



Approximately 15,000 local people and CITYNET Indonesia National Chapter delegates join together to plant 60,000 trees for a better tomorrow in Tomohon, Indonesia

CITYNET Indonesia National Chapter & City of Tomohon Show Community Spirit for Environmental Action

Sharing Best Practices on Creative Economy

The City of Tomohon and the Indonesia CITYNET National Chapter celebrated the achievements of local governments in their seminar "Best Practices on Creative Economy and Local Government" which took place from November 16-18. The seminar sought to create dialogue among city leaders and partners by sharing ways to strengthen community through forms of creative economy. The seminar was conducted in conjunction with the 1st Session of the CITYNET Indonesia (CI) National Chapter Annual Ex-Committee Meeting in which programme evaluation as well as future agenda were discussed and resolved. Jefferson S.M. Rumajar, SE, Mayor of Tomohon and CITYNET former Secretary General and Special Advisor Dato' Lakhbir Singh Chahl were among those who addressed over 120 attendees.



Members of the 1st CITYNET Indonesia National Chapter Executive Committee Meeting in Tomohon, Indonesia.

The display of a massive flower float and a green action called "Plant Trees for Tomorrow" with approximately 10,000 people and 60,000 endemic trees showed the spirit and dedication of the community. The lively discussions focused on CITYNET programmes and strategies in relation to common urban issues particularly regarding climate change. The event featured a site visit highlighting flower planting and local industry and a welcome reception hosted by the Mayor. Participants stressed the continuation of CITYNET programmes and support of capacity building with a focus on strategy for addressing environmental issues. The main challenges include effectively communicating city issues to others; strengthening the role of available networking media and building practical ongoing communication. (cont'd page 4, column 1)

Strengthening CITYNET

The First Technical Meeting on the Future Strengthening of CITYNET

The future direction of CITYNET and methods for strengthening the Network were discussed over an intense three day meeting hosted by Makati City. Members of the CITYNET Technical Working Group identified during the CITYNET Yokohama Congress in September, has taken on the task of forming action plans and concrete recommendations for CITYNET. Representatives from Makati City, Seoul, Yokohama, Kathmandu, ACHR, KLRTC, SDS, Special Advisor Lakhbir Singh Chahl and the CITYNET Secretariat examined me-

mbership and institutional matters, the CITYNET Foundation, the expansion and strengthening of the National Chapters, programmes and communications among others. One of the highlights was a presentation by ASAG/ACHR's Kirtee Shah "A Roadmap for Goal Setting and Action" where (cont'd page 4, column 2)

"These 20 years have been very meaningful and a lot of things have happened but we are also entering a very different phase of existence – the urban challenges that we are supposed to look at have dramatically changed, it is a new world that we are talking about and I feel there is a great need to rethink CITYNET first."
Kirtee Shah, ACHR /ASAG

CITYNET Proudly Welcomes its Newest Members

Full Members

- Galle Municipal Council, Sri Lanka
- Sidoarjo Regency, Indonesia
- Pangkal Pinang Municipality, Indonesia
- Semarang Municipality, Indonesia
- Tarakan Municipality, Indonesia

Associate Members

- Socio-economic & Environmental Research Institute (SERI), Malaysia
- King Mongkut's University of Technology Thonburi, Thailand

How do you think CITYNET should be strengthened?

Also In This Issue...

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CITYNET Yokohama Congress - The Way Forward (2010 - 2013)



Fumiko Hayashi, Mayor of Yokohama, re-elected President of CITYNET opened the Congress.



Mary Jane C. Ortega, former Mayor of San Fernando La Union, Philippines was elected Secretary General of CN.

The CITYNET Yokohama Congress took place in September 2009 (7-11) however the issues discussed and pledges made are still very much on our minds. As we look forward to 2010 and beyond, it is important to keep the vision in clear view.

An estimated 2,000 participants from over 30 countries from across Asia and around the globe including key members of local governments, international agencies and leading authorities on urban issues came together for the CITYNET Congress, held in Yokohama, Japan the generous host of the important event.

The Congress was able to provide a forum for discussions on key urban issues due to the generous assistance of many CITYNET partners namely ADB, JICA, Kyoto University, United Nations University, The World Bank, UNESCAP, UN-HABITAT, UNITAR, UNISDR, UN Millennium Campaign, Yokohama City University and many Japanese institutions.

Participants shared practical approaches to promoting urban development which underscored the Congress theme of "Harmonious Cities for Our Future." Through roundtables, dialogues, networking events and technical visits participants sought to find practical measures towards better cities.

Some key action items include: the need to focus on pro-poor local governments; integration of safety and disaster risks reduction into planning; up-scaling successful local practices at the national level for greater impact; further utilisation of resources within the Network; strengthening of the Satellite Office and National Chapters; the formation of the CITYNET Foundation and stronger promotion of C2C cooperation.

The Congress also featured the launching of the Asian Sanitation Data Book 2008 containing in-depth analysis and highlights the need for cities to prioritise this neglected field.

The General Council held elections for CITYNET's new office bearers and Secretary General. The 2010-2013 Medium Term Plan was adopted, it includes the streamlining of the Clusters into four with the ENVIRO Cluster combining to form the new Climate Change Cluster. ICT and gender issues are planned to be integrated into all Clusters. Decisions were also taken the relocation of the Secretariat to Seoul in 2013, the tapping of the strategic reserve fund for Secretariat restructuring, among others. CITYNET also welcomed new members: five full and two associate members.

Most importantly the Congress provided an opportunity for members to make connections, solidify partnerships and share common challenges and ideas for the future of the people in our cities. Follow-up activities to the Congress are currently being carried out such as the organisation of meetings of the Technical Working Group for the future strengthening of CITYNET and a workshop with UN-HABITAT covering aspects of urban safety tentatively planned for May 2010 in Mumbai. **Note: The Congress Report and Medium Term Plan (members only) are available for download at www.citynet-ap.org.**

CLUSTER DIARY



Disaster Cluster

Climate and Disaster Resilience Initiative

In conjunction with Kyoto University, SEEDS, TDLC - the World Bank and UNISDR, CITYNET will be part of a pilot innovative capacity-building programme featuring a combination of distance learning and a face-to-face workshops where the overall goal is to create resilience mapping and development of a Climate Action Plan (CAP) for implementation. Participating cities were part of the City Profile: Climate and Disaster Resilience, 2009 publication and training will take place in February and March 2010.



Infrastructure Cluster

Capacity-Building on Sustainable Transport

Local government officials from ten Asian cities developed plans to better urban transportation systems in their areas in the 18th KLRTC or CIFAL Kuala Lumpur on sustainable transport (Dec. 14-17). Supported by UNITAR, the training featured case studies on transportation by Kuala Lumpur, Jakarta, Sapporo and Seoul. Participants scrutinised a wide range of topics including urban transport planning, the dynamics of integrated land use and transportation, the role of the private sector in green transport, public transport reform and applications of ICT. The training culminated in action plans presented by participants. Full details will be available in the KLRTC Update Newsletter by the end of January.



Environment Cluster

Solid Waste Management

Phnom Penh - First Biogas Programme



Dr. Bernadia Tjandradewi of the CITYNET Secretariat and Deputy Governor of Phnom Penh, Mann Chhoeurn meeting to discuss the details of the biogas project.

Phnom Penh Municipality has begun the first construction of biogas units benefiting the poor community. The C2C cooperation project on solid waste reduction is a joint cooperation between CITYNET, UNITAR and the French Government. Following

the visit of representatives from Makati and San Fernando, Phnom Penh Municipality examined ways to reduce solid waste generated by the City – approximately 1,500 tons per day of which 60% is organic waste. CITYNET, with support from HELP-O, introduced the biogas system and together with the Municipality trained its officials on biogas awareness, construction and maintenance. Although the project ends in December 2009, CITYNET and the Municipality plan to expand the biogas project and target local hospitals, wet markets from next year onward.

Water & Sanitation

Yokohama Waterworks hosted a training from December 7-18 in which participants from Dhaka, Palembang, San Fernando and Shanghai learned about minimising non-revenue water (NRW) loss as well as overall management and strategies for water management. The training culminated in the annual Japan



R.A. Marlina Sylvia from Palembang presents achievements of her city such as water coverage increases, the reduction of NRW loss and improvement in HR which their action plan will build upon.

Forum where action plans of the participants were presented. The plans encompass a range of efforts including a renewed GIS system in Dhaka, coverage expansion and improvement of human resources in Palembang, policy changes and institutional arrangements between San Fernando Municipality and their national water authority and awareness-raising in Shanghai. The event was recorded by TDLC - the World Bank and will be available by the end of January.

MEMBER IN FOCUS



Sidoarjo: overcoming hardship and mud for a vision of a modern city

Sidoarjo may be the smallest regency in East Java but it has a large vision for its people and future. Sidoarjo is located between the Surabaya and the Porong River and belongs to the urban planning region near CITYNET member Surabaya known as 'Gerbangkertosusila'. Sidoarjo is known as an industry city with facilities such as the Juanda International Airport and Bungurasih Bus Station and also has ISO 9001 2000 in public services for business permits.

Sidoarjo's people are engaged in a number of industries such as rice, sugar cane and fishing exemplified in Sidoarjo's crest showing a fish and prawn. The region has had to overcome many hardships with the lack of public services and land use planning, rapid population, unemployment and most notably the mud flow disaster of May 2006 which continues today. Despite this, Sidoarjo remains steadfast in its vision to become a "self-supporting, prosperous and modern city." The alleviation of poverty, the provision and improvement of education, health, transport and road facilities are areas of focus for the regency. Sidoarjo is also concerned with the development of SMEs, managing street vendors and instilling peace, order and security for its people.



Win Hendrarso, Head of Sidoarjo at the recent Stand Up and Take Action to support the MDGs and end poverty which took place on October 16, 2009.

Part of making Sidoarjo's vision a reality is becoming one of CITYNET's newest members, made official at the Yokohama CITYNET Congress in September 2009. Sidoarjo hopes to expand their relationship with cities abroad in order to upgrade welfare and public services and take part in activities such as integrated urban planning and transportation systems, technological innovation as well as good governance and micro finance. Sidoarjo can offer information relating to mud flows and industries such as fishing and leather craft.

Disaster in Sidoarjo: Mud Flow

In May 2006, tragedy struck the people of the Porong district including Sidoarjo when hot mud and gas originating from a natural gas well flowed into and buried nearby towns and villages causing massive destruction to over 10,000 homes, economic infrastructure, water systems and the surrounding environment including fields used for growing crops. The

Sidoarjo mud, popularly referred to as "Lusi" has now displaced more than 40,000 people. There has been a great deal of speculation and controversy surrounding the cause of the mud flow and is the subject of the recent documentary entitled "MUD MAX" produced by London-based Immodicus SA with the support of the School of Earth and Space Exploration at Arizona State University (ASU). The documentary traces the history of the mud flow and the complicated issues surrounding it. Some experts argue that the earthquake that struck Yogyakarta a few hundred kilometers to the southwest on the day before the well erupted, may have cracked the ground, creating potential pathways for the mud to reach the surface, others have suggested that the drilling procedure by Lapindo Brantas Company an oil well company, part of a conglomerate owned by Coordinating Minister of People's Welfare, Aburizal Bakrie caused the flow.

The mudflow continues to be an expanding environmental calamity in the region and experts are still perplexed about how to stop the mudflow despite attempts to halt the flow and minimise damage. The mud is likely continue to flow for several decades, and is of major concern to the people of Sidoarjo.

Sidoarjo plays a significant economic role to neighbouring areas as well as to Java and Bali as a point for distribution of goods and services such as a gas pipeline and electricity power transmission.



The mud flow in Porong-Sidoarjo.

Policies and government initiatives:

- resettlements for mud victims (Nirwana Kahuripan Housing)
- social responsibility by BPLS (Official Board for Mud Flow)
- planned infrastructure relocation (transportation/railway and telecommunication) in 2010

Note: Following an inquiry, the House of Representatives could not find any evidence linking the disaster to the drilling activities by PT Lapindo Brantas. The Supreme Court also made a similar ruling and the police have closed the investigation

Sidoarjo at a Glance

Population: 1.8 million

Population density: 2,522/km²

Area: 714.27 km²

Head of Regency: Drs. H. Win Hendrarso

Major industries: agriculture, fishing, animal husbandry

Member Speaks: King Mongkut University of Technology, Thailand

Looking for Synergy in CITYNET

The King Mongkut University of Technology Thonburi holds values in line with those of CITYNET namely: partnerships, knowledge synergy, innovation and human values. As a new associate member, the connection is the Urban Management Track of the School of Architecture and Design (SoA+D) with a broad base of information and resources on offer. The school, established in 1993 and serving over 900 students, offers Bachelors in Architecture, Interior Architecture, Industrial Design and Communication Design. Its Graduate Program offers tracks ranging from Urban Management to Design Management, including Architecture, Built Environment, Communication, Human-Centred and Lighting Design. These programs are designed to meet prospective demands of professionals in innovative research and design, and pioneering planning techniques and methodologies. Networking at national, regional and global levels is encouraged to consolidate the quality of the program and to help ensure local and regional sustainability.

SoA+D is eager to connect with local governments to learn first hand the issues faced and the ways in which they are being tackled. They have a keen interest in the Academic Consortium, presented at the CITYNET Yokohama Congress and seek to connect with universities and institutions that have outspoken interest to meet current challenges through training, research and action-planning in cooperation with local governments. They plan to apply knowledge gained to update their curriculum and elaborate outreach activities that match the needs of the university, the Bangkok Metropolitan Administration and local governments in Thailand and the region.



Members of the School of Architecture and Design, Urban Management Track in discussion.

Events / Activities

Feb. - March, GDLN Centres /Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Workshop on CDRI (Climate Disaster Resilience Initiative) for Asian Cities

March, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

CIFAL Kuala Lumpur / KLRTC XIX on Solid Waste Management

March 22 - 26, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

World Urban Forum
www.unhabitat.org/wuf

July, Yokohama, Japan

The 2010 Yokohama Waterworks Training Course

Community Spirit...

(...cont'd from page 1)

City leaders further committed to partnerships in solving urban issues and working together. They will tackle finding ways to conducting capacity building programs involving sponsors and working partners and setting the agenda for the next CI event.

CITYNET delegates and circa 15,000 Tomohon citizens consisting of students, army, civil servants, the elderly and others joined in a mass-action awareness-raising and tree-planting campaign (60,000 endemic trees) opened by the Governor of North Sulawesi for strengthening the environment for future generations. Maintenance will be attended by the government of Tomohon. As Tomohon is famous for flowers and known as "a Clean and Green City" the plan of action includes opening

various opportunities to local flower farmers and traders to increase qualifications enhanced by networking during the event. There are also commitments to see the continuation of the city re-greening programme and the extended CI membership to four new city members.

Strengthening CITYNET

(...cont'd from page 1)

he strongly advocated restructuring CITYNET and outlined a number of recommendations namely more strategic programming, strengthening membership driven aspects and relationships between member cities, establishing a stronger national presence, finding more resources, developing a more diverse agenda and more inclusion of civil society - putting people first.

Options and clarifications on the fundraising of the CITYNET Foundation were given by Attorney Violeta Seva. Recommendations for the enhancement of capacity building programmes, database and communications have resulted in a working agreement between the CITYNET Secretariat and SDS.

Other suggestions outlined were methods for increasing the capacity of the Secretariat, the formation of advisory committees on institutional, programme and communication matters in order to broaden their scope and widened promotion of CITYNET in all levels of government for greater impact of activities.

Detailed and final recommendations will be tabled at the 27th Executive Committee Meeting to be held in Palembang, Indonesia in late 2010.

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New Publications



CITYNET Yokohama Congress Report (Sept. 7 - 11, 2009)

This 20-page report covers the highlights of the CITYNET Yokohama Congress (Sept. 7 - 11, 2009). It includes the major recommendations of each session, a photo gallery as well as the issues discussed during the Executive Committee Meetings and General Council. Major announcements include the re-structuring of the Clusters, the acceptance of seven new members and the re-location of the CITYNET Secretariat to Seoul in 2013. The report is available online at www.citynet-ap.org or printed copies may be requested by email at info@citynet-ap.org.



CITYNET Medium Term Plan (2010-2013) (members only)

The Medium Term Plan for CITYNET covers institution, communications, programme and activities planned over the next four years to be implemented over the period of 2010 -2013. This is available for download at www.citynet-ap.org in the members section. If you are a member and have not yet received your login, please send an email to info@citynet-ap.org.

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All New CityVoice: Coming Soon!

The new year means renewal for CityVoice which will take a short hiatus for both a design and content makeover. CityVoice will continue to provide readers with the best resources and information from around Asia-Pacific and beyond. **Next issue: June 2010 - Please look for it!**

The new publication will feature:

- in-depth articles, news and member voices on key issues of most concern
- a longer, magazine-style format
- more useful resources and innovations

We are happy to receive your feedback about CityVoice or other topics.
Please drop us a line at: info@citynet-ap.org

Season's Greetings

The CITYNET Secretariat wishes you a joyous and healthy New Year!

We hope the New Year will bring peace and better, more humane cities for all.

Together we can do more.

Acknowledgement

CITYNET acknowledges and extends its deep appreciation to Dato' Lakhbir Singh Chahl for his service as Secretary General since 1990 and his very significant contribution and devotion to the Network. Dato' Singh Chahl will continue to work with CITYNET as a Special Advisor to the Executive Committee and will serve as an Honorary Member.



Dato' Lakhbir Singh Chahl will continue to work with CITYNET as a Special Advisor and Honorary Member.