

ASEAN MAYORS FORUM 2023
PROCEEDING

ASEAN Matters:
Epicentrum of Growth
Catalysing Regional Growth
through Sustainable Development in ASEAN Cities

Fairmont Hotel, Jakarta, Indonesia
01 – 02 August 2023

ASEAN MAYORS FORUM

EMPOWERING COMMUNITY FOR STRONGER ASEAN

FOREWORD

Acting Governor of Jakarta



Picture 1: Mr. Heru Budi Hartono open the MGMAC-AMF 2023.

As the host of the 2022 ASEAN Mayors Forum (AMF) and Meeting of Governors/ Mayors of ASEAN Capitals (MGMAC), on behalf of the Jakarta Special Capital Region, I would like to thank Dr. Bernadia Irawati Tjandradewi, Delegates of ASEAN Capitals, Provinces, Governors, City Mayors, and International Distinguished Guests for their participation to the MGMAC-AMF 2023. This forum brought together distinguished mayors, policymakers, experts, and stakeholders from across the ASEAN region to discuss the pressing issues facing our cities and their role in promoting sustainable regional growth.

Sustainable development requires collaboration, innovation, and a long-term perspective. We must work hand in hand, across borders and disciplines, to shape policies that strike a balance between economic growth, social progress, and environmental stewardship. As cities and local government leaders, we are privileged to be at the forefront of this endeavour, forging partnerships that will lay the foundation for a prosperous and resilient ASEAN community.

As we discuss strategies, policies, and initiatives during this forum, let us draw inspiration from the diverse experiences of our fellow ASEAN cities. Each city has a unique story, and a distinctive journey towards sustainability and growth. By sharing our successes, failures, and lessons learned, we can create a tapestry of ideas that will serve as a blueprint for transformative change to achieve the ASEAN Community Vision 2025.

In conclusion, the ASEAN Mayors Forum reiterated our commitment to forging a sustainable path for our cities and region. The insights shared, lessons learned, and collaborative partnerships formed during this forum will be a foundation for future initiatives. As governors, mayors, and leaders, we must continue championing policies and actions that harmonise growth and sustainability, ensuring that our cities remain beacons of progress while safeguarding the well-being of our citizens and the environment.

I sincerely thank all participants for their valuable contributions, and I am confident that this forum's outcomes will positively impact our cities, region, and beyond.

Secretary General of UCLG ASPAC



Picture 2: Dr. Bernadia Irawati Tjandradewi extended her gratitude to all participants who made the forums a reality.

We extend our heartfelt congratulations to the Jakarta Special Capital Region for hosting the successful ASEAN Mayors Forum (AMF) 2023 and the Meeting of Governors/Mayors of ASEAN Capitals (MGMAC) 2023. During the meetings in Jakarta, we witnessed and demonstrated the true spirit of collaboration among ASEAN cities and local governments. This strengthens the position of AMF as an invaluable platform for dialogue, knowledge-sharing, and collaboration among ASEAN cities.

As we gathered under the theme "ASEAN Matters-Epicentrum of Growth: Catalysing Regional Growth through Sustainable Development in ASEAN Cities," we embarked on a journey that acknowledged not only our shared issues and challenges but also opportunities for increased cooperation and partnership among ASEAN member cities and local governments.

This forum is an invitation to envision the ASEAN region as a tapestry of interconnected cities, each contributing to the symphony of sustainable progress. By pooling our insights, sharing success stories, and addressing shared challenges, we can forge pathways to inclusive growth that leave no city, no one and no place left behind. Let us harness the power of collaboration to catalyse change, create innovative solutions, and drive our cities toward a more sustainable and prosperous future. We agreed to lay the groundwork for regional cooperation among local governments by declaring the "Jakarta Declaration" of the AMF and signing the MGMAC Declaration 2023. These two declarations demonstrate the willingness and confidence to build stronger local governments and cities to achieve the ASEAN Community by 2025 and beyond.

I extend my heartfelt gratitude to all the mayors, governors, city officials, delegates, and partners who have made this forum a reality. Your presence and active participation signify your unwavering commitment to our cities and region's growth and prosperity. Together, we build inclusive, adaptive, and sustainable ASEAN cities and local governments!

ASEAN Secretariat

As we gathered at the ASEAN Mayors Forum, we recognise the significance of cities as the heartbeat of our region's progress and prosperity. Our cities serve as dynamic hubs of innovation, culture, and economic activity, exemplifying ASEAN's dynamism. Yet, this dynamism also poses challenges that warrant careful consideration - the challenge of harmonising urban growth with the imperatives of sustainable development, inclusivity, and resilience.



Picture 3: Dr. Kao Kim Hourn signified the importance of cities in driving economic advancement.

Focusing on economic strengthening, digitalisation, and resilience, the 2023 MGMAC and AMF theme encapsulates the essence of our collective aspirations. The phrase "Epicentre of Growth" signifies the strategic importance of our cities in driving regional economic advancement, while the emphasis on sustainable development underscores our commitment to ensuring that growth is enduring and balanced. We have a dual responsibility in the pursuit of catalysing regional growth through sustainable development in our cities: to foster economic progress and social well-being, as well as to protect the environment for current and future generations.

Throughout this forum, delegates engaged in vibrant discussions and exchanged ideas, experiences, and innovative approaches. We explored avenues for enhancing urban planning, infrastructure development, and governance models that can lead to resilient and sustainable cities. It is our hope that these conversations will pave the way for transformative solutions that resonate across the ASEAN landscape.

As we embark on this journey of dialogue and collaboration, let us remember that the decisions we make, will shape our cities' trajectory and our citizens' well-being for generations to come. By working together, pooling our expertise, and embracing a spirit of innovation, we can forge a path toward urban development that is economically prosperous, socially inclusive, and environmentally responsible.

I would like to sincerely thank all participants and partners for their unwavering dedication to the shared cause of sustainable urban development. Your presence at this forum signified a commitment to shaping a brighter future for our cities and region. Let us continue to engage in meaningful discussions, collaborative brainstorming, and knowledge sharing that propel us closer to our vision of ASEAN cities as beacons of growth, resilience, and sustainable progress.


MGMAC &
AMF 2023
ASEAN

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About ASEAN Mayors Forum

The ASEAN Mayors Forum (AMF) is a network of local government leaders from the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) region and a platform that aims to support the ASEAN Community Building. The AMF has been hosted by various cities in ASEAN including Surabaya in 2011, Makassar in 2015, Taguig in 2017, Singapore in 2018, Bangkok in 2019, and Phnom Penh in 2022, and has been held in line with the ASEAN Chairmanship since 2017.

In 2018, AMF received accreditation as an entity associated with ASEAN and is the first and only local government network to acquire this recognition from ASEAN. This accreditation serves as a strong indication that ASEAN values the role and contribution of local governments in the region's development.

This 2023, for the second year, AMF and the Meeting of Governors and Mayors of ASEAN Capitals (MGMAC) were held jointly and hosted by the Jakarta Special Capital Region. Complementing the Indonesian ASEAN Chairmanship theme of ASEAN Matters: Epicentrum of Growth, AMF and MGMAC 2023 had the theme "Catalysing Regional Growth through Sustainable Development in ASEAN Cities". The AMF 2023 aimed to:

1. Promote inclusive economic growth including easy access to finance for ASEAN cities and local governments;
2. Accelerate digital transformation which can contribute to economic recovery in ASEAN cities and local governments;
3. Encourage climate action implementation to enhance the readiness of ASEAN cities and local governments to become more adaptive and resilient;
4. Highlight sustainable mobility for the development of ASEAN cities and local governments; and
5. Strengthen collaboration in the ASEAN region to localise the SDGs implementation.

The AMF and MGMAC 2023 adopted two key documents, the AMF 2023 Jakarta Declaration and the MGMAC 2023 Jakarta Declaration. These documents capture the commitments and visions of local governments for the ASEAN region and will be submitted to the ASEAN Secretariat for consideration in its regional policymaking processes.


ASEAN
INDONESIA 2023



Picture 4: From left to right, Dr. Bernadia Irawati Tjandradewi, Mr. Atsaphangthong Siphandone, Mr. Heru Budi Hartono, Dra. Retno L.P. Marsudi, Dr. Kao Kim Hourn, Mr. Dakila Carlo E. Cua officially open the MGMAC and AMF 2023.

Opening Ceremony

In his opening message, Mr. Heru Budi Hartono, Acting Governor of Jakarta Special Capital Region, remarked that local governments have a big role to support the continued relevance of ASEAN in responding to regional and global challenges as well as strengthening ASEAN's position as the centre of regional economic growth for the prosperity of the ASEAN people and the world. He also mentioned that MGMAC was first initiated by the Provincial Government of DKI of Jakarta during the leadership of Mr. Joko Widodo in 2013 and was since held annually following the ASEAN Chairmanship rotation. He concluded his message by asserting that Jakarta's success is for Indonesia.

Dr. Kao Kim Hourn, Secretary General of ASEAN, stated how the ASEAN Smart City Network (ASCN) and ASEAN Sustainable Urbanisation Strategy (ASUS) complement each other in catalysing opportunities for ASEAN cities. "For innovative, inclusive, and sustainable urban development, cities will therefore need to find the right combination of technology, policy, and partners." He recognised the vital role of cities in spearheading action needed towards sustainable development and the need for ASEAN Member States to build their capacity to promote pathways toward low carbon and climate resilient ASEAN. He concluded his message by acknowledging how MGMAC and AMF can be credible platforms to deepen collaboration and partnership among the ASEAN cities and local governments as well as catalyse the collective efforts in attaining the ASEAN Community Vision 2025 and beyond.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia, Dra. Retno L.P. Marsudi, inaugurated the AMF and MGMAC. She stated that ASEAN is facing several challenges – an uncertain world, a war that has not yet ended, unstable economic projections, and the situation in Myanmar. She expressed that in its Chairmanship, Indonesia prioritises the role of ASEAN as a locomotive for peace and stability and the epicentrum of growth where people can enjoy prosperity. She underscored that the people should be at the core of government work. She recommended that Governors and Mayors should pursue three (3) main agenda to support the ASEAN Chairmanship theme: health resilience, food security, and energy transition.

Plenary Session



The plenary session addressed the AMF theme on "Catalysing Regional Growth through Sustainable Development in ASEAN Cities". This session was moderated by Dr. Bernadia Irawati Tjandradewi, Secretary General of UCLG ASPAC, host of the AMF Secretariat. In line with the theme, each of the panelists responded to specific questions.

Please elaborate on the theme "ASEAN Matters: Epicentrum of Growth" and what are the objectives of Indonesia's ASEAN chairmanship in highlighting the theme this year?



Picture 5: Mr. Berlianto Situngkir elaborated the Indonesian ASEAN Chairmanship Theme.

Mr. Berlianto Situngkir, Director of ASEAN Economic Cooperation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia

This theme tried to address or respond to current situation – global challenges, geopolitical tension, geoeconomic tension – then described the theme into 3 main pillars. The first pillar is ASEAN Matters. This signifies the importance of ASEAN and maintaining unity and refers to the institutionalisation of human rights dialogue and cooperation to combat trafficking. The second pillar is Epicentrum of Growth. As an economic region, ASEAN has great potential and asset. To encourage steady growth and resilience, it is necessary to strengthen health architecture, food security, energy security and financial stability. The last pillar is the implementation of the ASEAN Outlook on the Indo-Pacific. Stable economic development requires stability in the region surrounding ASEAN especially in the Indo-Pacific. Indonesia will organise the ASEAN Indo-Pacific Forum as a flagship event during its Chairmanship in the sidelines of the ASEAN 43rd summit in September in Jakarta.

Considering potentials and challenges faced by cities and urban areas, what do you think on the significance of cities and urban areas in supporting ASEAN as the centre of regional economic growth and an engine for global growth?



Picture 6: Dr. Safrizal ZA encouraged smart city development.

Dr. Safrizal ZA, Director General of Regional Administration, Ministry of Home Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia

Right now, urbanisation is one problem being faced by all cities in ASEAN. Rapid urbanisation poses challenges on infrastructure, pollution, housing, and socioeconomic inequality. Local governments should have a strategy to face that challenge. Governments are making cities smarter than before by using technology and data.

It is important to balance between urban and rural life. Indonesia has three (3) strategies for this: created regulation to manage rural life, established Ministry of Village and Development, and allocated budget. Village development budget is 35 billion for 75 villages since 2015. "If we have good regulation and good institution but no budget, it will mean nothing."

What are the opportunities and challenges faced by your province and how can your province contribute to the development of ASEAN as an epicentre of growth?



Picture 7: Mr. Dakila Carlo E. Cua differentiated urban and rural governmental approached.

Mr. Dakila Carlo E. Cua, President of Union of Local Authorities of the Philippines (ULAP)/ Governor of Quirino Province, the Philippines

Quirino is a land full of potential and possibilities. Blessed with so much natural resources, fertile lands, diverse ecosystem, and diverse culture, there is so much potential in agriculture and ecotourism even if the province is young at a little over 50 years. The potential of Quirino is similar to entire region of ASEAN because of the young population which is a tremendous human resource potential.

There has to be a different approach between urban and rural governments. Quirino is a last mile economy – not a major thoroughfare and not an industrial hub but it is full of natural resources and ecological richness. What Quirino can contribute along with other rural areas would be ecological balance. Every local government unit regardless of size has the power to make a significant impact on the larger landscape of ASEAN development. In the case of Quirino, we hope to be net zero in the next 5 to 10 years. While we may just be one piece of the puzzle together with other provinces and local governments across the Philippines and ASEAN, we can collectively shape the future of growth and progress.

Cities significantly contribute to the accomplishment of global goals such as the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Paris Agreement, and the New Urban Agenda through balanced economic growth, sustainable use of natural resources, and protection of the environment. Please share best practices from Klang and the linkages to strengthen our common objective to bring growth and prosperity to the region and the world.



Picture 8: Mrs. Noraini Roslan shared the role of city leaders in implementing sustainability.

Mrs. Noraini Roslan, President of Klang Municipal Council, Malaysia

Cities play a significant role in sustainability and inclusive growth not only in its boundary but in the nation and region as well. The role of city leaders is imperative for future of nation. In Klang, there is a 2021-2025 strategic plan that laid out six (6) principles: good governance; holistic planning and sustainable development; clean and beautiful environment; quality infrastructure and public amenities; digitalisation to smart city; and financial stability for sustainable growth. To become a carbon neutral and greener city, citywide inventory for energy usage started in city hall then with other government agencies in the city, followed by public places such schools and places of worship.

Strengthening partnerships and collaborations are key to global growth and prosperity. How can knowledge sharing between ASEAN cities and external partners contribute to the objectives of "ASEAN Matters: Epicentrum of Growth"? Please highlight the previous Cambodian ASEAN Chairmanship 2022 experienced.



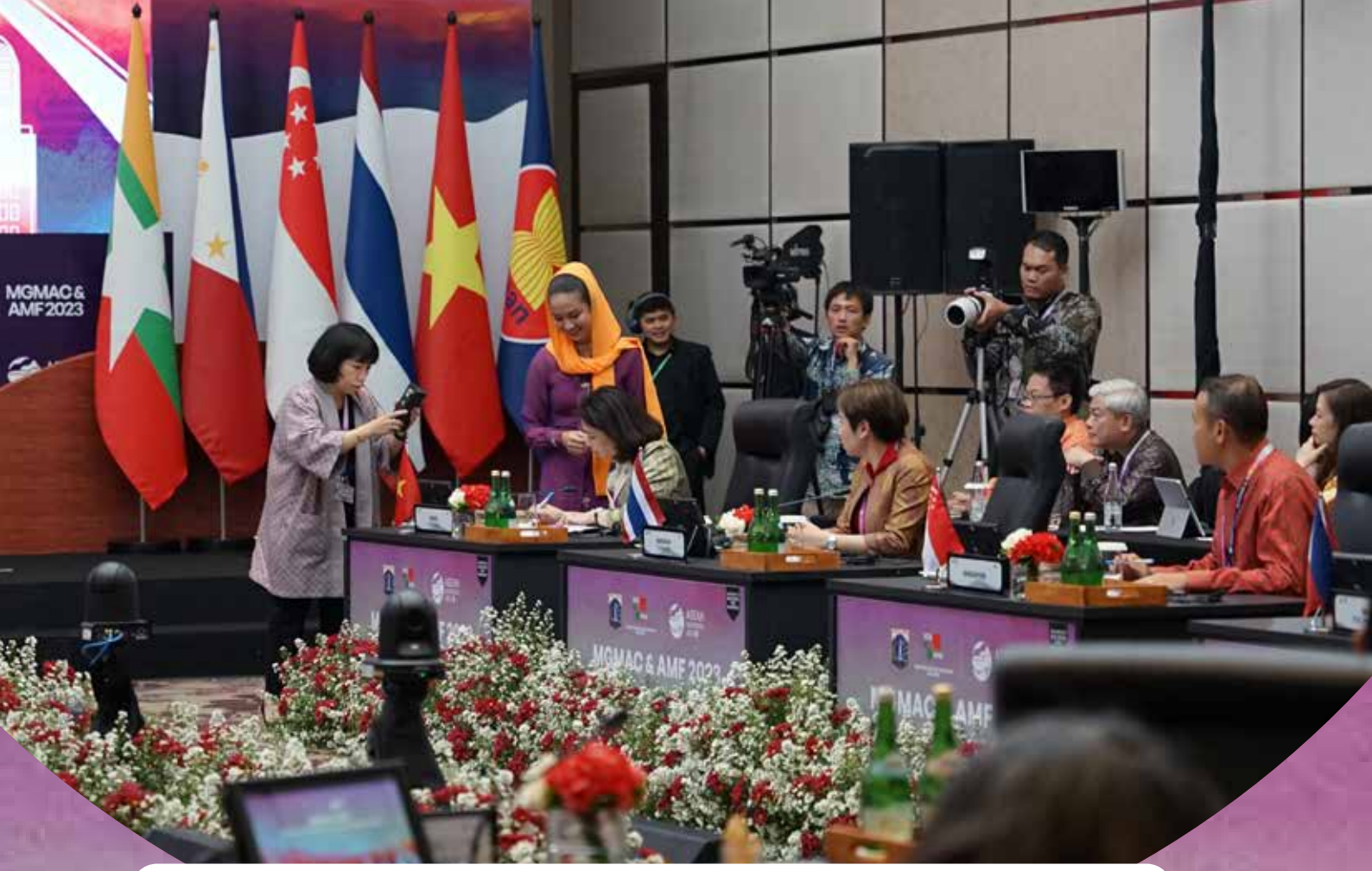
Picture 9: Mr. Nuon Pharat emphasised the importance of collaboration to accelerate economic growth.

Mr. Nuon Pharat, Vice Governor of Phnom Penh, Cambodia

Strongly agree with the idea that strengthening partnership and collaboration is key to global growth and prosperity not only between ASEAN cities and partners but among ASEAN cities ourselves.

It is important to accelerate economic growth through sharing information about industry and markets which can help attract more investment and create jobs. Cities can play an important role to promote understanding and tolerance among citizens. This can help build a more peaceful and harmonious region. Knowledge sharing could also help strengthen regional cooperation in addressing challenges together. Because our cities face similar challenges, starting from small to big, cities can pull resources and expertise to address common challenges together.

Knowledge sharing helps create a more dynamic and innovative region. By sharing ideas and insights, cities can challenge the status quo and find new ways to solve problem. This can make ASEAN a more prosperous region. ASCN is a good example in which we share a lot experience in development of smart cities. We benefit a lot from this partnership. Another best example is today's event - a good platform. We appreciate how UCLG ASPAC can mobilise partners and stakeholders.



Meeting of Governors and Mayors of ASEAN Capitals (MGMAC)

Ballroom 3, Fairmont

09.00 – 11.00 GMT+7

Participants:

- Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Indonesia
- Jakarta, Indonesia
- Phnom Penh, Cambodia
- Bandar Sri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam
- Ministry of Home Affairs, Indonesia
- Viantiane, Lao PDR
- Singapore, Singapore
- Bangkok, Thailand
- Hanoi, Viet Nam

Agenda 1: Agenda Setting

Mr. Heru Budi Hartono, Acting Governor of Jakarta Special Capital Region, discussed the agenda of the meeting as follows:

1. Agenda setting
2. Summary of MGMAC 2022 in Phnom Penh
3. Discussion on Catalysing Regional Growth through Sustainable Development in ASEAN Capitals
4. Way forward - future orientation, the purpose Jakarta participation
5. Legacy & Tradition
6. Signing of the joint declaration



Picture 10: Mr. Heru Budi Hartono discussed the MGMAC meeting agenda.

Agenda 2: Summary of MGMAC 2022 in Phnom Penh – Mr. Nuon Parath

Mr. Nuon Pharat, Vice Governor of Phnom Penh, presented the summary of the previous MGMAC held last December 2022 in Cambodia. The MGMAC 2022 was held under the topic of promoting cooperation for smart, resilient, and sustainable cities. It was the first in-person meeting of the MGMAC after the pandemic. During the meeting, delegates highlighted their efforts towards smart cities, citizen engagement, and technology to address urban issues.



Picture 11: Mr. Nuon Pharat summarised previous MGMAC 2022.

Agenda 3: Discussion on Catalysing Regional Growth through Sustainable Development in ASEAN Capitals



Agenda 3 provides us with the opportunity to share ideas and best practices, as well as collaborate to construct a sustainable city through the discussion of topics related to governance, inclusive economic growth, sustainable development, climate action, urban health, and innovative financing that align with the ASEAN vision in addressing regional and global challenges, thereby strengthening ASEAN's position as the regional economic hub for both ASEAN and the world. ASEAN holds a strategic role in contributing to the development of Southeast Asia as a centre of growth and global prosperity. According to the United Nations, 68% of the world's population will reside in cities and urban areas by 2050, while the World Bank



Picture 12: Ms. Tavida Kamolvej discussed ASEAN pressing issues related to governance, inclusive economic growth, sustainable development, climate actions, urban health, and innovative financing.

projects that 75% of the population will be living in urban and city areas by 2045. Cities and urban areas will become centres of economic activity. However, they also face various urban challenges such as traffic congestion, air pollution, clean water provision, and exacerbated flooding due to climate change impacts. The primary challenge is to harmonise economic growth with ecological preservation. This session aims to enlighten us all on the importance of transitioning from business-as-usual (BAU) to sustainable urban development.

a. **Jakarta, Indonesia**

Jakarta is committed to supporting efforts in realising "catalysing regional growth through sustainable development in ASEAN capitals" as the theme adopted in MGMAC 2023.



Jakarta shared their best practices and achievements on inclusive economic growth and sustainable development.

To foster inclusive economic growth, enhance livelihoods, and create economic opportunities for all, Jakarta has undertaken several key initiatives, including the development and creation of skilled workforce through education and training programmes to meet market needs and support for small and medium enterprises (SMEs) to encourage entrepreneurship and job creation through the Jakarta Entrepreneur programme. Jakarta has developed an entrepreneurship ecosystem that brings together stakeholders such as start-ups, educational institutions, and financing institutions.

Towards sustainability development, to create healthy environment and sustainable mobility, Jakarta implemented several strategies.

Jakarta has encouraged the shift to sustainable public transportation by promoting Light Rail Transit (LRT), Mass Rapid Transit (MRT), and TransJakarta. Jakarta aims to reduce traffic congestion, reduce carbon emissions, and create more sustainable urban environments.

Jakarta has focused on embracing nature-based solutions for urban development by utilising riverside, construction of wetlands, as well as bioretention areas. These initiatives are not only enhancing biodiversity and mitigate the impact of climate change but also provide recreational spaces for citizens in terms of their mental well-being.

Jakarta is also working on the development of sustainable urban health by focusing on health care infrastructure as foundation for better social economic growth and well-being for people.

Jakarta is committed to developing effective prevention, preparedness, and response mechanisms to deal with potential public health, infection of disease, climate change

and the degradation of ecosystem.

b. **Vientiane, Lao PDR – host of MGMAC 2024**

Vientiane capital is political, cultural and economy center of Lao PDR. Over the years, the city has experienced a notable increase in population, accompanied by rapid urban congestion. In response to these challenges, Vientiane is committed to implementing vital infrastructural changes that can effectively support the growing demands of its residents and ensure the city's sustainable development. Vientiane has encountered several pressing issues that demand innovative solutions. These challenges span a range of areas, including transportation, waste management, water resources, and clean energy. The city has formulated the Green City Action Plan for the years 2023-2030. This strategic framework is designed to spearhead the city's efforts in achieving a direct mission towards sustainability. The plan outlines six key priority actions that are pivotal to this transformation, including energy, waste management, water, climate change, mobility, and sustainability. Viantiane is earger to collaborate with fellow members to foster a brighter and more sustainable future for the capital cities and the ASEAN communities.



c. **Bandar Sri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam**

The challenges in the past few years have had a profound impact on Brunei region. Most notably, the economic and social landscape. Therefore, this catalysing regional growth through sustainable development in ASEAN capitals is important for ASEAN to accelerate economy recovery. It is evident that in the face of adversity such as COVID-19 pandemic, ASEAN has become stronger due to cross cooperation and collaboration to overcome the challenge.

Brunei has initiatives, namely the *Wawasan Brunei* 2035. It has three strategic goals: 1) to achieve educated and highly skilled people through high quality education, 2) to ensure high quality of life through the development of healthcare, social, cultural, and sustainable environment, 3) to achieve a dynamic and sustainable economy through sustainable growth, job creation, and financial strategies. Brunei has digital economy initiative through the Digital Economy Masterplan 2025. The masterplan emphasis the need to go beyond and serves as a roadmap to the implementation of digital transformation initiatives to achieve Brunei as a smart nation. In relation to climate change, they introduce the mandatory report of Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions that serves as important step for the next 7 years towards net zero emissions in 2050. Brunei has achieved VNR (Voluntary National Review) and looking forward to exchange ideas for the benefits of ASEAN.

d. **Phnom Penh, Cambodia**

As Cambodia recovered from the COVID-19 pandemic, the challenge has been replaced by the dramatic shift in the dynamic of Ukraine-Russia situation which has complicated not just to international relations but also caused economic disruptions. These have impacted the development of the city. In response, Phnom Penh is considering policies that focus on sustainable development solutions encompassing not only the economy, social, and environment but also political stability and digitalisation. On the economic sector, as Phnom Penh is the hub of political and economic, the city benefits from the efforts of Cambodia in addressing growth competitiveness and economic diversification. The Royal Government of Cambodia addressed major challenges associated with the new investment law, digital economy and society policy framework for 2035, public private partnerships, the adoption of agreements.



Cambodia's economy is projected to experience growth by 2030, primarily supported by the recovery in tourism, manufacturing, and agriculture sectors. On political aspects, it is believed that peace and political stability are the foundation of the sustainable roadmap. As for the environmental aspect, the geographical area of Phnom Penh is prone to flooding. Phnom Penh has committed to minimise the impact of climate change. Both the land use and drainage masterplan, as well as the urban development masterplan, are scheduled for updates. There is a need to pay greater attention to inclusive digital policies and establish a regulatory framework that encourages greater investment. Cambodia has adopted a smart and sustainable cities roadmap to further this goal. The mechanism for sustainable development encompasses economic, social, environmental, and political dimensions.

e. **Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia**

To push the missions on sustainability, resilience, and zero carbon in Kuala Lumpur, it is important to align with the global commitments on sustainable development. The development guidelines aimed at achieving sustainability entail measures to decrease the carbon footprint and mitigate climate change. Kuala Lumpur has encouraged all departments to use at least 30% renewable energy. By imposing this regulation, Kuala Lumpur could decrease the carbon footprint and mitigate the impacts of climate change. The city must mobilise its citizens to actively participate in efforts to reduce GHG emissions in urban areas by using public transportation and non-motorised transportation. We also need to encourage private sectors to invest in sustainability as climate change costs a lot. Hence, Kuala Lumpur stands with all ASEAN cities to support sustainable approach by sharing best practices, knowledge, and initiatives between ASEAN cities.

Kuala Lumpur has Action Plan by 2050 to achieve their goal of being a long-term carbon neutral and resilient city. Kuala Lumpur has also Low Carbon Society Blueprint 2030 that identifies comprehensive solutions to battle climate change. The Climate Action Plan (CAP) is focused on five strategic areas, including energy efficient and climate-proof buildings, solid waste management, mobility and infrastructure, green adaptive city, and disaster management. In conclusion, successful implementation requires cooperative efforts involving all parties, including public agencies, private companies, and committees. Synergy between these entities will be essential in attaining the desired sustainable outcomes.

f. **Singapore - Singapore**

Singapore highlighted the importance of cross-border cooperation and shared learning towards catalysing regional growth through sustainable development. Currently, they have several projects in progress related to sustainable development, thus they need to draw insights and learn from other countries' experiences. Singapore's forward-looking strategy is encapsulated in the Green Plan 2030, a visionary blueprint aimed at cultivating sustainable energy practices and nurturing a greener future. This plan remains in consultation with active involvement from the government, private sector, and the public. Singapore's commitment to clean energy and environmental responsibility extends to the enhancement of its public transportation system. Given the challenge posed by a high volume of vehicles on the road, the nation continuously promotes public transport usage among its residents.



Singapore has developed The SCP (Singapore Cooperation Programme), a multi-faceted initiative that spans a range of subjects, including sustainable transportation and digital economy. Singapore extends open invitation to other cities within the ASEAN community, encouraging peer-to-peer learning and the sharing of ideas and data. This collaborative spirit reflects Singapore's aspiration to work collectively towards sustainable future, setting the stage for enhanced regional cooperation. Through these collective efforts, Singapore envisions a prosperous ASEAN where shared knowledge and cooperative endeavour lead to lasting positive change.

g. **Bangkok - Thailand**

The theme of this year's MGMAC is relevant to the development of sustainability in Bangkok including urban development linkages, socio-economic inclusiveness, transformation of digitalisation, and disaster risk reduction (DRR). Bangkok post-pandemic was used as an opportunity to integrate those aspects into their development.

As a capital city, Bangkok's urban landscape is characterised by its diversity, complexity, and challenges inherent to a mega city. Over the past years, the city's efforts have been directed towards cultivating public trust in the government and fostering active citizen participation in developmental processes, particularly with an emphasis on inclusiveness. Bangkok recognises the importance of embodying five essential elements that define a credible and effective government, including:

1. Inclusiveness: This entails addressing safety, urban health, education, and economic aspects to ensure that all members of society are included in the development process.
2. Reliable Service: Both digital and analog platforms must be established to provide dependable and accessible services to the public.
3. Digital Transformation: Literacy, particularly digital literacy, is a key factor in ensuring the successful adoption of digital advancements.
4. Transparency and Responsiveness: Making datasets open to the public fosters transparency and enables a responsive approach to addressing community needs.
5. Good Governance: The fight against corruption is essential for establishing good governance and ensuring efficient and accountable public administration.



h. **Hanoi – Viet Nam**

Hanoi's proposed solution involves reviewing, updating, and adjusting the traffic network planning. Hanoi is focusing on completing the ring roads, construct bridges over the Red River, developing a large mass public transport system with urban railway as the main driver, improving service quality of public transport services, building a toll-collecting project for transports travelling to the inner city, and carrying out digital transformation. Furthermore, there is a need to establish a connection with the northern urban area. Vision 2050 will be instrumental in adapting the masterplan for the railway network, with a particular emphasis on its enhancement. Hanoi also shared lessons learned on sustainable transport development as follows:

1. Develop policy with a long-term and overall vision;
2. Prepare good infrastructure conditions, which should be one step ahead of population growth and urbanisation;
3. Encourage the use of public transport and provide convenient public transport services;
4. Integrate devices, systems, and smart management models in managing people's travel needs;
5. Integrate transport and land use planning; and
6. Develop infrastructure to ensure the connection, interconnection, and synchronisation between modes of transport, and prioritising public transport as well.

Agenda 4: Way forward - future orientation, the purpose Jakarta participation

Jakarta will remain as the capital of ASEAN which covers development priorities, including the centre of economy, as well as autonomy area in terms of funding and cooperation. Jakarta also remains as the contributor of national economy as well as mobility of goods and people. There are several projects that have been done by Jakarta: water system development, waste management, and transportation system.

Agenda 5: Legacy & Tradition

Handover MGMAC chairmanship symbolically done by transferring the gold-plated hammer from the acting Governor of Jakarta, Mr. Heru Budi Hartono, to the Governor of Vientiane, Mr. Atsaphangthong Siphandone. Leaders are looking forward to the next Meeting of MGMAC to be held in Vientiane, the LAO PDR in 2024.

Agenda 6: Signing of the joint declaration

Each of the delegations signed the declaration. The points of agreement and commitment in the 2023 MGMAC Joint Declaration are:

1. Appeal to ASEAN Leaders to formalise the Meeting of Governors and Mayors of ASEAN Capitals (MGMAC) and the ASEAN Mayors Forum (AMF) that channel the aspirations of local governments to deepen the ASEAN community-building process. The initiative will contribute to the enhancement of urban-rural linkages and the role of intermediary cities to fast-track rural transformation and poverty eradication that strengthens the institutional effectiveness and capacity of ASEAN in advancing regional integration as the epicentre of growth.



Picture 13: Joint Declaration of MGMAC

2. Strive to achieve inclusive economic growth that promotes better living conditions and economic opportunities as well as ensuring access to sufficient, safe, and nutritious food for all, including children, women, youth, the elderly, persons with disabilities, and vulnerable groups. The initiative will foster equality and economic development by providing wider access to finance, job opportunities, economic investment, and regional markets, as well as enhancing the region's sustainable agriculture and food systems in the long run.

3. Accelerate digital transformation with a coherent, harmonised, and rule-based approaches to the needs of end users and various stakeholders and ensure that the governments, private sector, and people of ASEAN are equipped with the digital transformation relevant skills, competencies and values to address the challenges of the 4IR (Fourth Industrial Revolution) and the changing world of work. Support for the development of affordable and high-speed digital connectivity for urban areas, intermediary cities, marginalised and rural communities from the ASEAN Leaders to bridge digital infrastructure and innovation disparities is crucial to further promote regional economic integration.

4. Commit to addressing climate change and environmental issues by scaling up cooperation and partnership; advancing interlinkages between climate action and promoting the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and ecosystem services; implementation of nature-based/ecosystem-based approach as well as advancement in science, technology, and innovation to accelerate the achievement of sustainable resilience; making cities more habitable by balancing sustainable economic growth and utilisation of natural resources and environmental protection; as well as prioritising investment in sustainable mobility that increases the use of public transport modes, walking and cycling to improve public health and reduce inequality.

5. Strengthen urban health architectures that serve as a foundation for achieving better social-economic growth and well-being for ASEAN communities to ensure more effective mechanisms for prevention, preparedness, and response in dealing with potential infectious diseases, climate change, and ecosystem degradation.

6. Encourage green financing to develop and promote private investment in sustainable urban projects through innovative and blended financing schemes to fund urban development initiatives and rely on cost-effective partnerships between business and private entities.



Picture 14: Joint Declaration of MGMAC


EETING OF GOVERNORS AND
S OF ASEAN CAPITALS (MGMAC) &
SEAN MAYORS FORUM (AMF)
JAKARTA, 1 - 2 AUGUST 2023

Result of the Panel Sessions



Picture 15:
Panel Session 1 – Inclusive Economic Growth

Panel Session 1:
Inclusive Economic Growth

Moderator: Mr. Fakri Karim, Adviser UNCDF for Smart Green ASEAN Cities

Panel Members:

- Mr. Oh Young-hun, Governor of Jeju Self-Governing Province
- Ms. Stephany Uy Tan, City Councilor of Catbalogan
- Mrs. Atika Nur Rahmania, Jakarta Head of Regional Planning Board
- Dr. Bima Arya Sugiarto, Mayor of Bogor City
- Mr. Marten A. Taha, Mayor of Gorontalo City
- Prof. Dr. Genius Umar, Mayor of Pariaman City
- Mr. Achmad Husein, Regent of Banyumas Regency
- Mr. Bounnao Fongkhamdeng, Vice Mayor of Pakse City for Economic and Urban Development
- Ms. Andrea Loriaga, Executive Director, League of Municipalities of the Philippines on behalf of Lingayen Mayor Mr. Leopoldo N. Bataoil

Summary

This session shared the experiences of ASEAN cities in promoting sustainable urban development while reducing environmental footprint and improving the quality of life for citizens through inclusive economic growth. Cities expressed their vision for low carbon emission and green energy ecosystem towards sustainable urban development. They also shared how investment in public infrastructure benefits the general public and how public-private partnership (PPP) can finance smart and resilient cities. Cities also stated that inclusive economic growth begins with inclusive development planning. They also acknowledged that stakeholder engagement is crucial in developing a comprehensive plan.

Key Recommendations

1. Create Local Government Unit (LGU) in ASEAN Secretariat. A formal legal framework and umbrella for fostering cooperation will have a significant impact on the progress made by ASEAN cities.
2. Empower communities by involving them in local planning and development processes.
3. Develop an inclusive plan that will enhance economic access and opportunities for the people.

Follow-up Actions

Engage the communities to generate awareness and local action towards prosperity for all. To be global, start local.



Picture 16:
Panel Session 2 – Digital Transformation

Panel Session 2:
Digital Transformation

Moderator: Dr. Emil Elestianto Dardak, Vice Governor of East Java Province

Panel Members:

- Ms. Tavida Kamolvej, Deputy Governor of Bangkok
- Mr. Jake Villa, Governor of Siquijor, the Philippines
- Mr. Mohammad Ramdhan Pomanto, Mayor of Makassar City
- Mr. Yudhistira Nugraha, Head of Jakarta Smart City
- Dr. Andi Harun, Mayor of Samarinda City
- Mrs. Nadjirah, Vice Mayor of Bontang City
- Mr. Pongsak Yingchoncharoen, Mayor of Yala City
- Dr. Ngo Trung Hai, Secretary-General of the Association of Cities of Viet Nam (ACVN)
- Mr. Shanmuga Retnam, Executive Co-Chairman of Viet Nam Smart City Consortium
- Mr. Amirul Ariff Bin Abdul Rahman, Head of Security and Communication Division of Seberang Perai City Council
- EU Youth Representatives and Other ASEAN Delegates

Summary

To build a smart city, cities should recognise the importance of digital infrastructure, digital government, digital society, and digital economy in creating a thriving and inclusive urban environment. The goal is to use cutting-edge technologies to promote equality, engage citizens, and drive long-term economic growth. The willingness to change and willingness to collaborate are two essential attitudes and characteristics that can significantly contribute to the success of any city's digital transformation efforts. Digital transformation is not an object nor is it a privilege; everyone deserves to have access to digital technologies and services.

Key Recommendations

1. Examine a city's characteristics and citizen needs based on city data.

2. Mark well-informed decisions, address complex urban challenges, and create inclusive and sustainable environments by combining qualitative and quantitative data.

3. Create effective and responsive policies that reflect needs and aspirations of communities by leveraging qualitative and quantitative data.

Follow-up Actions

1. To achieve digital development, a data warehouse with high data quality is required, as is the ability to use various types of systems, applications, or devices to exchange and use information in a coordinated and efficient manner.

2. Have a leadership mindset that is open to change and willing to collaborate.

3. Collect feedback from citizens in order to determine the citizens' needs.



Picture 17:
Panel Session 3 – Building Resilient Cities and Climate Actions

Panel Session 3:
Building Resilient Cities and Climate Actions

Moderator: Ms. Milag San Jose-Ballesteros, Global South Diversity Lead, Regional Director for East, Southeast Asia, and Oceania, C40

Panel Members:

- Mr. Heinrich Gudenus, Urban-ACT, GIZ
- Mr. Omar Siddique, UNESCAP
- Ms. Anna Amalia, Ministry of Bappenas
- Mr. Ekos Albar, Vice Mayor of Padang City
- Ms. Yang Liu, Xi'an City
- Assoc. Prof. Dr. Wichai Kanchanasuwan, Deputy Mayor of Hat Yai Municipality
- Mr. Asanee Buranupakorn, Mayor of Chiang Mai City
- Ms. Madelaine Alfelor Gazman, Mayor of Iriga City 2004-2013, 2016-2022 and UCLG ASPAC Ambassador
- Mr. Ibnu Sina, Mayor of Banjarmasin City
- Mr. Novly Wowiling, North Minahasa Regent Secretary
- Ms. Bernadette, the ASEAN and EU Youth Representative

Summary

The focus of the discussion was on strategies and priorities to achieve resilient cities and climate actions. The climate change initiatives such as the Urban Act project for low-carbon and resilient cities were highlighted as a key enabler, supporting policy change, capacity building, and partnerships. Additionally, it aids in climate action planning for financing.

National and local governments (cities and municipalities) have made commendable efforts to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and enhance climate resiliency through initiatives such as gas emission reduction, reforestation, climate village programmes, and GHG inventories. However, challenges persist, including low awareness and participation in climate change issues, limited institutional and regulatory capacity, inadequate data availability, and constrained funding for climate resilience efforts.

Key Recommendations

1. Demonstrate commitment by prioritising long-term development planning (in line with the national development plan and nationally determined contributions (NDCs) target), ensuring sustained efforts and investments in climate resilience.

2. Foster vertical integration, cross-sectoral, and intergenerational involvement by actively engaging wider communities in climate emergency response, promoting inclusivity and collective actions.

3. Strengthen science-based information and data-driven approaches in city planning and decision-making to effectively address climate challenges.

4. Empowering ASEAN cities for climate resilience requires strong stakeholder cooperation, bridging the gap between national and sub-national levels. This calls for the active involvement of governments, private sectors, and communities, fostering collaborative efforts. To achieve this, unlocking urban climate resources (such as climate financing and capacity building) is needed.

Follow-up Actions

1. To facilitate peer-to-peer learning across the ASEAN cities, fostering knowledge exchange on successful climate resilience strategies.

2. To recognise cities as climate leaders by actively engaging with them, thus ensuring their meaningful participation in climate action planning and implementation.



Picture18:
Panel Session 4 – SDGs Localisation

Panel Session 4:
SDGs Localisation

Moderator: Mrs. Norliza Hashim, Chief Executive of Urbanice Malaysia

Panel Members:

- Mr. Dakila Carlo E. Cua, President of Union of Local Authorities of the Philippines or ULAP/ Governor of Quirino Province
- Ms. Math Azimah, Deputy Governor of Siem Reap
- Mr. Mohammad Sofian bin Haji Basri, Acting Chairman of Tutong Municipal Board
- Dr. dr. Maulana, Vice Mayor of Jambi City
- Dr. Khaidarmansyah, Head of the Development Planning Agency of Bandar Lampung City
- Drs. Sinoeng Noegroho Rachmadi, Acting Mayor of Salatiga City
- Mr. Ymeng Lim, Director of One Window Service Unit, Battambang Provincial Hall
- Ms. Prak Puthy, Vice President of the National Association of Capital and Provincial Councils or NACPC
- Mr. Say Kosal, President of the League of Commune/Sangkat Council or NLC
- Mr. Pok Sokundara, Secretary General of The National League of Local Councils
- Dr. Suyanto Waspo Tondo Wicaksono, Head of Urban Planning Agency of Banyuwangi Regency
- Ms. Emilie Traub, Regional Coordinator of the Association Internationale des Maires Francophones (AIMF)
- EU Youth Representatives and Other ASEAN Delegates

Summary

The session highlighted the local government role in mainstreaming the SDGs at sub-national level and shared good practices that underlined local government initiatives to achieve the SDGs. With only seven (7) years left until 2030 to achieve the SDGs, local government role in accelerating progress should be strengthened. SDGs will not be achieved by applying business-as-usual approach. Local governments must seek alternative development interventions to accelerate the SDGs achievement.

Challenges in implementing the SDGs at the local level were acknowledged during the session. Data collection remains a notable challenge. Additionally, limited budget, lack of human resources, and inadequate infrastructures and technology also pose constraints in achieving the SDGs.

Key Recommendations

1. It is essential to mainstream the SDGs into local development plans. Policymakers must view the SDGs as a roadmap towards sustainability which identifies prioritised goals and addresses apparent gaps in achieving the SDGs.

2. Fostering collaboration with private sectors and international networks is vital.

3. Encouraging community and youth participation is key. The community is at the heart of every development project, and their involvement should be sought at every step. Involving youth in development is equally important, given their capacity and creativity to contribute to SDGs localisation.

Follow-up Actions

1. Mainstream the SDGs into local development plans.
2. View the SDGs as a roadmap towards sustainability.
3. Identify prioritised goals and address apparent gaps in achieving the SDGs.
4. Foster collaboration with the private sector.
5. Be actively involved in international networks for cross-border knowledge-sharing and capacity-building.
6. Encourage the community as they are at the heart of every development project.
7. Involve youth in local development agenda.



Picture19:
Panel Session 5 – Sustainable Mobility
to Accelerate Cities; Net Zero Emissions

Panel Session 5:
Sustainable Mobility to Accelerate Cities; Net Zero Emission

Moderator: Ms. Anissa Febrina, Indonesia Country Facilitator, UK PACT Country Programme

Panel Members:

- Mr. Mohd. Fahmi Aliman, Mayor of Southeast District of Singapore
- Mr. Gilarsi W Setijono, CEO PT VKTR Teknologi Mobilitas Tbk
- Mr. Purbaja Pantja, Chief Investment Officer Indika Energy
- Ms. Etsa Amanda, Senior Transport Policy and Development Associate
- Dr. Cheav Vichak, Deputy Governor of Preah Sihanouk Province
- Dato' Razihan bin Adzharuddin, Mayor of Kuantan City
- Dr. Frans Pekey, Acting Mayor of Jayapura City
- Mr. Kamphanh Vanthana, Project Manager Vientiane Sustainable Urban Transport Project, Vientiane Provincial Government
- Mr. Alwis Rustam, Executive Director of the Association of Indonesia Municipalities (APEKSI)
- EU Youth Representatives and Other ASEAN Delegates

Summary

This panel discussion focused on how to engage and explore collaboration between private and public sectors in accelerating the adoption and implementation of electric transportation. The challenges in electrifying mobility are workforce loss due to technology, lack of skill transfer between different sectors, and high capital loss.

Sustainable mobility is not only aimed for our generation but also for the future generation. It is not only about reducing GHG and air pollution but how we ensure it can promote inclusivity for all.

Public transportation reform is also imperative. Local governments need to encourage people to take public transport but we also have to make sure the public transportation services are more reliable.

Key Recommendations

1. Provide policy and infrastructure that facilitate greater people contribution and accountability.
2. Build collaboration and communication with the public.
3. Keep learning and be open to stakeholder engagement.

Follow-up Actions

1. All different actors (policymakers, private/business sectors, citizens, youth) have to be involved in the learning process and collaboration to support sustainable mobility.
2. We should have an institution/ system that support the accountability on sustainable mobility.



Roundtable Statement – Local Government Perspective

In this session, local government representatives from each of the ASEAN Member States were given the opportunity to select and respond to any of the following questions:

1. How do cities/local governments foster a conducive business environment that encourages entrepreneurship and innovation for inclusive economic activities?
2. Based on your experience, what is the most suitable action/strategy to accelerate the digital transformation in your cities/local governments?
3. How does your country provide an enabling environment for cities and local governments, particularly in terms of access to financing for sustainable development?
4. How does your city/local government deal with the climate emergency including climate resiliency? Any specific plans and/or strategies?
5. Please give some recommendations on how to support cities/local governments that you had implemented to enhance inclusive growth.

Brunei Darussalam: Mr. Mohammad Sofian bin Haji Basri, Acting District Officer of Tutong, Brunei Darussalam

The challenges we have faced in these past few years had given us profound impact on economic and social landscape. For Brunei, it gives us both concerns and opportunities, uncertainties and potentials. Allow me to share our initiative towards achieving Brunei vision 2035. There are three (3) goals to achieve the 2035 vision: develop educated, highly skilled, and accomplished people; ensure high quality of life; and achieve dynamic and sustainable economy.



Picture 20: Mr. Mohammad Sofian bin Haji Basri shared initiatives on achieving Brunei Vision 2035.

There is also a digital economy initiative masterplan that identified flagship projects with most potential to increase production, cost effectiveness, and optimisation of resources. Digitalisation has become a popular topic within the Brunei legislative.

Brunei Climate Change Secretariat was established in 2019. Brunei produced mandatory reporting to track progress in reducing greenhouse gas emission. The aim is to cut carbon emission by 20% in the next seven years eventually moving towards net zero by 2050. Touching a bit on SDGs, happy to share that we have achieved some progress per the Voluntary National Review (VNR) in 2023 which recorded progress on Goals 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 14 and 15. Progress and success of initiatives that we have achieved so far would not have been possible without commitment of all levels of government in Brunei with a whole-of-nation and whole-of-government approach.

Cambodia: Ms. Math Azimah, Deputy Governor of Siem Reap Province

We are trying to reduce poverty by improving our public service. These are through the following: one window, one service; public healthcare service; infrastructure; tourism development; agriculture development; and education.



Picture 21: Ms. Math Azimah shared about Siem Reap strategy to reduce poverty.

Indonesia: Mr. Dhany Sukma, Mayor of Central Jakarta

Our effort to foster inclusive economic growth encourages entrepreneurship and innovation. I will also convey Jakarta action in reducing GHG towards more resilient city. More than one (1) million people live in Central Jakarta which is one of Indonesia's main economic centres. As capital of Indonesia, Jakarta is also the centre of micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) activities which are the backbone of Jakarta's economy as they contribute to a significant portion for economic growth. Jakarta has run the entrepreneurship programme to empower MSMEs and strengthen inclusive economic growth. In 2023, we



Picture 22: Mr. Dhany Sukma encouraged action in reducing GHG towards resilient city.

will focus on six (6) prominent programs for MSMEs as follows: training session for new entrepreneurs; intellectual property (IP) registration and training to upgrade product design and packaging; transformation of MSMEs business activities to the digital market; training to become a business; Halal certification to increase sales volume; and creative industry.

On climate action, Jakarta is committed to reduce GHG by 30% by 2030 and zero emission by 2050. This commitment is stated in government regulation number 90 in 2021. By 2021, Jakarta reached 27% reduction GHG and still progressing by doing mitigation and adaptation.

DKI Jakarta is extremely vulnerable to the impact of climate change. One of the prominent impacts of climate change is extreme rainfall. Central Jakarta adopted nature-based solution to overcome this challenge by developing blue-green infrastructure and combining hydrological function with vegetative landscape.

Indonesia: Dr. Emil E. Dardak, Vice Governor of East Java



Picture 23: Dr. Emil E. Dardak spoke about methodologies to speed up city transformation.

East Java is witnessing the impact of climate change. Climate change results in greater susceptibility to disasters. We are currently facing El Niño, which is the dry weather with higher temperature, affecting agriculture production and food resiliency. During the rainy season or La Niña, it is resulting in higher susceptibility to flooding. It is important, in the midst of political challenges that are being faced by local governments, to ensure that disaster resilience remains a priority.

Digital technology developed rapidly in many cities. It is important to ensure that there is standardise data disclosure, cybersecurity measure, methods, and best practices we can adopt in order to speed up transformation. Digital transformation not only affects governance and delivery of service but also the community and citizens. A lot of local government leaders are facing, after COVID-19, challenges of recovering the economy which is not easy. There needs to be concerted effort in order to provide affirmative action to develop and bring SMEs onboard to digital technology. I would like to introduce the millennial job centre which benefitted more than 7,000 youth with capability in digital economy including graphic design and product photography, matchmaking them with business to work as freelancers to build their portfolio.

On SDG localisation, how do we align and harmonise between preventing counterviolence and extremism? Together with Klang, we attended the Strong Cities Network in Manila. It is important

to note that we have to work together to build resilience on the emergence of violence and extremist behaviour because of social media. In the Strong Cities Network, we have identified that it is possible to integrate existing programme to build resilience by spreading the value of anti-violence and extremism through schools and communities. East Java also supports the implementation of Voluntary Local Review (VLR) to ensure that achieving the SDGs is not just a national effort but also local effort.

Lao PDR: Mr. Saveuy Silavan, Vice Mayor of Luang Prabang City

Most of land used in Luang Prabang are mountainous. Land of agriculture are limited. The biggest problem is that every year, around April, local people burn their farm which brings very serious air pollution. To reduce air pollution, Luang Prabang paid more attention to public awareness; education and public health; and provision of jobs and projects to address poverty. Because Luang Prabang is a World Heritage Site, the local government is also focused on tourism. That is why this air pollution is very serious for us.



Picture 24: Leaders from Mekong River Basin shared their perspectives during the round table statement session.

Malaysia: Mrs. Noraini Roslan, President of Klang Municipal Council

Klang is a major port city in Malaysia. To remain competitive as one port in East Asia region, I have an obligation to ensure that my city remains competitive and that economic development continues to grow steadily. In this era of digitalisation, we do not have a choice but embrace information technology (IT) and digital transformation. What is smart city? To me, it is a way of using or leveraging IT to ensure that the city can deliver services and for us to advance city into a better living ecosystem for the people. It is a means to an end. It is not an end by itself but a way for us to provide better services for the people.



Picture 25: Mrs. Noraini Roslan ensured Klang Municipality remain competitive and continue to grow steadily.

Digitalisation to a smart city is one of the six (6) pillars of Klang strategic plan. The city began its journey to a smart city many years ago when IT was adopted into the operation system. Among the first step that we did was digitising administration and operation systems, simply migrating from manual record to spreadsheet and database, and then moving on to transforming our financial system, license and permit, and valuation system. The next stage was to link infrastructure management and maintenance to spatial information system and later using sensor for data collection towards artificial intelligence. The journey is long and

daunting. For other cities with fewer resources, going digital will take a large part of their finance. I call on mayors to look into their existing system. Sometimes a simple task of migrating our records from manual to digital is not being fully done by our offices. Start from a small step that can ensure bigger success in the future. Begin from data collection management and turn it into information that helps us make better decisions.

As a town planner, my city prepares long-term plans. We have ICT strategic plan, risk and disaster management plan, and smart city plan which outlines our strategy until 2030. We need to ensure that we do not create a digital gap within our society by going to the community and businesses and helping them to embrace IT.

The Philippines: Mr. Dakila Carlo E. Cua, President of the Union of Local Authorities of the Philippines (ULAP)/ Governor of Quirino Province



Picture 26: Mr. Dakila Carlo E. Cua encouraged entrepreneurship and innovation in Quirino Province.

In cities and local governments in the Philippines, we prioritise creating a supportive ecosystem that encourages entrepreneurship and innovation. We work closely with the private sector stakeholders and local entrepreneurs to identify their needs and challenges. By streamlining business registration processes and providing necessary incentives, we aim to reduce bureaucratic red tape and attract more investment. In the Philippines, we have Republic Act 11032 or the Ease of Doing Business and Efficient Government Service Act of 2018. This aims to streamline current systems and procedures in government services. This amends the predecessor law which is Republic Act 9485 or the Anti-Red Tape Act of 2007. The strengthened version of law is poised to facilitate prompt actions or resolutions of all government transactions with efficiency. Since 2015, ULAP has been a steadfast partner of the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) particularly its Bureau of Local Government and Development in organising the Ease of Doing Business Fora. This annual event aims to promote digitalisation and streamline processes while showcasing recent digitalisation initiatives by national government agencies. The Fora also highlights success stories of select local governments in digital innovation, and explores opportunities for collaboration between local governments and the private sector. To fully achieve ease of doing business in the Philippines, efforts are geared toward internet connectivity and infrastructure especially in geographically isolated and disadvantaged areas. In addition to connectivity and infrastructure development, local governments are also investing in digital literacy and skills training for their constituents.

The Philippine President instructed the Department of Information and Communication Technology (DICT) to consolidate all digitalised government services into the eGov PH app to establish the national government portal and the Philippine business databank to improve the internet speed in the Philippines.

Through public-private partnerships (PPP), we foster collaboration between local businesses and government agencies. ULAP is working to establish PPP one-stop shop for local government units to facilitate greater collaboration with private sector. Efforts are underway to simplify the current differentiated and graduated local business tax structure applied to various types of business enterprises in the Philippines. The proposed reform suggests a single flat tax rate for gross receipt sales of these businesses. This is a justifiable move as the current graduated local business tax schedule has complicated local tax administration. There is also recommendation to provide greater flexibility to local governments in determining and adjusting tax rates, and reviewing and deciding taxes to the most appropriate level of government.

All these efforts are most viable if we promote culture of transparency and responsiveness to needs of investors and the people.

Viet Nam: Mr. Ngo Trung Hai, Secretary-General of The Association of Cities of Viet Nam (ACVN)

Viet Nam Prime Minister approved national digital transformation programme 2025 and we aim to apply new technology. We are trying to set up digital government, digital economy, and digital society. ACVN tried to focus on digital transformation concerned with the smart city. Our concept of smart city has four (4) layers: natural layer, physical infrastructure, digital infrastructure, and service infrastructure. Nearly 1,000 cities in Viet Nam want to apply smart city.



Picture 27: Mr. Ngo Trung Hai mentioned about the digitalisation progress in Viet Nam.



Adoption of AMF 2023 Jakarta Declaration

The AMF 2023 Jakarta Declaration, resulting from the AMF conference, reached its final form on August 2, 2023. During the event, representatives from the ten ASEAN member nations - Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Viet Nam - presented the declaration on stage.

In this declaration, leaders from city and local governments highlighted key aspects aimed at propelling ASEAN cities toward smart, digital, and transformative growth. The document also tackled the requirements of local governments in advancing sustainable development, with the ultimate goal of achieving transformative and inclusive urban lifestyles, aligning with the ASEAN Community 2025 regional agenda.

This declaration is set to be submitted to the Committee of Permanent Representatives (CPRs) and the newly appointed Secretary General of ASEAN. Its purpose is to contribute to the decision-making processes within ASEAN and potentially serve as a guideline for actions at the local level.



Jakarta Declaration

ASEAN Mayors Forum 2023

WE, the Governors, Mayors and Local Government Leaders representing the vibrant provinces, cities and municipalities of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), convened in the spirit of collaboration, cooperation, and shared vision.

HAVING gathered in Jakarta on the 1st to 2nd of August 2023 for the Meeting of the ASEAN Mayors Forum 2023 (AMF 2023) under the theme "Catalysing Regional Growth through Sustainable Development in ASEAN Cities", aligned with "ASEAN Matters: Epicentrum of Growth" as Indonesian ASEAN Chairmanship Theme 2023.

PURSUING previous commitments and efforts made in the preceding ASEAN Mayors Forum, namely the Surabaya Communiqué 2011, Makassar Declaration 2015, Taguig Action Agenda 2017, AMF Declaration 2019, Joint Declaration of the ASEAN-Republic of Korea Mayors on the 30th Anniversary of ASEAN-ROK Dialogue Relations, and the AMF 2022 Phnom Penh Declaration.

EMPHASISING the importance of forging further intra- and inter-regional partnerships to make Southeast Asia the centre of regional economic growth and an engine for global growth, complementing the attainment of ASEAN Community Vision 2025.

REAFFIRMING the commitment of ASEAN Cities and Local Governments to foster innovation and to mobilise resources in driving sustainable urban development for the accomplishment of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Paris Agreement, the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, and the New Urban Agenda.

LOOKING FORWARD to the next Meeting of the ASEAN Mayors Forum to be held in Vientiane, the Lao People's Democratic Republic.

RECOGNISING the urgent need for sustainable urban development, we hereby declare our commitments and actions to:

1. APPEAL to ASEAN Leaders to normalise the ASEAN Mayors Forum (AMF) and the Meeting of Governors and Mayors of ASEAN Capitals (MGMAC) as integrated ASEAN Sectoral Bodies that channel the aspirations of local governments to deepen the ASEAN community-building process.
2. STRENGTHEN the efforts and reaffirm our dedication to the implementation of the UN 2030 Agenda in alignment with the ASEAN Community Vision 2025, ASEAN Sustainable Urbanisation Strategy, and ASEAN Smart Cities Framework. We will enhance regional cooperation, knowledge sharing, and capacity building to accelerate progress towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. By working together, we aim to create resilient, liveable, inclusive, and sustainable cities that improve the well-being and quality of life for all ASEAN citizens.
3. EMBRACE the sustainability principles to create resilient, liveable, and prosperous urban environments for the present and future generations. Continuing our commitment to sustainability, we further promote sustainable urban planning and implementation, efficient resource management, inclusive urban economic growth, and climate resiliency.

4. FOLLOW-UP on the opportunity to contribute to the development of the ASEAN Community Post-2025 Vision. With AMF as an entity associated with ASEAN, we will engage our community to craft a visionary Post-2025 Vision that reflects the aspirations and needs of our diverse communities, propelling ASEAN towards a brighter, peaceful, and sustainable future.
5. FACILITATE learning, capacity building, and development opportunities among cities and local governments in ASEAN in line with the strategic priorities of ASEAN Community Vision 2025, ASEAN Sustainable Urbanisation Strategy, ASEAN Smart Cities Network, and their respective follow-up. We will strengthen knowledge exchange, peer-to-peer learning, best practices sharing, and technical and managerial cooperation among cities and local governments.
6. ENSURE meaningful engagement of women particularly at the local decision-making processes in cities and local governments in ASEAN. Recognising the importance of gender equality and women's empowerment, we strive to create inclusive and gender-responsive environment that promote women's leadership and participation.
7. PROMOTE sustainable economic development for the prosperity of our cities and regions through fostering entrepreneurship and innovation, and encouraging the development of a green and blue economic investment in sectors that generate decent jobs, boost technological and industrial advancement for MSMEs, and contribute to the sustainable growth of our urban economy. We will also explore synergies with the ASEAN Villages Network to promote rural development.
8. ENHANCE our efforts to mitigate greenhouse gas emissions, promote energy efficiency and conservation, and transition towards renewable energy sources. We further commit to upgrade our adaptive capacities to address climate-related challenges, including rising sea levels, extreme weather events, food security, and water management, and to ensure the resilience of our urban and rural communities.
9. FOSTER sustainable urban mobility and digital transformation towards better connectivity and quality of life all ASEAN citizens. With a vision for enhanced quality of life for all ASEAN citizens, we will prioritise the development of efficient and inclusive transportation systems that reduce congestion and emissions, and improve accessibility. Embracing smart city solutions, we aim to harness technology to enhance public services, connectivity, and citizen engagement.
10. CALL ON ASEAN Member States (AMS) to create and reinforce enabling environment, including access to finance, and transboundary economic investment and cooperation, to unlock the potential of cities and local governments. We urge AMS to establish favourable policies, regulations, and mechanisms that facilitate financial support for local initiatives. This includes streamlining procedures, providing affordable credit options, and promoting innovative financing models.

To operationalise the aforementioned, we will continue our collaborations with international entities, development institutions, educational institutions, the business sector, and non-governmental organisations.

Adopted this day, on the Second Day of August in the Year Two Thousand and Twenty-Three, in Jakarta, the Republic of Indonesia, in a single original copy in the English Language.



Closing Ceremony

Summary of AMF Declaration by Dr. Bernadia Irawati Tjandradewi, Secretary General of UCLG ASPAC|AMF

Mark Victor Hansen once said that "By recording your dreams and goals on paper, you set in motion the process of becoming the person you most want to be. Put your future in good hands — your own." With the adoption of the AMF 2023 Jakarta Declaration, cities and local governments in ASEAN have also put our own dreams and our own goals not on paper but we are making the commitment to implement the AMF Declaration 2023. We will not stop here. This is just the first step in making these dreams and goals a reality. We adopted successfully the AMF Declaration 2023. We will submit this to the ASEAN Country Permanent Representatives (CPRs) and ASEAN Secretary-General for consideration.



Picture 28: Dr. Bernadia Irawati Tjandradewi closed the AMF 2023 emphasised on city's commitment toward AMF Declaration 2023.

Closing remarks by Mr. Heru Budi Hartono, Acting Governor of Jakarta Special Capital Region

We conveyed several points discussed in the signed joint declaration. First is inviting ASEAN leaders to formalise MGMAC and AMF to channel inspiration from local governments to support development of ASEAN communities. This initiative will contribute to strengthening linkage between urban and rural areas which will accelerate transformation of rural to urban and improve effectiveness in supporting regional integration. Second is to implement inclusive economy to provide better opportunities and ensure access to good and nutritious food for all. This initiative will promote distribution of economic benefits by providing more jobs and access to regional market and improving the agricultural sector. Third is to accelerate digital transformation using coherent and harmonious approaches. Support of ASEAN Leaders is needed to bridge the gap in digital innovation which will be very important to promote regional economic growth. Fourth is the commitment to respond to challenges and climate change using partnership and collaboration. This will promote climate action and conservation of biodiversity. Cities also need to prioritise investment on sustainable modes of transportation. Fifth is to strengthen health architecture in urban setting. We need to make sure that we can be more prepared if we deal with public health hazards caused by communicable diseases or degradation of ecosystem. This should be in consideration of mental health of the people. Last is to support green financing that will promote private sector investment in sustainable urban projects.



Picture 29: Mr. Heru Budi Hartono coincided the signed joint declaration.

After this Forum, we will return to our home country and home city and we bring with us initiatives and ideas so we can make our cities more resilient. We would also like to promote digital economy and transform to zero emission. This is not something easy to achieve but we are not alone in this ASEAN community. In realising our goal to make ASEAN the epicentrum of growth, we will collaborate across borders.

"Catalysing Regional Growth through Sustainable Development in ASEAN Cities" means that we will accelerate the development in this region by adopting technology and innovation to support sustainable development. We do this together within Southeast Asia and collaborate with those outside the region. To conclude, I would like to emphasise that the success of MGMAC and AMF 2023 is not the end goal. This is just to mark the beginning of the journey to reach our joint goal. I hope this collective spirit and commitment will bring benefits to your cities and to the whole region.





Picture 30: Participants visited the National Monument

Site Visit

To learn more about the history of Jakarta, AMF delegates took part in a city tour that included the National Monument, the Istiqlal Mosque, and the Jakarta Cathedral.

National Monument

First was the National Monument, also known as Monas. Construction started for this iconic tower in 1961. Fund to build the monument amounted to 7 billion Rupiah, 85% of which was donations from the people. Monas was built to commemorate the Indonesian independence struggle. As a result, it is now a very meaningful symbol of independence and pride for both local Jakarta and domestic tourists visiting Jakarta. The 137-meter-tall National Monument is shaped like an obelisk and is topped by a 14.5-meter bronze flame coated in 32 kilograms of gold leaf. Going up to the top of the National Monument is one of the main things to do in Jakarta when visiting the National Monument. However, participants did not go to the top of the National Museum to view the city. Participants only examined the museum, which was located in the lower hall of the National Monument.



Delegates went inside the Hall of Independence which showcased the map of the Indonesian archipelago, the coat of arms of Indonesia, and the text of the Proclamation of Independence. The flame that sits atop the tower represents freedom earned from struggle and a never-ending spirit.





Picture 31: Participants visited Istiqlal mosque

Istiqlal Mosque

The second site was the Istiqlal Mosque. Istiqlal means "independence" in Arabic. It is the largest mosque in Southeast Asia and the third largest in the world, with a capacity of 200 thousand people. Constructed by a Christian architect, the building measurements used had historical significance. For instance, the large dome of the mosque was 45m in diameter reflecting the year of Indonesian independence in 1945 wile the small dome of the mosque was 8m in diameter reflecting the month of Indonesian independence in August.



The grand Istiqlal Mosque of Jakarta, which was first opened to the public on 22 February 1978 by Indonesia's first President, Soekarno, is the largest mosque in Southeast Asia, both in structure and capacity, as it can accommodate congregations of up to 120,000 people. This mosque also broadcasts most Islamic celebrations in Indonesia, such as the Eid prayer.



The Mosque is almost directly across the street from the old Catholic Church on Jalan Lapangan Banteng. These landmarks represent the country's acceptance of religious diversity. The word Istiqlal comes from Arabic that means "Independence". The name refers to Indonesia's struggle for national independence, and the Istiqlal was built to commemorate it.



Picture 32: Participants visited Jakarta Cathedral

Jakarta Cathedral

The third and last location for the city tour was the Jakarta Cathedral. To reach the Cathedral, delegates walked through the Brotherhood Tunnel. While built in neogothic style which usually used stone as material, the ceiling of the Cathedral is made of solid wood from Indonesian forest to help withstand earthquakes. The Istiqlal Mosque and Jakarta Cathedral are side-by-side, symbolising tolerance and harmony.



The Cathedral is directly across the street from Jakarta's largest mosque, the Istiqlal Mosque. Their proximity is not a coincidence. Soekarno, Indonesia's first president, purposefully chose the location for the mosque to symbolise the nation's philosophy of unity in diversity, where all religions could coexist in peace and harmony. Today, both establishments continue to work together, particularly to accommodate car parking during religious festivals. During Easter and Christmas midnight masses, the church congregation uses the mosque's parking lot, and during Eid prayers, parking is extended to the Cathedral's parking lot.



The structure itself has two floors. The upper floor used to house the choir, but as the building has aged and there are concerns that the floor will not hold many people, it has been converted into a museum, which houses relics from Dutch East Indies rituals as well as the history of the spread of Catholicism in Indonesia. The Cathedral is still in active use today. When the congregations overflow at Easter and Christmas, tents are set up in the parking lot to allow hundreds of people to pray while watching mass on TV monitors.



Picture 33: MGMAC-AMF 2023 representative for tree planting activity.

Tree Plantation Ceremony

While attending the 2023 MGMAC and AMF, city and local government leaders from Southeast Asian countries were invited by acting governor of Jakarta, Mr. Heru Budi Hartono, to take part in inaugurating the ASEAN Park on Jalan Pattimura, Selong Urban Village, Kebayoran Baru Sub-district, South Jakarta, Indonesia.

The Acting Governor and the ASEAN leaders arrived at the destination with Transjakarta electric bus and marked the beginning of the park by hitting the siren button. The mark also continued by planting trees activity, as a sign of ASEAN countries' commitment to taking steps to cut back on carbon emissions and make their cities greener.



The park also represented a shared ASEAN city cooperation and partnerships on three main issues: accelerating digital transformation and advancing the implementation of climate crisis management policies more rapidly and tangibly. Further, the sculptures in the ASEAN Park represent friendly relations between nations and denote the distinctive features of cities in Southeast Asian nations. The governor hoped regional heads of other countries could follow and implement the commitment made during the forum.





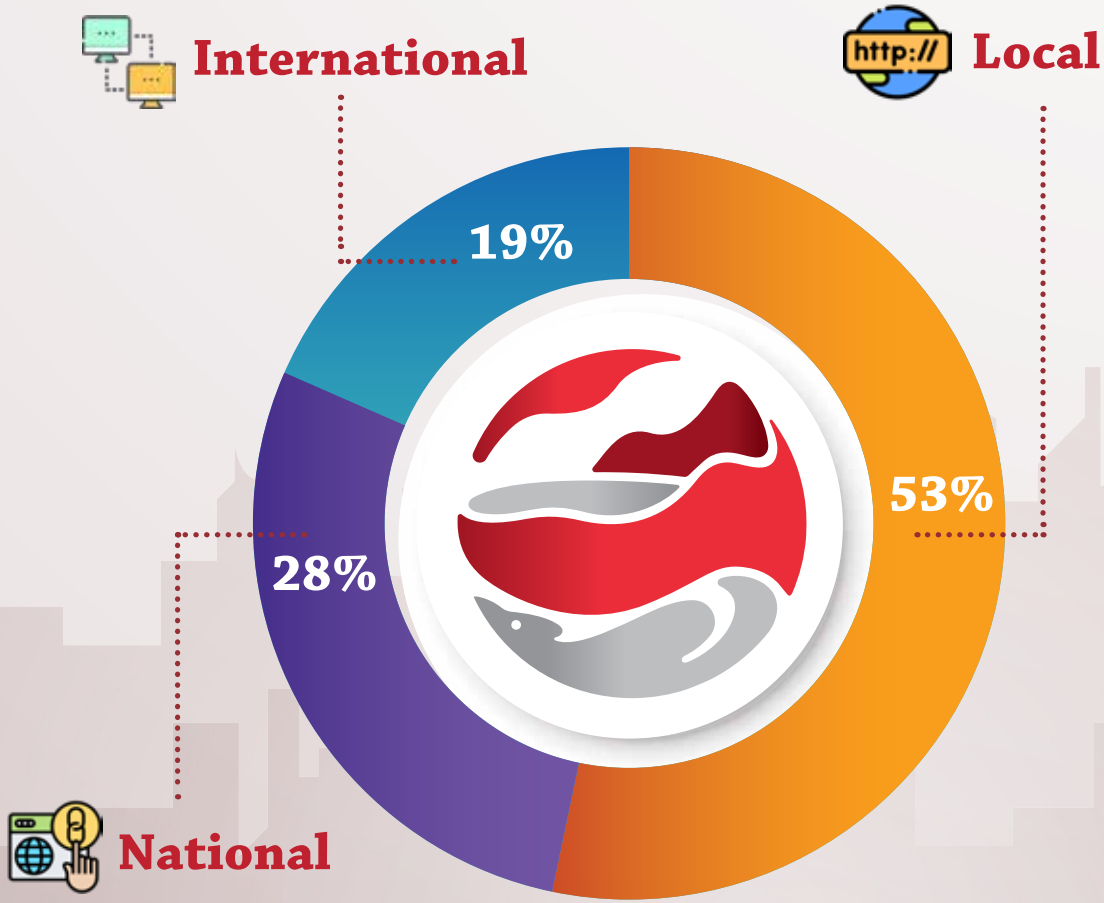
Media Coverage



Articles Published in Google Search Engine About AMF 2023

In order to disseminate information regarding the importance and results of the 9th ASEAN Mayors Forum, the organisers, with the support of the host city Jakarta Special Capital Region, conducted a press conference immediately following the completion of the forum.

The 9th AMF 2023 Jakarta had significant media coverage, with various local and national news in Indonesia, as well as foreign media sources. The committment of the Acting Governor of Jakarta at the Forum, together with the synchronisation of topics with current ASEAN issues, were identified as contributing factors for the media exposure. The findings comparing the media coverage provided by online international, national, and local news are illustrated below.



Picture 34: AMF Article Publications during the AMF 2023

Local: (17 news)

https://www.infopublik.id/kategori/asean-2023/764175/jakarta-siap-gelar-mgmac-dan-amf-2023-sebagai-rangkaian-ktt-asean

https://bpbd.jakarta.go.id/berita/1143/meeting-of-governors-and-mayors-of-asean-capitals-mgmac-dan-asean-ma

https://www.antaranews.com/berita/3662076/mgmac-amf-2023-jadi-ajang-tukar-pengalaman-atasi-permasalahan-dki

https://news.detik.com/berita/d-6852495/heru-budi-pertemuan-gubernur-walkot-se-asean-diinisiasi-jokowi-sejak-2013

https://www.idxchannel.com/economics/jakarta-tuan-rumah-ktt-asean-2023-siap-gelar-mgmac-dan-amf-hari-ini

https://sinpo.id/detail/56294/mgmac-dan-amf-2023-hasilkan-enam-poin-penting-pendukung-pengembangan-asean

https://rakyatku.com/read/225314/wali-kota-makassar-bahas-transformasi-digital-di-forum-mgmac-dan-amf-2023

https://www.idxchannel.com/market-news/heru-budi-bahas-transformasi-digital-dan-pembangunan-keberlanjutan-di-mgmac-amf-2023

https://metro.sindonews.com/read/1166309/171/heru-budi-tutup-forum-mgmac-amf-2023-lahirkan-6-poin-deklarasi-1690967330

https://news.detik.com/berita/d-6852314/pertemuan-gubernur-hingga-walkot-se-asean-di-jakarta-mulai-menlu-ri-hadir

https://sinpo.id/detail/56296/seluruh-kota-delegasi-asean-sepakat-turunkan-emisi-karbon

https://kosadata.com/read/jakarta-sukses-gelar-mgmac-dan-amf-kepala-daerah-se-asean-teken-deklarasi-bersama

https://harianmuba.disway.id/read/648448/hadir-di-asean-mayors-forum-2023-muba-bersiap-jadi-green-global-regency

https://globalplanet.news/news/44491/hadir-di-asean-mayors-forum-2023-muba-bersiap-jadi-green-global-regency

https://dinkes.jakarta.go.id/berita/read/dinas-kesehatan-provinsi-dki-jakarta-berikan-dukungan-layanan-kesehatan-untuk-sukseskan-gelaran-mgmac-dan-amf-sebagai-rangkaian-ktt-asean-2023

https://caritau.com/post/sukses-gelar-mgmac-dan-amf-2023-dki-ukir-sejarah-keberlanjutan-pembangunan-di-asean

https://voi.id/berita/298519/mgmac-and-amf-2023-di-jakarta-selesai-ini-isi-deklarasi-bersama-kepala-daerah-se-asean

National: (9 News)

https://www.kompas.id/baca/metro/2023/08/01/delegasi-kota-kota-asean-berbagi-praktik-baik-untuk-kota-berkelanjutan-dalam-mgmac-dan-amf-2023

https://foto.tempo.co/read/107423/pembukaan-pertemuan-gubernur-dan-wali-kota-se-asean-mgmac-amf-2023

https://www.voaindonesia.com/a/mgmac-amf-cara-kepala-daerah-dukung-asean-sebagai-pusat-pertumbuhan-ekonomi-kawasan/7211325.html

https://minangkabaunews.com/genius-umar-hadiri-meeting-mgmac-amf-2023/

https://en.tempo.co/read/1754694/asean-governors-and-mayors-meetings-to-discuss-5-priority-issues

https://www.cnnindonesia.com/nasional/20230803093306-25-981308/pemprov-dki-ajak-delegasi-asean-2023-wisata-ke-4-lokasi-ikonik

https://www.liputan6.com/news/read/5360424/resmikan-taman-asean-heru-budi-ajak-delegasi-mgmac-amf-2023-tanam-pohon-bersama

https://www.antaranews.com/berita/3660609/pemprov-dki-rampungkan-persiapan-mgmac-dan-amf-2023

https://headtopics.com/id/mgmac-dan-amf-cara-kepala-daerah-dukung-asean-sebagai-pusat-pertumbuhan-ekonomi-kawasan-41848112

International: (6 News)

https://asean.org/secretary-general-of-asean-gives-keynote-remarks-at-meeting-of-governors-and-mayors-of-asean-capitals-asean-mayors-forum-2023/

https://journal.com.ph/asean-mayors-forum-highlights-commitment-to-localizing-sdgs-for-sustainable-development/

https://www.khmertimeskh.com/501337415/asean-countries-agree-to-develop-sustainable-cities/

https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/association-southeast-asian-nations-asean/empowering-youth-shape-sustainable-urban-futures-pioneering-eu-asean-collaboration_en?s=47

https://kpl.gov.la/EN/detail.aspx?id=74687

https://ulap.net.ph/13-resources/knowledge-products-reports/753-2023-asean-mayors-forum.html


JAKARTA, 1 - 2 AUGUST
MGMAC &
AMF 2023



Press Release

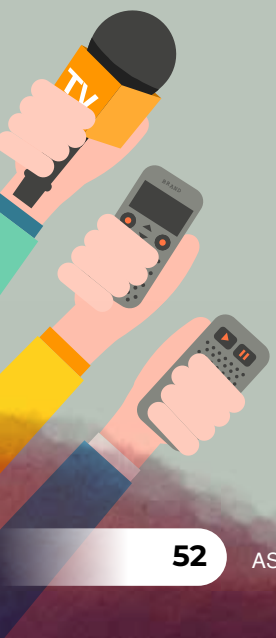
Jakarta, 1 August 2023 - The ASEAN Mayors Forum, a platform aimed at fostering collaboration and dialogue among city and regional leaders within the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), is set to take place from 1st to 2nd August 2023. This landmark event brings together mayors, governors, city officials, and urban experts from across the ASEAN region to address the pressing challenges and opportunities faced by rapidly growing urban centers.

Co-organised by the United Cities and Local Governments Asia Pacific (UCLG ASPAC) and Jakarta Special Capital Region, in collaboration with ASEAN Mayors Forum (AMF) Secretariat and the host Jakarta Special Capital Region, the ASEAN Mayors Forum seeks to promote sustainable urban development, exchange best practices, and enhance cooperation between cities and local governments to create livable, resilient, and inclusive urban environments for millions of residents across ASEAN nations.

In alignment with the themes of Indonesia's ASEAN Chairmanship and in response to the current regional and global issues, the 2023 AMF is elaborating on the theme ASEAN Matters-Epicentrum of Growth: "Catalysing Regional Growth through Sustainable Development in ASEAN Cities" with the focus on Economic Strengthening, Digitalisation, and Resiliency.

The forum offers a unique platform for approximately 300 ASEAN local and regional leaders to engage in high-level discussions, knowledge-sharing, and strategic planning for promoting sustainable development, enhancing and strengthening collaboration and cooperation among ASEAN local and regional governments, and revitalising the commitment of ASEAN cities and local governments to smart, resilient and sustainable urban living in the ASEAN region.

Assuming the ASEAN Chairmanship for the third time, Indonesia has contributed to accomplishing its deliverables in building a strong and inclusive ASEAN Community. As the host city of the ASEAN Mayors Forum 2023, Jakarta Special Capital Region Acting Governor, Mr. Heru Budi Hartono warmly welcomed all VIP guests, delegations, and participants of the ASEAN Mayors Forum 2023, as well as the governors and mayors of ASEAN cities. He thanked local and regional government leaders from ASEAN countries for their valuable attendance and participation in the AMF 2023. He believed that the ASEAN Mayors Forum and the Meeting of Governors/Mayors of ASEAN Capitals (MGMAC) platforms would be used to enhance and strengthen cooperation among ASEAN cities and local governments in addressing current challenges.





About Jakarta Special Capital City

Jakarta, the capital city of the Republic of Indonesia, is divided into five Administrative City zones, each with its own unique land area. The jurisdiction also includes the Administrative District of The Thousand Islands, which spans 8.70 km². Jakarta's northern periphery has a 32 km coastline, encompassing the estuaries of thirteen rivers, two canals, and two floodways. Its borders include Depok City, Bogor Regency, Bekasi City, and Tangerang Regency to the south and east, Tangerang City, and Tangerang Regency to the west, and the northern boundary extends to the Java Sea. Jakarta's climate is characterised by elevated temperatures, with an average annual air temperature of 28.5°C. Diurnal temperatures range from 33.8°C to 35.2°C during daylight hours, while nocturnal temperatures fluctuate between 23.0°C and 24.6°C. The average annual rainfall is 237.96 mm, with variations observed over time. Relative humidity levels fluctuate between 73.0-78.0 percent, and wind speeds range from 2.2 m/sec to 2.5 m/sec.

The topographical landscape of Jakarta consists of Pleistocene deposits at depths of approximately ±50 m below the ground surface. The southern territory consists of alluvial layers, while the coastal lowlands extend approximately 10 km inland. An older stratum of sediment lies beneath these layers, with visibility obscured due to complete burial beneath alluvial accumulations.

https://www.jakarta.go.id/tentang-jakarta



Picture 35: Jakarta City View
(Source: Flickr.com)

Insights on ASEAN 2023

ASEAN Inclusive Economic Growth

The ASEAN region has exhibited favorable performance in the past decade, showcasing an average growth rate ranging from 4% to 5%. The ASEAN area has the position of the fifth-largest economy globally and ranks as the fourth-largest exporter in terms of trade volume. In 2022, the ASEAN area emerged as the second-largest recipient of foreign direct investment (FDI).



Source:https://www.kemenparekraf.goid.

ASEAN Digital Transformation

The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) has been actively advocating and publicising its continuous endeavors as the region progresses towards its ambitious goal of establishing a digitally connected regional economy. There are notable disparities in the adoption of digital technologies across member states of ASEAN. These disparities are characterised by certain nations possessing enough digital capabilities, access to digital technologies, and robust infrastructure. In contrast, other countries need more support in accessing these digital technologies and are less fortunate. To facilitate a smooth transition towards digitalisation,, it is imperative for ASEAN to place increased emphasis on the development and utilisation of its human capital.



Source: https://www.thejakartapost.com

Resilient City and Climate Action in ASEAN

The ASEAN Climate Forum 2023 was organised by the ASEAN Business Advisory Council (ASEAN-BAC) in conjunction with Standard Chartered Bank. The event received support from knowledge partners Bloomberg, NEF, PwC, Equatorise Advisory, and the Indonesian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (Kadin Indonesia). The forum emphasises the dedication and endeavours of enterprises in Southeast Asia to attain net zero emissions. It underscores the need to enhance carbon markets and highlights the role of sustainable finance in realising carbon neutrality.



Source: https://www.asean2023.id



Partners

AIMF

AIMF harness collective efforts to advocate for visionary and accountable policies aimed at advancing an urban landscape characterised by heightened consideration for human well-being, environmental integrity, and the vitality of existence. Collaboratively undertake initiatives within this domain, serving the interests of communities while concurrently charting novel horizons that nurture social cohesion, parity, and the embrace of diversity.

APPSI

"*Asosiasi Pemerintah Provinsi Seluruh Indonesia*" (APPSI) is an association that serves as a platform dedicated to nurturing collaboration and strategic alliances among Provincial Governments, with a strong emphasis on mutually advantageous arrangements. Moreover, it endeavours to cultivate a climate of harmonious interaction between the Provincial Government and the central Government, aimed at bolstering the effective execution of regional governance and autonomy. This concerted effort is geared towards facilitating the attainment of socioeconomic prosperity and equitable societal well-being.

Association of the Indonesia Municipalities (APEKSI)

The "*Asosiasi Pemerintah Kota Seluruh Indonesia*" (APEKSI) is an esteemed establishment dedicated to fostering the advancement of City Government Associations, District Government Associations, and Provincial Government Associations throughout Indonesia to cultivate a sense of genuine autonomy within these associations, ensuring their robust representation within the National Coordination Forum of Local Government Associations (DPOD).

FCM

The Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) is a distinguished advocacy consortium that represents a diverse assemblage of more than 2000 Canadian municipalities. While devoid of formal legislative authority, the FCM wields substantial capacity to shape discourse and policy, holding a pivotal role as the premier national lobbying entity for mayors, councillors, and other duly elected municipal dignitaries.

GIZ

GIZ is a global leader in sustainable development and global educational initiatives, with a rich history spanning over 50 years. With expertise in economic advancement, labor market enhancement, energy and environmental stewardship, conflict mitigation, and security establishment, GIZ is a valuable asset globally. Its competencies resonate with stakeholders like the German Government, European Union institutions, United Nations entities, private sector, and governmental bodies across diverse nations.

IKI

The International Climate Initiative (IKI) constitutes a pivotal component of the German government's far-reaching global climate finance dedication. To date, IKI has granted its endorsement to in excess of 950 projects centered on climate and biodiversity, encompassing a comprehensive financial outlay amounting to nearly 6 billion euros (2008-2022).

Smart Green ASEAN Cities

The "Smart Green ASEAN Cities" initiative is a comprehensive programme designed to aid ASEAN Member States in proactively addressing the considerable challenges stemming from rapid urbanisation. This initiative is centered on the strategic implementation of environmentally conscious and intelligent solutions, leveraging digitalisation and cutting-edge technologies.

WORLD ECONOMIC FORUM

The World Economic Forum (WEF) functions as a preeminent international non-governmental organisation and influential advocacy entity, serving the interests of multinational corporations. Situated within the esteemed environs of Cologny, Canton of Geneva, Switzerland, the WEF emerged into existence on the 24th of January, 1971, under the visionary leadership of German engineer Klaus Schwab.


UCLG ASPAC
United Cities and Local Governments Asia-Pacific
ASEAN INDONESIA 2023
HAN VER AMF CHAIRMAN
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ASEAN Mayors Forum 2022
Phnom Penh Declaration

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

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

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

1. STRENGTHEN the efforts to build smart and sustainable cities and territories to meet the Sustainable Development Goals, especially SDGs 9 and 11, by investing in digital infrastructure and promoting inclusive digital transformation.
2. CONTRIBUTE to the implementation of the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity (MPAC) 2025, the ASEAN Sustainable Urbanisation Strategy (ASUS), and ASEAN Comprehensive Recovery Framework, which support COVID- 19 recovery and strengthen resilience towards achieving a connected, sustainable and inclusive ASEAN Community. We further welcome theopportunity to engage in the development of the ASEAN Community Post-2025 Vision and ASEAN Connectivity Post-2025 Agenda.
3. UNDERTAKE local actions founded on the complementarities of the ASEAN Community Vision 2025 and the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
4. COOPERATE with national and subnational authorities and other stakeholders to accelerate local actions contributing to climate action and the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.
5. FACILITATE knowledge and technology transfer considering the local context and capabilities of cities and local governments.
6. ENGAGE the youth and address youth unemployment through innovative programmes and projects.
7. UPLIFT the quality of life of the people through local initiatives that promote human development, resiliency, and sustainable development, and in line with the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER).
8. ACKNOWLEDGE the important role of culture in sustainable development and promote policies and programmes that will support local culture and tourism sectors.
9. IMPROVE enabling environment of cities and local governments, including access to finance, capacity building, and institutional framework.
10. BUILD the technical capacities of city officials to ensure planning and implementation of sustainable urban development initiatives.
11. ENSURE stability of local finance and the local economy in ASEAN cities and local governments.
12. EMPOWER women towards greater contribution and involvement in local governance.
13. INITIATE a collective action plan developed by ASEAN cities and local governments through AMF.
14. PARTICIPATE actively in the upcoming ASEAN regional meetings and forums, including the AMF.
15. WELCOME the admittance, in principle, of the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste to the ASEAN, and stand ready to work closely with its Mayors and Governors for the AMF.
16. WORK more closely with ASEAN and regional institutions like ASEAN Secretariat and UCLG ASPAC to undertake more cooperation and collaboration as part of the ASEAN Community Building.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

CONCERNED by the fact that our region is prone to natural disasters that can have catastrophic effects on people's lives and socio-economic development. We underlined the need to be better prepared for this challenge by enhancing the Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) capabilities and expressed our support to the ASEAN Declaration on One ASEAN One Response: ASEAN Responding to Disasters as One in the Region and Outside the Region.

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

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

JOINT DECLARATION OF THE ASEAN-REPUBLIC OF KOREA MAYORS ON THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF ASEAN-ROK DIALOGUE RELATIONS

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

COMMITTED to:

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



TAGUIG ACTION AGENDA

Local Governments for a Stronger ASEAN

AT the City of Taguig, Republic of the Philippines, Mayors, Vice-Mayors, and other representatives of local governments from the Member States of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), adopted the "Taguig Action Agenda: Local Governments for a Stronger ASEAN." The Taguig Action Agenda reaffirms and follows the Surabaya Communique' and Makassar Declaration, outcome documents of the 1st and 2nd ASEAN Mayors Forum, respectively.

IN support of the ASEAN Vision and the "ASEAN 2025: Forging Ahead Together," and with the understanding of the important role of local governments in engaging the people and ensuring that the benefits of the ASEAN Community is enjoyed by the people, the delegates concurred to implement the Agenda. It should naturally serve as basis for coordination and as reference document for future collaboration of cities and local governments in the region.

THE Agenda is designed to strengthen local government participation in the realization of ASEAN objectives through concrete actions at local level.

THE ASEAN local governments hereby commit and undertake to:

1. Formally organize an entity dedicated for ASEAN local governments that will serve as regional platform for collaboration that will be accredited and supported by the ASEAN Secretariat;
2. Collectively and actively participate in formal ASEAN meetings and processes to articulate issues and challenges besetting local governments across the region, in order to improve alignment and coordination for policy implementation, and to build stronger partnerships;
3. Establish a cadre of innovative and inspiring local leaders that will continuously engage key stakeholders and members of communities to participate in the realization of the ASEAN Community Vision 2025 which highlights people-centeredness in its growth agenda;
4. Implement key areas of existing global commitments that call for an active role of local governments including the Sustainable Development Goals, Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, Paris Agreement on Climate Change, New Urban Agenda, and Financing for Sustainable Development.
5. Forge a more resilient future by reducing disaster and climate related risks, preventing the generation of new risks, and adapting to a changing climate through the implementation of economic, social, cultural, and environmental measures which addresses exposure and vulnerability and strengthen resilience.

THE ASEAN local governments will regularly review the progress of the Taguig Action Agenda and undertake to convene as a unified body every two years.

ADOPTED this 27th day of July 2017 at Shangri-la the Fort in Taguig City, Philippines during the 3rd ASEAN Mayors Forum.

Makassar Declaration on ASEAN Cities and Local Governments

We, Mayors from ASEAN member countries, participating in the ASEAN Mayors Forum and City Expo 2015 with the theme "Adaptive and Intelligent Cities for an Integrated Borderless Prosperous Region"; jointly organized by UCLG ASPAC, the Committee of Permanent Representatives of ASEAN, and the City of Makassar, have gathered from 8th to 10th September 2015 in the City of Makassar, South Sulawesi Province, Republic of Indonesia;

AFFIRMING that local governments play an important role in ASEAN, and particularly in building a stronger ASEAN Community, ensuring the implementation of the strategies under the three pillars of the ASEAN Community, beyond its constitution in December 2015;

DETERMINED to achieve the advantages and benefits that the ASEAN Community envisions and aims to bring to the ASEAN people, in spite of the challenges and impact for local governments;

EXPRESSING our strong belief that aligning our local development strategies with the developments of ASEAN will bring economic dynamism, government efficiency, and positive social, cultural, and environmental change;

REALIZING that local governments need to meet the standards of ASEAN, not only for the economic community, but to include the pillars of political security by highlighting good governance, upholding of human rights, strengthening cooperation on key political issues; and focusing on socio-cultural issues focusing on human development, women, youth and children, the elderly and persons with disabilities, indigenous people for better social justice and environmental sustainability, as enshrined in the ASEAN Community Blueprint.

RECOGNIZING that local governments' vision as part of ASEAN include four key elements:

1. People-empowerment - Cross cultural communication and exchange, highlighting the importance of youth as the future of ASEAN at the grassroots level to work for development are invaluable for the ASEAN Community to succeed and prosper, accompanied by decentralization and autonomy.
2. Integrated and inclusive approach - local governments deal with a multitude of issues that require an integrated approach. Critical thematic areas for ASEAN demanding attention and urgent actions include climate change, local economic development, tourism, poverty reduction, education for all, health and gender mainstreaming.
3. Responsive and forward-looking - local governments continuously strive to become intelligent and adaptive in response to challenges. To succeed, the promotion of good governance and the strengthening of financial options for plans to materialize are fundamental.
4. Heritage Preservation – The ASEAN Community should not lose sight of its heritage and preserving it should always be part of our identity.

URGING ASEAN to reach local governments, to assess their needs and to support the necessary actions to achieve solutions for the region common problems.

DO HEREBY:

1. LOBBY for a stronger ASEAN Secretariat dealing with the local government issues, creating a specific unit to coordinate the regional action;
2. URGE central governments to provide the enabling environment (legal, administrative, and financial) necessary for local governments, private sector, civil society organizations, and citizens to carry out their responsibilities and to maximize their role, reinforcing the necessary background for an empowered society.
3. BRING the central governments to support local governments and citizens for their active participation in achieving the forthcoming Sustainable Development Goals, especially SDG 11 "Making cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable," as well as in formulating the New Urban Agenda with the occasion of Habitat III and its preparatory process.
4. APPEAL to relevant agencies to perform the necessary steps to undertake the following actions:
   a. Raise awareness and educate people about ASEAN through different modalities and channels, including academic curricula, cultural exchange programs, social media, etc. Creating an ASEAN University for educating the ASEAN community and promote knowledge and sharing of expertise, bringing the people of the ASEAN member states closer together.
   b. Organize an annual ASEAN mayors meeting prior to the ASEAN Summit to deliver the recommendations of local governments to the Heads of State and Government. Also, to create an ASEAN Mayors organization, spearheaded by UCLG ASPAC and its secretariat to support its operations.
   c. Establish or formalize a platform, such as DELGOSEA to promote the sharing of experiences and good/best/smart practices, including prospects for replication, knowledge enhancement, skills development and capacity building.
   d. Explore financial options, accessible to local governments, such as the establishment an ASEAN bank or the mobilization of domestic and international resources to address the perennial challenge suffered by many local governments lacking financial resources for sustainable development.

Overall, we agree to focus on the opportunities the ASEAN Community presents to us all, and to turn challenges into opportunities able to transform the ASEAN society. We commend this Declaration to be an integral part of the ASEAN Foundational Charter.

SIGNED this day
9th of September 2015.

Surabaya Communiqué 1st ASEAN City Mayors Forum, Surabaya, Indonesia, 24-25 October 2011

"ASEAN Community in a Global Community of Nations"

1. The 1st ASEAN City Mayors Forum (The First ACMF) held on 24-25 October 2011 in Surabaya, Indonesia, was chaired by the Chairman of Board of the Association of Indonesian Municipalities (APEKSI), Honorable Eddy Santana Putra and was attended by mayors of ASEAN cities.

2. We, the mayors of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Member States, have conducted substantive and productive discussions under the theme of "ASEAN Cities Towards ASEAN Community 2015 and Beyond: Challenges and Opportunities of the 21st Century."

3. We take note the notation of H.E. Wardana, the Vice Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia, who emphasized that the First ACMF is timely and opportune towards the establishment of ASEAN Community in 2015. Furthermore, we noted four priority areas of cooperation proposed, namely Public Administration and Governance, Environment and Sustainable Development, Public Service, and Regional Network. The deliberation of the Meeting is expected to serve as foundation of a strong regional partnership and contribute to more action-based common policies and strategies.

4. We welcome the initiative of holding the ACMF as an opportunity to promote roles and contributions of ASEAN cities in economic and socio-cultural cooperation in the region towards the establishment of ASEAN Community 2015. While contributing to the regional integration process, we also believe that the ACMF can strengthen regionalties of solidarity, community engagement, public participation, and universal values of humanity towards transformation of a new ASEAN as a people-oriented, people-centered, and people-driven organization.

5. We affirm our commitment to enhance cooperation among ASEAN cities towards the establishment of ASEAN Community 2015 characterized by a caring and sharing community. In this regard, we realize the importance of our common goals in creating ASEAN as a peaceful, prosperous, and sustainable region. Further more, we encourage the exchange of experiences and best practices among ASEAN cities as well as with cities from ASEAN dialogue partners.

6. We feel the need to encourage the development of expertise through ASEAN cities capacity building, such as exchange of visits, joint education and training programs, joint research projects, mainstreaming gender issues, and networks of cooperation in facing challenges and taking advantages of the 21st century.

7. We believe that networks of cooperation between ASEAN cities can develop and improve the livelihood of ASEAN peoples. Therefore, it is essential to further strengthen collaboration among ASEAN cities to promote socio-cultural and economicities.

8. We affirm that ASEAN undertakings in three pillars of the ASEAN Community can only be assured through greater role of public participation. In line with this matter, we are indeed committed to promote public awareness and sense of ownership and belonging to ASEAN that in turn will contribute to productive interaction between ASEAN peoples.

9. We also share the same view that community building should be supported with effective public services, adequate means of communication, and infrastructure facilities. These conditions will enable ASEAN peoples to work together effectively and efficiently in sustaining the ASEAN Connectivity, particularly people-to-people connectivity.

10. We are of the view that it is necessary to establish the ASEAN City Mayors Forum, taking into account the prevailing national laws and regulations in respective ASEAN Member States.

11. We propose to convene the future ASEAN City Mayors Forum periodically on voluntary basis to discuss substantial matters that have become common interest of ASEAN and joint efforts that shall be taken to address current challenges. In this regard, we concurred that a Working Group shall be established to take necessary steps to examine the formalization of the ASEAN City Mayors Forum, follow up the outcome of this forum, explore the areas of cooperation, and formulate a work plan of the ASEAN cities towards the ASEAN Community by 2015. For this purpose, we will therefore seek guidance from concerned institutions and support from the ASEAN Secretariat.

12. We express our appreciation to the City of Surabaya, Indonesia for the warm hospitality and excellent arrangement made for the Meeting and to all delegates for their valuable inputs and suggestions.

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