

Dear Members, Partners and Friends,

Welcome to our 50th issue of the CITYNET e-Newsletter! We hope this new format will open more doors to shared communication between our members and other readers.

In this issue we are pleased to report that the pilot programme CDRI (Climate Disaster Resilience Initiative) was well-received by local governments. This programme is a small but important step forward to better prepare cities for the inevitability of disaster and adapt to climate change. CITYNET will continue to monitor the progress of the extensive action plans submitted as well as extending the programme to reach more cities in the region.

Other key events over the past few months include the Memorandum of Cooperation signing in transport between Seoul and Jakarta as well as the expansion of Eco-tanks to San Fernando. The National Chapters have been actively submitting project proposals for funding from CITYNET. As usual there are plenty of upcoming international events and resources to support your work.

Your feedback is always welcome as we move towards another 50 e-Newsletters!

Sincerely,
CITYNET Secretariat

CITYNET News & Events

Features

Disaster Resilience in Asia-Pacific - CDRI: Positive Step Forward



Hydro-metrological disasters a reality for cities in the Asia-Pacific. (Mumbai, July 2009)

Following three months of self-learning, participatory action plan development, group work, and workshops, the Climate and Disaster Resilience Initiative (CDRI) successfully completed its third stage in a video conference on April 19th. However, these three stages are only just the beginning of a vast, participatory effort to better prepare for the effects and reduce the risks of hydro-metrological disasters. Residents of participating cities Chennai, Colombo, Dhaka, Hue, Kuala Lumpur, Makati, Sukabumi,

Join CITYNET

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CITYNET Cluster Members Announced

Cluster members for the 2010 - 2013 period have been announced for the Climate Change, Disaster, INFRA and MDGs Clusters. A full list is available on the [members-only section](#) of the CITYNET website.

CITYNET Reports Made Easy

Filing reports for CITYNET activities and other activities is now easier. Starting this month we will require all reports to be in this format, unless there are specific guidelines given as for case studies, presentations, etc which needs to be submitted to donor agencies. A template download is now available in the [members-only section](#) of the website. Please contact [info\(at\)citynet-ap.org](mailto:info(at)citynet-ap.org) for queries.

CITYNET Secretariat Closed for Golden Week

CITYNET will be closed from April 29 - May 5, 2010 for the Japanese Golden Week. We apologise for any inconvenience.

Localise e-News & CityVoice

The CITYNET Secretariat encourages every member to locally distribute CityVoice and e-News in their

and Suwon can look forward to safer cities run by better-planned cities.

CDRI is a programme that epitomises the spirit of collaboration bringing together the unique skills and knowledge from CITYNET, Kyoto University, TDLC of the World Bank, SEEDS India and UNISDR, and local governments to build grassroots efforts to effect change. In further demonstration of CITYNET's signature methodology, the programme made comprehensive use of technology in order to maximise results while keeping expenses at a minimum. Before meeting face-to-face, all participants had completed an online training course which led them to create various outputs, such as the CDRI questionnaire and a self-assessment matrix. Interactive exchanges took place between participants and organisers through a virtual learning environment (moodle), video conferencing and personal interaction.

By the time participants arrived in Kuala Lumpur, they were well-prepared for the days of training ahead. As a result of the trainings, each city was able to produce a City Resilience Map, highlighting their strong points and top priorities in creating resilient cities. Using this information, as well as their newly-made self-evaluation matrices, each city created a Climate Action Plan (CAP) detailing short-, medium-, and long-term goals in their pursuit of resilience.

"As the major water service provider for the city of Makati and also for the greater metro Manila area, Manila Water views its participation in this programme as intrinsic in providing and responding to the needs of our people, especially in times of disaster." Harold V Lu, Manila Water Company, The Philippines

The CAPs covered a broad range of projects as each city aims to improve in five identified types of resilience: physical, natural, economic, social, and institutional. CITYNET will continue to monitor and support each city as they work to meet these goals over the next fifteen years.

As climate change continues to escalate the occurrences of hydro-metrological disasters, the need for active, well-informed, and well-prepared local governments will only increase. Our shared goal is that the availability of comprehensive risk and resilience data on cities will improve the situation in Asian cities. CITYNET is committed to expanding efforts to help create CAPs based not just on the plans put forth in CDRI, but also on the results CITYNET sees as it continues to monitor progress.

For more information on the specific outcomes of the third video conference, please see the "Clusters Update" section below. A detailed publication on programme outcomes will be available in the coming months. More information can also be found on the [TDLC website](#).

Intelligent Transport in Asian Cities



CITYNET Programme Director presented at the ADBI seminar on Intelligent Transport Systems (ITS) in Tokyo

The Intelligent Transport Systems (ITS) Seminar of ADBI co-organised by CITYNET from 8-10 March 2010 in Tokyo focused on the background and common issues of ITS

respective cities. Our objective is to increase awareness about news, activities, expertise, and best practices in urban development and management with local governments, partners, and citizens.

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Publications



C2C Leaflet
City-to-City Cooperation
Linking Cities for Urban
Sustainability

CITYNET has published a leaflet explaining the basics of City-to-City Cooperation, outlining the uniqueness of the CITYNET approach citing case studies in the Climate Change, Disaster, Infrastructure and MDGs Clusters. This publication is in preparation for a C2C Guidebook to be published later this year. The leaflet will be sent to members in the coming month. The Secretariat thanks our interns for help in the publication.

CITYNET Events

Regional Workshop on "Putting Safety First for the Urban Poor"
Call for Participation
(Registration Deadline: May 10, 2010)
Marikina, Philippines
June 15 - 17, 2010

World Cities Summit
28 June - 1 July 2010
Singapore
High-level plenary sessions by world renowned leaders, policy makers, visionaries and futurists - study tours will cover areas of urban planning, public housing and transportation, infrastructure, urban biodiversity management and other elements of

implementation in Asia. The Programme Director of CITYNET presented the role of network and capacity building on urban transportation system. Some outcomes included better understanding of ITS policy and measures and the need for standardisation and capacity development in this area. For more information: [ABDI website](#).

Challenges for Colombo

The Chief City Planner for the Colombo Municipal Council, Mr. Ananda Gamage used the opportunity to visit the CITYNET Secretariat in Yokohama. He expanded on the specific challenges for Colombo in implementing this system. Home to 11% of Sri Lanka's private cars, Colombo is built on only 0.06% of the island's total area. Congestion leads to air pollution and increased health risks. One solution is the adoption of ITS which is the concept of integrating modern information and communication technology in transportation infrastructure to improve efficiency, safety and reduce congestion.

In terms of implementing ITS Gamage says that standardising ITS technologies internationally is paramount. "For ITS to be successful in Colombo there needs to be good integration with key organisations and departments which can get quite complicated." Gamage is hopeful that ITS can be effective if it is used properly especially as mobile phones can be easily used to give guidance to the public and the drivers. He also cautions that Colombo is just beginning and that it is important to learn from the experiences from other cities such as Kuala Lumpur or Bangkok that were present at the seminar. We look forward to more updates from Colombo as it aspires to become "an oasis of aspiration, heritage, recreation, and gracious living."

Green Curtains: Environmental Impact



A presentation at the 3rd Green Curtain Conference in Yamanashi Prefecture, Japan

On March 21, CITYNET representative attended the 3rd Green Curtain Conference in Yamanashi Prefecture, Japan. The Green Curtain pilot project of OHANA (a Japanese private company) facilitated by Secretariat was presented at the exhibition. Presentations by leading researchers discussed not only the environmental impact of green curtains, but their impact on human physiology as well.

Not only do environmental changes affect the spread of disease, they also have a strong influence on individual health and happiness. Professor Shuyuka of Tokyo City University presented his research showing that using screens outside windows makes people feel cooler than being in the air-conditioned room. The findings also prove that natural wind relieved stress. The study indicates that locations covered in leaves are much cooler than air conditioned rooms.

This sort of scientific data gives CITYNET yet another reason to continue our pursuit of the Green Curtain Project. For more information please see: [Green Curtains in](#)

sustainable development.

Yokohama Waterworks Bureau / CITYNET Training Programme Call For Applications

Yokohama, Japan

July 4 - 17, 2010

Application Deadline:

May 26, 2010

Yokohama Waterworks Bureau (YWWB) and CITYNET is inviting applications. Guidelines for the programme are available [here](#). Complete application package will be available shortly on the [CITYNET website](#).

KLRTC

XX on Integrated Urban Planning
XXI on Sustainable Urban Transport
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
August, 2010 (TBC)
November, 2010 (TBC)

Pre-APEC International Workshop on Global Warming and Local Actions

(Provisional Title)

[CITYNET / CLAIR](#)

August 17 - 18, 2010

Yokohama, Japan

CITYNET in partnership with [CLAIR](#) and the city of Yokohama will host this workshop which aims for ensuring local actions are in place for climate change's mitigation and adaptation and transfer of Japanese initiatives to other cities in Asia and the Pacific. Invitation letters will be sent to CITYNET members in early May.

General Assembly of the World E-Governments Organization

Seoul, South Korea

September 6-8, 2010

Registration begins on May 1

Following the initiative by Seoul, 57 cities worldwide have discussed the launch of an international cooperative body to strengthen city-to-city cooperation and exchanges on e-governments. The fruit of this vision is the World e-Governments Organization of cities and local governments (WeGO). The Assembly is expected to create a significant momentum for international exchanges and cooperation for e-governments as it

Yokohama: [Naka Ward](#) and [Hodogaya Ward](#) and [Green Curtain in Tokyo](#).

On Environmentally Sustainable Cities

CITYNET introduced its innovations at the High Level Seminar (HLS) on Environmentally Sustainable Cities (ESC) held from 2 to 4 March, 2010 in Jakarta organised by four environmental ministries from Indonesia, Japan, Singapore and Australia. Various themes ranged from 3Rs and resource efficiency, climate change, biodiversity, and low carbon/low polluting society were discussed.

Mr. Chiek Ang from Phnom Penh shared his city's solid waste reduction plans through biogas and awareness-raising and improvement programme which has been fruitfully implemented with support of CITYNET. Seoul introduced an "urban mining" programme as an emerging industry from discarded waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE). On behalf of CITYNET, Ms. Aisa Tobing from Jakarta City Government presented the approaches and activities of CITYNET related to ESC.

The HLS approved the chair's summary highlighting a series of recommendations which will be reported at the 2nd EAS (East Asia Summit) EMM (Environment Ministers Meeting) in Brunei Darussalam. These include the need for long-term city planning for realising and prioritising the development of ESC in the national agenda and developing the capacity of local governments in ESC planning and implementation. The HLS also suggested the East Asian 'Model Cities' Initiative to be implemented to cover a clearinghouse for ESC on related data and information, a public and private sector forum on ESC, ESC capacity building programmes, as well as EAS ESC Awards based on performance indicators.

Finally, local governments expressed their environmental commitments. For further information on the outputs of the seminar, please see: www.hls-esc.org

Clusters Update



CLIMATE CHANGE

CITYNET and YWWB (Yokohama Waterworks Bureau) Announce Training on Water Safety Call for Applications

The vital issue of water safety including operation and maintenance of water service is the theme for the next CITYNET/YWWB training programme set for July 4-17, 2010. Participants will have the opportunity to learn about a wide-range of issues such as customer service, human resource development and leakage prevention work. This result-oriented training places a high degree of importance will also be placed on developing viable city action plans. The programme deadline for applications is May 26, 2010 and is only open to CITYNET members. [Programme guidelines](#) are now available on the CITYNET website.

Pre-APEC International Workshop on Global Warming and Local Actions

CITYNET will host a Pre-APEC International workshop focusing on global warming from August 17 - 18 in Yokohama, Japan. The aims for this workshop is to ensure local actions are in place for climate change mitigation, adaptation and transfer of Japanese initiatives to other cities in Asia and the Pacific. This is part of the "promotion of partnerships and participatory" approach for solutions as indicated in the mandate for APEC (and related meetings) to be hosted this November in Yokohama. Invitation letters will be sent to CITYNET members in early May. The workshop is subsidised by the Council of Local Authorities for International Relations (CLAIR).

is scheduled to take place before the G20 summit talk to be held in Seoul in November. For more information see www.we-gov.org.

27th CITYNET Executive Committee Meeting

Palembang, Indonesia
October 21, 2010

Global Mayor's Forum

Hong Kong and Shenzhen
November 5 - 8, 2010

The objectives include the enhancement of economic, cultural and cooperation of international cities and finding solutions to urban sustainability. CITYNET is a [strategic partner](#) of this forum. For more information please see the Global Mayor's Forum [website](#).

8th EverythingAboutWater Expo

Mumbai, India
January 6-8, 2011
International Exhibition and Conference on Water and Wastewater Management
www.eawater.com/expo

Send us your news and events

Selected International Events

Preparing Bankable Public Private Partnership (PPP) Projects Executive Course

10-18 June, 2010
Rotterdam, Netherlands
This course is targeted at government officials, policymakers and managers involved in setting up and executing public-private partnerships.

4th World Forum on Human Rights

June 28 - July 1, 2010
Nantes, France
"In a world in crisis, what about human rights?"

6th UITP International Bus Conference

June 9 - 11, 2010
Lyon, France
Solutions for clean transport for cities, fuel choices and CO2 reduction, innovations for attractive and green buses and bus systems, hybrid performance comparisons and

CITYNET Supporters - Greener Cities Call For Proposals for Tree-Planting Project

The "CITYNET Supporters" in Yokohama is a group of city officials and citizens supporting the mission and programmes of CITYNET. In 2009 more than 50 members donated more than \$1300 (USD) for CITYNET programme activities. The "CITYNET Supporters" would like to contribute to the betterment of the environment in member cities through tree-planting and other environment-related projects. CITYNET Secretariat is now accepting proposals from member cities outlining their tree-planting project and how the money could be best used in their city. **Deadline for proposals is May 20, 2010.**

Eco-Tank Project Set to Expand

In late February, CITYNET facilitated a meeting between the Bangkok Metropolitan Administration (BMA) and San Fernando, USAID, and Premier Products Company (PP) to discuss the expansion of the Eco-tank project to include San Fernando city. Eco-tanks are currently used in Bangkok, helping the city manage the 2.7 million cubic metres per day of sewerage.

Eco-tank use has many advantages. The eco-tanks manufactured by PP are simple and easy to use, although installation does require some technical skill. The eco-tanks can be highly flexible in design, capacity and can be constructed easily and locally if the basic facilities to construct them are present. As the tanks can be installed above or below ground, it is easy to find space for them. Once installed, the tanks intake sewerage and produce both bio-gas, which can be used for household cooking, and effluent water, which can be used for various non-consumption purposes.

Both SF and USAID were pleased with the outcome of the study visit to Bangkok. In particular, USAID was confident that PP had the best and simplest technology that can be applied to many Asian communities. They also said that working with CITYNET would be an exciting opportunity and potentially be able to secure additional funding for CITYNET's activities related to sanitation and/or environment.

SF indicated their full support and willingness to pursue the project according to the timeline stated by CITYNET. They will also allocate their own funding for publications and promotion in La Union. Eco-tanks were introduced at the recently held workshop on sanitation organised by SF.

Eco-tanks are part of the C2C Cooperation for Decentralised Sewerage Treatment, a project being carried out by CITYNET and UNITAR with support of the Prince Albert II Monaco's Foundation.



DISASTER

Makati Presents CITYNET to the Business Sector



Left: Members of the Makati Business Council discussing their plans of action after hearing the presentation about CITYNET and its endeavours. Right: Cover page of the CITYNET presentation delivered by Mr. Xenon Walde, Chief of Makati's Urban Planning Division and former CITYNET Secondement Staff,

operational applications.

[UCLG Congress "Responding to Globalization"](#)

19-22 October 2010
Hamamatsu, Japan
Multicultural society, climate change, tourism promotion through the use of local resources, and inter-city cooperation in the economic sector.

[12th World Conference of Historical Cities](#)

12-15 October
Nara, Japan
"Succession of Historical City with Creative Revitalization" - roundtable discussions and workshops aimed at mayors of historical cities.

[10th UITP International Light Rail Conference](#)

18-20 October 2010
Madrid, Spain
"LRT - Good for people - Good for cities," - light rail as the symbiotic link between a sound and sustainable city fabric and the people living and working there.

[2010 Local and Regional Leaders World Summit - UCLG 3rd Congress](#)

16-20 November 2010
Mexico City, Mexico
More than two thousand mayors will meet to discuss and define policies to address economic and climate change, transport and human rights, in order to define the direction of cities by the year 2030.

[12th International Conference Cities and Ports](#)

15 - 19 November, 2010
Buenos Aires and Rosario, Argentina
"New World, New Challenges for Port Cities," - taking stock of the projects and accomplishments of cities and ports who want to seize on opportunities provided by the profound geostrategic, economic and environmental changes.

[Events Calendar](#)

Resources

[Climate Change Adaption Help](#)

A global community centered around climate adaptation. Keep up-to-date

together with Ms. Anna Rose Caro, also a former Secondment Staff.

In its efforts to help the network strengthen and expand its membership, the City Government of Makati introduced CITYNET and its programmes and activities to the business sector through the Makati Business Development Council (MBDC) to encourage them to join as members or partners as well as solicit support for the CITYNET programmes and projects implemented in Makati. The presentation was done during one of the MBDC monthly meetings held on March 24, 2010 at the Sampiro Conference Room of Makati City Hall.

CDRI Completion (Stage 3) Video Conference

On April 19th, CDRI's eight participating cities (see main article above) joined the final video conference of the Climate Disaster Resilience Initiative (CDRI). Each city presented drafts of their action plans, which they have written as the third stage of this project, after completing the earlier stages of online learning and document sharing (stage one), and in-person training in Kuala Lumpur (stage two).

Despite the relatively short length of the programme, each city produced incredibly detailed action plans, many highlighting up to 45 concrete future projects. These comprehensive action plans also include information on potential partnerships with other urban stakeholders.

CITYNET looks forward to monitoring the continuing progress as each city works to achieve their wide-ranging action plans.



INFRA

Seoul-Jakarta Partnership Continues through Study Visit



As part of the C2C cooperation between Seoul and Jakarta (borne from the action plans engendered during KLRTC 18 in December 2009), delegates from the Seoul Metropolitan Government visited Jakarta and Bandung between 7-9 April. This was in reciprocation of the visit by Jakarta officials to Seoul in March for the signing of MOU between the two cities on sustainable transportation systems

(STS). While in Jakarta, the Seoul delegation, led by Mr. Yong Mok Shin, Director of Transportation Policy met with various Jakarta transportation officials, including Ms. Handhayani, Assistant Secretary for Development, Ms. Rini, the Head of Transjakarta, Jakarta's famous BRT system, and Deputy Governor Sutanto.

On the agenda for discussion was the status of Jakarta's transportation, the implementation of major projects and the plans in place for MRT in Jakarta. The Seoul delegation also experienced first hand riding the Transjakarta and fare collection system. Based on the memorandum, SMG and Jakarta capital city government will continue to cooperate closely on the STS project. SMG intends to submit a feasibility study report on the Transjakarta fare collection system and propose an appropriate action plan. During the visit to Jakarta, SMG officials also took the time to visit fellow CITYNET member, the nearby city of Bandung, where they met the local transportation authorities and toured the city's traffic control centre. For more information on C2C between the two cities, please contact Ms. Ji Young Kim of SMG at [everaft\(at\)seoul.go.kr](mailto:everaft(at)seoul.go.kr) for details.



MDGs

Urban Safety Workshop Announced

on hot topics through news updates and blogs and research materials.

[International Green Roof and Wall Database](#)

This searchable database provides information on hundreds of green roof and wall projects worldwide. If you are interested in starting a new green roof, wall, or curtain project, this is a great starting point for research, or to find local contacts who have already completed similar projects.

[Asian Cities Climate Change Resilience Network \(ACCCRN\)](#)

The ACCCRN research efforts, sponsored by the Rockefeller Foundation have so far been focused on specific cities. However, the project is looking to expand throughout South and Southeast Asia. To find more information on how to become involved in this network, or to read their newsletters and other publications, please visit:

[Now Available - "Local Governments and Disaster Risk Reduction: Good practices and lessons learned"](#)

This publication, produced by the former Local Government Alliance for Disaster Risk Reduction in cooperation with UNISDR, showcases best practices in the institutionalisation of disaster resilience planning.

[New Publication - CITYGREEN](#)

CITYGREEN is the first periodical to put together multi-disciplinary knowledge related to tropical urban greening. The topics covered in the selection of articles range from the ecological roles of plants in our built environment to prominent landscape projects. CITYGREEN also documents the most current research and development programs in the tropical landscape industry.

[CONTEST - City.People.Light Award 2010](#)

City.People.Light is an international competition that recognizes excellence in urban lighting. Entries from city authorities are due by June 2010.

Archive

CITYNET, UN-HABITAT, UNESCAP, SPARC and ACHR are jointly implementing a project on urban safety for the poor, with a focus on the most vulnerable groups in Asia and the Pacific. The project aims to raise awareness on issues of urban safety related to crime and violence for the poor in Asia and the Pacific, through analysis and collection of information and through the identification of promising or good practices in promoting safety. Its first workshop is scheduled to be held from 15 to 17 June 2010 in Marikina, the Philippines. The workshop will gather local governments, community groups, policemen and experts and practitioners to discuss the tools and innovations for improving urban safety and together develop a plan of actions for the region. Partial sponsorships are available for members of CITYNET who are committed to pursuing urban safety in their cities/territories. For further information, please visit the [CITYNET website](#).

[Previous Issues](#)

Glossary of Acronyms

[Download Glossary \(page bottom\)](#)

Satellite Office

The Satellite Office (SO) has been working to increase its bilateral ties with other members of the CITYNET network. On March 5, the SO facilitated a meeting between Mr. Rajendra Vale of the Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai, Professor Takashi Miura and Mr. Jiro Ogihara from Yokohama City University and Dean Shirinivas Gondhalekar of the Welingkar Institute of Management Development and Research. The two schools hope to create a partnership to discuss research and hold a conference with the cooperation of CITYNET, JICA, and WB.

The SO also held talks with Dr. Vinay D. Lall, Director General of SDS, an NGO, about collaborating with the SO to outreach the local governments and others in the South Asia sub-region and seek their involvement in strengthening CITYNET and working towards building sustainable cities.

National Chapter Update



Bangladesh

NC Bangladesh is looking forward to launching a rooftop gardening initiative. Partnering with Nogor Krishok ("urban farmer"), they will plant rooftop gardens for city residents. In addition, they will provide space- and time-efficient composting machines and rainwater harvesting equipment. Households will be able to efficiently dispose of waste through composting, and then use the compost and harvested rainwater to support the gardens. Fruit and vegetables from the garden will provide a significant nutritional boost in their everyday lives as well. Check back later for more updates on this exciting new project.



Indonesia

NC Indonesia will host a seminar and opportunity to share best practices in waste management in Tarakan this year. In preparation for this, the NC is actively working with the Nanggaleng Public Health Centre of Sukabumi to optimize its waste management process. The current NC project will result in segregated storage bins for various kinds of organic and inorganic waste, as well as special disposal equipment for medical waste. Once this project has been successful, the NC will help to spread these practices to other Public Health Centres in Sukabumi and beyond.



Nepal

NC Nepal is currently in the planning phase for a variety of future projects. Members in Nepal should check for updates about the General Assembly of the NC, to happen later this year. More news about the NC can be found in the joint e-newsletter produced by the NC and MuAN. NC Nepal is also working to submit a project proposal to the CITYNET Secretariat.



Sri Lanka

NC Sri Lanka is working to expand CITYNET's partnership with HELP-O (CITYNET associate member) in installing biogas tanks. After installing the tanks, 17 families will have access

to the low-cost gas produced. The chapter will also facilitate many community education sessions to promote good techniques in waste management. The communities that receive the new biogas tanks will be expected to act as ambassadors of these practices, and spread their knowledge to their neighbours. The chapter will also construct two units at schools, to teach children good practices from a young age. Similar project of CITYNET with technical support from HELP-O was successfully implemented in Phnom Penh.

CITYNET Secretariat



Message from Former Assistant Secretary General Hiroshi Hoshina

"Despite the desire to be engaged in international business, very few officials have the chance to be so positioned. I have been very lucky to be able to be a part of CITYNET. When I worked at the Port & Harbor Bureau of Yokohama City, I responded to the international business recruitment and was placed as the Assistant Chief of the Promotion of International Urban Settlements, Urban Planning Bureau in 1990. From this year to 1993, as part of the CITYNET office, I was dispatched to the UN-ESCAP in Bangkok for a 3-month training period, as UN-ESCAP took on the role of secretariat of CITYNET. During this period of training with ESCAP, I became acquainted with the staff of UN-ESCAP. Two officials were in charge of CITYNET: Lalith Lanlatilleke, now Senior Human Settlements Officer of UN-HABITAT and Adnan Aliani, currently Head of the Sustainable Urban Development Unit of UN-ESCAP. Thanks to their guidance, the training in UN-ESCAP gave me a valuable chance to acquire international business skills which I could utilise in my position as Assistant Secretary General of CITYNET in 2009.

It is often said that engineering officials can see their achievements when they retire, for example buildings, bridges or roads which they helped construct, but it very difficult for administrative officers to visualise their achievements. However, in my case, I have the honour to say I was engaged in establishing and developing CITYNET. Finally, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to Dato Lakhbir Singh Chahl, former Secretary-General and Ms. Mary Jane Ortega, Secretary-General of CITYNET as well as my dear colleagues for their support."

CITYNET wishes to heartfully thank Mr. Hoshina for his dedication and service to CITYNET. Mr. Hoshina is currently stationed at the Port & Harbor Bureau of Yokohama City. During his stay as the Assistant Secretary-General, Mr. Hoshina has mobilised supporters to CITYNET in Yokohama.

Welcoming a New Assistant Secretary General

This month, the CITYNET secretariat warmly welcomes Shigenobu Sato as our new Assistant Secretary General. Before his retirement in March and placement at CITYNET, Mr. Sato worked in a wide variety of positions for the Yokohama City Government. He is already familiar with many organizations in the Pacifico Yokohama building, having also worked for YOKE (CITYNET member) and helped set up the ITTO office.



Mr. Sato strongly believes in the importance of the mission of CITYNET. When traveling through Asia, he was impressed by the vitality and energy of developing cities, as well as the diversity of culture. He sees CITYNET as a mechanism for cities to maintain this diversity while still improving the lives of citizens across Asia. Through CITYNET, cities can work together in mutually-beneficial, equal-status relationships to create development programs that focus on gradual change while maintaining individual regional characteristics.

Mr. Sato hopes to use his experience and network of connections to expand CITYNET

membership in Japan. He notes that Japanese cities should look outside of their own country and should seek to build a friendly, not competitive, Asian community. Cooperation is the key to improving our lives, he says, not just between cities, but also amongst different populations within cities, between countries, and between humans and nature.

Mr. Sato hopes to meet many CITYNET members face to face in the future. Until then, he is eager to learn more about each member city and help them achieve successful partnerships. Welcome, Mr. Sato!

Farewell Message from Secondment Staff from Surabaya City



CITYNET Secondment Staff Chosadillia from Surabaya City successfully completed her term at CITYNET. Her achievements include working in the Disaster Cluster, namely with the CDRI programme among others.

"Because working as secondment staff for CITYNET was also my first time going abroad, it was quite challenging for me. I learned many new things about international relations, institutional matters, urban planning, disaster resilience, and water management. I am really glad to have a chance to learn from the City of Yokohama, especially about urban planning and creative city management. I hope that CITYNET can continue and strengthen its efforts to help local governments in the Asia Pacific develop, both internally, in their response to their citizens, and also externally, by improving international relationships and fostering mutual cooperation."

With the support of the Secretariat, I have submitted my report to the Mayor of Surabaya. I included how the lessons learnt I gained during my stay in Japan can be used for my city's development and improvement." Some inputs include implementing a mini-bus route, optimisation of bus routes, side walks and parking spaces. In terms of urban planning, more emphasis should be placed on heritage sites and specifically the port area for future planning and economic considerations as there is a great deal of beauty to be shared in Surabaya. Chosadillia also added that more information from Surabaya be shared in English. CITYNET gratefully thanks Chosadillia for her efforts and looks forward to continued support of CITYNET and seeing developments in Surabaya.

CITYNET Youth Japan

Youth Workshop with National University of Singapore (NUS) Announced

CITYNET Youth Japan warmly welcomes all interested participants to its first event in 2010 on May 22nd. Together with students visiting from the National University of Singapore (NUS), members will present a workshop covering challenging issues surrounding transportation in modern urban areas. Special emphasis will be placed on comparisons between the systems of Singapore and Yokohama. For more details on the event, or if you would like to participate, please e-mail: [soumu\(at\)citynet-ap.org](mailto:soumu(at)citynet-ap.org). Deadline for registration is May 15, 2010.

Partner News & Events

SUTP Asia Project Update

The Sustainable Transport Project in Asia is jointly implemented by Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit (GTZ), CITYNET, United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP), and Bangkok Metropolitan Administration (BMA). CITYNET has agreed to provide updates about the project.

The Future of Mobility-Shanghai Expo

The City of Bremen and GTZ will present three workshops on "The Future of Mobility" at the Shanghai World Expo from May 24th to 26th. Events are scheduled from 2 to 5 pm on: "Transport and Urban Development," "Low Carbon Mobility for Cities," and "The Role of Electric Vehicles".

[GTZ MD shares his vision on sustainable transportation](#)

The internet platform Comment:Vision hosted a variety a discussion on transport policy. GTZ Managing Director Hans-Joachim Preuss concluded that "we need a paradigm shift! (...) Changing the transportation culture is key for sustainable development and prevention of dangerous climate change".

[Further Signatories of Kyoto Declaration on Environmentally Sustainable Transport](#)

On March 16, 2010, 10 further Asian cities signed the Kyoto Declaration on Environmentally Sustainable Transport (EST) in Seoul, Republic of Korea. One of the cities to sign the Declaration was Solo, which is a partner in the GTZ implemented Project "Sustainable Urban Transport Improvements Project (SUTIP) in Indonesia" and financed by the German Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development.

[GTZ participates in the UN forum on Urban Transport in Seoul](#)

The UN Forum on Climate Change Mitigation, Fuel Efficiency and Sustainable Development of Urban Transport met from 16-17 March 2010, in Seoul in preparation for the 18th session of the UN Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD). The Forum included discussions to enhance public transport and curb greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, public private partnerships, financing public transport in developing countries, among others.

[Launch of Public Urban Transport Project in Danang](#)

The "Developing Danang - Environmental City" project was launched jointly by GTZ and the Danang city government on 3 March 2010 in Danang city. Within this project there is a component to support the introduction of a bus based public transport system.

For a full list of upcoming SUTP events please see www.sutp.org

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