7TH UCLG ASPAC CONGRESS PROCEEDINGS

INNOVATION DRIVEN DEVELOPMENT FOR SUSTAINABLE CITIES

Surabaya, Indonesia, 12-15 September 2018
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UCLG ASPAC (United Cities and Local Governments Asia-Pacific) is the united voice of local self-governments in the Asia-Pacific region. We promote and stimulate cooperation between governments and within the wider international communities in the region.

The organisation’s scope of work includes advocacy, capacity building and training, research and knowledge management, project development and management, and decentralised cooperations.

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THE 7th UCLG ASPAC Congress was a moment to share, learn, and exchange knowledge from each other. We, at the Secretariat, have captured and documented the enthusiasm, unity, and spirit of city leaders, experts, and key development actors as well as key points of discussion of respective topics to extend the discussion so that they will reach beyond the Congress.

We hereby present this report to all of our members and partners to amplify the message and spirit of the Congress.

Bernadia Irawati Tjandradewi
Secretary General UCLG ASPAC
IT is such an honour to host the 7th UCLG ASPAC Congress with the theme “Innovation Driven Development for Sustainable Cities”. UCLG ASPAC Congress is the right platform for local governments, its associations, international partners, and other global organisations to join hands and leverage city development. For this, Surabaya is glad to become a place that gives birth to inspirations for city development.

Therefore, we are pleased to present this Congress Report that reflects key ideas discussed during the congress.

Tri Rismaharini  
Mayor of Surabaya City, Indonesia  
Newly elected President UCLG ASPAC
The United Cities and Local Governments Asia-Pacific (UCLG ASPAC) held its 7th Congress in collaboration with Surabaya City Government from 12 to 15 September 2018. While the outcomes of the 7th Congress will contribute to positive impacts to cities, this report provides detailed summary of the discussions among city leaders, experts and key development actors during the Congress event.

The Congress featured UCLG ASPAC’s Statutory Meetings comprised of Executive Bureau, Council, and General Assembly. It also provided platforms for discussions and exchanges on major issues facing cities and local governments.

WHAT
Innovation Driven Development for Sustainable Cities
Theme of the Congress

WHEN
4 Days
12-15 September 2018

WHO
• 1099 Participants (experts, city leaders, distinguished officials)
• 137 Speakers from 4 sub-regions and beyond
• 229 Cities
• 43 Countries

A wider range of stakeholders took part in the Congress including: city leaders, development actors, technical experts from various fields, academicians, and university students.
HOW
• 4 Plenary Sessions
• 6 Committee Meetings
• 9 Networking Events
• 6 Training Events

2 Side Events
1 Site Visit
12 City Tours
11 Global Partners

VARIous SOCIAL FUNCTIONS
• Art Performances (Jazz Performance, etc.)
• Dinner at City Hall
• Mlaku-Mlaku Nan Tunjungan Walking Tour

MEDIA ENGAGEMENT
70 Media Representatives

SUPPORT
136 Volunteers (as Liaison Officers and Social Media Assistants)
Opening Ceremony

The 7th UCLG ASPAC Congress welcomed more than 1,000 participants from all over the Asia-Pacific region. With the theme “Innovation-Driven Development for Sustainable Cities”, the Congress was hosted by the City Government of Surabaya. Cultural performances provided the energy and warm hospitality of the Surabaya people to the participants. The event was inaugurated by the keynote speech from key leaders who attended the Congress.

▲ Cultural performances let Congress participants discover the richness of local culture.
Mayor Tri Rismaharini welcomed the guests to the City of Surabaya, Indonesia. She expressed that it was an honor to host the 7th UCLG ASPAC Congress. The Mayor also discussed briefly the activities that had been prepared by Surabaya City Government, such as the Welcome Dinner and city tours. Participants would also get the chance to visit several kampungs and public spaces as part of the technical visits. Additionally, participants would be able to experience a culinary and arts festival on Tunjungan Street. She hoped that the Congress would be a place for sharing and learning in order to address urban issues.

Director General Soni Sumarsono of the Regional Autonomy Ministry of Home Affairs recognized the role of UCLG ASPAC in building mutual cooperation between local governments and international organizations. In particular, he highlighted the important role of the Congress in supporting local governments in the Asia-Pacific region in ensuring the provision of quality public services to the community. He also stated that sustainable development must be in line with local policies to enhance strategies related to the delivery of public services. Furthermore, he stressed the importance of community participation in achieving solutions to local issues.

In his video message, UCLG World President Parks Tau extended his gratitude to the City of Surabaya for hosting the 7th UCLG ASPAC Congress, on the theme “Innovation Driven Development for Sustainable Cities”. He hoped that there would be a place to present the role of culture, heritage and identity. He also recognized that technology played a major role and strongly contributed to innovative development. Reinforcing that the Congress provided a valuable framework for stakeholders to present their experiences on global issues from their cities, President Tau ended by thanking UCLG ASPAC for their coordination.
In her video message, The Executive Director of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) Dato Maimunah Mohd Sharif mentioned that the aim of UN-Habitat was to ensure the implementation of and provide support on the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals and New Urban Agenda. She expressed that there were still many people living in extreme conditions, including those suffering from poor sanitation and pollution, among others. UCLG and UN-Habitat have collaborated in many initiatives to help resolve these issues. In order to successfully realize the SDGs by 2030, she emphasized local and regional governments have the most crucial role to play.

Ambassador of the European Union to Indonesia and Brunei Darussalam
Mr. Vincent Guérend congratulated the City of Surabaya for hosting the Congress. He acknowledged that the Congress was an event to share experience and enhance collaboration. Local governments need practical knowledge and innovative solutions to overcome urban issues such as climate change.

UCLG ASPAC President and Governor of Jeju Province Mr. Won Hee-ryong expressed his expectations for the Congress to bring about great collaboration between parties and enable them to work together. He emphasized that local governments have to work together with the community to create a sustainable future. He further stated that “change and innovation is not only about pursuing the new” and rather it was about “reinforcing, revitalizing, and diversifying”.

Mr. Khoo Teng Chye, Executive Director of Centre of Liveable Cities in Singapore, noted that population growth in Asia was taking place faster than any other region. He added that since 2013, most people chose to live in cities. Rapid population growth and urbanization posed significant challenges to cities in making them sustainable and also livable.

He expressed that transformation was a key element of the Congress. He pointed out that the inclusive programs undertaken by Surabaya to create green areas in kampungs helped make it a clean and livable city. He also offered praise to Surabaya’s Command Center that integrated different work units into one center and expressed that a similar set-up was also established in Singapore.

Mr. Khoo underscored the importance of city leaders having a platform to discuss best practices and collaborate with other cities. He stated that Singapore was also working together with other cities in leading the ASEAN Smart Cities Network. Through this network, cities could be enabled to share their experiences, develop capacities, and adopt best practices including from other regions.

Mr. Khoo Teng Chye, Executive Director of Centre of Liveable Cities in Singapore, shared his knowledge about sustainable cities and the ASEAN Smart Cities Network.

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This plenary session focused on the policies, initiatives and strategies to create strong enabling environments as well as the challenges and opportunities in sustaining them.

European Union Ambassador to Indonesia Mr. Vincent Guérend stated that cities need to be inclusive and livable in order to increase the quality of life for its inhabitants. He noted that an integrated and inclusive approach is required to develop sustainable cities. The Ambassador emphasized that the Urban Agenda of the European Union was designed from the grassroots level and further believed that global governance played an important role in adapting to climate change. Cooperation projects undertaken by the EU focus on energy and taking action on climate change in the cities of Europe and Asia. He stated that the UCLG ASPAC Congress gives cities a chance to develop partnerships and is an ideal platform for dialogue.

Mr. Yim Geun Hyeong, Ambassador for International Relations of Seoul Metropolitan Government, reported on how Seoul has localized the SDGs. The vision of Seoul City is to achieve the SDGs by reflecting the current status of Seoul and thereby setting a milestone for the social, economic, and environmental policy of Seoul. This 2018, Seoul City Government plans to establish indicators to evaluate progress and consult district offices; strengthen collaboration with various sectors; and educate and promote the newly developed indicators with both public and private sectors along with citizens through online engagement. As part of their mid-term plan, Mr. Yim reported that Seoul plans to complete the development of the 2nd Master Plan covering 2020-
2024 in 2019 and work on the 3rd Master Plan based on the results of the implementation of the 2nd Master Plan by 2024 onwards. He further stated that their long-term plan involves reflecting Seoul SDGs in all policies, plans, and administration and creating a Seoul SDGs Online System to share it with other cities in the future.

Governor of Jakarta Capital City Government Anies Rasyid Baswedan discussed Marcus Foth ‘4 Levels of City Evolution’. At the ‘Socialization level’ (City 1.0), city government acts as an administrator for the people who are considered residents. At the ‘Consultation level’ (City 2.0), city government is a service provider to the people who have become consumers. At the ‘Participation level’ (City 3.0), city government becomes a facilitator for the people who are now participants. At the ‘Collaboration level’ (City 4.0), the city government acts as a collaborator and the people are now considered as co-creators. He explained that in line with the City 4.0 paradigm, the Jakarta Capital City Government chose to use a different and more collaborative approach in tackling and managing urban sprawl. As an example, he explained the ‘Urban Sprawl Management with Community Action Plan’ wherein citizens work in collaboration with NGOs, think tanks, universities, and the city government, to design and apply their own solutions to the city’s problems.

Mr. Jingwu Song, Vice President of the Chinese People’s Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries, expressed that countries and organizations alike are searching for an approach that will support them in tackling critical challenges and also enable development through collaboration. With the UN Sustainable Development Goals aimed to be achieved by 2030; the New Urban Agenda; and Millennium Development Goals, global governance continues to evolve. He shared that 2018 marked the 40th anniversary of China’s reform and opening up, to which China has realized the scale and speed of its urbanization. Infrastructure, competitiveness, and also the living environment of Chinese cities have greatly improved but moreover, they have faced key challenges related to sustainable development such as structural imbalance in urban development, environmental degradation, and an ever-increasing income gap. He stated that to address these problems, central government has initiated new concepts on development featuring creative development, coordinated development, green development, open development, and sharing development. Through actively balancing relations between central and local governments, streamlining the administrative layers, delegating power to local governments, optimizing local government functions, and improving information communication, central government has been able to provide policy support to enable local governments to handle local affairs and overcome difficulties in its development.

Mr. Song underscored that Chinese cities highly value creative development, exchanges, and mutual learning with foreign peers. As an example, he mentioned that the City of Guangzhou initiated the Guangzhou
Award for International Cooperation in collaboration with UCLG and Metropolis. The award provided an exemplary platform for local governments from all over the world to share best practices. He invited the participants to join the preliminary evaluation conference of the 4th Guangzhou Award for International Creation which was being held in parallel with the Congress.

He further discussed initiatives of his organization, the Chinese People’s Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries (CPAFFC), including the creation of the Belt and Road Local Cooperation Committee and the 21st Century Maritime Cooperation Committee with Hangzhou and Fuzhou respectively, with the aim of building up a collaboration platform for local governments in the Asia-Pacific region. He added that CPAFFC is dedicated to people-to-people diplomacy, public diplomacy, and city diplomacy.

Ms. Fozia Khalid Warraich, Mayor of District Toba Tek Singh, stated the challenges in localizing SDGs in Pakistan. Local governments have targets and indicators but funds are limited. She mentioned that participation of stakeholders particularly in fundraising is still not visible as well. She added that implementation of laws for the protection of women is still weak.
Mr. Slamet Soedarsono, Deputy Ministry of Bappenas for Politic, Law, Defence and Security of Indonesia, discussed the role of Bappenas in achieving the SDGs for Indonesia. He also reported on the Multi-Stakeholders Partnership (MSP) Guideline which will be used as a toolkit to accelerate the achievement of the development agenda. The guideline works under the partnership principles of convergence of interest, complementary of approach, and shared value and involves strategic issues such as new potential financing scheme, SDGs support facility, and an enabling environment. He also shared the challenges encountered including the incomplete Sub-national Action Plan (RAD), synergy between Strategic Environmental Assessment and RAD, harmonization to support regional development, and synchronization between SDGs and the Medium Term Regional Plan.

Examples of innovations were also shared by Mr. Soedarsono, one of which is the partnership of the Government of Yogyakarta.
with OHANA, an advocacy-based organization for disability rights. The partnership involved designing underground parking lot and public toilet in the city and created public facilities that will allow an easier and more comfortable access for disabled communities. Another innovation is the installation of thousands of closed-circuit televisions (CCTVs) in Makassar which helped drop the crime rates in the city. Mr. Soedarsono stated that innovation can help tackle the challenges faced towards achieving SDGs. He also emphasized the importance of multi-stakeholder cooperation and the participation and cooperation of all parties. He urged that collaborations must be strengthened to achieve the targets by 2030.

Deputy Chief of Staff Mr. Yanuar Nugroho, from the Executive Office of the President of Indonesia, underscored that development is for the people and must help address uncertainties. He noted that the most visible challenge involves uncertainties on legal, health, security, and communication or information,
among many others. He also discussed the role of innovation in development particularly in promoting transparency. With the openness in the data of beneficiaries of subsidized rice in Kabupaten Wonogiri, Central Java, communities could help validate the data of beneficiaries, resulting in a more effective distribution of subsidized rice. With the local government publishing the budget for health infrastructure, communities in East Nusa Tenggara can monitor and provide inputs which helps the government determine the programmes that will improve the quality of health infrastructure. Mr. Nugroho stated that the Agenda 2030 seeks to address today’s and future’s world problems concerning well-being, progress, and the environment. He noted that the Agenda is participatory both in its inception and implementation. He added that as a global political commitment, Agenda 2030 needs contextualization and focus on development policy and planning, and relies on innovations and data for accountability.

Dunedin City Council Mayor Mr. Dave Cull emphasized that an inclusive city is safe and sustainable. He also shared that Dunedin City continues its innovative initiatives to achieve sustainable development. He reminded that the government and community should work together to achieve development. Mayor Cull also advocated for a development framework that is in line with the SDGs.

Ms. Chen Yini, Vice Chairs of Chinese People’s Political Consultative Conference Guangzhou Comittee, reported on the Guangzhou International Award for Urban Innovation, also known as Guangzhou Award. This award was jointly established by Guangzhou City, UCLG, and Metropolis aimed at exchanging successful experiences, recognizing best practices, and advocating the concept of driving growth through urban innovation by urban and local governments. Since its inception in 2012, there has been three cycles of the award successfully held. Initiatives from 150 cities in over 50 countries are submitted in each cycle. The 4th Guangzhou Award received 273 initiatives from 193 cities in 66 countries and region marking a record high for the award. Ms. Chen stated that 15 cities have been shortlisted and the winning city will be awarded in December.

Deputy Executive Director of CLAIR Singapore Ms. Mika Watanabe shared the innovations in Kyoto. As Japan’s former capital for over 1,200 years, Kyoto has been the center of politics, culture, and industry. Its traditions have evolved and developed through technology. Kyoto is also home to world class enterprises such as Kyocera and Nintendo that manufactures solar power generation system and portable game machines, respectively. To further exemplify innovations in Kyoto, Ms. Watanabe also discussed about the Kyoto Shisaku-net (KSN), a cooperative organization of SMEs for one-
The association consists of over 100 highly skilled and advanced enterprises that supports the research and development activities of major firms, with a business track record with large Chinese, Korean, and other foreign electrical appliance manufacturers. By pursuing technological developments with KSN, the members also become more developed.

Ms. Watanabe noted four elements: trusting relationship, firm belief, face-to-face communication, and long-term vision, as essential to the Kyoto spirit. She added that having a long-term trust and vision fosters sustainability for future generations.

Mr. Ren Yuan, Senior Manager of the Alibaba Global Business Group, explained how the private sector can contribute to city development. In particular, he discussed how the Alibaba Global Business Group is working with cities such as Suzhou. He noted that they seek sustainable development, especially with China being the host of the next Asian Games.

Traffic congestion is one of the problems that Alibaba is resolving through technology. Using CCTV records, they have data on the number of motorists and behavior of bus users. Using this information, Alibaba’s system is able to support by reducing congestion. They plan to launch this system in Malaysia.

Using data and algorithm, Alibaba systems are also used by small and medium enterprises (SMEs) to develop their business. With private sector and government working together, goals can be reached faster. Mr. Yuan stated that Alibaba can contribute by using technology.
Ms. Rina Agustin Indriani, Secretary of Directorate General Cipta Karya, Ministry of Public Works and Housing on Indonesia, focused her discussion on partnerships in urban infrastructure development. She began by explaining that in 2015, 59.35% of Indonesia’s population live in urban areas. This poses a challenge to access to safe drinking water and adequate sanitation which the National Mid-Term Plan targets to achieve 100% access in both urban and rural areas. However, government budget to develop infrastructure in water and sanitation can only cover 30% from the total yearly budget. To cover the deficiency, partnerships with various stakeholders were pursued. She concluded that multi-stakeholder partnership is not only a sharing of

Multi-stakeholder partnerships (MSP) are crucial in achieving SDGs and New Urban Agenda. This plenary session served as a platform to explore effective partnership modalities and discuss how cities and local governments can maximize multi-stakeholder partnerships to achieve sustainable development.
UCLG World Secretary General Ms. Emilia Saiz highlighted that different roles are important to consider in setting up partnerships. She mentioned the significance of broadening partnerships that calls for different ways of communicating as well. She stated that establishing partnerships is not an easy task but there should be a willingness to take risks and make a change in order to achieve innovation.

Mr. Emmanuel Arnold, from his experience in Jaffna Municipal Council, expressed some of the challenges in dealing with partnerships. Among them are the political diversity in the council, inadequate knowledge and skills among new local officials, mismatch of needs and priorities of external partners, passive citizenry, and language barriers. They respond to these challenges by building partnerships based on priorities, training and skills improvement for new local officials, lobbying for rights through national networks, among others. He also emphasized that the voice of local groups should be considered as their wisdom can be beneficial to MSP.

Mr. Azmizam Abdul Rashid, Director of Knowledge Management and Advisory, explained the key role of Urbanice Malaysia as a Centre for Excellence for Sustainable Cities and Community Well-Being in Malaysia. It revolves in 4 key areas including advisory & facilitation, knowledge platforms, research & development, and public-private partnership projects. In terms of the MSP, they function as promoter, enabler, and partner. He also mentioned the roles of local governments in MSP. He stated that local governments can increase their openness to new ideas and businesses through their roles as regulator, advocate, and customer. They can optimize the enabling infrastructure for high growth and businesses in their roles as host, investor, and connector. Local governments can lead from within the city hall through their roles as strategist, digital governor, and datavore. He concluded by stating Malaysia’s commitment to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and New Urban Agenda, and that the country will contribute towards strengthening partnerships between various stakeholders in the quest for development.
This plenary featured several options on finance for cities and local governments. It discussed the latest and pressing issues of development cooperation such as development assistance trends, the current aid architecture, local government and development aid, coordination mechanism for development funding.

Vice Mayor Duo Jia of Yiwu City explained five financing measures that fostered development in Yiwu City. First is that private companies and private capital pushed the development of Yiwu market and city. He strongly encouraged supporting private enterprises, stating that financing from stock market further feeds industrial, urban, and economic development. Second is to increase fiscal income by fostering private enterprises and pushing development for both urban and rural areas. He noted that private enterprises are an important source of government tax revenue and helping their growth can increase taxes and public fund. Third was to set up operating company of state-owned assets for financing. This secures value of state-owned assets and enables government to use them for investment and financing. Fourth is to set an industry fund to exert the financing function in attracting investment as it gives leverage. Lastly is to serve the strategy of rural revitalization. In addition, Vice Mayor Duo Jia also expressed that Yiwu City is eager to have international cooperation in financing. He added that Yiwu is more than willing to share its ideas and time-tested solutions with UCLG member cities. Vice Mayor Duo Jia noted that human resource is the most important element in financing. He shared that Yiwu conducted “Run with Yiwu: Global Youth Business Program” which gave training on cross-border e-commerce and international trade to young people from all over the world. The training provided an excellent platform for networking, sharing, and working on business ideas.
Mr. Omar Siddique, Economic Affairs Officer of United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UN ESCAP), focused on how to mobilize municipal financing for sustainable infrastructure in Asia-Pacific. To bring the discussion into context, he mentioned that cities in the Asia-Pacific region have seen continued rapid urbanization leading to large infrastructure gaps, and currently face increasing demand for investments on sustainable urban development. Given the scale of financing required for the needed investments, and the limited nature of government grants, the imperative of leveraging these public resources with private finance is well-recognized. The key components of municipal financing systems include actions that enhance the power of cities to improve their own revenue sources, rationalize intergovernmental transfers, and provide regulations for a borrowing framework that can attract long-term capital. He further discussed that experience from developing countries indicate that successful leverage is dependent on state level actions to undertake reforms that empower local governments through intergovernmental fiscal transfers, own source revenue collection and support creditworthiness of cities within a borrowing framework to create certainty for subnational investment, and free up municipal decision making. If local governments are constrained in their basic functions and institutionally hampered by functional and geographical fragmentation, leverage would be limited. On the other hand, if local governments are respected, transferred their share of taxes, and provided with an enhanced governance structures and institutional capacity to manage long term debt, they can be expected to leverage their own finances, reduce risk and exposure, and develop needed infrastructure.

Senior Urban Economist Mr. Marcus Lee reported on the World Bank’s approach in Indonesia which focuses on working with the
The central government to design and implement national programs for infrastructure, and the Regional Infrastructure Development Fund as a cross-cutting facility implemented by PT SMI supported by the World Bank which offers loans for infrastructure finance to local governments in Indonesia. He stated that Indonesia faces many constraints in financial capacity, namely: limited own source revenue, reliance on intergovernmental fiscal transfer, and very limited options to borrow to invest in infrastructure. The World Bank acts as a financial intermediary and offer loans to sub-national companies. PTS (PT. Sarana Infrastructure) and PIP (Pusat Investasi Pemerintah) catalyze infrastructure finance in Indonesia through loans as well. Another issue that Mr. Marcus Lee raised is that Indonesia’s national government plans, designs, and implements the investment infrastructure. He suggested that the national sector programs should incorporate local government.

Mayor Sally Ante Lee shared Sorsogon City’s experience in terms of financing for local development. With the limited budget allocation from national government, Sorsogon obtains funding from various sources such as international agencies and private groups. As a new city created with the merger of two municipalities in 2000, Sorsogon was included in the poverty-focused City Development Strategies (CDS2) funded by the World Bank. This created the blueprint of Sorsogon City’s programs during its initial years. The British Embassy together with the Development Academy of the Philippines trained the offices and came up with the Citizen’s Charter, a guidebook of the city’s services which became mandatory to all government entities years later. Sorsogon City was also one of the cities piloted for the Localization of the Millennium Development Goals initiated by the UNDP. This continued to MDG FACES supported by UN Habitat. The UNDP recently assisted the city on Migration and Development program which provided assistance to families of Overseas Filipino Workers, while the Asian Development Bank assisted in the Feasibility Study for the Sanitary Landfill Facility. On climate change and disaster risk reduction, Mayor Lee explained that Sorsogon was able to come up with the Vulnerability and Adaptation Assessment and formulate an action plan before the law was passed requiring this. This was also with the support and funding of UN Habitat, the Spanish Government and the MDG Fund. Other capacity development assistance the City received are programs on health, agriculture, environment, housing, and good governance. Mayor Lee also reported on the challenges that the city faced given the development aid it has received. She noted that poor documentation at the local level hinders approval and
there is difficulty on third-party monitoring. She also discussed facilitating factors to development aid which include alignment of local development plans with national agenda and international commitments, and readiness and capability to implement programs and projects.

Mr. Emil Elestianto Dardak, Regent Mayor of Trenggalek, concentrated on the concept of collaborative financing. He initially talked about how the SDGs put forward the importance of partnership in accelerating progress. He noted that local authorities face challenges in meeting the needs for development due to limited financial resources. He further stated that local authorities are at the forefront in harnessing the power of community action and mobilizing community action is key in addressing the issue of financing. He also discussed the financing framework which included pure public financing, community action, and public private partnership.

Case studies of financial practice in the Trenggalek Regency were also shared by Mr. Dardak. The first case is transfer payment of rural government which consisted of three phases: financing, execution, and maintenance. The second case is on the Soetran Award, named after the legendary Regent Mayor of Trenggalek, wherein rural governments are invited to propose their local innovation and winners are entitled to receive additional transfer funding. Another case study is on public participation in the rural market wherein renovated markets are financed through a combination of government budget and user payment. He concluded by providing the logical framework of financing adopted by Trenggalek Regency which consists of three main aspects: sustainability, efficiency, and leverage.
NETWORKING EVENTS
Knowledge Sharing of Urban Sanitation in Asian Countries - Challenges and Opportunities

Urban sanitation is one of the most critical health issues affecting the rapidly growing urban areas of Asia and is a shared concern among developing countries in both social and geographical sense. Booming population in developing cities has caused severe impact to the untreated waste which in turn affects the locals’ health and the environment. This session described the issues and shared possible solutions in some Asian countries.

Mr. Bushan Tuladhar, Regional Technical Advisor - South Asia, Water for Asian Cities Program, UN-HABITAT, emphasized the importance of local municipalities having an integrated sustainable waste management system. Mr. Renung Rubiyatadjji, Head of Waste, Hazardous and Toxic Substances Management, Malang Regency, explained that legal and policy support provided by UCLG ASPAC was instrumental to the successful implementation of the Urban Sanitation Program in Malang Regency. This program follows the concept of wastewater management set by government of Indonesia which includes on-site treatment, adequate transport, and sustainable waste management at the final disposal site.

Mr. Oliver Villamena, Administrative Officer of City Environmental Management Office, Marikina City, also shared that other efforts were conducted to achieve an integrated and sustainable waste management, starting from installation of support facilities in individual households, information and education campaign for the public, and centralization of materials recovery facility.

Participants of the Networking Events showed their enthusiasm after gaining insights from the session.

UCLG ASPAC members from Nepal visited the exhibition booth featuring a collaborative project with UCLG ASPAC to enhance faecal sludge management in their country.
Child Right-Based Financing and Policy Implementation on Child Friendly City in the Asia and Pacific Region

During the first session, which focused on financing on Child Friendly Cities (CFC), Ms. Wivina Belmonte of the UNICEF East ASIA and Pacific Regional Office, presented the UN Secretary General’s Global Youth Agenda, recognizing the importance of the youth and children in the development of cities. She emphasized that the core of smart cities is investing in children and youth and creating child friendly cities.

Ms. Lenny Rosalin, Deputy Minister of Child Growth and Development, described the implementation of CFC in Indonesia. In 2010, the Ministry of Women Empowerment and Child Protection of Indonesia created a strategy which allocated 10-15% of total national budget for child budgeting. In 2014, local governments were mandated to be fully responsible in fulfilling the rights of the children and protecting them in their areas. In Yangon City, Vice Mayor Ms. Hlaing Maw Oo explained that CFC initiatives are included in their planning for inclusive and sustainable cities. CFC initiatives are included. In Kiribati, Tarawa City Mayor Mr. Harry Tekaiti stated that they have programs dedicated for CFC and implement initiatives to raise awareness on CFC.

During the second session, Mr. Hasan, Officer of Simokerto Village in Surabaya City, underscored that raising awareness from early education will enable children to feel the importance of protecting the environment. Ms. Fransisca Medelin Sareng, Wolomotong Village Children’s Representative, explained how the Children Forum helped them realize their aspiration of being heard and responded to by the government. Mr. Romanus of the Wolomotong Village stated that they are currently advocating for a village law to maintain the Children Forum and aspire to become a child friendly village.

This session tackled financing on Child-Friendly Cities (CFC) in several cities across the region of Asia Pacific while the panel discussion presented smart practices on policy implementations of CFC from Surabaya and Sika region.

There was a positive spirit among speakers and participants as they discussed how to create a child friendly city.
Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy Southeast Asia Launching

With the long-term vision of promoting and supporting voluntary action to combat climate change, the Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy (GCoM) launched its Asia programme. The event also raised awareness of the new possibilities for international cooperation offered by GCoM.

During the launch, EU Ambassador Mr. Vincent Guérend stated that the EU has many strategies to build climate resilience in Europe and the GCoM will be instrumental in providing knowledge at the city level. UCLG ASPAC President and Jeju Special Self-Governing Province Governor Mr. Won Hee-Ryong recognized that the GCoM Southeast Asia will be a new milestone that responds to climate change and that collaboration among local governments can make a big difference. Mr. Michel Mochiroud of the IUC-Asia Programme stated that through GCoM, cities can secure long-term support and boost access to finance projects.

A panel discussion was also held where GCoM signatories shared their experience on responding to climate change. Makassar City Mayor Najiran reported that they are implementing the smart city concept and strategies especially in smart transportation and smart living. In Lisbon City, Mr. David Cunha shared how they are incentivising the use of electric cars. Mr. Boyd Dionysius Jouman stated that they have the Low Carbon Society Blueprint in Iskandar City. The blueprint aims to reduce Iskandar’s intensity emission by 58% in 2025.

City leaders united to share their experience to other cities, learn together, and work towards global commitments on climate action.
The Benefits of Functional Assignment for Implementing the Agenda 2030 in a Multi-Level Governance System

With the emerging practice of functional assignment in Asia, local governments are expected to have a larger role and innovation in service delivery, better governance across sectors, and have cities as engines of growth and globalization. A successful strategy for localizing SDGs needs clarity of mandates and jurisdictions across levels of government. The functional assignment process can be a vehicle for building consensus among relevant stakeholders.

In Cambodia, decentralization and deconcentration reform started in 2002 with the objective to bring decision makers closer to the citizens, create a culture of local democracy through participation of citizens for local development, strengthen accountability of elected subnational administration (SNA) councils to citizens, improve public service delivery and local economic development, and reduce poverty. Among the lessons learned were to ensure the availability of resources before transferring functions, establish agreement on resources, facilitate strong coordination, and consider capacity of SNA.

In Mongolia, the State Policy on Decentralization was approved in 2016 and a piloting process was also undertaken to test feasibility and to adjust and improve the functional assignment methodology. Some of the key lessons learned were incremental approach with clear plans is important, capacity building with good manual/handbooks is vital, consistent engagement in policy dialogue is important to ensure sustainability of institutionalization, and the necessity for a risk mitigation strategy.

The third country case was from South Korea. Citizen engagement and the election of a non-military president prompted decentralization in the country. Localisation meant strengthening the power of local government, expanding the role and participation of citizens, engaging in more cooperation with experts group, and transforming the role of central government from authority to supporter.
Local Government Consultation on Accelerating the Implementation for the Sustainable Goals and New Urban Agenda in Asia and the Pacific

This consultation enabled the review of the practical challenges and future opportunities for local governments in the region, evaluation of the means of implementation of the four thematic areas as operationalized in the cities of Asia Pacific region, and served as an opportunity for participants to provide examples of case studies and best practices. The consultation was moderated by Mr. Omar Siddique, of UNESCAP.

This consultation focused on four thematic areas. Under the theme on “Governance and Capacity Development for Resilient Cities”, it was highlighted that multi-stakeholder participation is the key to good governance. There is also a need to align interests and needs at the local, regional, and national levels.

Involving the community through participatory budgeting was highlighted under the theme of “Municipal Finance”. In Malaysia, national government is empowering local government to take on financial decisions. In Sri Lanka, transparency of local government financing and procurement can help build public trust and increase revenue collection. In Indonesia, one of the policy innovations is the transfer of block grant from national to local government based on a transparent formula. In South Korea, the introduction of progressive property tax served as an innovation to the previous tax system.

Having a data platform system to actuate and update information for tax collection and other public services was discussed under the theme “Data and Technologies for Smart Cities”. Sharing an integrated data platform allows transparency and minimizes corruption.

The last among the thematic areas is on “Urban and Territorial Planning”. It was stressed that protection of green areas and biodiversity should be taken into consideration in development plans. Attention should also be given to connectivity of urban and rural areas. The concept of mix use development being employed by the new generation of urban planners create places that are responsive to the needs and wants of the people.
This networking event provided a platform to discuss concrete examples of DRR practice and its outcomes, identify the specifics of knowledge localisation process and impacts on local stakeholders, and define ways to effectively localise the SFDRR together with other global agendas.

The workshop was divided into two parallel sessions. The first session involved a sharing of best practices in DRR using posters. Participants also shared their common challenge in facing natural disasters and recognized risk assessment as part of the strategies to address the disaster. The second session revolved on discussing challenges on DRR to initiate identification of possible solutions. Challenges mentioned were on the sustainability of DRR program, coordination mechanism, and data on disasters at local level. Participants also reported on their local DRR Strategies such as The Albay Zero Casualty Strategy from Albay, Civil Defence Preventive Plan from Sao Paulo, and Disaster Management Agency from Bogor.

The session concluded with a presentation about Kathmandu City’s reconstruction after the worst earthquake experienced in Nepal. Among the government efforts, it was noted that people were encouraged to reconstruct their houses in villages instead of the damaged site in urban areas.
Public Space Led Urban Development – Towards a Regional Strategy

This networking event reinforced the value of public space in urban planning and management from the context of different local governments. Ms. Cecilia Anderson, Global Public Space Program Manager of UN-HABITAT, reported on the challenges of public space in the Asia-Pacific region which involved issues, such as distribution, accessibility and permeability. Mr. Steven Ngu Ngie Woon, Director of Garis Architecture, discussed the issues of affordable housing in Malaysia. Ms. Eunjoo Chae of the Jeju Special Self-Governing Province shared the concept of public space in Jeju that considers young people, growth of local economy, and well-life of residents.

Lack of available space was expressed as a common public space challenge in Surakarta and Kiribati. To face this challenge, optimization of use of river banks and sports fields, parking restrictions, and control in building permits are being done in Surakarta.

Invoking the people was underscored as an important aspect in planning and designing public space based from the experiences in Thailand and Indonesia. Ms. Sofia Pratama discussed how public space in Ketandan village in Surabaya was established with the help of various stakeholders including the religious leaders, youth, in close collaboration with UCLG ASPAC. Ms. Mia Simpao, Program Management Officer of Cities Development Initiative for Asia, shared their experience in working with Yangzhou, China on urban renewal and wetland rehabilitation. From this project, she concluded that public space developments should be integrated into long-term plans.

Promoting Human Rights Cities in Achieving SDGs’ Targets

This networking session explored and promoted peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provided access to justice for all; and built effective, accountable, and inclusive institutions particularly within local government level.

Gwangju City was the first city that has human rights department in Korea, said Mr. Gyonggu Shin. Mrs. Gabriella Fredriksson from RWI emphasized that cities are well positioned to realize both the SDGs and Human rights. Urban city planning should use human rights approach. Parliament has a vital function in achieving SDGs as well as human rights said Mrs. Nurhayati Ali Assegaf. Parliamentary commitments ensured the granting of budget, policies, and supervision approval. As city with big number of moslem population, Mr. Dodit Ardian Pancapana shared experience how Bandung Government involved religious leader to be part of promoting human rights by speaking in English. Mayor of Palu, Mr. Hidayat, shared the case of human rights in Palu City relating to regional budget. According to him, as budgeting was conducted by government, various academicians in the city also played active role in giving inputs.

Mr. Mohammad Fahmi Hidayat from Regent of Wonosobo shared that implementation of human rights in Wonosobo was supported by the regional policy, which was arranged based on Indonesia constitution, 10 basic human rights, non-discrimination, and right to the city. Bojonegoro Regent promoted human rights in various programs, Mrs. Dwi Setyorini shared, such as public dialogue. The last speaker was Mr. Mugiyanto from INFID emphasized the importance of human rights initiative by local governments.
How Do I Implement the SDGs in My City? Examples and Entry Points for Multi-Stakeholder Action

This training aimed to raise awareness about the overall importance of cities and local governments in the implementation of the 2030 agenda for sustainable development, its challenges and opportunities, and examples of concrete entry points for action. Through the “wheel exercise”, participants were able to identify the position of their cities in SDGs and selected urban-relevant targets. Tools and practices on localising the SDGs were also presented: the Base Plan (inclusive planning tool for intermediary cities which gives them territorial logic) and the Mandala tool which enables monitoring of the SDGs localisation. From the experience of Chefchaouen City in their Communal Action Plan 2016-2022, the steps in localisation are awareness raising, localising and aligning the SDGs, territorializing and mapping, and implementing and monitoring. The Sustainable Urban Resource Management approach, which transforms urban economies from linear to circular resource systems, was also advocated in localizing SDGs.

Creating Safe, Inclusive and Accessible Public Space Training Workshop

This training workshop strived to showcase how to create a safe, inclusive, and accessible public space.

Various tools relating to public space development were discussed. These tools included the city-wide public space assessment tool, Minecraft for community participation, place analysis tool, global public space toolkit, guide on city-wide public space strategy, and compendium of best practices. Examples on how cities utilized the city-wide public space assessment tool and the use of Minecraft in the project Block by Block were examined in detail.

Public space belongs to community and should create a sense of belonging to people who will use them. There are many ways to create a sense of ownership for the public. One way is to involve them in planning and designing public space as exemplified in Block by Block. Another way can be through graffiti which can show physical, social, and cultural values. The method varies on the environment and the people.
CoM was introduced as an initiative of local, regional, and global city networks which assemble talents, resources, and capacities to mobilize and support cities and local governments commitments to implement Paris Agreement. By committing to GCoM, local governments can secure long term support for climate and energy actions and boost access to finance local climate and energy projects.

Lisbon Municipality conducted urban cleaning program to promote waste reduction through the principle of “more garbage, more tax and few garbage, less tax”. In Indonesia, climate action at local level is financed through Indonesia Climate Change Trust Fund (ICCTF).

The International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI) conducts projects in Laos, Vietnam, Indonesia, Philippines, and other counties. UN-Habitat works on urban planning and urban agenda. Climate Development Plan (CDP) functions as a matchmaker between government and private sector. C40 creates policies to reduce global emissions and strengthens members capacities through technical assistance and consolidation. APEKSI acts as facilitator in strategic city resilience. UCLG ASPAC supports partners in project implementation for sustainability.

Function was defined as “a set of related activities that work within a larger system to produce a result that is beneficial to that system’s operations.” Five categories of functions were discussed: obligatory functions, optional functions, exclusive functions, concurrent functions, and residual functions. Potential criteria for the assignment of functions included subsidiarity, effectiveness and efficiency, economies of scale, externalities, capacity of receiving level, heterogeneity of demand, equity, and accountability. The normative process of functional assignment, together with unbundling as a process technique, was also presented.

To gauge the understanding of concepts presented and facilitate discussion, participants were divided into buzz groups. They were provided with an administrative system profile and tasked to identify which functions should go to which level of government. They were also asked to share the functional assignment challenges in their respective countries as well as identify possible solutions to these challenges.
Workshop on Cultural Tourism for Sustainable Cities in the Asia-Pacific Region

It was stated that one of the impacts of cultural tourism is the trade off between cultural identity development and commodification. Tourism can bring both economic and cultural benefits as tourism can help reconnect with traditions. Managing cultural identity was underscored. There was an observed transition from a focus and copy-cat strategies to differentiation, diversification, and innovation strategies. The influx of media and popular culture tourism in countries like Korea and Japan presented challenging issues. Representatives from countries such as the Philippines, Bhutan, Nepal, Cambodia, Vietnam, India, Bangladesh, and Laos shared their experiences on cultural tourism and cultural heritage.

The Culture 21 Planning and Evaluation Framework was also introduced. Six planning principles discussed were values, goals, outcomes, evidence, theory of change, and evaluation. It was emphasized that having measurable outcomes was important. The City Share Methodology, with its objective to assess current levels of competencies in each city, share experience knowledge, skills, and innovative ideas with peer participants, and find partner(s) for future city-to-city cooperation, was also presented.

SDGs Local Workshop for East Java

More than 60 percent of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) targets require the active participation of local stakeholders including local governments. This local workshop focused on localizing SDGs to raise awareness and enhance the technical capacities of local government apparatus in development planning to support the 2030 agenda at the local level. The workshop covered the following topics: Roles of Sustainable Development Goals in Indonesia – Definition, Plan and Program at local level, Integrated Policy Planning and Enabling Environment for Localizing SDGs, and Multi-Stakeholder Partnership.

East Java Government Province has integrated 147 targets of SDGs into the local development plan for the years 2019-2023. Civil societies have been involved in the agenda but synchronization of roles between them and local governments is an issue that has yet to be solved.
This side event aimed to bridge the gap between knowledge and its use for better appreciation of public space.

Ms. Cecilia Andersson, Global Public Space Program Manager of UN-Habitat, underscored the importance of placemaking, a collaborative process by which people can shape public realm in order to maximize shared value.

Mr. Ipong Wisnoe, Secretary of Cleansing and Green Open Space Department, shared Surabaya’s experience in Green Open Space Management, such as the transformation of former gas station and landfill into green open space, revitalize riverbanks, and optimize green line and median street.

Ms. Rumi Sasaki, Deputy Director of Japan Council of Local Authorities for International Relations (J.CLAIR), reported on Akita Prefecture’s implementation framework to create a safe and secure community.

Ms. Jarunee Pimonsthean of Thammasaat University explained the benefits of field visit that allowed them to learn the current state of their environment, explore issues to advance their study, and work with communities on the implementation of policies and plans on public space.

Mr. Steven Ngu Ngie Woon of Garis Architecture discussed privately-owned public spaces that can function as opportunity-making places, a catalyst and pedestrian connector, a place for community congregation and events, flexible spaces that support diverse programs, and a new eco-system.

Ms. Anddys Firstanty of Indonesia Society of Landscape Architects stated how public space shapes the city in terms of connecting people, creating visual links, facilitating health benefits by design, and preventing crimes.

Mr. Fafan Tri Affandy of the Indonesia Architect Institute East Java Chapter explained the role of architects in designing public spaces as catalyst and facilitator in the participatory design process involving all stakeholders.

Ms. Retno Hastijanti of the Resilient Institute Research Center Univ. 17 Agustus 1945 Surabaya stated the quality of a space can be determined through the concept of “of space” which refers to “the quality of architectural form that surrounds space” and the concept of “in space” which refers to “the quality of community groups that exist in space.”

Discussion of public space intertwined between academic and practice.
Urban Innovation and Local Implementation of the Global Agendas

This side event analyzed the lessons learned from the 15 shortlisted initiatives of the 2018 Guangzhou Awards. The analysis was presented by the members of the Technical Committee for the Award. Currently on its 4th cycle, the Guangzhou International Award for Urban Innovation, simply known as the Guangzhou Award, recognizes innovations from cities and local governments.

The 2018 Guangzhou Award received 473 initiatives from 193 local governments and 66 countries and regions, surpassing the number of entries from previous cycles. The final 15 cities that were selected include: Durban (South Africa), Sydney (Australia), Wuhan (China), Yiwu (China), Surabaya (Indonesia), Mezitli (Turkey), Milan (Italy), Utrecht (Netherlands), Kazan (Russia), New York (USA), Repentigny (Canada), Santa Fe (Argentina), Salvador (Brazil), Santa Ana (Costa Rica), and Guadalajara (Mexico).

All 15 cities were invited to present their initiatives in Guangzhou. The cities will also welcome scholars, professionals, and city officials who will learn about their initiatives. It was underscored that the Guangzhou Award is a learning and exchange platform to help cities learn from each other’s experience.
Southeast Asia Standing Committee Meeting

Dr. Bernadia Irawati Tjandradewi, Secretary General of UCLG ASPAC reported to the committee that the ASEAN Mayors Forum (AMF) received accreditation from ASEAN. She noted that it is the first time for a local government network to receive this prominent regional recognition. This reflected a good progress on the advocacy of the important roles of local governments in achieving sustainable development. Mr. Say Kosal, President of National League of Local Council, shared about 4P (People, Public, Private Partnership) and how representatives from the Philippines came to learn the nationwide program in Cambodia.

Mr. Azmizam Abdul Rashid of Urbanice Malaysia invited participants to join the ASEAN Urban Forum hosted by Urbanice in Penang in September 2019 and suggested having ASEAN Assembly at the World Urban Forum in Abu Dhabi in 2020.

The committee underscored the importance of working with ASEAN. They agreed to develop a 3-year program on Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR), noting the importance of vulnerability mapping, planning, and implementation of plan in line with the achievement of target E of Sendai Framework.

South Southwest Standing Committee Meeting

The committee meeting discussed a possible EU grant for SDGs Localisation in Pakistan. The position paper on SAARC Collaboration with “Local Governments in the South Asia” region was endorsed during the meeting. UCLG ASPAC members from Nepal will further conduct discussion on the position paper with SAARC Secretariat in Kathmandu. Mr. Ravi Ranjan Guru, Deputy Director General of the All India Institute of Local Self-Government (AIILSG), conveyed the 4th South Asian Cities Summit was successfully held and attended by more than 500 participants. A training on women leadership and gender equality for improved local governance was conducted and attended by close to 100 people. The Municipal Association of Bangladesh (MAB), Federation of Sri Lankan Government Authorities (FSLGA), and National Association of Village Development Committee in Nepal (NARVIN) also reported on their association’s activities. During the meeting, the participants of the committee elected Ms. Hansa Patel of AIILSG as Chair, and Mr. Rafiqul Islam of MAB and Ms. Hemanthi Goonasekera of Federation of Sri Lankan Local Government Authorities (FSLGA) as Co-Chairs.
Culture in Local Government Committee Meeting

During the committee meeting, Ms. Sarah Vieux, Communication of UCLG Culture Committee, discussed Agenda 21 for Culture, which was approved in 2004 and served as the committee’s founding document. She also introduced the committee’s newest publication, "Culture in the Sustainable Development Goals: A Guide for Local Action”.

Ms. Eunjoo Chae, Manager of the Culture Policy Division, Jeju, reported how they have conducted a capacity building program for local culture experts and artists. Jeju also hosted the 2nd UCLG Culture Summit in 2017 which was attended by over 1,000 city leaders worldwide. Their activities are currently linked with job creation for the youth.

Mr. Kinkin Sultanul Hakim, Head of Culture Department of Surakarta, presented the recommendations to Surakarta City from the Cultural Strategy Development Peer-Learning Workshop and Public Forum held in 2017. Actions for improvement are being undertaken by Surakarta in order to maximize their cultural potential and become a cultural tourism city.

Participants learned from other cities on how to incorporate culture in city development.

Standing Committee of Women in Local Governments

Distinguished women leaders shared their experience on tackling challenges for equal opportunity in local governments.

Mr. Ravi Ranjan Guru, from AIILSG, shared that AIILSG organised the “Gender Equality and Women Empowerment” (Women Leadership) training to increase knowledge and leadership concept of elected women in local government. The initiative was developed in collaboration with UCLG ASPAC.

Participants explored the idea of designing activities and programmes for women involved in the local governance process. Dr. Tjandradewi reported that the target of 20% membership of women in political positions has been met. UCLG ASPAC ensures women participate in political activities and mainstreams gender equality and women empowerment in local development. Ms. Sri Husnaini Sofjan, Senior Programme Administration and Strategist of the Huairou Commission, shared the plan for a joint program with UCLG ASPAC on grassroots women organizations partnership with local government in monitoring the SDGs. Participants welcomed the idea to compile best practices on women empowerment efforts.
Belt and Road Local Cooperation Committee

During the committee meeting, Surabaya City Mayor Tri Rismaharini discussed the integrated information system and how it helped in the quick response and identification of perpetrators in the recent terrorist attack in Surabaya. She stressed on the importance of strong cooperation with other cities and mentioned that Busan, Jiangmen, Liverpool, and Kochi supported Surabaya in solving specific problems.

Activities reported were the BRLC E-Commerce Training Workshop participated in by 37 trainees from 15 countries and the BRLC Overseas Chinese New Media Forum with 300 participants representing overseas Chinese-language media outlets and experts from 53 countries.

There were five enterprises that joined the meeting to present their models of public-private partnership namely the Alibaba Global Business Group, HIK Vision Indonesia, Hexing Electricity Indonesia, Goldcard and Co., and the Zhefu Group.

The 21st Century Maritime Cooperation Committee Meeting

Ms. Zhang Ping, from The Foreign and Overseas Chinese Affairs Office of Fuzhou Municipal People’s Government, reported on the workplan of the committee, which included the Seminar on Sister City Relationship and Local Government Cooperation, Forum on Application of Digital Technology in Marine Field, Workshop on Marine Ecology Conservation and Management, and Launch of the Committee’s official website and WeChat official account. Mr. Zeng Weidong, Director of the Office of Fuzhou Municipal Leading Group for Digital Fuzhou Construction, shared that infrastructure improvement is one of the several efforts in building Digital Fuzhou. Prof. Chen Jianming, First Deputy Dean of the Institute of Oceanography, explained the education training opportunities in Minjiang University. Prof. Cao Honghui of the Silk-Road Planning and Research Center presented the development of finance and cooperation in the Maritime Silk Road Megalopolis and prospect for cooperation in the Maritime Silk Road Megalopolis to speed up construction of urban infrastructure.
STATUTORY MEETINGS
UCLG ASPAC Statutory Meetings were held on 14 September 2018 in conjunction with the 7th UCLG ASPAC Congress. The Statutory Meetings included the UCLG ASPAC Executive Bureau (ExBu) and Council Meetings followed by the UCLG ASPAC General Assembly. During the ExBu Meeting, four new members were endorsed: Padang Municipality, Jeonju City, Goyang City, and Faridpur Municipality.

During the General Assembly, elections of the UCLG ASPAC Presidencies and members of ExBu and Council for the period of 2018 to 2020 were conducted. Surabaya City Mayor Tri Rismaharini was elected as President. UCLG ASPAC members welcomed her as the first woman president and have likewise expressed their appreciation for the services of Governor Won Hee-ryong who served two terms of presidency from 2014 to 2018.
UCLG ASPAC Governing Body for 2018-2020

**PRESIDENT**

TRI RISMAHARINI
Representing Southeast Asia sub-region
Mayor of Surabaya City Government

**CO-PRESIDENTS**

DAVE CULL
Representing Pacific sub-region
Mayor of Dunedin City

ASHOK KUMAR BYANJU
Representing South and Southwest Asia sub-region
President of Municipal Association of Nepal (MuAN)

SONG JINGWU
Representing East and Northeast Asia sub-region
Vice President of the Chinese People’s Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries

RANJIT S. CHAVAN
Representing Associate and International Organization Members
President of All India Institute of Local Self-Government (AIILSG)

STEPHANY UY-TAN
Representing Women in Local Government
Mayor of Catbalongan City

ANIES RASYID BASWEDAN
Host Governor of Jakarta Capital City Government

WON HEE-RYONG
Immediate Past President
Governor of Jeju Special Self-Governing Province

CHEN HAOSU
Founding President
the Chinese People’s Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries

**EAST & NORTHEAST ASIA**

LEE SI-JONG
President
Governors Association of Korea (GAOK)

WEN-JE KO
Mayor
Taipei City

WEN GUOHUI
Mayor
Guangzhou Municipal Government

YASUTOMO SUZUKI
Mayor
Hamamatsu City

YOU MENGJUN
Mayor
Fuzhou Municipal People’s Government

CHIA-LUNG LIN
Mayor
Taichung City Government

XU LIYI
Mayor
Hangzhou Municipal Government

KWON YOUNG-JIN
Mayor
Daegu Metropolitan City

HU ZHONGXIONG
Mayor
Changsha City
Highlight of the Congress Outcomes

The 7th UCLG ASPAC Congress underscored the importance of local governments and their collaboration with other stakeholders in pursuing the Global Agendas. Aiming to strengthen national and local leaders’ commitments and the synergies of their actions to achieve the SDGs and New Urban Agenda, the Congress featured various activities such as plenary discussions, training sessions, network events and study visits. The four-day event offered a variety of platforms for stakeholders to learn and utilize in their endeavor to develop impactful policies, programs, and partnerships.

With 1,100 participants from 229 cities representing 43 countries, the Congress proved to be an instrumental platform for local governments’ collaboration across the Asia-Pacific region. Under the theme: Innovation Driven Development for Sustainable Cities, the participants also gained insights on innovative ideas and initiatives that can assist their work in various areas. Good media exposure on the Congress events helped raise public awareness on the crucial roles of local governments in achieving sustainable development outcomes.

With regard to institutional matters, UCLG ASPAC members elected a new governing body, comprising of President and Co-Presidents, who will be providing strategic guidance for UCLG ASPAC’s work until 2020. For the first time, UCLG ASPAC is led by a woman President, Mayor Tri Rismaharini of Surabaya City. She will be supported by the newly elected Co-Presidents: Mayor Dave Cull (Pacific), Mr. Ashok Kumar Byanju (South and Southwest Asia), Mr. Song Jingwu (East and Northeast Asia), Mr. Ranji Chavan (Associate and International Organization Members), Mayor Stephany Uy-Tan (Women in Local Governments), Governor Anis Rasyid Baswedan (Host City), Governor Won Hee-Ryong (Immediate Past President), and Mr. Chen Haosu (Founding President).

The Congress saw the expansion of UCLG ASPAC through the endorsement of four new members: Local Council’s Association Sindh (Pakistan), Padang Municipality (Indonesia), Jeonju City (South Korea), Goyang City (South Korea), and Faridpur Municipality (Bangladesh). Furthermore, UCLG ASPAC Standing Committees and Committees conducted meetings to present the work implemented under each committee, including the key outcomes such as the position...
paper on SAARC Collaboration with Local Governments in the South Asia Region. Another significant achievement was made under the Standing Committee of Southeast Asia, following the accreditation of the ASEAN Mayors Forum (AMF) as an entity associated with ASEAN.

Apart from UCLG ASPAC Statutory and Committee Meetings, a series of events were conducted to foster exchanges and capacity enhancement of participating cities. Throughout the four plenary sessions, participants stressed the importance of multi-stakeholder partnership in making the work of local governments effective. Communication between/among governments, community, and private sector is acknowledged as a key element for collaborative governance to promote enabling environment.

Leveraging technological innovation is recognized as an effective solution for growing and ever-changing societal needs. Strategies for resources mobilization to finance local development were also discussed, with cities sharing models and approaches including on how to diversify sources of budget through international development cooperation. Finally, it was highlighted that multi-stakeholder partnership should not overly focus on financial aspect. It is important that the partnership aims to promote the sharing and transfer of knowledge and technical expertise to ensure long-term impacts.

At the margin of the Congress, a series of side events and training sessions were conducted in partnership with other specialized organizations to foster mutual learning and strengthen local governments’ capacities. Particularly in the areas of SDGs, the training focused on assisting local governments in identifying entry points for multi-stakeholder action. A side event on Urban Innovation & Local Implementation of Global Agendas further presented the initiatives of 15 cities that had been shortlisted for the 2018 Guangzhou Awards and analyzed the lessons learned from these initiatives. Another specific training session was dedicated to build local governments’ knowledge on how to set targets and develop a plan on energy and climate change. In this regard, the Congress was also an occasion for the official launch of the Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy (GCoM) Asia Programme which is funded by the European Union (EU) with UCLG ASPAC as a key implementing partner.

Through the passion and concerted efforts of city leaders, experts, and key development actors, the 7th UCLG ASPAC Congress has once again cemented its position as a platform for learning and collaborating in the Asia Pacific region.
FIELD VISIT
Congress participants enjoyed local culture and experience through visits to various public spaces.
Growing Green for the Future

The spirit of unity and hope towards a greener and better future was embodied at the tree planting ceremony held in Keputih on 15 September 2018.

Keputih was formerly a final disposal site which has been abandoned for almost 10 years. With the vision and leadership of Surabaya City Mayor Tri Rismaharini, in cooperation with UCLG ASPAC and support of the United Nation Human Settlement Program (UN-Habitat), 8.6 of 60 hectare land was selected for development during the Preparatory Committee Meeting 3 (PrepCom3) Habitat III in 2016. Through this public space program, the site has been revitalized into the presently known Harmoni Park.

UCLG ASPAC Congress delegates had the opportunity to experience first-hand the transformation of the site when they joined the morning walk along Harmoni Park with Mayor Rismaharini. After the walk, there was a short speech from the Mayor and Ms. Cecilia Andersson of UN-Habitat who participated in a plaque signing to commemorate the event. Delegates also contributed to the ceremony through the hand printing and tree planting activity. Various routes for the technical visits were prepared for the delegates after the tree planting. These sites included Flora Park, Herbal Village-Nginden, Bungkul Park, Sawunggaling Village, Dolly Saiki, Maspati Village, Ketandan Village, and Siola Building.
Photo 1 & 2: City delegates in Harmoni Park, one of public space in Surabaya City.

Photo 4: Mayor Tri Rismaharini of Surabaya emphasized the importance of friendship and cooperation among cities in facilitating the development of public spaces.

Photo 3 & 7: Tree planting activities. The trees symbolised the growing friendship among cities.

Photo 5: Participants of Tree Planting Ceremony.

Photo 6: Clay hand stamp

Photo 8: Signing of friendship plaque
Other Social Functions
Photo 1, 2, 3, 4: City tour with Becak (trishaw) to Tunjungan “Mlaku-Mlaku nan Tunjungan”

Photo 5, 6: Visit to Suramadu (Surabaya Madura) Bridge to enjoy Jazz performance

Photo 7, 8, 9, 10: Dinner in City Hall and delivery of souvenir.

Photo 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16: Surabaya delivering reward to cleanest Kamponds
Media Coverage

UCLG ASPAC, in close collaboration with Surabaya, closely engaged with media to inform the discussions of the 7th UCLG ASPAC Congress. The partnership with media, which was fostered at the preparatory stage, resulted in strong media presence during the Press Conference, prior to the official opening of the event. UCLG ASPAC and Surabaya City Government thanked the media for their support since the preparation to the conclusion of the Congress.

104
Online Coverage

117
Print and TV Coverage

More than 100 news outlets

27%
National Media

73%
Local Media

Media Activities

Press Conference

UCLG ASPAC and Surabaya City Government conducted a joint Press Conference prior to the opening of the Congress event.

The visibility and public awareness on the 7th UCLG ASPAC Congress was further promoted through two media briefings and two television and radio programs.

#1 Media Briefing | July 30, 2018

The theme of UCLG ASPAC Congress’ was rolled out for the first time to the media. Discussion mainly covered challenges faced by urban areas, city leaders, the global agenda, UCLG ASPAC President and co-president election, and reasoning of hosting the 7th UCLG ASPAC Congress.

Attendees: 50 media representatives

#2 Media Briefing | September 10, 2018

More information about the preparation for the Congress were disclosed to media representatives, such as speakers and experts involved, number of registered participants, thematic sessions, visits to some sites in Surabaya, city tours, and UCLG ASPAC Governing Bodies.

Attendees: 50 media representatives
UCLG ASPAC Secretary General Bernadia I. Tjandradewi and Mayor Tri Rismaharini of Surabaya discussed the challenges faced by urban areas and how the UCLG ASPAC Congress would provide opportunities for urban leaders and practitioner to collaborate for city development.

List of Media Outlets attending and covering the Congress:

1. ChinaDaily
2. Hangzhou TV Station
3. Hangzhou Daily
4. The City Express
5. Urban Update
6. Diplomats Extra Magazine
7. Watch Triumph Authentic News
8. Kompas
9. JakartaPost
10. TimesIndonesia
11. CNN Indonesia
12. Antaranews
13. Kompasiana
14. Tempo
15. Tempo online
16. Newsweek
17. JawaPos
18. JawaPos.com
19. MetroTV
20. TransTV
21. MNC Media (RCTI)
22. SCTV
23. NetTV
24. SindoNews
25. Merdeka
26. IDNTimes
27. Delik
28. Koran Jakarta
29. Republika
30. Bisnis.com
31. Berita Manado
32. Manado Today
33. Tribunnews
34. Beritajatim
35. Bismissurabaya
36. Inews.id
37. Acehprov
38. Suarasurabaya
39. Nusantaranews
40. Seputaperak
41. Sulutimes
42. Jurnalsumatra
43. Elshinta
44. Surabayapagi
45. Jatimnow
46. Citymagz
47. Suarajatimpost
48. Antarafoto
49. Jurnalkepri
50. Indobrita
51. JPNN
52. Sentralone
53. RLMLSUMSEL
54. TerasJatim
55. Akurat.co
56. Centreone
57. Kabartoday
58. WN.com
59. Kabar Surabaya
60. Harian Bhirawa
61. Radio Mercury
62. Bidik
63. Cakrawalanews.co
64. KabarGress
65. Duta Masyarakat
66. Arek Televisi Jatim
67. Kumparan
68. Warta Metropolis
69. RTV – Rajawali Televisi
70. D-onenews.com
71. JTV
72. Prima Radio Surabaya
73. Swaranews
74. Koran Nusantara
75. LensaIndonesia.com
76. Radar Surabaya
77. Surya Daily Newspaper
78. Radio Gen 103.1 FM
79. Surabaya Pagi
80. Kampungberita.co
81. Ngopibareng.id
82. Globalindo.co
83. Jatimpos
84. Surabayatv
85. Harian Bangsa
86. Suara Surabaya Media
87. HKNews.info
88. Sureplus.id
89. Jatimnow.com
90. SBOTV
91. Amunisinews
92. Love Surabaya
93. Siagaindonesia.com
94. Sinarpos
95. Reborn Project Media
96. Sobat Blogger
97. Kanalsembilan.net
98. Portal 86
99. Memorandum
100. Other organisations’ media and blog (26)
Thank You...

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Volunteers of the 7th UCLG ASPAC Congress.