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CALENDAR OF
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PEOPLE, PLANET, AND GOVERNMENT FOR SUSTAINABLE FUTURE





Dear Valued Members and Partners,

I am happy to greet you again in this second half of 2022. This moment is extraordinary as our region hosts the 7th UCLG World Summit of Local and Regional Leaders. I congratulate the City of Daejeon for the initiative to take the spirit of collaboration spirit to a higher level. In celebrating the world's biggest gathering of local governments taking place in our region, I invite all of us to reflect on three essential things embodied in this grand gathering.

People. Putting people at the heart of our action means acknowledging feminist leadership of by men and women alike. Acknowledging this principle not only means ensuring it is grounded on decision and action; but further, it underlies the overall framework. Decisions and actions are only a reflection of principles that we embody.

Planet. Transforming vision to preserve nature and environment is urgently needed to address climate change. We shall have a commitment to go far beyond business as usual and address urgent and long-term challenges, including local resilience. In rejuvenating the local economy, we promote sustainable, inclusive, and environmentally aware models of production and consumption.

Government. We are now in a global context with emerging and interconnected crisis. But, we are also in an unprecedented moment that allows us to start pivoting, and making innovative transformation that goes beyond business as usual in tackling challenges.

As we reflect on the three essential components above, we can see that challenges come with opportunities. The more we commit for to transformation, the more our contribution and legacy will be. I invite you all to use this global dialogue as a momentum to renew our commitment to our constituencies.

Mayor Ashok
President, UCLG ASPAC
President, Municipal Association of Nepal
Mayor, Dhulikhel Municipality



Dear readers,

Entering the last phase of the year 2022, many occasions allow us to further support cities and local governments, make their voices louder, and complete what we started. We summed up some of them below.

UCLG ASPAC, co-hosted with Smart Change Jakarta and organised the U20 Mayors Summit Side Event: "Digital Governance in Accelerating Sustainable Development and Climate Resiliency." Together with PWDC and UN-Habitat, we also advocated the integration of gender-responsive and participatory budgeting (GRBP). There were a series of activities promoting the GRBP, including the Asia-Pacific Mayors Dialogue, and soon the capacity building in Kuala Lumpur. We are also proud to announce that our initiative to support Palu in their recovery efforts, funded by the Cités Unies France (CUF), has finally been completed. The completion of the public facility construction, conduct of learning activity, and foundation for the early warning system development were marked by an inauguration ceremony attended by hundreds of communities.

Our commitment to supporting local governments in Pakistan to localise the SDGs also progressed, covering the expansion of the collaboration, outreach, and capacity building. As for climate action, we continue leading the implementation of Climate Resilient and Inclusive Cities and playing the role of Secretariat of the Global Covenant of Mayors Southeast Asia, as well as the ASEAN Mayors Forum, building the knowledge and capacity of local governments, and spreading awareness to more cities. We also would like to congratulate the third batch of Mayors who completed the Asia-Pacific Mayors Academy. We hope the capacity-building activities can positively contribute to your city's development.

There are many plans ahead of us, including the Local Governments Regional Consultation in Brisbane as part of the Asia-Pacific Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction. Let us collaborate further to create a better and happier Asia and the Pacific community!

Dr. Bernadia Irawati Tjandradewi
Secretary General, UCLG ASPAC

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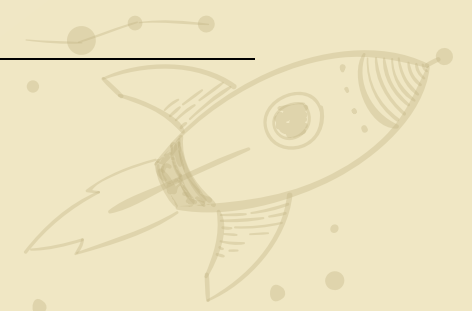
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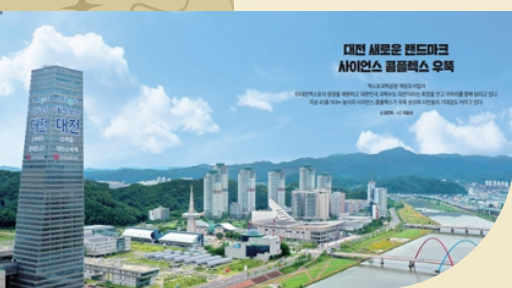
35 Calendar of Activities





Daejeon: Host of World Congress 2022

DAEJEON, the fifth largest metropolis in South Korea, is widely known as the country's Silicon Valley. It hosts 26 research institutes, seven educational institutes, and nine other research institutes. Daejeon is also named the “Hub of Transportation”, as the major expressways, national highways, and rapid-transit railways pass through the city and serve its 1.47 million people. After declaring the year of Visiting Daejeon from 2019 to 2021, it soon jumped into a leading tourist city. Hosting the 7th UCLG World Congress 2022, Daejeon is ready to welcome participants from all parts of the world with its great facility, culture, and warm hospitality.



Expo Tower

A New Landmark Science Complex is built in Daejeon in welcoming the hosting of the World Congress. A 193 metres tall tower, known as the Expo Tower was also built to commemorate the 1993 Daejeon Expo, a symbol of Daejeon's prosperity.



Studio Cube

Daejeon is also popular due to the rising Korean culture and it rapidly emerges as the centre of art and culture in Korea. Most of the filming of game scenes (including tug-of-war, dalgona challenge, and marble games) was done in 'Studio Cube', located in Daejeon. As Korea's largest filming mecca, Daejeon owns four general filming studios (one studio with a special facility, and a special-effects studio) located near Daejeon Convention Centre (DCC), where the 7th UCLG World Congress will be held.



The Expo Science Park

It is a theme park to succeed and commemorate the successful holding of the 1993 Daejeon World Expo. Located near the upcoming UCLG World Congress venue, you can enjoy the symbolic Hanbit Tower, Daejeon EXPO Memorial Hall, and World EXPO Memorial Museum.



O-World

It is the largest comprehensive theme park located in the southern area of the central region. Zoo Land, Flower Land, and Joy land are multi-thematic complexes that family members can enjoy all together.



Hanbat Arboretum

It is the largest man-made arboretum in Korea. It provides preservation of various plant species, educational space for youth, and a relaxing green area for citizens in the middle of the city.



Kalguksu (Knife Cut Noodle Soup)

If there is pasta in Italy, it is said that there is kalguksu in Daejeon. The Kalguksu Festival held in Daejeon is so popular that more than tens of thousands of citizens visit the festival annually. There are more than 1,500 kalguksu restaurants in Daejeon, which means you can find kalguksu anywhere you go in Daejeon. Kalguksu did not originate in Daejeon, but the city was an important hub for railway transportation in the 1960s, becoming the centre of flour distribution, thus ending up as one of the representative foods of Daejeon.



Tofu Duruchigi (Stir-Fried Spicy Tofu)

Tofu duruchigi may sound rather unfamiliar; while it is a representative food in Daejeon, it is difficult to find in other regions. The tofu is often served with kalguksu noodles or udon noodles to be enjoyed together.



Tteokbokki (Spicy Rice Cake)

Tteokbokki is loved by people of all ages as the representative food of Korea. Especially, the most famous Tteokbokki place in Daejeon is known for its exquisite sweet sauce, which is on sale for nationwide delivery service.



Feminist Leadership: Inclusive, Equal, More Sustainable Cities



Women make up more than 50% of the world s population ; but women and men are still far from parity.

The Transformative Commitment of Cities and Territories to Generation Equality Document by UCLG

WHEN talking about feminist leaders, general perception is for more and more women leading cities. However, feminist municipalism caters way beyond that. Based on The Transformative Commitment of Cities and Territories to Generation Equality Document (UCLG, July 2021), feminist municipalism aspires a new type of society. It involves bottom-up process and requires the existence of local leaders committing to equality and considers it as the only possible pathway. It also creates cities and territories that watch over their people and planet at the core of any agendas. The focus is to defend and strengthen provision of local public services, which are tailored to the needs of the most vulnerable to better serve all local people.

UCLG ASPAC has seen some great female city leaders to become the role models. Let’s take a look at what they have done and impacts they have contributed to the people, planet, and government.

Mayor Tri Rismaharini | Surabaya, Indonesia



Ms. Tri Rismaharini, or Ibu Risma, led the city of Surabaya from 2016 to 2020. She made transformation focusing on people and city; including development of local economy, contribution to climate action, and empowerment of people and vulnerable groups. At the end of 2020, she is appointed by the national government as the Social Minister. When introduced as the Minister Candidate, she specifically pointed out several programmes in Surabaya applicable at the national level. Let’s see how people empowerment principle is translated into various actions; including to vulnerable groups.

Economic Hero Programme

The Economic Hero or Pahlawan Ekonomi Programme is developed to further improve the economy of local people, by empowering women to provide additional income for family. City government collaborates with private sectors, independent consultants, community groups, and banking sectors; acts as facilitators; and relies on minimum budget as the collaborating partners use the Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) funding.

How the programme implemented and progress

Time Frame	Progress of Participants/Result
2010-2013 (Initial Planning Development)	➤ 1,976 SMEs
2013-Mid-2015 (Achievement Phase)	➤ 2,640 SMEs
2015-2020 (Transformation Phase)	
2016	➤ 3,600 SMEs
2017	➤ 8,565 SMEs
★ 1 Since 2010 to 2017, 99 products are sold to international market	
★ 2 105 products have national and ASEAN standard	
★ 3 999 independent products are produced on daily basis	

Village of Local Children Programme

Through the programme of Local Village Children or Kampung Anak Negeri, the local government of Surabaya reach out to street children, the homeless, and drop-outs. The local government has prepared a shelter so children without families can live there and still enjoy their rights: nutritious food, education, skill development, hobbies, and religious activities. The shelter also provides intense supervision from psychologists, military personnel, religious teachers, and tutors and equips them with simple skill development.

Result

From the first initiation in 2009, the programme has shown positive result. In 2019, Antara News recorded that children graduating from schools (and shelters) are with jobs and even there are children who have shown achievements in various sport activities, such as boxing and cycling in various local and regional competitions.

Empowerment Spirit in the National Level



To empower people with disabilities, the Social Ministry led by Ibu Risma, through Indonesia Mendengar (Indonesia Listen) and Indonesia Melihat (Indonesia See) programme provides hearing aids and phone that translates sound to words so that they can get access to information and be more independent. The Ministry also provides job opportunities, capacity building, and promotion channels (through entrepreneurship gallery “Sentra Kreasi Atensi”) as well as affordable housing.

Empowering people with disabilities has also been shown through the case of Gading Ogi Saputra, a teenage with double disabilities, who sells snacks and soft drinks for a living. With his wooden tricycle,

Gading earned USD33.6/day. The Social Ministry provided Gading with electric tricycle modified with his needs. With his new ride, Gading can now earn USD67/day and can even save USD20/day. The Ministry said the same tricycle has also been provided for other people with disabilities.

As for colleague students, Ms. Risma created Pejuang Muda/Young Warrior Programme. as a social laboratory for college students to make concrete social changes for the community. Through this category, college students will receive exclusive mentoring in each of the selected programmes: Development of Social Aid, Empowering the Poor and Elderlies, Healthy Lifestyle and Environment, and Facility for Public. They also receive funding/cash for their innovation, creativity, and impacts they contributed.



Mayor Rosy Senanayake | Colombo, Sri Lanka



“ I firmly believe that while men may be able to win seats with money and muscle power, women can stand up to them with transparency, hard work and by building a relationship with the people.

Mayor Rosy Senanayake | Colombo

From beauty pageant to Sri Lanka's political landscape, Mayor Rosy Senanayake has put a lot of hard work and achievements for the people of Colombo.

She made her way up from becoming an opposition in the Western Provincial Council, as the Chief Organiser for the United National Party's (UNP) Colombo West Electorate, as well as an activist and hosted a popular daytime television programme focusing on women's issue in Sri Lanka.

How far has Mayor Rosy brought improvement in Colombo?

- Distribution of Free Food to Low Income Families hit by COVID-19.
- Ensuring a Safe Urban Environment in the cooperation efforts and partnership such as with World Bank and the United Nations (UN).
- Active discussion for revitalisation of tourism related sector with the Sri Lanka Tourism Development Authority (SLTDA) as a part of her larger plan for Colombo city development.
- Building Air Quality Monitoring Station to provide valid data in carrying out various development and other activities in Colombo.

Mayor Sandra Hazlehurst | Hastings, New Zealand



“ Our city centre already has a stellar line-up of hospitality and retail businesses, and we know these exciting new additions in the Municipal Building will appeal to Hawke's Bay locals and visitors, and further enhance our great central city offering.

Mayor Sandra Hazlehurst | Hastings

Taking leadership in 2016, Mayor Sandra has made enormous efforts to ensure local people in Hastings get access to clean and safe water. She has also renewed some of iconic buildings in the area aiming for improved local economy.



Her well-known effort includes giving back local people access to clean and safe water, after the city was hit by the Havelock North water contamination back in 2016. For the last five years, investment of around \$82 million in drinking water infrastructure has become Hasting's number one priority. It is estimated to conclude soon at the end of 2022.



Re-opening of buildings in the Toitū - Hawke's Bay Arts and Events Centre: Hawke's Bay Opera House, Plaza, and Municipal Building. Under the leadership of Mayor Sandra, the Opera House and Plaza were reopened. The Municipal Building is also recently re-open on 5 August 2022, completing puzzles in the Toitū.

Mayor Emiko Okuyama | Sendai, Japan



Mayor Emiko Okuyama of Sendai is known as the one who brings a resilient recovery to Sendai after natural disaster befallen Japan in 2011. She focuses on reconstructions and hosting of UN International Conference to share Sendai's experience. She also identified solution to provide women with opportunities in Sendai.

Sustainable Recovery Post-Disaster (Reconstruction and Knowledge Sharing)

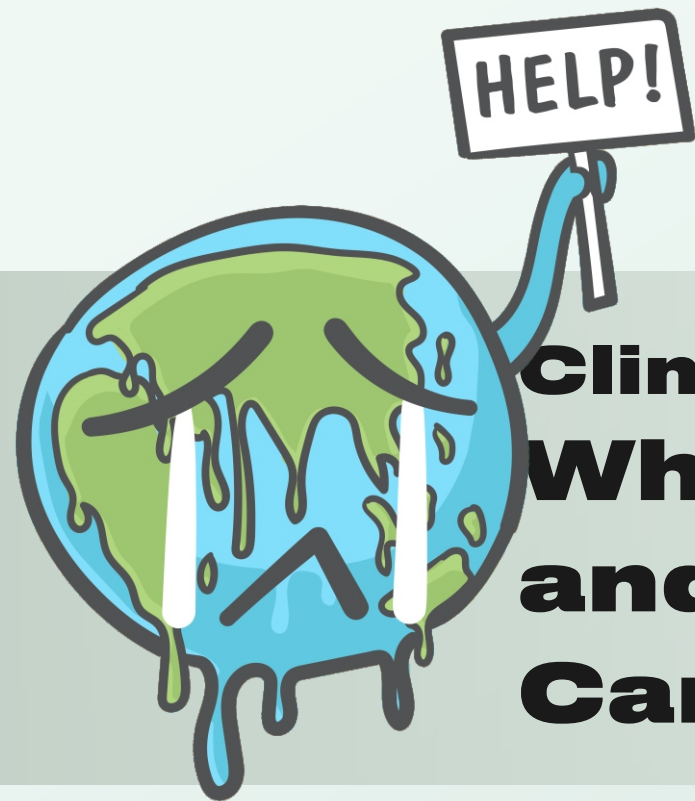
Based on an interview in 2015, Mayor Emiko shared that the reconstruction efforts focused on restoring public facilities and providing safe places. Three main projects of the reconstruction include the collective relocation of 1,540 households in a high-risk area; reconstruction of public housing (as of April 2013, around 700 people have been moving into the housing); and restoring damaged residential areas (cracks on the ground, retaining walls collapsed, buildings moved a few dozen centimetres).

After the remarkable recovery, Sendai hosted the UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction in 2015. The conference's main objective was to contribute to the international community by sharing experiences and knowledge of disaster risk reduction obtained and reconstruction status. Known as the role model city for promoting community-based disaster risk reduction, Sendai also shared information about community organisations and their structure.

Supporting Women Empowerment

Mayor Emiko also encourages women's participation. "We have to create more childcare facilities and improve the nurse care system in order to provide opportunities for women to participate," she said.

Mayor Emiko also pointed out statistics that 60% of successful applicants for the Sendai City employment exam are women. She believes that Sendai would not be able to operate in the future without women in management positions. Oftentimes, when only one woman is leading, she tends to be considered as representing women in general. She stressed that it needed a group of women in action to erase the generalisation. Only then, women will have more opportunities in the community.



Climate Change: Where We Are and What We Can Do



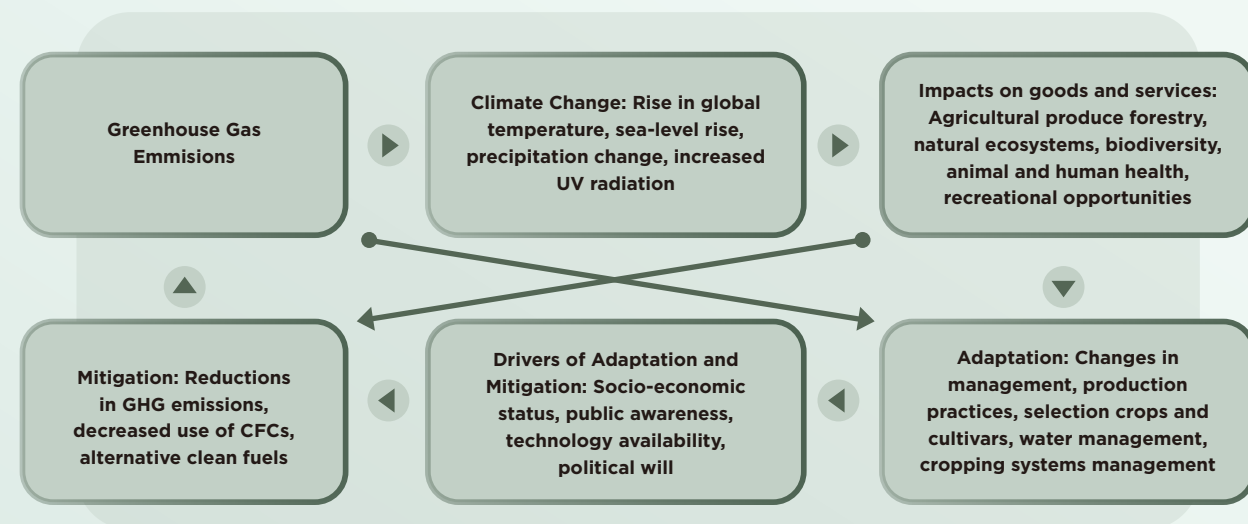
“ We have kept 1.5 degrees alive. But, its pulse is weak and it will only survive if we keep our promises and translate commitments into rapid action.

Rt Hon Alok Sharma MP | COP26 President

THE Asia-Pacific region, giving its heavy dependence on natural resources and agriculture sectors, is more vulnerable to climate change than other regions. Its rapid population growth (particularly in coastal areas), much needed improvement in the institutional infrastructure and health services (as proven by the strike of COVID pandemic) are adding factors jeopardising the condition. To tackle the challenge, the region joins forces with the other regions in the conference of parties discussing concrete efforts to mitigate the effects of climate change. The shared commitment, efforts we are currently making, seems to give hopes to the future. The Asia-Pacific region is home to 903 million people living below US\$1.25 a day (ADB, 2010). This fact, with its potential population growth, implies there is additional challenge lurking around.

Population Growth and Cities

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) in its publication mentions the population in the Asia and the Pacific will reach 4.3 billion by 2030. The population is projected to rise by 18% from 2015 to 2030, with the proportion of the population in urban areas increasing from 48% to 55% from 2014 to 2030. With the climate challenge and population growth in the region, there leaves a question, whether the region can keep up with the development and feed its people.



Cities are the main source of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and, thus, play significant role in mitigation and adaptation efforts. Climate change does not happen in isolation. City leaders need to consider various factors to ensure efforts taken positively impact the other sectors. Cities in the Asia and Pacific region have started the move. Check out the practices and how they positively share benefits with the other sectors.

Ten Billion Tree Tsunami Project

Ten Billion Tree Tsunami Project (TBTP) is a reforestation programme in Pakistan. It aims to revive forest and wildlife resources and bring a host of other benefits within four years programme period (2019-2023). TBTP has once been called an ambitious project; however, Stockholm50.global mentioned that the project planted 1.42 billion trees already between 2019 and December 2021, covering 1.36 million acres across almost 10,000 sites.

Why is it important? Pakistan is a country of forest deficit. Some sources cited before the TBTP started in 2019, Pakistan has only 2-5% forest cover, against a global average of 31%. According to a UN Development Programme (UNDP) report, Pakistan is also vulnerable to monsoons, Himalayan glaciers as well as extreme floods and droughts, which will further impact on food and water insecurity. Considering Pakistan is the fifth most populous country in the world with over 24% of the population lives in poverty, this country needs no other than immediate actions.

The Pakistan government is aware of this and TBTP is one of the urgent actions taken. Stockholm50.global once noted that Pakistan government has committed to increasing its protected areas to 15% by 2023. In 2018, they stood at 12% and by mid-2021 they stood at 13.9%.

Benefits



Economic

Estimated \$121 million for the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Province in terms of carbon sequestration, watershed improvement, and sustainable future forest resources.



Social

Around 500,000 green jobs have been created by the nurseries. These potentially generate income of around PRs12,000-PRs15,000 (\$115-\$140) a month for villagers.



Environmental

Reforestation in large scale can provide positive impacts for biodiversity conservation.

Planting Trees at the Roof of the World

City of Xining was once a desert but after two decades of efforts in tree planting and water treatment, the capital of Qinghai Province stands as a role model of China's green development. ADB in its publication also recorded that in over a two-year-period from 2016-2018, the city introduced more than 39,000 hectares of forest within the city area and its neighbouring counties, which is larger than Las Vegas in size. The city's green coverage ratio has surged from 7.2 percent in 1989 to 75 percent today.

North Mountain Forest Park can be said as one of the examples of the successful project. According to Mr. Wang Zhi, Director of the Xining Forestry Administration, people in Xining rely on weather for their livelihoods. However, frequent sandstorms, brought by severe wind and soil erosion in the mountains, degraded the residents' quality of life and social-economic development. The pollution and depletion of the nearby Huangshui River beginning in the early 1990s caused further environmental deterioration. Tree planting was identified as solution; however, the arid and freezing condition of Qinghai-Tibet Plateau made the efforts multiplied.





- 1
- As an old Chinese saying goes, "One generation plant the trees in whose shade another generation rests." According to the Xining municipal government, 25,333 hectares of the afforested area planted with at least 50 million nursery stocks as of 2017 could decrease the sediment by around 75,000 tons per year, greatly reducing water and soil loss. Compared to years before, local precipitation has increased by 50 millimetres, and its micro-climate has been improved, experts said.
- 2
- Transformation of the North Mountain Forest Park in Xining, the capital of Qinghai province:


Picture 1 : 2013
Picture 2 : Sept. 5, 2017.

[Photo courtesy of Xining Forestry Administration]

Benefits

- 

Economic
35,000 jobs were created for land preparation and planting, and 150 long-term forest management jobs were established.
- 

Health
Trees can act as air filters by removing particulates causing respiratory diseases. This project can improve the health of residents.
- 


Environmental
Enhancing carbon sequestration, increasing biodiversity, preventing erosion, and improving water conservation.


Tackling Congestion with Gender Inclusive Initiatives at Heart




Peshawar is the sixth-largest city in Pakistan inhabited by 1,97 million residents. Like other densely populated city, congestion is one of its main challenges. Tackling this, the city improves its public transport option by installing 26 km of BRT lanes, with 31 stations, park-and-ride facilities, bicycle lanes, and green areas to reduce the congestion as well as improve air quality. Buses are hybrids between diesel and electric for lower emissions. In addition, safety features will also be established in all stations: enhanced lighting, closed-circuit television monitoring, areas for women, as well as trained staff to handle harassment incidents.

Benefits

- 

Social
The project ensures that 10% of the BRT employees are women.
- 

Health
Air quality improves with decreased pollutants.
- 

Environmental
This project also incorporates bicycle by providing parking area, encouraging users to use bicycle as connectivity to the BRT.

Photo:
<https://goexplorer.org/gender-inclusive-bus-corridor-to-relax-congestion/>


Green Passport Campaign – Involving Youth to Protect the Environment




The Ministry of Environment and Tourism of Mongolia has begun involving youth in environmental conservation. Backed by the belief that involving future generations at a young age will play an essential role in attaining Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by creating sustainable behaviours, children in Ulaanbaatar were encouraged in activities relating to environmental protection. This was conducted by promoting eco clubs at secondary schools and teaching them how to live green. These children would receive a Green Passport consisting of 12 pages with different contents such as water, waste, green environment, and traditional methods of natural conservation. They would keep their records in their passport and use them as a tool for educating others, such as family members and friends on a green lifestyle and natural conservation.

The Green Passport campaign was conducted in two phases: Phase 1 in seven months period (February 1-September 10, 2018) and Phase 2 in 12 months period (September 10, 2018-September 10, 2019). In the first phase, 25,000 students and 6,000 teachers were introduced to the idea and challenged to design a recycling bin for batteries. The result was that 300 waste battery bins with the winning design were installed and collected 14,393 kilograms of batteries. In phase two, 25,000 students (outside the city) were involved in the video competition, environmental reporter training, and flash mob competition.

Benefits

- 

Social
The project aims to change lifestyle habits which eventually result in significant water and energy savings.
- 

Environmental
Proper disposal of waste batteries will help preventing ecological damage and pollution, and the planting of trees will increase biodiversity in the city.

Photo:
<https://ggqi.org/ggqi-mongolia-team-receives-a-green-passport-from-the-ministry-of-environment-and-tourism/>

Government: Innovative Transformation And Cooperation

IN the urban context where urbanisation increases, unequal and unsustainable development occurs and with growing interconnected emergencies, local governments need to continuously promote decent livelihoods where the expectations of people are met and their rights protected (UCLG Daejeon Congress Guide, 2022). Several local governments in the Asia and Pacific region have started their way to get into the path despite the challenges faced. Presentation of practices from them will help inspire local governments to make their way towards this shared goal.

Jinhua City | First Electric Bus Network in the Country



In 2015, Jinhua City (China) has opened electric Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) line for Jinhua’s five million citizens. This has been a solution for the city facing fast urban population growth, increase of polluting and inefficient car transport, as well as emission from transportation sector.

The BRT line stretching 180 km through the city was the first in the country and this initiative has supported the national level governments efforts moving towards greener path, as well as strengthening the city’s viable alternatives of low-carbon travel. Besides, BRT has globally proven to be a high-capacity public transport mode with short time implementation and at a relatively low cost. This initiative has surely supported the efforts of the local government to provide basic service to local people, which also promote decent livelihood.

Benefits



Social

As low-cost public transport, BRT can help improve access to public services (i.e. health care, job opportunities for all.



Health

The electric BRT surely reduces the pollution and improves air quality in the city.

Photo:
<https://goexplorer.org/the-prcs-first-electric-bus-network/>

Liuzhou City | Public-Private Partnership for Mobility Electrification



Liuzhou, in collaboration with the electric vehicle company SAIC-GM-Wuling Automobile, conducted research and found that in 80% of city journeys, only one person is present in the car. Tackling the inefficient mobility fact, the collaboration came to an initiative to develop a small and affordable two-seater vehicle, specifically designed for short urban transport and easy parking. The approach is called the Liuzhou Model, public-private partnership to encourage widespread adoption of electric vehicles throughout the city of Liuzhou which has already resulted in significant increases in electric vehicle adoption.

Its progress is reflected through metrics such as the charging station density and parking space ratio in the city. To date, an additional 6,800 new parking spaces have been created for the small electric vehicles and domestic charging stations have been made accessible to owners. In the first half of 2019, Liuzhou’s electric car usage increased by 28% year-on-year from 2018. Citizens could also enjoy a 10-month test period, which resulted in 70% of users deciding to purchase the vehicle.

Benefits



Social

The project aims to stimulate new energy vehicle industry and create more jobs. It is estimated that the new energy vehicle industry can create 66,000 job opportunities.



Health

Liuzhou’s quality of air improves by around 30% in 2018 compared to 2017, and percentage of days with good air quality increases 16.1% year-on-year. (ADB, June 2021)

Photo:
http://english.www.gov.cn/news/photos/202108/13/content_WS6115d1dcc6d0df57f98de647.html

Tonga: Prioritising Urban Resilience amidst Climate Change



Government of Tonga is enhancing its resilience responding to the possibility that most of current-day Nuku'alofa could be underwater by 2100. Eighty percent of Tonga are located in flat, low-lying coastal areas, exposed to rising sea levels. With the frequency of flooding and prevalence of storm surges, most of current-day Nuku'alofa could be underwater by 2100 without strong and fast climate action.

Facing this, Tonga is enhancing the ability of the island to cope with natural hazards and effects of climate change, particularly flooding and sea level rise. Drainage systems will help improve the resilience of 40 hectares of land in seven flood-prone locations, while also contributing to public health efforts by reducing exposure to waterborne diseases. A reliable water supply will be secured for 99.9% of the population through upgrades to piped distribution networks, and the introduction of a long-term climate- and disaster-resilient urban development strategy and investment plan will increase the future resilience of the urban area.

Benefits



Economic

The flood management will reduce flooding incidence and related repair costs for households and businesses.



Health

Improved sanitation and hygiene will reduce exposure to waterborne diseases and improve water safety for residents.



Social

By implementing a disaster risk management programme at the community level, organisers can target those most vulnerable to climate change impacts.

Photo:
Wikimedia

UCLG ASPAC has also been facilitating city-to-city cooperation and city-match-making in various sectors:



Guangzhou - Jambi Cooperation

A letter of intent was signed by both Guangzhou and Jambi on 26 July 2021 as an expression of common interest to bring city collaboration to higher level in areas of health (Telemedicine), education, tourism, culture, promotion, and youth. A series of activities have been conducted, including the webinar on telemedicine that was attended by health officials, medical workers from both cities.



Jeju - Surakarta Culture Installation Project

Jeju Special Self-Governing Province, the leading city of UCLG ASPAC Culture Committee supported city of Surakarta in the inclusion of culture to its city development through art installation project for children in Taman Jayawijaya, public space in Surakarta. Design and installation of the art piece is a collaboration of prominent local artists, a sculpture from Jeju Mr. Kim Kidai and two architects from Solo, Mr. Dian Arrifianto Budi Susilo and Mr. Galih Aji Priyambodo.

CUF-UCLG ASPAC-UCLG Territorial Prevention and Crisis for Palu Recovery Project

The Cites Unies France (CUF), a local government association in France, under the framework of the UCLG Territorial Prevention and Crisis, welcomed the UCLG ASPAC initiative to support Palu in its recovery efforts. The support included funding for capacity building and learning, setting up the foundation for early warning system development, constructing the public facility, and enhancing local economic activities. The inauguration of the public facility was conducted on 28 May 2022 and marked the conclusion of the collaboration project.

Putting the cooperation into larger spectrum and to encourage city's networking and collaboration in specific sector, UCLG ASPAC has various (Standing) Committees as part of its internal body including Maritime; Belt and Road Local Cooperation; Circular Economy; Women in Local Governments; Tourism; Culture; and Humanitarian, Development, and Peace.

Urban 20 Mayors Summit Side Event



On August 30, 2022, UCLG ASPAC and Smart Change - the EU-funded project in Jakarta - co-hosted Urban 20 Mayors Summit Side Event “Digital Governance in Accelerating Sustainable Development and Climate Resiliency,” one of the preliminary events organised to gear up for the Urban 20 Mayors Summit 2022 chaired by Jakarta Capital City Government, host of UCLG ASPAC Secretariat Office, and co-chaired by West Java Province.

This event brought together more than 90 mayors, city representatives and urban stakeholders from G20 countries showcasing benefits that cities obtain in utilising digitalisation to meet their local needs, such as economic development and recovery, sustainable mobility, pandemic resilience, in addition to the valid and accountable data to support local administration shaping their policies and improving public service delivery. Covering the G20’s priority areas, the intensive dialogue and enthusiasm inspired all participants and provided them with plenty of opportunities to collaborate, network, and bring their innovation further.



Gracing the event were Dr. Bernadia Irawati Tjandradewi, Secretary General UCLG ASPAC - co-hosting with Ms. Ina Lepel, Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany to Indonesia and Ms. Ana-Maria Trăsnea, State of Berlin Delegate to the Federation, Permanent Secretary for Active Citizenship, Democracy Support and International Relations.

In her welcoming remarks, Dr. Bernadia highlighted how ICT has already proven its value in accelerating economic recovery post-pandemic. She quoted research by McKinsey mentioning that, due to the pandemic, a digital transformation had been accelerated by seven years globally and 10 years in Asia-Pacific. She also called attention to the fact that cities have proven to be socially and economically resilient and able to bounce back after major crises.



Ms. Ines Lepel, the Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany to Indonesia, mentioned the partnership between the Capital of Jakarta and Berlin in a sister-city partnership that has resulted in many aspects, one of them is the acceleration of digital transformation that increases internet users over 10 years.



Ms. Ana-Maria Trăsnea as the State of Berlin Delegate to the Federation, Permanent Secretary for Active Citizenship, Democracy Support and International Relations, delivered her opening remarks emphasising cooperation amongst cities that have become essential in handling global challenges together. She also shared how Berlin has been working towards multinational and binational partnerships between large cities, from which they believe people will heavily get the benefits. She mentioned how the Smart Change project further develops smart city and urban policy strategies and pulls people along the development (inclusivity). And the importance of knowledge-sharing experience, sustainable dialogue and cooperation between cities to tackle a multitude of global crises.



The keynote speech was delivered by Dr. Anies Rasyid Baswedan, Governor of Jakarta. He shared about digital governance in accelerating sustainable development and climate resilience and emphasised that the issue is about people, what makes a city a good living place is its people. This led the project to focus on human-centred approaches to attain digital governance and a smart city. Governor Anies also addressed climate change problems, on how we cannot address them alone, but we need cooperation and collaboration amongst the governments, communities, citizens, civil society organisations, and NGOs.

Digital Governance's Smart Practice and Initiatives



It was a showcase of Smart City Practices and Initiatives of U20 participating and observer cities, such as Makassar (presented by Mayor Mohammad Ramdhan Pomanto) in public engagement, implementation of the smart solution, gathering big data and preparing the Makassar Metaverse; Balikpapan City through electronic and digital transaction; Berlin (presented by Ms. Beate Albert, Smart City Coordinator at Berlin Partner) that has been enabled to align research with cities’ needs, re-think business (needs-based solutions), and connect people innovation; Jakarta that uses it as citizen interaction platform and digital economy among many others. Supporting the initiative was G20 partner, G20 Global Smart City Alliance, represented Mr. Yuta Hirayama, Project Lead of G20 Global Smart Cities Alliance sharing “Digital Governance to Accelerate Sustainable Development and Climate Resiliency.”

Bringing Human-Centred and Inclusive Approach to Smart City Ecosystem in Jakarta Multi-Stakeholder and Policy Dialogue

It showcased several practices from the Smart Change project that was shared by three speakers: Mr. Jan Ramos Pandia, Hukumonline & RuangWaktu Consortium, Mr. Alvaryan Maulana, Kolektif Agora (Community/NGO), and Ms. Puspita Dirgahayani, Bandung Technology Institute (Academia). Insights shared include: digitalisation, despite the benefits it brings, also presents challenges such as the exclusion of vulnerable communities as also highlighted by Ms. Anusara Chuensuang from Bangkok Metropolitan Administration; the suggestion that digitalisation technologies need to be developed in ways that are attentive towards digital and non-digital that may be necessary for effective and inclusive urban (environmental) governance, and the importance of redefining stakeholders by including the underrepresented population to avoid reinforcing inequalities; and to be cautious of the digital divide and asymmetric digital literacy.



The Urban 20 Mayor Summit Side Event entitled “Digital Governance in Accelerating Sustainable Development and Climate Resiliency” was successfully held. The dialogue gave energy to cities and urban stakeholders to leverage their actions in the digitalisation sector. It also reinforced efforts to push forward governments of higher levels to support cities in every possible way.

The Urban 20 Mayors Summit as the main gathering of the U20 leaders has released the Communique.

Asia-Pacific Mayors Dialogue on Gender Responsive and Participatory Initiatives



UCLG ASPAC, within its Standing Committee on Women in Local Governments (SCWILG) and in collaboration with the Penang Women's Development Corporation (PWDC) and the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT), organised Asia-Pacific Mayors' Dialogue on Gender Responsive and Participatory Initiatives (GRPI) on July 25, 2022. It was the first of series of capacity building activities conducted under the framework of the Gender Responsive Participatory Budgeting (GRPB) programme.

GRPB is one of the initiatives contributing to gender mainstreaming by focusing on the gender dimensions of government budgets, both the revenue and the expenditure side, and it is also one of the accelerators in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 2030 by leaving no one behind. The GRPI aimed at sharing knowledge of best practices and tools of incorporating inclusiveness particularly ensuring women participation in decision making in developing local policies, and planning and budgeting of project/scheme undertaken by the cities and local governments in the Asia-Pacific region.

This event attracted a total of 115 registered participants, comprising elected representatives and officials from cities and local governments, representatives from associations, researchers and many other relevant organisations working with the communities in the Asia-Pacific region. Leaders of local government and technical persons were invited as panelist to present their initiative and best practice of women's participation in the decision-making process.



Dr. Bernadia Irawati Tjandradewi, UCLG ASPAC Secretary General, stated that GRPB strategies respond to the lack of gender neutrality of budgets with an analysis of the gender impacts of government spending and revenue raising. It can be used as an approach/method to promote actions to change policies and budget priorities in line with women's empowerment and gender equality. Further, GRPB could be a good sign for good governance implementation in cities and local governments. With GRPB, it is expected that governments will provide services and promote equitable growth and development as well as their commitment to gender equality and participation.



Ms. Angela Mwai, Chief of Human Rights and Social Inclusion Unit of UN-Habitat, read out the message of Ms. Maimunah Mohd Sharif, Executive Director of UN-Habitat, that women equality and gender advancement are being challenged by conflicts, global pandemics and climate disasters, and to address complexities, tools and policies must not only be developed but internalised because they are taken into account gender-specific implications. And that GRPB is crucial to be prioritised as a strategy to end gender inequality to secure the engagement of the unduly marginalised group, which is women and girls and to ensure the sustainability of result-driven actions.



Ms. Ong Bee Leng, CEO of PWDC, shared the journey of GRPB in Penang, Malaysia; a practical GRPB implementation at the local level. Essentially, GRPB's key idea is to make the policies and budget inclusive to achieve gender equality and social justice. The GRPB practice in Penang will be replicated to other cities and local governments in Malaysia and beyond.

Mr. Tam Hoang, Sustainable Urbanisation Specialist of UN-Habitat moderated the panelists comprising Mr. Roberto and Ms. Angela from UN-Habitat. Mr. Roberto shared how GRPB offers innovative policy framework, leadership and action and builds capacity and knowledge and digital infrastructure to support innovative model of governance to the world. He presented key SDGs targets and indicators relevant to GRPB. He also emphasised the importance of scaling up GRPB through learning and adopting the work of other cities and local governments.

Mayors' Dialogue on SDG5 Session was moderated by Ms. Stephany Uy Tan, Co-Chair of UCLG ASPAC Standing Committee on Women in Local Governments. In this session, Cities' Mayors and local governments introduced their best experience in implementing GRPB for gender inclusiveness in policies/projects undertaken by their city and local government. Sharing panelists included Ms. Lim Phallika, Deputy Governor of Siem Reap Municipality, Cambodia, Ms. Anushiya Jayakanth, Councilor Velanai Pradeshiya Sabaha, Chairperson of Women Councilors Network, Jaffna District Sri Lanka, -Ms. You Yimin, Deputy Secretary General of Guangzhou People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries, Guangzhou City, China, Ms. Rehette Stoltz, Mayor of Gisborne District Council, New Zealand, Ms. Sunita Dangol, Deputy Mayor of Kathmandu, Nepal and Dr. Hendrar Prihadi, Mayor of Semarang City, Indonesia.



WHAT'S NEXT?

As part of this capacity building programme, UCLG ASPAC will soon organise learning workshop on GRPB for practitioners, starting from Malaysian cities and local governments as well as other local governments in the region.



Collaboration Beyond Borders to Support Palu City Recovery

UCLG ASPAC has also been facilitating the city-to-city cooperation in various sectors. One of the many is the initiative to support Palu recovering from Tsunami, earthquake and liquefaction in 2018. This initiative received funding support from the Cites Unies France (CUF), facilitated by the UCLG World under the platform of UCLG Taskforce for Territorial Prevention and Management of Crisis.

The collaboration took various forms: from building foundation for effective early warning system and coordination with various stakeholders, building public facility and support for local economic development, and providing capacity development and learning.

Build Foundation for Development of Effective Early Warning System and Coordination with Various Stakeholders



UCLG ASPAC facilitated a focus group discussion and invited relevant multiple stakeholders to conduct an assessment on disaster risk in Balaroa area, one of the areas with great impact.

The result is the Dokumen Kajian Resiko Bencana (KRB) or Disaster Risk Assessment document for the Balaroa area, which can be used by the local government of Palu as a compass to formulate a Disaster Management Plan document as well as to give insights and a solid foundation when establishing any disaster related regulation.

Learning Programme for Local Government



On 27 May 2022 in Palu, UCLG ASPAC and UCLG World conducted a one-day learning programme looking at concrete examples of post-disaster rehabilitation practices, identifying specified knowledge on recovery process and building back better, and defining ways to effectively adopt the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR).

It involved sharing session from Padang (represented by Mr. Robert Candra Eka Putra, Secretary of Regional Disaster Management Agency), Yogyakarta (by Mr. Budi Purwono, Head of Emergency, Logistics and Rehabilitation), Iriga City (by Ms. Marieser T. Almelor, Head of City Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Office), architect community (by Mr. Abdi Saputra), Islamic Relief (by Mr. Fahmi Ramatna), and Solidarity for Victims of Human Rights Violations (by Ms. Nurlela Lamasitudju).

Support to Local Economic Development

UCLG ASPAC collaborated with local government of Palu to select and support three local small-micro enterprises (SMEs). The selected three enterprises work in wide ranges of business, including urban farming and agriculture for community, waste management (composting), recycling, design works, as well as supporting woman entrepreneur.



Construction of Public Facility

UCLG ASPAC facilitated a bottom-up discussion that involved local community and local government to decide public facility needed. The discussion resulted in development of a community centre. Now, the construction is completed, and the management will be handed over to the local people under supervision of local government. The inaguration of the public facility was attended by Mayor of Palu, Secretary General of UCLG ASPAC, a representative of CUF, and other stakeholders including the community groups.



Expand the Outreach, Build the Capacity

UCLG ASPAC SDGs localisation programme in Pakistan, LEAD for SDGs, funded by the European Union (EU), expanded its outreach as part of the programme's effort in accelerating SDGs localisation in the country. During May-September 2022, the programme recorded remarkable achievements in reaching out more districts, capacity building, and spread the awareness. Check out details of how the project moved in action:



Memorandum of Understanding: Collaboration of Government of Balochistan and Local Council Association of Balochistan for LEAD Programme

May 10, 2022 (Quetta) | The collaboration aims at enhancing the capacity of local bodies. The Local Government Department of Government of Balochistan agreed to come forward for technical and institutional support to enhance the capacity of local bodies. The agreement will provide support for improvement of communities' socio-economic through SDGs localisation in the region.

Radio Awareness Programme Broadcast to Break Barriers against Women



May 16-17, 2022 (Quetta) | The programme was broadcast through different platforms nationally and internationally. The programme aimed to create a friendly environment to get access to human rights and women's rights and make a change in the patriarchal society and break the socially constructed rules and attitudes towards women and stop all forms of violence against women. Part one encompassed the meaning of Gender Equality, the essence of equal rights, responsibilities and opportunities without gender bias.

LEAD Programme Featured in a Live Television Transmission on National TV



May 16, 2022 (Quetta) | It was featured on National Television (PTV) Chanel PTV Bolan, the highest reach in far-flung areas of Balochistan. During the special programme, District Alliance Quetta Member Ashfaq Mengal, Civil Society Expert and Coordinator ADLG, Ms. Zaib Un Nisa discussed various themes such as women's participation in local government elections in Balochistan, roadmap to cope gender centric challenges of the region, inclusiveness, effective delimitations, and the role of local government in localising SDGs.

Engagement with the Newly Appointed Convener, National Parliamentary Taskforce



June 15, 2022 (Islamabad) | LEAD for SDGs Localisation in Pakistan Programme met with the newly appointed Convener of the National Parliamentary Taskforce on SDGs Ms. Romina Khursheed Alam. She praised the outcomes of the mutually arranged National policy dialogue on "Resource Allocation for Implementation of SDGs 2030 Agenda" in July 2021; acknowledged fruitful outcomes of the research on "Analysis of Budgetary Allocations for SDGs in Pakistan (FY 2019-20 & -2020-21); and acclaimed the Capacity Building of Parliamentary Taskforces through knowledge sessions in February 2022.

Women Paved an Unprecedented Way in Local Government Elections in Balochistan



June 22, 2022 (Quetta) | LEAD for SDGs Localisation in Pakistan Programme harvested the seeds of steadfastness, aspiration and ambitiousness among women councillors of Balochistan. The recent general election at the local tiers of Balochistan is proof that women are equipped to attain general seats through contesting rather than mere representation through a reserved quota. This election season was a big win for independent candidates. The Programme helped to formulate alliances for SDGs implementation at the provincial and district levels. Goal 5 was one of the prioritised areas to work on.

Reaching Out More Districts – 23 out of 30 and Still Counting



June 2022 | Local Councils Association Sindh (LCAS) under the LEAD for SDGs Localisation in Pakistan Programme delivered the two-day District Level Training for mainstreaming SDGs in local development planning, monitoring, and reporting. Currently, the team covered 23 districts across Sindh out of a total of 30. These are Tharpakar, Mirpurkhas, Umarmkot, NawabShah, Dadu, Sanghar, NauShahro Feroze, Hyderabad, Matiari, Badin, Tando Allahyar, Sujawal, Tando M. Khan, Thatta, Jamshoro and seven districts of Karachi. In these training programmes, the facilitators have delivered the sessions to more than 120 government officials, of which around 35 were women. All these government officials are affiliated with the areas of education, health, local government, media, and civil society.

Publishing the First Voluntary Sub-National Review Report 2022



July 6, 2022 | The LEAD for SDGs Localisation in Pakistan completed and published the First Voluntary Sub-National Review (VSR) Report 2022 under the helm of the Ministry of Planning, Development & Special Initiatives, Government of Pakistan, with the collaboration of the Local Councils Associations in Pakistan and the Association for Development of Local Governance (ADLG). It was conducted with financial support of the European Union and the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA).

CRIC and GCoM Asia Project: Supporting Cities in Climate Actions

UCLG ASPAC's commitment to support cities in tackling climate actions are incorporated under the framework of the Climate Resilient and Inclusive Cities (CRIC) and the Global Covenant of Mayors Asia (GCoM Asia) Project, funded by the European Union (EU). UCLG ASPAC safeguards cities commitment in various steps and cultivates opportunities to spread the awareness wider.

Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction 2022: A Contribution to Making Cities Resilient



May 24-25, 2022 | UCLG ASPAC, playing a role as the Secretariat of the Global Covenant of Mayors Southeast Asia, organised the GCoM National Training Workshop in Climate Change Adaptation from May 24-25, 2022 in Denpasar, Bali.

Gracing the workshop were the Secretary General of UCLG ASPAC, Dr. Bernadia Irawati Tjandradewi, and the representative of the European Union Delegation for Indonesia and Brunei Darussalam Mr. Henriette Faergemann. The workshop brought together 21 representatives from the Development Planning Agency and Office of Environment from 21 selected cities across Indonesia. The event allowed local government representatives to discuss with speakers from the national government, such as from the Ministry of Environment and Forestry, the Ministry of Finance, and the National Development Planning Agency, as well as GCoM SEA's technical partner Centre for Climate Risk and Opportunity Management in Southeast Asia Pacific (CCROM-SEAP).

Participants also virtually discussed best practices on climate change adaptation with Mercociudades and learned deeper about climate finance from Climate City Gap Fund, the Transformative Action Programme (TAP) by ICLEI, and the Global Infrastructure Basel Foundation (GIB).

The representatives of Indonesian cities shared their best practices and discussed problems and solutions in dealing with the adaptation to climate change. The training workshop was completed with a study visit to some climate mitigation and adaptation projects in Denpasar City: Tukad Badung, Tukad Bindu, Tukad Rarangan, Subak Teba Majelangu. The participants also took part in the tree plantation programme at Tukad Rarangan.

Some cities have decided to be the GCoM signatories and are committed to fighting against climate change together with the GCoM.

Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction 2022: A Contribution to Making Cities Resilient



July 2022 | UCLG ASPAC, under the framework of the Climate Resilient and Inclusive Cities (CRIC) programme, initiated a two-way (virtual) dialogue between CRIC pilot cities and the project's global partners. The dialogue was conducted to provide updates on cities' efforts in tackling climate challenges as well as to respond to the recommendations provided. For pilot cities, the dialogue provided the opportunity to share their updates and give feedback on the given solution.

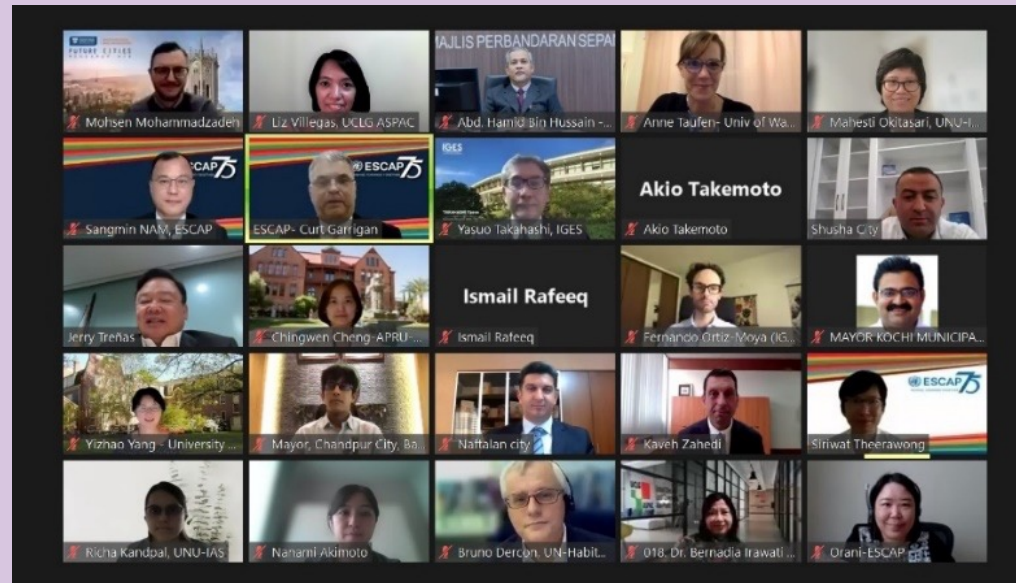
As for partners, it also provided valuable inputs on implementation at the city level. Further, this opportunity served as preliminary coordination between pilot cities and CRIC partners towards the 1st CRIC Panel of Experts to be held in the first quarter of 2023.

Two-Way Dialogue: Tackle Climate Challenges at Hand, Share the Solution, Spread the Awareness

Pangkalpinang: work with communities in the coastal area to reduce coastal abrasion, expand green urban spaces and perform rehabilitation of illegal tin mines; **Gorontalo:** shared the city's extreme weather that its average daily temperature could reach 35.6 degrees Celsius; **Pekanbaru:** discuss the possibility to build a waste-to-energy infrastructure and needs support in terms of new technology, expand green open spaces, complete a water treatment facility, and build an early warning system; **Kupang:** improve waste management system by providing more temporary waste collection facilities, develop waste banks, and promote 3Rs; **Bandar Lampung:** develop an early warning system that spreads weather information daily and provides flooding risk information every 10 days using WhatsApp group; **Cirebon:** start implementing the Lahan Sawah Dilindungi (LSD/Protected Paddy Field) programme; **Samarinda:** encourage family/home farming where communities plant fruits, vegetables, or other plants, encourage the use of organic fertilisers; **Banjarmasin:** increase waste management and sanitation, river normalisation and environment restoration; **Ternate:** build sea walls, build an early warning system using local wisdom and equipment (speakers from mosques) to warn communities whenever possible; **Mataram:** integrate biodigester and maggot to solve waste problems and is working on community-based waste management

CRIC and GCoM Asia Project also organised various activities, from training to awareness raising in various occasions, both to reach out more cities to join the effort and leverage the capacity of local governments to ensure cities achieve the goal.

The Asia-Pacific Mayors Academy Graduation #3 Batch



UCLG ASPAC, as the permanent member of the Asia-Pacific Mayors Academy, held a virtual Graduation Ceremony for its third batch last August 17, 2022. A total of eight mayors from six countries completed the programme: Mr. Nahid Bagirov (Ismayili, Azerbaijan), Mr. Vugar Novruzov (Naftalan, Azerbaijan), Mr. Md. Jillur Rahman (Chandpur, Bangladesh), Mr. Anil Kumar (Kochi, India), Mr. Abd Hamid Hussain (Sepang, Malaysia), Mr. Ismail Rafeeq (Fuvahmulah, Maldives), Mr. Jerry Treñas (Iloilo, Philippines), and Mr. Maftun Abbasov (Shusha, Azerbaijan).

The mayors undertook the programme from December 2021 to June 2022. The learning framework of the Academy is structured around The Future of Asian and Pacific Cities 2019 Report which identified four pillars: Future of Urban and Territorial Planning, Future of Urban Resilience, Future of Smart and Inclusive Cities, and Future of Urban Finance. UCLG ASPAC led the development and delivery of a dedicated module on COVID-19 Recovery which introduced COVID-19 recovery frameworks and linked COVID-19 recovery with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

During the graduation, Mayors presented their final initiatives addressing the areas of sustainable agriculture (Ismayili), tourism infrastructure (Naftalan), climate change resiliency (Chandpur), flood prevention (Kochi), smart city solutions (Sepang), services digitisation (Fuvahmulah), medical facility development (Iloilo), and sustainable infrastructure (Shusha). The initiatives were proposed by the Mayors as part of their application and developed in consultation with Faculty and experts through the Academy.



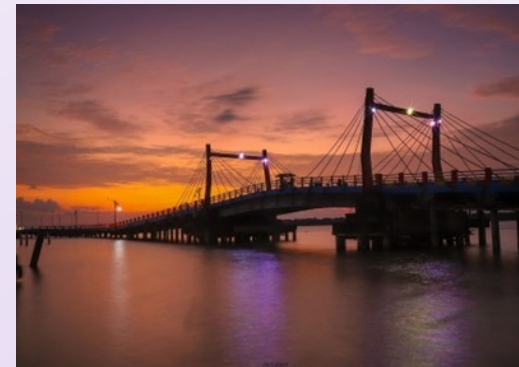
In her message, UCLG ASPAC Secretary General Dr. Bernadia Irawati Tjandradewi acknowledged how the mayors' initiatives reflect the visions and ambitions of local governments to achieve the global agenda on sustainable development and create better quality of lives of the people. She noted that this will be part of the legacy that the mayors will leave for the people to remember. She also hoped that the mayors will be able to apply what they learned from the Academy.

UCLG ASPAC is a permanent member of the Asia-Pacific Mayor Academy Advisory Board. For more information on the Academy, visit <https://www.asiapacificmayorsacademy.org/>.

New Members

UCLG ASPAC is welcoming three new members which will be approved in the Executive Bureau Meeting 2022 in Daejeon.

Tanjung Jabung Barat Regency



Mayor : Mr. Anwar Sadat
Website : <https://tanjabbarkab.go.id/>

Tanjung Jabung Barat Regency is a regency in Jambi Province, Indonesia. It is located on the island of Sumatra. The regency has an area of 5,009.82 km². Located on the east coast of Jambi City, the regency is well-known for fishery. The Roll on Roll off (Roro) Port in Kuala Tungkal, West Tanjung Jabung Regency, officially operated in March 2017. This port serves as the Kuala Tungkal-Dabo-Batam crossing route. The existence of this port has a good impact on the economy. In addition, this port is also often visited by the public for tourism. Beside fishery, the regency has mining and plantation.

Samarinda City



Mayor : Dr. Andi Harun
Website : <https://samarindakota.go.id/>

Samarinda is the capital city of East Kalimantan Province. The city lies on the banks of the Mahakam River with a land area of 718 km². Samarinda is the most populous city on the entire Borneo Island, with a population of 827,994 at the 2020 census. Samarinda is the centre of the extensive timber and logging industries of East Kalimantan. The city government has implemented the Smart City concept through Smart Governing, Smart Brand, Smart Economy, Smart Living, Smart Society, and Smart Environment.

West Kalimantan Province



Mayor : Mr. Sutarmidji
Website : <https://kalbarprov.go.id/>

West Kalimantan is a province of Indonesia on the island of Kalimantan with a population of approximately 5.3 million people. It is approximately 15 million hectares in total area, of which 8.2 million hectares is forest area and 1.6 million hectares is peatland area. West Kalimantan is well-known for its agriculture, manufacturing industries, and maritime economy. The province is often called 'the thousand rivers province' due to its hundreds of large and small rivers which are often navigable. There is high potential for the coal industry, particularly in the districts of Sintang and Kapuas Hulu.

Sub-regional Update



SOUTHEAST ASIA

Baguio City, Philippines, attended the XIV Annual Conference of the UNESCO Creative Cities Network (UCCN) held in Santos, a Creative City of Film, from July 18-22, 2022, under the theme “Creativity, Path to Equality”. The event highlighted the role of creativity as a driving force for building inclusive and equal societies. City of Baguio shared experiences and good practices and illustrated the various ways in which cultural and creative industries are leveraged at the local level and through intercity collaboration to revitalise urban areas, from historical centres to urban surroundings.



EAST ASIA

Yiwu City, under the Yiwu Foreign Affairs Office, held an event with a local State-Owned Enterprise (SOE) to promote products from less developed countries in China on July 1, 2022. Under the theme of “Friendship, Common Prosperity, Stories of Agricultural Produce,” Yiwu invited six friends from Finland, Mexico, and other countries to promote their products through live-streaming and recommend delicious food such as Jiangxi Rice Noodles and Ancient Tree Tea from Malipo, Yunnan. At the site, an inauguration taking the theme of “Common Prosperity International Communication Base” was also conducted for the promotion of products from over 100 countries in the Exhibition Hall.



SOUTH ASIA

The All India Institute of Local Self-Government (AIILSG) held a foundation stone laying ceremony for AIILSG Training Centre Karodi Aurangabad on May 23, 2022. The stone was laid down by Mr. Sunil Chavan, District Collector Aurangabad as the Chief Guest and the ceremony was presided by President-AIILSG Mr. Ranjit Chavan and attended by other AIILSG senior officials, faculty and staff members from Karodi Village and others. The Chief Guest for the function praised the work of AIILSG and assured his full support and cooperation for Training Centre and AIILSG.



PACIFIC

Local Government New Zealand (LGNZ) welcomes the Government’s move to allow councils to own bus services. The Public Transport Operating Model (PTOM) has been replaced with the new Sustainable Public Transport Framework. The new framework gives councils the ability to own and operate services in house so the services they deliver meet their communities’ needs. “Local government is at the forefront of challenges such as climate change ... Public transport is a key lever in tackling such challenges and if ratepayers deem it is a priority, councils should have the ability to invest in it the way their community wants them to. ... The new framework also gives local and central government a better platform to work together to ensure the funding for public transport is sustainable,” says LGNZ President Stuart Crosby.

Seoul: Transforming the City Physically, Enhancing its Competitiveness Virtually



Transformation of Riverside Areas into Global Waterfronts

The Seoul Metropolitan Government (SMG) will begin a full-scale renovation of waterfronts across sections of the Hangang River to strengthen the global urban competitiveness of Seoul.

As a major river of Seoul that runs across the city centre from east to west spanning 41.5 km with a basin area of 39.9 km², the Hangang River plays an important role in Seoul's urban spatial and functional structures. Acknowledging its importance, the city outlined plans of establishing new points of local vitality by revamping urban waterfront spaces in its announcement of Seoul Vision 2030 last year.

Moreover, this approach is detailed in a draft of the Seoul 2040 Comprehensive Plan announced in March, which aims to create fluvial water-centric infrastructure evenly throughout Seoul to transform waterfront spaces for enriching the daily lives of citizens and enhancing the city's urban competitiveness. As one of the plan's six socio-spatial schemas, the importance of waterfront policy has increased and resulted in a greater expectation of transforming areas of the Hangang River into global waterfronts.

Through this plan, the city plans to enhance Seoul's urban competitiveness on the global stage by preparing effective strategies to establish water-centric infrastructure centred around the Hangang River, such as revitalising waterfront spaces and strengthening the interconnection among major urban nuclei of Seoul. To fully realise the comprehensive plan, the city plans to draw up tasks for implementation by collecting expert opinions and conducting public surveys as well as establishing effective policies through organic collaboration with related departments.

Seoul plans to manage the Hangang River systematically and gain a foothold as a global leader by actively utilising the potential of the river's waterfront spaces.



Hyper-Realistic Metaverse to Enhance Urban Competitiveness

The Seoul Metropolitan Government (SMG) and Seoul Institute of Technology (SIT) are carrying out a pilot operation of a hyper-realistic metaverse service starting on May 2 to improve Seoul's urban competitiveness by contributing to both private and public sectors as well as culture and society at large. Through this pilot operation, the hyper-realistic metaverse will feature virtual spaces of real-life places, such as Seoul City Hall and Seoul Plaza as well as indoor event halls and more, for use in major events, forums, and education in the future.

Notably, metaverse users can visit SIT by entering Seoul Plaza and passing through an underground passage where there are spaces for virtual meetings, seminars, press conferences, etc.. The city is utilising the metaverse to reflect relevant contents of its economic policy for fostering emerging industries pursuant to the comprehensive plan to rise as a global beauty industry hub and is promoting the digital transformation of the beauty and fashion industries.

Moreover, the SMG's 3D S-MAP will be directly linked with the metaverse in real time according to theme, such as economy and culture, for Virtual Reality (VR) expansion. The city will continue to provide immersive services so that citizens can experience incredible content, such as replicating the historic Yukjo Geori (Street of Six Ministries).

Seoul plans to take full advantage of the public metaverse space for citizens to enjoy through a closed-loop system of content creation that enhances the economy, society and culture with private-public partnerships ranging from digital heritage to personal content.

The hyper-realistic metaverse platform can be downloaded and accessed online via the SIT website (sit.re.kr) starting May 2.



Towards Inclusive Sri Lanka

The Federation of Sri Lanka Local Government Authorities (FSLGA) has taken the leadership to implement the Partnership for Municipal Innovation: Women in Local Leadership Project (PMI WILL Project) in Sri Lanka, a six-year project funded by Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) and Global Affairs Canada. The project has adopted a two-pronged approach to achieve this aim: 1) Increase women's capacity to lead in local governance; 2) Increase local government's capacity to deliver inclusive, gender-responsive services.

Identified the Challenges

Participatory research studies were carried out to identify the challenges and issues of women elected members and women administrators of Local Government Authorities (LGAs). The findings have been further validated by a series of discussions with political parties and research validation workshops.

Gender Inclusive Councils

Women Committees have been established in the Councils. Forming a Women Committee within a council is not legally required as per the relevant laws in Sri Lanka. However, FSLGA was able to establish Women Committees at the Councils to ensure gender inclusiveness.

Strong Network of Women Councilors

Women caucuses established in each district have been strengthened to build a strong network among elected women of LGAs. Training on strategic planning is given to these caucuses to draft an own strategic plan for each caucus.

Improving Persuasive Communication Skills of Women Councillors

A series of media training programmes- titled as 'First Love' programmes have been carried out with an aim of improving the persuasive communication skills of Women Councilors. It is also expected to facilitate language training ('Be Bilingual' programme) for them.

Empowering Partner Councils

Five LGAs have been selected as Partners for the Project. A working group has been established in the five LGAs and activities will be carried out to build the gaps in their capacity which will be identified through a capacity assessment.

Calendar of Activities

☆

5-8 October 2022

EAROPH World Congress

East Java, Hybrid

☆

6-7 October 2022

ASEAN Mayors Forum

Consultative Meeting

East Java

☆

10-14 October 2022

2022 UCLG ASPAC Council

Meeting in conjunction with

UCLG World Congress

☆

20-21 October 2022

Gender Responsive and

Participatory Budgeting Sharing

and Learning Workshop

Kuala Lumpur

☆

October 2022

The 8th Meeting of 21st Century

Maritime Cooperation Committee

Virtual

☆

7-18 November 2022

UN Climate Change Conference

of the Parties (COP) 27

Sharm El-Sheikh

☆

November/December 2022

ASEAN Mayors Forum Summit

Cambodia

☆

December 2022

Gender Responsive and Participatory Budgeting Test

Project Experience Sharing Workshop

Kuala Lumpur

☆

2023

1st Panel of Experts of Climate Resilient and Inclusive Cities:

Establishing Collaborative Platform to Accelerate Climate Actions

and SDGs Attainment

☆

2023

8th Asia-Pacific Urban

Forum (APUF)

We would like to thank our members and partners for contributing photos and materials for this newsletter.		
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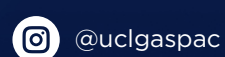


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