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CITYNET e-News

Issue# 61

January - February 2012

Dear Members, Partners and Friends,

Welcome to the first edition of e-News for 2012, which also happens to coincide with the 25th anniversary year of CITYNET! We are encouraging all CITYNET members to participate and commemorate this very important year with us. The celebration's period will be from July through December 2012. Please send your plans for celebration to our Secretariat office. Read on to learn more about our upcoming celebrations in Surabaya in July 2012 and how you can take part in this milestone in CITYNET's unique history of helping cities and governments across the Asia Pacific region to promote and develop plans for safer and more liveable cities.



Grass roots projects help disaster recovery

This issue also takes a look back at some of our disaster recovery projects to see what learnings we can take on in the future. A team of evaluators went to both Sri Lanka and Indonesia to evaluate CITYNET projects and see what lessons could be brought back to help in the Tohoku recovery. One article highlights why cities should rethink their current approaches to urban planning as Western planning strategies are not always the most suitable.

Best wishes,
CITYNET Secretariat

Join CITYNET

This Issue:

- ▶ On the path to recovery: What Indonesia and Sri Lanka can teach towards post-Tohoku reconstruction efforts
- ▶ CITYNET Japan Forum on New Paths after Disaster
- ▶ Cities in Developing Countries need to rethink their planning
- ▶ 25th Anniversary of CITYNET
- ▶ Why Asia-Pacific Cities must have climate change plans and actions
- ▶ World Cities Summit 2012 - Liveable and Sustainable Cities
- ▶ Clusters Update
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CITYNET News & Events**Features**

On the path to recovery: What Indonesia and Sri Lanka can teach towards post-Tohoku reconstruction efforts

The Great East Japan Disaster Update

As of 31 January 2012, Yokohama collected approximately 468,460,000 yen. Yokohama will continue receiving donations for Tohoku until 15 March 2012. [Find out more here.](#)



CITYNET IS ON



(top pictures) Community centers' built by CITYNET in Galle and Moratuwa (Sri Lanka) which became key places for gathering and accessing health services after the tsunami and (bottom) Setui market in Indonesia

An evaluation team was sent to Sri Lanka and Indonesia to assess post tsunami reconstruction projects facilitated by CITYNET, and funded by the community in Yokohama. They hoped to assess the current status of the projects, identify strong and weak points in current implementation strategies, provide recommendations for strengthening projects, and collect lessons learnt which may be useful to disaster recovery efforts in the Tohoku region after the Great East Japan Disaster on March 11, 2011.

One of the evaluators, Ms. Suvendrini Kakuchi, a journalist, travelled to Moratuwa and Galle in Sri Lanka to visit tsunami-affected areas. Here she looked at the long term impact of the project- in particular, main issues and challenges the participants faced, in order to identify what specific lessons could be learned from this particular case to moreover benefit reconstruction efforts in Tohoku.

She visited a community centre in Moratuwa city, which experienced an influx of tsunami-affected refugees who have mixed in incredibly well with the local community, despite having just endured tremendous personal sufferings such as being uprooted from their homes and having their own livelihoods destroyed by the tsunami. The Borupana community centre played a pivotal role in bringing people together for various recovery activities, including making sure the youth of their town are well-provided for through the upkeep of a preschool, and providing basic health services to residents and their families. For example, the preschool brings children together under one roof to ensure their safety and protection, and provides them with ease of access to necessary health services nearby. Parents also shared information amongst themselves, demonstrating their seriousness about preserving the integrity and effectiveness of the community structure through compromise and discussion, especially pertaining to matters in which different parties had conflicting needs and demands. This ensured that the community centre acted as a place where people did not differentiate between old and newcomers, creating a harmonious, flexible, and forward-thinking attitude in relation to post-disaster recovery.

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members and partners around the world and follow the latest happenings from CITYNET. Available in [English](#) and [Japanese!](#) To join Twitter, sign-up [here](#).

CityVoices: Poll on Infrastructure

Does your city meet the growing needs of an expanding city?

lowest

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6
- 7
- 8
- 9
- 10

highest

Sorry, voting is closed.

Localise e-News & CityVoices

The CITYNET Secretariat encourages every member to locally distribute CITYNET publications in their 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.

Contact us

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disaster and had this to say: "The community played a vital role in disaster recovery

after the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami because the local residents helped each other and shared their homes with affected populations. The role of the municipality is to support the community centres. This is the best lesson we can share to support Japan's efforts to recuperate after the disaster in Tohoku."

The role of the community was also important in Galle, which was one of the worst affected areas in Sri Lanka by the tsunami. Ms. Kakuchi also visited the Siyambala-watte Community Centre. Since its construction, the centre has been used as a site to conduct training programmes aimed at empower the local community and giving them the tools to adapt. The administration of the centre was later handed back to Galle municipality. One of the key lessons learnt in Galle was that the formation and maintenance of a stable working relationship between the community and local government will help in the long term recovery of an area. Community centres comprised a crucial component of post-tsunami recovery in Galle as they strengthened bonds between neighbors and other resident, as well as served as popular gathering spaces for social activities and celebrations. They also functioned as the central point from which inhabitants could accessing services ranging from health to education ao skill-building (workshops?) for poverty reduction. Sevanatha and HELP-O, along with the NGO members of CITYNET, helped coordinate the construction of the Borupana and Siyambala-watte Community Centres, respectively.

The second evaluator was Dr. Bambang Rudyanto from Wako University, Japan who travelled to Banda Aceh in Indonesia- a site which had suffered severe damages due to the tsunami. There, he visited Setui market which was renovated by CITYNET in coordination with Banda Aceh municipality and the Association of Indonesian Municipalities (AIM). As the busiest market in Banda Aceh, its renovation helped bring back local economic activities in which shop owners felt confident in the building's durability and earthquake resistance.

He also looked at the community centre which, as with the previous cases, again proved to be an effective gathering point after the tsunami. The centre also served as an example of a "model house" so that people living in shelters had a concrete example of what type of house could best meet local needs to look to.

Whilst the usage and potisive contributions of the centre has been a success story, the renovations done for the market were unfortunatley less so. The second floor of the market has not been fully utilised as shop owners still concreted in its first floor. Also, most people were not even aware of who had funded the renovation project. Despite these observations however, Setui was the only market which functioned soon after the tsunami occurred.

Dr. Rudyanto had the chance to meet the Mayor of Banda Aceh, Mr. Mawardy Nurdin who expressed his gratitude to CITYNET, Yokohama and all members of CITYNET that contributed to his City's development. Yokohama, through its Waterworks Bureau provided technical cooperation in the field of water. The findings from the evaluators was presented at the most recent CITYNET Japan Forum (see below.)

CITYNET Japan Forum on New Paths after Disaster

www.smart-cities.net
[Publications](#)


CITYNET:

25 Years of Celebration

To commemorate our very special anniversary we have produced a Brochure for Celebrations to help CITYNET members to plan activities to celebrate our 25th year. As many cities will be planning activities, we would members to fill in a registration form which is available [here](#).

Clusters Update 11 Winter 2011

The new Clusters Update will be available to view on the CITYNET website from 1 March 2012.

CITYNET + Member & Partner Events

- MARCH -

6th World Water Forum

Marseille, France
12-17 March 2012

- APRIL -

12th International Congress of Educating Cities

Changwon, Republic of Korea
25-29 April, 2012

- MAY -

KLRTC 24: Sustainable Urban Transport

Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
22-24 May, 2012

- JUNE -

2nd Asia-Pacific Water Summit

Bangkok, Thailand
Theme: Water Security: Leadership and Commitment



(top left) Dr. Yujiro Ogawa from Bosai International (former Chair of Fuji-Tokoha University), the facilitator of the Forum, and Dr. Akiko Nakajima from Wayo Women's University, interacted with the audiences. (top-right) Dr. Bambang Rudyanto (left) and Ms. Suvendrini Kakuchi (right) sharing with the participants their observations at sites affected by the tsunami in Indonesia and Sri Lanka. (bottom) Participants, speakers, staff of CITYNET Secretariat and volunteers joined the photo session.

The 15th Japan Forum was a special session held in conjunction with the Yokohama International Forum 2012, both of which focused on disaster recovery and lessons learnt from various regions across Asia.

The first session, lead by Dr. Bambang Rudyanto of Wako University and Ms. Suvendrini Kakuchi, included an assessment of CITYNET's tsunami projects in Indonesia and Sri Lanka, respectively. Dr. Bambang explained that out of the five parameters of disaster management-- predict, prevent, reduce, respond and recover--only the last two steps are of the most pressing concerns for developing countries. While CITYNET has long been supporting the prevention part of the cycle to reduce risks, he suggested that the organisation could also provide new and up-to-date information to developing countries to support and further expand their knowledge on the proper and effective actions to be taken to mitigate the aftermath of earthquakes and disaster.

In addition to the above, Ms. Suvendrini Kakuchi (who visited Sri Lanka) observed a health clinic in Borupana, a low-income community. She paid particular attention to children's health/services (child clinic, preschool) as well as solutions for woman's health. Her findings showed that in Galle, there exists a tightly knit community in which the role of extended family was important, and that the community centre was connected to other activities nearby. There was also a unique and remarkable project that took place in Galle, in which a women's group converted half the monetary donations received for tsunami recovery purposes into an informal bank where microcredit activities were initiated. In their presentations, both evaluators had suggestions for the Tohoku region based on their assessment of the successful ventures at recovery and cooperation amongst observed in both communities. These included: more space for woman and children, community rebuilding and regular community training. Attention also needed to be given to develop livelihoods' as well

(Rescheduled from February to no

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- JULY -

World Cities Summit 2012

Singapore

1-4 July 2012

29th Session of CITYNET Executive Committee

Surabaya, Indonesia

10-12 July, 2012

The next ExCom and main 25th anniversary celebrations

- SEPTEMBER -

World Urban Forum 6

Naples, Italy

1-7 September 2012

Theme: Urban Future and the Prosperity of Cities

Send us your news and events

WeGo Awards

The World e-Governments Organization of Cities and Local Governments (WeGo) is looking for candidates for the first WeGo awards in 2012. The aim of the awards is to recognise and promote outstanding practices of e-government of local governments and cities that use information technology to improve citizens' access to public services. There are five award categories: services, efficiency, open city, urban management and digital divide. Applications for submission are being accepted until May 31, 2012. For more information about the awards and how to apply, please visit the WeGo website [here](#).

Events Calendar

Resources

as make counselling services available to those in need of a plan for the long term.

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was important. Support from grass-roots and non-governmental organisations was also

vital.

This was followed up by a session with Yokohama city officials who were despatched to Banda Aceh after the Tsunami, which looked at the follow-up measures of the CITYNET reconstruction project in Indonesia and Sri Lanka.

Cities in Developing Countries need to rethink their planning



(top left) Technical visit to learn about Kisumu's rapid growth; (top right) Kisumu is benefitted from Lake Victoria; (bottom) The delegates posed with the Executive Director of UN-Habitat, Mr. John Clos.

Developing Cities need to find more innovative ways to plan their cities well. We have evidence that the Western style of planning is not always a good reference to model plans after. Since every city has unique needs and weak points, if plans cannot be feasibly implemented, a possible reason might be that planners are unable to accurately interpret the local situations for that particular city, and thus cannot optimise growth. Asian cities in developing countries are experiencing rapid urban and economic growth nowadays. In most cases they have limited resources and face various other challenges which reflect the city-specific needs of their inhabitants, thus indicating a need for city officials and legislators to renovate their traditional and outdated planning traditions. For cities which are already in dire and complex situations due to a rapid population, they need to develop new strategies and approaches in order to transform them into livable and desirable cities.

UN-Habitat initiated the documentation of "Urban Planning for City Leaders: A Quick Guide on Spatial Planning, Financing, and Management", a manual which is expected to help guide city leaders as they plan, build, invest, and steer their city's development.

UN-Habitat organised the Expert Group Meeting in Kisumu, Kenya on the 22nd and 23rd of February 2012 to review and improve the first draft of the Quick Guide. Dr. Bernadia I. Tjandradewi, the Programme Director of CITYNET, attended and shared with e-News'

Opportunity'

The report of the Fifth Asia-Pacific Urban Forum, called 'Cities of Opportunity: Partnerships for an Inclusive and Sustainable Future' is now available to read or download from the UN ESCAP website: <http://www.unescap.org/apuf-5/home.htm>.

The report presents the outcomes of the Forum, which was held from 20-25 June of last year in Bangkok, Thailand. It contains summaries of all plenary sessions, sub-regional focus groups, and the Bazaar of Ideas and Practices. Five papers outlining urban challenges specific to ESCAP's sub-regions, prepared for the conference by eminent urban experts, are also included in the report.

Archive

Previous Issues

Glossary of Acronyms

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readers the outcomes of the meeting, and Dr. Vinay Lal also participated as the

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The Quick Guide will include messages from mayors on key principles for proactive city-planning techniques, suggestions on how to draft a plan, and a number of applicable approaches and inspiring precedents which will be feasibly translated from words into action. Mayors will be introduced to the "Action Wheel" which focuses on the need to listen and prepare, lead, plan and implement. The Quick Guide will comprise of three themes as seen from the first EGM held in New Delhi in October 2011. The first theme-- spatial planning-- focuses on how to shape cities, provide basic services for better convenience and livability, improve mobility and transportation schemes, and prepare for emerging and unforeseen challenges including climate change by including flexible means within their plans. The other two themes discuss optimal approaches to finance and management. City finance focuses on how a city should be able to build a solid and stable resource base, prioritise investment, and create long-lasting and beneficial partnerships with various other stakeholders. The key to this is a better understanding of how urban planning creates a qualitative type of value that can be captured to support urban development and improvement. In the last section on management, city leaders will be given references for how to govern their cities, implement plans into action, and keep track of whether or not their progress is significant and beneficial.

The EGM was opened by the Mayor of Kisumu, Mr. Samuel Okello, whose ambition is to have a good model city for Kisumu. Dr. John Clos, the Executive Director of UN-Habitat, in his brief dialogue with the attendees on the second day of the meeting, commented that the Quick Guide should clearly emphasise the following points: why mayors need to plan their cities well; how to objectively and concretely measure and track the success of plans, and why public and open space are of such importance. He added that cities must allocate 30-40% of the land designated for public space including roads, and that connectivity should be guaranteed. Dr. Clos also stated that zoning is not the right solution, as it can result in disastrous consequences if not handled carefully. In his opinion, mono-functional land use zoning should comprise less than 10% of the total land area.

In conjunction with the EGM of the Quick Guide, Kisumu municipality and UN-Habitat organised a Rapid Urban Planning Studio on Kisumu from 23-25 February 2012 in which local and international experts had the opportunity to exchange their ideas and suggestions for crafting Kisumu into a comprehensive and prosperous center for commerce, education, eco-tourism and innovation, taking advantage of beautiful and abundant natural assets such as Lake Victoria, the second largest freshwater lake in the world. Kisumu is a rapidly-developing city in Kenya which has an annual population growth rate estimated at 2.8% and a total of about 1 million inhabitants. Kisumu has a population density of 975 people per km², and, like many other cities in developing countries, is faced with rapid informal expansion as well as the extension of its city boundaries in 1971 to include an 80% predominantly rural land area.

The publication will be provided as an attractive and handy booklet, making it easy for city leaders and users to carry it around. Key messages from successful mayors and case studies are currently being collected. The second draft will be shared with a much wider potential range of users, and CITYNET will be actively involved in its production, distribution, and endorsement for optimal usage. To find more about the publication,

please contact UN-Habitat through Laura.Petrella@unhabitat.org

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Why Asia-Pacific Cities must have climate change plans and actions



(top) Delegates at the Regional Expert Roundtable; (bottom) The sky view of Singapore redeveloped area

Cities in the Asia and Pacific region need to ensure that climate change challenges can be turned into opportunities if they are able to plan and prepare well in anticipation of the possible risks. Cities in this region with its rapid urban and economic growth will be confronted with various obstacles which lie before them in both the present and future. Poor planning and implementation, lack of properly designated and enforced legislation, as well as limited resources can hinder the process of crafting the cities into a more globally attractive place to live and work. It is therefore crucial for cities to identify an appropriate support system which enables them to effectively prepare for the negative impacts of climate change but also access the co-benefits of climate change, such as additional funding and resources being made available.

The Regional Expert Group Roundtable was organised in Singapore on 16 February 2012 to further define a regional agenda for urban development and climate change and bridge gaps between adaptation and mitigation planning and building more climate resilient and green cities. The Group also discussed how four key topics: mitigation, resilience adaptation, climate financing and green cities can be integrated into every stage of development, as well as in both city (regional) and national agendas.

A city baseline survey on climate change plans and infrastructure priorities in Asian cities was commissioned by CDIA and conducted by CAI-Asia prior to the meeting to inform participants on where the cities stand now; what demands for climate change-related projects exist, and what gaps amongst prioritisation, planning, and investments in urban infrastructure need to be addressed. The survey covered 139 cities with populations ranging from 250,000 to 3 million per city, as well as major capital cities in 16 different Asian countries. Only 11% of the surveyed cities have climate plans focusing

on both mitigation and adaptation with different range of percentage. It was also noted

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data on financial investments needed to implement the plan nor any estimates for

infrastructure investment. The survey clearly showed that national bodies are ahead of cities in mainstreaming climate change in sector plans and policies. Climate change was explicitly mentioned mostly under transport and urban development plans.

Participants agreed that there is a need for further and joint efforts to assist cities in minimising the gaps that hamper cities from integrating climate change into their local planning and to support them in better accessing climate financing being made available by the international community. Pro-active actions are needed to create a platform for coordination (vertical and horizontal) and communication between various players in climate change. It is equally crucial for cities to prepare their road maps and make smart investments by identifying and engaging in potential financial agencies, either public or private, for the purpose of implementing the climate change plan.

Dr. Bernadia I. Tjandradewi, Programme Director, attended the Roundtable Meeting as the representative of the CITYNET Secretariat. The Expert Group Roundtable was organised by CDIA and the Centre for Liveable Cities of Singapore. The Centre for Liveable Cities (CLC) was established in June 2008 by the Ministry of National Development & Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources as a leading knowledge centre for liveable and sustainable cities. For further references on CDIA and the Liveable Cities of Singapore, please see <http://www.cdia.asia/>, and www.clc.org.sg respectively.

25th Anniversary of CITYNET

CITYNET will be celebrating its 25th year this year since its establishment on July 27, 1987! We hope that all members can join us in commemorating this landmark 25th Anniversary event in your own respective cities/countries to further promote sustainable development in the Asia Pacific region. The Secretariat has already started preparing its activities for 2012, and requests the active participation of all members to submit suggestions and proposals on what you would like to see accomplished during rest of the year.

A formal celebration will be held in Surabaya, Indonesia from 10-12 July, 2012, in conjunction with the 29th Session of the CITYNET Executive Committee. To commemorate this special anniversary, we would also like to request each member to plan an activity between July to December 2012 to further spread knowledge about CITYNET and our mission within your city or country. To help draft your activities, CITYNET has produced a Brochure for Celebrations, which is available online here. We welcome any suggestions for activities, and remember that your plans will be shared among members and partners through both e-News and the website.

Training Opportunity in Seoul

In August 2012, Seoul Metropolitan Government (SMG) plans to open the 5th master programme in the field of a comparative city administration for the city officials of a sister city of SMG or a city designated as a core partner by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Korea.

The qualifications for the programme include: a bachelor's degree as a city official; a

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score, such as TOEFL, TOEIC or IELTS is required as well). In total, 18 candidates will be selected after an English interview conducted through telephone.

The programme courses includes: citizen welfare, tourism, electronic government, rental housing and transportations etc. The students will study for 13 months in Seoul and 12 months in the city in which they will be based for work. Every student must also submit a thesis that comparing SMG and the governing body in their own respective city in order to receive a master degree. SMG will cover round-trip airfare, tuition fees, dormitory, and living expenses.

Member cities of CITYNET which qualify to apply for this programme are: Dhaka City Corporation, Bangladesh, Municipality of Phnom Penh, Cambodia, Jakarta Capital City Government, Indonesia, Capital Development Authority, Pakistan, Colombo Municipal Council, Sri Lanka, Bangkok Metropolitan Administration, Thailand and Hanoi People's Committee, Vietnam. The aforementioned cities can recommend up to four officials per city. For more information, please contact to Mr. Park Jae-Min (e-mail: kypjm@seoul.go.kr).

World Cities Summit 2012 - Liveable and Sustainable Cities

The World Cities Summit (WCS) is the global platform for government leaders and industry experts to address livable and sustainable city challenges, share integrated urban solutions, and forge partnerships. Under the theme "Liveable and Sustainable Cities - Integrated Urban Solutions" the World Cities Summit 2012 will explore how cities can build resilience and improve their quality of life and environment by adopting integrated solutions to increasingly complex challenges. Strategically sited in the Asia Pacific region where many cities are experiencing unprecedented growth, Singapore is the ideal host for this Summit. After the success of the first two Summits, World Cities Summit 2012 is expected to attract more than 3,000 government leaders, policy makers and industry experts from around the world.



To find out more information, please visit the World Cities Summit website [here](#). The Summit will take place between 1- 4 July 2012. CITYNET has been the partner since the first WCS.

Clusters Update



DISASTER

Lessons for Tohoku

Please read our two lead articles at the very start of eNews which focus on disaster recovery in the Asia-Pacific region and lessons for Tohoku.

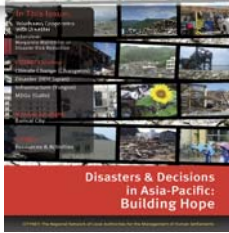


INFRA

Upcoming CityVoices to look at "Bright Ideas and New Perspective on Infrastructure and Urban Planning"

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infrastructure. Looking at how cities have changed and the

impact that *growing populations have on cities, in terms of transportation, integrated urban planning and financing. The next issue will put how cities are built under the microscope as well as examples of best practise from across the Asia Pacific region.*

Satellite Office

No Update

National Chapter Update

Nepal

Gulariya Municipality matches funding on biogas project at slaughterhouse

Since the construction of the bio-gas plant at the slaughterhouse in Gulariya municipality, the plant has helped to manage animal wastes converting it into energy which is used by the slaughterhouse. Gulariya municipality with its matching fund has also recently constructed a toilet near to the plant. As this is a project with a small budget and resources, it has a great scope for replication in other areas. One of the key learning outcomes from the project was that even a small project can have a lasting impact on people's lives. It was also suggested that more bio-gas plants should be constructed in areas where organic waste is available in bulk.

CITYNET Secretariat

Mayor of Seoul visited Japan to create sustainable cities in Korea and beyond

Park Won Soon, a mayor of SMG showed a lot of interest in sustainable energy, for instance, a solar power plant and a small sized hydro power plant during his visit to Yokohama and Tokyo in February -8-10. He said that he had an assurance to reduce an amount of energy that is from one nuclear power plant per year during his tenure. To achieve this objective, he has a plan to have every house in Seoul equip with solar energy panel in the roof. He wants to make a city structure that is not relying on a nuclear power plant by increasing the supply of new and renewable energy, such as a Hydrogen Fuel Cell power plant, more than 10 times within three years.

SMG will announce, "A General Measure to Reduce a Nuclear Power Plant," in February 13. He said in his interview with the press "we already learned that it is possible to operate an economy without a nuclear power plant from Japan's case last year." He will discuss how to make a sustainable city that does not depend on nuclear power energy with more than 44 local authorities in Korea including Suwon City, Nowon City in Seoul and Namgu City in Incheon. He emphasised that it is important to make an energy policy

aggressively in order to create a sustainable city. He also mentioned that it is time for

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markets that is less expensive than to do a massive civil engineering project that costs a

lot of money.

New Staff



Ms. Byun Kyung Hwa has joined CITYNET as a General Affairs Officer. She graduated from the Department of English Language and Literature at the University of Seoul in 1993 and has worked for Seoul Metropolitan Government (SMG) in diverse fields including its Human Resource Department since 1994. She also has experience of working in Paris, France, as the SMG's representative officer for the Korean Local Authorities for International Relationships. In joining as a CITYNET Secretariat

member, Ms. Byun said, "I would like to give my contribution and I will do my best efforts for CITYNET. I am very proud of joining CITYNET. I've always dreamed that I can have the chance to work as a member of the CITYNET Secretariat."



Jean Ren graduated from Cornell University with a bachelor's degree in East Asian Studies and Economics last year. Shortly after graduation, I interned for CITYNET's communications department for 4 months, and was officially invited to become a member of their programme staff this February. My future goals include continued study in the Japanese language, as well as pursuing a career in Japan which emphasises skills in communications, multilingual/multicultural atmosphere and international relations. I am grateful to CITYNET for providing

me with the opportunity to gain experience in all these areas before furthering my study at a master's programme in Japan.

My main tasks are to assist with communications activities such as the drafting and sending out of publications and communicating with member cities. Currently, I'm overseeing a publication about a sanitation project, as well as outlining a booklet and collecting video messages from presidents/mayors of member cities for CITYNET's upcoming 25th anniversary celebration. I hope that my time at CITYNET will help me apply everything I've learned in a realistic setting, as well as allow me to give back to the international community.

Interns



Toshiki Nakamura is a student at Meiji Gakuin University. I'm now doing an internship at CITYNET. My major is International Politics and I especially want to learn about "Immigration and Foreign workers" in my seminar. That's why I chose CITYNET to work as an intern. MDGs is one of the clusters of CITYNET. I wanted to learn about it because I thought it was a connection between immigration and MDGs. In fact, people working at CITYNET have much knowledge and they inspire me to learn more. Moreover,

there are people who have different backgrounds in CITYNET. It is challenging for me to work with them using English, but this is also a very precious opportunity for me. So I would like to share my knowledge and opinions with the people here, then I'm sure that

I'll spend a valuable time at CITYNET.

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CITYNET Youth Japan visited Kanazawa-sogo high school for the second time. On our last visit CYJ members and high school students discussed about, 'Fair Trade' and 'Child Labour.' This time we played the Trading Game. There were six countries: America, China, Brazil, Democratic Republic of Congo, France and Japan. Each country had cards with a set number of population, money, vegetables, wheat, meat, corn and cocoa beans written on it, which were based on that country's GDP. The goal of the game was to collect five kinds of provisions so that all of the population could eat heartily. By the end of the game, the students told us that by playing the game, they understood how the trading situation of the world. At the end, we talked about virtual water to understand that Japan imports not only food but also a lot of water. We hope that the students enjoyed and learnt a lot by this game.

Please contact [youth_japan\(at\)citynet-ap.org](mailto: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.

New! Case Study on "Negotiating the Deal to enable the first Rea Vaya bus operating company"



The latest Case Study #7 in the series of SUTP case studies, deals with the transition process from informal paratransit services to a full-scale BRT scheme in Johannesburg, South Africa. It provides a rare, detailed insight in the complicated but successful negotiations between the City of Johannesburg and representatives of more than 300 individual minibus-taxi owners.

The Case Study outlines the enormous challenges in bringing together the interests of public bodies and paratransit operators faced with a radical change to their business models and possible income losses. Further, it shares some of the lessons learned by the City of Johannesburg's negotiations team in the process that may be useful to other cities transforming their public transport networks, with the participation of affected public transport operators.

E-learning Course on Sustainable Urban Mobility ends in March 2012

The Local Development Programme of UNITAR, in partnership with GIZ, launched a new session of the e-learning course Sustainable Urban Mobility in Developing Countries, from October 31st 2011.

The online course, Sustainable Urban Mobility in Developing Countries, based on materials jointly developed by GIZ and UNITAR, is designed to provide answers solutions and alternative approaches in the area of urban transport planning that target a more sustainable transport system in developing cities. The course, moderated by Dr. Niklas Sieber, covers all topics from strategies for sustainable urban transport and mobility

management to environmental protection, economic instruments and gender issues. 70

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online discussion forums and will complete the exam and write a case study about a

transport issue in their city. The course will terminate in March 2012.

Ukrainian Center for Cycling Expertise launched

Cycling is gaining increasing popularity in Ukrainian cities. However, there is no comprehensive and professional source of information or entity that provides clear information to municipalities on the benefits of developing cycling infrastructure and more importantly how to go about doing it properly. As more and more cities are implementing or are considering implementing cycling infrastructure, Kyiv Cyclists' Association with the support of GIZ on behalf of German Ministry for the Environment has launched the Ukrainian Center for Cycling Expertise (UCCE). UCCE is an information hub accumulating all cycling-related documents and best practices useful for municipalities, traffic engineers and everyone interested in the development of cycling infrastructure. The center provides free access to all its information and is available at www.velotransport.info

SLoCaT Appeal to UNCSD focal points to incorporate sustainable mobility in Rio+20 process and outcome

On January 10 the Rio+20 Secretariat published the Zero Draft Outcome Document (ZDOD) for the June 2012 Rio+20 Conference. Notwithstanding that transport was mentioned in 1222 times in 246 submissions to the Compilation Document, on which the ZDOD is supposedly based the text of the ZDOD only mentions transport once in the whole text.

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

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