Dear Members, Partners and Friends,

Our creativity and optimism must not be dampened by the undeniable heat and humidity coming to us this summer. We will need it to save energy in our cities; this is of course of particular urgency throughout Japan - still, we are all in this together.

Yokohama City is going full force to reduce its energy by 15%. They will do this through large scale reduction of air conditioner usage, shifting office lunch times and optimising copy machine performance. Successful practices will be up-scaled to all city ward offices.

Yokohama and the CITYNET Secretariat challenge all members to also reduce their energy by 15% or more. Saved energy translates into saved precious resources such as water, food and a reduced carbon footprint.

Looking for inspiration? We put together a few practical resources to help you along the way. Your hard work deserves attention. Share with us your city’s success stories in energy-saving. Let’s think and act together to save energy!

Best wishes,
CITYNET Secretariat

CITYNET News & Events

Features

CITYNET at the Fifth Asia-Pacific Urban Forum

Almost four months have passed since the numerous disasters in Japan on 3/11. CITYNET would like to thank all those who contributed support. The City of Yokohama reported receiving donations and letters from around the world. Thanks to CITYNET members who donated through their local Red Cross or Japanese Embassy.

As of 17 May, Yokohama collected approximately 385 million yen (ca.4,799,120 USD). 300 million yen was sent to the Japanese Red Cross.
Forming and strengthening partnerships as well as the building of awareness were central to the fruitful outcomes of CITYNET’s participation at the 5th Asia-Pacific Urban Forum (APUF) organised by UNESCAP in Bangkok on 20-25 June 2011. “Cities of Opportunity: Partnerships for an Inclusive and Sustainable Future” was the focus of this key event where CITYNET members and partners took the opportunity to network, share and most importantly develop practical solutions. CITYNET brought more than 60 participants to APUF which UNESCAP coordinates every four years (the 4th APUF was organised in conjunction with the 2005 CITYNET Congress in Hanoi).

Over 700 delegates from national and local governments, academia, private sector and civil society participated in a wide range of innovative and interactive events such as an urban planning café and webcast plenary sessions allowing a wider audience to watch and ask questions via Twitter. There was a call for more decisive actions, and more practical tools and programmes to support initiatives.

The Forum was opened by Professor Dr. Her Royal Highness Princess Chulabhorn Mahidol of Thailand who reminded delegates of the urgency for a green economy. United Nations Under-Secretary-General and Executive Secretary of ESCAP Dr. Noeleen Heyzer, stressed the need to take a fresh look at how cities are managed. “The frequency and intensity of climate-related disasters will increase. We simply do not have the luxury of growing first and cleaning up later,” said Heyzer.
CITYNET co-organised five sessions focusing on the MDGs, human security, disaster risk reduction, urban planning and the role of the private sector. Furthermore, CITYNET and members jointly participated in an exhibition which boasted hundreds of attendees to bring awareness to our programmes and activities. >> Read more here.

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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Publications

CITYNET Annual Report 2010
The report reviews CITYNET programmes and activities for 2010 including information on spending and revenue and changes in communications. The report is available for download here.

CITYNET at the Fifth Asia-Pacific Urban Forum

produced two new posters for the 5th Asia-Pacific Urban Forum Exhibition.
The City of Curitiba in Brazil has long been touted as a model city with inspiring urban planning and notably efficient transportation. This is with good reason. To understand the transportation system it is important to look at the planning process behind the success of Curitiba. >> Read more here.

Efforts Towards a People-friendly Seoul - a Model for Other Asian Cities
CITYNET Programme Director, Bernadia Tjandradewi joined Somsook Boonyabancha, Diane Archer of ACHR and Kirtee Shah of ASAG, both associate members of CITYNET on a visit to Seoul on their mission towards a more people-friendly Seoul.

A team from CITYNET Secretariat, ACHR (Asian Coalition for Housing Rights) and ASAG (Ahmedabad Study Action Group) visited Seoul from 1 - 3 June 2011 based on an initial indication of support for mutual goals from the Seoul Metropolitan Government (SMG) to further promote a more ‘people-friendly’ city. The mission of the visit was to secure commitment of the city government and various key players to take concrete steps to improve the living conditions for some of the poorer settlements. It is hoped that this plan can be achieved within the next few years and be an important milestone as the CITYNET Secretariat prepares to relocate to Seoul in 2013. According to a survey by NGO Asian Bridge, there are more than 38 vinyl-house communities scattered throughout the Seoul area. Note: vinyl-housing settlements refer to communities squatting in empty vinyl greenhouses or those who have built new houses between existing farming-vinyl greenhouses. >> Read more here.

Large Scale Ending - Post-AWAREE TV Conference 5
Post-AWAREE members Dhaka, Colombo and Makati share project updates with attendees in Yokohama including the City of Yokohama and JICA. CITYNET National Chapters from Bangladesh, Indonesia, Nepal and Sri Lanka also joined for the first time at this Fifth TV Conference.

On 25 May, CITYNET hosted its largest TV conference to date with close to 50 participants representing eight city governments and organisations. Although Post-AWAREE was officially completed in March of 2010, participating cities, and even some new partners have continued to come together regularly to share their continued progress. Participants included the member cities of Colombo, Dhaka, and Makati; CITYNET National Chapters in Bangladesh, Indonesia, Nepal, and Sri Lanka; NGO/community partners DSK, PWEDO, and the Ayala Foundation; and hosts JICA, Yokohama, and the CITYNET Secretariat. >> Read more here.

Mayors Renew Commitment to Disaster Resiliency

Mayors from 168 countries met on 13 May 2011 in Geneva, Switzerland to renew their commitment to disaster resiliency and called upon UNISDR to work more closely with city networks and civil society organisations in order to sustain adequate local level preparations for disaster risk reduction. The meeting was part of the Third Session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction and World Reconstruction Conference held from 8-13 May 2011.

Atty. Violeta Seva, speaking for the Mayor Jejomar Erwin Binay of Makati City, Chair of the CITYNET Disaster Cluster, said that UNISDR and the different city networks - CITYNET, ICLEI, UCLG, EMI, and other similar entities - should collaborate more closely in order to speed up and broaden the implementation of the Campaign’s objectives. >> Read more here.

Getting Results - CITYNET Audit

CITYNET’s audit for 2010 was successfully completed for the second year by Mr. Francisco M. Mendoza, City Budget Officer, Naga City, Philippines.

Overall, he said that he is substantially satisfied that...
Mendoza made a number of recommendations to the Secretariat which included: how terms are recorded, as well as foreign exchange losses and gains and recording of expenses. He said that these measures will increase transparency and assist with informed decision making. >> Read more here.

Strategies for Sustainability: CITYNET Pre-Executive Committee Sessions

Online Pre-Ex-com Meeting
CITYNET Executive Committee members, advisors, and observers met online to discuss strategies concerning the Network’s sustainability and in preparation for the upcoming Executive Committee Meeting in Dhaka in November, 2011. Participating members included, Mumbai, Makati, Dhaka, Kathmandu, Surabaya, and Yokohama. Members discussed issues regarding handling of membership fees, suspended members and classification of smaller cities. >> Read more here.

Pre-Ex-com Meeting at the Asia-Pacific Urban Forum
On 23 June in Bangkok a pre- Executive Committee Meeting took place with executive representatives from Bangkok, Dhaka, Kathmandu, Makati, Surabaya and SDS. Representatives from Balikpapan, Bharatpur, Jakarta, Lalitpur, Ligao, Pokhara, Sukabumi, MuAN, ASAG, CUS, HUDCO/HSMI and the CITYNET Secretariat including Secretary General Mary Jane Ortega, Aisa Tobing, Deputy-Secretary General for South-East Asia and Programme Director Bernadia Irawati Tjandradewi were also in attendance. >> Read more here.

Clusters Update

CLIMATE CHANGE

Dhaka - Gearing up for the CITYNET Climate Change Seminar
Harnessing local knowledge, action oriented policy formulations and strategic planning in regard to climate change and vulnerability issues will be among focus areas for Dhaka City as they gear up to host a major climate change seminar in November 2011 (date TBD). All CITYNET members, especially those keenly focused on vulnerabilities are urged to attend by actively contributing and speaking out on climate change. >> Read more here.

Eco-tank Project - Update
Palembang, Indonesia:
Dave Robbins, a senior advisor from RTI International, will visit Palembang from 10-13 July for an evaluation of the Eco-tank project. He will meet with engineers and discuss how installation can be further improved. An awareness session will be organised by Palembang for those benefiting from the tanks. Palembang has completed installation of two eco-tanks and is expected to improve on current conditions. Mr. Robbins also attended the International Sanitation Workshop in late November 2010 and is aware of Palembang’s efforts in improving sanitation standards.

Eco-tanks are low-cost, environmentally-friendly decentralised sewerage systems. The project is supported by UNITAR and the Price Albert II of Monaco Foundation, working to improve urban sanitation in developing countries.

CITYNET e-News
Emerging Issues in Safe and Sustainable Mobility for Older People
Washington DC, USA
August 30 - September 1, 2011
The conference will focus on emerging issues, research implementation, and programmes related to safe and sustainable methods to enhance the mobility of older people.

2nd Annual Smart Grids Smart Cities Conference
Lisbon, Portugal
September 13 - 14, 2011
Industry leaders explain how cities around the world are dealing with the increasing demand for power and how they are channeling expertise into solutions that are more energy efficient and sustainable.

Changing Cities - Linking Global Knowledge to Local Action
Honolulu, Hawaii USA
September 26 - 28, 2011
The seminar will exchange views on knowledge dissemination as a critical tool for managing urban development, especially in the cities and mega-regions of Asia.

European Transport Conference
Glasgow, Scotland UK
October 10 - 12, 2011
This is a key annual event where European transport practitioners and researchers come together to keep up to date with policy issues, research findings and the best practices across a broad spectrum of transport relates issues. It attracts some 400 delegates from more than 30 countries.

84th Annual Water Environment Federation Technical Exhibition and Conference
Los Angeles, California USA
October 15 - 17, 2011
Negombo, Sri Lanka: CITYNET currently has not received an update on the status of their eco-tank project. Due to numerous challenges, the project has been delayed.

Disaster

Makati City at the Global Platform:

Makati City, lead of the Disaster Cluster attended the Global Forum in Geneva. For more information on the outputs please read their article here. For more information please contact: makati_international(at)makati.gov.ph

Infra

Potential Cooperation Between CITYNET and Changwon City on Ecomobility Mooted

Changwon City will be hosting the EcoMobility Congress on 22-24 Oct. 2011, giving the City the chance to share knowledge in green transportation focusing on emission reductions. One of the goals of the congress will be to set up an alliance of like-minded cities that can work towards the goal of promoting Ecomobility.

CITYNET is working to support Changwon City’s efforts in holding the upcoming Congress and is in the process of identifying potential cities and members who would make a positive impact towards the successful implementation of Ecomobility.

Submissions are now being accepted for the winter issue of CityVoices Magazine

Theme: Planning & Infrastructure

Members (especially INFRA members) and partners are encouraged to share stories, innovative and practical policies, activities and suggestions for achieving better infrastructure in our cities. The Asia-Pacific region can take the lead in sharing experiences and knowledge which can help us to better deal with the challenges ahead. CityVoices is your venue to weigh in on issues related to infrastructure and city planning.

Tell us your story.

Submissions will be accepted until January of 2012. For more information, please contact communication(at)citynet-ap.org

MDGs

Makati Produces Video on the MDGs

CITYNET would like to thank the Urban Planning Unit of Makati City, Philippines who produced a two minute video especially for the Fifth Asia-Pacific Urban Forum in Bangkok, Thailand (20-25 June 2011). This video highlights the eight MDGs as well as some of the activities undertaken by CITYNET members over the years. The song from the United Nations in the Philippines is called “No One Else But Us” with lyrics by Chi Datu and music by Rico Blanco. Watch the video here.

Satellite Office

No update at this time.
National Chapter Update

National Chapters Conference

Representatives from NC Bangladesh, Indonesia, Nepal and Sri Lanka joined CITYNET’s first National Chapter videoconference on 25 May. Presentations were made by each national chapter on best practices related to environmental sustainability. DCC presented their ‘Cleaner and Greener Dhaka’, Indonesia presented on Waste Management at Public Health Centre in Sukabumi, Sri Lanka on biogas in Negombo and Nepal on School Sanitation in Tansen. Chapters had the opportunity to ask project details to other chapters and are expected to find ways to upscale their successful projects.

National Chapters Indonesia and Nepal at the Fifth Asia-Pacific Urban Forum


Established in 2006, CITYNET-Indonesia facilitates exchanges of knowledge, experience, and technical cooperation among cities and other stakeholders. Since its formation, CITYNET-Indonesia has held many seminars on urban development and practices. >> Read more here.

CITYNET Secretariat

Introducing CITYNET’s new Assistant Secretary General

The CITYNET Secretariat is pleased to welcome Mr. Moritoshi Sato as the new Assistant Secretary General of CITYNET. Mr. Sato has served as an official for the City of Yokohama for over 38 years, even before the inception of CITYNET (almost 25 years ago). Sato has a great deal of experience in international relations and in the organisation of global events such as the Yokohama Exotic Show Case and the World Cup Games in Yokohama in 2002.

Mr. Sato began at CITYNET in May 2011 and he will focus on management issues within the Secretariat, including the smooth relocation of the office to Seoul in 2013. The CITYNET Secretary looks forward to working with Mr. Sato on many issues of importance to the members of CITYNET.

Mr. Sato has written a personal message to readers especially pertaining to the recent disasters in Japan.

New CITYNET INTERNS

Chris Battin, USA

I am very excited to be part of the CITYNET team this summer. As a graduate student studying international relations and economics, specifically in the Asian region, CITYNET gives me the perfect opportunity to do important work in a field I am very interested in. This summer, with the help of CITYNET staff, I hope to publish a report on the costs and benefits of C2C networks. I enjoy hearing the opinion of members and hope my work here will help demonstrate the effectiveness of the CITYNET network. Chris is also exploring opportunities for American cities to join CITYNET. Chris Battin is a Master’s student in public policy at the Pepperdine University in Malibu, California, USA.

Tom McLaughlin, USA

I am a student at Temple University in Japan. My major is
and development. The vast network of cities in CITYNET gives me a great opportunity to further broaden my understanding of international functions. I hope to contribute as best as I can to the Secretariat and to gain further knowledge in the field of development in the Asia-Pacific region. Tom has been working with programme team on editing the case studies of the CIFAL Kuala Lumpur or the Kuala Lumpur Regional Training Centre (KLRTC) as well as in writing and editing articles for CITYNET newsletters.

CITYNET Youth Japan

CITYNET Youth Japan hosted a workshop regarding poverty and fair trade at a high school in Yokohama on 29 June 2011. Students were shown a video on the difficult working conditions some workers at multi-national companies in developing countries face. Students shared creative opinions, and what they can do to prevent such exploitation of labour. At the end of the discussion, students were given fair-trade dried mangos, so that they could become more aware of where their food comes from. This workshop helped students to understand the work done by many groups towards fair standards of labour and will hopefully inspire them to take action.

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.

BTG Symposium in Bonn: “Moving Transport from CDM to NAMAs”
The symposium “Moving Transport from CDM to NAMAs” was held by the Bridging the Gap Initiative at the Bonn climate talks. The event attracted nearly 100 participants from developing and developed countries, representatives of key international aid agencies as well as leading experts and practitioners in the field of transport and climate change.

VELOFORUM Ukraine with GIZ Participation
On 4/5 June, at the Ukrainian VELOFORUM in Kiev, more than 50 activists, planners and decision-makers gathered to discuss topics related to the promotion of cycling. Armin Wagner, GIZ team leader of the project “Climate-Friendly Mobility in Ukrainian Cities”, gave a presentation about sustainable urban mobility.

GIZ at C40 Summit in Sao Paulo, Brazil
GIZ was actively involved in the biannual C40 Summit, which brings together mayors of the world’s largest cities, to share information on how to deal with climate change. Before the Summit, GIZ, in cooperation with the Municipality of Sao Paulo, Ministry of Sports, Ministry of Cities and the Clinton Climate Initiative (CCI) developed a workshop on Sustainable Urban Transport (May 30-31).
In most developing countries, steadily increasing motorization along with urbanization is leading to rapid growth in the transport sector which in turn has led to a considerable increase in carbon emissions. This document shows how low-carbon transportation policies could help countries achieve smart, sustainable economic growth while at the same time stabilizing and later reducing emissions.

**GIZ at the CAI LAC Sustainable Transport Conference in Rosario May, 9-13**
GIZ was actively involved in the "Conference on Sustainable Transportation, Air Quality and Climate Change for Latin America and the Caribbean - How to Achieve Sustainable Urban Transport" in Rosario, Argentina. GIZ contributed a number events and activities which included training courses on Non-Motorized Transport and Public Bicycle Planning.

**Learning Centre at CSD 19**
At the 19th Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD) Policy Session, GIZ contributed to a learning centre on policies for Sustainable Low Carbon Transport (SLoCat). The session sponsored by the SLoCat partnership, presented policy actions in Africa, Asia and Europe; and discussed global ideas on policy options, including recommendations and tools for tracking sustainability in transport.

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