



Tri Rismaharini
President, UCLG ASPAC
Mayor, Surabaya City

Greetings to all members and partners!
Warmest regards from UCLG ASPAC and Surabaya City government and its people.

I am very excited to greet you through this first edition of 2019 Newsletter, as personally with the members who attending the first session of our Executive Bureau Meeting in 2019 with the theme "International Economic and Trade Cooperation under the Belt and Road Initiative." I invite you to participate and contribute in the discussion sessions. I am sure you will get back home with fresh insights and inspirations to further develop your city.

Let me take this opportunity to share my experience in developing the local economy of Surabaya which can make a good foundation for trade cooperation.

One of challenges faced by the city is local people's economic condition that is under good standard of living. At this point, I came up with Economic Hero, a programme to stimulate the emergence of small and medium enterprises. To ensure the success of this programme, we provide series of capacity building activities: from creating valuable products to marketing and promotion. Our city has registered 8,565 entities as small and medium enterprises. From these companies, at least 99 of their products have been sold in international market and 105 products have national and ASEAN Standard.

Learning from Yiwu's experience and success, we know how local economy development can influence the global economy. As we can see from the impressive tracked records, a joint report from the United Nations, the World Bank and Morgan Stanley shows that, "Yiwu,... is the largest market of commodity wholesales in the world where buyers from around the world go to place orders." No doubt, this is the best place for our dialogue on trade and economic cooperation. We are grateful to the local government of Yiwu for hosting the Executive Bureau Meeting 2019 which allows us to directly learn from an international trade city.

My great appreciation also goes to Secretariat team for their effort in making this happen. This is the right time for us all to strengthen our connection for local development. Let's make the best out of this opportunity!



Bernadia Irawati Tjandradewi
Secretary General, UCLG ASPAC

Dear Valued Readers,

Words do not seem to adequately describe how thankful we are to your kind cooperation and support so that we can thrive as an organisation.

We are entering the first half of 2019 with a great milestone on our cooperation with the European Union (EU) for the implementation of LEAD for SDGs project in Pakistan. Our connection with METROPOLIS, UCLG family with a global coverage, has entered into a stronger phase with the signing of an agreement to collaborate in the number of areas so our members in Asia and the Pacific can better benefit from the work of our mutual interests.

Moving on in 2019, we will continue our commitment to support local governments in making their cities more inclusive, through establishment of public spaces in Jakarta, Plaosan (both in Indonesia), and Seberang Perai (Malaysia), while at the same time continuing the on-going works: such as the construction of Sriwedari Human Puppet Theatre (Surakarta, Indonesia), and Keputih Creative Park (Surabaya, Indonesia).

In addition to this, we are working closely with the hosting city of Bangkok to prepare for the upcoming 5th ASEAN Mayors Forum (AMF) later this year. We continue to make progress on our advocacy work to ensure that cities become more resilient through disaster risk mitigation, by providing essential knowledge on Asia-Pacific best practices at the Sixth Session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction which will take place in Geneva (Switzerland) from 13 to 17 May 2019.

Our work can have positive impact only with your city's active participation as well as full contribution to the development of other cities. The impacts of us working together to achieve sustainable outcomes can never be underestimated!

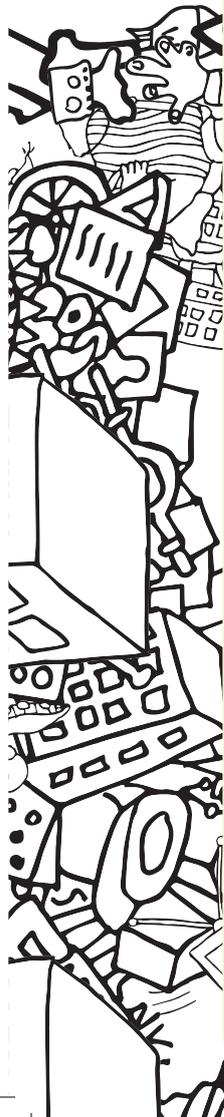


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Trade And Sustainable Development

TRADE and sustainable development have crucial connections. Countries, as well as cities, can generate significant amount of incomes through trade liberalisation and globalisation. These trade benefits can directly and indirectly contribute to the wider efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

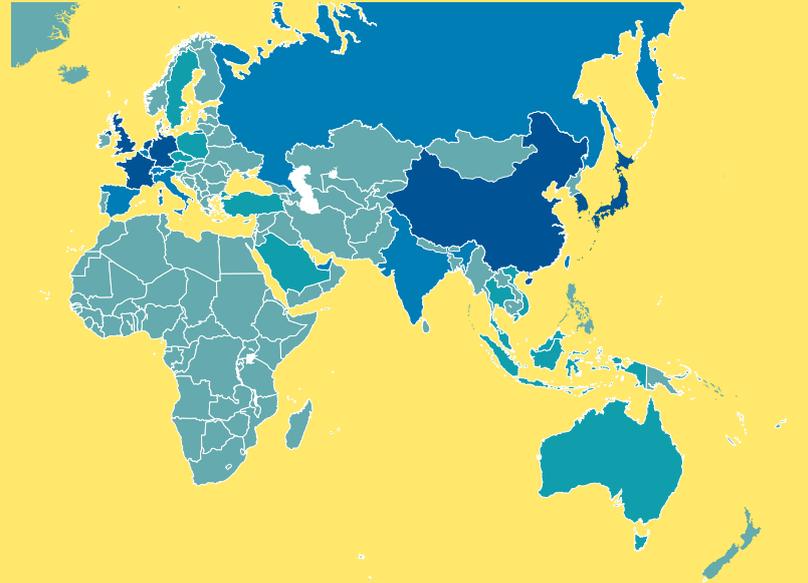
However, cooperation among countries and cities remains highly important in ensuring that all can benefit equally from trade and economic relations. Asia and the Pacific region has been recognised as one of the most dynamic places for international trades and through collaboration, including through UCLG ASPAC platforms, cities have continued to reap the positive benefits for their development in other areas.

It is important to take stock of the Asia-Pacific performance in this real.

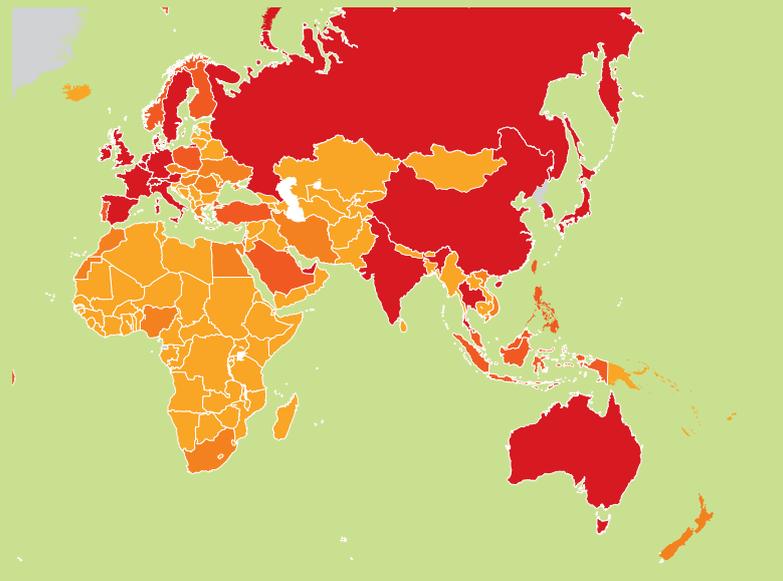
How Trade Contributes to the Achievements of Sustainable Development Goals

Global Trade: World Maps

Merchandise Trade (2017)



Commercial Services (2017)



Poverty, Hunger, Inclusive Growth

- Increase in trade can boost the number of jobs available for women.
- Agricultural productivity growth is likely to have a particularly powerful influence on poverty.

US\$ billion

- 0 - 125
- 125 - 250
- 250 - 500
- > 500

US\$3,400 billion

The combined merchandise exports of China, Republic of Korea, and Hong Kong (China) amounted to almost US\$3,400 billion.

US\$ billion

- 0 - 10
- 10 - 25
- 25 - 50
- > 50

US\$600 billion

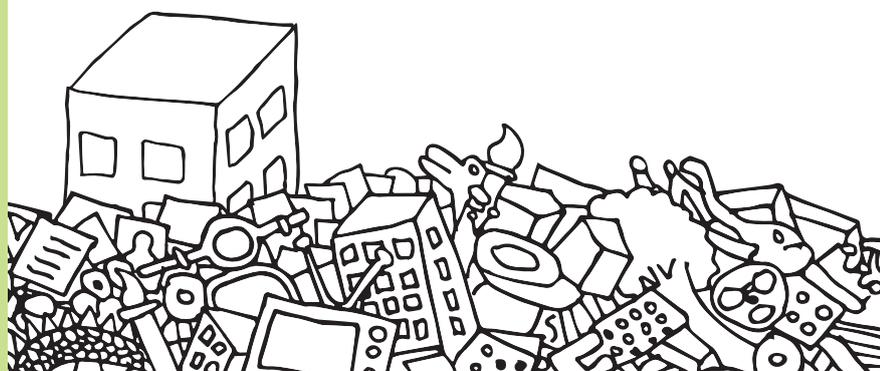
The combined commercial exports of China, India, and Singapore totaled almost US\$600 billion in 2017.

Source: WTO.org Chapter II Highlights of World Trade in 2017

Where to Start and Move Forward

Considering various challenges and opportunities faced by cities within Asia and the Pacific sub-region, there is no one-for-all formula to develop city's local economy. However, identifying how other cities transform and develop their local economy is always useful. It can expose city leaders to other cities' innovations and ways they tackle challenges that others may share. The experiences, insights and success of others can be very relevant to future cooperation.

SEE HOW LOCAL GOVERNMENTS IN EACH ASIA-PACIFIC SUB-REGION HAVE INNOVATED, DEVELOPED THEIR LOCAL ECONOMY, AND TRANSFORMED THEIR CITIES!



Education and Health

- The internationalisation of trade in educational services has resulted in a rich array of providers and ways of delivering educational services across the globe.
- Trade has become a vital instrument to fight diabetes through improving insulin availability across the world.



Sustainable Growth

- Increased trade in environmental goods help mitigate environmental problems and support economic growth.
- Fish trade supports livelihoods and enhance food security and incomes millions of people while supporting vital ecological systems.

Phuket Municipality

Developing Culture, Encouraging Tourism

About Phuket

Location: southwestern part of Phuket Province, Thailand

Population: 89,072 (*worldpopulationreview.com*)

Major livelihood: traders



Local authority of Phuket Municipality has invigorated cultural development of the area. The idea has positively contributed in the improvement of the city and its local welfare. Data shows that in 2008 municipality received income of 729.18 million Baht (DELGOSEA Best Practice).

Setting the eye on cultural development for improved local welfare in the long-run, Phuket's municipality started realising the plan in 1992. It established close collaboration with Ministry of Science, Technology, and Environment of Thailand and the King Mongkut University Ladkrabang with the support of German Technical Cooperation (GTZ) to boost local economy, conserve environment and culture, and build awareness on cultural conservation. While conducting the effort, the city also envisioned this effort for the long-run; thus, designing the investment plan accordingly.



The Plan

- ❖ Restoration and transformation of the Old Town area (downtown Phuket) into centre of cultural tourism.
- ❖ Preservation of old buildings known as Sino-Portuguese (a.k.a Sino colonial) architecture and revived the old tradition of Peranakan (Malay-Chinese, a.k.a. Straits Chinese)

Database: 2.1 million Baht		Infrastructure: 17.1 million Baht		Architecture: 1 million Baht/year		
Database Development	Organisational Body	Promotion		Physical Improvement	Short-term Investment	Long-term Investment
Database development of architecture, physical environment, and infrastructure of old Phuket Town.	Establishment of administrative bodies consisting of multi-party operational committee, Old Phuket Foundation, and Old Town Community	Developing awareness campaign plan, knowledge dissemination in Old Town through tourism activities that generated income such as "Phuket in the Past" trips, vocational training on indigenous arts and customs (i.e. traditional clothing, etc.)	Promotions through TV programme and leaflets.	Renovating and transforming an old school into a museum. Improving urban environment, such as solid waste management, green energy, underground power lines, and clean water.	Investment in communication technology and public relations.	Improving tourist information center and museum for education and tourism

Stakeholders Involved



1, 2, 3, 4: Various forms of cultural elements developed to support tourism.



Innovative Elements

- ✓ **Higher cost did not discourage communities** to take the initiative to conserve the old town and transform it into profitable cultural attraction. Building owners and tenants cooperated with municipality to ensure renovations resembled the original structures.
- ✓ **Group of people in Old Town took lead in preservation efforts**, including preserving buildings and reviving old traditions: showcasing old customs, traditional food, religious ceremonies. The Thai Heritage Conservation Committee received recognition for the architectural conservation work.
- ✓ **Collaboration of government, private sectors and locals** in preserving the Old Town's identity resulted in the grant of City of Identity Award from the Urban Development Fund in 2000.
- ✓ **Civil society group organised a fundraising activity by selling shares**. With 100 Baht per share, the group managed to collect 43,500 Baht, gathering 435 shareholders. Using the fund, they organised tours and sold T-Shirts. From the income received, they divided 30% for house tenants, 30% for raw material and tools, 25% for voluntary guide, and returned 15% to the fund.



Benefits

- **Young generation eager to develop their city, instead of migrating**. Development of the city has resulted in the return of young people after pursuing higher education and they have also been motivated to start their own tourism-related businesses, such as restaurants, hostels, photo shops, with average income per month US\$1,000.
- **Fast increase in property price**; a good signal for investors (local and foreign) to invest in developed area. It has indicated a better income from taxes in the future.
- **The improved physical environment has positively contributed to better quality of life**: footpath, underground wiring, lighting, flood control, solid waste management system.
- **Improved income of local people**. Phuket has drawn more visitors as a famous tourist attraction. It has resulted in the improvement of the overall economy.

Source: Best Practice Phuket: Preserving Old Town Architecture and Reviving Traditions as Tourist Attraction and Economic Driver (www.delgosea.eu)

Inclusive Programme in the Promotion of Micro Enterprises



WITH over 80% of Nepal's population living in rural areas and facing inadequate income generating opportunities, Government of Nepal, in 1998, launched a Micro Enterprise Development Programme (MEDEP) initiative to alleviate poverty. Throughout the years and under the support of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) Australian Aid and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), MEDEP managed to positively contribute to welfare improvement. MEDEP also adopted its Micro Enterprise Development for Poverty Alleviation (MEDPA) Programme in which the Ministry of Industry, Commerce and Supplies in Nepal acted as implementing agency. The programme emphasised the inclusion of women, Dalits (members of the lowest social group in the Hindu caste system), Indigenous Nationalities (IN), and people living with disability (PLWD). The result shows that the MEDPA extended to 75 districts in Nepal.

The Initiative

MEDEP has been assisting the government of Nepal to create the necessary systems and structures for sustainable development of microenterprise sector. In addition, it created enabling environment for development by providing skill and business training activities. Through this initiative, the involved stakeholders acknowledged the essential role of Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) as well as micro-entrepreneur associations in fostering the development of local economy. Under these circumstances, MEDEP incorporated the capacity strengthening of NGOs and the associations to support the government in realising the plan. The training activities enabled them to provide a number of business development services such as access to markets, access to finance, and improved technologies and advocacy. In the practice, this initiative worked with the government to improve policy environment.

MEDEP was implemented in four phases from 1998 to 2018. Its positive contribution made the government of Nepal adopt this initiative and institutionalise it through MEDPA starting from 2010.



1, 2: Inclusive capacity building activities for developing micro enterprises in Nepal.

About MEDEP

Duration:

Phase I: 1998 – 2003

Phase II: 2004 – March 2008

Phase III: March 2008 – July 2013

Phase IV: August 2013 – July 2018

Geographic Coverage

Phase I: 10 districts

Phase II: 25 districts

Phase III: 36 districts

Phase IV: 38 districts

MEDEP implemented as the MEDPA from August 2018

Source: MEDEP Project Factsheet by UNDP, www.np.undp.org (MEDEP)

The Result

- 36,000 micro-enterprises graduated to small enterprises and created more than 172,000 employments. *(The Rising Nepal Daily, July 2018)*
- Created 741 community facility centres (CFCs) and supported 15,000 ultra-poor people. *(The Rising Nepal Daily, July 2018)*
- The national average Per Capita Income (PCI) arose 343.8% from NRs.17,605 to NRs.78,133. *(MEDEP Factsheet np.undp.org)*
- The annual income contribution of an individual micro-entrepreneur to family increased 58.4% from NRs.86,581 to NRs.137,166. *(MEDEP Factsheet np.undp.org)*
- Embraced inclusiveness: Of total micro-entrepreneurs in 2016: 72% were women, 25% Dalits, and 40% people from indigenous groups. *(MEDEP Factsheet np.undp.org)*
- Women, Dalits and people from indigenous nationalities occupied 61%, 21%, and 45% of decision-making positions respectively (such as President, Secretary, and Treasurer) in 51 districts. *(MEDEP Factsheet np.undp.org)*
- Parliament endorsed the Industrial Enterprise Act 2073 in 2016, which – for the first time- enables micro-enterprises to register free of cost and benefit from tax exemption for five years. *(MEDEP Factsheet np.undp.org)*
- Micro-entrepreneurs federated in 330 cooperatives. *(MEDEP Factsheet np.undp.org)*

Pacific

Empowering Women, Developing Local Economy



GOVERNMENTS of Fiji, Solomon Islands, and Vanuatu of Pacific sub-region established collaboration with various stakeholders to provide supporting and enabling environment and infrastructure for developing local economy in the area. Many stakeholders have been involved with the initiative to leverage the local economic development for the benefits of local community.



1, 2, 3: Women empowerment activities for developing local economy in Pacific sub-region.

The Context

Of all market vendors in the Pacific sub-region, 75 to 90% are women (Markets for Change). However, gendered norms and social relations have disfavoured them in the activities they conducted. Moreover, institutions, systems, and structures have added to challenges faced by women when it comes to household and community decisions. This added on the challenges faced by women in the optimisation of their economic opportunities.

The Initiative

Market for Change (M4C) programme is an initiative to address the challenges by:

- **Preparing an Enabling Institution**
Working with market management to draft, adopt, and implement bylaws, policies, and budgets for safe and secure market infrastructure, appropriate amenities and supporting services, transparent revenue collection and expenditure.
- **Preparing Supporting Infrastructure and Operating Systems**
Improving marketplaces for safer, more sustainable, and more accessible place (also for the disabled). Included are resilience factors towards disaster risks and climate change.
- **Empowering Female Market Vendors**
Conducting capacity building activities, trainings, and workshops to enhance leadership of women vendors, helping the markets thrive, and also strengthening the role and influence of women market vendors.

Implementing the Initiatives and Result

- **Enhancing the Infrastructure**
Refurbishment and upgrade of sanitation facilities in Honiara Central Market (Solomon Islands), establishment of 42 new market stalls and a fence around market infrastructure at Sigatoka market in Fiji, extension of sanitation facility at Rakiraki market in Fiji for safer facilities for 250 market vendors, construction of an overnight accommodation centre for women vendors at Lautoka market.
- **Enhancing the Capacity, Ensuring Representative Marketplace**
The Honiara Central Market Vendors Association was established with 16 out of 19 positions filled by women. It was endorsed under the Charitable Trust Act and has recruited more than 200 members among stall holders.
- **Strengthening the Institutions**
Suva association and two Nausori organisations (the general vendors association and the Women's Club set up in 2012 to give women safe space to express their views) have been re-energised and re-activated.

“My sales have increased dramatically after the construction of the shelter, as more people are visiting my stall to buy flowers, even during bad weather.”

~ Milame Tikomainiusiladi, market vendor, Fiji.

Results in Numbers

- 649 Market Vendors (86% women) actively participated in “Getting Started” workshops.
- 5 New Market Vendors Associations were set up (2 in Solomon Islands, 2 in Vanuatu, 1 in Fiji).
- 1,465 Market Vendors (89% women) in Fiji were trained in financial literacy.

“My husband and I manage a stall at Nausori market selling onions, potatoes, garlic and chicken feed. We are there from 6.30am-6pm, six days a week. I came to the workshop to learn more about market bylaws and where to take my grievances if there are any problems at the market. I really enjoyed the mapping exercise, which helped me get to know some of the other market vendors. The workshop has definitely improved my communications skills, which will also help to improve my relationship with fellow market vendors. Until today, I only saw myself as a vendor; I didn't know that the Nausori Market Vendors Association or the Women's Club existed. Now that I know, I will inform my fellow market vendors of the benefits of assisting each other and why it is important to join the association.”



~ Christine participated in the Getting Started workshops at Nausori Market in June 2014.

Sources:
 1. Markets for Change Fiji, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu Market Profiles by UN Women (2014)
 2. Markets for Change Project by UN Women (31 December 2015)

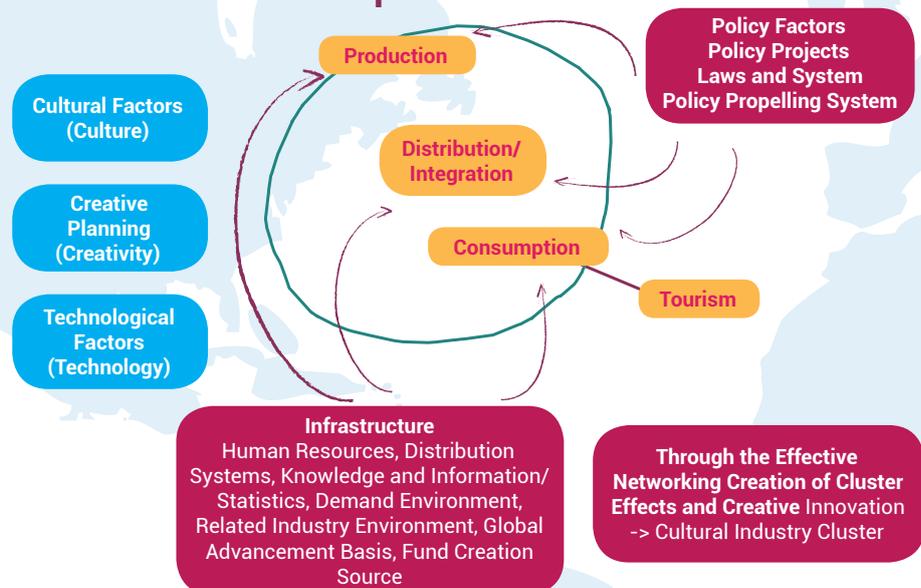
South Korea National Government

Stimulating Creative Economy for Sustainable Future



THE government of South Korea has been giving priority to the country's creative economy. Since late 1990s, with an effort to activate local economy through local culture industry, the national government has been collaborating with other countries to foster the connections between culture industry and development.

The Cultural Industry Cluster: Framework and Implementation



Source: Korea's Cultural Industry Clusters 20 Years on: An Evaluation of Regional Cultural Industry Policies and Future Perspectives

In the context of South Korea, the emerging trend shows a demand of people to convert from initiatives of central governments to residents and local governments, top-down to bottom-up; meaning the local development as masters. Accommodating this, Korean Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism has implemented the cluster policy to create high returns and activate the local economy.

The cultural industry clusters are divided into the cultural industrial complex, the cultural industry

promotion district and facilities, with their respective roles. In addition, the Ministry also designated local cultural industry support centre to function as the initial infrastructure to promote local cultural industry; the self-established cultural industry related organisations of local governments were also added. Thus, the Korea Creative Content Agency functions as a base agency for the promotion of local cultural industry to support local cultural industry support centres.

Performance

The cluster of local industry aims to create strategy: shifting from support to individual business to cluster policy, resulting in the expansion of synergy through cluster. This system also built a model of networking and cooperation among clusters. A new governance was also formed based on the establishment of role sharing among the central government and local governments. Moreover, it contributes to the activation of local economy and creation of employment.

Performance Figures				
Area	Sales (million Won)		Number of employees (person)	
	2007	2013	2007	2013
Seoul	17,724,512	50,830,977	89628	292891
Busan	1,093,727	1,832,721	8633	22761
Daegu	671,402	1,422,466	6076	18762
Incheon	432,222	1,294,775	4646	20559
Gwangju	397,512	763,693	4972	12059
Daejeon	384,851	1,261,253	4041	11781
Ulsan	179,550	430,701	1946	6960



1, 2, 3: Various forms of creative economy developed in South Korea.

Policy Development and Achievements

Timeline	Policy Motto	Major Achievements	Fostering of local cultural industry
Civilian Government (1993-1997)	→ Industrialisation of culture and enculturation of industry	Establishment of dedicated cultural organisation, regulation promotion (changes in basic conditions)	Deficiencies in substantial promotion policy to meet the changes in basis conditions.
People's Government (1998-2002)	→ National key industrialisation of cultural industry, arm's length principle	Formation of policy foundation such as the enactment of Framework Act on the Promotion of Cultural Industries, establishment of mid- and long-term plan, and promotion agencies, etc.	Activation of local economy, fostering of strategic industry, deficiencies in substantial promotion policy related to local cultural industry (budget)
Participatory Government (2003-2007)	→ Vision of world five countries, the rise of the Korean Wave	Amendment of laws by genre, statistics expansion, extension of organisations for the Ministry of Culture / promotion agencies, the spread of the Korean Wave, etc.	National balanced development infra strategies/fostering of specialised industries/start of local cultural industry.
Lee Myung-bak Government (2008-2012)	→ Integration and efficiency of promotion system	Integration of 5 agencies, Establishment of Korea Creative Content Agency, Launching of Korea Contents Promotion Committee, Ignition of New Korean Wave	Fostering of leading industry/strategic industry/regional innovation system (RIS), fostering of wide economy zone by district, fostering of local cultural industry cluster on a full scale
Park Geun-hye Government (2013-2017)	→ Priming water for the creative economy and cultural prosperity.	Enhanced status of creative contents, the right to local happy living, establishment of policy priorities for the cultural prosperity.	Establishment of institutional foundation such as expansion of dedicated organisations for local cultural industry, the act on promotion of local culture, etc. Emphasis on contents ecosystem, etc..

What They Say

South Asia's Municipalities Network Advocacy in Sanitation

Ten municipalities of Nepal and Bangladesh have formally joined UCLG ASPAC's "Municipalities Network Advocacy in Sanitation in South Asia" project that, among others, develops and implements national policy and strategy on sanitation with focus on Fecal Sludge Management (FSM) and non-sewered sanitation system in line with SDG 6.

We talked to Mayor of Waling Municipality in Gandaki Province of Nepal, Dilip Pratap Khand, where the project has conducted the first level of orientation to local officials and training to employees of surrounding municipalities. The feasibility study to build fecal sludge treatment plant is currently underway.

Q Why is there a need for fecal sludge in your Municipality?

As part of our sanitation drive, we have already obtained an open defecation free (ODF) status. Even the garbage from the houses are being separated into degradable and non-degradable such as solid plastic but rising urbanisation is leading us to think about managing our fecal sludge. We have experienced that the involvement of private parties to collect fecal sludge can be uncontrollable as they dump it anywhere they like or into our river systems leading to pollution and possible spread of diseases. Hence, we need to learn and bring the internationally practiced expertise and technology to properly manage our fecal waste and turn it into valuable resources. We are committed to adopt the public private partnership model by gathering our own resources. Our experience shows that the sewer system treatment model is more expensive than a fecal sludge treatment plant to reuse the waste. Let us make this happen as early as possible.

Q What is the Municipality's plan?

The Solid Waste Management Act as well as the Local Governance Act in Nepal has given the authority entirely to the Municipalities. It is the responsibility of the local governments but their vision so far is very limited and focused only on segregating waste. Fecal sludge is the most important component as it also involves proper disposal while reutilising waste. Our area is a hilly region with houses spread out and rivers close to each other. We plan to make transport of fecal sludge more portable and even the Municipality wants to encourage private operators. We will charge a minimum fees and have already formed a committee to recommend the size of septic tanks to clear it within the next 2-3 years. All the new houses will follow such policy.

Q Is the Municipality overseeing the private operators?

The charges billed by private operators is currently a monopoly. We want to manage that. At least one to two vacuum trucks will be operated by the Municipality itself. We will monitor the cost of the transport and it will be the part of the building code and

will also develop an automated system that records transport. The signal system should be automated as in countries such as Indonesia.

Q How much support are you getting from locals to follow the septic tank construction rules?

The problems of the locals is also the problem of the Municipality. The current population has unnecessarily spent a lot of money and built huge septic tanks which has weakened their house structures. They will obviously accept it when they can build stronger structures at lesser costs. It is only lack of awareness.

Q Have you identified the land for the Fecal Sludge Treatment Plant (FSTP)?

We have roughly already identified the land for the purpose. It will be within the premises where we are also managing the solid waste. It will be easier to combine the pre-and-post composting system and have already allotted the budget accordingly. We are also testing the harvesting of earthworms for the process. The solid waste involves mostly clothes, glass and plastic. We want to recycle all these and even produce bitumen out of plastic.

Q Will such treatment plant be feasible?

Most depends upon the human resources and the team. It is also a service and should not always be looked upon as profitable. Once we develop a partnership between the Municipality and private operators, it will be more sustainable. If our benchmark and monitoring system is effective, we can just allow private players to operate freely. It has to be a win-win situation.

Q How can network of associations such as UCLG ASPAC support you?

When you give us the expertise, do not give us money as it will not be sustainable for the long run. There is not going to be much ownership if Municipalities does not invest from one's own pockets. I, as Mayor of Waling, would not be interested

if you give us money. The requirement for us is the technology. There is need to build partnership within cities.

Q You seem to be quite knowledgeable on fecal sludge management. How did you gain this knowledge?

I have my own interest on the subject. I do not have the technical background although I did study science. I believe, development and technology should go together. Most of the officials in the local governments have more of a political and lack a technical mindset. We cannot imagine development without technology. Waste management is both a technological as well as a political issue. But most of all, there should be more participation and lesser role of government.

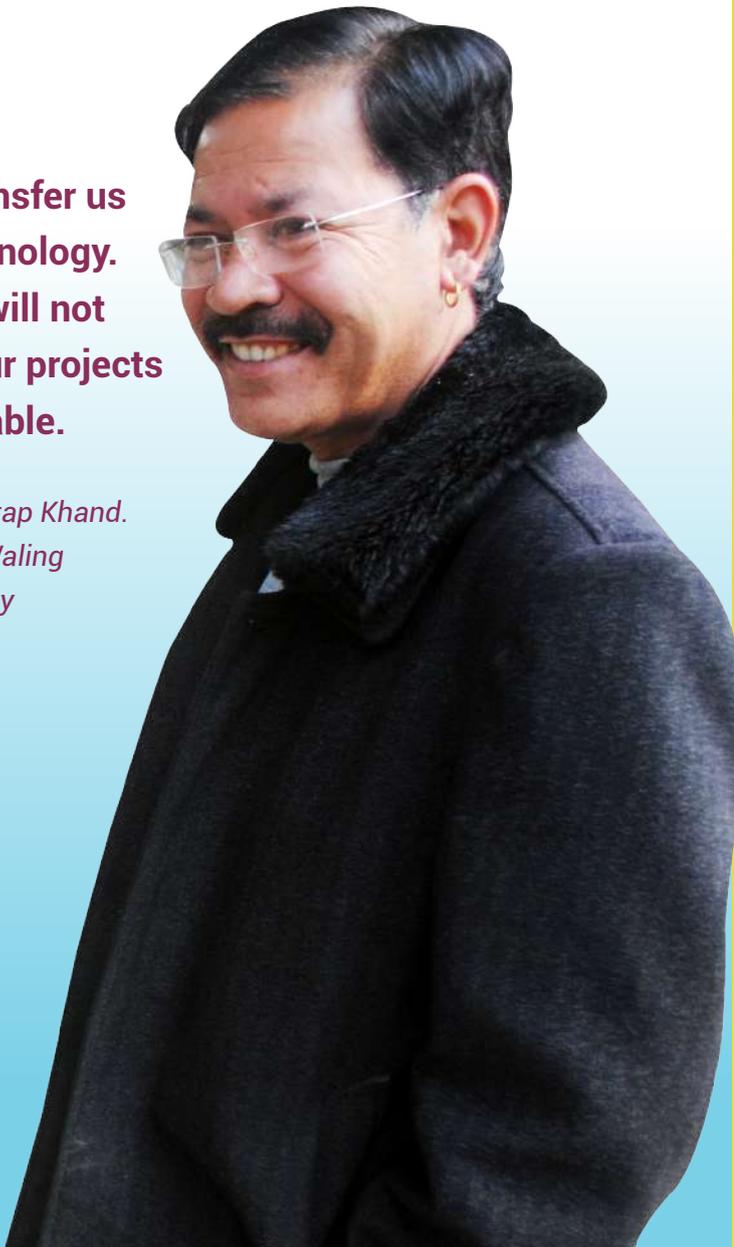
Q What message do you want to give to other Mayors (both in-country and outside)?

The key role the Mayors in Nepal have to play is awareness raising.

We need to consider fecal sludge management as a part of our culture. We cannot preserve our heritage if we have no respect for our culture. Hence, a developed mind means also a well-managed fecal sludge. How can we be civilised if we cannot manage the garbage we create ourselves? The key to most problems is to focus on management. In cities abroad, the government institutions and educational establishment work hand-in-hand for technical innovation. Hence, I request all Mayors (in Nepal) to consider fecal sludge management as part of our culture. In case of Mayors abroad, I am sure all of them are equally capable in their own territories. But I would request them to prioritise on sanitation and fecal sludge management is only a component within it. Countries and cities will be cleaner only if we are cleaner. What is the purpose of building a huge house if you dirty the nicely colored walls?

“Just transfer us the technology. Money will not make our projects sustainable.

*~ Dilip Pratap Khand,
Mayor of Waling
Municipality*



Endorsement from the Prime Minister of Nepal

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Nepal's Prime Minister, K. P. Sharma Oli, on 13 March 2019 (Thursday), has expressed his support to current UCLG ASPAC's works on faecal sludge management by signing the plaque in a public event in Nepal marking the 26th Establishment Day of UCLG ASPAC's implementing partner Municipal Association of Nepal (MuAN) under the project "Municipalities Network Advocacy in Sanitation in South Asia."

"We are committed to work on faecal sludge management, What about you?" read the pledge in Nepali which was jointly signed with Nepal's Prime Minister at a formal event in Kathmandu's Hotel Malla along with MuAN's President and Dhulikhel Mayor, Ashok Kumar Byanju Shrestha who is also the Co-President representing South and West Asia Sub-Region of UCLG ASPAC.

Apart from five municipalities in Nepal, the same UCLG ASPAC project is also being implemented in five other municipalities in Bangladesh with Municipal Association of Bangladesh (MAB) as the implementing partner. The other municipalities in Nepal includes Lahan, Waling, Lamahi and Bheemdatt. The project has SNV providing technical support for MAB in Bangladesh and Environment and Public Health Organization (ENPHO) assisting MuAN in Nepal.



Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy South-East Asia



The signing of GCoM's Letter of Commitment by City Hall of Kuala Lumpur and Perbadanan Putrajaya.



THE Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy (GCoM) is a global alliance of cities and local governments voluntarily committed to combating climate change and delivering on the Paris Agreement. Global Covenant cities are committed to battle the increasing threats of climate change and accelerate ambitious, measurable climate and energy initiatives that lead to an inclusive, low-emission, and climate resilient future. The coalition comprises of over 9,000 thousand cities across six continents and more than 120 countries. By 2030, cities committed to the Global Covenant as of March 2018 could collectively reduce 1.3 billion tons of CO₂ emissions per year from business-as-usual.

The Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy in Southeast Asia (GCoM SEA) has been implemented by UCLG ASPAC with the support of the European Union (EU) through International Urban Cooperation Asia (IUC Asia).

UCLG ASPAC is hosting the Secretariat and Helpdesk of GCoM SEA, promoting the GCoM platform to cities and facilitating cities' climate and energy ambitions through the leverage of technical and climate financing expertise and practical experiences related to climate actions, from the GCoM Network.

In March, the GCoM SEA conducted national and regional level activities, in Iskandar (Malaysia) and Bangkok (Thailand).

Iskandar (Malaysia)

The Climate Change Adaptation Training, supported by IUC Asia and jointly organised with Iskandar Regional Development Authority (IRDA), was part of the GCoM's series of national level capacity building for cities in the region. Representatives from 16 cities from across the country participated in the training, held on 19 – 20 March 2019. Malaysian public practitioners at local level were trained on developing and implementing adaptation actions to climate change.

Climate change adaptation as part of climate action plan is multi-disciplinary as well as multisectoral. The training drew national and international expertise from a range of subjects: Common Reporting Framework, Risk and Vulnerability Assessment, Identification of Adaptation Action, Mainstreaming of Climate Change Actions in Development Plans, Municipal Resource Management, Green Infrastructures, and Green Financing. National and international experts were also from various sectors—research, ministerial, planning, non-governmental, UN agency, multilateral, and academia.

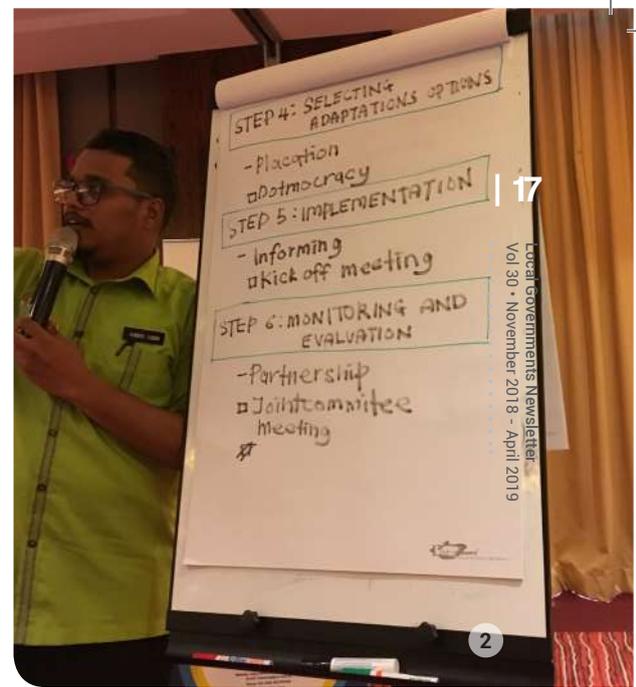
The training organised a series of lectures and a number of workshops on cities' climate action status, risk and vulnerability assessment, and identification of climate change adaptation. Trainees presented their cities' existing climate change related activities, programmes and plan. Trainees also completed reporting in sections on Risk and Vulnerability Assessment and Adaptation sections in the Reporting Platform of either GCoM's or the Unified CDP-ICLEI's.

Following the Training, the GCoM was launched in Malaysia, a hallmark of the onset on Malaysian cities' ambitions and co-operations in their low-carbon, inclusive and resilient development trajectories. Through the GCoM Platform, leading figures expressed their commitments to address and envision transformation to low-carbon development in close partnerships with local governments, businesses, practitioners and the media. The launch also witnessed the signing of GCoM's Letter of Commitment by City Hall of Kuala Lumpur and Perbadanan Putrajaya.

Bangkok (Thailand)

GCoM SEA held its first Regional Networking Event at the Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development on 27 March 2019. The event, undertaking the theme on "Inclusive Climate Action for Sustainable Cities," was opened by H.E. Mr Pirkka Tapiola (Ambassador of the EU for Thailand), with welcoming remarks by Bernadia Tjandradewi (Secretary General of UCLG ASPAC) and Atsushi Koresawa (Director of the Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific, UN-Habitat). A panel discussion provided on-the-ground cases in the growing field of inclusive climate action by C40 Cities, Iskandar Regional Development Authority, Malaysia (IRDA), and three city cases: Banda Aceh (Indonesia), Naga City (Philippines), and Seberang Perai (Malaysia).

Cities are major contributors to climate change. Although they cover less than 2% of the earth's surface, cities consume 78% of the world's energy and produce more than 60% of all GHG emissions. This also means cities are the largest market for sustainable energy and the principal arena for climate action. The goals of the Paris Agreement – to keep global warming well below two degrees Celsius – can only be reached through ambitious action at the city level. GCoM cities are leading by example, increasing ambition amongst other cities and regions.



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1, 2, 3: Sharing of knowledge in training activities by speakers, responded with insightful presentation and discussion by training participants.

4: Opening remarks by EU Ambassador for Thailand, Secretary General of UCLG ASPAC and Director of UN-Habitat Regional Office

Visit GCoM SEA Website
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4

Towards #NoOneLeftBehind

A Baseline Survey to LOCALISE SDGs in Indonesia

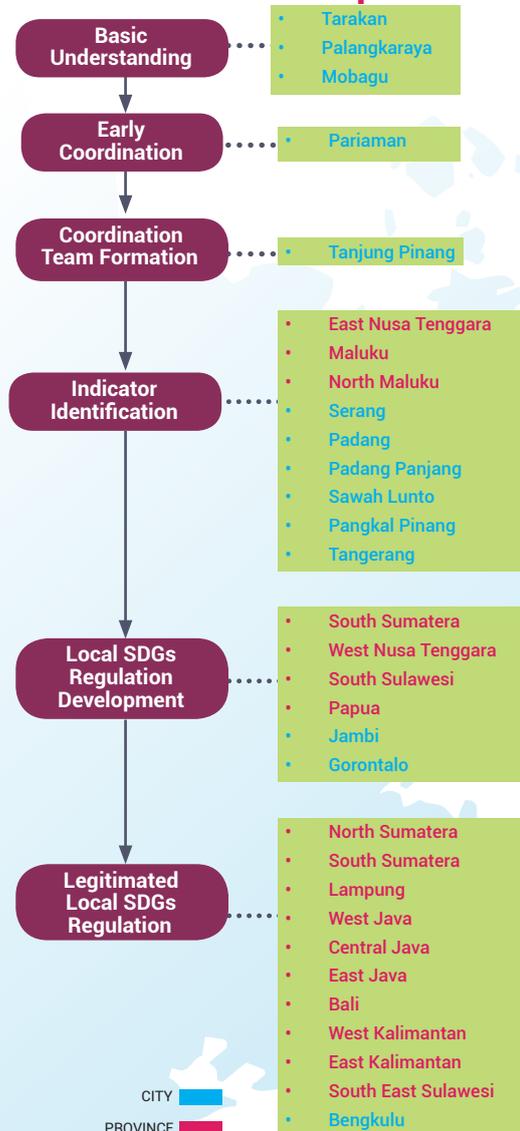
IN 2019, LOCALISE SDGs, the UCLG ASPAC – APEKSI (Indonesian City Governments Association) joint programme, has entered its second phase. To enrich the upcoming training module, the team conducted a baseline survey at the end of 2018 to identify: 1) availability of local action document (legal foundation to localise SDGs in their area), 2) level of SDGs Exposure among city governments in Indonesia (from basic understanding to implementation), and 3) their SDGs priority. The survey shows various SDGs implementation level on 30 targeted area of LOCALISE SDGs programme.

1) The Availability of Legal Foundation

SDGs Local Action Plan (RAD TPB) is the legal foundation for local governments in Indonesia to localise SDGs in their respective area.

18 provincial-level governments in Indonesia have completed RAD TPB, from which, 10 are LOCALISE SDGs targeted provinces, meaning they have legal foundation to implement the SDGs.

2) Level of SDGs Exposure



WAY FORWARD

Throughout the already conducted training and findings of baseline survey, the LOCALISE SDGs team is putting forward the following recommendations:

1. More intensive capacity building activities on SDGs indicators, targets, and goals and link them with their attributes (e.g. planning and programmes).
2. Provincial level governments shall actively engage its municipal governments in finalising their SDGs local action plans; through indicator alignment and strategy establishment for programme implementation as well as SDGs monitoring and evaluation.
3. Municipal governments shall optimise the potentials of having international cooperation, such as city-to-city cooperation, as an implementation of SDG 17. The cooperation of Ambon City (Indonesia) – Darwin City (Australia) and Ambon City (Indonesia) – Visingen City (Netherlands) are the examples of beneficial city cooperation.
4. Encourage more participation of private sectors, media, philanthropists and CSOs.
5. Promote local governments' success stories on localising SDGs through events and knowledge-shared platform.
6. Optimise the usage of village fund to support SDGs implementation.

3) SDGs Priority

Local governments in the targeted area of LOCALISE SDGs programme were asked to list down the Top Five of SDGs that become their priority areas. Below is the result.



1. North Sumatera
2. South Sumatera
3. Lampung
4. West Java
5. Central Java
6. East Java
7. Bali
8. West Nusa Tenggara
9. East Nusa Tenggara
10. West Kalimantan
11. East Kalimantan
12. South Sulawesi
13. South East Sulawesi
14. Sawah Lunto
15. Padang Panjang
16. Tanjung Pinang
17. Bengkulu
18. Pangkal Pinang
19. Serang
20. Palangkaraya
21. Tarakan
22. Gorontalo
23. Pariaman



1. South Sumatera
2. Central Java
3. East Java
4. East Nusa Tenggara
5. West Kalimantan
6. East Kalimantan
7. South East Sulawesi
8. Sawah Lunto
9. Padang Panjang
10. Tanjung Pinang
11. Bengkulu
12. Serang
13. Palangkaraya



1. North Sumatera
2. South Sumatera
3. East Java
4. Bali
5. West Nusa Tenggara
6. East Nusa Tenggara
7. East Kalimantan
8. South Sulawesi
9. South East Sulawesi
10. Pariaman
11. Sawah Lunto
12. Tanjung Pinang
13. Jambi
14. Bengkulu
15. Pangkal Pinang
16. Palangkaraya
17. Gorontalo



1. North Sumatera
2. South Sumatera
3. East Java
4. Bali
5. West Nusa Tenggara
6. West Kalimantan
7. East Kalimantan
8. South Sulawesi
9. Papua
10. Pariaman
11. Sawah Lunto
12. Tanjung Pinang
13. Jambi
14. Bengkulu
15. Pangkal Pinang
16. Serang
17. Gorontalo



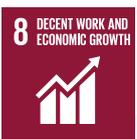
1. Padang Panjang
2. Serang



1. Lampung
2. West Java
3. Central Java
4. West Nusa Tenggara
5. East Nusa Tenggara
6. Sawah Lunto
7. Pangkal Pinang
8. Serang
9. Tarakan



1. Central Java
2. Padang Panjang



1. North Sumatera
2. West Java
3. Central Java
4. East Java
5. Bali
6. South Sulawesi
7. South East Sulawesi
8. Papua
9. Pariaman
10. Jambi
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12. Palangkaraya
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1. North Sumatera
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7. Pariaman
8. Jambi
9. Palangkaraya



1. Lampung
2. East Nusa Tenggara
3. West Kalimantan
4. Papua



1. West Java
2. West Nusa Tenggara
3. Tanjung Pinang
4. Jambi
5. Pangkal Pinang
6. Gorontalo



1. Tarakan



1. Lampung



1. Padang Panjang
2. Tarakan



1. East Kalimantan
2. Papua



1. Papua



1. Lampung

Most cities and provinces put Goal 1 (No Poverty) as their priority. It aligns with Indonesian Government Regulation No.2/2018, stating that it is mandatory for national and local governments to provide public services such as education, health, public works, and community protection; which all lead to poverty eradication.

Cities in Asia and Pacific at Risk

Local and Regional Governments at the Forefront of Disaster Management

The Asia and Pacific Region, in particular, is highly prone to disaster risks. At the same time, the region is home to around 60% of the world population. In this context, disaster risk reduction is of especial importance in order to protect citizens and to reduce their vulnerability. This challenge has been directly taken up by municipalities, as the closest government level to the people. For the localisation of global agendas, it is critical to achieve resilience at local level and, thus, local actors must commit to the shared responsibilities and to strengthen capacities to increase disaster resilience and achieve the targets of Sendai Framework.

UCLG ASPAC is a network hub for learning and best practice knowledge center that encourages cities in the region to reinforce their efforts on the localisation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and to create more resilient cities and a safer future for people. DRR has become priority in our works. We conducted trainings, peer learning activities, workshop on disaster resilient measurement tools, and took lead in the Stakeholder Consultation for Local Authorities in Asian Ministerial Conference on DRR (2018 in Mongolia). See these inspiring best practices of cities in mitigating disaster risks.

Building Community's Leadership Capacity for Disaster Risk Reduction

Christchurch (New Zealand)

The city puts community facility networks, community boards and community governance teams at the center of new disaster management development plan, considering these actors know best the neighborhoods and its residents.

The City Council provides finance, materials, and human resources. Moreover, community governance teams, in cooperation with national agency of civil defense, organised and moderated participatory events to support different community groups.

The participatory approach "Leaders in Communities – Programme" was established in 2014. A multi-stakeholder governance group that designs, finances, resources, delivers and evaluates projects supervised this ongoing programme.

The inclusive approach has also allowed to better reflect issues, concerns or compelling needs of residents in emergency situations. It functions as a catalyst for different stakeholders to come together and discuss their needs, expectations, and actions. Motivated by a shared purpose, the stakeholders negotiate and put aside individual interests, allowing the development of community-based resilience plans with higher level of ownership and commitment from community members.



Feature the Community and Council Partnership.

Source: City of Christchurch 2018



Challenge

Low level of reflection on community needs and expectations in disaster risk management and strategies.



Strategy

Bottom-up approach to foster the participation of members of local communities in the creation of disaster management strategies.



Lesson

The participation of the community members in the formulation of the plans leads to higher levels of ownership and commitment by the community.



Transfer

Collaborative approaches that include the local community in the creation of disaster risk management strategies and plans could be integrated in existing practices.

Faridpur Municipality and Disaster Risks Faridpur (Bangladesh)

Located at the centre of Bangladesh with an estimated population of more than 400,000 inhabitants and rapid urban growth, the city faces challenges such as poor livelihoods and living environments, lack of participatory planning, lack of awareness for development challenges (particularly disaster risks), high rates of unemployment, lack of institutional coordination and low community representation in decision making processes.

Faridpur is also vulnerable to floods, storms, and other hazards. Tackling these issues, the municipality of Faridpur established legal acts and used an integrative approach involving municipal authorities, government agencies, NGOs, and other relevant stakeholders to foster inclusive urban development which identifies and addresses vulnerable groups and integrates all citizens into planning and decision-making processes.

It provides an institutional setting that integrates the stake of all interest groups into day-to-day decision-making inclusive and resilient urban development take place. It allows development of climate resilient infrastructure (roads, trains), provision of facilities (urban greenery, safe water, sanitation). It also leads to institutional decentralisation and creation of awareness within local community for resilience and disaster risk management.



Impressions on Urban Challenges in Faridpur Municipality.
 Source: Faridpur Municipality 2018



Challenge

Rapid urbanisation with all its negative consequences and lack of participatory disaster risk planning leads to a very high vulnerability towards natural hazards.



Strategy

The city established a legal act that guarantees the integration of disaster risk strategies in urban planning and aims for a stronger collaborative approach.



Lesson

Legal act that requires integration of disaster risk strategies in urban planning together with enforced citizen participation has led to a significant decrease of the city's vulnerability towards natural hazards.



Transfer

The integration of disaster risk strategies in the legal framework of urban planning and the enforcement of citizen participation can be adopted by other cities.

Empowering People in Disaster Risk Reduction Semarang (Indonesia)

The city of Semarang, located at the Northern coast of Java, is particularly vulnerable to floods, due the steep flow of river and insufficient dyke constructions. It causes damage of private. Additionally, coastal relief is partially lower than the sea water, causing floods on daily basis. Residents living in this area are at high risk.

To improve preparedness and enhance emergency management during disaster occurrence, an information center was established. to complete disaster warnings with concrete data on affected areas and impact level to government and public in advance using meteorological and real-time data on rivers' water level. The emergency is, then, categorised based on intensity levels according to adequate measures used by local governments and other institutions. In addition, the *Resilient Village Policy* was implemented and included participatory activities (events, trainings, disaster risk mapping) to enhance the preparedness of affected settlement areas.



Floods in the City of Semarang.
 Source: City of Semarang 2018



Challenge

High risk of floods for the low lands close to the sea areas and especially during the annual rainy season.



Strategy

Establishment of a disaster risk information center that raises awareness to monitor river and to issue warnings in case of an anticipated flooding.



Lesson

Due to the forecast and early warning mechanisms, the local governments and the citizens can take adequate measurement for better preparation from floodings.



Transfer

The establishment of a local center for information and early warning on river floodings can improve preparedness and reaction in case of an event.

Public Space and the City

PUBLIC spaces are all places publicly owned or of public use, accessible and enjoyable by all for free and without a profit motive. Public spaces are a key element of individual and social well-being, the places of a community's collective life, expressions of the diversity of their common, natural and cultural richness and a foundation of their identity. [...] The community recognises itself in its public places and pursues the improvement of their spatial quality .

~ (Excerpt of The Charter of Public Space taken from Global Public Space Toolkit From Global Principles to Local Policies and Practice, UN-Habitat 2016)

In collaboration with UN-Habitat, UCLG ASPAC has assisted cities to be inclusive through the establishment and/or revitalisation of public spaces within Asia-Pacific sub-region, to, among many, promote income, investment and wealth creation, enhance environmental sustainability, promote equity and social inclusion, generate citizen involvement, and tools for gender and age-friendly cities.

ongoing

Kampung Ketandan, Genteng
"Cak Markeso" Cultural Hall Ketandan
WAS a community hall,
NOW also a culture hall

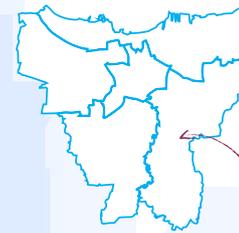
Area : 100 m²

Method : participatory
 (from planning, design)



upcoming

Jakarta (Indonesia)

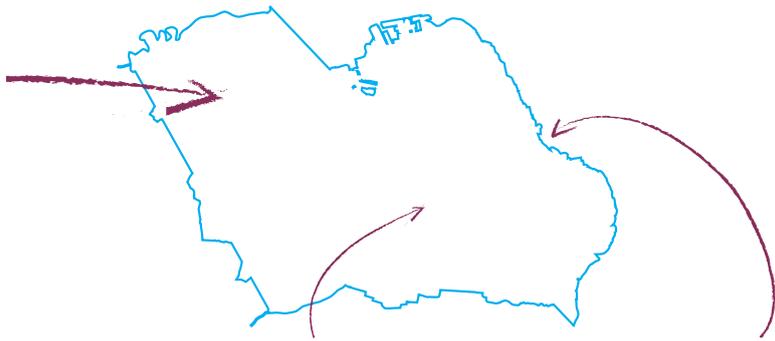


Klender, Jakarta (Indonesia)
Klender Integrated Public Space
CURRENTLY a public park

Area of 1000 m²



Surabaya (Indonesia)

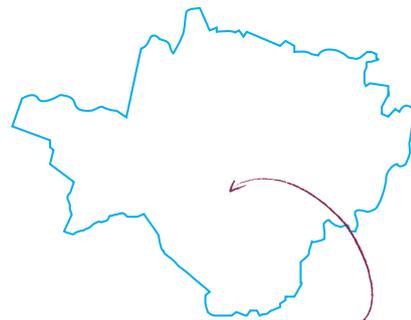


Tanah Kali Kedinding, Kedung Cowek
WAS a swamp land, NOW a public park
 Area of 600 m²
 Participatory planning involving local government of Surabaya and local people (particularly youth) using Minecraft software.

Creative Public Space Keputih
WAS an abandoned ex-incinerator area and landfill
 Area of 4,6 Ha
 Participatory planning involving local government of Surabaya, professionals, academicians, and local people.



Surakarta (Indonesia)



Sriwedari Park
Revitalisation of Sriwedari Human Puppet Theatre
WAS an open land
 Area of 5,000 m²
 Participatory planning involving local government of Surakarta, professionals, academicians, and local people.



Central Java (Indonesia)



Bugisan Village
CURRENTLY only a paddy field
ADDED with a Culture Hall
 Area of 6,000 m²



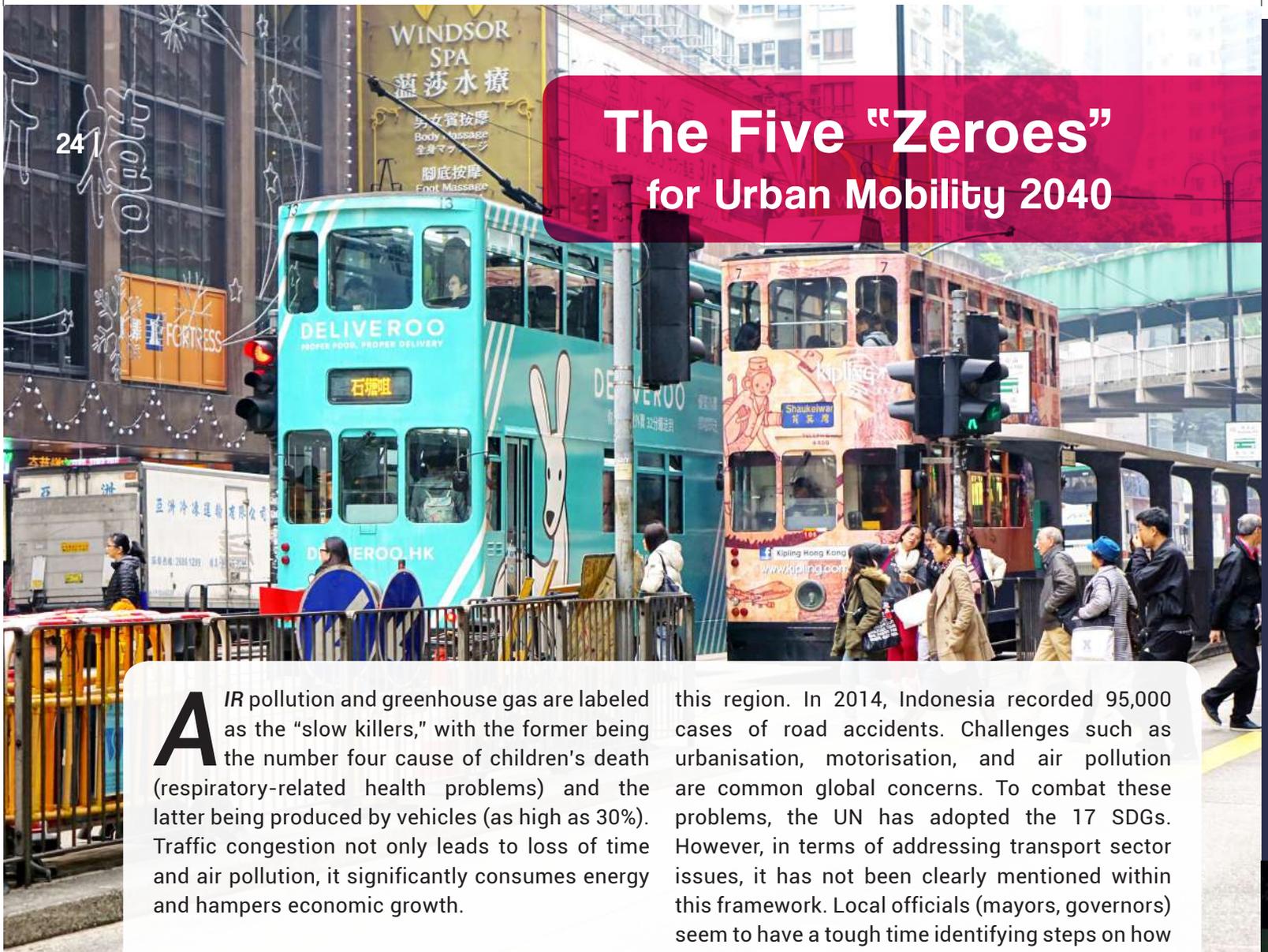
Seberang Perai (Malaysia)



Bandar Perda
Bike Line and Green Line Taman Komuniti Bandar Perda
CURRENTLY an empty land
 Area of 6,000 acre



The Five “Zeroes” for Urban Mobility 2040



AIR pollution and greenhouse gas are labeled as the “slow killers,” with the former being the number four cause of children's death (respiratory-related health problems) and the latter being produced by vehicles (as high as 30%). Traffic congestion not only leads to loss of time and air pollution, it significantly consumes energy and hampers economic growth.

At global level, approximately 1.3 million people die yearly due to road-related accidents. Road mishaps seem to be occurring a lot in countries in the Asia Pacific, with 44% of road accidents happening in

this region. In 2014, Indonesia recorded 95,000 cases of road accidents. Challenges such as urbanisation, motorisation, and air pollution are common global concerns. To combat these problems, the UN has adopted the 17 SDGs. However, in terms of addressing transport sector issues, it has not been clearly mentioned within this framework. Local officials (mayors, governors) seem to have a tough time identifying steps on how they will tackle this particular concern. With this challenge, a solution focusing on “Five ‘Zeroes’ for Urban Mobility” is needed:

- **Zero Greenhouse Gas (GHG) / Air Pollution from Transport:**

Many people in cities' developing countries wear face mask as protection from air pollution. **Benchmark:** Advanced countries in Europe such as Sweden, Switzerland, and Finland were able to achieve a cleaner air.

- **Zero Crash/Accident:** Every day, somewhere in the world, 2-3 young people get killed due to a road accident. **Benchmark:** Sweden, already achieved Zero Vision Accident, started its movement in 1997, resulting in changes in education, engineering, enforcement, and evaluation system. Germany,

Norway, and UK are already near their target of zero accident rate.

- **Zero Congestion:** Use High Quality Public Transport (HQPT) & Mobility as a Service (MaaS), ICT, and 4D zoning. Relieving roads from congestion will boost the economy. **Benchmark:** Singapore, London, Milan, and Stockholm achieved “Zero Congestion” by applying congestion charging and enforcement of car use and parking control.

- **Zero (Fuel) Private-car Use in the City Core Area:** Sharing mobility becomes popular because of Intelligence Communication Technology (ICT) and MaaS. Both help establish a sharing mobility

society. Government can achieve the three previously mentioned “Zero” Vision by promoting a mode-sharing (e.g., e-cars, bikes, scooters) society. Once becoming trend, young generation will learn to rely on public transportation.

- **Zero Inequality:** The so-called social justice on mobility (mobility serving for all regardless of one's age, status, economic background, etc.) should be advocated, but in many cities, car transport is highly preferred. The government should not invest on road expansions (car lane expansion, flyover/footbridge constructions) that only benefit (single-occupancy) private vehicles and lead to higher energy consumption.

Jeju Engages Youth for Culture and Citizen-Centric Development of Public Spaces

Participating in UCLG Committee on Culture and Chair of UCLG ASPAC Culture Committee, Jeju Special Self-Governing Province recognises the role of youth in the promotion of culture as core element in sustainable development. One of its expressions was by hosting the 1st edition of the Global Youth Culture Forum (GYCF) from 31 October to 4 November 2018.



The GYCF was participated by 20 international and local youth comprised of artists, architects, designers, musicians, and other cultural actors. Under the guidance of a general curator and five mentors, these youth conducted an intensive research which led to the design and presentation of public space proposals for the neighborhoods of Namsung and Old Downtown in Jeju. The research process involved the local community, raised awareness on memories, heritage and creativity, and analysed the potential to regenerate public spaces.

The successful implementation of the GYCF served as an expression of continued commitment of Jeju in implementing the values of Agenda 21 for Culture and Culture 21: Actions. These documents explicitly showcase the relationship between culture and sustainable development and provide guidance on actions at the local level. The GYCF is a collaborative effort of the Government of the Special Self-Governing Province of Jeju and the Municipality of Jeju, JITC – Jeju International Training Centre (UNITAR-CIFAL Jeju), the Jeju Foundation for Arts and Culture (JFAC), and the Jeju Urban Regeneration Centre (JURC).

Acknowledging Women Mayors' Works

Striving for Gender Equality



MAYOR TRI RISMAHARINI SURABAYA (INDONESIA)

The Need/Concern :
More inclusive and people centric development.

Her Action:
Inclusive public space development, local economic development, public services improvement.



MAYOR SOUMINI JAIN KOCHI (INDIA)

The Need/Concern :
Leadership that involves public and stimulates innovation from grass root level.

Her Action :
Establishment of community driven rehabilitation for vulnerable sections and community driven financial resource pooling, among many others.



MAYOR TOMOKO NAKAGAWA TAKARAZUKA (JAPAN)

The Need/Concern :
Fiscal health, child welfare improvement.

Her Action :
Policies to promote transparency and prevent corruption, child welfare allowance programme, expansion of nursery schools and child welfare facilities.



MAYOR BELLEN FERNANDEZ DAGUPAN (PHILIPPINES)

The Need/Concern :
Sound fiscal management

Her Action :
Transformation of city's annual budget from a negative P34 million (July 2013) to surplus P1.2 million cash in 2014, P98 million in 2015, and P120 million in 2016.

Equal opportunities for women to sit in leadership positions starts with acknowledgement of women's works. UCLG ASPAC, under the framework of Standing Committee on Women in Local Governments, taking the opportunity to once again bring up their excellent works to inspire us all and encourage the efforts for the pursuance of gender equality in local governance.



MAYOR AIRIN RACHMI DIANY SOUTH TANGERANG (INDONESIA)

The Need/Concern :
Integrated city services

Her Action :
Smart City Programmes (One Stop Integrated Service, Smart Innovation Ecosystem, Smart Financial Technology Ecosystem)



MAYOR LANI CAYATENO TAGUIG (PHILIPPINES)

The Need/Concern :
Human capital investment, particularly in education and health.

Her Action :
Establishment of Under Lifeline Assistance for Neighbors In-need (L.A.N.I) programmes.



MAYOR CELIA WADE-BROWN WELLINGTON (NEW ZEALAND)

The Need/Concern :
Sustainability in urban development.

Her Action :
Made Wellington a smart city (building a runway extension at the city's international airport, a high-tech precinct)



MAYOR FUMIKO HAYASHI YOKOHAMA (JAPAN)

The Need/Concern :
Attracting investment to Yokohama

Her Action :
Successful marketing strategy that attracted Nissan Motor Corp., Mitsubishi Heavy Industries, Ltd., and many more.



MAYOR MARIA ISABELLE CLIMACO-SALAZAR ZAMBOANGA (PHILIPPINES)

The Need/Concern :
Peaceful city, education strengthening.

Her Action :
Met the needs of policemen and military, sponsorship of various trainings for teacher development.



MAYOR YURIKO KOIKE TOKYO (JAPAN)

The Need/Concern :
Promotion of better environment.

Her Action :
Issuance of green bonds to promote financing for environment measures.

Why striving for gender equality is important:

1. Gender equality and the empowerment of women are both a goal of, and a tool for, sustainable development. (UCLG)
2. Gender equality, equality of opportunity, urban living conditions and sustainable development are intrinsically linked. (UCLG)
3. The under-representation of women at any level of governance and decision-making results is a democratic deficit. (iknowpolitics.org)
4. Women's equal participation and representation in local decision-making process is critical for prioritising women's practical needs and issues in local governments' agendas and for localising the SDGs. (iknowpolitics.org)



**MAYOR NAOMI KOSHI
OTSU (JAPAN)**

The Need/Concern :
Equal opportunities for women to remain in workforce after child birth.
Her Action :
Opening co-working space to empower women, construction of new nurseries, providing monetary incentives to male taking parental leave.



**MAYOR KAZUKO GUN
SENDAI (JAPAN)**

The Need/Concern :
Development of education, tourism, and health.
Her Action :
Promotion of disaster prevention, elimination of bullying at school, strengthening of regional ICT for comprehensive care system.



**MAYOR SALLY ANTE LEE
SORSOGON (PHILIPPINES)**

The Need/Concern :
Citizen-centered policy making.
Her Action :
Character First Development Programme, Project SERVE (bringing basic services to barangays), integrated health services.



**MAYOR STEPHANIE ANNE CHADWICK
ROTORUA (NEW ZEALAND)**

The Need/Concern :
Improvement of city's economy and services.
Her Action :
Rejuvenation of Central Business District, establishment and improvement of the Te Aka Mauri Library (incorporation of children's health hub)



**MAYOR KANTIKA SEJUWAL
CHANDANNATH (NEPAL)**

The Need/Concern :
Clean and green city.
Her Action :
Created Jumla Smart City programme.



**MAYOR TJHAI CHUI MEI
SINGKAWANG (INDONESIA)**

The Need/Action :
Tourism development for local economy.
Her Action :
Establishment of Singkawang Cultural Centre, renovation of city's park as icon, establishment of city's airport.

Celebrating one year in office – 25% quota for women in Local Councils in Sri Lanka

On 10 February 2019, Federation of Sri Lankan Local Government Authorities (FSLGA) celebrated the first-year anniversary of the “25% quota for women in Local Councils”. It was a significant increase of women representation from 87 appointed councillors (1.8% of total local councils, no quota) to 1985 councillors (now with 25% quota).

With this giant leap, FSLGA was faced with the challenge of providing required capacity strengthening for the newly and first-time elected women councilors, for them to understand their role and responsibilities.

After one year, FSLGA observed that many women councilors had taken up some innovative approaches in service delivery to citizens, including city beautification programmes, and nutrition programmes for both mothers and infants, early childhood development programmes, recreation programmes for children etc.

FSLGA has set up a help desk and will continue to provide technical training and on the job assistance to both men and women councilors as part of their membership services.



Track record of local and regional governments working internationally for gender equality (UCLG Women, Women Leadership and Development, 2015):

1998

The International Union of Local Authorities (IULA) adopted the Worldwide Declaration on Women in Local Government, the foundational document of international principles and commitments with regard to the action of local and regional governments in the field of women's rights.

2006

Council of European Municipalities and Regions (CEMR) drew up the European Charter for Equality of Women and Men in Local Life. The Charter encourages local and regional governments to make a public commitment to equality and to implement concrete practices in the areas of political participation, employment, public services, and urban planning to promote gender equality. So far, more than 1400 local and regional governments in 29 countries have signed the Charter.

2013

The Global Conference of Local Elected Women adopted the Paris Local and Regional Government Global Agenda for Equality of Women and Men in Local Life. The Agenda is inspired by the Worldwide Declaration on Women in Local Government and the values and principles contained in the European Charter on Equality of Women and Men in Local Life. It aims to be a strategic tool to increase equality between women and men in all spheres of decision-making.

Eyeing for Strengthened Maritime Cooperation



A keynote speech was delivered by the Chairman of the Silk-Road Planning Research Center, Mr. Chen Yuan.

CPAFFC and Silk-Road Planning Research Center, under the framework of the 21st Century Maritime Cooperation Committee, held the "Renovation of Urban Shantytowns of the 21st Century Maritime Silk Road"

in Beijing on 27 February 2019. Participants of the seminar agreed that problems of urban slums have long been one of common challenges in urban governance in both developed and developing countries.

What To Do in 2019:

Fuzhou, 17 - 19 May 2019

MARINE ECONOMY AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT-COASTAL AND PORT COOPERATION FORUM

It will jointly discuss the construction of smart and green port and the building of an international port ecosystem by opening and sharing win-win cooperation, so as to better promote the high-quality development of cities and regions along the 21st Century Maritime Silk Road.

Yiwu, 21 May 2019

THE 21ST CENTURY MARITIME COOPERATION COMMITTEE MEETING AT UCLG ASPAC EXBU MEETING

As one of the most important committees under UCLG ASPAC, the 21st Century Maritime Cooperation Committee will hold its Committee Meeting in Yiwu, China at UCLG ASPAC ExBu Meeting scheduled on 21 May 2019.



Fuzhou, 30 May 2019

GLOBAL FISHERIES COMMUNICATION AND COOPERATION CONFERENCE

The conference is conceived and planned to facilitate the international fishery and seafood industries, as well as to provide a platform for exhibition, procurement, trade negotiation, technical forum and information communication.

Fuzhou, 26 - 31 August 2019

WORKSHOP ON "MARINE ECOLOGY CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT"

The workshop will discuss four major topics: 1) Marine animals and their habitats in ocean, 2) Marine algae and microbes, 3) Conservation and potential values of marine biodiversity, and 4) Current technologies on investigation and utilisation of marine biodiversity.

Optimising Maritime Potentials, Surabaya Transforms Slum into Integrated Tourism Area



CONTEXT:

Kenjeran, an area in Surabaya located in Bulak District, has huge potentials to develop as maritime tourism.



INNOVATION:

Local government of Surabaya has committed to revitalise the area and build capacity of local people to develop the area. Strategy: Link some tourist attractions with this area.



ACTION:

Local government of Surabaya

- 1) builds bridge connecting Suroboyo Park and Sentra Ikan Bulak (fish centre) so that visitors can get variety of fisheries and marine products.
- 2) prepares shuttle bus and cable cars to explore Kenjeran area while enjoying the area's specialities (coconut, shellfish satay, rice cake, etc.)
- 3) prepares tour packages integrating some tourist destinations (Suroboyo Bridge, Kenjeran Amusement Park, Bulak Fish Centre, Suro and Boyo iconic statute, and fisherman village).
- 4) builds the capacity of local people, through initiative to present entertaining activities (live music, karaoke, game, etc.), develop products (product design, hygienic product development), and apply single cash register system.

A Road to Better Local Cooperation



AIMING at strengthening the local cooperation in various fields, UCLG ASPAC's Belt and Road Local Cooperation Committee, led by city of Hangzhou, has designated a roadmap in 2019.

Contact BRLC.Secretariat@hzfao.gov.cn for more information.

March 13

Inauguration of BRLC Arctic Gate Oulu, Finland

BRLC Arctic Gate Oulu was inaugurated to celebrate the Hangzhou – Oulu collaboration within BRLC framework.

April - November

Belt & Road Innovation and Entrepreneurship Competition for Overseas Talents

This competition spans from April to November. The final winners will not only receive generous awards, but also access to venture capital pool. In addition to that, if the winners decide to incubate the projects in Hangzhou, they will be provided with extra financial support.

April 26-29

Observation of 2050 Conference

BRLC invited over 100 young representatives from its member cities and institutions to observe the 2050 Conference in Hangzhou.

May 21

2019 UCLG ASPAC Executive Bureau Meeting & Yiwu Dialogue on International Economic and Trade Cooperation under the Belt and Road Initiative

As co-host for Yiwu dialogue and the parallel International Imported Commodities Fair, BRLC ensures exhibitors from its members favorable rates. BRLC committee meeting will also be organised.

Early September

2019 Hangzhou International Sister City Mayors' Conference & BRLC Council Meeting

This event will gather mayors and other stakeholders from Hangzhou's international sister cities, together with BRLC Council Members, to address various issues related to urban development.

Early October

BRLC E-commerce Training Workshop 2019

To continue with last year's success, the second edition will roll out in early October. Alibaba Group will again design and implement the training curriculum.

Gears Up for 5TH ASEAN Mayors Forum

TAKING on the momentum of its recent accreditation under ASEAN, the ASEAN Mayors Forum (AMF) held a Stakeholder Consultation and Preparatory Meeting during the Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development (APFSD) in Bangkok, Thailand, last 26 March 2019.



1, 2, 3: Series of commitment making and knowledge sharing in ASEAN Mayors Forum activities.

League of Cities of the Philippines (LCP) Executive Director. Shereen Gail Yu-Pamintuan shared the background of the AMF accreditation with ASEAN and emphasised that the accreditation will allow AMF to bring ASEAN closer to the people. "...cities and local authorities are their (ASEAN's) implementing arm and they add value to the translation of global commitments in understandable and identifiable

language to our members and constituents." constituents," she remarked.

Naga Mayor John Bongat, Seberang Perai Mayor Rozali Mohamud, gave valuable insights to the discussions on the AMF Charter and preparations for the upcoming AMF. Partners from UN ESCAP, UN Habitat, and Cities Alliance also participated and presented points of collaboration

on the AMF as well as other urban forums and a new initiative targeted at capacity building for new Mayors in the Asia-Pacific region.

Since 2017, the ASEAN Mayors Forum is held in line with the ASEAN Chairmanship. With Thailand as current ASEAN Chair, Bangkok Metropolitan Administration (BMA) will host the 5th AMF scheduled in August.

AMF Road To ONE ASEAN Community

1st ACMF
ASEAN City Mayors Forum
 24-25 October 2011
 Surabaya (Indonesia)

2nd AMF
Adaptive and Intelligent Cities for an Integrated Borderless Prosperous Region
 9-11 September 2015
 Makassar (Indonesia)

3rd AMF
50 Years of ASEAN: Empowering Communities for a Stronger Region
 26-27 July 2017
 Taguig (Philippines)

4th AMF
Building Sustainable and Smart Development in ASEAN Cities and Regions
 7 July 2018
 Singapore (Singapore)

SOON!
5th AMF
Bangkok
 26-28 August 2019
 (Thailand)



WITH the support from EU, UCLG ASPAC established a partnership with the Association for Development Local Governance (ADLG) for implementing LEAD for SDGs: Local Empowerment, Advocacy and Development for Sustainable Development Goals, a project in Pakistan aiming at localising SDGs through an empowered local government. This project commenced in March 2019.

LEAD for SDGs will assist local governments and other stakeholders in Balochistan and Sindh provinces in translating the national policies and plans of SDGs localisation into concrete actions. The project's cooperation with the Local Council Association of Balochistan (LCAB) and the Local Association of Sindh (LCAS) will ensure effective impacts of the project's activities in the two provinces.



Preparatory Phase

1. Scoping Mission (29 September to 2 October 2018)

Represented by Secretary General Bernadia Irawati Tjandradewi, UCLG ASPAC conducted a scoping mission in the Balochistan and Sindh Provinces of Pakistan and held consultations with Minister for Local Government and Rural Development, Provincial Ministers and Secretaries, parliamentarians, representatives of districts governments, civil society organisations, UNDP Provincial SDGs Units, and the respective Provincial Line Departments to undertake a context/situation, needs and constraints analysis, and the opportunities of the local governments for localisation and implementation of SDGs in Pakistan.

2. Partnership with Parliamentary Task Force on SDGs (16 January 2019)

UCLG ASPAC approached National Assembly SDGs Secretariat as a key partner of LEAD for SDGs project, developed partnership and explored prospects of mutual cooperation for Localisation of SDGs to contribute to the achievement of SDGs targets in Pakistan. On 16 January 2019, UCLG ASPAC Secretary General held meeting with Mr. Riaz Fatyana Convener National Parliamentary Task force on SDGs and Ms. Kanwal Shauzab Parliamentary Secretary at National Parliament Islamabad.

3. Inception Phase - MoU Signing Ceremony (18 March 2019)

National Assembly's SDGs Secretariat and UCLG ASPAC signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to strengthen cooperation on Localisation of SDGs and contribute to SDGs achievement in Pakistan for promoting socio-economic of the Pakistanis. UCLG ASPAC welcomed the Parliamentary Task Force on SDGs as key partner of the project and sounded the plan to work closely for the implementation of the project, and to ensure the project's activities fit into the country's overall SDGs plans and actions. Convener, National Parliamentary Task Force on SDGs Mr. Riaz Fatyana and Secretary General UCLG ASPAC Dr. Bernadia Irawati Tjandradewi signed the MoU.

1, 2: Meeting with various stakeholders in preparation for LEAD SDGs Program.

3: Signing MOU between UCLG ASPAC and the Parliamentary Task Force on SDGs.

SAARC Cooperation for Local Governments at Regional Level

National Association of Rural Municipalities in Nepal (NARMIN) submitted the UCLG ASPAC - SAARC position paper to the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Government of Nepal for his support on recommending the local government's agenda (to adopt and mainstream local governance as an important area of cooperation for prosperous and peaceful states and communities of the South Nations). In response, the honorable Minister expressed his commitment and immediately advised to proceed by engaging SAARC and South Asia section of the Ministry. Subsequently, Local Government Associations in Nepal will organise an event for LGs and LGAs of Southwest region Asia in Nepal where SAARC cooperation and support for local self-governance in the region will be the main agenda of the event.

Sub-Region Updates

Pacific

LGNZ: Survey Assisting Local Government to Develop Strategies



Beach, one of favourite tourism destinations in New Zealand.

LGNZ has undertaken a survey to measure the impact of sea level rise on local infrastructure, assets and services. It was the first time such a survey had been undertaken in NZ. The results of the survey have been used to get central government's support to establish a fund to assist communities adapt to sea level rise. LGNZ is continuing to work with the Government to assist it to develop a national programme to assist councils develop adaption strategies.

South West Asia

A Meeting for Strengthened Local Government

Representatives of local government associations (LGAs) from four Provinces of Pakistan and the Association for Development of Local Governance (ADLG), Federal and Provincial ministers, Members of Parliament, senior officials from local and central government and representatives from civil societies and development organisations, came together in Islamabad on the 15-16 January 2019 to discuss the role of local government as a partner in development, including in the achievement of the SDGs and strategies to strengthen local government and LCAs in Pakistan, organised by the Commonwealth Local Government Forum (CLGF) and LCAP as part of their EU funded project to strengthen the LCAs in Pakistan.



Beautiful landscape of Pakistan.

East Asia

Jeju for a Dust-Free Island

Governor Won Hee-Ryong was invited to 2019 Boao Asia Forum on 16 January 2019 in Hainan, a sister city of Jeju island. He shared the good example of Jeju Free International City Project including a wide variety of range projects and policy including JIPZ, No-Visa Policy, DFS for domestic travelers and Carbon Free Island 2030. He also introduced and suggested the Dust-Free Island initiative which could provide the solution for the dust problem South Korea, China and Japan have faced recently. This concept will positively spread the technology of fine dust problem for more pleasant daily life. He was also invited to Hainan Session to share the example of Jeju island tourism and provide



Governor Won sharing his knowledge in 2019 Boao Asia Forum.

the direction of tourism and investment local residents and investors, visitors are harmonised (win-win strategy).

South East Asia

Partnership for Massive Public Open Space

The League of Cities of the Philippines (LCP) has partnered with and fully supported the Philippine Government through the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) in launching the first-ever, massive public open space programme in the country. The Green, Green, Green Programme, formally known as the Local Government Support

Fund-Assistance to Cities, is a comprehensive aid program spearheaded by the DBM towards vibrant, livable, and sustainable urban communities. The program earmarked PHP 2.5 billion (USD 48 million) in the 2018 national budget which city governments may access in creating green, public open spaces.



Local governments in Philippines in the launching of Massive Public Open Space Programme.

Jakarta Ready To Be More Resilient in 2019

JAKARTA'S effort in building resilience gained a new momentum in May 2016 when the city was selected to be a member of 100 Resilient Cities (100RC) Network. Resilient Jakarta Secretariat was then founded in September 2017 and led by Deputy Governor of DKI Jakarta for Spatial Planning and Environment, Dr. Oswar M. Mungkasa, as Chief Resilience Officer (CRO).

Since then, Resilient Jakarta Secretariat has continuously supported Jakarta in its resilience building effort by involving a wide range of stakeholders in the processes. Government bodies, private sectors, academicians, and communities have collaborated in the discussion and worked together in developing the City Resilience Strategy to help the city better prepare.

The Three Pillars for Resilient Jakarta

Throughout the process, Jakarta realises there are three pillars indicating its resilience:

- **WELL-PREPARED Jakarta**

focuses on Jakarta's readiness in the events of shocks and stresses.

- **HEALTHY Jakarta**

focuses on creating healthier environment for people through better management of water, wastewater, and waste.

- **CONNECTED Jakarta**

focuses on enhancing connectivity of people in their daily routines.

To complete the resilience strategy, Resilient Jakarta Secretariat conducted Focus Group Discussion (FGD) on 10 April 2019. The discussion gathered inputs covering indicator of achievement for each pillar, guidance to achieve it, and necessary actions to take.

With the support of UCLG ASPAC as the Third-Party Grantee, Jakarta is planning to deliver the city resilience strategy in June 2019 which will require more collaboration from the city's stakeholders in their resilience building efforts. Apart from that, Jakarta will engage the surrounding cities and districts (such as Bogor, Depok, Bekasi, Tangerang, and South Tangerang) to collaborate in order to develop a more comprehensive resilience strategy.

These three pillars are the main components of Jakarta's Resilience Strategy.

Download Draft of City Resilience Strategy
jakberketahanan.org/draft-0/

Visit website of Resilient Jakarta Secretariat
jakberketahanan.org.



Resilient Jakarta Secretariat with Jakarta's city government staff in a Focus Group Discussion on 10 April 2019.

MAY

13-17 | *6th Session of the Global Platform for the Disaster Risk Reduction (GP2019)*

Geneva | Switzerland

Organised by:
UNISDR

17-19 | *Marine Economy and Urban Development - Coastal and Port Cooperation Forum of the 21st Century Maritime Cooperation Committee*

Fuzhou | China

Organised by:
UCLG ASPAC MCC

21-23

UCLG ASPAC Executive Bureau Meeting & Yiwu Dialogue on International Economic and Trade Cooperation under the Belt and Road Initiative

Yiwu | China

Organised by:
UCLG ASPAC, Yiwu

JULY

9-18 | *High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF)*

New York | USA

Organised by:
UN HABITAT, UNDESA

AUGUST

26-28 | *5th ASEAN Mayors Forum*

Bangkok | Thailand

Organised by:
UCLG ASPAC,
Bangkok Metropolitan Administration

SEPTEMBER

2-5 | *2019 UCLG ASPAC Council Meeting*

Makati City | Phillipines

Organised by:
UCLG ASPAC, Makati City Government

24-25 | *2019 UCLG ASPAC High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF - SDG Summit)*

New York | USA

Organised by:
UN HABITAT, UNDESA

OCTOBER

15-17 | *7th Asia-Pacific Urban Forum*

Penang | Malaysia

Organised by:
UNESCAP, UN HABITAT,
Urbanice Malaysia,
Government of Malaysia

NOVEMBER

11-15 | *UCLG World Congress and Local and Regional Governments Summit*

Durban | South Africa

Organised by:
UCLG World

Note:

*) Above activities do not include the projects and city-to-city cooperation either on multilateral or bilateral basis.

*) To get full and updated list of events, do not hesitate to contact us.

We would like to thank our members and partners for contributing photos and materials used for this newsletter. We want to hear from you! Please send your feedbacks and suggestions to communication@uclg-aspac.org.

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