



- Press Release - July 10th, 2009 -

CITYNET Yokohama Congress 2009 - September 7 -11 - Harmonious Cities for Our Future

From across Asia and around the globe, key members of local governments, UN agencies and leading authorities on urban issues will come together for a special event marking the 150th Anniversary of the Opening of the Port of Yokohama, Japan from September 7 - 11, 2009 to share best practices, challenges and solutions to issues affecting our daily lives, regardless of geography, now and in the future.

The theme for the Congress is "Harmonious Cities for Our Future" and more than ever, it is crucial for cities to work in tandem with a wide-variety of lateral thinkers to create multi-faceted, practical approaches to promote urban solutions that have lasting effects.

Through forums, roundtables, dialogues, networking events and technical visits participants from over 20 countries will explore a diverse range of issues.

Sessions include: a Public Forum on Combating Global Warming; Making Public-Private Partnerships Work; Bridging the Gap between Ecology and Economy; Creating Gender-Friendly Cities; Access to Basic Urban Services, Enhancing Cooperation between Asian & European Cities, Cluster Dialogues (Environment, Infrastructure, Millennium Development Goals, Disaster and e-Governance); Urban Safety; City Development; Cities and Universities; Financing Urban Infrastructure; Strengthening Municipal Associations and Urban Ecosystems and Biodiversity.

Esteemed speakers and panellists feature C. W. Nicol an internationally renowned author and environmentalist; the Mayors of Yokohama, Seoul, Makati, Banda Aceh and speakers and guests from the Asian Coalition for Housing Rights (ACHR), UNHABITAT, UNITAR, ADB, Veolia Transport and the United Nations University (UNU).

What is CITYNET?

CITYNET is an active network connecting more than 100 cities and organisations mainly in the Asia-Pacific region working towards creating resilient, people-friendly communities for all. Programmes and training that promote the exchange of expertise and the building of partnerships form the basis for ensuring that governments have the means to cope with increasing populations and demands on our cities.

For over 22 years CITYNET has expanded to become a unique and innovative international organisation working with partners such as UNITAR, UNESCAP, UNHABITAT, ADB and JICA to enable solutions to urban-related issues such as poverty, infrastructure, disaster and the environment.

By strengthening collaboration within its network, CITYNET targets connecting a thousand more local governments and partners in the near future. Together we can do more.

Get Involved with CITYNET!

We are looking for a small number of dedicated volunteers to help us prepare for the Congress in September. Gain invaluable experience assisting CITYNET and its members to meet the goals of creating better cities for all. Enjoy networking opportunities and meeting urban practitioners from NGOs and members from local governments from around the world.

We are looking for assistance in the following areas:

- communications / public/media relations*
- programme assistance*
- Congress support (welcoming and assisting members)*
- administrative support

Together we can do more!

* English ability an asset.

For more information on volunteering please contact:

CITYNET Secretariat

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For further information about attending the Congress, programme and events please contact

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