Dear Friends,

For CITYNET, 2013 promises to be a year of change. From the 2013 CITYNET Congress, to new members and programmes, to a new home for the Secretariat, this year will mark a new era in connectivity for the Asia Pacific region.

As announced in our last newsletter, all members are invited to attend the 2013 CITYNET Congress in Seoul, Republic of Korea 4-6 November, 2013. More details will be forthcoming, but mark your calendars now!

Best,
CITYNET Secretariat

News from the Network

CITYNET Secretariat Opening Ceremony

Cheonggyecheon Stream, Seoul, the new Secretariat neighborhood

The CITYNET Secretariat is moving to a new home! After 20 years of operations in our gracious President City, Yokohama, Japan, the Secretariat will be relocating to Seoul, Republic of Korea in March 2013. The opening of the new Secretariat office will provide an opportunity to launch and expand CITYNET activities.

We will be celebrating the opening of the office on March 26, 2013 in the Seoul
Global Center. Dr. Benjamin Barber, a Senior Research at the Center on Philanthropy and Civil Society at the City University of New York, will be the keynote speaker, while members from UNESCAP and KOTI will join the panel discussion, CITYNET's Way Forward as a Regional Network in Asia and the Pacific. For more information, please contact the Secretariat at info@citynet-ap.org or communication@citynet-ap.org.

DISASTER

CDRI II Still Accepting Applications!

The Climate Disaster Resilience Initiative Capacity Building Programme has two goals: to help city government officials raise awareness of current and potential climate change risks their cities may face and to facilitate the creation of comprehensive disaster resilience plans. After the success of the first round of CDRI, the second will begin in spring of 2013! If your city is interested in disaster risk reduction, accessing networking opportunities, participating in virtual and face-to-face training programmes, then make sure to apply before March 8th, 2013 to be part of this innovative initiative! For further details and application materials, see here.

CLIMATE CHANGE

Yokohama Smart Cities Project Follow-Up
YCSP Follow-Up Visit with the Vice Governor of Jakarta and officials from Yokohama and CITYNET

In January, officials from the Yokohama Climate Change Policy Headquarters, Y-Port of Yokohama City, and CITYNET visited Jakarta, Indonesia and Bangkok, Thailand as a follow-up to a training programme conducted in Yokohama, Japan in 2012. As Jakarta is currently dealing with the aftermath of intense flooding, the timing of this visit was particularly relevant. Officials discussed a potential partnership between Jakarta and Yokohama on climate change adaptation and energy management. In Bangkok, CITYNET officers and Yokohama city officials studied the Bangkok Metropolitan Administration (BMA) building, part of a green initiative in Thailand. For more information on the first half of this project, please see here: YSCP Technical Visit.

National Chapters Update

Nepal

With financial assistance from CITYNET Japan and Ramgram Municipality, and in coordination with the CITYNET National Chapter-Nepal, Ramgram Municipality has completed the School Sanitation Improvement Project in Saraswati Lower Secondary School located in Shantichour Ward No. 12, Ramgram. Three toilet facilities, one for male students, one for female students, and one for teachers and staff members were constructed on school premises.

This project will provide sanitary, female-friendly toilet facilities at the school, which serves over 400 students. Most of the students are from disadvantaged and marginalised groups and sanitation has historically been a problem. It is hoped that these facilities will help improve the lives of the students, and improve retention rates for female students, especially.

CITYNET Secretariat Updates

Secretary General Speaks at Leadership for Sustainable Development Workshop

From January 22-23, 2013, CITYNET Secretary General Mary Jane C. Ortega attended a two-day workshop in Stockholm, Sweden titled Leadership for Sustainable Development. Organised by the Swedish Association of Local Authorities, this workshop focused on innovative architecture, creativity in public spaces, and communication awareness. Secretary General Ortega participated by introducing Communication Awareness Raising and How to Bridge Boundaries, a presentation that discussed how officials in San Fernando, Philippines used non-traditional means to increase stakeholder participation in local government and community activities. As Secretary General Ortega said, "The workshop and the study tour showed us an excellent approach to use our resources efficiently and decrease one's ecological footprint."

Internship at the Secretariat

This January, CITYNET congratulated Jae Hyeon Jay Park on
successfully completing his one-year internship with the Secretariat in Yokohama. Jae was a dedicated and innovative part of the CITYNET staff, and we wish him well in all his future endeavours! Jae says, “Through a 1-year internship at CITYNET Secretariat, I could expand my experience in C2C cooperation in urban development and then reconfirm my passion in the field for the future career.” Thanks for your hard work and best of luck Jae!

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### CITYNET Youth Japan

CITYNET Youth Japan has taken steps towards even greater international networking in 2013. In January, CYJ kicked off their year with an Africa Japan Student Summit in Yokohama, Japan. This event brought together students from across the globe to build a collective voice to advocate for African development. You can read more about this event at the CYJ website.

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### Members & Partner News

#### UNISDR Disaster Risk Reduction Survey: Open until March 5, 2013

Your Voice Counts! You are invited to contribute to the global disaster risk reduction framework. This survey will take less than 10 minutes to complete, and your feedback will help shape the future of risk reduction in your city and country. Through this survey, CITYNET, UNISDR and partners would like to promote the needs of Cities and Local Governments to be better reflected in the national and global priorities. Please participate in the survey at [http://www.citynet-ap.org/media-room/news/s/unisdr-disaster-risk-reduction-survey/](http://www.citynet-ap.org/media-room/news/s/unisdr-disaster-risk-reduction-survey/).

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#### Lee Kuan Yew World City Prize

The UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction Nominations for the Lee Kuan Yew World City Prize are now open and the deadline for submission is March 29, 2013. The World City Prize is a biennial international award that honours outstanding achievements and contributions to the creation of liveable, vibrant and sustainable urban communities around the world. The Laureate will be presented with a certificate, a gold medallion, and a cash prize of 300,000 USD sponsored by the Keppel Corporation. For more information please see the [Lee Kuan Yew World City Prize website](http://www.citynet-ap.org/media-room/news/s/unisdr-disaster-risk-reduction-survey/).

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#### SUTP/GIZ Updates
SUTP’s 10th anniversary - List of publications

The Sustainable Urban Transport Project hosted by GIZ is celebrating its 10th Anniversary. Over the years, almost 100 publications have been produced by SUTP and associated initiatives - from comprehensive Sourcebook Modules to compact Fact Sheets. Have a look and find out what material is available for your specific area of interest here.

GIZ-GSI Workshop on smart fuel price regulation

In response to the growing demand for collaboration on and exchange of knowledge on best practices of fuel price regulation, GIZ on behalf of BMZ and GSI organized a dedicated workshop “Smart Fuel Price Regulation” that was held in Eschborn, Germany, on 8-9 November 2012. The workshop was set up as an informal South-South dialogue where country representatives had an opportunity to openly discuss their experience of fuel price regulation and reform. Read More(PDF).

Updated SUTP Reading List on Financing Sustainable Urban Transport is now available

Urban transport has historically not received the attention, careful planning and financial support it deserves. This document on Financing Sustainable Urban Transport aims to provide policymakers with an easy-to-access list of available material on financing urban transport which can be used in their everyday work. Read here.