Local governments are critical to global development due to their direct responsibility for citizens’ well-being in all respects. Their roles and experience provide unique perspectives on how we should respond to rapid transformation from rural to urban world that is happening worldwide. Local governments are up for higher expectations and have been accelerating their work and collaboration for opportunities and challenges ahead.

As a platform of cities and local governments in the Asia-Pacific region, UCLG ASPAC sees our significant contribution as cooperation enabler, considering the strong and extensive network that we have built through decades of our work in the region. Amidst the increasingly active municipalities, UCLG ASPAC take pride in the fact that we are among trusted partners that help cities and local governments develop their own solutions to development challenges.

To set out our way forward, UCLG ASPAC prepared a 2015-2020 Strategic Plan, referred to as a Manifesto, to provide guidelines and stimulate the needed improvements to fulfil our vision and missions. This document was developed upon UCLG ASPAC’s members’ response to an online need assessment survey that the Secretariat conducted in January-May 2014. Further in December 2018, UCLG ASPAC members and partners met in Guangzhou to review the Manifesto, taking into account internal and external conditions that we operate. We also evaluated the progress that had been made in achieving global agendas and identified actions for our continued efforts to pursue the strategic priorities set in the Manifesto.

This publication provides you an overview of the UCLG ASPAC Manifesto, outcomes of the retreat discussions and recommendations for UCLG ASPAC strategic priorities for 2020 – 2022. The document does not only serve as an important reminder of the indispensable roles of cities and local governments in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and other global agendas. It can guide our efforts to improve the quality of life of our citizens and the society they live in by working closely together.

As we all have a responsibility to the future generation, our joint efforts today can have real transformative impacts on their tomorrow. We have big dreams for our society! Together we will meet our dream for a flourishing Asia-Pacific region!
The United Cities and Local Governments Asia Pacific (UCLG ASPAC) is the largest regional section of UCLG, the biggest local government association recognized by the United Nations. Since its establishment in 2004, UCLG ASPAC has been making progress and gaining achievements in bringing stronger voice of cities and local governments in Asia-Pacific and engaging with UCLG World in meeting the global agenda. In advocacy, among its recent achievements is the accreditation of the ASEAN Mayors Forum (AMF) as an entity associated with ASEAN, a first for any local government network to gain such recognition. Good progress in advocacy in the region has been accompanied by several learning and capacity building initiatives on prioritized areas of and for members and produced much more tangible impacts on the ground.

Members of UCLG ASPAC have been actively engaged in shaping the works of UCLG ASPAC. Since 2013, several Committees have been established, including the Women Standing Committee, Culture Committee led by Jeju Provincial Government, Belt and Road Local Cooperation and the 21st Century Maritime Cooperation led by City of Hangzhou and Fuzhou, respectively.

UCLG ASPAC has prepared and developed a 2015-2020 Strategic Plan, also known as the Manifesto, to provide guidelines and stimulate the needed improvements toward the fulfillment of UCLG ASPAC’s vision and mission. The plan took into consideration the member responses to an online need assessment survey conducted by the Secretariat in January-May 2014. Since the preparation of the Manifesto, it has been reviewed once in 2016.

This publication was developed to serve as a reference guide for the first retreat of UCLG ASPAC held simultaneously with the Guangzhou Innovation Awards’ Ceremony and the Peer-Learning Workshop on Building a Local Government Alliance for Localizing New Urban Agenda (NUA) and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in Asia and the Pacific.

This publication provided the highlights of UCLG ASPAC’s programs and projects and its achievement and progress for the period of 2013-2018. Key information on the governance structure, membership profile, and committees were also made available. Communication outreach, the secretariat and financial outlook, challenges and way forward were included in this publication which put the Manifesto itself as its core. The result of the Retreat was also added in this publication which would be used as background information and baseline for the development of Strategic Plan of UCLG ASPAC 2020-2022.
**GOING BACK IN TIME**

**2013 - 2018**

**MILESTONES**

**2013**
- First formation and adoption of UCLG ASPAC Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) on Human Resources, Finance and Administration, Member Services, Strategic Communications & Capacity Development and Training
- Establishment of UCLG ASPAC Internship Program for University Students
- November: UCLG ASPAC office moved to Jakarta City Hall complex

**2014**
- Development of “Zero Waste is Possible in Our Place” Program
- Formulation of Manifesto: UCLG ASPAC Strategic Plan 2015-2020
- Development of database system using the Microsoft Access Program
- Performance appraisal applied to staff members

**2015**
- June: Launching of the first project on Knowledge Centre - Smart Practice Replication in cooperation with the National Planning Agency of Indonesia
- December: Launching of the Integrated Resource and Recovery Centre (IRRC) in cooperation with UNESCAP

**2016**
- Embarked on public space project with UN-Habitat with City of Surabaya as the first recipient; First MOU was signed by Ministry of Public Works and Housing of Indonesia, UCLG ASPAC and UN-Habitat
- The launch of the International Urban Cooperation Funded by EU with UCLG ASPAC performs as an Help Support Desk for Climate Change and Energy
- November: The first advocacy on “Boosting Local Authorities Actions to Implement the Sendai Framework” held at the Asian Ministerial Conference of Disaster Risk Reduction

**2017**
- June: Signing of the extension of the MOU between UCLG ASPAC and Ministry of Home Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia for 3 (three) years, 2017-2020
- September: Grant signing of new partnerships on 100 Resilient Cities for Jakarta Resilency
- September: Groundbreaking ceremony of UNESCAP-funded Integrated Resource Recovery Center in Jambi
- November: Grant signing with Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation on Municipality Network for Sanitation Policy and Advocacy in South Asia (Bangladesh and Nepal)

**2018**
- October: Signing of Letter of Intent with the Raoul Wallenberg Institute of Sweden in Promoting Rights-based Approach in Localization of SDGs in Asia-Pacific Region
- November/December: Adoption of Code of Conduct for Staff Members
- December: Signing the contract with EU Pakistan to implement the LEAP Project - The Localization of SDGs in Balochistan and Sindh Provinces
- System of procurement and travel has been successfully developed, full implementation starts on January 2019

**INSTITUTIONAL**

- May: UCLG ASPAC Executive Bureau and Extraordinary Council Meetings in Goyang
- July: Appointment of Dr. Bernadette Tjandra as the first female UCLG ASPAC Secretary General and also the first at the regional sections
- November: UCLG ASPAC Executive Bureau and Council Meetings in Colombo; Mr. Sheel Asghar Shah Gillani took up his position as UCLG ASPAC President
- November: Formation of the Co-President representing women
- New Members: Barisal City, Chikhli City, Ahmedabad City, Amalner City, Gandhinagar, Himatnagar, Nagaon, Valsad, Valsad, Baroda, Bharuch City, National Association of Capital and Provincial Kingdom of Cambodia
- UCLG ASPAC Congress in Jeollabuk-do

**OPERATIONAL**

- June: UCLG ASPAC Executive Bureau Meeting in Hamamatsu
- September: Election of Jeju Special Self-Governing Province Governor Won Hee-ryong as President at the 5th UCLG ASPAC Congress in Taipei
- Presented UCLG ASPAC Medals: Dr. Ing. H. Faizi Bhoi, Dr. Jatin V. Mod, Syed Muhammad Asghar Shah Gillani, Dr. Felicity-Ann Lewis, Yasutomo Suzuki, Lung-Iin Hua
- Launched 10th Anniversary Book in celebration of UCLG ASPAC 10th Anniversary
- Establishment of New Partnerships: United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP), Oxfam, Unitar CIFAL Jeju
- New Members: Seremban, Kuching City, Serpong City, Jeonju City, South Korea, LCA Sindh, LCA Balochistan
- First time, Maldives is represented in UCLG ASPAC as a new member

**OPERATIONAL**

- New Members: Faridpur Municipality, Padang, Indonesia and Jaffna, Sri Lanka as new members
- Election of the First Woman President, Mayor Ti Ransahma of Surabaya as UCLG ASPAC Chairperson
- September: Election of First Woman President, Mayor Ti Ransahma of Surabaya as UCLG ASPAC Congress in Surabaya
- March: Publication of City Enabling Environment Rating Assessment of the Counties in Asia and the Pacific
- April: First Statutory Meeting (EdBu) and Localising SDGs Conference held by Pakistani Members
- July: The 2018 ASEAN Mayors Forum was held jointly with the Centre for Liveable Cities of Singapore Government, align with Singapore as the 2018 ASEAN Chairmanship
- August: Accreditation of ASEAN Mayors Forum as a first Entity of Local Governments Associated with ASEAN
- September: Election of the First Woman President, Mayor Ti Ransahma of Surabaya as 7th UCLG ASPAC Congress in Surabaya
- September: The first training on Women Leadership held in New Delhi
- New Members: Faridpur Municipality, Padang, Indonesia, Jaffna, Sri Lanka, Telavukau, Cebu City, Cebu, Philippines, and Maldives

**INSTITUTIONAL**

- April: Appointment of Dr. Shahid Mian, Mayor of Penang and Mayor Sheyphil Uy-Tan of Cathbalogon as Chair and Co-Chair of Women Standing Committee, respectively
- April: Establishment of Belt and Road Local Cooperation Committee by Hangzhou and 21st Century Maritime Cooperation Committee by Fujian
- July: Adoption of Tagay Action Agenda during the ASEAN Mayors Forum
- New Members: Inga City, Bogor City, Lubuklinggau, Kirtipur Municipality, Vyas Municipality, Philippine Towns Councils League (PCL), Malaysia Association of Local Authorities (MALA), Male City Council
- For the first time, Maldives is represented in UCLG ASPAC as a new member
UCLG ASPAC has a strong membership base, although the geographical balance among all four sub-regions has yet to be achieved. As of November 2018, there are more than 160 members representing local governments (LGs), Local Government Associations (LGAs) and Associate Members (entities which are not local government organizations, but concerned with or involved in local government matters). The number of members has been on an upward trend in the past three years since 2016, demonstrating growing interests of local authorities to enhance their international collaboration on a broad-range of challenges facing their city development.

Most of the members come from the East and Northeast Asia (ENE) sub-region accounting for 37.5% followed by South Southwest Asia (SSW) with 30% membership.

Majority of the members are local governments at 73.75% of all members. It must be noted that in the Pacific sub-region (PAC) where there is least overall membership, there is more local government association member than local governments themselves.

In terms of new members, there has been growing representation from South Southwest Asia sub-region equivalent to 52.38% of all new members from 2013-2018. Since 2016, there has been no new member from the Pacific sub-region. East and Northeast Asia (ENE) and Pacific sub-region has the least number of new members at 2 from 2013-2018. There is an average number of 7 new members each year for the past 6 years.
LEADING CHANGE: UCLG ASPAC GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE

UCLG ASPAC comprises of four sub-regions and all members are represented in the General Assembly, the supreme organ that is responsible for the overall policy, direction and oversight of the Section. The Council is the principal policy-making body. It decides UCLG ASPAC’s policies in a collegial way and ensures that general policies adopted by the General Assembly are implemented. Executive Bureau is responsible for initiating proposals and carrying out the decisions of the Council.

The Presidency, comprising the President and co-Presidents, represents all four sub-regions, the Associate and International Members as well as ex-officio namely the co-President (Host), the co-President (Immediate Past President) and the co-President (Founding).

The President is the principal representative of UCLG ASPAC. The co-Presidents assist the President in carrying out his/her responsibilities and when necessary assume the role of President.

The Secretary General is the executive officer who directs the daily activities of UCLG ASPAC and carries out the decisions of the General Assembly, the Council and the Executive Bureau. The Secretary General manages the General Secretariat as well as the activities and programmes under the guidance of the Presidency and the responsibility of the Executive Bureau.

Meanwhile, gender balance within UCLG can be further strengthened. Women representation in the UCLG ASPAC governing body remains relatively small compared with their men counterparts. Women representatives were accounted for only 4.35% in 2012-2014; 9.09% in 2014-2016 and 2016-2018; and 15.38% in 2018-2020. To date, there has been no woman representative from the Pacific sub-region.

GENDER-BASED REPRESENTATION IN GOVERNING BODY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>Men</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

GENDER-BASED REPRESENTATION FOR ASPAC REGION IN UCLG WORLD 2016-2019
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 the Municipal Association of Nepal  
  Mayor of Dhulikhel Municipality
- SONG JINGWU  
  Representing East and Northeast Asia sub-region  
  Vice President of the Chinese People’s Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries
- RAJNIT S. CHAVAN  
  Representing Associate and International Organizations  
  Member  
  President of All India Institute of Local Self-Government (AIILSG)
- STEPHANY UYTAN  
  Representing Women in Local Government  
  Mayor of Cebu City, Philippines
- ANIES RASYID BASWEDAN  
  Immediate Past President  
  Governor of Jakarta Capital City Government
- WON HEE-RYONG  
  Founding President  
  The Chinese People’s Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries
- CHEN HAO SU  
  Indonesian Regencies Government Association (APRASIS)

**SOUTHEAST ASIA**

- SAY KOSAL  
  President  
  National League of Local Councils  
  Association of Indonesian Municipalities  
  Mayor of South Tangerang
- AIRIN RACHMI DIANY  
  Chairman  
  Association of Cities of Vietnam (ACV)
- VÕ THỊ HỒNG ANH  
  President  
  Indonesian Regencies Government Association (APRASIS)
- MARDANI H. MAMING  
  Chairman  
  Association of Cities of Vietnam (ACV)
- MAP SARIN  
  President  
  National Association of Capital and Provincial Councils (NACPC)

**SOUTH & SOUTHWEST ASIA**

- SHEIKH IMRAN ABDULLA  
  President  
  National Association of Rural Municipalities in Nepal (NARMN)
- NARAYAN SHRESTHA  
  Chairman  
  Federation of Sri Lankan Local Government Association (FSLGA)
- SEYED ALI ZAHIR MOULANA  
  Chairperson  
  Tabe Se Singh District
- FOZIA KHALID WARRAICH  
  Chairperson  
  Municipal Association of Bagirajin (MAB)
- ALHAJ MD ABDUL BATTEN  
  President  
  National Association of Local Government Authorities (NAGLA)

**SOUTHWEST ASIA**

- TAMOTSU OKAMOTO  
  Chairperson, the Board of Director  
  Council of Local Authorities for International Relations (CJARR) of Japan
- BERNADIA IRAWATI TJANDRADEWI  
  Secretary General

UCLG ASPAC consists of four sub-regions and all members are represented in the General Assembly, the supreme organ that is responsible for the overall policy, direction and oversight of the Section. The Council is the principal policy-making body. It decides UCLG ASPAC’s policies in a collegiate way and ensures that general policies adopted by the General Assembly are implemented. Executive Bureau is responsible for initiating proposals and carrying out the decisions of the Council. The Presidency, comprising the President and co-President, represents all four sub-regions, the Associate and International Members as well as ex-officio namely the co-President (Vice President), the co-President (Immediate Past President) and the co-President (Standing). The President is the principal representative of UCLG ASPAC. The co-Presidents assist the President in carrying out their responsibilities and when necessary assume the role of President. The Secretary General is the executive officer who directs the daily activities of UCLG ASPAC and carries out the decisions of the General Assembly, the Council and the Executive Bureau. The Secretary General manages the General Secretariat as well as the activities and programmes under the guidance of the Presidency and the responsibility of the Executive Bureau.

Data shown based on updates received in 2019.
Throughout years 2013 to 2018, the Communications Division has undertaken its role in providing necessary tools, information, and knowledge that facilitate and stimulate learning and insights among members as well as the wider public, through a variety of communication products, tools, and channels.

**KNOWLEDGE DEVELOPMENT TOOLS**

**NEWSLETTERS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>2 monthly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>2 monthly</td>
</tr>
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<td>2016</td>
<td>monthly</td>
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<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>monthly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>monthly</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**E-NEWSLETTERS**

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Frequency</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>monthly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017-2018</td>
<td>monthly</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**BEST PRACTICE PUBLICATIONS**

- South-South Cooperation Best Practices and Replications 2013
- Borderless Mobility & Connectivity in ASEAN Cities (in collaboration with Strategic Services Division)

**OTHER KNOWLEDGE PUBLICATIONS AND TOOLS**

- Translation of SDGs 2017
- Translation of SDGs Memory Card Game 2017

**COMMUNICATIONS IN NUMBERS**

- Twitter Follower (211%)
  - 2015: 623
  - 2018: 1,943

- Facebook Likes (112%)
  - 2015: 633
  - 2018: 1,343

**ONLINE KNOWLEDGE DEVELOPMENT**

**SOCIAL MEDIA CAMPAIGN (2016)**

Inviting cities to collaborate by championing the roles of City Leaders and representative of Local Government Associations.

**SDG VIDEO**

- (2016)

**Website Fresh Look**

- (2016)

**ORGANISATIONAL PROFILE AND REPORT**

**ORGANISATION PROFILE & VIDEO PROFILE**

- 2013
- 2014
- 2015
- 2016
- 2017
- 2018

**SDG VIDEO**

- (2016)

**ANNUAL REPORTS**

- 2013
- 2014
- 2015
- 2016
- 2017
- 2018

**Social Media Content Development (2017)**

Inviting cities to collaborate by championing the roles of City Leaders and representative of Local Government Associations.
In the past 5 years, UCLG ASPAC has managed to achieve a significant level of growth in terms of its secretariat and finances. The organization has enjoyed a positive trend in both income and expenditure arenas.

One of the key factors of this growth is the ability of the organization to mobilize funding for programs and projects with international development organizations. This shows the results of the expanding work in the field of development cooperation and engaged partnerships.

Membership revenue is derived from both associate members and direct members. Contribution from direct members accounted for 78.16% of total membership revenue from 2013-2017.

Revenue from programs and projects increased significantly particularly in 2017. Funding from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF) and the EU-Indonesia cooperation contributed greatly to this. Other organizations have provided consistent support within the past 5 years.

**Number of UCLG ASPAC Secretariat Staff**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Staff</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>17</td>
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<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The above figure includes project staff members, but excludes interns.

**Financial Highlights**

**Income**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Income</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>$1,575,777.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>$2,044,040.00</td>
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</table>

Increase: 33.96%

**Expense**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>$1,044,489.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>$1,317,453.00</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Increase: 39.48%

**Sources of Revenue, 2013-2017**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Membership Contribution</th>
<th>Program / Project</th>
<th>Other Income</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>600,000.00</td>
<td>500,000.00</td>
<td>400,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
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<td>2017</td>
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**Program and Project Revenue, 2013-2017**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>KAS</th>
<th>UNESCUP</th>
<th>OXFAM</th>
<th>UNISDR</th>
<th>GWANGJU</th>
<th>GOLD III</th>
<th>UNHABITAT</th>
<th>KSI</th>
<th>UNOPS CA</th>
<th>COOPERATION</th>
<th>BMGF</th>
<th>EU-INDONESIA</th>
<th>OTHER PROJECT</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>200,000.00</td>
<td>150,000.00</td>
<td>100,000.00</td>
<td>50,000.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>2015</td>
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<td>250.00</td>
<td>150,000.00</td>
<td>75,000.00</td>
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</tr>
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</table>

**Expense Breakdown, 2018**

- Salary and Social Charges: $152,398.00 (7%)
- Communication and Publication: $14,388.00 (7%)
- Travel: $68,728.00 (8%)
- Programmes: $900,089.00 (44%)
- Fees: $13,913.00 (7%)
- Overage: $15,515 (3%)
- World Partition: $115,928.00 (6%)
- Net Asset: $726,562.00 (36%)
CONVENING WITH LEADERS: STATUTORY MEETING HOST CITIES
UCLG ASPAC STATUTORY MEETINGS 2013-2018

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY/Congress**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City</th>
<th>Year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Colombo</td>
<td>2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gwangju Metropolitan City</td>
<td>2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hamamatsu City</td>
<td>2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taipei</td>
<td>2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Makati City</td>
<td>2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wakatobi Regency</td>
<td>2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Delhi</td>
<td>2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jeollabukdo</td>
<td>2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Catbalogan City</td>
<td>2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fuzhou</td>
<td>2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Islamabad</td>
<td>2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surabaya</td>
<td>2018</td>
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Within the past 5 years, the hosting of statutory meetings was concentrated in East and North East Asia members. Pacific sub-region has not yet hosted a statutory meeting during this period.
Strong strategic partnerships are essential for institutional growth. For the past years, significant progress has been made in terms of building partnerships and alliances with different institutions.

With the Cities Development Initiatives for Asia (CDIA), implemented in partnership with GIZ, the key areas of collaboration aimed at developing the UCLG ASPAC mid- to long-term strategic plan, financing program for cities, policy dialogue and projects for LGAs, dissemination of best practices, the bi-annual monitoring and evaluation of capacity building interventions, as well as fundraising projects for Asian cities, local governments, and national associations.

In collaboration with United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP), UCLG ASPAC has promoted sustainable solid waste management through projects such as “Pro-poor and sustainable waste management in secondary cities and small towns” and the “Integrated Resource Recovery Center.” These projects have broadened UCLG ASPAC scope of work in assisting local governments in dealing with current and emerging challenges of development in the Asia-Pacific region.

Since 2014, we have partnered with the United Nations Institute for Training and Research - UNITAR CIFAL Jeju - in developing joint programs including capacity development and training activities in the areas of culture and disaster risk reduction.

The partnership with CityNet provided big opportunities to share significant points of common interest to support cities and local-governments in Asia-Pacific with their urban development and management efforts.

These are just some of the key institutions and partnerships that have contributed to continuing and sustainable impacts of UCLG ASPAC programs and projects. It is important not only to nurture existing partnerships but also to further expand our networks and area of work to support our members.
DRIVING CHANGE FOR BETTER TOMORROW

UCLG ASPAC as the largest regional section of UCLG played its advocacy role in various events during 2016. From local focus group discussion up to global-level events, Preparatory Committee (PrepCom) 3 held in Surabaya (Indonesia) and the New Urban Agenda held in Quito (Ecuador). This was conducted as efforts to put global agenda of urban development into effective local implementation.

**Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): No One Left Behind**

- **Capacity building:** It should be conducted not only for local governments, but also CSOs and NGOs.
- **Participatory:** Involvement of various stakeholders is without question.
- **Integration:** Aligning SDGs with national plans is important. SDGs is not new for local governments. They can make adjustment of existing goals with local issues and priorities.
- **Governance:** There is a need of SDGs indicators, database, and benchmark in implementation.

**Summary of Discussion**

- Focus Group Discussion (FGD) was held by UCLG ASPAC as part of the enabling environment research on SDGs implementation carried out under the framework of Policy Forum on Development (PFD) of the European Union. UCLG ASPAC together with other regional sections and networks represents local Governments in PFD.

**Recommendations of APFSD**

- Support countries in implementing the 2030 Agenda, particularly countries with special needs, including through capacity development.
- Provide regional perspective on sustainable development agenda implementation, consolidate and share best practices and lessons learned.
- Support follow-up and review of progress on the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs at regional level.

**Regional Priorities for the Implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific**

- Prioritizing Children and Youth within the New Urban Agenda (NUA).
- Civic and Youth Participation in the Wired Age.
- Cities and the SDGs – Ensuring That No One is Left Behind.

**Conditions and identifying Actions**

- Inclusive Cities, Leave No Person and No Space Behind.
- Multilevel Policy for Stronger Intermediary Cities.
- Women Mayors Forum, advocating women’s role in local governance.

**Implementation of SDGs Commitment in Indonesia: Role of Civilians and Local Governments**

**Asia-Pacific towards the Post 2030 Agenda**

**Preparing for the New Urban Agenda**
**ADVOCACY AND CAPACITY BUILDING DURING THE CONGRESS**

- City and Local Government Enabling Environment Rating in Asia and the Pacific.
- Induction Session on Urban Planning for City Leaders Workshop.
- Leadership in New Urban Agenda.
- How can Governance Transform Urban Regeneration.
- Value of Culture in Urban Transformation.
- Session on Sinking Island.
- Learning for Localizing SDGs.
- Toward Sustainable Urbanization: Implementing the Sendai Framework.
- Sustainable Agriculture and Responsibility of Local Government.
- Regional Sustainable Development and Urban Innovation.
- Strength of Community Participation in Public Space Planning and Management.
- Enhancing City Resilience with Multiple Interventions.
- UN-Habitat’s Principles and Approaches for Sustainable Urban Development and Planning.

**RESULT:**

**Jeollabuk-do Declaration**

**CONNECTING SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL MOVEMENTS AND THE GLOBAL PROGRESSIVE FORUM (GPF)**

The roundtable discussion involved NGOs and covered the current and emerging challenges on social justice, sustainable growth, and social progress, etc. in Indonesia. It was an open discussion of key local players with the EU Members of Parliament.

**PARTNERSHIPS FOR SDGs IMPLEMENTATION**

- Adoption of the New Urban Agenda

**OUR GLOBAL CONNECTION CONDUCTED ADVOCACY AT PLENARY AND PARALLEL SESSIONS**

- UCLG ASPAC’s political representatives made contributions to the Second World Assembly of Local and Regional Governments and gave interventions at numerous local governments’ sessions.
- UCLG ASPAC produced the video on SDGs and the road map for local governments in localizing SDGs to raise awareness of members on SDGs and New Urban Agenda, in line with the slogan of “NO ONE LEFT BEHIND.”
AMCDRR 2016, as the first major event of the post-2015 development agenda, was held in New Delhi, India from 2-5 November 2016. UCLG ASPAC, in collaboration with United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR), organized the pre-conference stakeholder group session on “Boosting Local Authorities Actions to Implement the Sendai Framework” held on 2 November 2016.

**Highlights**

- 64 participants, including Mayors of Iriga City (Philippines), Nan City (Thailand), and Bihar State Minister (India), attended the pre-conference Local Authorities Stakeholder Group.
- The Minister of Disaster Management of Government of Bihar India, Professor Chandrasekar, reported the achievements from State of Bihar (India) in implementing Sendai Framework into Local DRR Roadmap.
- Mayor of Nan City shared his city’s experience in preventing and responding to flood. Nan City, located in the northern part of Thailand, has high intensity of precipitation and is prone to disasters such as landslide and flood.
- Mayor of Iriga City stated her city’s experience in preventing and responding to major disasters such as typhoons, floods, and earthquakes.

**Major Outcomes**

- UCLG ASPAC facilitated the preparation of the Statement of Action by Local Authorities Stakeholder Group which was submitted to this AMCDRR.
- Following the AMCDRR 2016, several cities and local governments have conducted immediate actions, including the “Local Implementation of the SFDRR: Making Cities Resilient (MCR) Campaign in the Philippines” led by the Mayor of Iriga City.

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UCLG ASPAC participated in the Asian Ministerial Conference for Disaster Risk Reduction 2018 (AMCDRR) which was organised by the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR) and the Government of Mongolia from 3 to 6 July 2018.

**Highlights**

- UCLG ASPAC organized one stakeholder consultation on 3 July and one side event on 5 July which were attended by more than 25 representatives of local governments from Asian cities such as Balikpapan City (Indonesia), Cilacap Regency (Indonesia), Faridpur Municipality (Bangladesh), Iriga City (Philippines), Kathmandu City (Nepal), Makati City (Philippines), and Ulaanbaatar (Mongolia).
- UCLG ASPAC organized a side event entitled “Localising SFDRR: City-to-City Sharing on AMCDRR Statement of Action and Making Cities Resilient Campaign (MCR) in Asia.”
- UCLG ASPAC played a strategic role as part of the drafting committee for 2018-2020 Action Plan (Local Authorities Representative).
- UCLG ASPAC led the stakeholder group meeting on Local Authorities for Ulaanbaatar declaration.
- Three cities, including Bengkulu (Indonesia), Faridpur (Bangladesh), and Iriga City (Philippines), presented lessons learnt and commitments undertaken on DRR based on the city’s experience in dealing with disaster. This stressed local leaders’ primary role to protect their citizens and the role of women leadership during disaster at local level.

**Major Outcomes**

- A local authority declaration agreed upon by local government leaders was adopted.
- The scorecard results from 50 cities in Asia could be used to plan the way forward in monitoring and stress the importance of localisation as the way to implement SFDRR.
- Action Plan 2018-2020 of the Asia Regional Plan for SFDRR Implementation and highlights the achievement of target “e” by 2020 (target e: increasing the number of countries and cities/local authorities with DRR plans and strategies) was prepared.
BUILDING STRONG AND SAFE CITIES AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

UCLG ASPAC has continuously fostered collaboration with various stakeholders. In 2017, UCLG ASPAC partnered with UNISDR to promote Disaster Risk Reduction and the Making Cities Resilient Campaign to assist 50 local governments in five disaster-prone countries (Indonesia, Philippines, Bangladesh, India, and Nepal) in assessing risk within their respective areas. The campaign was conducted through workshops in Jakarta, Makati, Dhaka, New Delhi, and Kathmandu. The workshops revealed resiliency level of cities in facing disaster. At the end of the workshop, UCLG ASPAC invited cities to sign up in the Making Cities Resilient Campaign for Disaster Risk Reduction in Surakarta, 23 November 2017. City signing up, Bengkulu, will get monitored by UNISDR in further assessing their development in city resiliency. Representative of each city identified gaps relating to governance and financial capacity. They also identified planning and preparation for disaster. Post-event recovery were identified in their local disaster policy by applying the Sendai framework QRE and disaster resilience score card.

1) MAKATI (PHILIPPINES) 29 July 2017
Makati | Iriga | Cabanatuan | Laoag | San Juan | Quezon | Paranaque | Pateros | Sorsogon (Tayabas) | and Tabaco

- Introduction on Making Cities Resilient Campaign.
- Practiced exercise on two tools: Quick Risk Estimation (QRE) and preliminary scorecard tool applied during the training.
- Presentation by Makati city representative: The city has the ability to deal with hazards and risks such as typhoon, earthquake, fire, and flood.
- Presentation by Iriga representative: Practice on scorecard shows their strength on profiling hazard and risk including capacity to build early warning response center for typhoon.
- Presentation by Kathmandu Disaster Management representative: The assessment scorecard and the result showed strength on essential number 4 (pursue urban development) and weakness on essential number 3 (financial capacity) and essential number 8 (increase infrastructure resilience).
- Other cities (Dharan, Dharche, and Kirtipur) faced similar condition.
- Banepa, Tarakeshwar, Birgunj are weak on essential number 1 (planning and strategy) in adopting Sendai Framework into DRR city plan.

2) KATHMANDU (NEPAL) 17 August 2017
Kathmandu | Budhanilkantha | Dharche | Kirtipur | Kageshwari | Chitwan | Tarakeshwar | Birgunj | Dharan | Kalinchowk | Banepa

- Presentation by Kathmandu Disaster Management representative: The assessment scorecard and the result showed strength on essential number 4 (pursue urban development) and weakness on essential number 3 (financial capacity) and essential number 8 (increase infrastructure resilience).
- Other cities (Dharan, Dharche, and Kirtipur) faced similar condition.
- Banepa, Tarakeshwar, Birgunj are weak on essential number 1 (planning and strategy) in adopting Sendai Framework into DRR city plan.

3) JAKARTA (INDONESIA) 24 – 25 August 2017
Banda Aceh | Surabaya | Solo | Jambi | Jakarta | Bogor | Yogyakarta (BPNB) | Cilacap | and Salatiga

Representative from National Disaster Mitigation Agency and Deputy Minister of Home Affairs for Disaster Mitigation and Prevention participated as observer and actively involved in the group work session particularly during scorecard and QRE exercise.
- Head of Banda Aceh BPBD: Based on scorecard result, Banda Aceh has good capacity in governance and understanding of its assets but still lack of financial capacity for resilience (essential number 3).
- Presentation by Jakarta representative: Resilience score 98 out of 141, indicating local government of Jakarta ensured effective disaster response and got involved in regular training programmes but lack of documented business continuity plan including insurance.

4) NEW DELHI (INDIA) 22 September 2017

Based on the Quick Risk Estimation (QRE) exercise, New Delhi Capital City region area is facing major hazard and risk problem on flood, heat wave, and earthquake.
- Overall resilience score of Shimla City is 96 out of 141 indicating their strengths in institutional capacity awareness and understanding of its assets but still lack behind on critical infrastructure city plan.
- In Central Delhi, scorecard result has indicated man-made disaster such as building collapse and terrorist attacks as major hazard but has not categorized haze and air pollution as major risks.

Md. Nurullah, Advisor of Municipal Association of Bangladesh (MAB) and Former Chief Executive Engineer of Dhaka South City Corporation shared that there are many activities in Bangladesh regarding disaster and these are ongoing development process.
- Representative from Cox’s Bazar Municipality, Faridpur Municipality, and Mongla Port Municipality were among active participants during the discussion on QRE and preliminary scorecard assessment.
- Representative from Faridpur municipality presented the QRE and preliminary scorecard result and the score was 63 out of 141 indicating the resilience level of Faridpur City is moderate and hazard was dominated by flood, storm, and other hydrological hazards such as strong wind. The government capacity tackling the risk and hazard is not in place.

5) DHAKA (BANGLADESH) 26 September 2017
Srimongal | Cox’s Bazar | Moulovibazar | Madaripur | Chandpur | Gopalganj | Nilphamari | Mymensing | Kakorhat | Kuakata | Mongla | Shariatpur | Netrokona | Faridpur | Kurigram | Khagrachari | Tongipara | Savar | and Dohar

- Presentation by Jakarta representative: Resilience score 98 out of 141, indicating local government of Jakarta ensured effective disaster response and got involved in regular training programmes but lack of documented business continuity plan including insurance.
- Representative from Cox’s Bazar Municipality, Faridpur Municipality, and Mongla Port Municipality were among active participants during the discussion on QRE and preliminary scorecard assessment.
- Representative from Faridpur municipality presented the QRE and preliminary scorecard result and the score was 63 out of 141 indicating the resilience level of Faridpur City is moderate and hazard was dominated by flood, storm, and other hydrological hazards such as strong wind. The government capacity tackling the risk and hazard is not in place.
Under the leadership of Jeju Governor Won Hee-ryong during his term as President, UCLG ASPAC and CIFAL Jeju signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) which outlines the collaboration on capacity building development. Key areas were on culture and disaster risk reduction and management.

**UCLG ASPAC AND UNITAR CIFAL JEJU TRAINING HIGHLIGHTS**

- MoU was signed between UCLG ASPAC and UNITAR CIFAL Jeju in 2015 for providing Capacity Development Training among LGs member in Asia Pacific
- Training on Culture with Jeju International Training Centre (UNITAR CIFAL Jeju) and Jeju Special Self-Governing Province, 2015 - 2017
- Training on Disaster Risk Reduction & Management with UNITAR CIFAL Jeju and Jeju Special Self-Governing Province, May - June 2017
- Training on Disaster Risk Reduction & Management with UNITAR CIFAL Jeju and UNISDR GETI-ONE, July - August 2018
- Training on Culture and sustainable Tourism with UNITAR CIFAL Jeju in Conjunction with UCLG ASPAC Congress, September 2018

Culture has been one of the primary advocacies of Governor Won Hee-ryong. In November 2015, Governor Won officially launched the UCLG ASPAC Culture Committee during the Culture Workshop in Jeju. The committee was envisioned to lead international culture exchanges in the Asia-Pacific. The establishment of the Committee was proposed at the 1st World Culture Summit in March 2015 and approved during the UCLG ASPAC Executive Bureau Meeting in April 2015.

"**CULTURE IS BECOMING MORE RECOGNIZED AS FUNDAMENTALLY IMPORTANT TO THE ENRICHMENT OF LIFE. IT IS CLOSELY LINKED TO BOTH THE LOCAL ECONOMY AND IDENTITY OF A REGION. OUR LIFE IS CULTURE.**

Governor Won Hee-ryong, Immediate Past President, UCLG ASPAC (2014-2018)
In pursuit of long-term sustainability of urban transport system, the Local Government Transport Officer Forum (LGOTF) was established in September 2015. The forum is an outcome of the Sustainable Mobility Workshop which was organized in collaboration with the Seoul Human Resource Development Center. The workshop highlighted the success story of Seoul Metropolitan Government in reorganizing its public transport system, giving more benefits to passengers while using public transport.

The forum was established by UCLG ASPAC and 14 representatives from Indonesian local governments. The first meeting of LGOTF was held in March 2016 in Salitaga City, Indonesia which featured Dr. Gyeng-Chul Kim, UCLG ASPAC Special Advisor for Transportation and Dr. Dai Wei, Chief Engineer of Guangzhou Transport Planning and Research Institute. Participants highly commended the relevance to the workshop to their operational work, quality of speaker and facilitator, learning from the discussions, and overall design and facility of the workshop.

“We DISCUSSED OTHER CITIES’ EXPERIENCE AND LESSONS LEARNED. IT WAS A VERY USEFUL EVENT TO ADDRESS TRANSPORT-RELATED PROBLEMS.”

Feedback of Mr. Engkos Zarkasyi Ahmad (Head of Transport Department, City of Tangerang) on the 1st LGTOF meeting in March 2016.
Converting organic waste into energy is now possible through the Intermediate Resource Recovery Center launched in Jambi in January 2018 and in Malang on April 2018. The facilities were developed under the Pro-Poor and Sustainable Solid Waste Management Project in partnership with UNESCAP.

IMPLEMENTING CHANGE

In partnership with various institutions, UCLG ASPAC has been implementing programs and projects that have made significant contributions to the improvement of the environment and governance of cities and local governments across the region. These are the Pro-Poor and Sustainable Solid Waste Management Project, Municipal Sanitation Policy Advocacy Project, Global Covenant of Mayors on Energy and Climate Change, Localise SDGs, and Public Space Program.

PRO-POOR AND SUSTAINABLE SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PROJECT

To overcome the problems that arise from poor sanitation in Nepal and Bangladesh, the Municipal Sanitation Policy Advocacy Project is being implemented to strengthen and capacitate local government associations. To date, 10 pilot municipalities have already been selected. This project is in partnership with the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

MUNICIPAL SANITATION POLICY ADVOCACY PROJECT

Converting organic waste into energy is now possible through the Intermediate Resource Recovery Center launched in Jambi in January 2018 and in Malang on April 2018. The facilities were developed under the Pro-Poor and Sustainable Solid Waste Management Project in partnership with UNESCAP.
Local governments are now taking voluntary actions to combat climate change through the Global Covenant of Mayors on Energy and Climate Change (GCoM). Cities are provided with training and technical assistance as well as platform for common reporting framework on the greenhouse gases (GHG) inventory and development of Climate Action Plan. Training on “Setting Emission Reduction Target and Development of Climate Action Plan” has been implemented in 5 cities (Kuala Lumpur, Gwangju, Jakarta, Surabaya, Hanoi) within 2018.

**LOCALISE SDGs**

Localisation of global agenda is key to its successful implementation. Indonesian local governments and associations have strengthened capacities in localising the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) under the Localise SDGs program. To date, 13 local training on SDGs have been conducted where 524 local government officers and local stakeholders benefitted. Localising SDGs is being implemented in collaboration with several institutions namely:

- Bappenas, Ministry of Home Affairs (MoHA), Public Administration Institute (Lembaga Administrasi Negara), GIZ, SMERU Research Institute, Center for Indonesia’s Strategic Development Initiatives (CISDI), and Philanthropy Indonesia.

**PUBLIC SPACE PROGRAM**

Several milestones have been achieved in terms of public space. A key element is the use of participatory approach in the design process to allow the community to take ownership of the public space. Pedestrian ways and street intersection have been upscaled in Wolter Monginsidi Street Regency of Sidoarjo. The Gedung Wayang Orang Siwedari (Traditional Javanese Opera Building) in Surakarta was revitalized in 2017. “Cak Markeso” Community Culture Center in Surakarta was launched in July 2018 in conjunction with PrepCom3 Habitat III. Two other projects, the Tanah Kali Kendinding Community Park and Creative Public Space Ex-Incinerator Keputih, are currently in different phases of construction.

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.

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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~
FOSTERING COOPERATION IN THE ASIA-PACIFIC REGION

UCLG ASPAC COMMITTEES: HIGHLIGHTS OF THEIR ACTIVITIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS

STANDING COMMITTEE OF SOUTH AND SOUTHWEST ASIA
• Since 2013, the Standing Committee has fostered its engagement and support, also through the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC).
• In 2018, UCLG ASPAC Congress endorsed the position paper SAARC Collaboration with “Local Governments in the South Asia.
• Major event held under the Standing Committee’s support include: the International Conference on Local Governments, the 3rd and 4th South Asian Cities Summit.
• Advocacy and capacity-building activities included: SDGs Localization Training, Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction Workshop, Women Leadership, and Gender Equality Training.
• To enhance support in the region, a plan to set up UCLG ASPAC Office in Islamabad has been developed.

STANDING COMMITTEE OF SOUTHEAST ASIA
• Originated in 2010, the Standing Committee has become a driving engine for local governments’ collaboration in Southeast Asia.
• Plays crucial role in the development of the ASEAN Mayors Forum (AMF), formed in 2014 and has convened every year since.
• In 2018, AMF was officially accredited to ASEAN, marking a key milestone in the Standing Committee’s advocacy for local governments at the regional level.
• Peer-learning activities have been conducted. Beneficiary cities included those from Cambodia, Lao PDR, Thailand, Malaysia, and Viet Nam.

STANDING COMMITTEE OF WOMEN IN LOCAL GOVERNMENTS
• Established with the aim of strengthening women participation and representation in local governments, the Standing Committee has been advocating for gender equality, while conducting activities to promote the integration of gender perspectives in local development.
• Key activities conducted by the Standing Committee included: Regional Consultation on Mainstreaming Strategies and Good Practices for Gender Responsive Local Governance towards Habitat III; the 6th Asia Pacific Urban Forum Parallel Session on Safer Cities and Public Spaces for Women’s Empowerment; and a High-Level Regional Meeting for Habitat III Side Event entitled “Engendering the New Urban Agenda – Strategies and Recommendation for Gender Equality and Women Empowerment in Local Governance”.
• During the 6th UCLG ASPAC Congress, the Standing Committee called on local governments to establish a unit specifically focusing women and gender issues.
• During the 7th UCLG ASPAC Congress, the outcomes of the Gender Equality and Women Empowerment Training, conducted by the All India Institute of Local Self-Government (AIILSG) with UCLG ASPAC’s support, were presented.
COMMITTEE ON THE 21ST CENTURY MARITIME COOPERATION

- Established in 2017 by the Chinese People’s Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries (CPAFFC) and Fuzhou Municipal People’s Government, the Committee aims to promote cooperation on marine economy, marine conservation, waterway security, ports, and disaster prevention.
- In May 2018, the Committee convened its 1st General Assembly, which entailed a series of discussions and knowledge sharing events. Outcomes of the meeting contributed to the identification of the Committee’s future activities, to be supported by UCLG ASPAC.
- At the 7th UCLG ASPAC Congress, the Committee reported on the implementation of the workplan which include: 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 the Launch of the Committee’s official website and WeChat official account.

COMMITTEE ON BELT AND ROAD LOCAL COOPERATION (BRLC)

- Led by Hangzhou City, the Committee was formed in 2017 to support the Belt and Road Initiative implementation, through its support for collaboration at the local level.
- Two major events were conducted in 2018 namely: E-Commerce Training Workshop and the BRLC Overseas Chinese New Media Forum.
- Also in 2018, the Committee organized a Computing Conference Observation. Under the theme “Empower Digital China,” the conference brought together world’s leading experts to discuss the latest trends on digital technology and how it can enhance the cities and quality of life.

COMMITTEE ON CULTURE

- Established in 2015 by the Jeju Special Self-Governing Province, the Committee has been active in promoting culture as one of the pillars of sustainable development.
- Several activities have been conducted to foster cultural networks and exchanges, with a particular focus on youth.
- Major events conducted under the Committee’s auspices are: 1st Collaborative Culture in Local Planning (2016), 2nd UCLG Culture Summit (2017), and UCLG Global Youth Culture Forum (2018).
1.3 ENSURE WOMEN REPRESENTATION AT THE EXECUTIVE BUREAU AND COUNCIL OF UCLG ASPAC AND UCLG

UCLG ASPAC has less representation of women mayors and councilors at the World Council. As one of the regional sections with the lowest women representation, UCLG ASPAC has to raise its percentage in the next term of the World Council. In the Executive Bureau (ExBu) Meeting held in Colombo in 2013, it was proposed and agreed that at least one of Co-Presidents of UCLG ASPAC should be woman.

ROLE OF LGAs

Assessment of the state of play of the local government associations in Asia-Pacific countries was conducted as part of the global research led by UCLG World. UCLG ASPAC supported the study by providing regional view of Asia-Pacific as well as mobilizing members to join the online survey.

TARGETS

- Establish and strengthen LGAs in countries to build effective democratic self-governments.
- Increase representation of UCLG ASPAC members at the UCLG ExBu and Council as well as in the Committees of UCLG World.
- Increase number of women representations at UCLG ExBu and Council to at least 30 percent by 2020.
- UCLG ASPAC members’ active participation at the UNACLA of Habitat and Policy Forum on Development of the European Commission.
- Significant presence of UCLG ASPAC at the key platforms/forums in the region, such as the Committee Session of UNESCAP and the Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction.

7 ELEMENTS OF ANALYSIS

These elements were drawn based on LGA toolkits prepared by IULA, VNG and other supporting partners, and were defined into specific elements of indicators.

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<td>Strategic management</td>
<td>General assembly</td>
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<td>Financial administration and management</td>
<td>Capacity building</td>
<td>Type and character of information disseminated</td>
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List of Associations Surveyed

| ACVN | ADDCN | AIILSG | APEKSI | FSLGA | LCAP | LCP | LCA-KPK |
| Association of Cities of Vietnam | Association of District Development Committees of Nepal | All India Institute of Local Self-Government | Indonesian Municipalities Association | Federation of Sri Lankan Local Government Authorities | Local Council Association of the Punjab | League of Cities of the Philippines | Pakistan Local Councils Associations of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa |
| LMP | MuAN | MAB | MuN | NLC | NLC/S | NACPC | NMLT |

*FROM SURVEY CONDUCTED IN 2015
Rapid urbanization in Asia Pacific has resulted in a high demand of provision of basic services in municipalities. Poor and marginalized citizens are often being disregarded and less prioritized due to various factors. Enhancing the provision and services of basic services can improve the quality of environment thus bringing significant impact to the citizens of life.

2.1 WATER AND SANITATION
Cities and local governments in Asia Pacific have been facing challenges to provide more access to water, waste, and sanitation. Lack of resources becomes the main reason hindering local governments to increase investment on its infrastructure. Cooperation with other stakeholders has been made in the scheme of public and private partnership as an effort to deal with the current limitation.

UCLG ASPAC will look for innovation of financing approach for better services delivery on water, waste, and sanitation. 3Rs programs are being disseminated to increase the value of waste in the municipalities.

2.2 PUBLIC SPACES
Public spaces play vital roles in the social and economic life of the community. It can foster social ties, shape the cultural identity, and provide a sense of place for local communities. It also can improve the environment thus bringing more opportunity to attract investment from business. However, the provision of public spaces is hindered by the availability of land particularly in cities. Promoting the public spaces in cities and local governments is therefore needed to have more balance of environment for the citizens.

2.3 TRANSPORTATION
Traffic congestion, particularly in cities, result to the inefficiency of energy and resources. Countless hours and billions of dollars’ worth of fuel and productivity are lost in traffic jams every year. In addition, it also brings pollution that can cause health problems among the city’s population. The bad transportation also causes number of accidents resulting in hundreds of deaths and injuries in a daily occurrence.

UCLG ASPAC promotes the improvement of public transportation in order to reduce private vehicles and issues of congestion. Safety elements of transportation are also considered to ensure the efficiency of the services.

TARGETS
- 3R programs are implemented in several municipalities.
- Gradually increased for the maximum of 10% of public spaces in members.
- Waste segregation is mainstreamed in local policy.
- Improve public transportation and its facility.

The proportion of people without access to safe drinking water in Asia Pacific has declined from 17.8 to 6.3 between 2000 and 2015. However, progress varies across the sub-regions with East and Northeast Asia (ENEA) making the most progress while North and Central Asia (NCA) and the Pacific has comparatively least progress.

Source: UNESCAP SDG 06 Baseline Report 2016
MANIFESTO # 3

BUILD RESILIENT CITIES AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

Building resilient cities and local governments is crucial due to various factors. Asia-Pacific region has a high frequency of natural disasters, calamities, i.e. earthquakes, floods, landslides, a big portion of slums and pocket of poverty which are mostly located in vulnerable areas, high number of deaths caused by traffic accidents, an increase of crimes in urban areas, and many others that need to be dealt with to build resilient local governments and society.

3.1 NATURAL DISASTER RISK REDUCTION

Cities and local governments are to invest on DRR by integrating DRR in overall planning and implementation. They may create the task force on DRR for much better coordination and effectiveness amongst departments.

UCLG ASPAC will also engage actively in the Task Force on Disaster Management which UCLG has created as part of the Capacity Building Committee. It will also launch the Awards towards Resilient Cities and Local Governments.

3.2 URBAN SAFETY

Approximately 1.3 million people are killed and 50 million people injured on roads around the world every year, where Asia shows an increasing number of fatalities. It is predicted that the number will be doubled by 2020. This situation imposes huge economic costs (1 and 3 percent of GDP in most countries). Crashes are largely preventable. The situation is worse as majority of deaths involve young people.

Furthermore, the number of crimes has been increasing. Promoting safety from crimes will be needed to protect the lives of people, especially women, children, and young generation.

3.3 SOCIAL AND HEALTH RESILIENT

Local governments provide health service to their people. However, very often they focus more on the downstream, providing medical facilities and clinics, but not the upstream (or prevention). If they do not address the prevention component, it is believed the local governments will need to spend much extra funds to cover the insurance. In recent situation, spread of epidemic cause by water, air and soil pollution due to weak enforcement of clean and green industry cause people to suffer. Unhealthy and contaminated food eaten by children and students have received less attention.

UCLG ASPAC will look at social and health resilient programs, by connecting education and health departments for healthy consumption food. Freedom from air, water, and soil pollution will be explored by engaging various departments responsible for environment, industry, agriculture, spatial planning, land use, and transport.

Urban transport challenges include shortage of basic mobility infrastructure and low mobility for most residents. An increase in private vehicles may address mobility but contributes to congestion and pollution. The likelihood of road death and pollution is high particularly in cities with low mobility. There is a clear need for sustainable urban transport in cities.

ROAD DEATHS AND NOXIOUS POLLUTANT EMISSIONS FROM URBAN TRANSPORT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CITY GROUP</th>
<th>DEATHS PER BILLION VEHICLE KM</th>
<th>DEATHS PER 100,000 PEOPLE</th>
<th>POLLUTANT (KG) PER KM OF VEHICLE TRAVEL</th>
<th>POLLUTANT (KG) PER CAPITA</th>
<th>POLLUTANT (KG) URBAN HECTARE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Asian Low-Mobility</td>
<td>105</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>078</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>14.703</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian Traffic-Saturated</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>025</td>
<td>127</td>
<td>8.289</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian Transit Cities</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>014</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>4.428</td>
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<tr>
<td>Auto-Dependent Australasian</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>021</td>
<td>145</td>
<td>5.173</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

MANIFESTO # 4

SUSTAINABLE GREEN ECONOMY

4.1 PROMOTE ECONOMIC CREATIVITY

Local governments have been competing (in positive term) to improve their image through local economic creative industry and cultural activities. Cultural activities for identity purposes, revitalization of urban center, identification and enhancement of local economic strengths, and zoning are approaches that have been successfully carried out by local governments.

UCLG ASPAC will focus on its local economic creativity as part of revenue generation for local governments and the people. Local economic creativity can be enhanced through best-practices sharing, vocational training programs, and policy for giving incentive to small and medium-size entrepreneurs. Through these approaches, UCLG ASPAC will also be able to promote faster cooperation and/or integration at the sub-regional level, including within ASEAN.

4.2 ESTABLISH TERRITORY COLLABORATIVE GOVERNANCE FOR SELF-SUFFICIENT RESOURCE

Limited or lessening resource will require local governments to establish territory collaborative governance with their surrounding municipalities and participation of different stakeholders. Territory governance is needed to ensure the comprehensive and integrated planning, better coordination and implementation of such plans. Territory governance and planning will take into account linkages between urban, peri-urban, and rural areas. Several examples from Europe and/other regions may be useful information and can be transferred to the Asia-Pacific region.

4.3 RESOURCE MOBILIZATION AND PROMOTE COOPERATION WITH PRIVATE COMPANIES

Cities and local governments, especially in developing countries, very often lack financing in providing basic infrastructure and services to their constituents. Resource mobilization through borrowings, cooperation with private companies, and effective tax collection system are some methods to be explored to meet high financial demand for infrastructure costs.

UCLG ASPAC, with its strategic partners, can assist in leveraging creditworthiness of cities and local governments through training, institutional and regulatory framework setting, and fund accessible assessment. It can also facilitate cooperation with private companies and raise awareness on risks and opportunities aiming for sustainable solutions. Possible cooperation with private companies is widely opened in various sectors, such as water supply, zero waste, etc.

TARGETS

- Increase revenue in local governments.
- Establish local economic creative policy and programs resulting to an increased level of investment.
- Participation of private companies in basic infrastructure investment.
Put Global/Regional Agendas and National Commitment into Effective Local Implementation

5.1. Localizing Post 2015 Development Agenda, Habitat III and Hyogo Framework for Action 2

UCLG ASPAC has been engaged in the Global Task Force on Localizing Post 2015 Development Agenda initiated by UCLG World, UNDP, UNHABITAT and others, and provided inputs to the consultations. Engagement of local governments in the earliest stage as possible is expected to raise their ownership and commitment on local implementation of the Post 2015 Agenda. UCLG ASPAC will incorporate other global agendas as reflecting in Habitat III and Hyogo Framework for Action 2 (HFA2) or Sendai Framework for Action on Disaster Risk Reduction.

5.2. Climate Change

UCLG ASPAC will continue to tackle climate change at the local level. Cities and local governments need to put plans and strategies in place, targeting GHGs’ reduction in major sectors such as transportation, waste initiative, buildings and industries, sustainable consumption, renewable energy and energy efficiency improvement, as well as marine conservation (applies to islands). As for waste, based on a 2007 report, Asia Pacific untreated solid wastes contribute as much as 75 billion tons of carbon dioxide to the atmosphere every year.

Climate change adaptation, especially in vulnerable areas, including small islands, drought, coastal and hilly areas has been addressed. These will be incorporated with DRR.

5.3. Capacitate Local Government Associations for Understanding Global/Regional Agendas

Strengthening LGAs will always be the priority of UCLG ASPAC in order to build their capacity as an important bridge between local and national governments. They will be capacitated to enable them to interpret global agenda into local actions. Local governments’ inputs, opinions, and views will be gathered for the attention of national governments for an effective lobby with them. Close cooperation will be enhanced with department(s) in charge of international cooperation.

UCLG ASPAC will remain active in building stronger LGAs and assisting national governments in creating LGA in needed countries.

TARGETS

• Climate change plans and strategies in place.
• Disaster action developed.
• Voluntarily commitment of local governments to the global/regional agendas.
• LGAs have proper strategies for interpreting global agenda into local actions.
• Regular meetings of LGAs and their members in discussing the global/regional agendas.

SNAPSHOT OF SDG PROGRESS IN 2017: ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

Progress Made since 2000  Progress needed to achieve target in 2030  Regressed since 2000

1. No poverty
2. Zero hunger
3. Good health and well-being
4. Quality education
5. Gender equality
6. Clean water and sanitation
7. Affordable and clean energy
8. Decent work and economic growth
9. Industry, innovation and infrastructure
10. Reduced inequalities
11. Sustainable cities and communication
12. Responsible consumption and production
13. Climate action
14. Life below water
15. Life on land
16. Peace, justice and strong institutions

Source: UNESCAP Asia-Pacific SDG Progress Report 2017
OVERCOMING CHALLENGES TO MAKE US STRONGER

UCLG ASPAC has faced some challenges in implementing the Manifesto: Strategic Plan 2015-2020. Despite an increase of revenue (mostly from external donors) since 2014, lack of resource particularly due to unpaid membership fees has still been identified as a challenge. Furthermore, while expansion of the Secretariat continues, it has given another challenge on how to minimize the high turnover of staff members.

Participation of members particularly from Least Developed Countries (LDCs) in UCLG ASPAC’s activities depends mostly on availability of sponsorship. Such dependency has caused uneven geographical distribution of participation. There is also less involvement given the low percentage of members from Pacific sub-region.

As for low percentage of women in the membership of statutory body of UCLG ASPAC, there is a need for the organization to reach more women leaders and councilors. Stigma on traditional/cultural beliefs that put them as incompetent or incapable has to be removed. Strategies to reach them and get them exposed need to be developed and implemented.

LGAs, as members of UCLG ASPAC, can help ensure the outreach of women in local governments and conduct the inventory on their existence and set up the women committee in each LGA if required.

There are many external challenges that hinder the local governments to perform well. Limited enabling environment due to different level of decentralization in the countries, lack of capacity of local governments in planning and managing the cities/regions, shortage of resource to implement programs and projects, are a few to mention. In spite of huge challenges, UCLG ASPAC sees opportunities in development of its members, through peer-to-peer learnings, technological transfer, and solidarity in spirit that makes Asia and the Pacific a resilient society.

GEARING TOWARDS 2020 & BEYOND

UCLG ASPAC, through its Manifesto: Strategic Plan 2015-2020, has made the first attempt to spell out the long-term plan since the organization’s establishment in 2004. UCLG ASPAC has implemented the Manifesto to some extent as described in this publication. The progress has been made, such as stronger Secretariat, united voice of local governments, capacitated members, and shared and transferred knowledge and expertise. For further impact, local projects were implemented.

Despite the progress, there are still challenges that need to be minimized. UCLG ASPAC therefore requires its effort to optimize the competitive advantage that the Asia and the Pacific has. These include rapid growth in technology, demographic benefit with high portion of youth in productive age, and rapid urbanization which should be seen as opportunity with an increase number of small and medium-size cities.

UCLG ASPAC needs to develop its purposes and strategies towards 2020 and beyond by capturing the opportunities and maximizing its potency as the largest regional section of UCLG. The plan to create the Committee on “Youth and Adolescents” in UCLG ASPAC can be good potency to promote child-friendly cities and engage young people in development.

Transfer of technology to help improve service delivery of cities and local governments should be explored intensively for local application. Capacity building through face-to-face and/or virtual activities (such as webinar, on-line training, etc.) are carried out through strong support from members and relevant partners.

As UCLG has integrated culture as forth pillar of sustainable development, cities and local governments should capture and discover their traditional values and identify their uniqueness to support their local economic creativity policies and strategies for the benefits of the society.

UCLG ASPAC was formed with strong spirit of city and/or local diplomacy, in which cooperation among local governments and people-to-people interaction, is feasible. Reflection is needed to see whether development applied by UCLG ASPAC focuses on “human”. Strategies and activities that promotes human-centred development should be enhanced to ensure that “No one will be left behind.”
To ensure UCLG ASPAC’s responsiveness to the needs of local governments and their associations across Asia-Pacific, especially in their efforts to pursue sustainable development, the first ever Retreat was organised under the theme “Enhancing the United Voice of Cities and Local Governments in Meeting the Global Challenges.”

The event was held in Guangzhou, China from 7 to 8 December 2018 and brought together 40 participants including representatives from various cities in 7 countries as well as partner organisations such as UNESCAP, UN-Habitat and the National University in Australia.

The opening ceremony was presided by UCLG ASPAC President Tri Rismaharini, Mayor of Surabaya City Government; Co-President Song Jingwu, Vice President of the Chinese People’s Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries; and Co-President Ashok Kumar, Mayor of Dhulikhel Municipality. In her introductory remarks, UCLG ASPAC Secretary General Dr. Bernadia Irawati Tjandradewi emphasized that “This Retreat is an important occasion for all of us to candidly analyse the challenges we are facing in our work. By taking stock of what we have accomplished so far under the Manifesto, a strategic guideline for UCLG ASPAC work in 2015-2020, we will also define our way forward together.”

During the two-day Retreat, participants identified UCLG ASPAC’s strengths that should be further leveraged. These include UCLG ASPAC’s unique and strategic position, as the institution is gaining more and more prominence due to the significance of its work vis-à-vis the Global Agenda and the worldwide movement for decentralization to achieve SDGs. Participants also called on UCLG ASPAC to reinforce its role as a facilitator of network and cooperation. In this regard, UCLG ASPAC President Tri Rismaharini, the Mayor of Surabaya City, proposed during her participation in the group exercise that “I wish to see UCLG ASPAC fostering even stronger partnership with its members through various forms of joint activities. The collaboration can also be clustered into key thematic areas such as the promotion of Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) or protection of people living in hostile areas.”

Towards the end of the Retreat, the participants outlined their expectations on UCLG ASPAC’s future work where they would like the organization to scale up its services in order to: strengthen cooperation with LGAs, increase city-to-city cooperation, broaden areas of collaboration, promote members’ inclusive participation in UCLG ASPAC’s activities, enhance members’ ability to conduct policy advocacy, foster linkages between national governments LGs/LGAs, strengthen partnership with regional bodies such as ASEAN and SAARC, enhance membership in the Pacific, and facilitate closer communications among members.
Participants of the retreat were guided to discuss three critical areas, namely: i) key benefits considered to be important; ii) their expectations of the organization; and iii) particular challenges experienced in their cities or locales. As such, three groups were formed who brainstormed on each of the three areas while note takers collected group ideas on provided cards. Appointed presenters from each group shared the result of their discussion with consolidated outcomes captured below.

**Emerging themes:**

- Cooperation, city-to-city collaboration and exchange of good practice.
- Knowledge and capacity development to help members do their work better.
- Policy advocacy on the roles of LGs/LGAs, their work and needed support.
- Online Virtual Support.
- Overseas promotion, including international branding.

**Benefit expectations, Challenges and Solutions**

**RESULT**

**MEMBER BENEFITS FROM GROUP DISCUSSION**

- Innovation
- Transfer/Sharing
- Support Women Leadership
- Promotion of Peace
- People to People Collaboration
- Enhancing LGAs
- Facilitation on Investment and Trade
- E-Platform for Knowledge Sharing
- Visitaton Exchange, Incl Multicultural Programs
- Partnership with National Gov.
- Expert Working Group
- Hosting Event Opportunities
- International Engagement, Incl UN
- Visitation Exchange, Incl Multicultural Programs

**EXPECTEDATIONS SHARED FROM GROUP DISCUSSION**

**Emerging themes:**

- Catalyst for Change: UCLG ASPAC is to act as a catalyst for change resulting in better improvement of local governments and their constituencies.
- Support LGAs: Need for strong of Local Government Associations (LGAs) and their establishment in areas where LGAs are not yet present.
- Increase and Sustain International Cooperation: It is to increase and sustain the level of city-to-city cooperation. The areas of cooperation and collaboration can be broadened, i.e. disaster prevention/response, trade and economics, people-to-people connections, gender equality, and/or peace promotion.
- Have Inclusive Members’ Participation: Participation of members in UCLG ASPAC activities need to be inclusive.
- Members’ ability to conduct policy advocacy can be strengthened.
- Enhance Relationship with National Governments and Regional Bodies: UCLG ASPAC is expected to have much stronger relations with national governments in member countries and partnership with regional bodies i.e. SAARC and ASEAN.
- Improve Networking through ICT: UCLG ASPAC is expected to provide further knowledge exchanges and capacity development via ICT.
- Act as Clearing House: UCLG ASPAC is to enhance member directory to facilitate their direct communications. Clean and comprehensive information on UCLG ASPAC’s website should be made available. UCLG ASPAC’s support in authenticating peer reviews/reports is needed.
Emerging themes:

- **Lack of Human / Financial Resources**: While finance should not be regarded as a critical issue, there is a need to improve the situation of membership fee payment. UCLG ASPAC can address this issue through increase of engagements with members, so they feel more connected. This can be done through flagship programs. Priority areas such as Climate Change can be surveyed among members. There is also a need to identify the potential to be expertise providers or receivers.

- **Inability of Local Officials to Participate**: There are some limitations to the participation of local governments in UCLG ASPAC activities, including bureaucratic red tapes, language barriers, change of leadership, and lack of political commitment or national government’s support. It was noted, however, that compared with the European context there is more flexibility in UCLG ASPAC in terms of political structure that should enable broad participation of local governments in the region.

- **Lack of Local Government Associations in Rural Areas**: LGAs are currently concentrated in cities. Some countries where majority of the population are still in rural areas need LGAs. We need to focus on building and supporting LGAs especially in rural areas to represent these people since their livelihood is very much linked to city development.

Emerging themes:

- **Products and Services**: There is a need to link services with membership fees of UCLG ASPAC. Suggestions included the continuation and enhancement of city-to-city cooperation and knowledge hub.

- **Promotion of UCLG ASPAC**: This can be done in partnership with active members and strong local governments associations that already have extensive reach of their members.

- **Place**: Due to limited resources and diversity in Asia-Pacific, there is a need to clearly define where to provide specific UCLG ASPAC products and services.

- **Process**: This category is equated to members’ ability to access benefits from UCLG ASPAC’s information and service products.

- **People**: There is a need to find a mechanism or methodology where we can reach out UCLG ASPAC members particularly in remote areas.

- **Projects**: It is important to have important of active and strategic engagements, use appropriate tools such as satisfaction survey, and have a program to retain current members and attract new ones.

- **Payment**: The sentiment is that if members receive high quality services and are satisfied, they will settle their fees.