

Dear Friends,

The CITYNET Secretariat wishes you all a sincerely happy new year and winter holidays. While 2012 may be coming to a close, we welcome 2013 with open arms!

This year has been one of our most successful yet, as member cities from Surabaya, to Phnom Penh to Yokohama celebrated the 25th Anniversary of CITYNET through a variety of events and activities. We also held two Japan Forums, and launched new programmes dealing with Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change.

Thank you all for participating, supporting, and engaging with CITYNET this year, and we look forward to continuing our involvement in the year to come!

Best,
CITYNET Secretariat

News from the Network

CITYNET Announcement: General Congress 2013



Downtown Seoul, South Korea

CITYNET is proud to announce the 2013 CITYNET Congress, which will take place in early November 2013 in Seoul, South Korea. Every four years, CITYNET members gather

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This Issue:

CITYNET Announcement

Cluster Updates
National Chapters
CITYNET Secretariat
CITYNET Youth Japan
Partner News and Events

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Resources

Did you know members can access special programme resources and best practices through our website? You can access:

- Disaster Cluster Presentations
- SUTP Workshop Outputs
- Downloadable E-News

For continuous updated access to CITYNET news, photos and resources, make sure to:

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at this Congress meeting to discuss organisational activities, determine priorities, and vote on the future of the network.

All CITYNET members are invited to attend to share their thoughts and ideas, and help shape the next four years of CITYNET. Exact dates, schedule, and location are still being decided, however official invitation letters will be on their way soon. The CITYNET Secretariat is working on our relocation plans as we speak, and the new CITYNET office will open in Seoul in early 2013. We hope to see you all in Seoul for the 2013 Congress!

For more information, please contact us at soumu@citynet-ap.org.



CLIMATE CHANGE

YSCP Technical Visit to Yokohama



YSCP Participants at the Yokohama Water Treatment Plant

The Yokohama Smart Cities Project (YSCP) is an initiative launched in Yokohama in 2010 to reduce carbon dioxide emissions, maximize energy sources and increase efficiency by introducing various forms of energy management systems. The project allows existing and new buildings to adopt energy management systems which can cater to individual homes, buildings, and communities.

In late October, 2012, CITYNET organised a three-day technical visit for its members in Yokohama, with the support of the Council of Local Authorities for International Relations (CLAIR). Representatives from five CITYNET member cities joined the study visit to learn about Yokohama's approaches to combating climate change. The participating cities were Bangkok, Colombo, Danang, Dhaka South, and Jakarta who shared their climate change challenges during the visit.

Members reported that the session was very useful in helping them to gain perspective on their own climate change problems, and learn how cities around the network have addressed similar challenges!

The most common issues were flooding, rising temperatures, the unpredictability of seasonal storms, and emissions. While most cities already have current plans to reduce emissions or improve natural environments, challenges such as energy shortages, solid waste management, disaster resilience, and poor public discipline are yet to be addressed. For more information please visit our website here: [Climate Change](#).

Events Calendar

Upcoming Events

- January -

YSCP Reciprocal Study Visit
January 27-February 1, 2013

- February -

CDRI Capacity Building: E-Learning
February 4, 2013

- May -

KLRTC 26: Public Private
Partnership on Urban
Infrastructure

- August -

KLRTC 27: Integrated Urban
Planning
YWWB Training

- November -

2013 CITYNET Congress
KLRTC 28: External Urban
Infrastructure Financing Options

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Archive

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DISASTER

Disaster Cluster Strategic Action Planning Workshop for 2013-2016 and Best Practices Sharing on DRRM



Disaster Cluster Site Visit in Makati

The City of Makati, Chair of the Disaster Cluster, hosted the Strategic Action Planning Workshop for 2013-2016 and Best Practices Sharing on Disaster Risk Reduction Management (DRRM) Meeting on November 12-13, 2012. Participants from Colombo, Hue, Sukabumi, the Municipal Association of Nepal (MuAN), Banda Aceh, Quezon City, Iloilo, Baguio, and San Fernando, together with several personnel from Makati City Government, attended the 2-day meeting and workshop. Other partners include the City of Yokohama, TDLC of World Bank, Kyoto University, and UNISDR.

The cities drafted the Disaster Cluster Strategic Action Plan, which included upscaling the CDRI initiative and developing a regular reporting system for the Disaster Cluster, among other measures. The cities also presented their initiatives on DRRM sound practices. The presentations and the draft action plan are available at the [CITYNET Website](#).

Community Based Adaptation and Resilience Against Disasters Training Programme



Top Left: CBARAD Participants with Yokohama City Vice Mayor; Top Right: Participants practice bandaging a broken arm; Bottom Left: Participants in an Earthquake Simulator; Bottom Right:

Participants practice carrying a giant stuffed frog.

This November Iloilo, Philippines city officials took part in the innovative Community-Based Adaptation and Resilience Against Disasters (CBARAD) Training programme in Yokohama, Japan.

The programme was conducted from November 20th to December 2nd, and included site visits, workshops, and seminars. The group visited many rivers around Tokyo and Yokohama, and took part in disaster training programmes, including an earthquake simulation. This programme was coordinated by CITYNET with support from JICA, City of Yokohama, and other NGOs working in the field of disaster and river management.

One participant noted that this was a "very rich experience in disaster risk management" and wished to continue working with other cities to promote disaster resilient communities and countries. Other participants noted how important programmes like this are to at-risk communities in the face of climate change.

Participants used their experiences during the training programme to craft action plans for disaster risk reduction for their own cities. For more information please see our website [here](#).



KLRTC 25: External Urban Infrastructure Financing Options in the Asia Pacific Region

From December 4-7, 2012 CITYNET member cities officials took part in a special course at the Kuala Lumpur Regional Training Centre (KLRTC). The topic was External Urban Infrastructure Financing Options in the Asia Pacific Region and aimed to offer an introductory orientation to help prepare cities in their efforts to identify alternative external financing for their infrastructure projects. Twenty-eight international members and five domestic members participated in the four-day course.

Participants presented their own cities profiles and projects, analysed case studies and worked together to find solutions to infrastructure challenges. By comparing challenges and exchanging knowledge, they were able to create action plans for advancing current infrastructure projects within their own cities.

The programme was supported by KLRTC, CDIA, CITYNET, the City of Kuala Lumpur, UNITAR, CIFAL, and Veolia Environnement.

National Chapters Update

Indonesia



Members from Indonesia at Erasmus University

CITYNET-Indonesia conducted a Short Course and Study Visit on Urban Management and Development from November 16-25th in partnership with Erasmus University in Rotterdam, The Netherlands.

The issues discussed during the short course were:

- Urban Management and Development in the Netherlands and Europe in general
- Solid Waste Management in the Netherlands and Europe
- Water management, sanitation and river management in Netherlands and Rotterdam
- Housing for the poor in the Netherlands and Europe
- Managing health services for the poor

This course combined classroom style discussions with site visits to Urban Management projects in the Netherlands.

For more information, visit the CITYNET Indonesia [homepage](#).

Nepal



The Nepal Chapter Building Sanitation Facilities at Saraswati Lower Secondary School

School Sanitation Improvement Project in Ramgram Municipality

With financial assistance from CITYNET Japan and Ramgram Municipality, and in coordination with the CITYNET National Chapter-Nepal, Ramgram Municipality has initiated the School Sanitation Improvement Project in Saraswati Lower Secondary School located in Shantichour Ward No. 12, Ramgram.

The prime objective of the project is to improve the sanitation conditions of students and to provide female-friendly facilities at the school. This is a replication of the 'School Sanitation Improvement Project' which was implemented in Janahit School of Tansen Municipality and was also supported by CITYNET Japan. Altogether, three toilets for teachers, boys and girls are being constructed. A soak pit has also been made behind the toilet.

The school serves 400 students, 150 male and 250 female and teaches classes 1 to 8. According to the Government curriculum health, sanitation and hygiene classes are conducted in classes 6, 7 and 8. Most of the students are from disadvantaged and marginalised groups and are very poor. Sanitation is a problem, especially for girls.

The project is expected to improve the sanitation conditions of students and contribute to the MDG 2-attainment of universal primary education. The construction work will likely be finished by the end of 2012.

CITYNET Secretariat Says Goodbye to Minako Inoue



This December, the CITYNET Secretariat said goodbye to one of its most dedicated and longest-serving employees, Minako Inoue.

Many members will remember Inoue-san for her warmth and efficiency. Inoue-san spent six years with CITYNET, where she worked diligently as an administrator, often behind the scenes, to make certain that CITYNET stayed on course.

She says, "I really enjoyed working with all the colleagues and members in such a multi-cultural environment. My 6 years' experience at CITYNET was very enriching and interesting. I hope the relocation of the secretariat will be a good opportunity for CITYNET to expand its network and activities for further development in the Asia Pacific region."

We wish her all the best in her new role and hope to continue to see her at CITYNET events in the future!

CITYNET Youth Japan

CYJ Updates

On December 1st, CITYNET Youth Japan held a recruitment event in Yokohama, Japan. They successfully recruited four new members to continue to grow their organisation!

Additionally, CYJ will take part in the Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICADV) held on June 3rd, 2013 in Yokohama, Japan. Launched in 1993, TICAD has helped promote policy dialogue between African leaders and development partners. Yokohama successfully hosted TIVAD IV in July 2008, highlighting economic growth, human security, and climate change. For more information please see [here](#).

Members & Partner News

CITYNET Satellite Office Staff Updates

Mr. Kiran Aacgarejar, the new Deputy Municipal Commissioner for General

Administration, will be looking after the CITYNET Satellite Office Affairs in Mumbai. CITYNET welcomes him to the team and is looking forward to working with him in the future!

CITYNET would like to thank the previous focal person, Mr. Rajendra Vale, Deputy Municipal Commissioner for General Administration. Mr. Vale has contributed to reactivating the Satellite Office and promoting it in India. During his tenure, the Satellite Office has conducted activities such as hosting the Human Safety and Disaster Management Workshop, and promotional activities that resulted in Solapur City joining the CITYNET network. Mr. Vale has expressed his intention to continue supporting the Satellite Office in his new capacity. CITYNET wishes him well on his new assignment.

UNISDR seeks Nominations for 2013 UN Sasakawa Award for Disaster Risk Reduction

The UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR) recently announced that it is accepting nominations for the 2013 UN Sasakawa Award for Disaster Risk Reduction, a prestigious award made possible by an endowment from the Nippon Foundation of Japan. For more information see [here](#).

SUTP/GIZ Updates



GIZ-SUTP at 'Urban Mobility' 2012 Conference in Delhi, India

The 5th Annual Conference and Exhibition on 'Urban Mobility' 2012, sponsored by the Indian Ministry of Urban Development, was held from December 5-8, 2012 at Manekshaw Centre, Delhi. The theme was focused on urban 'Smart Mobility'.

GTZ-SUTP chaired a session on "Energy and Climate Change Issues with Sustainable Transport Strategies" and organised a one-day training course on Transport Demand Management and Parking Management. For more information, please see [here](#).

Transport Forum 2012 held in Manila from November 6-9

The third Transport Forum of ADB was held from November 6-9, 2012, in Manila with approximately 500 participants. It focused on the theme "Inclusive and Sustainable Transport". This forum provided an opportunity to discuss and debate the most critical issues facing transport today in the Asia and Pacific region.

GTZ-SUTP facilitated a session on South-South Cooperation and co-organised a one-day training course on Transport Demand Management. The program can be accessed [here](#) (PDF). For more information see [here](#).