



# ASEAN MAYORS FORUM

## PROCEEDING

# 2022



**ASEAN A.C.T.:**  
"Addressing Challenges Together"

Sokha Phnom Penh Hotel and Residence, Kingdom of Cambodia  
2-3 December 2022





**ASEAN:**  
One Vision,  
One Identity,  
One Community

# Foreword - Governor of Phnom Penh

On behalf of the Phnom Penh Capital Administration, I would like to express my high appreciation to Dr. Bernadia Irawati Tjandradewi, Delegates of ASEAN Capitals, Provinces, Governors, City Mayors, and International Distinguished Guests at the ASEAN Mayors' Forum (AMF) and the Meeting of Governors/Mayors of ASEAN Capitals (MGMAC) 2022 hosted by Phnom Penh Capital Administration. These meetings were a testament to the important role and contribution of ASEAN local and regional governments in building a stronger ASEAN Community through joint commitment, and strengthened cooperation and partnership to achieve the ASEAN Community Vision 2025 and promote peace, solidarity, and harmony among ASEAN cities.

The themes for the AMF and the MGMAC 2022 were in line with Cambodia's Chairmanship theme as the host of the 40<sup>th</sup> and 41<sup>st</sup> ASEAN Summit, and reflected the commitment to promote and coordinate efforts not only to address and respond to common challenges but also to deepen cooperation for a more sustainable and resilient environment in the post-COVID-19 era.

Trying to return to the status quo before COVID-19 and adapting to the new normal is a task that our cities must work on together. In addition, the beginning of the Fourth Industrial Revolution requires more attention to adapt to new technologies and innovations, especially to seize the opportunities of the digital revolution to take full advantage of the process. At this point, the increasing complexity of non-traditional security risks, such as the spread of infectious diseases, climate change, and natural disasters, combined with the speed of the digital revolution, has diverted attention. However, we should not just be focused on immediate concerns and reactive responses as these challenges require forethought of possible events.

The meetings underscored the priorities and strong commitment of the ASEAN Capitals, Provinces, Governors, City Mayors, and distinguished international guests to build a ready-made future for the ASEAN Community. At the same time, the plenary meeting became a forum for exchanging knowledge, experience, challenges, priorities, policies, opportunities, and good recommendations from national, sub-regional, and regional administrations that will further deepen cooperation to build smart, resilient, sustainable, and environmentally friendly cities in the ASEAN region.

The Phnom Penh Capital Administration is glad to have received good recommendations through the discussions. We look forward to the fruitful results and contribution of the cities and local governments to turning our results into action.

## **Khuong Sreng**

Governor, Phnom Penh Capital City Administration



Mr. Khuong Sreng, the Governor, Phnom Penh Capital City Administration, highlighted the role of local and regional governments in the ASEAN Community Building.





# Foreword – Secretary General of UCLG ASPAC | ASEAN Mayor Forum

We extend our sincere congratulations to the Phnom Penh Capital Administration, Royal Kingdom of Cambodia, for hosting the successful ASEAN Mayors Forum (AMF) and Meeting of Governors/Mayors of ASEAN Capital (MGMAC). During the meetings in Phnom Penh, we together witnessed and demonstrated the true spirit of collaboration among cities and local governments in the ASEAN Community.

In accordance with the theme “Addressing Challenges Together (ACT): Strengthening the ASEAN Collaboration through Accelerating the Implementation of Smart, Resilient, and Sustainable Cities for Transformative and Inclusive Urban Living in the New Normal,” significant issues, challenges, and opportunities to increase cooperation and partnership among cities and local governments in ASEAN member countries were discussed. To address these issues, AMF, the primary platform for local governments and cities, brought together a variety of stakeholders. The A.C.T. provided guidance and motivation to encourage and strengthen a sense of the ASEAN Community.



Dr. Bernadia Irawati Tjandradewi shared about how important the collaboration among cities and local governments in ASEAN.

Further, through various sessions in AMF and MGMAC, we witnessed that cities and local government leaders had an opportunity to exchange knowledge and share experiences on addressing challenges together and broaden networks within the ASEAN region. Through the “Phnom Penh Declaration” of the AMF and MGMAC, we have all agreed to lay the groundwork for regional cooperation between local governments. These two declarations demonstrate the willingness and confidence to create better local governments and cities to realise the ASEAN Community by 2025 and beyond.

The Governors, Mayors, and local government representatives expressed their preparedness to move forward with the development of smart, resilient, and sustainable cities. The development of strong bonds between people wasn't accidental but a result of years of effort, dedication, and persistence. Upholding unity and solidarity are of utmost importance for the ASEAN region to continue being sustainable and resilient. UCLG ASPAC and AMF Secretariat continue to function and ensure that integration and collaboration between cities and local governments go smoothly.

Lastly, I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincere gratitude and appreciation to His Excellency Prime Minister Hun Sen, Governor Khuong Sreng of Phnom Penh, and all officials of the Phnom Penh City Government, as well as to all partners, the ASEAN Secretariat and the various UN Bodies, for their cooperation for the AMF.

Together we build smart, resilient, and sustainable ASEAN cities and local governments!

**Dr. Bernadia Irawati Tjandradewi**  
Secretary General, UCLG ASPAC  
ASEAN Mayors Forum

# Foreword- ASEAN Secretariat

On behalf of the Secretary-General of ASEAN, His Excellency Dato Lim Jock Hoi, I would like to express that I am very uplifted to see the engagements and activities between mayors, governors, and major cities to support ASEAN Regional Integration Agenda toward the realisation of ASEAN community through ASEAN Mayors Forum (AMF), and Meeting of Governors/Mayors of ASEAN Capital (MGMAC).

Focusing on smart, resilient, and sustainable cities, the 2022 AMF and MGAMC themes are exceptionally relevant to ASEAN work, particularly under bodies like ASEAN Smart City Network (ASCN) and the Lead Implementing Body on Sustainable Infrastructure. As the urban continues to grow, sustainability, resiliency, and inclusivity issues require cross-sector collaboration with the national, local, and broader stakeholders to increase the standard of living of ASEAN People. Therefore, AMF and MGMAC could be platforms to discuss, talk and work together, focusing on emerging environmental challenges, technological advancement, and digital transformation, especially post COVID-19. Further, debating about sustainable and livable cities in ASEAN may not have an immediate solution. Still, the platforms are a good start for experts, mayors, and governors to observe the development of ASEAN Capitals and Cities.

In terms of digitalisation, it has been sped up and used by society, especially during the pandemic. COVID-19 is among other factors that speed up the development of digital transformation as the fundamental component for smart and inclusive growth. Digitalisation is also the key enabler for micro-SMEs to participate more in economic growth and development and generate jobs for the people.

Developing urban infrastructure to better people's lives and improving infrastructure productivity in ASEAN Capitals and mayors should be a continuous process. Having proper expertise and knowledge at the local government allows more accurate long-term assessments and recommendations while also implementing the conservation of nature and biodiversity in urban areas. Therefore, ASEAN member states should make a conscious effort to ensure sustainability, inclusivity, and resilience aspects are considered in infrastructure investment.

All these opportunities open the collaboration between capitals to capitals, cities to cities, or capital to cities, to further leverage the regional efforts and resources to strengthen stakeholders' engagement and to improve the livelihood of ASEAN people, in line with Cambodia's chairmanship this year, Addressing Challenges Together.

To conclude, ASEAN has been working together and effectively delivering economic prosperity, social advancement, and long-lasting peace in the region. Therefore, ASEAN Secretariat humbly requests the mayors' and governors' cooperation to ensure that domestic priorities are in line with the regional initiatives. To do this, closer engagement and collaboration with the ASEAN Secretariat, AMF, and MGMAC are needed to strengthen work and relationships.

Thank you to AMF and MGMAC organisers for holding this event. We look forward to welcoming you all to Indonesia for the success of ASEAN-Indonesian Chairmanship 2023.

**Lee Yoong Yoong**

Director for Community Affairs Directorate  
ASEAN Secretariat



Mr. Lee Yoong Yoong  
represented ASEAN  
Secretariat for AMF 2022.

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# Highlights



AMF representatives from various cities and local government in ASEAN

## Firsts

The AMF 2022 Phnom Penh is the first AMF attended by the head of the government, the Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia, Excellency Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen. This is also the first time that AMF combined with the Meeting of Governors/Mayors of ASEAN Cities (MGMAC).



## Participants

More than 300 participants from 10 ASEAN countries attended the 8<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Mayors Forum. In addition to city and local government leaders, the participants came from various backgrounds: city associations, national government, international organisations, United Nations Bodies, Country Permanent Representatives, civil society organisations, and academia. The event brought balanced representation from overseas and Cambodian cities. To ease the communication, the AMF secretariat and Phnom Penh Capital Administration provided four different language interpretation: English, Khmer, Thai, and Vietnamese.



## The First Face-to-Face AMF after COVID-19 Pandemic

AMF 2022 Phnom Penh was a highly anticipated offline meeting, which has been lacking due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. The AMF provided a live interactive meeting in which cities and local governments share their ideas and best practices and inspire other ASEAN cities for the betterment of the ASEAN region. Furthermore, AMF 2022 Phnom Penh benefited cities and local governments in enhancing the advancement of smart city development and maintaining cross-sector collaboration to achieve the shared objective of sustainable urban development and smart cities at the regional level. The Forum also provided more noticeable results by combining the knowledge, skills, and resources on the necessary technology for smart and resilient cities, which has been implemented by each city and local government.

The Forum successfully conducted five parallel sessions where the cities and local governments thematically shared their perspectives, issues, and solutions regarding the assigned theme. The parallel sessions were supported by three United Nations Bodies, UN-Habitat, UNCDF, and UNCESCAP.



## AMF Phnom Penh Declaration

The 8<sup>th</sup> AMF Phnom Penh established a declaration containing the statement of cities and local governments in strengthening the implementation of smart, resilient, and transformative cities post-pandemic in ASEAN cities. It also showed the cities' commitment and could be a sustainability strategy to maintain and monitor the implementation of the commitment itself. Further, the declaration was submitted to the ASEAN Secretariat as the AMF secretariat's contribution, which may contribute to the decision-making of the ASEAN Secretariat.





# About ASEAN Mayors Forum

The ASEAN Mayors Forum (AMF) traces its roots in Surabaya, Indonesia where mayors from Southeast Asia first convened under one banner in 2011. From this point forward, ASEAN mayors have regularly gathered as AMF - a network of local government leaders in the region and a platform to support the ASEAN Community Building. Several ASEAN cities have since hosted the AMF including Makassar in 2015, Taguig in 2017, and Bangkok in 2019 and have usually been aligned with the ASEAN Chairmanship.



2018 was a monumental year for AMF when it was accredited as an entity associated with ASEAN. To date, it is the only local government network to receive this accreditation. This was a clear recognition of the role of local governments and their contribution in building the ASEAN Community. The United Cities and Local Governments Asia Pacific (UCLG ASPAC) serves as the AMF Secretariat under the framework of its Southeast Asia (SEA) Standing Committee. UCLG ASPAC has been supporting the AMF and its activities since 2015.

As the ASEAN region moves towards recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic, ASEAN mayors once again gathered at the AMF in the capital city of Phnom Penh in 2022. In line with Cambodia's ASEAN Chairmanship theme on *Addressing Challenges Together*, the AMF 2022 had the theme "Strengthening ASEAN Collaboration through Accelerating the Implementation of Smart, Resilient, and Sustainable Cities for Transformative Urban Living in the New Normal". The 2022 AMF aimed to:

1. Strengthen the cooperation among ASEAN cities and local governments in building smart, resilient, and sustainable cities;
2. Reinforce knowledge sharing and engagement and discussion of the national and regional strategy, enhance the readiness of ASEAN cities to become smart, digital, and transformative cities and regents in the region and the world; and
3. Promote sustainable development among ASEAN cities and local governments to achieve transformative and inclusive urban living in ASEAN. Sustainable finance for cities and local governments was also be highlighted.

The 2022 AMF was organised in cooperation with the Phnom Penh Capital Administration on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2022 at Sokha Hotel, Phnom Penh. More than three hundred participants, including mayors, governors, and representatives from ASEAN cities and local governments and regional partners participated in the Forum. With the common goal of strengthening cooperation among ASEAN cities, for the first time, the AMF was held together with the Meeting of Governors/Mayors of ASEAN Capitals (MGMAC). Two key documents were adopted, the AMF 2022 Phnom Penh Declaration and the MGMAC Phnom Penh Declaration.



# Opening Session

In his opening message, the Governor of Phnom Penh, Mr. Khuong Sreng, recalled how the historical city of Phnom Penh transformed after its liberation in 1979. The city has now achieved peace and stability and has become a center of production and distribution of goods, and a tourist destination. Phnom Penh recently hosted the 40<sup>th</sup> and 41<sup>st</sup> ASEAN Summit in November 2022.

Phnom Penh is under pressure from urban sprawl, population growth, climate change, and COVID-19 and these created many needs and challenges but opportunities as well. Gov. Khuong Sreng remarked that ASEAN cities face very similar challenges and there is a need to think strategic responses to create a city that is not only resilient but sustainable and smart. Phnom Penh's strategic roadmap for smart city focused on five pillars: land use, safety and peace, city traffic, smart living, and digital governance. Gov. Khuong Sreng stated that "cooperation through sharing of knowledge and experience is more important than ever so we can achieve growth and prosperity for all cities in the region". He strongly hoped that ASEAN, whether at national or subnational levels, will continue to expand the level of cooperation.

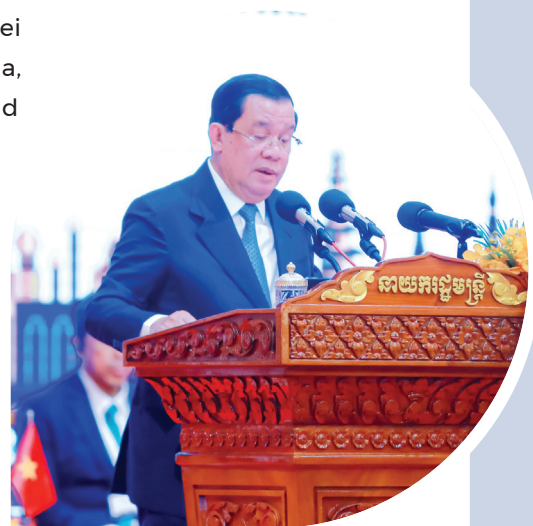


Mr. Khuong Sreng underscored the importance of cooperation in his opening message.

In his speech, His Excellency Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia, acknowledged that cities are hearts of countries and regions and that building smart and green cities with use of digital technology is the accurate direction for the present and future. He provided five recommendations to building and connecting ASEAN cities:

- 1) ensure peace, security, stability and prosperity;
- 2) improve living qualities of the people in terms of well-being, prosperity, and resilience;
- 3) involve all stakeholders including local governments, private sector, development partners, national and international institutions, especially local people;
- 4) jointly promote digitalisation; and
- 5) promote culture of exchanging knowledge and sharing experiences in building smart cities.

Prime Minister Hun Sen also requested ASEAN local governments to support ASEAN Green Deal which aimed to build green and smart cities.



His Excellency Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia, inaugurated the ASEAN Mayors Forum.



Secretary General of UCLG ASPAC and AMF, Dr. Bernadia Irawati Tjandradewi, provided her introductory message.

In her introductory message, Dr. Bernadia Irawati Tjandradewi, Secretary General of UCLG ASPAC and AMF, noted that the ASEAN sub-region is not on track in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and highlighted the importance of collective effort of cities and local governments in achieving the 2030 Agenda. She further stated that “To meet our planet’s and people’s needs, cities must be supported and governed to be sustainable, resilient, green, healthy, just, inclusive, and safe.”

She reiterated that the way cities are planned and managed to anticipate urbanisation will shape the development trajectories and lives of millions. She added that harnessing digital solutions and innovations can catalyse the efforts of cities and local governments to address urban challenges, create new opportunities, and continuously improve the quality of life of people in ASEAN.



Mr. Lee Yoong Yoong offered recommendations for local and regional governments when he delivered a message on behalf of the ASEAN Secretary General.

On behalf of the Secretary General of ASEAN Mr. Dato Lim Jock Hoi, Mr. Lee Yoong Yoong, Director for Community Affairs Directorate, delivered his message. He recognised the relevance of the AMF theme to ASEAN’s work. He welcomed the launch of the ASEAN Sustainable Urbanisation Report at the AMF and hoped that the report and other resources such as the ASCN Monitoring and Evaluation Report 2022 and the ASEAN Smart City Planning Guidebook could provide useful insights for Governors and Mayors.

He reported that ASEAN region’s trade volumes returned to pre-pandemic levels and the regional economy is projected to grow by 5% in 2022 and 5.2% in 2023. This positive development was due to the prompt response and implementation of the ASEAN Comprehensive Recovery Framework.

He also provided the following recommendations for the region:

- 1) adopt digital technologies to move ahead and harness opportunities;
- 2) make conscious effort to ensure sustainability, inclusiveness, and climate-resilience in infrastructure investments; and
- 3) engage youth as future leaders at local and national levels. He also requested the cooperation of local governments in aligning domestic priorities with regional initiatives.

# Plenary Session



From left to right:

(Mr. Leopoldo Bataoil, Mr. Amirol Hafidzin bin Haji Muhammad, Mr. Yun Linne, Mr. Mohd. Fahmi Aliman, Dr. Emil Dardak, Dr. Bernadia Irawati Tjandradewi, Mr. Khuong Sreng, Mr. Nuon Pharat, Mr. Lee Yoong Yoong, Mr. Athsaphangthong Siphandone, Mr. Tin Oo Lwin, Mr. Prak Samoeun, Datuk Junaidi Bin Reduan, Mr. Duong Duc Tuan)

The plenary session focused on the AMF theme on “Strengthening ASEAN Collaboration through Accelerating the Implementation of Smart, Resilient, and Sustainable Cities for Transformative Urban Living in the New Normal”. This session was chaired by Mr. Khuong Sreng, Governor of Phnom Penh, and Dr. Bernadia Irawati Tjandradewi, Secretary General of UCLG ASPAC and AMF.

Gov. Khuong Sreng urged local leaders to pay close attention and think about digital innovation, and to take advantage of digital globalisation. For challenges such as the global climate change, he remarked the need to not only focus on current problems but to also prepare for unforeseen future events by ensuring inclusion and resilience. He also reminded to think about the benefit for the people.



Mr. Khuong Sreng emphasised the need for digital innovation.

Mr. Prak Samoeun, Director General of General Department of Administration, representative from the Ministry of Interior of the Kingdom of Cambodia, explained how the decentralisation and deconcentration policy in the last two decades continuously updated the subnational system and structures to reflect better the evolving nature of the society and economy. Mainstreaming digital technology to the subnational level is also a priority to promote the local economy and provide better and faster service to the people. The Ministry is pushing the implementation of providing public services through one-stop mechanism at subnational and national levels. The smart city initiative in Cambodia began in 2018 when Phnom Penh and Siem Reap joined the ASEAN Smart City Network (ASCN).



Mr. Prak Samoeun updated the decentralisation process in Cambodia.

Vice Governor of East Java Province, Dr. Emil Elestianto Dardak, shared the observation on the growth of employment in the informal sector facilitated by the gig economy. Since 2019, the East Java Province introduced the millennial job centre in anticipation of the growing popularity of the gig economy. East Java produced 7,000 projects to help small and medium enterprises by providing services such as digital marketing, content creation, logo and design branding. These services were provided by young talents which empowered them to be ready to enter into the gig economy as a professional freelance with portfolio of projects. Vice Governor Dardak called for a stronger partnership in addressing youth unemployment and central government financing to support local government infrastructure.



Dr. Emil Dardak shared about gig economy and youth employment.

Mr. Yun Linne, Deputy Governor of Siam Reap Province conveyed that Siem Reap City is a member of the ASCN and it is currently cooperating with the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) to prepare a smart city roadmap with focus on four areas: smart tourism, smart mobility, smart security, and solid waste management. He also highlighted that “Collaboration with city network, as we are here today in this forum, is crucial to bring us closer and solve challenges together.”



Mr. Yun Linne discussed the smart city roadmap preparation with JICA.

Mayor of Nay Pyi Taw City, Mr. Tin Oo Lwin, expressed the city’s vision to be climate change resilient, environmentally sustainable, green and liveable, centre of knowledge, and a cargo and logistics hub. Nay Pyi Taw is also one of the pilot cities in ASCN. To reduce the impact of natural disasters, Nay Pyi Taw is protecting the green environment by cultivating trees, and constructing dam and infrastructure that are earthquake resistant. As part of their climate change mitigation efforts, the city is considering the use of electric vehicles. For the smart and sustainable development of ASEAN region, Mayor Lwin invited businesses, industries and advance information and communication technology (ICT) companies to participate and invest in developing countries. This will narrow the development gap in the ASEAN region by providing better technology and skill level required for the developing countries and providing people-to-people exchange that will foster understanding between the people in ASEAN.



Mr. Tin Oo Lwin explained about the vision and mission of Nay Pyi Taw City.

Mr. Haji Amirol Hafidzin bin Haji Muhammad, Assistant District Officer for Brunei and Muara District, discussed two of Brunei Darussalam's pilot initiatives towards implementing a smart, resilient and sustainable cities. First is the revitalisation of Kampung Ayer, a water village, with the objective to ensure the construction of high-quality housing units through the development of smart building and infrastructure as well as integrated network of public utilities for better standard of living for its residents. The second initiative is the clean water management project which aims to overcome challenges related to waste generation, waste collection and disposal. He emphasised that these initiatives need more than just technologies to succeed. It requires trust, commitment, and cross-collaboration across all levels – the people, government, and countries.



Mr. Amirol Hafidzin bin Haji Muhammad mentioned Brunei's smart city initiatives.

The Mayor of Lingayen Municipality, Mr. Leopoldo Bataoil, stated that the challenge of municipal governments is the limited local financial and technical capacity to implement SDGs responsive programmes and projects. He mentioned that the Philippine government incentivises good work of local governments with the Seal of Good Local Governance which provides recognition and funding for a flagship project. On behalf of the League of Municipalities of the Philippines, Mayor Bataoil called for a more aggressive approach in raising awareness, monitoring and evaluation in order to build smart, resilient, and sustainable cities and regions.



Mr. Leopoldo Bataoil called for a more aggressive approach in raising smart city awareness.

Mr. Mohd Fahmi Aliman, Mayor of Southeast District of Singapore, expounded on their definition of smart city as enabling residents to use digital applications and securing resources within the city. He mentioned polycentric planning which involved “bring the jobs to where the citizens are,” and “plan for resource resilience using technology.” These include the deep tunnel switch system for water and large scale floating solar farm for energy. Mayor Aliman suggested looking at the research and development capabilities across ASEAN that can be shared.



Mr. Mohd Fahmi Aliman shared the digital application in Singapore.

The Vice Chairman of Hanoi People's Committee, Mr. Duong Duc Tuan, believed that it is important to ensure the development process and become a smart city. Hanoi has a lot of infrastructure and satellite city which can improve capacity and ensure full implementation of sustainable city. He requested ASEAN member states to provide more initiative and recommendation to improve city development and recover from COVID-19, and improve collaboration in order to improve the livelihood of people as well.



Mr. Duong Duc Tuan mentioned about the satellite cities in Vietnam.



# Meeting of Governors and Mayors of ASEAN Capitals

02 December 2022 · Phnom Penh, Kingdom of Cambodia



Governor of Phnom Penh, Mr. Khuong Sreng, led the MGMAC.

The Meeting of Governors/Mayors of ASEAN Capitals (MGMAC) is an annual gathering to discuss and exchange development perspectives, challenges, and best practices. Since 2013, the MGMAC highlighted the important role and contribution of ASEAN Capitals in the ASEAN Community Building. In line with Cambodia’s ASEAN Chairmanship, MGMAC had the theme “Promoting Comprehensive Cooperation for Smart, Resilient, and Sustainable Cities”. MGMAC was chaired by the Governor of Phnom Penh, Mr. Khuong Sreng. He emphasised the need to be ready to respond to uncertainties. He added that the in-person MGMAC meeting would strengthen cooperation among the cities in ASEAN member states.

Bandar Seri Begawan stated that cooperation with ASEAN member states can support the goal to face the challenges together. The way to move forward is to hold each other’s hand and learn from each other’s mistakes and experiences.



Bandar Seri Begawan stated the importance of working together.

Jakarta Capital City Government discussed that car-oriented development and underinvestment in public services are the root causes of their challenges on traffic, polluted environment, and flooding and land subsidence, hence the need to shift their paradigms in development. With transit-oriented development, public transport was gradually consolidated with integrated route and single payment system. Rapid investment in basic services included provision of affordable housing, creation of employment opportunities, increased access to education, and accelerated provision of clean water. Jakarta’s transformation is an ongoing process that aims to continually improve for the vision of a sustainable and global Jakarta.



Jakarta Capital City Government explained the paradigm shift from car-oriented development to transit-oriented development.

Vientiane, as the capital of Laos, is an important social economic cultural driver of the nation. Smart city has become the mechanism for modern urban management in Vientiane. Their six priority areas in smart city include: smart government, smart tourism, smart transport system, smart plan management, smart island city, and smart urban management centre. Vientiane expressed that they welcome technical assistance and funding that any ASEAN city can offer.

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Mayor of Vientiane shared the 6 priority areas of a smart city.

Kuala Lumpur shared their carbon neutrality commitment and efforts. They emphasised the need to ensure that climate action plan is aligned to be a more resilient, dynamic and inclusive city for all. In their journey to combat climate change, at least 30% renewable energy is required in projects, solar panels were installed and energy efficient equipment used in the city hall, and bus stops are lit up by solar energy. Another initiative shared is the 1C1R (one community, one recycling) programme to encourage public housing. To raise awareness on the sustainability agenda, the Kuala Lumpur SDGs Centre was established and used as a medium to share sustainability efforts and learn from others.

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Kuala Lumpur highlighted that the Climate Action Plan (CAP) needs to be inclusive for all.

Nay Pyi Taw described a green city as one that is in harmony with the natural environment and where the natural environment is conserved and maintained for the benefit of residents. Efforts were undertaken to maintain Nay Pyi Taw as a naturally green city by planting green shady trees and ornamental flower plans along the roadside and developing gardens. For the sustainable urban development, the city planned and developed public open spaces at the green zone within residential district, market, and city center. In recognition of its conservation activities, Nay Pyi Taw received the ASEAN Environmentally Sustainable City Award in 2017. Regarding public transportation, the city is planning to utilise electronic vehicles to reduce carbon emission and charging stations are planned to be constructed.

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Mayor Nay Pyi Taw explained their efforts to create a green city.

On behalf of Manila, the National Spokesperson of the League of Municipalities of the Philippines (LMP) and Mayor of Lingayen Municipality, recognised the importance of the meeting as a platform to strengthen the engagements of ASEAN Capitals especially on reaffirming commitments to achieving smart, digital, and green cities. He greatly appreciated the views and perspectives of other ASEAN Capitals and looked forward to the adoption of the Phnom Penh Declaration. He also reiterated the need for human intervention in technical developments.

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Manila mentioned about the importance of the MGMAC meeting for ASEAN Capital Cities' engagement.

The Singapore land transport masterplan 2040 envisaged 20-minute ride to towns and 45-minute ride to the cities and outlined the improvement to the transport infrastructure to provide a more conducive environment for active mobility. Singapore wanted to have low carbon emission using good public transport and the plan's third phase of implementation will venture to autonomous vehicle. Another initiative is on the Singapore eco fund with 50 million dollars to fund projects run by individuals, groups, or businesses addressing climate change. Singapore is also taking efforts to reduce food waste, clean-up beaches, and promote sustainable living with and among the people.



Singapore presented their plans and initiatives on reducing carbon emission and promoting climate action.



Governor Chadchart Sittipunt compared the city to the body where the artery is equivalent to mega projects and the capillaries are the small projects. Bangkok will focus on the smaller projects that affect people lives, in building trust among the people, and in having a people-oriented mindset. Bangkok also aims to improve their liveability and inclusivity. Bangkok had two projects to build trust among the people - one is an application that received complaints for resolution and the other provided open information on budget, contracts, and policies to let the people see what the government is doing. Bangkok's telemedicine project reached out to communities. Bangkok also had a million-tree dream project that aimed to plant a million trees and already received pledges for 1.64 million trees.



Governor of Bangkok mentioned their people-oriented initiatives.

Hanoi expressed that their challenges are similar to other developing capitals cities which related to traffic and flooding. Hanoi is trying to create harmony and balance in the city to better manage the people and resources of the capital. To address the expected increase in population, they will expand satellite cities to absorb the population growth. Hanoi is also focused on maintaining its cultural heritage.



Hanoi mentioned that traffic and flooding are some of the majors dissaters in Vietnam.

Phnom Penh discussed their challenges on urban planning, population, traffic, clean water, pollution, and solid waste management. The land use masterplan includes the development of more green space. The transport masterplan is focused on areas including public transport, road network development and traffic management.



Deputy Governor of Phnom Penh Capital Administration shared about the land use and transport master plan of Phnom Penh.

The Phnom Penh Declaration was deliberated prior to its adoption and signing. The MGMAC concluded with a message from Gov. Sreng who acknowledged the commitment of ASEAN Capitals to work towards a more connected ASEAN Community. He felt honoured to pass the mantel to Jakarta as the next host of the MGMAC.



MGMAC Phnom Penh Declaration was signed by representatives of ASEAN Capitals.

# Result of the Parallel Session

## Parallel Session 1: “Sustainable Financing for Urban Development”



From left to right, Mr. Paul A. Martin, Dr. Emil Elestianto Dardak, and Mr. Kim Rithy, officially open the Parallel Session 1 on Sustainable Financing for Urban Development



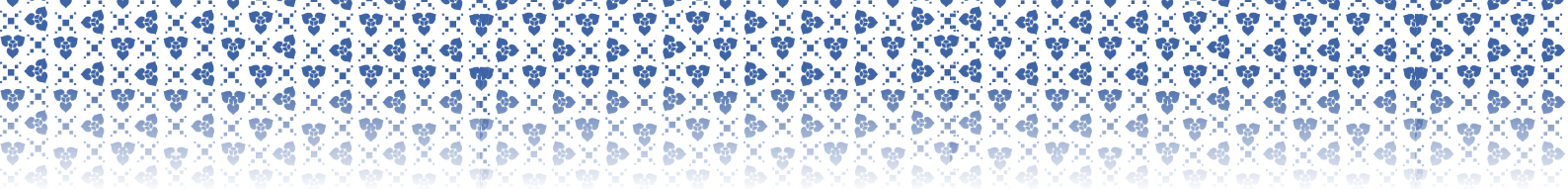
### Chair/Moderator

- Dr. Emil Elestianto Dardak, Vice Governor of East Java Province, Indonesia
- Mr. KIM Rithy, Governor of Preah Vihear Province, Cambodia



### Panel Members

- Mr. Paul A. Martin, Regional Technical Advisor ASEAN & Pacific, United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF)
- Mr. Vann Monyneath, Director General, General Directorate of Policy and Strategy, Ministry of Environment, Cambodia
- Mr. Bou Vongsokha, Deputy Director General, General Department of Finance for Sub National Administrations, Cambodia
- Mr. Leopoldo Bataoil, Mayor of Lingayen Municipality, Philippines and Representative of the League of Municipalities of the Philippines (LMP)
- Dr. dr. Maulana, MKM, Vice Mayor of Jambi City, Indonesia
- Mr. Yun Linne, Vice Governor of Siem Reap Province, Cambodia
- Atty. Ananias Canlas, Jr., Union of Local Authorities of the Philippines (ULAP) National Executive Board Treasurer and Legislative Board Member of the Province of Pampanga, Philippines



### Summary

UNCDF outlined the key directions for public finance of local governments to be sustainable. Panel members generally agreed that source of revenue and budgeting are the keys issue for local governments when implementing their development projects. Local governments need diverse sources of revenue, ranging from efficient tax collection and service fee. Public-private partnership plays a huge role in implementing development projects as it has the potential to increase the tax revenue and can initialise the development projects without the demand of total cost from the local government. Performance-based grant is one of the most effective and transparent tools to manage sub-national authority financing.



### Recommendations

- Local governments should diversify and expand their sources of the revenue, both tax revenue and non-tax revenue, generated from the cities or provinces, in order to be self-reliant.
- Performance-based grant or budgeting can be a mechanism for local government financing with indicators based on geography, human resources, and the readiness to spend of the local authorities.
- Public-private partnership programme is an effective way to boost the development in the sub-national level, as most municipalities face similar budgeting and financing obstacles when implementing the development project.



### Key Message for the ASEAN Smart, Resilient, and Sustainable Cities

Despite the challenges in sustainable financing, local governments shall prioritise clean and green way of development over cheap and convenient one which is not environmentally sustainable and/or cost a lot in the long term. However, this requires a strong support from and the political will of the central government.



### Follow-up Actions

The access to loan or issuance of bonds can be solutions for some local governments to source their own finance. However, other local governments are unable to do so due to their country's legislation or their lack of capacity to qualify for loans and manage it. Therefore, local governments must increase their capacity to manage loans and budget to have a better performance and credits for the central government and bank, respectively.

# Parallel Session 2: Localising SDGs: “Exploring SDGs Collaboration and Implementation to Align Local and Regional Sustainable Development Plans in Cities and Local Governments in ASEAN”



Mr. Long Dimanche and Ms. Madelaine Alfelor Gazmen engaged the participants in a lively question and answer session.



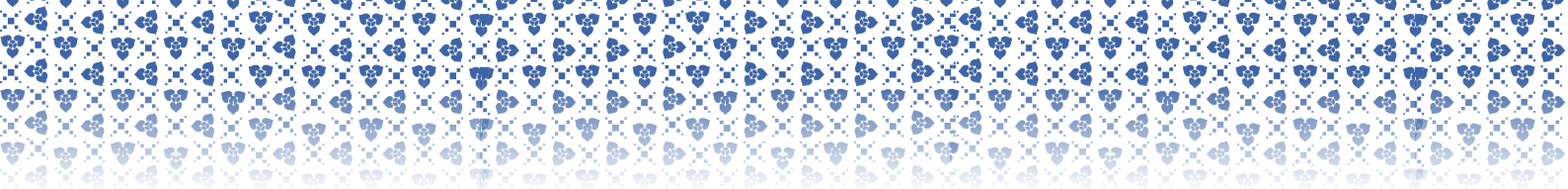
## Chair/Moderator

- Mr. Long Dimanche, Vice Governor of Sihanouk Province, Cambodia
- Ms. Madelaine Alfelor Gazmen, Ambassador of UCLG ASPAC | Former Mayor of Iriga, the Philippines



## Panel Members

- Mr. Viengthong Hatsachanh, Mayor of Luang Prabang City, Lao PDR
- Mr. Pham Tan Hoa, Vice Chairman of Long An Provincial People's Committee, Viet Nam
- Datuk Junaidi Bin Reduan, Mayor of City North Kuching, Malaysia
- Ms. Norliza Hashim, Chief Executive of Urbanice, Malaysia
- Mr. Ngo Trung Hai, Secretary General of the Association of Cities of Viet Nam (ACVN), Viet Nam
- Mr. Bounnao Fongkhamdeng, Vice Mayor of Pakse City, Lao PDR
- Mr. Say Kosal, President of League of Commune/Sangkat Council (NLC), Cambodia
- Mr. Ahmed Zaki Iskandar, B.Bus., S.E., M. Si. Mayor of Tangerang Regency, Indonesia;
- Ms. Andrea T. Loriaga, Executive Director of the League of Municipalities of the Philippines (LMP), Philippines
- Mr. Parinya Potisat, Governor of Sa Kaeo Province, Thailand
- Mr. Samruay Ketgoon, Acting Governor of Sisaket Provinces, Thailand



### Summary

Cities in the ASEAN region have been localising the SDGs and accelerating its implementation in the local communities. Local governments in Viet Nam are working on attracting investments for smart city development that can contribute in bolstering trade and export. In Malaysia, COVID-19 has accelerated digital transformation and existing strategies are being assessed in order to move towards recovery. Lack of funding, law enforcement, and limited capacity building are challenges experienced by local governments in Cambodia. The need for proper monitoring and evaluation process was highlighted in order to ensure successful implementation of the SDGs.



### Recommendations

- Promote commitment and willingness among ASEAN cities through the creation of a regional collaboration platform to address and respond to crises.
- Promote partnership among subnational and national governments to address challenges on limited capacity, financial issues, and lack of awareness on the SDGs.
- Build a favourable ecosystem to push for smart city strategy to enhance a sustainable and resilient city that will also include marginalised groups.



### Key Message for the ASEAN Smart, Resilient, and Sustainable Cities

Mobilising the efforts of relevant stakeholders from the national and subnational governments, private sector, and civil society is needed to achieve smart, resilient, and sustainable cities. Digital transformation can contribute to socio-economic development.



### Follow-up Actions

- Support Cambodia's request for technical assistance from Malaysia to interpret Voluntary Local Review (VLR).
- Encourage subnational governments to submit the VLR as a progress report on the SDGs achievement.
- Prepare roadmap to accelerate the localisation of the SDGs.
- Create a network and research on the localisation of the SDGs.
- Create a strategic plan linked with capacity building in promoting awareness on the SDGs in local communities.
- Facilitate city-to-city partnership to bridge cooperation to promote smart city development.
- Create a blueprint or mechanism that will contribute to local economy and decent work.

# Parallel Session 3: Digital Governance: “Accelerating Urban Transformation for the Engagement of Government and Citizen to Achieve Cities Digitalisation in ASEAN”



Vice Mayor of Jambi, Dr. dr. H. Maulana, MKM., shared Jambi City's practices in sustainable urban finance and local solid waste management.



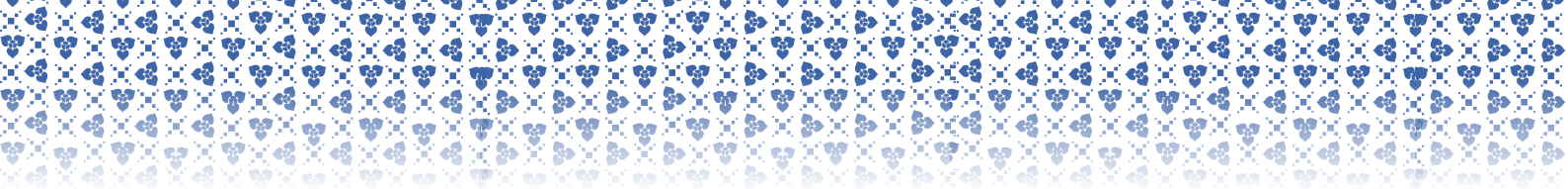
## Chair/Moderator

- Mr. Kim Rithy, Governor of Preah Vihear Province, Cambodia
- Dr. Emil Elestianto Dardak, Vice Governor of East Java Province, Indonesia and President of The Eastern Regional Organisation for Planning and Housing (EAROPH)
- Mr. Safwan Sulaiman, Assistant Director for the Connectivity Division, ASEAN Secretariat



## Panel Members

- Mr. Boualy Phetsongkham, Mayor of Pakse City, Lao PDR
- Mr. Dean Anthony G. Domalanta, Vice Mayor of San Mariano, Philippines
- Mr. Kanchai Thepvorachai, Vice Governor of Trat Province, Thailand
- Mr. U Kyaw San, Mayor of Mandalay City, Myanmar
- Mr. Soeum Bunrith, Deputy Governor of Battambang Province, Cambodia
- Mr. Chaiwat Chuntirapong, Acting Governor of Buriram Province, Thailand
- Ms. Noorhanis Bt. Noordin, Director of Building Department, Seberang Perai City Council, Malaysia



### Summary

The COVID-19 pandemic spurred digital transformation in the ASEAN region. However, cities from developing countries in ASEAN face the challenges on the state and cost of the digital infrastructure, and people’s capabilities to adopt new technologies. Inclusivity of the transformation must also consider language proficiency and the specific needs of people with disabilities and people from the rural areas.



### Recommendations

- Invest in capacity building for human resources to enable them to maximise the potential of technologies.
- Take into account human interaction and sense of community as crucial elements of inclusiveness in the digital transformation process.
- Invest in digital infrastructure to improve the delivery of public service.



### Key Message for the ASEAN Smart, Resilient, and Sustainable Cities

Achieving urban transformation and digitalisation in cities requires immense investment for its infrastructure. Local leaders need to prioritise technology investments that guarantees considerable and long-term benefits for the people. Local leaders also need to ensure the inclusivity of technology-oriented initiatives.



### Follow-up Actions

- Develop digital platform and database as part of digital governance.
- Consult and engage the people to ensure that digitalisation is inclusive.
- Realise social inclusive projects targeting people with disabilities, and rural citizens
- Invest to people centre development to increase their capacity to extract the full potential of the technology for good use.
- Invest into data statistic infrastructure which will improve the delivery of public service and overall governance.

# Parallel Session 4: ASEAN Sustainable Urbanisation



Ms Bernadette Bolo-Duthy, National Director of Habitat for Humanity, Cambodia, spoke at the ASEAN launch of the ASEAN Sustainable Urbanisation Report.



## Chair/Moderator

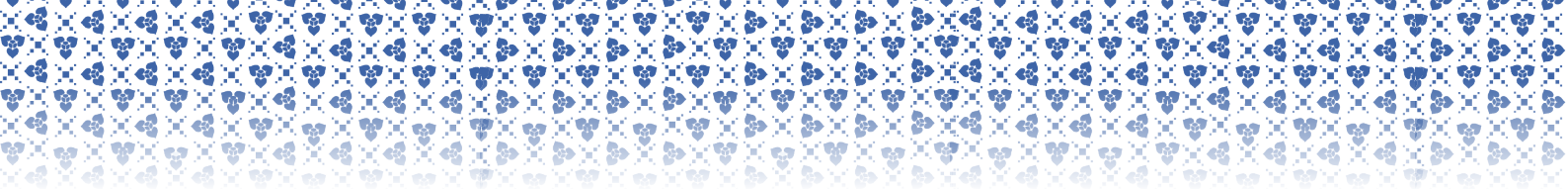
- Mr. Clinton Moore, UN-Habitat



## Panel Members

- Mr. Ngy Chanphal, Chair of the ASEAN Smart Cities Network, Secretary of State, Ministry of Interior, Kingdom of Cambodia
- Ms Bernadette Bolo-Duthy, National Director, Habitat for Humanity, Cambodia
- Associate Professor Rita Padawangi, Singapore University of Social Sciences
- Assoc. Prof. Dr. Wichai Kanchanasuwan, Deputy Mayor of Hat Yai City, Thailand
- Mr. Ahmed Zaki Iskandar, Mayor of Tangerang, Tangerang Regency, Indonesia
- Engr. EnP. Riza Marie Paches, MNSA, Board Member and OIC Chairperson, Land Transportation Franchising and Regulatory Board (LTFRB), Department of Transportation (DOTr), Philippines (Former Asst. Dept Head Public Safety Office, Investment Promotion Center, General Santos City)





### Summary

This session hosted the launch of the ASEAN Sustainable Urbanisation Report, a publication that enhances knowledge on the current urbanisation trends across the ASEAN region within the ASUS framework, particularly in secondary and intermediate cities, and elaborates linkages between the ASUS and global frameworks such as the SDGs and New Urban Agenda.

The session contextualised the findings of the Report through a presentation on the publication contents and rationale and through a panel discussion where representatives from academia, NGO, national and local government shared remarks and experiences to increase knowledge and action for sustainable urbanisation.



### Recommendations

- Embrace a more integrated and inclusive approach to decision-making and planning.
- Engage and empower citizens in digital processes and address the emerging or potential digital divide, particularly among the poor.
- Empower cities to enhance self-sufficiency through improved revenue generation and access to credit and loans to drive locally led urban development.



### Key Message for the ASEAN Smart, Resilient, and Sustainable Cities

The urban growth in ASEAN is happening primarily in smaller and secondary cities, where investments even relatively modest - can have a great impact on communities and accelerate sustainable urbanisation.

ASEAN should intensify roles in facilitating partnerships to advance sustainable urbanisation actions and smart city development; providing platforms for cities to exchange good practices and lessons learnt; and building knowledge on sustainable urbanisation efforts in the region.



### Follow-up Action

- Make the ASEAN Sustainable Urbanisation Report accessible online and promote it outreach across ASEAN Member States and cities.
- Engage local and regional governments in dialogue and collaboration with a range of partners, including national governments, international development organisation and other actors in various forums in ASEAN region.

# Parallel Session 5: Enabling Environment on Urban Climate Resilient and Disaster Risk Reduction



Ms. Stephany Uy Tan represented Catbalogan City and discussed the city's efforts towards disaster risk reduction.



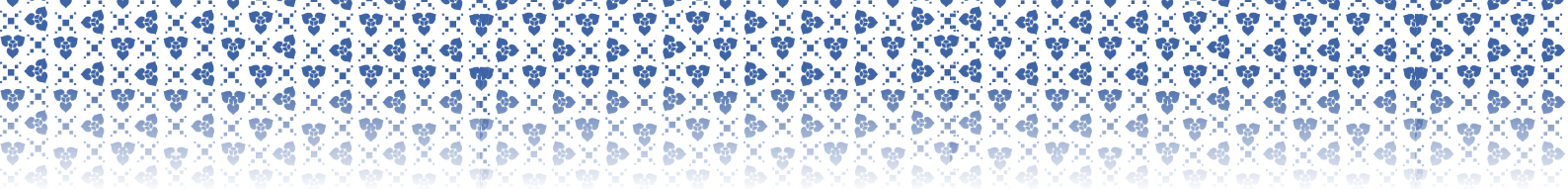
## Chair/Moderator

- Mr. Curt Garrigan, Chief, the Urban Development Section, UNESCAP



## Panel Members

- Dr. Ngunyen Anh Son, Senior Officer, Disaster Management and Humanitarian Assistance Division, ASEAN Secretariat (online)
- Ms. Maria Angela Monica Salud B. Mamuyac, Division Chief Bureau of Local Government Development, Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), the Philippines (online)
- Dr. dr. H. Maulana, Vice Mayor of Jambi City, Indonesia
- Ms. Stephany Uy Tan, City Councilor, Catbalogan City, the Philippines
- Ms. Patricia Mariano, GIZ Philippines (Urban Act Project)



### Summary

The session highlighted not only local experiences but also regional and national points of view on the efforts of both national and local governments on urban climate resilience and disaster risk reduction, especially the vertical and horizontal integration can be strengthened from the policy level into action.

ASEAN has an important Working Group on Environmentally Sustainable Cities, which is also put as one of the key platforms that addressed particularly two priority programmes on Sustainable Urban Planning, Development, and Implementation and Increasing Climate Resilient and Low Carbon Cities. The ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER) Work Programme 2021-2025 emphasised Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation and it also connects to the Guidebook for Urban Resilience: Building Disaster and Climate Resilient Cities in ASEAN.



### Recommendations

- Put the local DRR-CCA plan linked to the national and global agenda of 2030 from the planning process to the implementation and monitoring aspect. Building resilience of local governments against climate change and disasters is seen as the top priority in ASEAN.
- Provide an enabling environment on climate change mitigation and adaptation to local governments. Local governments have to be empowered by national government with vertical integration as a priority on how local government could have a better understanding of climate action implementation, access to financial resources, and accelerate the capacity of planning in building urban climate resilience.
- Within the framework of AMF, collaborate with other stakeholders to address local challenges in urban climate resilience such as engagement with the most vulnerable disaster communities, youths, academia, and private sectors.



### Key Message for the ASEAN Smart, Resilient, and Sustainable Cities

Put the intermediary city as one of the priorities in tackling the climate crisis and they should also be actively engaged and capacitated to address the climate change challenges by providing enough support from national government from planning to budgeting. Linking the local development plan with the AADMER Work Programme 2021-2025 will also be essential.



### Follow-up Action

- Provide capacity building and access to finance for the intermediary and small-scale cities that are most prone to the climate crisis, especially those located in coastal areas.
- Organise knowledge sharing and learning during the side event at the 2023 AMF Indonesia under the framework of Urban Act project

# Adoption of AMF 2022 Phnom Penh Declaration



ASEAN City and Local Government Leaders delivered the AMF 2022 Phnom Penh Declaration.

The AMF 2022 Phnom Penh Declaration is the outcome document of the AMF which was deliberated and finalised on 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2023. The declaration was delivered on stage by select representatives from the 10 ASEAN member states: Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam.

Through the declaration, city and local government leaders identified essential elements that will enable ASEAN cities to become smart, digital, and transformative cities. The declaration also addressed the needs of local governments in promoting sustainable development to achieve transformative and inclusive urban living for the realisation of the regional agenda of ASEAN Community 2025.

The declaration will be submitted to the Committee of Permanent Representatives (CPRs) and the new Secretary General of ASEAN to contribute to the decision-making processes within ASEAN and/or use as references for actions at the local level.





## ASEAN Mayors Forum 2022 Phnom Penh Declaration

Following the ASEAN Mayors Forum (AMF) Consultative Meeting 2022 in East Java Province, Indonesia, we, Mayors and Governors of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), convened at the ASEAN Mayors Forum 2022 with the theme “ASEAN A.C.T., Addressing Challenges Together: Strengthening ASEAN Collaboration through Accelerating the Implementation of Smart, Resilient, and Sustainable Cities for Transformative and Inclusive Urban Living in the New Normal” co-organised by AMF, the United Cities and Local Governments Asia Pacific (UCLG ASPAC) and Phnom Penh Capital Administration, in collaboration with the UN bodies and ASEAN Secretariat, and hosted by the Phnom Penh Capital Administration, Kingdom of Cambodia, on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2022.

The Phnom Penh Declaration refers to and affirms the previous AMF outcome documents, including the Surabaya Communiqué 2011, Makassar Declaration 2015, Taguig Action Agenda 2017, AMF Declaration 2019, and Joint Declaration of the ASEAN-Republic of Korea Mayors on the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of ASEAN-ROK Dialogue Relations, to reinforce and focus on enhancing collaboration with ASEAN stakeholders to ensure peace, security, and prosperity for the realisation of the ASEAN Community Vision 2025. The Phnom Penh Declaration serves as the foundation for collaborative action of the cities and local governments in the ASEAN region.

Recognising the different capabilities and capacities in cities and local governments that face similar challenges, ASEAN Mayors and Governors declare to:

1. **STRENGTHEN** the efforts to build smart and sustainable cities and territories to meet the Sustainable Development Goals, especially SDGs 9 and 11, by investing in digital infrastructure and promoting inclusive digital transformation.
2. **CONTRIBUTE** to the implementation of the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity (MPAC) 2025, the ASEAN Sustainable Urbanisation Strategy (ASUS), and ASEAN Comprehensive Recovery Framework, which support COVID-19 recovery and strengthen resilience towards achieving a connected, sustainable and inclusive ASEAN Community. We further welcome the opportunity to engage in the development of the ASEAN Community Post-2025 Vision and ASEAN Connectivity Post-2025 Agenda.
3. **UNDERTAKE** local actions founded on the complementarities of the ASEAN Community Vision 2025 and the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

4. **COOPERATE** with national and subnational authorities and other stakeholders to accelerate local actions contributing to climate action and the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.
5. **FACILITATE** knowledge and technology transfer considering the local context and capabilities of cities and local governments.
6. **ENGAGE** the youth and address youth unemployment through innovative programmes and projects.
7. **UPLIFT** the quality of life of the people through local initiatives that promote human development, resiliency, and sustainable development, and in line with the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER).
8. **ACKNOWLEDGE** the important role of culture in sustainable development and promote policies and programmes that will support local culture and tourism sectors.
9. **IMPROVE** enabling environment of cities and local governments, including access to finance, capacity building, and institutional framework.
10. **BUILD** the technical capacities of city officials to ensure planning and implementation of sustainable urban development initiatives.
11. **ENSURE** stability of local finance and the local economy in ASEAN cities and local governments.
12. **EMPOWER** women towards greater contribution and involvement in local governance.
13. **INITIATE** a collective action plan developed by ASEAN cities and local governments through AMF.
14. **PARTICIPATE** actively in the upcoming ASEAN regional meetings and forums, including the AMF.
15. **WELCOME** the admittance, in principle, of the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste to the ASEAN, and stand ready to work closely with its Mayors and Governors for the AMF.
16. **WORK** more closely with ASEAN and regional institutions like ASEAN Secretariat and UCLG ASPAC to undertake more cooperation and collaboration as part of the ASEAN Community Building.

Adopted this 3<sup>rd</sup> of December 2022 at Sokha Phnom Penh Hotel & Residence in Phnom Penh Capital Administration, Kingdom of Cambodia during the 2022 ASEAN Mayors Forum.

ASEAN Mayors Forum 2022 Phnom Penh Declaration



# Closing Session



From left to right: Mr. Bima Arya Sugiarto Ph.D.; Dr. Emil Elestianto Dardak; Dr. Bernadia Irawati Tjandradewi; Mr. Nuon Pharat; Mr. Lee Yoong Yoong; Assoc. Prof. Dr. Wichai Kanchanasuwan; and Ms. Stephany Uy Tan, City Councilor of Catbalogan City, the Philippines.

The second and final day of the AMF began with the roundtable statements where local leaders presented the key messages and recommendations from the MGMAC session and the five parallel sessions from the first day of AMF. These served as important inputs to the AMF Phnom Penh Declaration.

In a symbolic moment, the ASEAN Mayors Forum flag was handed by Gov. Khuong Sreng to the Indonesian delegation. The next AMF host city will be from Indonesia following the country's ASEAN Chairmanship in 2023. Vice Gov. Emil Dardak thanked Gov. Khuong Sreng and stated that all governments will be working together to continue the great leadership that Cambodia has given. Mayor Bima Arya Sugiarto of Bogor and the Chair of Association of Indonesian Cities (AIM) similarly congratulated the successful leadership of Cambodia during the AMF and committed that the local government associations will work closely to implement the agenda of AMF and host AMF in Indonesia.



From left to right: Mr. Lee Yoong Yoong; Dr. Bernadia Irawati Tjandradewi; Mr. Khuong Sreng; Dr. dr. Maulana., MKM; Mr. Bima Arya Sugiarto Ph.D.; and Ms. Marulina Dewi

In her closing message, Dr. Bernadia Irawati Tjandradewi emphasised that maintaining unity and solidarity is a priority for the region to remain sustainable and resilient. She stated that “Our close relationships were not created by chance, but through years of hard work, commitment and perseverance.” She also highlighted the importance of political will amongst leaders to together build ASEAN Community, Cities and Region that are sustainable, resilient and economically livable.



Dr. Bernadia Irawati Tjandradewi emphasised the importance of unity for a sustainable and resilient future.



Mr. Lee Yoong Yoong recognised the urbanisation efforts of Phnom Penh Capital Administration. He reiterated that the goal in the ASEAN region for 2025 is essentially to raise the standard of living of people by empowering them to seek opportunities and also address the challenges they will face in the coming years. He also acknowledged the importance of platforms such as AMF that enable the exchange of ideas to build sustainable and liveable cities in ASEAN.

Mr. Lee Yoong Yoong acknowledged AMF as a platform to build sustainable and liveable cities in ASEAN.

In his remarks, Gov. Khuong Sreng expressed sincere thanks for everyone’s active participation. Throughout the sessions, challenges and lessons learned were shared, and innovations and solutions were discussed for possible adoption in ASEAN cities. The unanimous agreement and development of two products, the MGMAC and AMF Declarations, showed willingness and commitment of ASEAN cities.



Mr. Khuong Sreng, Governor of Phnom Penh Capital Administration, Cambodia, delivered his closing remarks.

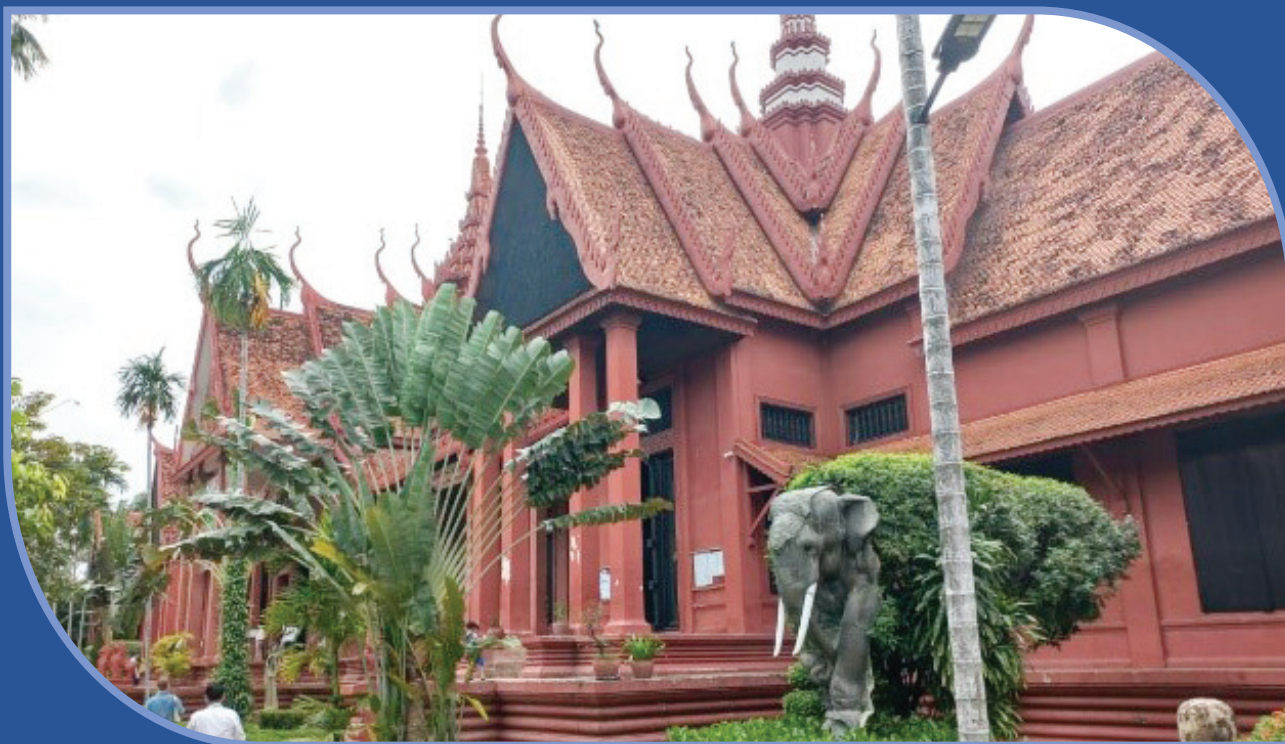


Mayor of Bogor City, Indonesia, accepting the chairmanship of AMF 2023.

Mayor Bima Arya Sugiarto, as the new Chair of AMF 2023, remarked that in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic, “...no city and no country can survive without assistance of other people, without collaboration with other cities, (and) without mutual cooperation with other countries”. Cities learned from the success and failure of other in fighting COVID-19. He mentioned that 2023 will be a crucial moment to accelerate recovery and the implementation of important agenda such as localising SDGs, improving smart and sustainable cities, and strengthening city resilience. There also remains the challenge to improve the quality of public service and capacity of the bureaucracy to serve the people. With Indonesia’s ASEAN Chairmanship, efforts will be taken to strengthen the role of cities to face these challenges. Mayor Sugiarto also expressed commitment and readiness to host the AMF and its related activities next year in Indonesia.

# Site Visit

To learn more about Cambodia's history, AMF delegates participated in the city tour which included The National Museum of Cambodia and Royal Palace of Cambodia.



Participants saw an example of Khmer architecture from the front gate of the National Museum of Cambodia

## National Museum of Cambodia

The National Museum of Cambodia is located in the heart of Phnom Penh and is the country's most significant archaeological and cultural history museum. English-speaking tour guides were assigned to the AMF participants at the museum entrance. Participants were welcome to film or take pictures of the museum's exterior and yard but were not allowed to do so inside the museum's galleries. An extensive collection of exquisite Angkor Wat statues was on display for the visitors in this museum.

The National Museum of Cambodia, housed in a substantial red sandstone building, is an excellent example of traditional Khmer architecture. The museum is a veritable treasure trove of artifacts exemplifying Khmer and Angkorian culture and history. Key pieces in the museum were the 8-armed statue of Lord Vishnu from the sixth century and the image of King Jayavarman VII in a meditative position.





Participants visited the Royal Palace

## The Royal Palace

One of Phnom Penh's most magnificent architectural accomplishments is the Royal Palace which was built on the site of the old town and served as the current King's official residence. The Palace is a fine example of Cambodian royal architecture and is located in the city center. It has become a symbol of the capital with its impressive structures such as the Khmer tower roofs ornamented with tiles in golden tones, sophisticated gilding, and lush gardens.

Only limited parts of the Palace were accessible to the public including the Throne Hall, a 59-meter-tall tower inspired by Angkor's Bayon; the open-air Chan Chaya Pavilion, used for performances of traditional Khmer dance; and the Silver Pagoda. To avoid purchasing a sarong at the entrance, the participants to the palace must dress modestly. Aside from recreational use, high official celebrations, coronations, and meetings with foreign dignitaries and government representatives also take place in this building.

The participants appreciated the ancient treasures such as a sizable Buddha's footprint that symbolised the 108 lifetimes the Buddha has lived and numerous meters of mural frescoes that depicted an episode from the Indian epic Ramayana.

# Media Coverage



Press Conference of AMF 2022 after the Closing Ceremony.

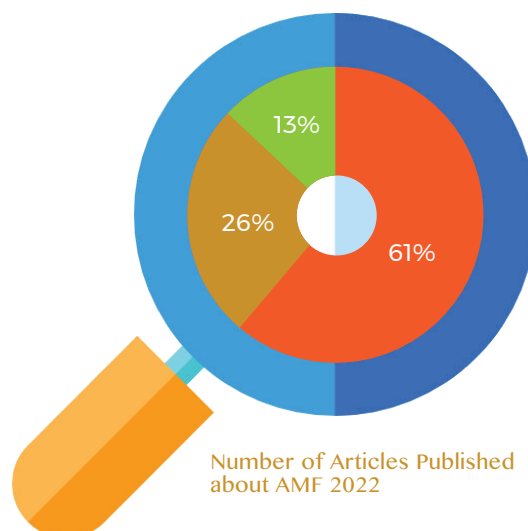
To promote the significance and outcomes of the 8<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Mayors Forum to the general public, with the support of the host city Phnom Penh Capital Administration, Kingdom of Cambodia, the organisers held a press conference right after the closing ceremony.

From the press conference, the 8<sup>th</sup> AMF 2022 Phnom Penh received much media attention from numerous newspapers from local and national media in Cambodia, and international media. This was attributed to the presence of the Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia at the Forum; the relevance of topics to current ASEAN issues, and the significant number of delegates, mostly mayors and governors, from the ASEAN Member States.

For online media, the 8<sup>th</sup> AMF generated around 200 articles in Google search results and social networking sites including Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter. The keyword used is ASEAN Mayors Forum 2022 Phnom Penh. The results compared the media coverage released by online national and local news that can be seen below.

## Articles Published in Google Search Engine About the AMF 2022 Phnom Penh

- Local Articles
- National Articles
- International Articles



## Local (23)



<https://m.beritajakarta.id/read/113699/jakarta-jadi-tuan-rumah-pertemuan-ibu-kota-se-asean-2023>

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<https://www.khmertimeskh.com/501192057/phnom-penh-all-set-to-host-asean-meetings-of-mayors-governors/>

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<https://news.detik.com/berita/d-6442344/bima-arya-terima-mandat-sebagai-chairman-asian-mayors-forum-2023>

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<https://infopublik.id/kategori/nasional-sosial-budaya/691746/jakarta-siap-menyelenggarakan-mgmac-2023-dan-dukung-keketuaan-indonesia-di-asean-2023>

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<https://sanga.id/2022/12/bima-arya-terima-mandat-sebagai-chairman-asian-mayors-forum-2023/>

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# Press Release

**UCLG ASPAC, in cooperation with UN Bodies, and the Phnom Penh Capital Administration, organise the ASEAN Mayors Forum (AMF) 2022 in Phnom Penh, Cambodia.**

More than 300 ASEAN Mayors, Governors, Leaders of Local Governments & its Associations, city and UN Bodies representatives join together to respond to the regional and global issues and to address the challenges together towards Smart, Resilient, and Sustainable Cities within ASEAN countries.

Phnom Penh, 2 December 2022 - Today, the United Cities and Local Governments Asia Pacific (UCLG ASPAC), in collaboration with UN bodies, and the host Phnom Penh Capital Administration opened the ASEAN Mayors Forum 2022 at Sokha Hotel, Phnom Penh.

In alignment with the themes of Cambodia's ASEAN Chairmanship and in response to the current global issues, the 2022 AMF is elaborating on the theme **ASEAN A.C.T.: Addressing Challenges Together: "Strengthening ASEAN Collaboration through Accelerating the Implementation of Smart, Resilient, and Sustainable Cities for Transformative Urban Living in the New Normal"** with two crucial issues namely **Smart, Resilient, and Sustainable Cities in ASEAN & Transformative and Inclusive Urban Living Post Pandemic**.

In this two-day event, 52 local and regional leaders within ASEAN countries are sharing knowledge and exemplary practices for promoting the sustainable development, enhancing and strengthening collaboration and cooperation among ASEAN local and regional governments, and reinvigorating the commitments of ASEAN cities and local governments for smart, resilient, and sustainable urban living in the ASEAN region.

Assuming the ASEAN Chairmanship for the third time, Cambodia has contributed to accomplishing its deliverables in building a strong and inclusive ASEAN Community. As the host city of ASEAN Mayors Forum 2022, Governor Khuong Sreng of Phnom Penh Capital Administration, warmly welcomed all VIP guests, delegations and participants of the ASEAN Mayors Forum 2022 and the governors

and mayors from the capital cities of ASEAN. He thanked for the valuable attendance and participation of local and regional governments leader across ASEAN countries to join the AMF 2022 despite the travel challenges during the current pandemic. He believed that this reunion of ASEAN local and regional government leaders will leverage the platform of ASEAN Mayors Forum and the Meeting of Governors/Mayors of ASEAN Capitals (MGMAC) for enhanced and strengthened cooperation among ASEAN cities and local governments in addressing the current challenges together.

Gracing the ASEAN Mayors Forum 2022, His excellency Mr. Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo HUN SEN, the Prime Minister the Kingdom of Cambodia, delivered his insightful and thoughtful remarks.

As the Host of ASEAN Mayors Forum Secretariat, Dr. Bernadia Irawati Tjandradewi, the Secretary General of United Cities and Local Governments Asia Pacific (UCLG ASPAC), flashed on the SDGs attainment by the Southeast Asia region under the unprecedented situation due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The region seemly is not on track to achieve any of the 17 Goals by 2030, given the current pace of progress by countries in the sub-region. Hence, the collective effort of cities and local government is crucial! AMF, as the key platform of cities and local governments in addressing those challenges, should unite stakeholders to achieve common goals. And the A.C.T. is a perfect answer to these unprecedented circumstances. The A.C.T. has been giving the inspiration to support and cultivate a strong sense of the ASEAN Community. The year of Cambodia's leadership generated peace, established a peaceful community among ASEAN members, and maintained

ASEAN's position as the 5<sup>th</sup> strongest region in the world. Secretary General Bernadia also underscored the product of this reunion, "the Phnom Penh Declaration", which aims to serve as the foundation for collaborative actions at the local level that has impact to national and ASEAN level.

Representing the ASEAN Secretary General Dato Lim Jock Hoi, Mr. Lee Yoong Yoong, Director for Community Affairs Directorate at the Jakarta-based ASEAN Secretariat, highlighted that ASEAN has today emerged stronger, safer, and more resilient as a community despite the challenges pose by COVID19 pandemic. The pandemic has, among others, accelerated several new norms, trends and developments. Firstly, the regional adoption of digital technologies in many of our daily operations. ASEAN must continue the momentum for the adoption of digital technologies to move ahead and to harness the opportunities brought about by the Fourth Industrial Revolution (4IR). Second, developing urban infrastructure to better the lives of the peoples and improving infrastructure productivity in our capitals and major cities should be a continuous process. ASEAN Member States should make conscious effort to ensure the sustainability, inclusiveness and climate-resilience aspects are considered when considering infrastructure investments. Third, in line with the ASEAN Leaders' Statement on the Year of ASEAN Youth to Strengthen the Role of Youth in ASEAN Community-Building, the role and potential impact of our young peoples in the realisation of smart, resilient, and sustainable cities should not be underestimated. ASEAN would do well to engage our youths as the future leaders at the local and national levels.

## About ASEAN Mayors Forum



The ASEAN Mayors Forum (AMF) was originally conceived in 2011 when

visionary mayors in Southeast Asia met for the first time in Surabaya, Indonesia, to demonstrate the importance of local contributions to ASEAN's regional integration. The

Forum has gained prominence since 2015, with successive AMF meetings to discuss the ASEAN Community building and how mayors can help accelerate its progress and benefits for citizens. In 2018, AMF was accredited as an entity associated to ASEAN, due to ASEAN member states official recognition of its common goals on and contribution to the ASEAN's community building. The United Cities and Local Governments Asia Pacific (UCLG ASPAC) with its Southeast Asia Committee serves as the host ASEAN Mayors Forum (AMF) Secretariat.

<https://uclg-aspac.org/amf/>

## About UCLG ASPAC

UCLG ASPAC is the regional section of UCLG for the Asia Pacific region.



United Cities and Local Governments Asia-Pacific

Headquartered in Jakarta, UCLG ASPAC is the largest

UCLG region with a network of more than 7,000 local governments, representing about 3,7 billion people – more than half of the world's population- and uniting fast-growing countries, such as the People's Republic of China, India and Indonesia.

UCLG ASPAC is the key knowledge management hub on local government issues in the Asia-Pacific region. It promotes democratic local government, supports cooperation amongst cities, local governments, and their associations, and facilitates programmes, networks, and partnerships to develop local governments and associations' capacity. UCLG ASPAC activities cover decentralised cooperation (cities/local governments to cities/local governments exchange), advocacy, capacity building and training, research and knowledge management, and project development. As a recognised entity by the UN, UCLG ASPAC also leads the coordination mechanisms with strategic partners within the UN system. UCLG ASPAC hosts the Secretariat of the ASEAN Mayors Forum accredited by ASEAN and the Global Covenant of Mayors (GCoM) for Climate and Energy in South East Asia.

<https://uclg-aspac.org>



## About Phnom Penh Capital Administration



*Phnom Penh is the capital and largest city of Cambodia. It is a center of security, politics, economics, cultural heritage, and diplomacy. Phnom Penh lies in front of the Mekong River,*

*which is the main river in Asia with a length of 4,200km (2610 miles). The original source of the river is from the highlands of Tibet China. The river crosses Cambodia from North to South with a total length of 486km (302 miles) and passes Phnom Penh as an intersection of the river to create attractive freshwater and ecosystems for the city.*

*Phnom Penh is Cambodia's economic centre as it accounts for a large portion of the Cambodian economy. Double-digit economic growth rates in recent years have triggered an economic boom in Phnom Penh, with new hotels, restaurants, schools, bars, high rises and residential buildings springing up in the city. As of 2019, Phnom Penh had a population of 2,129,371 people, with a total population density of 3,136 inhabitants per square kilometre in a 679 square kilometres (262 sq mi) city area. The population growth rate of the city is 3.92%.*

<https://phnompenh.gov.kh/en/phnom-penh-city>



## Contact

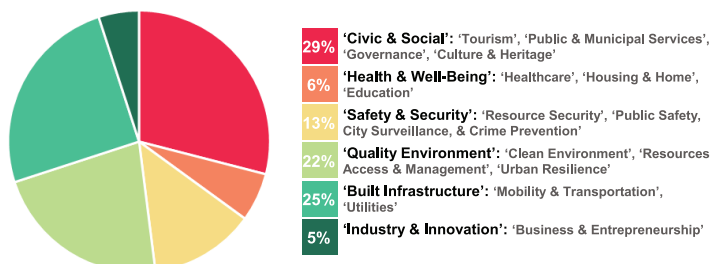
UCLG ASPAC  
**Mohammad Ridwan**  
Programme Officer of AMF  
mohammad.ridwan@uclg-aspac.org

Phnom Penh Capital Administration  
**Vathana Phang**  
Secretary for the Vice Governor  
vathanaphang.ppch@gmail.com

# Insights on ASEAN 2022

## ASEAN Smart Cities Network (ASCN) Monitoring and Evaluation Report 2022

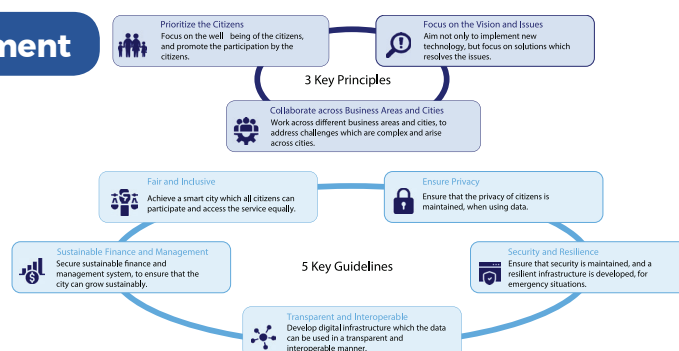
The ASEAN Smart Cities Network (ASCN) has grown significantly at the network and city levels. The number of smart city projects supported by the ASCN has increased from 65 projects in 2021 to 77 projects. The overview of the distribution of the ASCN projects among the six focus areas is presented in the picture below.



The development of Smart Cities Network Supported by ASCN

## Basic Concept of Smart Cities Development

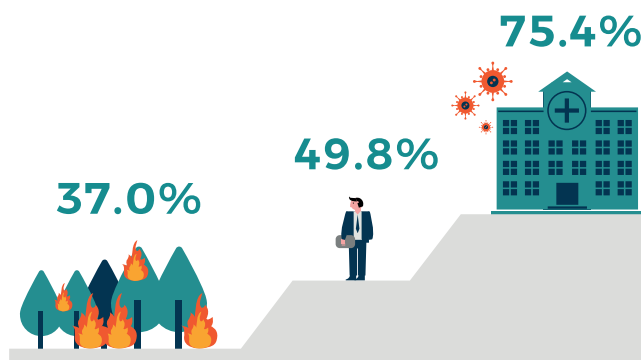
To ensure that the city improves the quality of life for its residents, a smart city should be developed in accordance with the fundamental principles and guidelines. The picture describes the key principles and guidelines in developing smart cities.



World Economic Forum: Global Smart Cities Alliance, Smart City Guidebook (Japan)

## ASEAN Concerns in 2022

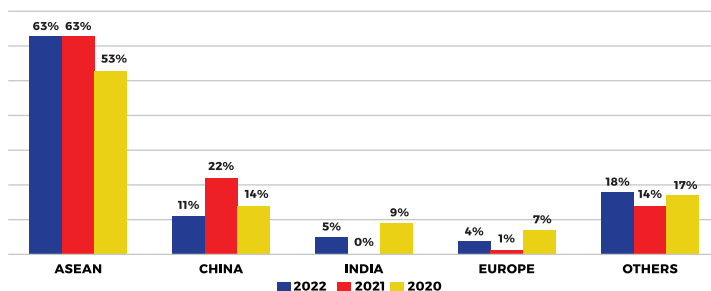
The COVID-19 pandemic and economic recovery are still major concerns in Southeast Asia. The threat to human health posed by the pandemic is still the top concern (75.4%). Contrary to this, terrorism is still last on the list at 12.5%. Further, the effects of unemployment and the economic downturn were (49.8%), and the impact of climate change (37.0%).



Major concerns in Southeast Asia (ASEAN Studies Centre at ISEAS-Yusof Ishak Institute)

## Region with the Best Economic Development Over the Past 3 Years (2020-2022)

According to the EU-ASEAN Business Sentiment Survey 2022, ASEAN continues to be the region with the best economic opportunities, with the gap to the next best region growing. There is also optimism regarding the ASEAN trade and investment.



Region with the Best Economic Development (EU-ASEAN Business Sentiment Survey 2022)



# ASEAN MAYORS FORUM - TIMELINE

## ASEAN: A Community of Opportunities for All



# Acknowledgement

We would like to express our sincere appreciation to all those who have made possible the successful hosting of the ASEAN Mayors Forum 2022

## Host and Organisers



### **The Phnom Penh Capital Administration, Kingdom of Cambodia**

We would like to thank and appreciate Phnom Penh Capital Administration, the Royal Kingdom of Cambodia, for hosting the ASEAN Mayors Forum (AMF) 2022. We have witnessed the collective efforts of Phnom Penh Capital Administration to make a successful AMF and MGMAC 2022 in line with the core spirit of ASEAN: One Vision, One Identity, and One Community. We believe that the knowledge and experience gained by the participants will inspire cities and local governments in Southeast Asia.

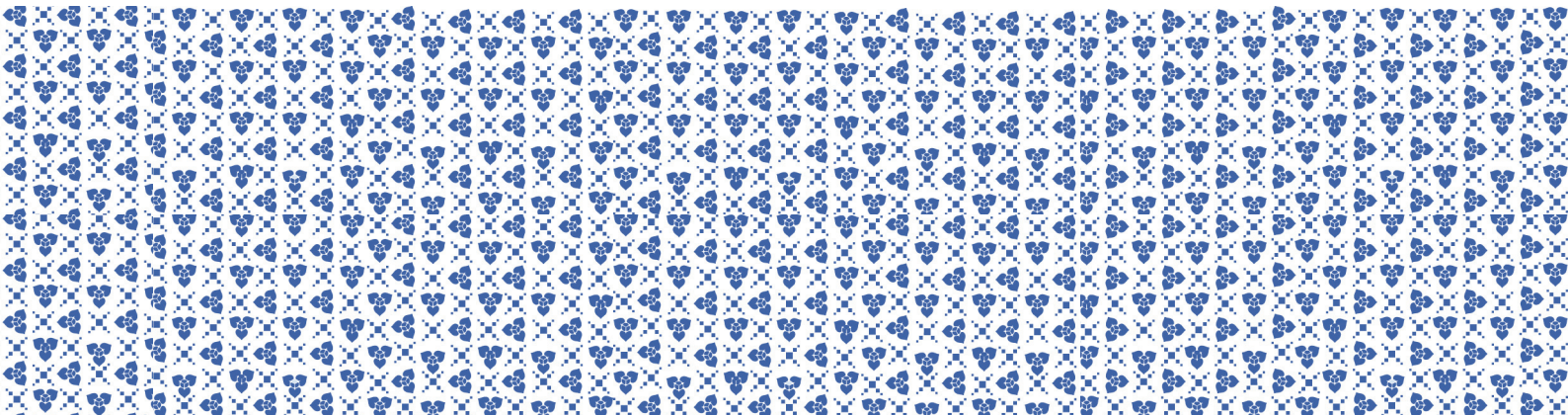


United Cities and Local Governments  
Asia-Pacific

### **United Cities and Local Government Asia Pacific (UCLG ASPAC)**

UCLG ASPAC Secretary-General, Dr. Bernadia Irawati Tjandradewi and all UCLG ASPAC team at the Secretariat. Without the initiative and continuous efforts in organising the AMF 2022 Phnom Penh, the AMF could not happen successfully.

UCLG ASPAC has been providing support to AMF since 2015. UCLG ASPAC hosts the AMF Secretariat through its South-East Asian Chapter.



## Partners



### ASEAN

Highly appreciation to ASEAN Secretariat for supporting the AMF, recognising AMF as the entities of ASEAN since 2018, and recognising the importance of cities and local governments to build ASEAN Together, livable, sustainable, and stronger!



Funded by the  
European Union

### EU

The UCLG World Secretariat has received funding to assist the UCLG Network's work, strengthen local authorities' international standing, and support the work of the UCLG Network. In January 2015, the European Commission (EC) and UCLG signed a Framework Partnership Agreement (FPA), and the European Commission (EC) also gave UCLG an Operating Grant.



### UNCDF

The United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF) promotes public and private funding to benefit underprivileged countries worldwide. UNCDF provides financial models that open public and private resources, particularly domestically, to fight poverty and promote regional economic growth. A lack of adequate funding is one of the things holding back the achievement of the SDGs. Therefore, the UNCDF comes to support local governments in their efforts to finance the SDGs project development.



### 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.



### UNESCAP

One of the five regional commissions under the direct authority of the UN Economic and Social Council is the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP). It was created to promote economic activities between the region and other parts of the world while also boosting economic activity in Asia and the Far East.

The AMF secretariat would also like to thank all resource persons and participants from cities and local governments leaders for the active participation during and support for the 2022 AMF 2022 in Phnom Penh. The presences of mayors and governors from ASEAN Member States and strategic partners of AMF have contributed to the success of the 2022 AMF in Phnom Penh.



**ASEAN MAYORS' DECLARATION**  
**DRIVING LOCAL ACTIONS FOR SUSTAINABLE AND INCLUSIVE GROWTH**  
**The 5<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Mayors Forum (AMF), Bangkok, 27 August 2019**

**W**E, the Mayors of Member States of the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN), convened at the 5<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Mayors Forum (AMF) with the theme "Driving Local Actions for Sustainable and Inclusive Growth" in Bangkok, on 26-27 August 2019. Our meeting was held in line with Thailand's ASEAN Chairmanship and in the spirit of advancing partnership for sustainability to achieve people-centred and forward-looking ASEAN.

RECOGNISED our shared responsibilities and joint actions to promote peace, prosperity, and citizens' well-being, without leaving anyone behind. With our political mandate to work at the level of government closest to the people, we are committed to intensify our efforts and collaboration under the AMF to deepen the ASEAN Community and address common challenges including those associated with rapid urban development, climate change and widening social and economic inequalities.

ACKNOWLEDGE that while all South East Asian Countries are different, we face similar challenges arising from rapid urbanisation and that this similarity provides an opportunity to address urbanisation in a coordinated and integrated regional manner.

DETERMINED to build upon the commitments we made as reflected in the outcome documents of previous AMF, namely the Surabaya Communiqué in 2011, Makassar Declaration in 2015 and Taguig Action Agenda in 2017, that supported the creation of the ASEAN Community as we now move forward to the ASEAN Vision 2040.

ACKNOWLEDGE that the ASEAN Secretariat is well placed to coordinate, harmonise and elevate efforts to address urbanisation in the region in a coherent and coordinated manner.

REITERATED the importance of our leadership and major role of local governments in the implementation of the ASEAN's integration frameworks such as the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity (MPAC) 2025 as well as the global agendas particularly the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Paris Agreement, the New Urban Agenda, the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda.

SHARED the sense of urgency to work towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). We emphasised local governments' key responsibilities in policy areas that affect the achievement of all SDGs and highlighted the need to advance the localisation of global agendas. We welcomed the progress made through the complementarities between the ASEAN Community Vision 2025 and the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

CONVINCED that local governments have to be at the forefront of climate action if we are to make transformative and far-reaching improvement on ecological system. We are mindful of the urgent need to scale up our work to protect vulnerable groups that have been affected by or exposed to the impacts of climate change and poor environmental conditions such as air pollution and rapid increase of marine debris.

CONCERNED by the fact that our region is prone to natural disasters that can have catastrophic effects on people's lives and socio-economic development. We underlined the need to be better prepared for this

challenge by enhancing the Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) capabilities and expressed our support to the ASEAN Declaration on One ASEAN One Response: ASEAN Responding to Disasters as One in the Region and Outside the Region.

REAFFIRMED our commitment as members of the ASEAN Mayors Forum, which is an entity that upholds the ASEAN's principles and purposes, we hereby:

1. Strive to deepen our network and collaboration to achieve the ASEAN Vision 2040. We will foster dialogues, exchanges and harness lessons from our actions to reinforce the dynamics of the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity 2025 (MPAC), the ASEAN Sustainable Urban Strategy (ASUS), and the ASEAN Smart Cities Network (ASCN) as guiding frameworks for sustainable development;
2. Commit to scale up our efforts to localise the sustainable development goals, ensuring that local plans contribute to national, regional and global targets. Our efforts should be complemented by mechanisms to create synergies with national plans and actions. In this regard, we call on national governments to provide an enabling environment for local governments, noting that the decentralisation trend in ASEAN is shifting more responsibilities to local governments;
3. Agree to enhance our mutual efforts to identify, develop and implement innovative policies and actions to address inequalities and complex challenges presented by rapid urban development. We welcome the ASEAN's promotion of knowledge on smart urbanisation strategies and models including through the ASEAN Smart Cities Network (ASCN) and express our keen interest to engage in the existing frameworks;
4. Determine to strengthen our actions against climate change including through advocacy campaigns and collaboration on measurable local actions. We are committed to the development of national action plan to prevent, reduce, and manage marine plastic debris in support of the Bangkok Declaration on Combating Marine Debris in ASEAN Region to achieve Sustainable Development Goal 14 and minimisation of waste through sound waste management policies to achieve Sustainable Development Goal 11 and 12;
5. Aim to intensify our work and collective efforts to address disaster risk by developing local disaster risk reduction and management plans in line with national policies and the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER), with the aim to contribute to substantial increase of the number of countries with national and local disaster risk reduction strategies by 2020, set under target E of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (SFDRR);
6. Welcome the report on ASEAN Vision 2040: Towards a Bolder and Strong ASEAN Community and its recognition of the AMF as a network that can help ASEAN advance inclusive growth, sustainable development, and people empowerment. We resolve to strengthen our network and cooperation to contribute to this vision;
7. Call on our international partners, particularly ESCAP and UN-Habitat, to ensure that the outcomes and commitments made at this AMF are reflected and followed-up at occasions such as the Seventh session of the Asia-Pacific Urban Forum to be Held in Penang, Malaysia, in October 2019 and in the Tenth session of the World Urban Forum to be held in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates in February 2020;
8. Commit to building and strengthening our partnership to accelerate efforts, and to increase resources and commitments towards the implementation of this Declaration.



**JOINT DECLARATION OF THE ASEAN-REPUBLIC OF KOREA MAYORS  
ON THE 30<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF ASEAN-ROK DIALOGUE RELATIONS**

**A**dopted at the 5th ASEAN Mayors Forum (AMF) co-organised by the United Cities and Local Governments Asia Pacific (UCLG ASPAC), Bangkok Metropolitan Administration (BMA), the United Nations Economic Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UN ESCAP) The United Nations Conference Centre (UNCC), Bangkok, 27<sup>th</sup> August 2019

WE, the Mayors of Member States of the Association of South East Asian Nation (ASEAN) and the Republic of Korea (ROK), met at the 5<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Mayors Forum (AMF), organised in the framework of Thailand's ASEAN Chairmanship, with the theme "Driving Local Actions for Sustainable and Inclusive Growth" in Bangkok, on 26-27 August 2019. Our meeting underscored the ASEAN-ROK's commitment to enhance cooperation at all levels as we are commemorating the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the ASEAN-ROK Dialogue Relations this year.

ACKNOWLEDGED the efforts to elevate ASEAN-ROK relations and progress made in building a strategic partnership, operationalised by the Plan of Action (POA) 2016-2020 to achieve the objectives set in the Joint Declaration on ASEAN-ROK Strategic Partnership for Peace and Prosperity adopted in October 2010.

EMPHASISED the vital role of cities and local governments in contributing to the cooperation between ASEAN and ROK, being the level of government that is closest to the people and works to safeguard people's quality of life, inclusive growths and promotes sustainable development.

WELCOMED the Ministerial Declaration of the First ASEAN-ROK Infrastructure Ministers' Meeting that complements the implementation of the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity (MPAC 2025) and presents wider opportunities for cooperation on sustainable urbanisation.

COMMENDED ROK's commitment to double its contribution to the ASEAN-ROK Cooperation Fund during the 6<sup>th</sup> ASEAN-ROK Joint Cooperation Committee (JCC) meeting last 12<sup>th</sup> April 2019 and stressed the important roles of local governments in the implementation of future joint programmes and projects.

SHARED our enthusiasm on and looked forward to the ASEAN-ROK Commemorative Summit to be held in Busan, ROK, on 25<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup> November 2019 in celebration of the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the ASEAN-ROK Dialogue Relations.

COMMITTED to:

- Promote regular dialogues and exchanges between ASEAN and ROK Mayors, by leveraging the ASEAN Mayors Forum (AMF), to reinforce local government and people-to-people partnerships.
- Facilitate exchanges and cooperation on digital technology and innovative practices to build smart, sustainable and inclusive cities and societies, in line with the ASEAN Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity (MPAC 2025), the ASEAN Smart Cities Network (ASCN) and the ASEAN Sustainable Urbanisation Strategy (ASUS).
- Enhance city-to-city collaboration on climate change and related pressing urban and regional challenges such as traffic congestion, pollution, waste management and marine debris;
- Foster people-to-people ties and empower our youth by providing avenues for educational and cultural exchanges and engagements in development policy formulation and implementation.
- Leverage on the ASEAN-ROK Mayors to advance collaboration.

## DECLARATIONS



# 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 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 27<sup>th</sup> day of July 2017 at Shangri-la the Fort in Taguig City, Philippines during the 3<sup>rd</sup> ASEAN Mayors Forum.





# 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 8<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> 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  
9<sup>th</sup> of September 2015.



## Surabaya Communiqué 1<sup>st</sup> ASEAN City Mayors Forum, Surabaya, Indonesia, 24-25 October 2011 “ASEAN Community in a Global Community of Nations”

1. The 1<sup>st</sup> 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.
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 21<sup>st</sup> 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. Furthermore, 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 21<sup>st</sup> 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.

**Executive Editor:**

Bernadia Irawati Tjandradewi

**Editors:**

Ramona Lissa Villegas

Mohammad Ridwan



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United Cities and Local Governments  
Asia-Pacific

Jakarta Capital City Governments Building H, 21<sup>st</sup> Floor  
Jl. Medan Merdeka Selatan No. 8-9  
Jakarta 10110 Indonesia  
Phone : +62 21 389 01 801 +62 811-804-700-2  
Fax : +62 21 389 01 802

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