

**Dear CITYNET Members and Partners,**

e-News, CITYNET's bi-monthly electronic newsletter, presents relevant past, ongoing, and future programmes and activities to our fellow CITYNET members, partner organisations, private companies, educational institutions, and interested individuals. We hope you will find this issue helpful to your work. In continuing our campaign to distribute the activities of our members and partners within CITYNET's Network, we encourage you to share the newsletter with your colleagues and friends.

These past two months have been busy months for the Secretariat. With personnel changes, training for Satellite Office manager, audit, and the new Japanese fiscal year beginning in April, CITYNET has had a refreshing start. With less than 5 months to the CITYNET Congress, we are now getting increasingly engaged in preparations to make the event a success and to charter a course which can serve our members and partners better. Your input and feedback are always welcome to achieve our common goals.

## CITYNET NEWS AND EVENTS

### 11<sup>th</sup> Japan Urban Forum: Human Security and Disaster Management



Participants and Resource Persons at 11th Japan Forum

The reduction and resilience of disasters have been a core emphasis of CITYNET, particularly since various catastrophes have tragically harmed many of CITYNET's member cities. Through its DISASTER CLUSTER founded in 2005, CITYNET set its goals to move beyond the city's capacity for immediate responses to focusing on long-term sustainability in disaster-risk reduction.

CITYNET organised its 11<sup>th</sup> Japan Forum on March 20, 2009 in Yokohama under the theme of Human Security and Disaster Management. Deputy Municipal Commissioner of Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai (MCGM) Mr. Rajendra Vale and Dr.

Rajib Shaw, Associate Professor of Kyoto University's Graduate School of Global Environmental Studies shared their expertise and experiences through their presentations.

The focus of Mr. Vale's presentation was flooding in Mumbai with specific reference to the 26 July 2005 incident. Due to its topographical conditions (surrounded by sea on three sides), Mumbai has suffered from severe flooding causing disastrous humanitarian, health and economic effects. Similarly, because of the high concentration of population, the impact of flooding is devastating, affecting lives, increasing health risks, cutting power supplies, disrupting all forms of public transportation including air traffic, hampering relief and rescue efforts, and damaging infrastructure. In 2005, continuous rainfall, together with topologically volatile land also triggered landslides affecting a large number of residents mostly in areas with informal settlements.

To minimize damage, remedial measures such as increasing the capacity of storm water drainage, the construction of more pumping stations and establishing an Emergency Operation Centre in the MCGM headquarters with 24 hour supervision were undertaken. Mr. Vale stressed that alertness, preparation of micro and macro level plans, disaster drills, learning from past mistakes and installation of advance warning systems are essential for reducing risks and preventing mass confusion caused by flooding.

Dr. Rajib Shaw, also currently the Chair of the UN Asia Regional Task Force for Urban Risk Reduction, focused his talk on the lessons learnt on post-disaster management in Japan. He shared his experiences working with the UN office in Kobe during the aftermath of the 1995 earthquake, where their role was to chart the effects and scale of human intervention and capacity. They experienced first-hand how essential good

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however, they lacked coordination and organisation, meaning certain areas were neglected while others swamped. To remedy this, cooperation and communication between the government, local organisations and volunteers is necessary.

Dr. Shaw also addressed the 'human-security' concept. His opinion was that in recent years, there had been too much of a focus on the 'security' side and that the 'human' part had been neglected. He showed examples of community cooperation in Japanese towns and villages, in particular the post-disaster management activities undertaken by the City of Saijo in Shikoku, Japan. There, the underutilised potential of senior citizens were mobilised, and at the same time, a 'town watching' project aimed at educating 12-year old children on disaster management was carried out.

This event was video-recorded by the World Bank/Tokyo Development Learning Center and can be found on their website at:

[http://www.jointokyo.org/en/programs/catalogue/citynet\\_japan\\_forum/](http://www.jointokyo.org/en/programs/catalogue/citynet_japan_forum/).

For more information on TDLN, please click: <http://www.jointokyo.org>.

### **CITYNET Satellite Office making a strong start with support from MCGM**

The CITYNET Satellite Office (SO) has established itself in Mumbai with generous support from MCGM. The SO was formed to enable CITYNET to enhance its reach, particularly in the South Asian region where more than 40% of its members are located. Now it is embarking on its new operation and setting achievable targets.



Seema Marathe with the Programme Director,  
Bernadia I. Tjandradewi

To start with, office space, equipment and full time staff have been provided by MCGM. Municipal Commissioner Dr. J.M. Patak and Deputy Municipal Commissioner Mr. Rajendra Vale are taking personal interest in equipping and strengthening the office, which is currently by and large self-sufficient and has started functioning under the guidance of Mr. Vale.

MCGM has also approved a budget in the current fiscal year for SO which includes the salaries of the officer manager and staff. The budget provision will be utilized to further equip and furnish the office in 2009-2010. The office will not only get a fresh, corporate look within the next two years but will also start working effectively to increase the presence of CITYNET in the subregion. It will act as a catalyst in bringing together the developing cities of the subregion, pooling their knowledge, expertise and experiences to fulfill their potential and help achieve the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

The new Programme Manager of SO, Seema Marathe visited the CITYNET Secretariat in Yokohama from 16 to 20 March to discuss strategies on how SO could help improve CITYNET's functions for better development of local governance system in the region. During the on-the job training programme, she learned about the institutional and programme activities - such as the medium-term plan, the objectives of national chapters, the concept of clusters and targeted priority areas as well as communication strategies.

SO is currently deliberating on a large number of activities to be undertaken over the coming years. As part of its effort to understand the needs of Indian cities and local governments, an assessment particularly on MDG achievement and status is being planned. SO will also carry out comprehensive communication and information activities to ensure CITYNET's outreach, not only within the local government bodies, but also amongst the local citizens on the ground.

For further details and communications, please contact:

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**Profile: CITYNET Auditor for fiscal years 2006 -2008,  
Mr. Won Baek Lee, Suwon City, Korea  
Balancing the Budget**

When Mr. Won Baek Lee from Suwon City, Korea began conducting the audit for CITYNET in 2007, the particular challenges and needs of CITYNET and its members soon became clear. In 2006, when CITYNET's budget was decreased, Mr. Lee became concerned about the future of CITYNET. As it was his first time working with an organisation such as CITYNET, he had to change his perspective and deal with the tight budgetary constraints facing many Non Profit Organisations (NPO) and local governments.



"Even on a limited budget," Mr. Lee said, "I was most impressed that CITYNET was able to run its programmes quite well." Mr. Lee pointed out that CITYNET's programme account, in particular, is growing despite the fact that in 2007 actual funding was less than planned. "Under this circumstance," he noted, "it is remarkable that CITYNET delivered their projects by finding new funding sources."

Mr. Lee has performed CITYNET's annual audit for the fiscal years of 2006 - 2008. Throughout this time, Mr. Lee has made a number of recommendations to help ensure the smooth delivery of programmes, the administration of the Secretariat and fair usage of the budget for its members. Among others, Mr. Lee recommended focusing on strengthening programmes to ensure tangible and wider outcomes and impact therefore putting focus squarely on effectiveness and efficiency. His recommendations also led to the implementation of a computerized budgeting system which has facilitated CITYNET's mandate of transparency allowing members to clearly monitor the allocation of the budget.

Reflecting on the past three years, Mr. Lee said he is very pleased with CITYNET's performance and that they have followed his recommendations. "In the end," he said, "the budget shows the results. It shows CITYNET's hard work and passion; in this regard, I pay high respect to CITYNET's achievement." In the future, Mr. Lee would like to see CITYNET grow and make continued efforts to ensure the financial sustainability of the programme activities.

CITYNET Secretariat is grateful to Suwon City, the elected Auditor of the Network for the four-year term, 2006-2009, and especially thanks Mr. Lee for his services rendered over the years.

## CLUSTER UPDATES

*The five clusters of CITYNET (Infrastructure, Millennium Development Goals, Environment, Disaster, Information Communication Technologies) form a substantial part of CITYNET's programmes and activities. We request Cluster Committees send regular updates to the Secretariat so that efforts and achievements are better known and understood. CITYNET members who would like to participate in a particular Cluster and/or contribute articles for this section, please do not hesitate to contact the CITYNET Secretariat.*

### **Disaster Cluster**

#### **Mainstreaming Disaster Risk Reduction in Makati and Kathmandu**

Makati and Kathmandu have embarked on a City-to-City (C2C) Cooperation Programme on mainstreaming Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) in land use planning and management. After the Technical Advisory Service (TAS) visit of Makati to Kathmandu held last April 2008, the two cities have undergone simultaneous site analysis (constituting socio-economic vulnerability and emergency management assessment; land use, transportation, and legal and institutional analysis) and redevelopment planning involving master planning and community action planning.

Recently, Makati has undergone Disaster Town Watching and Risk Mapping involving the community leaders and residents of Barangay Rizal with technical support from Earthquake and Megacities Initiative (EMI). The community was identified as high-risk with about 7,800 households with one of the lowest per capita incomes in the city. Expected results of the collaboration include a Comprehensive Land Use Plan for each city which will be presented during the CITYNET Yokohama Congress in September 2009.

### **Environment – Solid Waste Management Cluster**

#### **Makati and San Fernando to conduct TAS in Phnom Penh for Solid Waste Reduction**

The cities of Makati and San Fernando, La Union shall conduct a TAS visit to Phnom Penh in May 2009 as part of the C2C Cooperation Programme for Solid Waste Reduction. The Solid Waste Management experts from the two cities are expected to share their sound practices on solid waste management particularly on strengthening the involvement of schools and community on the practice of the 3Rs (Reduce, Re-use, Recycle); recyclable waste diversions and community-based

composting as well as give their insights and recommendations on Phnom Penh's Solid Waste Master Plan. Likewise, the experts will also visit several schools and communities in Phnom Penh which are currently engaged in different solid waste reduction initiatives. The report regarding the TAS visit will be reflected in the next issue of e-News which will be released in June. The project is implemented with support from UNITAR and the French Government.

## **Infrastructure Cluster**

### **A Task Force on Sustainable Transportation Systems between the cities of Palembang and Seoul established**

After a CITYNET meeting in Changwon in 2008, Dr. Gyeng-Chul Kim, the Deputy Secretary-General, was dispatched to Palembang in response to a request from Palembang. His presentation on sustainable transportation policy and structure has led to the development of a partnership between the Palembang City Government and the Seoul Metropolitan Government (SMG). The Mayor of Palembang, H. Eddy Santana Putra, has consented to form a task force to implement and coordinate projects with the SMG. Delegates from the task force are scheduled to visit Seoul this May for a working visit and to officially sign a Memorandum of Cooperation.

## **WatSan Cluster**

### **Eco Tanks are transferred to Negombo and Palembang**

The Eco Tanks locally produced in Bangkok are about to be transferred to Negombo and Palembang this month as part of the City-To-City (C2C) Cooperation Programme for Decentralised Sewerage Treatment Using Eco Tanks. The C2C is a three-year programme funded by UNITAR and the Foundation of Prince Albert II of Monaco. Once transferred, Negombo and Palembang shall install the facilities in their respective identified project sites for the completion of the first phase of the programme. Parallel to this, the two cities are expected to conduct on-site awareness campaigns regarding the proper usage and benefits of Eco Tanks as well as monitor the implementation of the project. Outputs of the first phase of shall be reported by Negombo and Palembang during the 2009 CITYNET Yokohama Congress.

# ONGOING AND UPCOMING CITYNET PROGRAMS

## **Climate Change and Energy Efficiency for Asian Cities**

### **Side Event: Challenges and Opportunities for Cities –**

### **Policy Dialogue on Energy Efficiency for Low Development in Cities**

**Date: June 15, 2009**

**Location: Beijing, China, Beijing International Convention Center**

CITYNET together with the Energy Research Institute (ERI) of National Development and Reform Commission, China and the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) will be organizing and co-sponsoring this event in Beijing on June 15 to discuss energy efficiency in cities. Topics include a world energy outlook, how cities can become more energy efficient and sharing information on best practices in bettering local infrastructures. Given that 80% of all greenhouse emissions originate from the energy production in cities through three sectors – transportation, buildings, and industry – there is an urgent need for local governments to immediately promote strategic practices and policies that reduce energy use and lower greenhouse gas emission. The event will be held in conjunction with the Asia-Pacific Forum on Low Carbon Economy from 14-17 June 2009.

## **Post AWAREE TV Conference II**

**Date: June 25, 2009**

**Location: JICA offices in Dhaka, Makati, Colombo, Hanoi (for Da Nang) and Yokohama**

The AWAREE Project (2004-2007), which had a wide-scope of impact on citizens in participating cities has inspired the Post-AWAREE project started in 2007 and will run through 2010. The main activity of Post-AWAREE is training and capacity-building for local governments on major environmental issues that relate to global warming and climate change. The four cities of Dhaka, Makati, Colombo and Da Nang have been chosen as pilot cities for Post-AWAREE.



Post AWAREE Participants

Following-up the Post-AWAREE TV conference in January this year, the second TV conference is scheduled for 25 June, 2009. The conference is designed to facilitate participating members to discuss and share their outcomes, collaborate on common issues and promote results that will influence further improvement in urban environments. Since the projects are being run in different countries, the conference allows participants to come together to exchange ideas with each other. The TV conference is held in collaboration with local JICA offices in the participating countries.



## Register for the 2009 CITYNET Congress!

*Harmonious Cities for Our Future*

September 7-11, 2009, Yokohama, Japan

### **CITYNET Members, Partners and Friends,**

Held every four years, the CITYNET Congress is the biggest and the most important event for the Network. The Congress is attended by more than 1000 individuals including mayors, leaders of organizations, donors, and partners. They will discuss strategies to shape the future of our urban development, and to take opportunities from the current global crisis, such as financial crisis and climate change. The Congress also charts the course for CITYNET activities for the subsequent four years and new members are officially enrolled at the Executive Committee Session. The program at the Congress includes the General Council, Mayors' Forum, Panel Discussions, Cluster Dialogues, Technical Visits, Chapter's Meeting, among other events. The CITYNET Congress is scheduled for **7-11 September, 2009**.

To register, please visit the congress website: [www.citynet2009yokohama.jp](http://www.citynet2009yokohama.jp), or contact the registration desk of CITYNET Yokohama Congress 2009: [citynet09reg@convention.co.jp](mailto:citynet09reg@convention.co.jp)

## NATIONAL CHAPTERS UPDATE

*This section provides updates on the progress made by the CITYNET National Chapters, which are associations of CITYNET members and non-members in particular countries. The National Chapters are the outcome of CITYNET's efforts to decentralize its operations for its ever-growing membership base. Currently, CITYNET National Chapters exist in four countries – Bangladesh, Indonesia, Nepal, Sri Lanka. All CITYNET National Chapters are requested to send in regular updates for this new column in e-News so that their activities can be publicized and shared with members in other countries.*

### **CITYNET Presentation at MUNICIPALIKA 2009**

The Satellite Office in Mumbai reports that a presentation was delivered at MUNICIPALIKA 2009 on CITYNET's past, planned, and ongoing activities regarding climate change mitigation and adaptation in Mumbai on January 30, 2009. MUNICIPALIKA 2009 was a forum which discussed ongoing initiatives to promote urban sustainability as administered by the local, state, and central governments throughout India.

The Satellite Office coordinated the task with Mr. Rajendra Vale, Deputy Municipal Commissioner (General Administration, Human Security and Disaster Management) of MCGM in introducing the audience to CITYNET's longstanding contributions to Mumbai in climate change mitigation and adaptation, disaster and solid waste management.

## SECRETARIAT NEWS

*Updates on events, personnel changes, and happenings at the CITYNET Secretariat in Yokohama, Japan*



### **CITYNET Secretariat welcomes new Assistant Secretary General, Mr. Hiroshi Hoshina**

On April 1, 2009, the CITYNET Secretariat welcomed the new Assistant Secretary General Mr. Hiroshi Hoshina. In fact, he is not entirely new to CITYNET. After the establishment of CITYNET in 1987, Mr. Hoshina was in charge of the preparation of the Secretariat from 1990 and continued until 1994 at the Secretariat in Yokohama. During his 30 year career with the City of Yokohama, Mr. Hoshina has served in several different positions including the Port Facilities Administration, Tax Collection Administration and most recently in the Welfare Office. Mr. Hoshina is now back at CITYNET and will be a true asset to the Secretariat particularly with the CITYNET Congress approaching in September. He says that, since this is the CITYNET Congress year, the office should take the opportunity to promote CITYNET to Japanese cities and organisations and encourage them to become members. His vision for the next five years is to provide attractive programs to members as well as establish a financially strong organisation.

Mr. Hoshina says, "As CITYNET is a demand-driven organisation, I expect the Secretariat staff be sensitive to the wide-ranging needs of members." To work towards this goal, CITYNET is diversifying its staff members in the months to come. Mr. Hoshina brings strong administrative expertise to CITYNET. We are all excited and happy to have someone who has known CITYNET from its establishment, with an eagerness to build on into the future. Welcome back Mr. Hoshina!

### Intern from YCU successfully completes term



Mr. Shoya Hirose, a first-year student from Yokohama City University (YCU) successfully completed his 100-day internship programme at CITYNET Secretariat. He joined the CITYNET Secretariat through the internship programme of YOKE (Yokohama Association for International Communications and Exchanges), our associate member. The internship is designed to foster substantive experience and knowledge in the area of urban development and sustainability in developing countries for interested and motivated students.

Mr. Hirose experienced a wide-range of tasks in the communications, programme, and institutional sections. He worked on drafting publications materials, cataloguing policy papers, and researching member cities. He also participated in study visits, worked well with our diverse staff members, and communicated well in the English speaking environment.

"I learned a lot through the internship programme", he said. "I got an idea of working in an international organization for future reference. The experience I gained in the CITYNET Secretariat will help me make my dreams come true." We hope that Mr. Hirose will continue his interest in development areas and contribute in this area when he graduates.

### Secondment Staff from Makati Learns Urban Management Strategies from Yokohama

Ms. Anna Rose Caro, Secondment Staff from Makati for the year 2008 underwent a special training on urban management and international relations organised by the City of Yokohama from March 10-12, 2009 as part of the Secondment Staff Programme. The topics of the training were based on Ms. Caro's interests and line of work in Makati City as a Planning Officer in-charge of the Technical Cooperation programmes. The three-day training was composed of presentations and discussions from the concerned offices and site visits to several facilities of Yokohama such as the Maioka Park, Chubu Wastewater Treatment Plant, and Kanazawa Recycling Centre.



Anne Caro receiving information on promoting natural environment and living practices

Ms. Caro said she was very grateful to the City of Yokohama and CITYNET Secretariat for arranging such training because she was able to gain a lot of ideas and strategies on urban management especially in the areas of environment and transportation which she can apply on her return to Makati. She was impressed by the City project "BankART 1929" wherein old banks were renovated to achieve the City's goals to serve as an instrument for cultural programs and to revitalise the City through the use of old buildings. Through this project, the unique fusion of historical and modern architecture accentuates the ambience of the City. Likewise, she also commended the great efforts of the City Government to institutionalise waste segregation discipline amongst its residents.

Upon her return, Ms. Caro mentioned that she will impart the learning that she gained during the training through presentation of the materials to her colleagues and recommending the strategies to Makati for possible adaptation.

### Excerpts of Farewell Remarks by Kazuo Hashimoto, Former Assistant Secretary General, CITYNET



Ladies and Gentlemen, Dear Colleagues,

It has been a privilege and an honor to serve as Assistant Secretary General of CITYNET. It has also been a fascinating and exciting job. But my tenure would not have been as enjoyable were it not for all the valuable assistance I received. I would like to thank in particular CITYNET members, partners and advisers for supporting our programmes, and whose infectious passion has always inspired me. And last, but by no means least, I wish to pay tribute to the staff of CITYNET Secretariat, whose expertise, dedication, and limitless energy truly make this organisation what it is.

Thank you.

Assistant Secretary General Mr. Kazuo Hashimoto, seconded from Yokohama City, was transferred on March 31, after completing his two year term at the Secretariat. Mr. Hashimoto, an architect by profession, was transferred to a job managing one of the biggest stadiums in Japan located in Shin-Yokohama. The transfer comes as a regular rotation of personnel under the system through the City of Yokohama.

Mr. Hashimoto enjoyed his work at the Secretariat and made specific contributions in areas relating to urban planning and building construction. The Secretariat wishes him well at his new job and hopes that he will continue to share his expertise in development activities.

## SUTP-ASIA PROJECT UPDATE

*The SUTP-Asia Project (Sustainable Urban Transport Project in Asia) is jointly implemented by Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit (GTZ), CITYNET, United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP), and Bangkok Metropolitan Administration (BMA). CITYNET has agreed to provide updates about the project to our members and partners on E-News.*

### **GTZ, TRL, Veolia Transport and UITP launch a website connecting Transport and Climate**

To improve the link between the transport and climate sectors, GTZ, TRL, Veolia Transport and UITP have launched a website "Bridging the Gap - Road to Copenhagen", which will further be developed over the coming weeks.

### **Released "Cycle-inclusive Policy Development: A Handbook"**

GTZ SUTP and the Interface for Cycling Expertise (I-Ce) have joined efforts in the development of a training document entitled "Cycling-inclusive Policy Development: A Handbook." 12 authors who are experts in different fields of cycling-inclusive development contributed to the document. This handbook provides detailed information on how to develop cycling-friendly policies and facilities.

### **Side Event in Bonn – Now Online**

The side event "Bridging the Gap - How to Include Transport in the Bali Road Map" at 7th session of AWG-KP/5th session of AWG-LCA was held in Bonn on April 1, 2009. Contributing partners were GTZ, TRL, UITP and Veolia Transport. High-ranking panellists included Michael Cramer, Member of the European Parliament, Raekwon Chung, the Korean Climate Ambassador and representatives of the Japanese Transport Ministry and UNEP.

### **Workshop in Paris – Now Online**

On March 27, 2009 the first workshop "Pathways for Transport in the Post-Kyoto-Process" under the "Bridging the Gap"-initiative was held in Paris. Over 40 participants from academia, climate and transport experts, multilaterals, bilaterals, transport industry and government representatives contributed towards this workshop.

### **Upcoming Conference on Transport and Climate Change**

The Conference of Parties (COP) 2009 of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) will take place in Copenhagen, Denmark, between December 7 and 18, 2009. GTZ, TRL, Veolia and UITP are working on facilitating the process by trying to improve the link between the transport sector and climate change negotiations. One of the main barriers to achieving an effective link between transport and climate change, is a clear understanding of the different negotiation streams and how to develop a clear targeted strategy to integrate transport into the current negotiations. Transport is recognised as a key contributing factor to GHG emissions. However, compared to other issues like deforestation or energy, transport plays a minor role under the current regime and in the negotiations of the Post-Kyoto process. There is recognition that transport is a significant part of the solution and many transport related organisations are discussing the links between transport and climate change.

### **GTZ-SUTP Training Course on Non-motorised Transport in Seoul, Republic of Korea**

As a pre-event to the 4th Regional Environmentally Sustainable Transport (EST) Forum, GTZ-SUTP organised a training course on "Non-Motorised Transport in Urban Areas," in Seoul, Korea. The event was organised in cooperation with I-Ce, UNCRD, Korea Transport Institute (KOTI) and Ministry of Land Transport and Maritime Affairs (MLTM), Korea. Mr. Jeroen Buis of I-Ce was the lead trainer while Mr. Manfred Breithaupt, GTZ's Senior Transport Advisor and SUTP Project Director, was co-trainer. About 40 participants from 10 countries participated in the course. The participants were from the countries that are or will be engaged in the National EST strategy development with the support of UNCRD as well as local Korean officials. The training course provided an opportunity for policy-makers to learn various technical and policy aspects of non-motorized transport (NMT) as an integral part of EST and urban planning and development.

For further details, please visit the SUTP website at [http://www.sutp.org/bridging\\_the\\_gap/](http://www.sutp.org/bridging_the_gap/)

# MEMBER AND PARTNER NEWS

News from our members and partners

## The 2009 Asia Megacities Forum

**Date: April 22-24, 2009**

**Location: Mumbai, India**



The Government of Maharashtra, Indian Institute of Technology Bombay, and the Earthquakes and Megacities Initiative (EMI) collaborated on the 2009 Asia Megacities Forum on April 22-24, 2009, in Mumbai, India. The three-day workshop focused on sound practices in Urban Disaster Risk Reduction (Urban-DRR) that are being implemented by various cities and local authorities in Asia and elsewhere in the world, and which are making a significant contribution to the progress of the global agenda of the Hyogo Framework for Action. The Forum was a good opportunity to take stock of these practices and to review regional and global initiatives on urban disaster risk reduction (DRR). It was a venue for documenting, promoting and sharing the efforts and commitments made by local authorities in engaging in Urban DRR.

## 22<sup>nd</sup> International Year of Shelter for the Homeless 2009

**Location: Tokyo, Japan**

**Deadline: May 15 2009**

The Japan Housing Association (JHA) sponsored 22<sup>nd</sup> International Year of the Homeless Award is now accepting nominations. The deadline is on 15 May, with the award presentation in Tokyo in October. The JHA Award was created to honour those who have contributed significantly to the improvement of human settlements all over the world, especially in developing countries. The award is recommended by various domestic and overseas organisations, groups and experts. Last year's award was won by a CITYNET nominated member HELP-O (Human and Environment Link Progressive Organisation) from southern Sri Lanka.

## C40 Summit, Seoul 2009

**Date: May 18, 2009**

**Location: Seoul, Republic of Korea**



The 3<sup>rd</sup> C40 Large Cities Climate Summit in Seoul will take place over four days from 18-21 May, 2009 at the Shilla Seoul. Around 80 cities are expected to be represented for discussion on tackling global warming and climate change. The keynote speaker will be Bill Clinton, former president of the United States and current president of the Clinton Foundation.

## LUCI Association *city.people.light* award 2009

**Location: Lyon, France**

**Deadline: June 30, 2009**



LUCI (Lighting Urban Community International), hosted by Lyon, whose mayor is the President of the Urban Community of Great Lyon, a member of CITYNET, is holding its annual competition. The purpose of this award is to acknowledge the city that best integrates the needs of contemporary urban living in a sustainable and coherent lighting strategy. The contest is open to urban lighting projects of a permanent nature that have been completed less than two years prior to entry in the contest. Last year's award was won by Seoul, an Executive Committee member of CITYNET, for the stretch of urban space from Jung-gu Cheonggye Plaza to Seongdong-gu Sindapcheolgyo Railroad Bridge.

The official website of the competition is [www.citypeoplelight.com/award](http://www.citypeoplelight.com/award).

Let's make it a second win in a row for a CITYNET member!

## 3<sup>rd</sup> International Conference on Green Purchasing

**Date: October 20-23, 2009**

**Location: Suwon, Republic of Korea**



Suwon City, is hosting the 3<sup>rd</sup> International Conference on Green Purchasing this October. The purpose of the conference is to promote and identify the roles of Green Purchasing and develop substantial strategies and action plans in order to help combat climate change and establish a worldwide sustainable socio-economic system. This conference aims to build partnerships among policy makers, business groups and consumers to further advance Green Purchasing. In particular, individual Asian countries will have the opportunity for significant progress in the dissemination of the Green Purchasing Network for Green Growth and the Prevention of Climate Change. The institutional/technical knowledge and experience

required to implement Green Purchasing will also be shared.

Previous host cities include Sendai: <http://www.city.sendai.jp/kankyoku/kanri/icgps-e/indexe.html> and Barcelona: <http://www.igpn.org/workshop/spain/spain.html>

The official site for the conference, <http://www.emi-megacities.org/?page=events&id=349> is currently under construction but will be fully functional shortly.

# STATE OF ASIAN CITIES REPORT 2008 MEDIUM TERM PLAN 2010-2013

## Deadline for Responses 15 May

**The Medium Term Plan Questionnaire 2010-2013** is required by CITYNET to plan for the future direction of our organisation.  
**The SACsR2008 Report**, sponsored by UNHABITAT and UNESCAP is the first of its kind; an in-depth comparative report on cities in Asia.

Member cities who have yet to submit these documents please do so by **May 15<sup>th</sup>**, for more info contact: [info@citynet-ap.org](mailto:info@citynet-ap.org)  
Please take this chance to let your voices be heard!

### \*\*\*CityVoice April 2009\*\*\*

The next issue of CityVoice is available! Please look for it in your mailboxes. We look forward to any feedback. Copies can be downloaded at CITYNET's website: [www.citynet-ap.org](http://www.citynet-ap.org)

### \*\*\*SPECIAL ISSUE - CityVoice August 2009\*\*\*

We are currently working on an 8-page special issue of CityVoice for August 2009 with important information leading up to the CITYNET Yokohama Congress 2009. We look forward to your participation in making this issue the best yet.

### \*\*\*CITYNET Requests Members to Localise e-News and CityVoice\*\*\*

The CITYNET Secretariat encourages every member to locally distribute the two newsletters, **CityVoice** and **e-News** in their respective cities/organizations. Our objective is to increase awareness of CITYNET news, activities, expertise, and best practices in urban development and management with local governments, partners, and citizens.

CITYNET suggests the following measures to localise the newsletters:

- Translating relevant newsletter contents into respective native languages.
- Reporting on local community activities that may or may not be known or covered by CITYNET yet and have particular relevance to CITYNET's goal of promoting urban sustainability.
- Notification about joint self-organized activities between two or more member cities.



Thank you for reading e-News! **Comments, suggestions, and/or feedback** are most welcome.

**\*\*Disclaimer:** Please note that CITYNET is not responsible for any changes or inaccuracy in the information contained herein.

We try our best to present you with accurate and authentic information, and hope that it will be useful to you in your endeavours.

**The Regional Network of Local Authorities for the Management of Human Settlements**  
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