

Foreword

TITYNET is proud to present its Annual Report for the year 2008 highlighting the achievements of its various activities in collaboration with different members and partners.

2008 witnessed another year of extraordinary trials and achievements at CITYNET, and even more changes are yet to come. For over 20 years, CITYNET has been working tirelessly by assisting local governments in the Asia-Pacific achieve sustainability and therefore serve their citizens with better governance. Today, CITYNET has grown to over 100 members from over 22 countries, and is the largest and most active network of its kind in the

The greatest challenge is to internally keep pace with the constant demands for CITYNET's services in the context of unprecedented urban growth across the region. CITYNET recognises that the resources of the entire diverse range of urban stakeholders must be utilised in an integrated effort to achieve urban sustainability.

The organisation continues to grow and expand. Since 2007, CITYNET further added new members from the public, private, and civil society sectors. Interesting new members such as the World Toilet Organisation (WTO) in Singapore, Dexia Group from Belgium, Association of Municipal Development Authorities in India (AMDA India), Jakarta and Hai Phong City have all joined in the global effort to tackle today's most pressing urban problems. At the 24th Session of the Executive Committee in Changwon, Republic of Korea, CITYNET announced that programme activities have been more active

Understanding that action at the local levels is

where the biggest difference is actualized, CITYNET continues to undergo the process of decentralisation away from the CITYNET Secretariat in Yokohama, Japan towards its National Chapters (Bangladesh, Indonesia, Nepal, Sri Lanka), Satellite Office (SO in Mumbai), and Network in general. The institutional and programmatic functions of the newly established Satellite Office in Mumbai, India are now planned to be well under way towards maturity. In addition, the CITYNET Foundation hosted by Makati City will soon start its function.

The organisation has been continuously enhancing the flagship Priority Clusters structure (Infrastructure, Millennium Development Goals, Environment, Information Communications Technology, and Disaster) in which the majority of activities are now specifically categorized, while being guided by the very successful City-to-City (C2C) Cooperation operations. CITYNET's environment cluster has garnered unprecedented attention in 2008, and it is expected to remain in high demand for the times to

CITYNET healthily expands and adapts in many different forms and directions, and cities continue to understand the dynamic benefits of being part of CITYNET's active Network. Yet, in order to meet the demands, CITYNET desires that its decentralisation process will lead to better and greater outcomes.

At the **2009 CITYNET Congress** in Yokohama, the city will be celebrating its 150th anniversary since it had opened its ports to the world. CITYNET pro-actively searches for open innovative means to promote successful sustainable urban realities throughout Asia, and is ready to celebrate with Yokohama in pushing forth the real need to meet the challenges of a greatly urbanising world.

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About us... CITYNET is a demand-driven organisation based on the wide-ranging needs of its members. In 2002, the organisation received the UN-HABITAT Scroll of Honour for its role in promoting and implementing C2C Cooperation. In addition, CITYNET holds official consultative status with

As the largest network of its kind in the Asia-Pacific Region, CITYNET designs programs by coordinating

the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) of the

with a whole range of urban stakeholders, including local governments and its associates, nongovernmental organisations (NGOs), communitybased organisations (CBOs), private sector, and research/academic institutes.

A unique and innovative institution functioning as a catalyst for South-South development and multilateral C2C cooperation, CITYNET programmes and activities have proven to be a vital tool for sustainable urban development.

Introductory Messages

United Nations.

I give my sincerest gratitude to the members and partners for making the year 2008 a very successful one at CITYNET. Since I became President of CITYNET, I have witnessed the indispensable strategic role that CITYNET delivers for Asian cities in many critical areas - climate change and global warming impacts, extreme poverty, infrastructure deficiencies, disaster prevention, and the digital-divide.

Though CITYNET has been implementing various programmes and projects to resolve issues of sustainable urban development in the Asia-Pacific region, the success of each activity would not be achieved without the unselfish support from our members and partners. Such dedication has improved the quality of life for countless numbers of the urban poor in the Asia-Pacific region.

At the 24th Session of the Executive Committee held in Changwon, Republic of Korea on 2008 October, we welcomed five new members and approved the Election Procedures for the main CITYNET Officer Bearers for the years 2010-2013. I would like to express my deepest gratitude to Changwon Mayor Park Wan-Su for being an excellent host of the 24th Executive Committee Session and the Climate Change Seminar.

As you may already know, the year 2009 is very special for Yokohama as it marks the 150th anniversary since our fair city had opened its ports to the world. It is in this progressive spirit found in Yokohama which will provide the tone for the upcoming **2009 CITYNET Congress** themed with "Harmonious Cities for Our Future".

I look forward to welcoming all of you in Yokohama for the 2009 CITYNET Congress in September!





Mr. Hiroshi Nakada Mayor of Yokohama, CITYNET President

Since my initial election as the CITYNET Secretary-General in 1991, the main themes governing the organisation's narrative were kept under continuous review. CITYNET has been constantly meeting the challenges of literally adapting to the rapidly changing conditions of this globalising world, as will be demonstrated in the 2008 Annual Report. For over 20 years, the organisation has improved the lives of a countless number of urban citizens in the Asia-Pacific Region by fostering dedicated, innovative, and demonstrable best practices within the expansive CITYNET network.

The membership has grown to more than 100 members in 22 countries representing over 150 million people worldwide. CITYNET has not only been extending its outreach to civil society but also the private sector, and the decentralisation process is beginning to come into fruition. The year 2008 saw an unprecedented need for CITYNET's services offered in the environmental cluster, most particularly in climate change mitigation and adaptation, solid waste reduction, water and sanitation, and disaster risk reduction.

With over 100 activities and projects implemented in the year 2008, more than double that of 2007, CITYNET experienced the busiest year in its history, and there are little indications of a possible decline in activities for 2009. CITYNET's innovative solutions to the massive problems and challenges of urbanisation will remain in high demand.

The City of Yokohama will celebrate its sesquicentennial since the city opened her ports to the world. It will be in this atmosphere that Yokohama will host the **2009 CITYNET** Congress where crucial issues shall be discussed by members and partners from all over the world.

CITYNET is a demand-driven organisation, and always respects advice, opinions, and suggestions in order to provide a proper focus on its goals. I hope that regular updates on all our activities have been reaching members and partners through CITYNET's communication and media material. We at CITYNET appreciate your contributions. The year 2008 was highly successful and I hope 2009 will be an even better one. I look forward to meeting you all at the **2009 CITYNET Congress** in Yokohama!



Dato' Lakhbir Singh Chahl CITYNET Secretary-General

Organisational Developments Meeting Local Demands with a Diversified Multi-Stakeholder Approach

nderstanding that the problems of urbanisation in the developing context are greatly increasing in scale and sophistication, CITYNET has been diversifying its organisational focus in both approach and function. While CITYNET mainly worked with local governments in the past, the organisation has been extending its reach in partnerships with the private sector and civil society organisations. Functionally, CITYNET has been undertaking the decentralisation process through the establishment of the Satellite Office (SO) hosted by Municipal Corporation of Great Mumbai, and the strengthening of CITYNET National Chapters in Bangladesh, Nepal, Indonesia, and Sri Lanka. Essentially, CITYNET meets local needs and demands with a diversified global

The 24th Session of the Executive Committee in Changwon, Republic of Korea in October 2008, confirmed CITYNET's direction as the largest and most active organisation of its kind in the Asia-Pacific region. The Executive Committee ratified new members and approved the 2008 Activities and Budget as well as discussed ways to strengthen the Network. The session also approved the election procedures for the main office bearers of CITYNET for the vitally important 2009 CITYNET Congress in Yokohama.

CITYNET's flagship C2C Cooperation framework gained more activity within the Network, most particularly with the growing demands for outcomes from the Clusters. Programmes such as the Sanitation Data Book Project, Kuala Lumpur Regional Training Centre (KLRTC), Post-AWAREE on Climate Change and Global Warming, Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR), and Localising MDGs at the City Level, to name a few, involved a diverse array of participants from private, public, and civil society backgrounds than ever before.

National Chapters

The National Chapter concept was proposed by the Seventh Session of the CITYNET Executive Committee in Makati in November 1994 as the most effective strategy for CITYNET to decentralise its operations and to be more responsive to the needs of its members, most particularly at the national levels. 2008 witnessed another year of gradual maturity of the National Chapters towards the goal of self-reliance and timely responsiveness to local, regional, and national demands:

Bangladesh – One year after the Dhaka Declaration of 2007, the CITYNET Bangladesh National Chapter has focused much of its efforts on Solid Waste Management (SWM). The Chapter conducted the 2nd Bangladesh Solid Waste Management Conference in partnership with Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and Dhaka City Corporation (DCC), which catalyzed the implementation for both citizen awareness and establishment of national policy on SWM among Bangladeshi cities.

Nepal – The Nepal National Chapter is largely oriented by the Mumbai Declaration of 2004 and the Kathmandu Plan of Actions of 2007, both of which have been experiencing considerable progress as long term commitments. The two declarations have been designed to achieve the eight Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) by improving the infrastructural, governmental, and civic-empowerment capacities at all levels with Action Plans. Nepal National Chapter has made substantial progress in the focus on

Furthermore, the Joint Office in Nepal, composed of CITYNET Nepal National Chapter, United Nations Millennium Campaign (UNMC) and Municipal Association of Nepal (MuAN) have established a website as a means to advocate MDGs-oriented local governments (http://www.muannepal.org.np/mdg).

Sri Lanka - The Sri Lanka National Chapter, established in 1998, has continued its long standing through focus on promoting urban sustainability in the Country. The Fourth Executive Committee Meeting held in Kandy on 19 July 2008 reaffirmed the National Chapter's commitment to continue as an important aspect of CITYNET's mission to improve the quality of life of the people. The Chapter has stated plans to coordinate closer on urban issues with the Central Government, establish denser networks with local governments, and continue to promote C2C Cooperation.

Indonesia – The CITYNET Indonesia National Chapter, hosted by Sukabumi Municipality, has released "Ten Ways of Achieving the MDGs in Cities in Indonesia" in the Indonesian language which compiles examples of best practices from across the country. The publication serves to promote the objectives of the MDGs and efforts to realise the goals in the near future.



Participants at the end of the 24th Executive Committee in Changwon, Republic of Korea

Deputy Secretary-General



Dr. Gyeng-Chul Kim from Seoul Development Institute (SDI) of Seoul Metropolitan

was officially appointed as the Deputy Secretary-General of CITYNET during the 24th Executive Session of the Committee, effective October 1, 2008. Dr Kim has extensive experience in transportation issues, infrastructure, and development. He has been an active speaker for the KLRTC Programmes and C2C Cooperation between Seoul and other Asian cities.

Staff Secondment Programme

Having undergone his training in organizing various CITYNET programmes, Mr. Vu Tuan Dung concluded his tenure at the Secretariat in March with a promise to continuously work with CITYNET as a major point person for Ho Chi Minh City. Ms. Anna Rose Caro from Makati City succeeded him and continued to actively provide her assistance, especially within the Disaster cluster which Makati serves as a chair.



- Hai Phong
- Jakarta
- Yongin **AMDA India**
- **▶** Bombay First







ITYNET continues to devise long term programmes with local government authorities, citizens, and private companies to promote a better life for Asia-Pacific's urban citizens. The three long term programmes – KLRTC, Post-AWAREE (Awareness on Environmental Education in Asian Cities), and the CITYNET Japan Forum - focus on utilizing citizen activation and smart partnerships. CITYNET's innovative smart partnerships principal coordinates public-private efforts to promote urban sustainability. The exploration of satisfying all the interests of private, public, civil society sectors with the mission of establishing people-friendly cities is an aspect which CITYNET incorporates into all programmes.

KLRTC - Kuala Lumpur Regional Training Centre

KLRTC, also called CIFAL Kuala Lumpur, the joint effort among CITYNET, Veolia Environnement, UNITAR, and Kuala Lumpur experienced significant innovative developments in 2008. As an



CIFAL Steering Committee, including Dr. Bernadia from CITYNET, meet with UN Secretary-General, Mr. Ban Ki-moon

unexpected outcome due to its success as a transnational training ground for urban management, KLRTC further encourages and facilitates follow-up activities proposed during the programmes. Further, global warming and climate change have become central agendas. Finally, training on Integrated Urban Planning has become a core annual KLRTC program in which gender perspectives have been introduced.

In 2008, KLRTC hosted courses on three crucial areas





Participants of KLRTC XIII (top) and XIV (bottom)

Integrated Urban Planning (KLRTC XIII), Sustainable Solid Waste Management (KLRTC XIV), and Sustainable Transportation Systems (KLRTC XV) in which the latter was hosted by Seoul Metropolitan Government. Over 140 municipal authorities and representatives from civil society organisations participated towards the implementation of action plans in their respective

cities. All trainees are working towards improving the environment, transportation systems, and SWM through very innovative urban management action plans.

All KLRTC programs took a different creative turn with emphasis on continuous learning under the framework of C2C Cooperation which has proven to be effective in transferring know-how from one city to another.

POST-AWAREE

Following up on the success of the AWAREE project implemented in Hanoi and Phnom Penh (2004-2007), the Post-AWAREE project was launched as a three year activity (2007-2010) with the aim to raise awareness amongst local government officials and citizens on

climate change mitigation and adaptation. With support from JICA, four cities were selected to spearhead the Post-AWAREE effort - Colombo, Da Nang, Dhaka, and Makati.

the year 2008, Post-AWAREE training focused on Solid Waste Management (SWM), Waterworks, and Environmental Education (EE). Participating cities learned Post-AWAREE Training methods and approaches on



in Yokohama, Japan

climate change mitigation and adaptation. The cities have integrated the project's actions into the city's development such as rain/sky water harvesting, waste reduction, community-based environmental management, mainstreaming EE in schools, and smart partnerships. The outcomes of the ongoing Post-AWAREE Project will be presented at the 2009 CITYNET Congress in Yokohama.

CITYNET Japan Forum

The CITYNET Japan Forum Series continued its sixth year as an open space for discussion about pressing urban issues and developments in the region to the

Japanese public. The topics by distinguished speakers included interesting titles like "No Excuses 2015: The Millennium Development Goals and Us" by Mr. Minar Pimple, the Deputy Director of UNMC in Asia and "An Innovation of Seoul Sustainability" by Dr. In-Keun Lee, Director-General, Urban Planning, Seoul Metropolitan Government. Dr. Lee shared the success of the development projects that included the strong political will of local government



Dr. In-Keun Lee presents at the 10th Japan Forum.

leaders and the participation of the community and other stakeholders in the negotiation process.

The four participating cities discussed unique methods involving integrated urban management and affordable technology-based methods to combat climate change and global warming. Ms. Vissia Aldon, Officer at the Environmental Protection Committee in Makati City, reported that EE was instrumental in reducing solid waste production by 33% in 2007 from 2003 levels in Makati, far surpassing the 20% limit line set by the national government.

Priority Clusters

ost of CITYNET's programmes and activities live and breathe from the possibilities generated by C2C Cooperative framework and the Priority Clusters system. The framework provides a cost-effective, productive, and continuous professional learning relationship between resource and beneficiary cities. By acting as the key C2C facilitator, CITYNET's demand-driven approach has proven effective since its inception in 1987.

The six priority clusters make concrete the areas of CITYNET's key concerns through structured programme classifications; Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), Infrastructure (INFRA), Information Communication Technology (ICT), Environment – Solid Waste Management (ENVIRO-SWM), Environment – Water and Sanitation (ENVIRO-WATSAN), and Disaster. The C2C Framework and the Priority Clusters system distinguish CITYNET's necessary contributions in improving the conditions of the urban poor.

For the year 2008, the CITYNET priority clusters system has been instituted as a finalized, coherent, and effective one since its establishment in 2003. The year 2008 witnessed an unprecedented demand for environmental concerns in general, and in conjunction, the two ENVIRO sub-clusters have been in greater demand than ever before. With the upcoming 2009 CITYNET Congress in Yokohama, CITYNET will be proud to share the progress and results of the CITYNET clusters.

CITYNET Cluster System Environment WATSAN SWM INFRA MDGs ICT Disaster

INFRA Cluster



CITYNET Secretary-General Dato Lakhbir Singh Chahl (left) delivers the "Plaque of Appreciation" to the mayor of Seoul, Oh Se Hoon (right).

The cluster experienced greater activity in 2008 than previous years. Thanks in part to the contributions made by Seoul Development Institute (SDI) of Seoul Metropolitan Government (SMG), CITYNET was especially active in the field of sustainable transport. In

recognition of Seoul's contribution to C2C Cooperation on sustainable transportation, CITYNET granted a "Plaque of Appreciation" to the city. With Seoul's experience in public transport reforms focusing on environmental concerns and quality of life management models, CITYNET delivered with great success training local authorities from the developing context in Seoul in September 2008.



Dr. Kim during a TAS visit in Palembang, Indonesia

Seoul's succesful experience in sustainable transportation was also transferred to other Asian cities through CITYNET's C2C Multilateral Cooperation among the City of Seoul, All India Institute of Local Self-Government (AIILSG), and

Mumbai Metropolitan Region Development Authority (MMRDA). The team effort has designed a sustainable transportation system in Mumbai which was integrated in the Mumbai Transformation Project.

Public transport reform initiative of CITYNET has also been expanded to Palembang. Following the Technical Advisory Services of Dr. Gyeng-Chul Kim from SDI, a Memorandum of Cooperation (MOC) between Palembang and Seoul will soon be established.

ENVIRO-WATSAN Cluster

Many poor urban communities require sanitary, inexpensive, and efficient sewage treatment. In 2008, CITYNET has worked arduously for the active promotion of eco-tank technology. An eco-tank is a small-scale sewerage treatment system composed of a disposable tank that receives and purifies wastewater

before discharging the purified contents into the environment. The discharge, in turn, may be used as very fertile soil. The city of Bangkok transferred experiences with ecotank technology to representatives from Hue, Negombo, and



Project site for eco-tank installation in Negombo, Sri Lanka

Palembang. Action plans are currently underway to install eco-tanks at proposed pilot sites in low incomecommunity areas in these respective cities.

Catalogues of sanitation status in developing Asian cities currently do not exist. CITYNET, in partnership with the Asian Development Bank (ADB), UNHABITAT, and Veolia Environnement is completing the release of the Sanitation Data Book, the first of its kind. By recording sanitation data of over thirty cities from six different countries, the original contribution has been designed for local authorities and citizens to improve the quality of sanitation service delivery in Asian cities.

Yokohama Waterworks Bureau (YWWB) and CITYNET have been continuing the annual CITYNET/Yokohama Waterworks Training programmes, which invites water management participants from cities throughout Asia to learn from Yokohama's expertise in this area for a period of two weeks in Yokohama's fine public facilities.

ENVIRO-SWM Cluster

In many respects, successful SWM is just as much about the software than the hardware. While technological and economic resources can allow a measure of direct improvement, innovative management and successful policies ultimately ensure a dedicated process with real results. The key project has been the exchange visits between Siddharthanagar, Dhaka and SEVANATHA in which Siddharthanagar sought to gain the policy and management-based expertise of Dhaka and SEVANTHA on Community-Based SWM (CBSWM). C2C Cooperation efforts also included the dispatch of experts from Dhaka and SEVANATHA to Nepalese cities to offer first-hand assistance.

Bangladesh National Chapter has been instrumental in strengthening civic, governmental, and institutional

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capacities in SWM. Dhaka is currently intending to apply a similar model learned from Hanoi and Phnom Penh for the implementation of Environmental Education (EE) in schools; Hanoi and Phnom Penh, in turn, applied the lessons learned from the project between the years 2004-2007.

CITYNET and UNITAR also embarked on a new project as part of the PURSUE C2C on Solid Waste Reduction in Phnom Penh. Funded by the French government as a follow-up of KLRTC XIV entitled "Sustainable Solid Waste Management in the Asia-Pacific", the period of implementation is currently set between August 2008 - July 2009.

MDGs Cluster



CITYNET Indonesia National Chapter discusses localising the MDGs.

Most of CITYNET's efforts within the MDGs priority cluster have focused on localizing MDGs at both the citizen and government levels. The CITYNET-MuaN-Nepal National Joint office has been instrumental within the MDGs priority cluster, and recently published "A Guideline on Localising

MDGs and Municipal Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper for the Municipalities of Nepal" in Nepali. CITYNET Indonesia Chapter, hosted by Sukabumi Municipality, has likewise published "Ten Ways of Achieving the MDGs in Cities in Indonesia".

Due to the localisation efforts, more than 100,000 individuals stood up for the Stand Up and Take Action Against Poverty! event. The importance of raising awareness about the MDGs at the local level was also highlighted at the 8th CITYNET Japan Forum under the theme, "No Excuses 2015: The Millennium Development Goals and Us" in Yokohama.

Formal C2C arrangements about the localization of MDGs have been extremely active in 2008. Bharatpur, Lalitpur, and Sukabumi have been undertaking C2C Cooperation with Kandy and MaRGG of Sri Lanka and Calbayog, respectively, with support from UNHABITAT (Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific) in Fukuoka.

Exchange visits amongst those cities resulted in the formation of the MDGs Profile and the Task Force on MDGs as well as the development of action plans with budget allocation for those cities. CITYNET shared its outcomes on MDGs localisation at the 4th World Urban Forum in Nanjing, China.

ICT Cluster

Compared to other clusters, the ICT Cluster has faced very little demand. Plans for reactivating the SMART-Cities Project which aims to establish working private-public partnerships between local governments and the private sector are underway for 2009.



The SMART-Cities Portal project will be reactivated for the year 2009: www.smart-cities.net

Disaster Cluster

Faced with the challenge to protect vulnerable cities to the risks of disaster, the Disaster Cluster organised Disaster Risk Reduction and Management (DRRM) programmes. In the C2C Cooperation Project between Makati and Kathmandu, Kathmandu was able to



Meeting between Makati City experts and Kathmandu officials

integrate DRRM and climate change impacts in its urban planning and management.

During the workshop on Reducing Vulnerabilities to Impacts of Climate Change and Related Natural Disaster in East Asia followed by the 2nd Disaster Cluster Meeting, both held in Makati, cities have made cluster action plans. Such plans include urban risk profiling for Asian cities; capacity-building for local authorities; and a compilation of sound practices. The action plans have been implemented together with various partners such as the UN International Strategy for Disaster Reduction, Asia Regional Task Force on Urban Risk Reduction, Kyoto University, and United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG).

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CityVoice Newsletter in English



CITYNET Club Newsletter in Japanese

Communications Section

The CITYNET communications section has witnessed several developments in 2008. CITYNET has been collaborating with members, partners, media, and all interested participants of the Network. CITYNET has continued to be a clearinghouse of information on urban issues in the Asia-Pacific. As part of our present communications strategy, CITYNET currently has plans to more directly distribute our media material to local media outlets, members and partners for 2009.

Publications

CityVoice: CITYNET's popular print publication was released three times during the year to offer essential news about the organisation's events and activities. The newsletter has been physically sent via post mail to all of our subscribers.

CITYNET Club: The Japanese newsletter of CITYNET informs readers of the essential activities of CITYNET two times a year. As part of our localisation efforts, CITYNET Club is targeted for the Japanese public.

e-News: The bi-monthly electronic newsletter has modernized by being distributed within e-mail messages as opposed to being an attachment. It is expected that e-News will be fully modernized by 2009 when the publication integrates with the new website.

Website: A major undertaking has been the redesigning and restructuring of the CITYNET webportal, which will display the latest cutting edge advancements of web technology. New features will include a user-login system, forum, animated multimedia elements, and full integration with the communication and programmatic branches at CITYNET.

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