irawati Tjandradewi
Secretary General, UCLG ASPAC



FOREWORD

Coinciding with the year the Philippines played host to the 50th ASEAN Foreign Ministers' Meeting, organising the 3rd ASEAN Mayors Forum alongside the City Government of Taguig and United Cities and Local Governments – Asia Pacific has been quite opportune and a great privilege for the League of Cities of the Philippines. The League is grateful to be part of this momentous event and for the opportunity to highlight the accomplishments of Philippine cities in promoting effective local governance amid rapid growth in the Southeast Asia region. With the 3rd Forum's theme *"50 Years of ASEAN: Cities and Local Governments Empowering Communities for a Stronger ASEAN,"* cities have indeed shown their significance in the achievement of global agendas and commitments through local actions.

Amid these triumphs, the ASEAN will continue to face challenges in its journey towards sustainable development. We must

simply continue to turn these challenges into opportunities to create better cities and communities for our people. The League is faithful to its commitment to its member-cities to stay at the forefront of securing their future through partnerships and advocacy and to keep rallying towards its mission of developing proactive and inclusive communities. It is thus critically important to keep in mind that there is unity in diversity – Philippine cities will work with ASEAN cities to be able to achieve the ASEAN Community Vision 2025.

LCP will continue to bring local urban governance agenda to a wider audience, and to strive in becoming an inspiration in letting the united voices of cities be heard. It is through local governments and local actions that we ensure that no one will be left behind, even in the smallest of communities.

We thank the United Cities and Local Governments – Asia Pacific for putting their trust in the League to organise the 3rd ASEAN Mayors Forum together with the City Government of Taguig. We hope that this partnership will continue in the coming years as we all advocate for empowered ASEAN cities.

Hon. Edgardo D. Pamintuan

National President,
League of Cities of the Philippines (LCP)
Mayor, Angeles City



The 3rd ASEAN Mayors' Forum (AMF) was a proud moment for the City of Taguig. It was Taguig's first time to host a major international event like this in collaboration with the League of Cities of the Philippines (LCP) and the United Cities and Local Governments Asia Pacific (UCLG ASPAC). Being Chairperson of the LCP, I could not pass the opportunity to be able to promote my city and highlight Filipino hospitality especially since the Philippines was also host to the 31st ASEAN Summit and Related Summits headed by President Rodrigo Roa Duterte.

ASEAN Integration and its impact on local governments, Sustainable Development Goals, and environmental sustainability within the region were among the core issues discussed during the forum. The City of Taguig actively tackles these challenges, being the youngest but fastest growing highly urbanise city in the National Capital Region. We have to keep up with developments and its environmental, economic, and social impacts without sacrificing the identity and character of the City as well as the quality of life of our people. I'm sure that this experience is similar to other cities in the Southeast Asian Region thus we can share and learn from each other. That is why I believe the Taguig Action Agenda that we all signed is an important document as it ensures collaboration among cities in the Southeast Asian region to ensure regional sustainability in support of the ASEAN Vision 2025: Forging Ahead Together.

My heartfelt thanks to the League of Cities of the Philippines for their tireless efforts in making sure this

event was a success. To the UCLG ASPAC, thank you for co-organising with us and for bringing the AMF to the Philippines to allow us to connect, share, and collaborate with our Southeast Asian neighbors.

I wish continued success to everyone. Mabuhay tayong lahat!

Maria Laarni L. Cayetano

Mayor of Taguig, Host City of the ASEAN Mayors Forum and National Chairperson, League of Cities of the Philippines



HIGHLIGHTS

DIVERSE PARTICIPANT OUTREACH

Approximately 400 participants representing the ten ASEAN countries and partner countries marked their commitment and support to the creation of the ASEAN Community by attending the 3rd ASEAN Mayors Forum. Taking theme “50 Years of ASEAN: Cities and Local Governments Empowering Communities for a Stronger ASEAN,” the event united high level city delegates to join hands and strengthen collaboration.

COMPREHENSIVE DISCUSSION

Three Plenary Sessions, eight Breakout Sessions, and Mayors Roundtable amplified support from respective ASEAN cities in the creation of one solid ASEAN Community. Intensive discussion and knowledge exchange took place on financing mechanism, good governance, climate change action, inclusive governance, and innovation for local economies. Discussions provided enlightenment, based on shared grounds, on how the leaders can move forward for their cities and the region.



ASEAN MAYORS FORUM WAY FORWARD

Distinguished leaders and participants of the 3rd ASEAN Mayors Forum agreed to hold the ASEAN Mayors Forum as an annual event; a concrete step to intensify the eye-opening discussion and accelerate knowledge exchange that occurs in respective cities in order that city leaders could continuously contribute to the development of strong ASEAN region.

TAGUIG ACTION AGENDA

Mayors and city leaders attending the 3rd ASEAN Mayors Forum committed to focus all possible efforts to the establishment of the region's community, by increasingly activating the role of local governments at local level and encouraging active participation in formal ASEAN meeting to address issues besetting local governments and build stronger partnerships. It was also agreed that the ASEAN local governments would regularly review the progress of the Taguig Action Agenda and undertake to convene as a unified body every two years.



2 Days



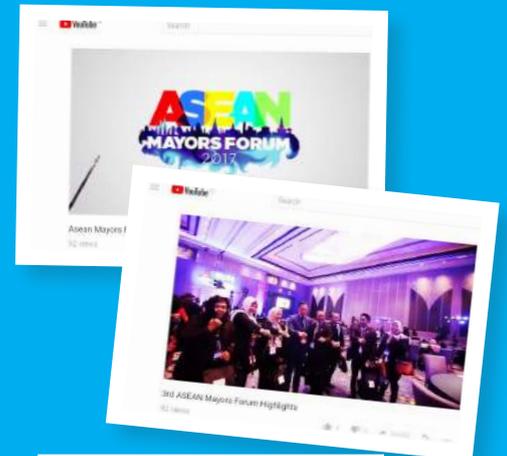
400 Participants



16 Countries

ONLINE EXPOSURE

The 3rd #ASEANMayors Forum event enjoyed online exposure



LOCAL GOVERNMENT AT THE FOREFRONT

UCLG ASPAC - BOGOR CITY MOU SIGNING

Bernadia Irawati Tjandradewi, Secretary General of UCLG ASPAC, signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Bogor City Government, represented by Mayor Bima Arya Sugiarto. The MoU augments the pace of development by prioritising the city needs and improving service delivery mechanism and capacity building of its municipal personnel.



LEAGUE OF CITIES OF THE PHILIPPINES (LCP) - MINDANAO DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

The League of Cities of the Philippines (LCP), represented by its National President, Mayor Edgardo Pamintuan, and Mindanao Development Authority (MinDA), represented by its Chairman, Secretary Datu Hj. Abul Khayr Alonto, signed a Memorandum of Cooperation (MOC) to express their support to local governments of the Confederation of Provincial Governors, City Mayors and Municipal League Presidents of Mindanao (CONFED-Mindanao) amidst the ongoing crisis in the second largest island in the country, especially in the Islamic City of Marawi.

The MOC provides, among others, the commitment of LCP and MinDA to collaborate in extending assistance for the reconstruction, rehabilitation, and development of Marawi and other affected CONFED-Mindanao cities, guided by the aspirations of the Mindanao Development Corridors (MinDC).



LAUNCH OF BEST PRACTICE PUBLICATION

Supporting local governments in developing their respective city as well as contributing to the creation of stronger ASEAN Community, UCLG ASPAC launched a best practice publication entitled, “Borderless Mobility and Connectivity in ASEAN.” The publication highlighted the smart practices applied by ASEAN cities contributing to the framework of three ASEAN pillars. The publication captured the efforts undertaken by the local governments to the establishment of ASEAN Community as well as stimulated replication from other cities.



LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AND ASEAN - BOOKLET

UCLG ASPAC documented the important role of local government in the ASEAN framework, through a brochure “Why Local Governments Matter to the ASEAN Community?”. The booklet was distributed during the event to all the participants.



INTRODUCTION

It is estimated that 75 percent of the global community will live in cities by 2050. Therefore, cities need to make sure that they provide a strategic place for everyone and ensure that no one will be left behind. These are cities that possess the various aspects of livability, and places where opportunities exist for people to capture which can provide them with a high quality of life.

The 2017 ASEAN Mayors Forum was organised by UCLG ASPAC, LCP and hosted by the City of Taguig, the Philippines at Shangri-La Hotel at the Fort in Bonifacio Global City on July 26th and 27th, 2017. It aimed to foster a regional platform of networking and peers learning for local governments. It was also to improve awareness of local stakeholders for the regional agenda of ASEAN and to seek for more ways and tools to improve the quality of life and environmental sustainability within the region, in accordance with the ASEAN Blueprint.

The 2017 AMF covered the plenary and working sessions on various issues relating to its theme which was “50 Years of ASEAN: Empowering Communities for a Stronger ASEAN.” As local government is the closest administrative body to community, the role of local governments for empowering community for a stronger ASEAN was unquestionable.





Discussion included the Master Plan of ASEAN Connectivity (MPAC) 2025 which focuses on easing borders and to ‘prosper together’ so that the region can flourish as a single community. Specifically, there are five (5) strategic areas: Sustainable infrastructure, digital information, seamless logistic, regulatory excellence and people mobility.

Furthermore, the discussions also tackled the global agendas and commitments, namely the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), New Urban Agenda (NUA), local economic development, resiliency, and women empowerment.

At the Mayors’ Roundtable, local leaders shared their views of local governments’ role in ASEAN and provided challenges on how cities and local governments could contribute to meeting the MPAC.



OPENING CEREMONY



Ms. Maria Laarni L. Cayetano – Mayor of Taguig, The Philippines
Taguig City Mayor Laarni Cayetano welcomed the delegates to her city which is an important central business district in Metro Manila. She expressed her gratefulness for the opportunity to host the AMF since it is a gathering where participants could showcase best practices and at the same time learn from experiences from foreign counterparts. AMF was a venue to further promote integrated collaboration and cooperation among ASEAN local governments. She highlighted that the cities have a fundamental role in implementing national programmes designed to achieve global commitments.

“

We at the local governments are confronted with opportunities and challenges on daily basis. It is definitely hard to do it alone. I think it is the best that we learn from each other, collaborate and cooperate and work in synergy with one another,

~ Ms. Maria Laarni L. Cayetano,
Mayor of Taguig

”



**Dr. Bernadia Irawati Tjandradewi –
Secretary General, UCLG ASPAC**

The Secretary General stated that the AMF was an excellent platform and a good venue to raise awareness on various advocacies such as the role of women in democratic policy, and decentralisation of power to local governments. She added that the establishment of an enabling environment where local governments could prosper was needed and hoped to see it in ASEAN.

She said: “This event underlines the critical role and participation of local governments in the process of regional integration. In this Forum, we aim to enhance the responsiveness of local governments on ASEAN, and to be a valuable platform where the governors, mayors, vice mayors, and other local stakeholders can learn from their peers and grow a supportive network for local governments in South East Asia.”

“In the face of growing global disorder and straining of ties between nations, the ASEAN is an ideal example how nations can prosper together with strategic collaborations at multiple levels. The fundamental question has become inescapable: can it be done without cities and the pro-active role of their leaders? The obvious answer is: no.”

She further added that a large population lives in cities in ASEAN countries and more are expected to arrive; cities also generate a huge portion of national wealth.

Moreover, ASEAN countries would have over 250 new cities. They would require technical, institutional and financial support and handholding from the existing cities to direct their growth trajectory in the right direction.

She strongly advocated that “ASEAN connectivity would be possible if cities have access to resources and an enabling environment to generate resources.”

“
**ASEAN connectivity would
be possible if cities have
access to resources and
an enabling environment to
generate resources**
”

~ Dr. Bernadia Irawati Tjandradewi,
Secretary General, UCLG ASPAC

OPENING CEREMONY



Mr. Edgardo D. Pamintuan –
Mayor of Angeles City and National
President, League of Cities of
the Philippines

Mayor Edgardo D. Pamintuan said that the Forum is organised to explore ways and means to promote cross-border interactions between local governments. It is acting as a platform to establish partnerships to improve the quality of life and environmental sustainability within the region in accordance with the ASEAN Blueprint. He added the important role of League of Cities of the Philippines (LCP) in advocacy, capacity development and knowledge sharing.



Mr. Alan P. Cayetano –
Secretary, Foreign Affairs of the Philippines
Secretary Cayetano stated that apart from what the previous speakers have said about the AMF as a platform for learning, an event to foster collaboration, and an advocacy to establish a local government unit within ASEAN, AMF is also a call to consider ourselves as Asians. Often, we are made aware of our differences rather than our similarities.

As cities, we are faced with the day-to-day realities of governance, issues of basic service delivery, and how we as constituencies can serve the people better. While he congratulated the cities for what have been done in facilitating regional integration, he appointed a challenge for the cities to lead the way as the region continues to embark on ASEAN Connectivity. He shared the Filipino people's traditional value and practice of 'bayanihan' where neighbours help out one another, as a way to inspire everyone from ASEAN to imbibe this spirit in building up the region and its communities.



Mr. Catalino Cuy -
Secretary, Department of the Interior and
Local Government of the Philippines

Secretary Cuy shared that local governments are important in the development of policies that can benefit communities. He also stressed on collaborations and cooperation between nations and local governments for building better cities and bringing prosperity for all. He added it was nice to know that our counterparts from other ASEAN nations share the common desire and aspiration advanced by mutual support and cooperation persistent about peace and development in the region.

ASEAN CONNECTIVITY: A BLUEPRINT FOR A STRONGER ASEAN

Panelists:

- Ms. Elizabeth Buensuceso, Permanent Representative of the Republic of the Philippines to ASEAN
- Mr. Austere A. Panadero, Undersecretary for Local Government, Department of the Interior and Local Government, Philippines
- Mr. Allan L. Rellon, Mayor, Tagum City, Philippines and Executive Vice-President, League of Cities of the Philippines
- Mr. Aw Tuan Kee, Director, Center for Liveable Cities, Singapore

Moderator:

Mr. Anthony A. Abad, President and Chief Executive Officer, TA Trade Advisory Group Inc. and Senior Partner, Abad Alcantara Acero Law



People and constituent are the greatest assets of ASEAN

~ Allan Rellon, Mayor, Tagum City, the Philippines



Ms. Elizabeth Buensuceso, Permanent Representative of the Republic of the Philippines to ASEAN

Ms. Buensuceso said that local government units are the key to ASEAN integration, as it is them who implement and mobilise individuals or constituents. She mentioned to enhance ASEAN connectivity, we need to establish a network of smart cities, and initiate digital innovations such as open data network, support digital financial and digital data government network, strengthen ASEAN competitiveness by enhancing trade and logistic routes, enhance supply chain efficiency, and the last thing is to increase people mobility by providing information and facilities to travel and study in ASEAN countries.

She also added sustainable infrastructure is a key initiative and one of them is to develop sustainable urbanisation strategies in ASEAN cities.



Mr. Allan L. Rellon, Tagum City, Philippines and Executive Vice-President, League of Cities of the Philippines

Mayor Rellon highlighted that we need to invest in human capital development to plant the concept of ASEAN Community to the level of grassroots and make people feel the benefits of ASEAN Economic Community. He added it could be done by initiating employment facilitation, skills and professional development, and youth bridging programmes.

Furthermore, he said that local governments face multiple challenges, however these challenges must be looked at as opportunities. And local government heads must look at and compare their cities to ones outside their countries.

ASEAN CONNECTIVITY:

- 1. Physical connectivity
- 2. Institutional connectivity
- 3. People to people connectivity

SDGs:

- Goal 6: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure
- Goal 11: Sustainable City and Communities
- Goal 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institution
- Goal 17: Partnership for the Goals

Key points of discussion:

- ASEAN must be connected. It can be achieved through physical, institutional, people-to-people connectivity based on MPAC 2025.
- Improving governance at a local level will lead to a stronger ASEAN connectivity.



Mr. Austere A. Panadero,
Undersecretary for Local Government, Department of the Interior and Local Government, The Philippines

Mr. Panadero highlighted the need for improving local government’s performance as this would lead to a stronger connectivity in ASEAN.



Mr. Aw Tuan Kee,
Director, Center for Liveable Cities, Singapore

He added a point about improving people connectivity by investing in the rehabilitation and maintenance of core local roads connected with national road networks and local economic driver. On developing digital innovation, he mentioned that we need to provide transparency, business facilitation and service delivery.

He presented Singaporean development from infrastructure to healthcare that truly featured the country’s people-first use of technology. Mr. Tuan Kee relayed that as the ASEAN is rapidly urbanising, we must learn to use new technology and innovation to improve government, economy, and society.



TAKEAWAY POINTS

The key takeaway from the session’s presenters is connectivity, through the guidance of a framework that is measurable and attainable the MPAC 2025. ASEAN local governments must work towards the fulfilment of the MPAC 2025 by collaborating with ASEAN neighbors.

“
Development is not about being high-tech or futuristic, but instead about fully addressing the needs of the people

~ Aw Tuan Kee, Director, Center for Liveable Cities, Singapore

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CONNECTING THE ASEAN VISION WITH THE GLOBAL COMMITMENTS

Panelists:

- Mr. Lee Yoong Yoong, Director, Community Affairs Directorate, ASEAN Secretariat
- Dato' Maimunah Mohd Syarif, Mayor, City Council of Penang Island, Penang, and former Mayor, Seberang Perai, Malaysia (Currently the Executive Director, UN-Habitat)
- Ms. Aida Jean Manipon, National Coordinator, UN Women Philippines Project Office
- Ms. Frances Veronica Victorio, Secretary, Climate Change Commission-Philippines
- Mr. Atsushi Koresawa, Regional Director, UN-Habitat Regional Office Asia Pacific (ROAP)

Moderator:

Mr. Christopher E. Rollo, Country Programme Manager, UN-Habitat Philippines



Mr. Lee Yoong Yoong,
Director, Community Affairs
Directorate, ASEAN Secretariat

Mr. Yoong Yoong from the ASEAN Secretariat shared all aspects of ASEAN community, including ASEAN Political-Security Community, ASEAN Economic Community, ASEAN and Socio-Cultural community. He elaborated the mechanism from all aspects to translate global commitments into concrete actions.

He added what ASEAN does now. It is engaging people and communities, enhancing the role of regional organisation and improving urban resilience in ASEAN.



**Dato' Maimunah
Mohd Syarif,**

Mayor, City Council of Penang Island, Penang, Malaysia (former Mayor of Seberang Perai and now the Executive Director, UN-Habitat)

She focused during her term as Mayor of Seberang Perai on how Seberang Perai is translating the global commitments through concrete programmes. For instance, she shared that in her city, they are implementing a gender-responsive and participatory budgeting process and creative place-making. These programmes are embodied in the 4Ps: public-private-people-partnership.

On one hand, she mentioned that there would always be challenges in implementing such programmes or projects. However, she also stressed that these challenges need to be undertaken by empowering the citizens and knowing what the needs of the people are, their strengths and problems. She added that good governance and smart system are needed to cope with the challenges.

ASEAN Community is the commitment to improve the quality of life of its people through cooperative activities that are people-oriented and people-centred

~ Mr. Lee Yoong Yoong, Director, Community Affairs Directorate, ASEAN Secretariat.

ASEAN CONNECTIVITY:

1. Physical connectivity
2. Institutional connectivity

SDGs:

- Goal 5: Gender Equality
- Goal 7: Affordable and Clean Energy
- Goal 13: Climate Change
- Goal 15: Life on Land
- Goal 17: Partnership for the Goals

Key points of discussion:

- How can cities and local governments incorporate the elements of the global commitments in their local agenda?
- How do these global agendas correspond to the ASEAN vision?



Ms. Aida Jean Manipon,
National Coordinator, UN Women
Philippines Project Office
She explained about the
SDGs and the role of cities in
implementing the goals and
shared the localisation of MDGs
in the Philippines that involved
national government, cities,
community, family and children.



**Ms. Frances Veronica
Victorio,**
Commissioner, Climate Change
Commission, Philippines
She shared the environmental
issues such as climate change,
importance of life on earth and
disaster risk. She added that from
Global Climate Risk Index 2015,
Philippines is ranked 5th in the
world and 1st in South East Asia.
For the country together with
its sub-national governments
to succeed in tackling these,
they need to revisit and revise
intended targets, prioritise
adaptation, loss and damage
actions, pursue mitigation
actions in line with SDGs
and align national and local
climate change action plans.



Mr. Atsushi Koresawa,
Regional Director, UN-Habitat-
ROAP

He focused his intervention on the
New Urban Agenda and its action
plan. He emphasised the power
of cities with sustainable energy
and climate action plans. He
highlighted the following points:

- Focused: Concentrates on
sector where cities have
the greatest outreach and
impact to ensure that cities'
initiatives are people oriented
and people-centric.
- Flexible: Covenant signatories
are free to select the format
of their SE(C)AP as long as
it complies with the general
principles of the SE(C)AP
guidelines.
- Powerful: Gives rise to
the influence of cities in
current global development,
economic, political and
social circles.



TAKEAWAY POINTS

The key takeaway from the session's presenters is the importance of implementing global landmark commitments including SDGs, the New Urban Agenda, and Paris Climate Agreement, and with a keen understanding of their interrelatedness.

RE-IMAGINING ASEAN CITIES: INTELLIGENT, RESOURCE EFFICIENT AND INNOVATIVE

Panelists:

- Ms. Swati Mathur, Programme Director, Common Purpose Asia Pacific, Singapore
- Dr. Anu Ramaswami, Chair, Science Technology and Environmental Policy, University of Minnesota, USA and Member-International Resource Panel, UN Environment
- Mr. Benedikt Seeman, Resident Representative, Konrad Adenauer Stiftung Philippines Office
- Mr. Edgardo D. Pamintuan, Mayor, Angeles City, Philippines and President, LCP
- Ms. Maria Lourdes Turalde-Jarabe, Undersecretary for Operations and Programmes, Department of Social Welfare and Development, the Philippines
- Mr. H. Benyamin Davnie, Vice Mayor, South Tangerang, Indonesia

Moderator:

Ms. Krisel Lagman-Luistro, Mayor, Tabaco City, and Focal Mayor for Education, LCP



Ms. Swati Mathur, Programme Director, Common Purpose Asia Pacific, Singapore
She explained why leaders need to have cultural intelligence. For a diverse region like ASEAN, it is important to develop a cadre of culturally intelligent leaders. It is needed as it is a gateway to more collaboration, networks, and trust and a magnet for more innovation.



They don't see heterogeneity as threatening; they see it as creative, exciting, inspiring and enriching.

~ Ms. Swati Mathur, Programme Director, Common Purpose Asia Pacific, Singapore



Dr. Anu Ramaswami, Chair, Science Technology and Environmental Policy, University of Minnesota, USA, and Member - International Resource Panel, UN Environment
Dr. Ramaswami said that the ASEAN is a region with fast growth rates and projections show that there can be 212 million new urban residents that will join the current 316 million urbanites. Without an advanced planning, this growth will make cities have poor infrastructure and increase inequalities.

The strategies to avoid these problems are to improve land use and transportation planning, to develop resource efficiency through buildings and energy, and to implement cross sectoral waste to value projects.

ASEAN CONNECTIVITY:

1. Physical connectivity
2. Institutional connectivity
3. People to people connectivity

SDGs:

- Goal 4: Quality Education
- Goal 6: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure
- Goal 11: Sustainable City and Communities
- Goal 13: Climate Change
- Goal 17: Partnership for Life

Key points of discussion:

- Cultural intelligence for leaders to work across boundaries and communicate effectively and build diverse networks necessary to solve messy problems.
- Cities need to be resource-efficient. This can be done by developing technological innovation and demanding change over the whole resource of life cycle from the extraction and use of raw materials through disposal.



Mr. Benedikt Seemann,

Resident Representative,
Konrad-Adenauer Stiftung

He said the problem in many countries and cities is corruption. Corruption can affect investment in several aspects, such as reputation, livelihood, economic growth, culture and security. Integrity, which is shown by a high trust in the government, is a key criteria in investing. A government that has the trust of its people as well as from outside, will attract more foreign direct investment and thus lead to the creation of more jobs.

He shared a case study from KAS's project in the Philippines entitled "Partnership for Integrity for Jobs Creation." It is a partnership between public officials, civil society and business in creating a better pro-active decision making and better service delivery. It helps in promoting good governance, focusing on the purpose of public service, and making informed transparent decisions in public office.



Ms. Maria Lourdes Turalde-Jarabe,

Undersecretary for Operations and Programmes, Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), the Philippines

She explained about concrete programmes of the social welfare department in the Philippines and the importance of forging strategic partnership with the local governments for the sustainability of government programmes. DSWD works with local government to implement the programmes that can realise its vision of all Filipinos being free from hunger, poverty, and having equal access to opportunities.



Mr. Edgardo D. Pamintuan,

Mayor, Angeles City,
The Philippines

National President, League of Cities of The Philippines

Mayor Ed Pamintuan closed the session by discussing his efforts in Angeles City, particularly in delivering basic services and improving public spaces. He highlighted that we should expand and deepen the meaning of integration, including ensuring security, safety and well-being of our people within and across our borders.

TAKEAWAY POINTS

The key takeaway from the session's presenters is to embrace the diversity of the ASEAN and to use it as an opportunity to become innovative and to enhance cooperation to address urban issues.

National and local governments should be aware of urban growth and its consequences, and be prepared for it so that its delivery of public services and people's quality of life will not deteriorate.



MAYORS ROUNDTABLE



Local government serves a threefold purpose. It is to administer supplying goods and services, to provide or organise local public services, and to be the catalyst as well as a driver for local development through their innovation and leadership.

Local government is placed on the front lines of some of the most challenging issues in development. International stakeholders have shown commitment in supporting local government's functions and performance, which can be seen from the implementation of SDGs. The three (3) pillars of ASEAN, which are political-security, economic, and socio-culture, is one way to show the region's intention to enhance their connectivity and to bring closer integration. The mayors then elaborated their concrete contribution in manifesting the ASEAN connectivity agenda.

Dato' Maimmunah Mohd Sharif moderated the Mayors Roundtable which gathers local leaders to explore the role of local governments to implement regional agenda, specifically the vision of the ASEAN. She introduced the session by asking, what is our role as mayors to make things happen? Part of this includes sharing best practices – “sharing is caring” and reinventing the wheel is not necessary. Rather, these best practices can be adapted by the cities. Having an action plan is also crucial, and working as a team in order to achieve more.



The mayors gave their answers and perspectives to the following questions:

In what way can local government contribute to the realisation of ASEAN community and regional connectivity?

(Iriga) Given that we face diverse challenges, we realise that we cannot stand alone and we can work together on these beyond our localities. Once we have ‘perfected’ our internal management, we have to also go outside and see what is being done in other parts of the world.

(Yangon) Through community-level engagement, for example promoting home-stay tourism so visitors can learn more about the country.

What will be the lesson learned from your current programs/policies relevant to ASEAN Community and connectivity?

(Bogor) The participation of the local leaders is important. It broadens our knowledge and expands our network. We should encourage our fellow local leaders to attend gatherings such as the AMF.

From Bogor experience, with the “triple helix” model, development progress can be accelerated with the engagement of the government, business actors, and the community.

(Iriga) Through our exchange program on farming with Korea, our farmers gained a lot of knowledge from Korean counterparts which they have brought back to our city. One result is that we developed an inventory of our assets.

(Ormoc) There is lack of mention on peace and security, this needs to be improved because this issue is strongly affecting our development.

Your plan to sustain the city-to-city as well as local governments cooperation including collaboration with your neighboring municipalities (transborder collaboration) amongst ASEAN countries. Please mention the specific interest thematic areas for cooperation.

(Kota Kinabalu) City-to-city visit, for example, we have signed MoU with Puerto Princesa, highlighting culture as a point of cooperation, such as both having UNESCO World Heritage Site, and also organising and inviting other nations to events, like Dragonboat racing.

(Zamboanga) Sharing of experiences and practices, especially Zamboanga is keen to cooperate on peace and security, health and education. Also, Zamboanga has a very rich culture, and this is shared with others through local feasts and festivals, and other cultural celebrations (ex. Fiesta Pilar).

(NMLT Representative, Thailand) After seeing and hearing from several lady mayors at AMF, we are impressed and encouraged to send a strong message to our board (composed of only two (2) lady mayors, currently) on the importance of the gender perspective and also decentralisation.

MAYORS ROUNDTABLE

What kind of supporting mechanism (i.e legislative framework, finance, and others) do you need to foster transborder cooperation in ASEAN?

(Yangon) Including ASEAN in the basic education curriculum.

(Laos) We need the good 'push' from ASEAN Secretariat, for example, they can give more scholarships. Make more projects for the youth. Local government unit should be established to enhance city-to-city cooperation and ASEAN sustainability.

(Cambodia) Capacity building for officials is needed about ASEAN and the different common themes that affect the region.

(Bais) Aside from the knowledge from other countries, tangible support can also be offered/

transferred to the places that are in need. For example, the machines that are used in disaster relief/rehabilitation that other rich nations just dispose or no longer use. Many places do not have these equipments and it would be good if we can find ways to get these.

Your commitment to join the regional celebration of the 50th Anniversary of ASEAN

(Bontang, East Kalimantan) To exchange about common issues so we can together find solutions, including on cultural development and environmental concerns (ex. forest fires/haze originating from our province that affect Singapore)

Feedback from ASEAN Secretariat

One of the values of the AMF is the bridge that it serves between local leaders in the region and the ASEAN Secretariat. Thus, it is critical that the points expressed by the mayors were heard by the representatives from ASEAN and vice versa. The representative from the ASEAN Secretariat appreciated the candid exchange of views between the mayors and also expressed a feeling of being overwhelmed by the issues they raised towards the ASEAN.

The size of the ASEAN Secretariat is approximately 300 employees, and yet we cover a region of 628 million people. Over 100 meetings are held annually. We are in the position where knowledge of the ASEAN is present, but few actually know what work the ASEAN does, Yoong Yoong said.

What we suggest local governments to do is to make work from the ground and continue to do so until your voice is heard to affect policymakers. Also, it is to synergise with your national secretariat because there is a tendency for the communications to stay at the central level. Therefore, working with the permanent representatives is important.

Become an entity associated with ASEAN entails steps and protocols. Meanwhile, raising the visibility of the ASEAN in non-capital cities is a key concern for us and local governments are important to help us change this.

Moderator's Wrap Up

Dato Maimmunah wrapped up the Mayors Roundtable and said that the setting up of a local government unit in ASEAN will be a long journey, meantime, we should pursue the means available to us including working closely with the permanent representatives of each country to the ASEAN and raising this issue, as well as obtaining accreditation and officially becoming an entity associated with the ASEAN.

She added that there are themes to be highlighted in the region, in particular, culture, peace, security, and economy.

In terms of capacity building, we need to improve education and awareness of the ASEAN, including capacity building for the mayors and other local officials. Lastly, along with capacity building of the local leaders, community building should also be part of our efforts.



WORKING SESSION



Financing Mechanisms for Local Governments: Challenges and Opportunities in a Climate-Defined Future

Panelists:

- Ms. Eri Honda, Principal Urban Development Specialist, Southeast Asia Urban and Water Division, Asian Development Bank
- Dato Maimunah Mohd Sharif, Mayor, City Council of Penang Island, Penang, Malaysia
- Mr. Kairos Dela Cruz, Associate for Climate Policy, Institute of Climate and Sustainable Cities
- Mr. Alfredo “JR” Matugas, Mayor, Coro II, Municipality of Del Carmen, Surigao del Norte, the Philippines

Moderator:

Ms. Angela Consuelo S. Ibay, Head, Climate and Energy Programme, World Wide Fund for Nature-Philippines



Ms. Eri Honda, Principal Urban Development Specialist, Southeast Asia Urban and Water Division, Asian Development Bank
South East Asia needs to allocate 5.7 percent of its GDP for its infrastructure. According to Ms. Honda, accessing these funding sources present some challenges for local governments. There are three factors for enabling private sector participation in public infrastructure investments. These include viable proposals for public investments, deepening bond markets to attract investors and fostering a well-functioning, multi-stakeholder institutional “ecosystem.”



Dato Maimunah Mohd Sharif, Mayor, City Council of Penang Island, Penang, Malaysia (former Mayor of Seberang Perai)
She said that local government needs to increase revenues and reduce cost in business. It can be done by maximising the source of revenues and reducing businesses cost with Gender Responsive Participatory Budgeting (GRP), innovation and creativity and partnership.

“Cities are hotspots of global environmental change, providing both the drivers and solutions for economic, social and sustainable development,

~ Ms. Eri Honda, Principal Urban Development Specialist, Southeast Asia Urban and Water Division, Asian Development Bank

Key point of discussion:

- Local governments face the challenge of reducing the fiscal gap between the financial resources available for programmes and projects and the expenditure needs of the local government.



Mr. Kairos Dela Cruz,
Associate for Climate Policy,
Institute of Climate and
Sustainable Cities

People Survival Fund (PSF) is an innovative funding source for local governments in the Philippines. The PSF is linked to disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation and mitigation measures, and recognises the role of local governments as ‘front-liners’, and organisations, in addressing climate change challenges. Local government units can submit their grant proposals for climate change-related actions to utilise the PSF.



Mr. Alfredo “JR” Matugas,
Coro II, Mayor, Municipality of Del
Carmen, Surigao del Norte,
the Philippines

He shared that in their jurisdiction, they were able to finance sustainable infrastructure through partnerships with the private sector and reducing the cost of maintaining the local government, in that way some resources can be freed up to finance key infrastructure. It is also by breaking down big programmes into small projects and matching it with existing financing sources from national government.

TAKEAWAY POINTS

The key takeaway from the session’s presenters emphasised that all should act to tackle climate change and its impacts, including local governments. However, it recognised that there are financing challenges and these could be addressed by implementing innovative practices, such as GRPB that captures various perspectives in the local community, and stepping up cooperation with other stakeholders.



ASEAN: Communities of Integrity and Good Governance

Panelists:

- Ms. Sitti Djalia A. Turabin-Hataman, Congresswoman, Party List-AMIN, House of Representative, The Philippines
- Mr. Rafael L. Coscolluela, Former Governor, Negros Occidental, Philippines
- Mr. Syamsu Rizal, Vice Mayor, Makassar, Indonesia
- Mr. Phokham Sayasone, Mayor, Sisatanak, Lao People's Democratic Republic

Moderator:

Ms. Marisa Y. Lerias,
Coordinator, DELGOSEA Network



Ms Sitti Djalia A. Turabin-Hataman,

Congresswoman, Party List-AMIN, House of Representative, the Philippines

She explained about integrity, identity and the right to self-determination. She added about her country, Philippines and how it has relations with Islam. She mentioned the kingdom's losses means losing the identity and colonisation in her country. Bangsamoro people struggled for self-determination.



Mr. Rafael Coscolluela,

Former Governor, Negros Occidental, Philippines

He explained about Transparency, Participation and Integrity in Local Governance, especially in the Philippines. He gave three case studies. The first case study is a project that promotes cooperation initiatives between local governments and civil society that seeks to encourage transparent and effective procedures for registering a business. The second case study is the Community-Based Road Maintenance Contract (CBRMC) System. It is a programme that involves the participation of local communities in the maintenance of provincial roads. He mentioned the benefits of CBRMC, such as providing quick responses to emergency repairs and how it creates livelihood and a sense of community ownership.

Key points of discussion:

- Good governance correlates with inclusive growth, but it seems challenging to achieve it.
- The government must create an effective framework for economic growth to be sustainable and inclusive for all. To do this, all relevant stakeholders must be engaged and involved.

The third case study is the Philippine Rural Development Programme (PRDP) - a six-year programme designed to establish an inclusive and market-oriented agri-fishery sector through strategic investments in priority commodity value chains (targeted infrastructure development).

He said these projects help in reducing poverty, promoting inclusive growth, and in creating jobs. Value market is increased by 20 per cent, real farm and fishery incomes are increased by 10 per cent, and farm household with improved access to technologies and information are increased by 20 per cent.



Mr. Syamsu Rizal,
Vice Mayor, Makassar, Indonesia
He shared his city's effort in promoting good governance, engaging people for their participation in local development. Makassar, the largest city in Sulawesi Island has been progressing well in smart city promotion.



Mr. Phokham Sayasone,
Mayor, Sisatanak, Lao PDR
He explained about Sisatanak City in Lao PDR and mentioned the similar challenges that are faced by other Southeast Asian countries consisting of flood, traffic jam, drainage problems and social disorder. Six indicators are needed to solve this: peace, green, clean, light, charm, and prosperity.



TAKEAWAY POINTS

The key takeaway from the session is that good governance relates to local development and there can be different approaches, such as community participation and innovation in processes, that local governments can apply to improve its elements depending on the city's challenges and needs.

Building People-to-People Mobility

Panelists:

- Ms. Abigail Binay, Mayor, Makati City, Philippines
- Mr. Bima Arya Sugiarto, Mayor, Bogor City, Indonesia
- Mr. Gopal Prasad Regmi, Mayor, Siddhantnagar Municipality, Nepal
- Ms. Jen Jung Eun Oh, Senior Transport Economist, World Bank Vietnam
- Dr. Sungwon Lee, Chief Research Director, the Korea Transport Institute, South Korea
- Mr. Jaime Leather, Principal Transport Specialist, Asian Development Bank

Moderator:

Ms. Mary Jane Ortega, Special Advisor, CityNet



Mr. Jaime Leather,

Principal Transport Specialist, Asian Development Bank

He elaborated on Sustainable Transport in the Asia Pacific, its challenges and opportunities for cities. Two main challenges in designing sustainable transport options in Southeast Asia are the unprecedented growth of cities, and increase of private vehicle ownership.

He said that sustainable transport should be assessed based on three aspects, environmental, social, and economic aspects and cities should have 70-75 percent of the road not used by vehicles. He gave some references of cities with good examples of sustainable transportation, including Hong Kong, Tokyo, and Seoul.



Ms. Jen Jung Eun Oh,

Senior Transport Economist, Transport Cluster Leader for Vietnam, World Bank Vietnam

She emphasised the importance of having a Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) system in developing sustainable transportation. Challenges in implementing a BRT system in cities are concerned with the Network (how to integrate BRT within the transportation system), the Busway (traffic management), the Operation (roles of public and private sectors in operating the BRT system) and the Communication (how to continuously engage people in achieving sustainable transportation system and convince them to take the BRT).

She explained the importance of having a regional network for cities that already have or are planning to have BRT systems. They can help each other tackle the challenges through this network.

“
Developing sustainable transport options in the region would require putting the people at the heart of the plan, and transportation planning should encourage mobility regardless of social class
”

~ Mr. Jaime Leather, Principal Transport Specialist, ADB

Key points of discussion:

- ASEAN focuses on making sustainable urban mobility planning and implementation.
- Exchanging knowledge on on-going regional efforts in promoting urban mobility within the framework of sustainable transport.
- This session helps identify the needs and challenges of ASEAN cities in developing a more focused programme in addressing the capacity gaps related to the implementation of local transport programmes.



Mr. Bima Arya Sugiarto,

Mayor, Bogor City, Indonesia
He presented Bogor City’s own practice of sustainable transport system. Challenges in Bogor’s transportation system are limited road capacity, difficulties in managing paratransit transport due to individual ownership of public transportation, a high number of traffic violation and centralisation of commercial areas in the downtown region.

He explained Bogor City’s Development of Urban Transport System including Paratransit (angkot) Re-Routing, and improving the capacity of local government as the public transport service provider by establishing policies and objectives for transportation strategy. In addition, he added his city’s strategy to promote Non-Motorised Transport Development through “Pedestrian and Cyclist Facilities Development.”



Dr. Sungwon Lee,

Chief Research Director, the Korea Transport Institute, South Korea
He presented the Sustainable Urban Transport Policies in Korea. South Korea has enacted the Environmentally Sustainable Transport (EST) and Logistics Law in 2010, which has succeeded in integrating mass transit, pedestrians, and non-motorised mode of transportation altogether. This Law is in accordance with the commitments stated in the UNFCCC and Kyoto Protocol. The law empowers the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport of South Korea to exercise long-term EST planning with provincial government.

He shared a case study from Seoul City in which its improvement is shown through traffic flow restraint.



TAKEAWAY POINTS

The key takeaway from the session’s presenters is that sustainable transport need to be developed in ASEAN, given that mobility is an integral part of its citizens daily life. BRT in cities can further be supported, and also integrating existing transport systems. ASEAN cities can learn from the success stories of other Asian countries in prioritising the movement of people, such as in South Korea.



Enhancing Disaster Resilience and Climate Change Actions

Panelists:

- Mr. Zaldy B. Patron, Executive Director, ASEAN-Philippines National Secretariat, Office of ASEAN Affairs, Department of Foreign Affairs, the Philippines
- Ms. Rina Suryani Oktari, Head, Family Medicine Department, Syiah Kuala University, Banda Aceh, Indonesia
- Ms. Aparna, Assistant Member, Institute of Architecture and Planning, Nirma University, Ahmedabad, India
- Mr. Bernard Barth, Human Settlements Officer, UN-Habitat ROAP

Moderator:

Ms. Maria Adelaida Antonette M. Cea, Regional Coordinator, UN-Habitat Philippines



Mr. Zaldy B. Patron, Executive Director, ASEAN-Philippines National Secretariat, Office of ASEAN Affairs, Department of Foreign Affairs, the Philippines

He presented the ASEAN Vision on resilience as embodied in the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Blueprint 2025. The blueprint aspires to establish a resilient community with enhanced capacity and capability in adapting and responding to social and economic vulnerabilities, as well as disaster and climate change challenges. It also aspires to increase competencies and resilience of relevant stakeholders in addressing said challenges, especially disaster risks and climate change.

He added that ASEAN has several mechanisms regarding disaster response, one of them being the ASEAN Humanitarian Assistance in Disaster Management (AHA Center).



Ms. Rina Suryani Oktari, Head, Family Medicine Department, Syiah Kuala University, Banda Aceh, Indonesia

She presented the Role of School-Community Collaborative Network in enhancing disaster resilience in the Tsunami affected area in Aceh, Indonesia. She emphasised the importance of education in raising awareness about disaster risks, through school-based disaster preparedness programme, consisting of, but not limited to, First Aid training, workshops on Disaster Mitigation, Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) integration into curriculum, and also through mentoring, training and simulation of disaster risks.

She added some challenges faced including funding, dependency on external actors to execute evacuation drills or DRR activities, the important role of the school's principal in sustaining the programme.

Key points of discussion:

- Reminding the importance of a stronger collaboration and joint actions among nations to address natural disaster and climate change issues, as stated in the Declaration on Institutionalising the Resilience of ASEAN and its Communities and Peoples to Disasters and Climate Change, which was adopted during the 26th ASEAN Summit in Malaysia, April 2015.
- Highlighting the role of cities and local governments as front-line actors in addressing climate change and disaster risk reduction, and in enhancing resiliency in facing said problems.



Ms. Aparna,
Assistant Professor, Institute of Architecture and Planning,irma University, Ahmedabad, India
She presented risk and vulnerability including lessons from a peri-urban case. First, she elaborated the adaptation of community’s strategies in reducing flood in City of Surat, India. She stated that flood mapping needs to be extended to peri-urban regions, and institutional process of urbanisation needs to be more inclusive and beneficial for all.



Mr. Bernard Barth,
UN-Habitat, Human Settlements Officer, UN-Habitat ROAP
He presented methodologies and initiatives toward integrating climate change adaptation and disaster risk management in SDGs. Cities and climate change initiatives consist of city level support, national policies/multilevel governance, and partnerships or knowledge management towards a sustainable, resilient and climate-smart urban development mechanism, which



has been implemented in several ASEAN Countries, such as Cambodia, Indonesia, and Lao PDR.

He shared the climate change and resilience tools in countries, such as Indonesia and Lao PDR under the framework of Urban LEDS (Low Emissions Development Strategies), and Viet Nam and Philippines under the Vertical Integration for Low Emission Development.



TAKEAWAY POINTS

The key takeaway from the session’s presenters include the need to better understand risks and to accept that there are different layers and contexts, in order to better address disaster and climate risks. Flexibility should also be enhanced by improving vertical connections and horizontal linkages, given that there are already good measures in place that could further be developed if there were more coordination. Finally, the needs of those at the forefront of addressing disaster risk reduction and climate change, namely the local governments, should be advanced by increasing their representation and capacities.

Transitioning Cities to Low Emission Development

Panelists:

- Mr. Sunandan Tiwari, Senior Manager for Global Projects, ICLEI World Secretariat
- Ms. Glynda Bathan, Deputy Executive Director, Clean Air Asia, the Philippines
- Ms. Dato' Maimunah Mohd' Sharif, Mayor, Penang, Malaysia
- Ms. Raquel Naciongayo, City Environment and Natural Resources Officer, Pasig City, the Philippines
- Ms. Maria Francesca Tayco, General Manager, Energy Renewable Asia, Inc. (ERA Solar)

Moderator:

Mr. Victorino Aquitania, Regional Director, ICLEI-Southeast Asia Secretariat



Mr. Sunandan Tiwari, Senior Manager for Global Projects, ICLEI World Secretariat

He made a presentation on Scaling-Up Local Climate Action Globally in Light of the Paris Agreement. He explained how local actions can be scaled up within the global context, in accordance with the commitments as stated in Paris Agreement, SDGs, and NUA. One of the initiatives is the Carbon Climate Registry as a global reporting platform for cities, towns and regions tackling climate change. Another initiative is the Ambitious City Promises, implemented in Philippines, Indonesia and Vietnam, with the intention of establishing strong GHG reduction commitments and local climate action plans.



Ms. Glynda Bathan, Deputy Executive Director, Clean Air Asia, the Philippines

Her presentation on Promoting Air Quality Management in the City Agenda covered the proposed a certification scheme for cities as a voluntary standard to give cities an international recognition for actions on air pollution, access to guidance in making informed decisions, and help facilitate cities in learning opportunities and collaborating with stakeholders.

She added that in achieving better air quality, cities need to engage people to take action, consolidate and communicate data on air quality, and implement actions to address air pollution.

Key point of discussion:

- Discussing cities' initiative in reducing gas emission, the roles of private sector and research institutions in local climate actions aligned with the global agenda.



Dato' Maimunah Mohd' Syarif,

Mayor, City Council of Penang Island, Penang, Malaysia (former Mayor of Seberang Perai, now Executive Director, UN-Habitat) She made a presentation on “Local Experiences, Lessons and Challenges in Transforming Seberang Perai, Malaysia to a Low Carbon Town.” Seberang Perai has implemented several projects in lowering carbon emission in various sectors, such as transportation, waste management, eco-community, energy, and also low-carbon infrastructure materials.

She shared her challenges in low carbon development including lack of low carbon policy/strategy, cooperation across agencies/departments, and difficulties in maintaining a sense of collective action.



Ms. Raquel Naciongayo,

City Environment and Natural Resources Officer, Pasig City, the Philippines She presented “Building Pathways Towards Low Emission, Climate Resilient Development in Pasig City, Philippines.” Pasig City identified the sources of emission including electricity, transportation, waste, stationary, and industry and has implemented Pasig City Local Climate Change Action Plan: A Convergence of Mitigation and Adaptation 2016-2026.

She shared his City’s initiatives to reduce gas emission, such as transportation - Mass Public Transport System (Pasig Community Shuttle Service, Pasig CBD Bus Service, Green Frog Routes), infrastructure building - Pasig City Green Building Programme, an approach in designing, constructing and operating buildings. The initiative addresses issues on proper land use, efficient water and energy management, effective solid waste management.



Ms. Maria Francesca Tayco,

General Manager, Energy Renewable Asia, Inc. (ERA Solar) She presented trends, opportunities and bottlenecks in low emission. She elaborated the potential of solar energy usage in cities and at the same time bottlenecks such as lack of public-private partnerships.



TAKEAWAY POINTS

The key takeaway from the session’s presenters is that cities and local governments can take the lead in reducing carbon emissions. Transforming into low-carbon society entails commitment of the leaders, raising awareness and participation of the people, and applying innovative ways to solve problems such as in solid waste management and energy.

Empowering Women and Promoting Inclusive Governance

Panelists:

- Ms. Sally Ante-Lee, Mayor, Sorsogon, Women Sector Representative, LCP
- Ms. Stephany Uy-Tan, Mayor, Catbalogan City and Co-Chair UCLG ASPAC Women Committee
- Ms. Neni Moerniaeni, Mayor, Bontang, Indonesia
- Ms. Aida Jean Manipon, National Coordinator, UN Women Philippines Projects Office
- Mr. Saediman, Ph.D., Head, Development Planning Agency, Wakatobi District, Indonesia

Moderator:

Mr. Bernard Barth, Human Settlement Officer, UN-Habitat ROAP



Ms. Stephany Uy-Tan, Mayor, Catbalogan City, Philippines, and Co-Chair UCLG-ASPAC Women Committee
She presented “Women in Economic Development” and emphasised the importance of women economic empowerment in government level. Catbalogan City has been focusing on enhancing women’s capacity in developing economic skills through education, trainings, and capacity building. She added that her City established City Cooperatives Office that is designed to facilitate women cooperatives in accessing government funds for their businesses.



Ms. Neni Moerniaeni, Mayor, Bontang, Indonesia
She focused her presentation on Bontang’s progress on women empowerment and its promotion of inclusive governance. She highlighted that Bontang City is committed in developing a gender-responsive system by engaging various stakeholders, such as the government, community, corporations, and the media. She also added that Bontang City recognises women rights, as stated in the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), one of them being the rights in public life and politics.

“

Gender-blind DRR can result in greater human and economic damages... if the governance and frameworks for disaster risk management is gender-responsive, the gender inequalities of loss of lives and livelihoods will be mitigated and the resilience of communities to natural hazards will be enhanced in a changing climate.

~ Ms. Aida Jean Manipon, National Coordinator, UN Women Philippines Projects Office

”

In promoting inclusive governance, Bontang City gives incentives and provides accessible financial capital for investments in various sectors such as fisheries, tourism, education and culture. In addition, Bontang City also collects women and children’s aspiration in achieving sustainable development through community discussions.

Key point of discussion:

- This session discussed ASEAN’s effort in mainstreaming gender-responsive perspective, gender equality and empowerment in government level.



Ms. Aida Jean Manipon,
National Coordinator, UN Women Philippines Projects Office
She presented “Strengthening Gender-Responsive Sendai Framework Implementation by Addressing the Gender Inequality of Risk (GiR) and Promoting Community Resilience.” She stated the importance of implementing a gender-responsive approach in DRR framework and introduced one case study from the Philippines.

In Philippines GiR, a programme is being developed with a focus on a collaboration with DRR agencies and actors. The programme is targeted to address the unequal exposure of women and girls to the impact of disasters, while seeking partnership with national and local governments and other stakeholders. She added that keys to successful gender-responsive DRR programme include national and local ownership of the programme, participation of diverse stakeholders, investment of human and material resources, strengthened knowledge and partnerships.



Ms. Sally Ante-Lee,
Mayor, Sorsogon City, and Women Sector Representative, LCP
Mayor Sally shared the efforts of Sorsogon City on gender responsive disaster risk reduction and management. Sorsogon has a vision of a life-loving city of healthy, empowered, values-oriented and resilient Sorsoganons in a livable, competitive and sustainable environment. Sorsogon has five (5) key words which are livable, competitive, sustainable, resilient, and inclusive. In the last key word, the city aims to be a holistic and collaborative city in governance wherein all stakeholders especially the sector of women, elderly, people with disabilities, are given the voice in addressing public interests. Disaster risk reduction becomes one of the priority programmes in the current administration. She added that Sorsogon carried out community-based hazard mapping, community DPR / CCA orientation, community vulnerability and capacity assessment, and DPR skills training of community volunteers.



Mr. Saediman, Ph.D.,
Head, Development Planning Agency, Wakatobi District, Indonesia
He focused his intervention on inclusive governance in Wakatobi District. Wakatobi has several departments; in its effort to make the government inclusive, Wakatobi has implemented BERSINAR Programme that is applied mainly in five sectors (health, religious affairs, SMEs, fisheries and education). He emphasised the importance of cooperation and partnerships with other relevant stakeholders: organisations, NGOs, and CSOs.

TAKEAWAY POINTS

In order to advance empowerment of women, and local and inclusive governance in the ASEAN Community, a strong commitment to the global and regional principles is necessary. Cities and local governments are at the forefront in this regard, hence women leadership at local level should also be promoted.

WORKING SESSION 7:

Making Sustainable Land Resources Work for Cities

Panelists:

- Mr. Ian Lloyd, International Land Specialist, Land Governance Innovations (LGI) Consultants
- Mr. John Meadows, Acting Team Leader, Swiss Agency Development and Cooperation's Mekong Region Land Governance Project
- Ms. Analiza Rebuelta-Teh, Undersecretary for Legislative Affairs, Legal Services and Attached Agencies, Department of Environment and Natural Resources, the Philippines
- Mr. Noel E. Rosal, Mayor, Legazpi City, Philippines
- Mr. John Avila, Senior Economic Growth Specialist, USAID Philippines

Reactors:

- Mr. Nino Raymond B. Alvina, OIC Executive Director, Bureau of Local Government Finance, Department of Finance, the Philippines
- Dr. Nathaniel Von Einsiedel, President, Alliance for Safe Sustainable and Resilient Environments (ASSURE)

Moderator:

Dr. Ines M. Basaen, Executive Vice-President, Gardner College and President, Gates Professional Schools



Mr. Ian Lloyd,
International Land Specialist,
Land Governance Innovations
(LGI) Consultants

He presented land sector and local governance in ASEAN and highlighted the challenges, including poor land administration performance, high level of land ownership dispute and lack of land administration and local land service delivery. He added that there was a need for a more inclusive economic growth, investments and local jobs.



Mr. John Meadows,
Acting Team Leader, Swiss
Agency Development and
Cooperation's Mekong Region
Land Governance Project (MRLG)

He focused his presentation on land governance experiences in the Mekong Region. He mentioned that large scale land acquisition done by investors (for the agriculture, mining, and hydropower industries) which is regarded as a main driver of tenure and food insecurity for family farmers. MRLG project overall goal is to help family farmers in Mekong to have more secure land tenure by strengthening stakeholders' participation in land reform processes and facilitating and supporting more implementation of policies and practices.

Key point of discussion:

- Exchange of best practices in land administration and management in solving issues on sustainable land governance in ASEAN



Ms. Analiza Rebuelta-Teh,
Undersecretary for Legislative Affairs, Legal Services and Attached Agencies, Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), the Philippines

She shared the role of government in land administration and management in the Philippines. Philippines Land Administration and Management (LAM) consists of various functions, such as, but not limited to, land classification, land registration, land use, land conversion. She highlighted the importance of each government level on land administration and management and stated that the legislative, judiciary and executive (national government, local government) functions all play a big role in LAM.

She also shared a case study of Bayawan City in creating a land-titling team and the office catalyses the adoption of land administration in their programme framework.



Mr. Noel E. Rosal,
Mayor, Legazpi City, Philippines

He presented the Philippines local government initiatives and a land governance system in Legazpi City. He emphasised that what is needed in land administration management were disciplined and pro-active local leadership, partnerships and networking, focused, iterative practical training, commitment and technical assistance from relevant stakeholders.

He added that what cities need to do in land administration and management include exchange knowledge on working models in land governance, improvement in coordination amongst agencies and engagement in local government capacity building in land governance.



Mr. John Avila,
Senior Economic Growth Specialist, USAID Philippines
He presented the Philippines experience in land administration and governance and elaborated USAID's current initiative in supporting land tenure work in Antipolo City as part of LGU-DENR partnership, land titling, land information system, alternative dispute resolution initiatives) and in Cagayan de Oro City through an organised land and asset management office, and land information system.

TAKEAWAY POINTS

The key takeaway from the session's presenters is the importance of land management, with an in-depth understanding of its complexities. Issues such as land tenure and ownership must be resolved together with the people, and better coordination between agencies concerned with land governance and the capacity building of their personnel need to be enhanced, as well as the proper implementation of policies.

Prospects and Innovation for Vibrant Local Economies

Panelists:

- Mr. Narongsak Tueansakul, Deputy Mayor, Chiangrai Municipality, Thailand
- Mr. Sieng Em Wounzy, Mayor, Battambang, Cambodia
- Mr. Bima Arya Sugiarto, Mayor, Bogor, Indonesia
- Ms. Nora K. Terrado, Undersecretary for the Industry Promotion Group, Department of Trade and Industry and Governor, Board of Investments, the Philippines

Moderator:

Dr. Bernadia Irawati
Tjandradewi, Secretary General,
UCLG ASPAC



Mr. Narongsak Tueansakul,
Deputy Mayor, Chiangrai
Municipality, Thailand

He identified several key factors in the successful creative economy industry of Thailand. These were good cooperation between the Mayor and City Management, partnership among leaders and local communities and various stakeholders, an enabling environment for partnerships, infrastructure investments, and productive planning of local government agencies.

He presented the experience of Chiangrai, famously known as City of Flora. With a budget of 10,000,000 Baht (approximately 312,000 USD), the City promoted local floral farmers' products and established a weekend market as an effort to promote handmade products, and also held art competitions to engage people's participation (musical, painting, social media competition). They also partnered with ethnic groups and local farmers, Provincial Public Relations Office, local schools, and the Chamber of Commerce and so on.



Mr. Sieng Em Wounzy,
Mayor, Battambang, Cambodia

He presented the leverage policy of creative SMEs in Battambang City. He highlighted that creative SMEs play a huge part in the Cambodian economic and social development. They contribute in creating jobs, generating income for people with low-income, and fostering economic growth, social stability, and contributing to the growth of a dynamic private sector.

He added that Cambodia and Battambang City have laws or policies related to SME. They have also given financial support for SME policies, bestowed responsibilities to sub-national government level, and established cooperation and coordination with relevant stakeholders.

Key point of discussion:

- The discussion revolves around the role of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) in the ASEAN Region, and the challenges of current local needs, increased competition, and local ability to adapt to the dynamic market demand.



Ms. Nora K. Terrado,
Undersecretary for the Industry Promotion Group, Department of Trade and Industry and Governor, Board of Investments, the Philippines
She shared the role of the internet in attracting consumer citizens, especially the generation of millennials. Millennials can improve the creative economy industry, to produce creative goods, offer services, establish creative social enterprises, and cultivate a creative ecosystem.

Cities in ASEAN should create a hospitable environment to accommodate creative businesses and enterprises. In order to do so, policymakers should place high regard on the importance of creative industry for public goods.



Mr. Bima Arya Sugiarto,
Mayor, Bogor, Indonesia
Mayor of Bogor highlighted his City's innovation in making Bogor as a vibrant and pleasant place to live. Initiatives include the expansion of public space, improvement of transport system, and so on.



TAKEAWAY POINTS

The key takeaway from the session's presenters is that local economies need to be supported and advanced by local governments as it is clear that there is much talent and entrepreneurship within the cities and municipalities that can bring greater opportunities, not only in terms of livelihood, but also for the city's development. Local governments should nurture MSMEs (which also support groups that tend to have lower income or fewer opportunities, such as women and the disabled) and also optimise the role of youth and the creativity and vitality that they bring.



TAGUIG ACTION AGENDA

Local Governments for a Stronger ASEAN



AT the City of Taguig, Republic of the Philippines, Mayors, Vice-Mayors, and other representatives of local governments from the Member States of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), adopted the “Taguig Action Agenda: Local Governments for a Stronger ASEAN.” The Taguig Action Agenda reaffirms and follows the Surabaya Communique’ and Makassar Declaration, outcome documents of the 1st and 2nd ASEAN Mayors Forum, respectively.

IN support of the ASEAN Vision and the “ASEAN 2025: Forging Ahead Together,” and with the understanding of the important role of local governments in engaging the people and ensuring that the benefits of the ASEAN Community is enjoyed by the people, the delegates concurred to implement the Agenda. It should naturally serve as basis for coordination and as reference document for future collaboration of cities and local governments in the region.

THE Agenda is designed to strengthen local government participation in the realization of ASEAN objectives through concrete actions at local level.

THE ASEAN local governments hereby commit and undertake to:

1. Formally organize an entity dedicated for ASEAN local governments that will serve as regional platform for collaboration that will be accredited and supported by the ASEAN Secretariat;
2. Collectively and actively participate in formal ASEAN meetings and processes to articulate issues and challenges besetting local governments across the region, in order to improve alignment and coordination for policy implementation, and to build stronger partnerships;
3. Establish a cadre of innovative and inspiring local leaders that will continuously engage key stakeholders and members of communities to participate in the realization of the ASEAN Community Vision 2025 which highlights people-centeredness in its growth agenda;
4. Implement key areas of existing global commitments that call for an active role of local governments including the Sustainable Development Goals, Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, Paris Agreement on Climate Change, New Urban Agenda, and Financing for Sustainable Development.
5. Forge a more resilient future by reducing disaster and climate related risks, preventing the generation of new risks, and adapting to a changing climate through the implementation of economic, social, cultural, and environmental measures which addresses exposure and vulnerability and strengthen resilience.

THE ASEAN local governments will regularly review the progress of the Taguig Action Agenda and undertake to convene as a unified body every two years.

ADOPTED this 27th day of July 2017 at Shangri-la the Fort in Taguig City, Philippines during the 3rd ASEAN Mayors Forum.

ASEAN Mayors Forum **TOWARDS ONE ASEAN COMMUNITY**

2nd ASEAN Mayors Forum

**Adaptive and Intelligent
Cities for an Integrated
Borderless Prosperous Region**

Makassar, Indonesia
Makassar Declaration

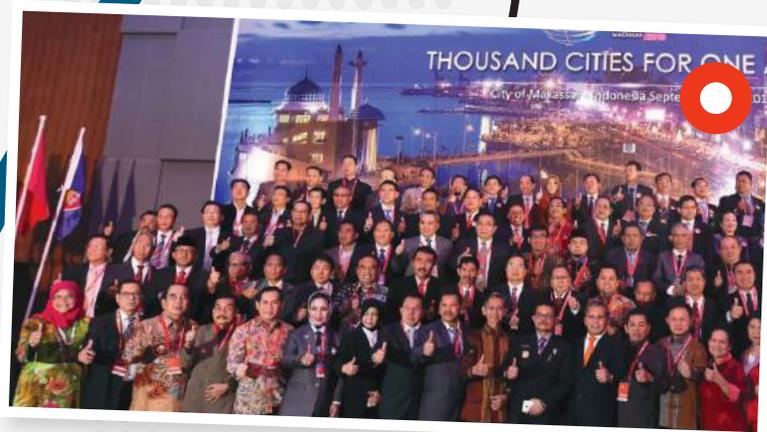
**9-11
September
2015**



1st ASEAN Mayors Forum

**The First ASEAN
City Mayors Forum**
Surabaya, Indonesia
Surabaya Communique'

**24-25
October
2011**





26-27
July
2017

7
July
2018



ASEAN Mayors Forum 2018

Building Sustainable and Smart Development in ASEAN Cities and Regions
Singapore, Republic of Singapore

3rd ASEAN Mayors Forum

50 Years of ASEAN: Empowering Communities for a Stronger Region
Taguig, The Philippines
Taguig Action Agenda

ONE ASEAN COMMUNITY





Surabaya Communiqué 1st ASEAN City Mayors Forum, Surabaya, Indonesia, 24-25 October 2011

“ASEAN Community in a Global Community of Nations”

1. The 1st ASEAN City Mayors Forum (The First ACMF) held on 24-25 October 2011 in Surabaya, Indonesia, was chaired by the Chairman of Board of the Association of Indonesian Municipalities (APEKSI), Honorable Eddy Santana Putra and was attended by mayors of ASEAN cities as appears in **Annex**.
2. We, the mayors of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Member States, have conducted substantive and productive discussions under the theme of “ASEAN Cities Towards ASEAN Community 2015 and Beyond: Challenges and Opportunities of the 21st Century”.
3. We take note the notation of H.E. Wardana, the Vice Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia, who emphasized that the First ACMF is timely and opportune towards the establishment of ASEAN Community in 2015. Furthermore, we noted four priority areas of cooperation proposed, namely Public Administration and Governance, Environment and Sustainable Development, Public Service, and Regional Network. The deliberation of the Meeting is expected to serve as foundation of a strong regional partnership and contribute to more action-based common policies and strategies.
4. We welcome the initiative of holding the ACMF as an opportunity to promote roles and contributions of ASEAN cities in economic and socio-cultural cooperation in the region towards the establishment of ASEAN Community 2015. While contributing to the regional integration process, we also believe that the ACMF can strengthen regionalities of solidarity, community engagement, public participation, and universal values of humanity towards transformation of a new ASEAN as a people-oriented, people-centered, and people-driven organization.
5. We affirm our commitment to enhance cooperation among ASEAN cities towards the establishment of ASEAN Community 2015 characterized by a caring and sharing community. In this regard, we realize the importance of our common goals in creating ASEAN as a peaceful, prosperous, and sustainable region. Further more, we encourage the exchange of experiences and best practices among ASEAN cities as well as with cities from ASEAN dialogue partners.
6. We feel the need to encourage the development of expertise through ASEAN cities capacity building, such as exchange of visits, joint education and training programs, joint research projects, mainstreaming gender issues, and networks of cooperation in facing challenges and taking advantages of the 21st century.
7. We believe that networks of cooperation between ASEAN cities can develop and improve the livelihood of ASEAN peoples. Therefore, it is essential to further strengthen collaboration among ASEAN cities to promote socio-cultural and economicities.
8. We affirm that ASEAN undertakings in three pillars of the ASEAN Community can only be assured through greater role of public participation. In line with this matter, we are indeed committed to promote public awareness and sense of ownership and belonging to ASEAN that in turn will contribute to productive interaction between ASEAN peoples.
9. We also share the same view that community building should be supported with effective public services, adequate means of communication, and infrastructure facilities. These conditions will enable ASEAN peoples to work together effectively and efficiently in sustaining the ASEAN Connectivity, particularly people-to-people connectivity.
10. We are of the view that it is necessary to establish the ASEAN City Mayors Forum, taking into account the prevailing national laws and regulations in respective ASEAN Member States.
11. We propose to convene the future ASEAN City Mayors Forum periodically on voluntary basis to discuss substantial matters that have become common interest of ASEAN and joint efforts that shall be taken to address current challenges. In this regard, we concurred that a Working Group shall be established to take necessary steps to examine the formalization of the ASEAN City Mayors Forum, follow up the outcome of this forum, explore the areas of cooperation, and formulate a work plan of the ASEAN cities towards the ASEAN Community by 2015. For this purpose, we will therefore seek guidance from concerned institutions and support from the ASEAN Secretariat.
12. We express our appreciation to the City of Surabaya, Indonesia for the warm hospitality and excellent arrangement made for the Meeting and to all delegates for their valuable inputs and suggestions.



Makassar Declaration on ASEAN Cities and Local Governments

We, Mayors from ASEAN member countries, participating in the ASEAN Mayors Forum and City Expo 2015 with the theme “Adaptive and Intelligent Cities for an Integrated Borderless Prosperous Region”; jointly organized by UCLG ASPAC, the Committee of Permanent Representatives of ASEAN, and the City of Makassar, have gathered from 8th to 10th September 2015 in the City of Makassar, South Sulawesi Province, Republic of Indonesia;

AFFIRMING that local governments play an important role in ASEAN, and particularly in building a stronger ASEAN Community, ensuring the implementation of the strategies under the three pillars of the ASEAN Community, beyond its constitution in December 2015;

DETERMINED to achieve the advantages and benefits that the ASEAN Community envisions and aims to bring to the ASEAN people, in spite of the challenges and impact for local governments;

EXPRESSING our strong belief that aligning our local development strategies with the developments of ASEAN will bring economic dynamism, government efficiency, and positive social, cultural, and environmental change;

REALIZING that local governments need to meet the standards of ASEAN, not only for the economic community, but to include the pillars of political security by highlighting good governance, upholding of human rights, strengthening cooperation on key political issues; and focusing on socio-cultural issues focusing on human development, women, youth and children, the elderly and persons with disabilities, indigenous people for better social justice and environmental sustainability, as enshrined in the ASEAN Community Blueprint.

RECOGNIZING that local governments' vision as part of ASEAN include four key elements:

1. People-empowerment - Cross cultural communication and exchange, highlighting the importance of youth as the future of ASEAN at the grassroots level to work for development are invaluable for the ASEAN Community to succeed and prosper, accompanied by decentralization and autonomy.
2. Integrated and inclusive approach - local governments deal with a multitude of issues that require an integrated approach. Critical thematic areas for ASEAN demanding attention and urgent actions include climate change, local economic development, tourism, poverty reduction, education for all, health and gender mainstreaming.
3. Responsive and forward-looking - local governments continuously strive to become intelligent and adaptive in response to challenges. To succeed, the promotion of good governance and the strengthening of financial options for plans to materialize are fundamental.
4. Heritage Preservation - The ASEAN Community should not lose sight of its heritage and preserving it should always be part of our identity.

URGING ASEAN to reach local governments, to assess their needs and to support the necessary actions to achieve solutions for the region common problems.

DO HEREBY:

1. LOBBY for a stronger ASEAN Secretariat dealing with the local government issues, creating a specific unit to coordinate the regional action;
2. URGE central governments to provide the enabling environment (legal, administrative, and financial) necessary for local governments, private sector, civil society organizations, and citizens to carry out their responsibilities and to maximize their role, reinforcing the necessary background for an empowered society.
3. BRING the central governments to support local governments and citizens for their active participation in achieving the forthcoming Sustainable Development Goals, especially SDG 11 “Making cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable,” as well as in formulating the New Urban Agenda with the occasion of Habitat III and its preparatory process.
4. APPEAL to relevant agencies to perform the necessary steps to undertake the following actions:
 - a. Raise awareness and educate people about ASEAN through different modalities and channels, including academic curricula, cultural exchange programs, social media, etc. Creating an ASEAN University for educating the ASEAN community and promote knowledge and sharing of expertise, bringing the people of the ASEAN member states closer together.
 - b. Organize an annual ASEAN mayors meeting prior to the ASEAN Summit to deliver the recommendations of local governments to the Heads of State and Government. Also, to create an ASEAN Mayors organization, spearheaded by UCLG ASPAC and its secretariat to support its operations.
 - c. Establish or formalize a platform, such as DELGOSEA to promote the sharing of experiences and good/best/smart practices, including prospects for replication, knowledge enhancement, skills development and capacity building.
 - d. Explore financial options, accessible to local governments, such as the establishment an ASEAN bank or the mobilization of domestic and international resources to address the perennial challenge suffered by many local governments lacking financial resources for sustainable development.

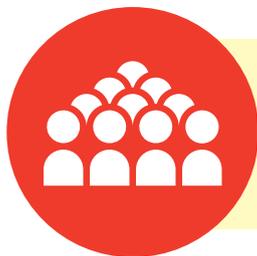
Overall, we agree to focus on the opportunities the ASEAN Community presents to us all, and to turn challenges into opportunities able to transform the ASEAN society. We commend this Declaration to be an integral part of the ASEAN Foundational Charter.

SIGNED this day
9th of September 2015.

INSIGHTS ON ASEAN



CAPACITY AT LOCAL LEVEL



Number of Population*

634,485,000

**) Number of Mid-Year Population of ASEAN Countries*



Population by Age Group

Age 20-54 years old

50.6%



Urban Population

48.2%

THE COMMUNITY OF OPPORTUNITY

Agriculture Sector



Export Share:
US\$125,707,000,000

Import Share:
US\$87,336,900,000

Manufacturing Sector



Export Share:
US\$886,177,000,000

Import Share:
US\$851,248,000,000

Tourism Sector



US\$45,992,000

Intra-ASEAN Visitor
Arrivals (2015)

Foreign Investment



US\$24,662,000,000
Intra-ASEAN Foreign Direct
Investment Inward Flows



US\$18,944,900,000
Foreign Direct Investment
Inward Flows

(in Cambodia, Lao PDR,
Myanmar, Viet Nam)

Source: ASEAN Statistical Yearbook 2016/2017

ORGANISERS



UCLG ASPAC

UCLG ASPAC is the united voice and advocate of democratic local self-government, which promotes cooperation between governments and within the wider international communities in the Asia-Pacific Region. UCLG ASPAC is founded to carry on its mission which, among many, includes promotion of strong and effective democratic local self-government throughout the region/world through fostering unity and cooperation, promotion of economic, social, cultural, vocational, and environmental development in enhancing the services to the citizens based on good governance principles, and becoming the worldwide source of key information on local government, learning, exchange, and capacity building to support democratic local governments and their associations.



City of Taguig

The City of Taguig is a highly urbanised city located in the south-eastern part of Metro Manila in the Philippines. The city carries vision to be a loving, caring, peaceful and progressive city serving God and all Taguigenos by inspiring and empowering them to dream, develop their potentials and lead meaningful lives. The city believes that the city's mission is not accomplished by simply maintaining peace and order, creating wealth and providing social services. It is truly accomplished when the city inspires and empowers its citizens to dream, develop their potentials and lead meaningful lives.



LCP

Protecting the interests of cities, the League of Cities of the Philippines (LCP) is committed to bring its local urban governance agenda to the forefront of the country's development strategies. As the mandated organisation of all Philippine cities, the LCP believes effective change in the national consciousness starts with the primary visions of local government units. Under the Code's Section 499, the LCP is finally institutionalised with the "primary purpose of ventilating, articulating, and crystallising issues affecting city government administration." The change in nomenclature from the League of City Mayors also transformed the character of LCP from an organisation of political personalities to a membership-based institution where the Cities - and not their political leaders are members.

SUPPORTING AGENCIES



ASEAN Secretariat

Set up in February 1976 by the Foreign Ministers of ASEAN, ASEAN Secretariat was housed at the Department of Foreign Affairs of Indonesia in Jakarta. The ASEAN Secretariat's basic function is to provide for greater efficiency in the coordination of ASEAN organs and for more effective implementation of ASEAN projects and activities. It envisions that by 2015, it will be the nerve centre of a strong and confident ASEAN Community that is globally respected for acting in full compliance with its Charter and in the best interest of its people. The ASEAN Secretariat's mission is to initiate, facilitate and coordinate ASEAN stakeholder collaboration in realising the purposes and principles of ASEAN as reflected in the ASEAN Charter.



European Union (EU)

The goals of European Union are to promote peace, its values and the well-being of its citizens; offer freedom, security and justice without internal borders; sustainable development based on balanced economic growth and price stability, a highly competitive market economy with full employment and social progress, and environmental protection; combat social exclusion and discrimination; promote scientific and technological progress; enhance economic, social and territorial cohesion and solidarity among member countries; respect its rich cultural and linguistic diversity; and establish an economic and monetary union whose currency is the euro.



Government of the Philippines

The Philippines is a republic with a presidential form of government wherein power is equally divided among its three branches: executive, legislative, and judicial. The government seeks to act in the best interests of its citizens through this system of check and balance. The Philippines is a Southeast Asian country in the Western Pacific, comprising more than 7,000 islands. Its capital, Manila, is famous for its waterfront promenade and centuries-old Chinatown, Binondo. Intramuros, a walled city in colonial times, is the heart of Old Manila.

PARTNERS



UN-HABITAT

UN-HABITAT is the United Nations programme working towards a better urban future guided by the New Urban Agenda. Its mission is to promote socially and environmentally sustainable human settlements development and the achievement of adequate shelter for all. With Philippine cities experiencing rapid urbanization in the face of climate change, UN-Habitat supports the country in facing the challenges and harnessing the opportunities that urbanization brings while ensuring that nobody is left behind. Specifically, the UN-Habitat Philippines office works with national government agencies, local governments and urban stakeholders in addressing housing and urban development issues.



USAID

The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) is the lead U.S. government agency that works to end extreme global poverty and enable resilient, democratic societies to realize their potential. USAID's Strengthening Urban Resilience for Growth with Equity (SURGE) Project is an activity of USAID's Cities Development Initiative (CDI), which aims to foster the conditions for broad-based, inclusive and resilient economic growth in eight secondary cities in the Philippines. The SURGE Project works with national government agencies, city governments, and other partners to unlock the potential of land to stimulate investments through an efficient and robust land market.



CITYNET

CityNet, the Regional Network of Local Authorities for the Management of Human Settlements, is the largest association of urban stakeholders committed to sustainable development in the Asia Pacific region. Established in 1987 with the support of UNESCAP, UNDP and UN-Habitat, this network of cities has grown to include 138 cities, NGOs, private companies and research centers to date.



ASIA SOCIETY

Asia Society Philippine Foundation, Inc. (ASPF) was established on March 22, 1999 by Washington Sycip with an aim to strengthen relationships, deepen understanding and bridge differences across the Philippines, Asia and the West. Asia Society develops cross-sector programs that bring together peoples, leaders and institutions to promote understanding of Asia, across the fields of policy, business leadership, education and arts and culture. Part of a global network of 12 Asia Society centers in Asia and the United States, Asia Society Philippines is dedicated in helping to improve people-to-people understanding and respect between Asia and the West, for a more united, peaceful, and progressive world.



WWF

World Wildlife Fund (WWF) is the world's largest and most experienced conservation organization, operating in over 100 countries through the support of nearly five million people worldwide. Its initials and famous Panda logo have become a powerful rallying point for people who care about the future of the planet and want to help shape it in a positive way. Initially, WWF's work consisted of protecting animals and plants threatened with extinction - not just because they are beautiful and rare, but because they are part of a complex chain in which the disappearance of even a single species can have far-reaching consequences. Since then, the scope of the work has broadened. Today, the organization also tackles the many forms of pollution which are destroying the atmosphere, forests, freshwater habitats and oceans - all of which sustain human life.



ICLEI

The ICLEI Southeast Asia Secretariat (ICLEI SEAS) serves members in Indonesia, Thailand, Malaysia, and Philippines. The secretariat has gained recognition from its experience in empowering local governments in the region by designing, promoting, and drawing external support to implement programs on urban resiliency, low emission development, integrated resource management, and other sustainability themes. ICLEI SEAS continuously inspires and invites local governments from provinces, cities, municipalities, and urban regions to forge partnerships for sustainability concerns specifically in terms of addressing climate change vis-à-vis urbanization; and encourage them to make this an important consideration in local development planning.



KAS

The Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung (KAS) is a political foundation, closely associated with the Christian Democratic Union of Germany (CDU). As co-founder of the CDU and the first Chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany, Konrad Adenauer (1876-1967) united Christian-social, conservative and liberal traditions. His name is synonymous with the democratic reconstruction of Germany, the firm alignment of foreign policy with the trans-Atlantic community of values, the vision of a unified Europe and an orientation towards the social market economy. Freedom, justice and solidarity are the basic principles underlying the work of the KAS. It works for people to be able to live self-determined lives in freedom and dignity.

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26-27 July 2017 | Taguig City, Philippines