Dear Members, Partners and Friends,

A big welcome from the CITYNET Secretariat for the last edition of eNews for this year. So much has happened this year in the area of disaster, however, many countries in the Asia Pacific are working towards disaster prevention and risk reduction with the aim of building more resilient cities.

In this issue you will learn more about how countries in the Asia Pacific are preparing for disaster and how they are working hard to prevent future ones. Other stories look at urban planning, water management, slum upgrading and of course climate change. As climate change was the main topic of discussion at the recent seminar in Dhaka, it was a good opportunity to learn how cities and local governments have taken much greater effort in mitigating and adapting this global phenomena at the local level.

CITYNETSecretariat would like to thank everyone who has contributed to the Network’s activities this year and we wish everyone a very happy New Year! 2012 will be the crucial year as CITYNET will be celebrating its 25th anniversary, we encourage all members of CITYNET to prepare for the celebration next year.

Best wishes,
CITYNET Secretariat

CITYNET News & Events

Features

Climate Change Seminar in Dhaka: Addressing global changes and finding local solutions
Group photo of delegates at the International Seminar on Climate Change and the Role of Local Government in Dhaka (top) and the 28th Executive Committee meeting (bottom)

CITYNET in collaboration with Dhaka City Corporation (DCC) recently hosted a Climate Change and the Role of Local Government International Seminar in Dhaka, Bangladesh, which was attended by mayors, senior city officials, research and civil society groups from 12 different countries. The seminar gave participants the opportunity to discuss how climate change is altering their cities and what practical steps local authorities can do about it.

As half the world’s population lives in cities, the Seminar pulled together best practices, examples of climate change mitigation and adaption as well as information exchanges showcasing the experiences of other cities in Asia and how their cities are tackling climate change issues on a local level. The Seminar shared the experiences of cities including Yokohama, Bangkok, Mumbai, Jakarta and Makati. There was also a focus on building disaster resilient cities and city-to-city learning and cooperation.

The Seminar was organised by CITYNET, Dhaka City Corporation, UNISDR (United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction) and CLAIR (Council of Local Authorities for International Relations) and the World Bank for its technical support. The State Minister of Local Government and Rural Development and Cooperative and the State Minister of Environment and Forest of Bangladesh delivered their opening remarks and underlined the importance of visionary mayors and local governments and of long-term planning for their own cities/regions. Dr. Atiq Rahman of BCAS (Bangladesh Centre for Advanced Studies), a member of CITYNET in his keynote speech drew participants attention on key responses of local governments in creating appropriate policies and strategies for “Climate Friendly Urban Planning” and good governance for cities in which all actors actively participate. In his inspiring presentation, Mr. Vijay Jagannathan, Sector Manager (Infrastructure) of the World Bank stressed the needs for cities, local governments and communities to go “Smart” - cities that are compacts and use resources in effective ways.

Yokohama demonstrated how to work towards becoming a Low Carbon City, while...
Surabaya addressed climate change mitigation through greenery and 3Rs activities - resulted in 10% reduction of the amount of waste per year. Bangkok shared a comprehensive action plan on tackling climate change, and Jakarta, one of the most vulnerable cities cited strategies and actions to meet its target of GHG emissions reduction of 30% by 2030. The city has taken its first step of mapping the potential reduction of GHG emissions and its next step of preparing the road map. Dhaka presented the City’s challenges and opportunities on climate change by focusing on disaster management aspects.

Cities participating in the 2010-2015 “Making Resilient Cities Campaign: My City is Getting Ready,” also shared their experiences in disaster risk reduction. Mayors and city officials of Kathmandu, Balagoda and Eravur (Sri Lanka) shared how their cities/territories have integrated DRR in various sectors and addressed the ten essentials of the Campaign. At the panel discussion, representatives of C40, JICA, Water Aid and UNDP Bangladesh expressed their intention and willingness to cooperate with cities and local governments in implementing solutions that are applicable at a local level.

The Seminar was preceded by the 28th Session of the Executive Committee of CITYNET on 26 November 2011 and the Second Technical Meeting on the Future Strengthening of CITYNET on 25 November 2011. Key matters arising from the Committee looked at further effort to build up the National Chapters, Satellite Office and Clusters as part of CITYNET’s decentralisation endeavors. The Committee has also approved the 2012 activities and budget and Surabaya as the host of the 29th Session and the 25th Anniversary in July next year.

All the presentations from the Climate Change Seminar are now available on the CITYNET website under the Resources section.
Balikpapan hosted the Congress of CITYNET Indonesia from 7-10 December 2011 that focused on sharing best practices on slum upgrading. In its keynote presentation, the Programme Director of CITYNET, Dr. Bernadia I. Tjandradewi shared some lessons learnt of sustainable slum planning and improvement from other countries, mainly India and Thailand. She also introduced good examples on sustainable development from other cities, including Yokohama's successful achievement of “G30-garbage 30% reduction.”

Representatives from the Ministry of Housing and the Ministry of Public Works of Indonesia presented the national strategies and programmes on slum improvement which started in mid 1960 and completed successfully, popularly known as the Kampung Improvement Programme (KIP). City government officials of Surabaya, Palembang and Banjar shared their successful cases on how their cities upgraded the poor living conditions in their constituents. Surabaya included in its spatial planning - the improvement of kampong in its city centre. The city has implemented the comprehensive KIP from 1998-2008 by upgrading physical and environmental conditions of kampongs and provided low-income housings with common facilities available for the poor. Surabaya has been the pioneer in KIP programme in the past, which later went on to be implemented at the national level. As part of local economic development, Surabaya initiated “one village, one product” mantra that brings uniqueness of the local areas. Surabaya City has turned into a green and clean city through its comprehensive programme of plantations and 3Rs and was able to raise the environmental cadres from 5,684 in 2007 to 27,000 in 2010. Through its great effort, the City has received various national and international awards that made Surabaya a well-known park city – as many available lands were turned into park.

Palembang located in Sumatera Island is the fifth biggest city in Indonesia. The City’s goal is to create “City without Slum,” and through various efforts, Palembang has reduced slum areas from 42 in 2004 to 16 in 2009. Three pillars of sustainable development, economy, environment and social, have been integrated in slum improvement programme. The city has integrated disaster (mainly fire) prevention into the programme. Just like Surabaya, Palembang has also received awards, including the national award (adipura) 5 times as the clean city, as well as for its best water supply performance.

Banjarbaru is one of the new cities located in South Kalimantan which was formed in 1999 and has a current population of 199,359 inhabitants. The main topic presented at the Congress focused on upgrading low-income settlements in the Kemuning River basin. The river has been blocked and the riverbank filled with houses as the result of uncontrolled settlements. The programme implemented by the city aimed to bring back the river and to manage the settlements along the river.

As part of the technical visit, participants had a chance to visit the improvement project at a low-income settlement located near the sea (houses above water). The area has been improved through a self-help programme with active participation of local communities, and implemented in cooperation with Balikpapan city government. Improvement includes a clean sanitation programme - the connection of sewerage pipes and wastewater treatment. Supported by Pertamina (oil company), mayors and participants jointly planted mangrove as part of the 20,000 mangrove plantation program.
The General Council of CITYNET Indonesia was held in between of the Congress by electing the mayor of Balikpapan and mayor of Denpasar as the President and Vice President of CITYNET Indonesia, respectively for the period of 2012 to 2016. Please refer details on the progress of CITYNET Indonesia under CITYNET Chapters below.

Preparing for disaster in Nepal

Mr. Junichi Miyakawa, Manager of the Fire Bureau of the City of Yokohama, shared his City's lessons learnt on disaster management.

Municipal Association of Nepal (MuAN) (the host of CITYNET Nepal Chapter) with financial assistance from the Ministry of Local Development (MoLD) organised a “National Workshop on Preparedness for Disaster Risk Reduction in the Municipalities of Nepal” on 13-14 December 2011 in Kathmandu. The workshop was held in partnerships with the All India Institute of Local Self Government (AIIILSG), an Executive Committee member of CITYNET, CITYNET, the City of Yokohama, Disaster Preparedness Network (DPNet) Nepal, National Society for Earthquake Technology (NSET) and UNISDR. The workshop aimed to strengthen coordination among all stakeholders and set clear strategic planning for disaster management at the municipal level.

The workshop was inaugurated by the chief guest, the Minister of Physical Planning and Works, Mr. Hridayesh Tripathi. He underlined the fact that Nepal has not achieved much in the area of disaster preparedness and requested that all stakeholders make a commitment from their sides to make Nepal more disaster resilient. A representative from Yokohama shared his City's experience and know-how on disaster management services and preparedness. There were also presentations on disaster preparedness in Nepal from the Ministry of Home Affairs (MoHA), Nepal Army, Nepal Police and Armed Police Force and DPNet.

UNISDR shared the HFA: Hyogo Framework for Action and facilitated the signing up session of the Making Cities Resilient: “My City is Getting Ready” Campaign. Seven municipalities of Nepal signed up for this campaign. In addition, there were
presentations from NSET on Urban Disaster Risk Reduction through Community Involvement. AIIISG presented on the requirements for inter-actor coordination and cooperation as well as the importance of institutional and policy framework for disaster management.

Overall, the workshop was successful in bringing together major stakeholders and providing them with a platform for further collaboration. On one hand, it provided an overview of the disaster situation in Nepal and showcased experiences from Japan and India.

CIFAL Kuala Lumpur/ KLRTC 23: Integrated urban planning in Asia Pacific

KLRTC 23 training course on integrated urban planning was held from December 13-15, 2011 in Kuala Lumpur. A total of 20 participants and resource persons attended the course which focused on the process of planning including financial, environmental awareness, partnerships, institutional and management aspects of integrated urban planning. Dr. Vinay Lall from the Society of Development Studies (SDS), Mr. David Villeneuve from Cities Development Initiatives for Asia (CDIA), Mr. B.K. Sinha from C2C Project Managers and Ms. Merlina Panganiban from Makati City Government were resource speakers for the three-day training course. The participants also had a study visit to a low-income housing project area within Kuala Lumpur to learn more about the housing schemes for the low income population in Kuala Lumpur.

For the most part of the training course, as it was focused on budgeting and financing, SDS and CDIA provided their expertise on integrating the subjects for urban planning. Dr. Lall shared his experience on the outcome oriented city planning and budgeting. He stressed that budgeting is a very important component when planning at an early stage however in many cases it is included only at a later stage thus creating unbalanced expenditures. He also emphasised that mayors and top city officials need to listen more to the planners to understand the reality of implementing the plans. Mr. Villeneuve focused on the process of planning and implementation. His introduction of City Infrastructure Investment Programing and Prioritisation (CIIPP) toolkit was well received by the participants. The toolkit was developed to assist cities and municipalities throughout Asia to move from strategies to bankable investment projects by doing a better and more structured job in urban infrastructure planning, prioritisation and programming. The toolkit consists of a manual and an excel workbook for interested cities and municipalities.
A video conference connecting Tokyo and Kuala Lumpur was also organised for two hours on the third day to allow Tokyo Metropolitan Government and the City of Yokohama to share their expertise on urban planning and disaster mitigation. The video conference venue in Tokyo was provided by Tokyo Development Learning Center (TDLC) of the World Bank whereas Telecom Malaysia provided the venue for the participants in Kuala Lumpur.

To streamline the outputs, the participants did group work on the second and third days to formulate their action plans according to the guidelines given during the training. Each city/organisation was then asked to present their action plans during the last session after which the trainers and the resource people gave their feedback on the presentations. Presentations from KLRTC 23 are available on the CITYNET website for reference purposes.

Kuala Lumpur Regional Training Centre (KLRTC) or CIFAL Kuala Lumpur is a joint initiative launched in 2003 by UNITAR, CITYNET, Kuala Lumpur City Hall, UNDP, and Veolia Environnement that aims to strengthen local governments’ capacity to deal with sustainable development. KLRTC is the outcome of our commitment expressed at the WSSD (World Summit on Sustainable Development), in Johannesburg in 2002.

Asia Water Summit: Towards sustainable water management

CITYNET Programme Director, Dr. Bernadia Irawati Tjandradewi, spoke at the Asia Water Summit on 17th and 18th November 2011 in Jakarta. She highlighted the sanitation outlook of Asian cities - including lack of government priority and the level of investment and gave an overview on C2C cooperation of CITYNET in the field of water and wastewater. She stressed the importance of continuous learning following technology and management transfers. Mr. Ek Sonn Chan, CEO of Phnom Penh Water Supply Authority shared his experience how Phnom Penh Water Authority was turned from bankruptcy to self-financing. Dr. Syaiful, Chairman of PERPAMSI (Indonesia National Water Suppliers Association) featured opportunities on public-private partnership in water supply sector in the Country.

CITYNET also hosted a Networking and Capacity Building Workshop on Sustainable Water
Supply, which was held in partnership with the Japan Water Works Association (JWWA) and PERPAMSI. Mr. Ikuo Mitake of JWWA shared the history of Yokohama’s water supply and its strategies to reach to its current level as one of the best water authorities in Japan. The workshop looked at water challenges faced by Jakarta and Surabaya cities while water experts/specialists commented on ways to minimise them. Jakarta and Surabaya’s cases were presented by Dr. Firdaus Ali, Board Member, the Jakarta Water Supply Regulatory Body and Ms. Indrarini Tenrisau, Corporate Secretary of Surabaya Water Supply Enterprise, respectively. Commentators including Prof. Chan Ngai Weng, President of the Water Watch Penang highlighted the significance of safe water and environmental education and this should start as early age as possible. Surabaya was keen in cooperation with Japanese cities, especially Yokohama on water supply as a follow-up.

Dr. Fauzi Bowo, Governor of Jakarta delivered the opening remarks while Ms. Elisea G. Gozun, the Presidential Assistant II for Climate Change, Office of the President of the Philippines gave her keynote address.

**25th Anniversary of CITYNET**

CITYNET will be 25 years old in July 2012 and encourage all members to celebrate this anniversary at their own cities/countries. CITYNET Executive Committee will have the celebration in Surabaya in July 2012 which will also include an awards ceremony of outstanding members and the best examples of city-to-city-cooperation amongst members of CITYNET.

**UNU-IAS Fellowship and Masters Programme**

Every year the United Nations University (UNU-IAS) offers PhD and postdoctoral fellowships to scholars and policy makers from the developing world. The closing date for the fellowship deadline is 29 February 2012 and more information can be found here. UNU-IAS also has a Master of Science in Environmental Governance programme and the closing date for this is 28 February 2012. More information on this course can be found on the UNU-IAS website.

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### Clusters Update

#### CLIMATE CHANGE

**New Partnership on Climate Change Adaption**

The Climate Change Cluster’s objectives are to help coordinate for sharing information, strategies and policies amongst member cities and organisations, as well as to strength their capacity to develop and implement comprehensive adaptation and mitigation plan.

The Cluster has done several successful activities, such as C2C projects on solid waste reduction (biogas, 3Rs), climate change education for local government, water resource management, the Incentive-Based Innovation for Climate Adaptation in Asia, and the recent activity on the Role of Local Government on Climate Change Conference (see the top article for details).

CITYNET has launched the new project on “Partnership on Incentive Based Innovation
for Climate Change Adaptation in Asia” supported by ISWA Fund and selected Iloilo’s proposal on alternative solution to illegal fishing for its first location. Iloilo will receive $10,000 to implement the project. Second round of call for proposal will be conducted early next year. The Secretariat encourages members, particularly the Climate Change Cluster’s members to submit their proposals. (Note: ISWA Fund is the donation given by Yokohama to CITYNET to promote sustainable urban environment in Asia-Pacific region.)

**DISASTER**

**Emergency planning for disaster - Makati’s Experience**

Makati City Government, the lead city of Disaster Cluster of CITYNET, dispatched Ms. Merlina Panganiban, Head of Urban Development Department to act as a resource speaker for the 23rd KLRTC training (see detailed article above). She shared Makati’s experience in mainstreaming DRR in the urban planning process. She has also provided valuable inputs on how to improve the quality of training held at KLRTC.

As for the year 2011, Makati Risk Sensitive Urban Redevelopment Project (MRSURP) has already accomplished three activities in its implementation phase. A Workshop on Updating the Evacuation Plan for Barangay Rizal took place on August 4, 2011. This workshop aimed to enhance the current evacuation plan for Barangay Rizal by tapping zone leaders and others in identifying the fastest and safest evacuation routes. This also involved determining the areas where signage’s for emergencies can be installed to guide residents to safe zones to prevent panic and congestion in the event of an evacuation.

A Transport Planning Workshop took place in August where participants discussed the issues and programmes formulated by the MRSURPP. These actions were taken for the following clusters: Traffic and Transportation, Parking and Terminals, Enforcement, Engineering, Information, Education, and Communication. Furthermore, an Emergency Management Workshop was held on November 22, 2011 that aimed to alleviate suffering, prevent further injury and prolonging life during disasters and emergencies, such as fire safety and prevention, basic life support lecture and first aid.

**INFRA**

**Upcoming CityVoices to look at “Bright Ideas and New Perspective on Infrastructure and Urban Planning”**

**Call for Submissions for the Spring/Summer Issue of CityVoices Magazine**

**Theme: Infrastructure**

CityVoices is looking for articles and input on the subject of infrastructure in Asia-Pacific cities. What significant changes do you see in your city in terms of transportation, integrated urban planning or financing? How have they affected your city? How is your city’s infrastructure prepared for climate change and disaster and other global challenges?
Tell us your story.

Send us your ideas, letters, articles and photos for consideration to communication(at)citynet-ap.org by no later than January 30, 2012.

MDGs

No Update

Satellite Office

No Update

National Chapter Update

Nepal

Update on the biogas project in Gulariya

With financial assistance from CITYNET, Gulariya Municipality has already started the construction of a biogas plant in a slaughter house. According to Mr. Krishna Prasad Gautam, Executive Officer of Gulariya Municipality they are going to construct a biogas plant having 15 cubic meters capacity. Since the slaughter house has the capacity to manage 100 goats and 1000 chickens per day, the wastes generated from the animals/poultries will have significant contribution as slurry to the biogas plant. The energy generated from it will be used in the slaughter house for small purposes that require electricity such as cleaning the animals’ fur, charging equipment and so on.

The project was initially expected to be completed by the end of December but due to several reasons such as severe climatic conditions, unavailability of proper contractors and materials etc., it will now be finished in March 2012. This project is expected to be developed as a model project in this region and has a high feasibility of replication in the adjoining towns and municipalities.

Indonesia

Seminar and sharing best practice on environment and solid waste management

CITYNET Indonesia conducted a Seminar on Environment and Solid Waste Management in Denpasar, Bali on 20-21 October 2011. The resource people came from the Ministry of Environment, the Ministry of Public Work of Indonesia and Mr. Kasturiranga, an expert on urban planning from India. As a result of the Seminar, the Ministry of Environment and Ministry of Public Work will provide funds to the CITYNET Indonesia National Chapter to help enhance the local solid waste management activities, especially for managing the final disposal area. Parallel with the seminar, a Mayor meeting was also conducted to prepare for the CITYNET Indonesia Congress in Balikpapan.

Indonesia Congress 2011

In conjunction with the CITYNET Indonesia Congress held on 7-10 December in Balikpapan (see the report above), the General Council was held to elect the President
and other office bearers of the CITYNET Indonesia. Mayor Balikpapan and Mayor Denpasar were elected as President and Vice President for the period of 2012 to 2016, respectively. Mayor of Sukabumi, previous President of CITYNET Indonesia opened the meeting, presented the Chapter’s history and past activities during his presidency. Programme Director of CITYNET conveyed the message of the Secretary General and thanked the Mayor of Sukabumi for his leadership and all his staff who contributed to the establishment and active performance of the Chapter since 2006. She congratulated the newly elected President and other office bearers and wished the best success of the Chapter under Balikpapan's leadership.

The Chapter’s proposed activities for 2012 onward include the development of database of member profile and MDGs status, capacity-building programme on transport in Bogor, local governance system in Banjar, and drinking water in Palembang, as well as the technical visits on urban development to Japan and other country.

CITYNET Secretariat

The CITYNET Secretariat staff in Yokohama attended a disaster drill held annually by the City of Yokohama. The exercise included sitting in an earthquake simulation truck (pictured above), which went through a number of earthquakes experienced in Japan over the last year. This was particularly useful for new staff at the Secretariat to experience the force that a big earthquake has. Apart from natural disasters, staff was also given the opportunity to try using a fire extinguisher in the event of a fire and to crawl through a smoke filled tent to experience what could happen if a big fire broke out.

CITYNET Secretariat: New Year Office Closure

The Secretariat will be closed between 29 December 2011- 3 January 2012. The office will open again on the 4th January.

CITYNET Youth Japan

CITYNET Youth Japan recently visited the Suntory factory at Hakushu, Yamanashi on December 4th where the bottled water, Tennensui, is produced. The main reason for the visit was to prepare for the next workshop on January 8th which will look at environmental problems. It is said that the average Japanese person drink 19.6 litres of bottled water in a year, according to a survey by the Japanese Mineral Water Association in 2007. However, there are
many problems associated with bottled water, such as recycling systems and water safety. The Group is inviting guests to talk about the recycling and water safety as well as other environmental challenges and solutions at the next workshop.

Please contact youth_japan(at)citynet-ap.org or visit: CITYNET Youth Japan

**Partner News & Events**

**SUTP Asia Project Update**
The Sustainable Urban Transport Project in Asia is jointly implemented by the Gesellschaft fur Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), CITYNET, UNESCAP, and Bangkok Metropolitan Administration (BMA). CITYNET has agreed to provide updates.

**GIZ-SUTP at the 6th Regional EST Forum and Urban Mobility India 2011**
The GIZ-SUTP team participated in various sessions of the 6th Regional Environmentally Sustainable transport (EST) Forum of the UNCRD and 4th Annual Urban Mobility Conference and Exhibition held in parallel in New Delhi from 3-6 December 2011. GIZ used this opportunity to release some of its new publications on sustainable urban transport and conduct a training course on Public Bicycle Schemes. The event drew policymakers, experts, practitioners, academia and researchers working in the urban transport sector from various parts of the world.

**Pre-Conference Master class by GIZ at the Urban Transport World Asia 2011 Conference in Jakarta**
GIZ conducted a Pre-Conference Master class on Transport Demand Management (TDM), Transit Oriented Development (TOD) and Traffic Impact Control (TIC) on 29th November 2011 at the Urban Transport World - Asia 2011 Conference in Jakarta, Indonesia. This workshop provided to a group of close to 20 consultants, mayors, developers and urban planners, insights on the concepts of TDM, TOD and TIC, and the practical and plausible measures that can be implemented in Indonesian cities without having excessive infrastructure requirements.

**Factsheet on Speeding up Cycling through Special Infrastructure**
Especially for daily urban travel, riding a bicycle is a healthy and environmentally friendly alternative to using a car. One important option to promote cycling is to facilitate the use of bicycles through dedicated high-quality infrastructure. The factsheet “Speeding up cycling” focuses on measures aimed at decreasing average travel times by creating new or optimizing existing cycle infrastructure.

**Ministry of Transport (Indonesia) field visit to Germany**
The German Federal Foreign Office sponsored an information tour for transport officials and decision makers to Germany from November 6 -12, 2011. A team of GIZ senior experts accompanied the delegate on a combined public transport and non-motorized transport trip through Berlin.

For a full list of upcoming SUTP events please see [www.sutp.org](http://www.sutp.org)