

ForUm NEWSLETTER



ForUm Newsletter - Issue 11, January 2010

HAPPY NEW YEAR 2010!

	Page
Editorial	1
Summer School Germany Aug/Sept 2009	2
Review	2
Participants and Presentations	4
Collage by Kwansuang "Civil Society Sketches"	7
Summary of Ideas and Interests in Future Networking	8
New Activities	10
Philippines: News from the Mindanao Center for Urban Development Studies	10
Indonesia: Center for Housing and Settlement	11
Indonesia: Public Space as a Medium for Community Participation	13
Thailand: Sustainable Urban Tourism – Two New Research Projects	16
Malaysia: Penang Apprenticeship Programme for Artisans	17
Funding: NGO Funding Programme	18
Literature: Found and Read	18
Upcoming Confernces	20

Dear colleagues and friends of ForUm Network!

My sincere greetings combined with my very best wishes for a wonderful year 2010 for you and your families! Starting with the good news that the DAAD is providing two more years of funding for our network and one summer school each year, we are looking very much forward to new joint activities and developments.

This is already the 11th issue of our newsletter series, and I hope that we can compete with the past ten very good volumes! The first chapter concentrates on our last Summer School in Germany and provides the usual short picture-review, a list of participants and presentations, a collection of Kwansuang's impressive drawings on civil-society and urban development as well as a summary of core ideas and interests of each country group that has been developed during the workshop.

Complementary to the listing of theoretical concepts and ideas of research and cooperation, the second chapter provides reports of new concrete project activities and developments like the Mindanao Center for Urban Development Studies and the Indonesian Center for Housing and Settlement. Furthermore, a description of the new initiative and research approach on "Public Space as a Medium for Community Participation in the Development of Yogyakarta" is included as well as an introduction of two new research programmes of Dr. Monsicha regarding sustainable urban tourism. Last but not least, you will find very practical information on the urban heritage training programme "Penang Apprenticeship Programme for Artisans".

Chapter 3 continues with an introduction of a website with a very good overview of funding opportunities for NGOs, chapter 4 gives information on upcoming events, and finally Prof. Kraas is providing some very interesting literature links.

Hoping that this newsletter will meet your interest -please enjoy!

Kind regards, Christine

ForUm Summer School in Germany "The role of Civil Society in Urban Development", 22 August – 01 September 2009

Pictue Review by Christine Knie



It was from 22 August until 1 September 2009 that the participants of ForUm Network were invited to Germany for the 9th Summer School of our three-year-programme 2007-2009. For 10 days we stayed together working and enjoying the summer time in Cologne and Berlin. My sincere thanks go to the whole group for all their outstanding support and commitment.

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Civil Society was the core topic of the event, and the arrival day started very relaxed with an evening walk and visit to a public market and one of the community centres of Cologne.

On the next morning the official programme began with individual country reports. By the very lively and sportive moderation of our Prof. Kraas all "jet-lag attacks" and Sunday morning sleepiness faded away and in the afternoon we started our first city excursion. Prof. Kraas



introduced "Places, Actors and Action of Civil Society" to the group. Monday the 23rd the group was welcomed by the representatives of the university and after a campus walk the first "Mensa-Session" took place.



In the afternoon various activities of Civil Society in Southeast Asia were presented and discussed before the executive director



for social affairs of the Cologne City Administration, Mrs. Marlies Bredehorst together with her colleague Dr. Ludwig Arentz explained the importance and role of community involvement in the urban governance of Cologne. The lively discussions continued in the "Brauhaus" and the programme ended with a typical local dinner.



On Tuesday Prof. Josef Nipper guided the group and explained in detail the expansion (growth) and development of the city centre.

The next day Prof. Johannes Hamhaber and Dr. Marc Höhmann introduced actors and roles of urban rejuvenation and gave insights into the development of the eastern part of Cologne and Prof. Hamhaber further presented the international study programme of the

Institute for Technology and Ressources Management in the Tropics and Sub-Tropics (ITT Cologne).

Beside the excursions more than 15 presentations took place and we got some very interesting insights into the Southeast Asian - German civil society activities and related urban development and planning.





On Thursday morning the “ForUm Star-Troop” left Cologne for Berlin. Our first appointment was at “Adlershof”, the technology park of Humboldt University. Prof. Dr. Elmar Kulke from the Department of Geography welcomed the group and explained to us the concept of Adlershof as well as some ongoing academic cooperation programmes of HU-Berlin. Prof. Lee was very familiar with the location since HU has been his host



university for several years when he studied Geography in Germany.

In order to get to know more about exchange opportunities we continued to the DAAD office in Berlin and Mr. Daniel Zimmermann, deputy head of the liaison office education/research in Berlin, gave us a very interesting presentation about their funding programmes.



Our guide for the entire first day was Alex Koenig who is living in Berlin and whom we got to know in Malaysia in March. Dipl. Ing. Alex Koenig is a planning expert and has been involved in the urban heritage management of Penang. Alex picked us up at the

airport, and after the official meetings he kindly guided us for a relaxed evening walk through the city centre and gave us a first briefing of the development after the reunification of east and west Berlin.



The next sunny day, 28th August, was a special day for Prof. Kraas as it happened to be her birthday. Nevertheless she took us on a phantastic city tour, showing us some of the core locations of Berlin and its urban development.



Dipl. Geogr. Harald Sterly took over the afternoon session and went with us to the location of the “Media Spree Project”. One of the representatives of the Spree community discussed with us the challenges of urban restructuring, civil society opposition and the problem of reconciliation of interests. During the breaks, our poet Dr. Boy composed a birthday song for Prof. Kraas and our second day in Berlin ended with singing and celebration at a local restaurant.



Saturday morning Harald went with us to “Prenzlauer Berg” where he had lived for several years before he moved to Cologne as a scientific coordinator for the megacity programme of Prof. Kraas. He provided us with further insight into the various problems of reunification and gentrification. He showed us relics of the Berlin wall, explained the former living conditions under the East-West situation, and we discussed the various challenges of civil self-organisation. Finally, we all went together to the “Bundestag” where we enjoyed a guided tour through the



impressive building and got to know where the debates of the German parliament take place. On Sunday, we took a train back to Cologne and after several final discussions, reviews and further planning activities we celebrated the farewell of one further wonderful Summer School of ForUm Network.










But I do not want to close this review without my cordial thanks to Prof. Kraas and the whole group. This Summer School will remain in our memories due to its unique character of attracting all round support contributed by the whole ForUm group, many colleagues and, friends. And even people who were never connected to our network before came forward to help and assist us. The helpful taxi-drivers who managed all the different arrival and departure dates, the staff of Mado Hotel with their friendly and patient support, the Bundestag tour guides for providing us a special appointment, the flight and train companies for re-arranging our schedule so often without any complaints, the colleagues of the Faculty of Mathematics for sharing the “Senatsraum” with us, etc.

My special thanks go to our Thai and Indonesian friends as well as our wonderful Vietnamese Hoa-Ladies, for preparing the conference bags, T-shirts and banner and bringing them to Cologne. Many thanks to Beate Forthmann and Annika Salingré for helping with various organisational tasks. And special thanks to Hannes, Harald and Alex who assisted us in organising and provided excellent presentations and guided tours. And last but not least a big bouquet of thanks to Ute Mann and my dear colleague Reena Singh for their outstanding commitment and never ending support.

Christine

List of Participants and Presentations

Cambodia		
	Mr. Kong Kosal, Faculty of Architecture & Urbanism, Royal University of Fine Arts, Phnom Penh, Cambodia: Improvement of water infrastructure and basic services in urban poor community in Phnom Penh	
		Mr. Phann Sithan, Former Director of Housing Rights Task Force, Phnom Penh, Cambodia: The Roles of NGOs Over Conflicts of Urban Land Rights: Gaps and Opportunities
Indonesia		
	Assoc. Prof. Dr. Eni Harmayani, Faculty of Agricultural Technology, Gadjah Mada University, Indonesia: Role of dasa wisma (housewives group) in solving the urban health and nutrition problems in Indonesia	
		Mrs. Yuni Windarti, Department for International Exchange, Gadjah Mada University, Indonesia: The role of the University in Civil Society Development
	Mr. Sukamdi, Faculty of Geography, Gadjah Mada University, Yogyakarta, Indonesia: Making Civil Society Work for Urban Public Services	
		Mr. Harsoyo Oedijono, Faculty of Agriculture, Gadjah Mada University, Indonesia: The Women Study Centre at Gadjah Mada University – A contribution to strengthen the activities of Civil Society
	Mr. Raditya Yati, NGO for Urban Environmental Management in Costal Areas, Yogyakarta, Indonesia: Participation of Civil Society on Decision Making and Planning Processes	

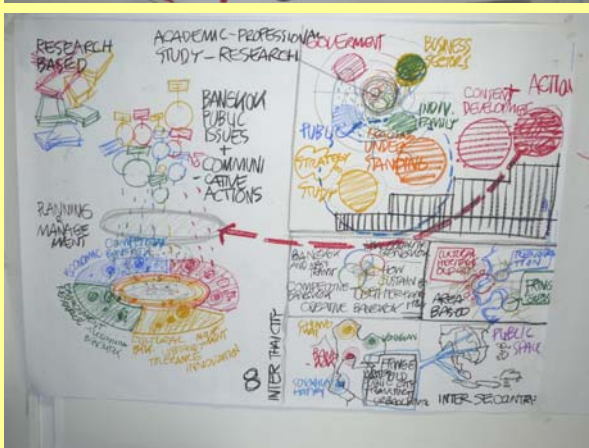
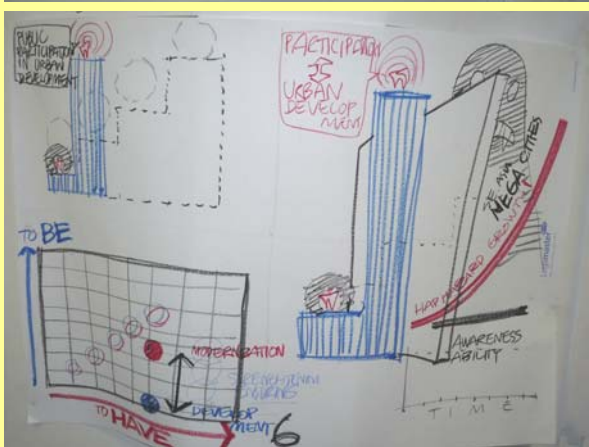
Laos			
	Mr. Thenekham Thongbonh, Dep. Director General, Public Works Institute, Vientiane, Lao PDR: Involving the Civil Society in the Urban Development Process for Pakse		Ms. Saykham Thammanosouth, Director of the Urban Planning Division, Public Works Institute, Vientiane, Lao PDR: Civil Society with Urban Development in Vientiane City, Lao PDR
Malaysia			
	Mr. Tan Thean Siew, Town Planner, Penang, Malaysia: Civil Society as a Driving Force for Urban Coherence and Good Governance – Examples from Penang, Malaysia		Prof. Dr. Lee Boon Thong, Director, Office of Quality & Standards, Nilai University College, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia: Meeting the challenges of urbanisation: the role of the local neighbourhood community
Philippines			
	Assoc. Prof. Noel Cornel Alegre, Capitol University, Cagayan de Oro City, Philippines: Pusong Camarines Norte” (PCN) Micro-finance through Pig dispersal: A global-local link to development		Ms. Imelda Baleta, Asian Development Bank (ADB) Manila, Philippines: Involvement of Civil Society in the Pasig River Project
	Dr. Anselmo (Boy) Mercado, President of the Cooperative Business Institute in Cagayan de Oro City: Strengthening Civil Society for Development through the “ABCD” model		
Thailand			
	Dipl. Ing. Kwansuang Atibodhi, Civicnet Foundation, Bangkok, Thailand: Role of Urban Public Space as Social Communication Infrastructure in Urban Daily Life		Dr. Chaiyan Rajagool, Institute of Religion, Culture and Peace, Payap University, Chiang Mai, Thailand: The conflicts of meanings of space between the civil society and the state, and their implications
	Assoc. Prof. Dr. Sekson Yongvanit, Department of Geography, University of Khon Kaen, Thailand: Civil society activities in Khon Kaen City Municipality		Prof. Dr. Manat Suwan, Faculty of Geography, University of Chiang Mai, Thailand: Roles of university as a civil society in urban development: An Analysis
Vietnam			
	Assoc. Prof. Tan Hoa, Dean of the Department of Geography, Hanoi University of Economics, Vietnam: Civil Society Organizations and Community Participation in Improving Environmental Quality of Residential Areas		Mrs. Quynh Hoa, Department of Architecture, University of Civil Engineering, Hanoi, Vietnam: An assessment of community’s role in urban planning and management in the transitional economy of Vietnam

Germany			
	Prof. Dr. Frauke Kraas, Department of Geography, University of Cologne: Urban Development of Berlin - Challenges of Urbanisation - Role of Civil Society in Urban Development		Prof. Dr. Josef Nipper, Department of Geography, University of Cologne: City Centre Development in Cologne
	Mrs. Marlis Bredehorst, Executive Director for Social Affairs, Integration and Environment, City of Cologne: Examples of Community Involvement in Urban Governance		Dr. Ludwig Arentz, Representative of the Civil Society Association "Köln Agenda 21": Civil Society and the Agenda 21 - Process in Cologne
	Prof. Dr. Johannes Hamhaber, Institute for Technology and Resources Management in the Tropics and Sub-Tropics (ITT): International Study Programme of the ITT, Actors and Roles in Urban Rejuvenation of Cologne		Dr. Marc Höhmann, Urban Planner and Guest Lecturer of the University of Cologne: Actors and Roles in Urban Rejuvenation of Cologne
	Prof. Dr. Hans Gebhardt, Department of Geography, University of Heidelberg, Research Interest: Urban Governance and Global Change		Mrs. Ute Mann, Department of Geography, University of Cologne: Analysis of the institutional, modal and social integration of urban transport in Bangkok
	Prof. Dr. Elmar Kulke, Department of Geography, Humboldt University Berlin: Introduction of Adlershof, Academic Cooperation and Development at Humboldt University		Mr. Daniel Zimmermann, Deputy Head of the DAAD Liaison Office Education/Research, DAAD Berlin: Academic Exchange Programmes and Activities
	Carsten Joost, Architect, Representative of the Spree Community: Civil Society Opposition and Reconciliation of Interests		Dipl. Ing. Alex König, Urban Development Consultant, Berlin/ George Town, Penang (Malaysia): Historical Development of Berlin
	Mr. Harald Sterly, Department of Geography, University of Cologne: Inner-Urban Transformation and Media Spree – Urban Restructuring, Civil Society Opposition and Reconciliation of Interests, Prenzlauer Berg – East/West Division 1962-1989, Reunification, Gentrification and Civil-Self-Organisation		
	Dr. Reena Singh, Department of Geography, University of Cologne, Research Interest: Urban Vulnerability		Mrs. Christine Knie, Department of Geography, University of Cologne, ForUm network Coordinator, Research Interest: Urban Planning and Development

Further information and pictures are available on our ForUm website:
<http://www.geographie.uni-koeln.de/projects/urban-futures>

Kwansuang Atibodhi: "Sketches on Urban Development and Civil Society"

...here you see original "Kwansuang"! Once more he gave us food for thought by his very creative and impressive presentations.



General Ideas and Interests in ForUm Networking Cooperation and Activities, related to Urban Development of all Country Groups

A summary of ideas and approaches gathered during the Summer School in Cologne, Sept. 2009

Cambodia

Intensify the cooperation of NGO and university

- 1 common supervision of bachelor students, common urban research
- 2 internships of students in NGO
- 3 exchange of knowledge
- 4 linking different universities and non university groups

Contact persons: Prof. Dr. Hoa Le Thu, Mrs. Ta Quynh Hoa

Indonesia

1. Strengthen national network (INFUSED) through the following activities
 - a. Research
 - b. Workshop and seminar
 - c. Publication
2. Develop capacity building for human resources through seminars, national and international, workshops, and training for decision making processes (government), in the issue of "sustainability city"
3. Collaborative research with other ForUm members on the following issues:
 - a. Sustainable urban development
 - b. Urban settlement and housing
 - c. Urban public space
4. Staff and student exchange with other universities

Contact persons: Prof. Dr. Hartono, Mrs. Eni Harmayani, Mr. Sukamdi

Lao PDR

- Workshop with representatives of each district and related organizations
- Cooperation with urban environmental management network of AIT
- Cooperation with the other country groups in SEA - uema.ait.ac.th

Contact persons: Mrs. Saykham Thammanosouth, Mr. Thenekham Thongbonh

Malaysia

- + Supervision of PhD students
- + Research about ethnic residential segregation
- + Lecturer and research exchange (Nilai can provide accommodation for 1 semester)

Cooperation and exchange

- knowledge of urban planning and development
- joint research with other ForUm colleagues
- alternative and new planning approaches
- participatory planning

Contact persons: Prof. Lee Boon Thong, Mr. Tan Thean Siew

Philippines

(see Mindanao Urban Center, Page 10)

Thailand

- + National cooperation on education and research of the Thai universities and research centres
- + International cooperation of ForUm partner universities
- + Bangkok Vision Institute | Development of an innovative and participatory study program
- + University of Religion, Culture and Peace | Urban conflicts on urban change

Contact persons: Prof. Dr. Sekson Yongvanit, Mr. Kwansuang Atibodhi

Vietnam

- + Networking of academic interdisciplinary experts contributing to the new urban planning law
- + Participatory approach in urban planning / university courses
- + Exchange with the other countries in SEA about urban planning
- + Common research project proposal about urban sustainable development and management
- + National workshop in October 2010 on urban development and management
- + Capacity Building / Exchange with other ForUm partners

Contact persons: Mr. Phann Sithan, Mr. Kong Kosal

Germany

- + widening of the network within the German speaking countries
- + books and publications
- + joint teaching and supervision
- + continuation of the homepage, next newsletter
- + common research on transformation processes, risk and conflicts, urban heritage

Contact persons: Prof. Dr. Frauke Kraas, Mrs. Christine Knie

New Country - Activities, Developments and Opportunities

News from the Mindanao Center for Urban Development Studies, by Dr. Anselmo Mercado

Excerpt from the e-mail of Dr. Boy of Thu, dated 29 Oct 2009 about a workshop at Xavier University as the first step to establish the new Mindanao Center for Urban Development Studies.

Hello dear friends of the Urban ForUm!

This is a follow-up information of the ongoing metamorphosis of the Mindanao Center for Urban Development Studies. Last October 27, we held the workshop on the feasibility to establish the MinURBANDEVCenter.

About 50-60 participants from the academe, government, business and civil society (NGOs, COOPs, etc.) from three neighboring provinces of Mindanao attended (including NOEL ALEGRE and yours truly).

No less than the City Mayor of Cagayan de Oro himself participated and gave a talk about the City, the plans for her future development and challenges to realize them. Two other speakers set the tone for the workshop. One was from an NGO network in Manila (Partnership of Philippine Support Service Agencies - PHILSSA, which is very much involved in urban development concerns), the other a local businessman from Cagayan de Oro who gave his vision and perspectives of a Cagayan de Oro in the future.

The participants responded well giving their views as well of their cities and other cities in Mindanao they are familiar with, and how they see the "dream MinURBANDEVCenter" can play a role in urban development. The group agreed to move forward in this "journey of a thousand miles".

I was very pleased with the results and more excited now because the big institutions in this area of the Philippines are seriously considering the proposal and here will be follow-up activities within the next months. We expect a more substantial concept paper proposal (than the original I initially presented) to come out before the end of the year.

I will keep you all posted about this "cocoon" that looks like it wants to emerge into a beautiful butterfly.

All the best to you all.

BoyM



Core Issues and Questions related to the Mindanao Center for Urban Development (Min URBAN DEV Center) by Dr. Anselmo Mercado

In the last Newsletter No.10 from Malaysia the new idea of the Mindanao Center for Urban Development Studies in Cagayan de Oro has been introduced to you. During the Summer School Dr. Boy updated the participants and summarised once more the core questions and issues

Rationale:

Multi-complex issues and challenges of Urbanization and Urban Development

Issues and challenges of Government, Business and Civil Society as driving forces have been confronting and will continue to confront us.

In Mindanao, there is no Center dedicated to the phenomenon of Urbanization, Urban Development and Planning. (There are two institutions in Manila, UP (University of the Philippines) and De la Salle that offer special courses and trainings).

There is a great need for this Center that can benefit many stakeholders.

The "Summer Schools" and the ForUm:

"Ideas have hands and feet. Get them out and they will travel."

This proposal has come about because of the Summer Schools and the ForUm that Noel, Imelda and I have been involved in. The idea of partnership and collaboration among the partner-institutions – can be a great help to this idea. A fledgling Center needs help and support. We need your help.

The Objectives to be discussed

To explore the concept of the Min URBAN DEV Center

To explore a collaborative project with academe, government and civil society to set-up the Center
Resources that can be tapped for support

Possible Partnerships

- Academic – Xavier University, Capitol University, Liceo de Cagayan, University Mindano, University for Science and Technology
- Government – Cagayan de Oro City, etc.
- Civil Society – Various Groups and CS networks in Cagayan de Oro, etc.
- Initial Ideas (After two meetings with the representatives):

Needs to be addressed

Multi components: Research

Education/training/degree courses

Social outreach

Technical needs

NEW Center for Housing and Settlement – Gadjah Mada University, Yogyakarta/Indonesia, sent by Prof. Dr. Hartono

The Gadjah Mada University founded a new Center for Housing and Development. Head of the Center is Prof. Dr. Hartono. Address of the center: PUSPERKIM FG-UGM Kaliurang Street Km.5 Bulaksumur Yogyakarta. Phone/Fax 0274 545965; email : pusperkim@geo.ugm.ac.id

This paper is an excerpt from the concept that has been sent to ForUm by Prof. Dr. Hartono

Background

Housing as the basic right of the people

- Stipulated in the Indonesia basic constitution 1945, chapter 28, 1: *“Everyone deserves the right to live in prosperity mentally and physically, settle a house, have healthy and proper environment, and access to health services.”*
- The 1999 constitution, No 39 on Human Rights mentions that *“Everyone has the right for proper living and boarding.”*
- The 1992 constitution, No 4 on Housing and Settlement chapter 5 declares that: *“Every citizen has the right to stay and/ access and/ own a proper house in healthy, securely, and orderly environment.”*
- The 1992 constitution, No 4 on Housing and Settlement Chapter 3 states that: *“Housing and settlement management is based on the principles of benefit, justice and equity, cooperation and humanity, self confidence, accessibility, and environment sustainability”.*
- The 2005 constitution, No 16 on public apartment (Chapter 3.1.A) specifies that: *“Fulfillment of houses for people especially the low income group (LIG), under certainty of law in the utilization”.*



The Vision

To be the centre of excellence and actively participating in overcoming national problems of settlement, housing, and its environment on the principles of sustainable development, preserving endogenous identity, based on national socio-cultural values, and the multi-disciplinary approach.

The Global issue: Settlement development for sustainable living quality on the basis of community empowerment.

The Mission

1. Establishing a '*center of excellence*' in research and study on settlement, housing, and environmental sustainable development.
2. Developing settlement models, housing and its environment having Indonesian identity to represent variation of regional, cultural, and socio-economic characters within the framework of area decentralization governance.
3. Formulating a management system on settlement, housing, and environmental development in relation to: policy, rules and regulations, financing, partnership, self-capacity, and institution.
4. Developing an information centre for integrated and sustainable settlement, housing and environment.
5. Setting up an education and consultation centre capable of responding to problems and intensifying demands on settlement, housing, and its environment.

Research Issues

- To identify and study problems and policy on settlement, housing and its environment in Indonesia and other developing countries.
- To perform inter-disciplinary research to develop a system on sustainable settlement, housing and its environment.
- To study the management and institution system in regard to environmental aspects of settlement and housing; land management system, land regulation, environmental factors, design, infrastructure, and accessible and fair financing.

Objectives

- Integrated multi-disciplinary research on settlement, housing and its environment.
- Improved quality of consultation, training, counterparting, and community empowerment towards settlement, housing and its environment.
- Consultation and facilitation services on the sustainable development dialogues on settlement, housing and its environment.
- Updated information services on settlement, housing and its environment, with special emphasis on the Indonesian context.
- Initiated special assisted area to socialize and implement research results for the improvement of community wealth and prosperity.

Activities

Training and Consultation

- Conducting training and consultation for government and non-government parties and practitioners on settlement, housing and its environment.
- Improving the quality of learning and education on the basis of integrating and implementing the research and study results of the centre.

Information Center For Housing and Settlement

- Establish database and information systems for the development and service on integrated settlement, housing and its environment.
- Disseminate the systematized and standardized quality information from the results of studies on settlement, housing and its environment as decision making support system for settlement, housing and its environment.

Cooperation and Society Empowerment

- Strengthening and empowering popular participation to develop a sustainable settlement, housing and its environment.
- Constructing networks with related parties and institutions at national level and abroad.

Swot Analysis

Strength

Internal:

- Multidisciplinary character of Gadjah Mada University
- The availability of laboratories and research studies
- Recognition and reputation of GMU in contributing to national development
- The available infrastructure and facilities to support activities of the center

External:

- Cooperation with (technical) departments and institutions in Indonesia (Center of Settlement of Ministry of Public Works, Ministry office of Public Housing, Ministry of Social, Ministry of

- Manpower and Transmigration, Ministry of Cooperative and Small-Medium Business, National Planning Board, National Board of Land Issue, Banks, Regional and Provincial Governments)
- Cooperation with global institutions (in Europe: LUPIS, RIMSY, IHS the Netherlands, UNDP, UN-Habitat)
- Real cooperation with community and stakeholder in the sphere of the three pillars of the University

Weakness

- The study on settlement, housing and its environment conducted so far, lacks the integration of a multi-disciplinary concept.
- Cooperations between GMU with other institutions hitherto have been partial and limited to contribute to national policy settlement, housing and its environment
- An Institution with multi-disciplinary and integrated character so far has not yet been established.

Opportunity

- The problems of settlement, housing and its environment have become complex and demand a lot of intensive and integrated study.
- Lack of information center for the development of integrative settlement, housing and its environment that is easily accessible by all parties.
- The increasing demand of consultation and training on settlement, housing and its environment which is supported by complete and adequate capacity of study and educational systems and resources.

Threat

- Policy on settlement, housing and its environment that has not yet become national agenda priority with partial and sectoral character.
- The complex character of the problem of settlement, housing and its environment needs an integrated and bottom-up solution through increasing roles of local government in the scheme of regional autonomy.
- Environmentally unfriendly lifestyle to conserve settlement, housing and its environment (*unsustainable lifestyle*).
- Low achievement in the socialization during implementation of settlement, housing and its sustainable environment.

Public Space as a Medium for Community Participation in the Development of Yogyakarta Municipality, sent by E. Harmayani, R. Jati, H. Oedijono, S. Sukandi, Y. Windarti

The Indonesian colleagues have started a new project related to the issues of public urban space in Yogyakarta. With some basic financial support from the Gadjah Mada University a survey of "Public Space in Yogyakarta" including mapping of the various plots and documentation of their functions, related meaning, problems, etc. started in November 2009. The following article is giving a short introduction, explaining the background of the project and pointing out research questions and methodological approaches involved.



In general "public space" can be defined by four dimensions. **First**, "public space" from the geographical point of view means the availability of physical space in the interest of the public. At least it is shown by the theories of city public layout designs, including city park, plaza, square, sidewalk, commercial space, city open space, green space, road lines, green line, river banks, and other spaces serving as public domains.



Conceptually, this definition is related to the concepts of location, site, and place in geography. It means that the existence of public space highly depends on the three concepts. This is important because it is related to the definition of public space in the **second** dimension that is, form, function, and meaning. These three aspects are crucial in determining whether the public space is defined clearly, or is still mixed. In many cases, public space is not defined clearly in form, function, and/or meaning, so that it has not been very significant to the public.

The **third** dimension is related to “interest”. A “space” is called a public space when it exists for public interest. However, in reality a public space does not always represent the public interest, but the private interest, government interest, or other interests which later prevent the public from utilizing it.

The **fourth** is historical dimension. The availability of a public space is always related to the historical dimension since the city development in fact also reflects the history of the city itself. For example, in Koeln and Berlin, the availability and function of a public space is optimal since the awareness of the need of a public space is part of history. In fact, the color of the city history is determined by the availability of a public space.



Moreover, an important thing to understand is that a public space cannot be regarded only as a physical space, but also non-physical. Both definitions are integrated and inseparable. It means that the need of a public space has to be put into the two perspectives.



A public space serves an important role as one of the city's elements, serving the social interaction function for the people, for their economic activities, as a place for culture appreciation, as well as for improving the quality of city layout. A public space belongs to the public, or the people. Unfortunately, many public spaces are being replaced by building functions, for example, by the activities of street vendors who occupy the sidewalk or curb, leading to the pedestrians not being able to walk comfortably. On the



other hand, a public space is not considered as a good investment for investors, although it can improve the quality of city layout and the selling value for the buildings in its surroundings which have been or will be built, albeit indirectly. The reason behind this is that most local governments in Indonesia have not paid attention to public spaces. Instead, the city's development is more focused on physical construction in the form of public facility buildings.



The city layout has not taken notice of public places in detail. In the last five years, there has been an increase of environmental cases in Yogyakarta. Pollution (air, water, and soil), layout violation, land use exploitation, and violation to environmental laws are some of the examples. These cases reflect how the city layout planning is not environment-friendly. It is stated in the Law No. 26, Year 2007, Article 29 that public open green space in the city is at least 20 (twenty) percent of the whole city area, and in Article 65, Paragraph (1) that “The layout is managed by the government by involving the people...” and in Paragraph (2) that “The involvement of the people as stated in Paragraph (1) is accomplished by, among others: a. participating in the drafting of layout planning; b. participating in space utilization; and c. participating in the management of space utilization.” People's aspiration, especially the stakeholders', is of absolute importance in participating in the city layout management. The drafting of layout regulations is closely related to the participation of many parties. The stakeholders' aspiration is of high



importance since without their participation, it is difficult to realize the city layout regulations. Therefore, regional regulations on the city layout management must take into account the balance of needs of various sectors.

However, there is a question whether the city can accommodate the people's aspiration when there is no adequate public space. This is related to lifestyle, the availability of service facilities that are stimulating and challenging for the intellectuals, the people's participation in the city's development, as well as the availability of vacancy. In order to create an appropriate public space for the people, there has to be a research on the people's basic needs. In this case, the public space, the city layout quality, and the people's social state are interrelated.

So far, there are some researches on “public space” in Yogyakarta. However, only a few provide comprehensive insight in the form, function, and meaning of “public space”. This insight is important academically since it will extend the understanding and knowledge of the needs of a “public space”. Moreover, the results of this research will provide an input for Yogyakarta Municipality government in the continuous development of Yogyakarta Municipality.

Research Question

Has the public space in Yogyakarta Municipality been able to accommodate the people's needs in supporting the development?

Research Objectives

This research is aimed at:

- a. Identifying the availability of public space in Yogyakarta Municipality;
- b. Conducting a historical study of function change and meaning of the provided public facilities;
- c. Identifying conflict of interest among parties (the government, industrial parties, and the people);
- d. Giving a recommendation to Yogyakarta Municipality government in the provision of public space in Yogyakarta Municipality.

Research's Validity

This research is a research action conducted by Infused (Indonesian Forum for Sustainable Development) Gadjah Mada University Yogyakarta, coordinated by LPPM UGM (The Institute for Research and Community Services) Universitas Gadjah Mada.

The location of the research is Yogyakarta Municipality as a town that has high democratic and historical values for the people and the urban development.

This research is an initial step in Infused's activities which will be the focus of researches and projects of issues related to the continuous development of Indonesia.

Research Methods

Methods used in this research are document study, analysis of secondary data, and qualitative study. Document study and analysis of secondary data are used for identifying the availability of public space in Yogyakarta City. The data sources are related institutions and results of previous studies. Meanwhile, qualitative study is focused on discovering the function and meaning of public space for the stakeholders, i.e. the government, the community and NGOs (civil society), and private parties. These three stakeholders are the representatives of the main components involved in the development of good governance. The data collection technique is in-depth interview, aiming at discovering in-depth information of the function and meaning of the existing public space and of the stakeholders' aspiration on the availability of open space in the future. Aside from that, all stakeholders are to participate in the city development.

The analysis will be conducted by triangulation method, both by using primary and secondary data simultaneously in order to reach a comprehensive conclusion.

Literature References

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Sustainable Urban Tourism - Two new research projects in Thailand, sent by Dr. Monsicha Bejananda

Dr. Monsicha Bejananda from Thailand is informing us about the following two interesting new research projects related to sustainable urban/regional tourism:

Quality of Life in Tourism Community: A Case Study of Ban Prasat Homestay Community, Nakhon Ratchasima¹

This research is funded by Thailand Tourism Development Research Institute (TRI)



The study aims to investigate the tourism-related factors influencing the quality of life of a home-stay community, to assess the quality of life of the community, and to introduce to the local government the framework for development of quality of life and well-being of a home-stay tourism village. The analysis is divided into two parts. The first one deals with establishing the indicators of quality of life in four aspects (i.e., health, social, economic, and environmental aspect). The second part is designed to investigate what are direct and indirect factors influencing the quality of life of the community. It is expected that the outcome of the study will help the local government to formulate the development plan enhancing the well-being as well as the tourism activities of the community.



The tourism capacity assessment of Srisaket² for the formation of a provincial sustainable tourism development policy

This research is funded by the Thailand Research Fund for Graduate Study

This study concentrates on the assessment of the Tourism Development Plan (TDP) of Srisaket Province. The main objectives are to assess the tourism potentiality of the province, to evaluate if Srisaket's TDP has corresponded to the concept of sustainable tourism development, and to provide Srisaket with the tourism development plan that responds to the existing problems and tourism potentiality.

The conceptual framework of the study is mainly related to that of sustainable tourism development. The study aims to answer the questions of the level of local community participation in tourism development planning and of the carrying capacity of major tourism resources in the study areas. The analysis is divided into three parts as follows:

¹ *Nakhon Ratchasima* is a city in the north-east of Thailand and gateway to the Isan. It is the capital of the Nakhon Ratchasima Province and Nakhon Ratchasima district. The city is also commonly known as *Khorat* or *Korat*, which is a short version of the ancient name *Angkor Raj*. It is located at the western edge of the Khorat Plateau and historically has marked the boundary between the Lao and Siamese territory. The municipal area has a population of 145,793.

² *Sisaket* is a town in Northeast Thailand and the capital of the Sisaket province. It covers the tambon Mueang Nuea and Mueang Tai of Mueang Sisaket district, and as of 2005 has a population of 19,769.

- Top fifteen tourism destinations of the province are evaluated based on the concept of carrying capacity in facility, physical, environmental, and psychological aspects.
- Evaluation of the participation level of local community in the study area where the tourism destinations are located.
- The province's tourism development policies are examined to investigate if the policies correspond to the existing tourism potentialities and problems in such a way that tourism sustainable development is promoted.



The results of the study indicate the medium and high level of carrying capacity in most of the tourist destinations. The overall level of community participation in the tourism development plan and management process as perceived by the locals is quite low though the tourism offices' opinion regarding the participation issue is otherwise.

NEW "PAPA" Penang Apprenticeship Programme for Artisans, downloaded from the website of Penang Heritage Trust, <http://www.pht.org.my>
<http://www.pht.org.my/papa-penang-apprenticeship-programme-for-artisans.htm>

Project title: An Apprenticeship / Training Programme for Sustaining Traditional Trades & Crafts in George Town, Penang, Unesco World Heritage Site



The Penang Heritage Trust is launching a programme that actively promotes intangible cultural heritage. This involves assisting artisans and performers whose skills are considered traditional and core to our Penang cultural heritage. In today's world, these skills are few and far in between, apprentices need to be sourced and skills need to be transmitted, in order that we may not lose these precious assets. The individuals themselves who are usually old, may be experiencing difficulties with evictions, high rentals, lack of help, difficulties of transportation, cost of materials, vulnerability and a loss of significance. This proposal assumes that the time is right for rendering assistance and building capacity by promoting apprenticeship.

This project also views promotion, product development and assistance with marketing as integral in achieving sustainability of the skills.



The goal is to perpetuate & develop traditional skills & techniques, transmit these through a prescribed training system, aid in marketing and strive to generate income so that the skills become attractive as a viable life choice career for young people.



It is planned that as far as possible, these artisans be sited in individual shop-houses within a common area, in the heart of George Town. This would make promotion and marketing in terms of a value added site for visitors much easier to manage. It is envisaged that accommodation is possible on the upper floors if so required for either artisan or apprentice. If cultural reasons exist for usage of other areas, this may be incorporated.

The proposed locations are properties of the Khoo Kongsi Temple and Acheen Street Malay Enclave, Penang's most famous heritage attraction, who have undertaken at their own expense the restoration of their clan houses and Malay shophouses, and are now interested in contributing their efforts to the diversity of urban spaces by forging community partnerships and creating projects which promote sustainable development and are socially relevant for the city's World Heritage status.

Application forms are available by the following addresses
<http://www.pht.org.my/papa/application-form.doc>, "<http://www.pht.org.my/papa/application-form.pdf>"

Funding for NGO - Programmes sent by Dr. Eni Harmayani

FUNDS FOR NGOS . ORG

Grants, Resources & Sustainability for International Development

Ibu Maya has sent us a very interesting link to a webpage "FundsforNGOs.org" that gives an overview of funding programmes which are currently available for non governmental organisations (NGO):

<http://www.fundsforngos.org/>

What is funds forNGOS.org?

FundsforNGOs.org is an online initiative, working for the sustainability of NGOs by increasing their access to donors, resources and skills. It uses online technologies to spread knowledge about organizational sustainability, promote creative ideas for long-term generation of institutional funds for development interventions, improve professional efforts in resource mobilization and advocate for increased allocation of donor resources for building the skills and capacities of NGOs.

Latest funds for NGOs

In this section, you will find a wide choice of different funds for NGOs. They cover topics about civil society, epidemics, human rights, poverty, family planning and other similar themes. Some funds are for NGOs from all countries and some are exclusively for developing countries, low income countries or specific regions. Have a look at their [catalogue](#) to find a fund that fits your project.

There is also a very interesting funding programme regarding civil society activities:

United Nations Democracy Fund for Strengthening NGOs and Civil Society

The UNDEF fourth round of funding is open to receive proposals from NGOs to strengthen their voice and increase the participation of all groups in democratic practices. NGOs can submit proposals for grants between \$50,000 and \$500,000 for a period of two years...

Found and Read...Publication hints by Prof. Dr. Frauke Kraas

Dutt, A.K., A.G. Noble, G. Venugopal, S. Subbiah (eds.) (2003): Challenges to Asian Urbanization in the 21st Century. Dordrecht. (Kluwer Academic Publishers)



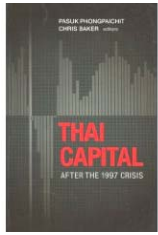
Two broad overview articles on challenges of Asian urbanisation in general as well as several regionally focused case studies (India, East Asia, Vietnam etc.) analyse substantially the patterns, structures and processes of recent urbanisation in Asia and thereby provide a very recommendable insight in different urban settings. Particular attention is drawn to the turning points of urbanisation – be it in post-colonial situations (e.g. in Accra and Mumbai) or transformation (e.g. Vietnam) in respect to questions of port city re-orientation (e.g. Colombo).

Yan Xiaopei, Xue Desheng (eds.) (2007): Urban Development, Planning and Governance in Globalization. Guangzhou. (Sun Yat-Sen University Press) (IGU Commission of „Monitoring Cities of Tomorrow“)

The impressive volume of 618 pages publishes the long papers, emerging from presentations at an International Geographical Union's (IGU) Commission Conference in August 2007. In total, 43 valuable contributions focus on globalisation trends in cities, on policy strategies in planning and governance, they illustrate a variety of processes which take place in the context of socio-economic transformation in post-reform countries and highlight the role of multiple stakeholders in urban development. The case studies mainly focus on the region of East Asia, but several papers are directed to Western and Eastern Europe as well as India and Latin America.

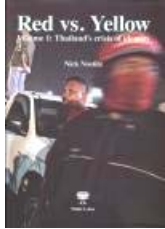
In the context of the same speciality group (i.e. the mentioned IGU Commission) one should hint as well to two earlier books: a) Davies, W.K.D., I.J. Townshend (eds.): Monitoring Cities: International Perspectives. Calgary 2002; b) Pacione, M. (ed.): (2004): Changing Cities. International Perspectives. Glasgow 2004.

Pasuk Phongpaichit, Chris Baker (eds.) (2008): Thai capital after the 1997 crisis. Bangkok. (Silkworm)



The book emerged from a Senior Research Scholar scheme (2003-2006) which aimed at letting „the researchers examine the question“ of the 1997 crisis „from many different angles“ (p. xiii) – an exercise which led to the publication which puts together 10 highly recommendable contributions viewing on processes, causes and lessons learnt – ranging from industry and services over the role of the Crown Property Bureau to political conflicts and the behaviour of Thai firms abroad. The papers shed light on the economic and financial backgrounds of major driving forces of urbanisation – without specifically, though, addressing urban processes.

Nostiz, Nick (2009): Red vs. Yellow. Thailand’s crisis of identity. Vol. 1. Bangkok. (White Lotus Press)



In 2008 suddenly „Thai society’s hidden conflicts came into the open with a vehemence that surprised even many long-term observers. Both to its own population and to foreign countries the Thai state has long projected the image of the „Land of Smiles“ based on a fabricated construct of ‚Thainess‘, supported by a carefully built balance of power between military, politicians, bureaucracy and palace.“ – the author states in the prologue of his book (p. vii). The author is a photographer, based in Bangkok, not an academician, and he describes own observation, far from aiming at a systematic result of research. He puts together different, often controversial, contradicting views, orally told, visually witnessed and partly captured with the camera – which leads to numerous, impressive photographic impressions, from amidst the crowds, partly very drastically compelling situations, tensions, extreme feelings, and death.

Frauke Kraas, Cologne

Upcoming Conferences

International Conference on Higher Education Research, in the Philippines April 28 – May 1, 2010; Info sent by Noel Alegre

The Philippine Association of Institutions for Research, Inc (PAIR) is pleased to announce its International **Conference on Higher Education Research: Utilization, Experience and Discovery** on April 28 – May 1 to be hosted by the University of Northern Philippines, UNESCO World Heritage City of Vigan, Ilocos Sur.

The objectives of the conference are:

(1) to provide an international forum for sharing best practices on research utilization, experience and discovery from the higher education institutions across disciplines; and (2) to recognize distinguished achievements of individuals and institutions in research with international significance.

We are looking for researchers who can (1) present their researches on a new genre – the video documentary; (2) narrate their significant experiences that contributed to the completion of a research program (speech category with audio/visuals), (3) share stories of transformation of university research and publication structures and cultures (best practices category); (4) report new discoveries in the field of expertise (research paper presentations).

We want to recognize **Outstanding International Achievement** to (1) individuals who are researchers, peer reviewers, research managers and publication editors; and institutions which have achieved excellence in (a) printed journal publications and (b) websites for publications.

Participants are expected to submit a one page abstract of their presentation in any of the categories via electronic mail at pairforum@yahoo.com or via webmail at www.pair07.com cc. alfredorabena@yahoo.com.

Deadline of Submission of abstracts	- February 15, 2010
Notification of Accepted Abstracts	- February 28, 2010
Deadline of Submission of Full Paper	- March 10, 2010

For registration and reservation of slots in the dormitory of University of Northern Philippines or hotel accommodation in Vigan City contact: Dr. Alfredo Rabena, Conference Chair, Research Director, University of Northern Philippines, Vigan City Telefax (63) 077 – 722 – 2810, mobile 09172027696, email alfredorabena@yahoo.com; drqvjapos@yahoo.com .

The registration fee is P6000.00 to cover the cost 4 lunches, 1 dinner, 8 snacks, keynote speakers, kit, program, awards and certificates, and ecotour. For foreign participants, they shall be charged \$300.00.

Early bird registration (P 6000.00)	- March 31, 2010
Late registration (P 7,000.00)	- April 1-20, 2010

Paper presentors and conference participants must pay in advance their registration fee through Banco de Oro, Carmen Branch, Cagayan de Oro City PAIR Account # 3220020199 for inclusion in the schedule of presentations.

ICURPT 2010 : "International Conference on Urban, Regional Planning and Transportation" in Paris, France, June 28-30, 2010

<http://www.waset.org/conferences/2010/paris/icurpt/index.php>

The International Conference on Urban, Regional Planning and Transportation aims to bring together academic scientists, leading engineers, industry researchers and scholar students to exchange and share their experiences and research results about all aspects of Urban, Regional Planning and Transportation, and discuss the practical challenges encountered and the solutions adopted.

Important Dates

Paper submission	February 28, 2010
Notification of acceptance	March 31, 2010
Final paper submission and authors' registration	April 30, 2010
Conference Dates	June 28-30, 2010

Paper Submission

All full paper submissions will be peer reviewed and evaluated based on originality, technical and/or research content/depth, correctness, relevance to conference, contributions, and readability. The full paper submissions will be chosen based on technical merit, interest, applicability, and how well they fit into a coherent and balanced technical program. The accepted full papers will be published in the refereed conference proceedings. Prospective authors are kindly invited to submit full text papers including results, tables, figures and references. Full text papers (.doc, .rft, .ps, .pdf) will be accepted only by electronic submission.

Workshops

Researchers are cordially invited to submit a paper and/or a proposal to organize a workshop and actively participate in this conference. Proposals are invited for workshops to be affiliated with the conference scope and topics. The conference workshops provide a challenging forum and vibrant opportunity for researchers and industry practitioners to share their research positions, original research results and practical development experiences on specific new challenges and emerging issues. The workshop topics should be focused so that the participants can benefit from interaction with each other and the cohesiveness of the topics.

Proceedings

The Refereed Conference Proceedings (ISSN: 2070-3740 & ISSN: 2070-3724 reviewed and indexed by Google Scholar, Engineering Index (Compendex), EBSCO, GALE, DOAJ, INTUTE, ScientificCommons and Electronic Journals Library) will be internationally distributed both in Electronic CD-ROM Format and as Proceedings Book. The Refereed Conference Proceedings Book and CD-ROM will be included in each Conference Registrant's Packet.

Registration Fees

Early Conference Registration Late Conference Registration

Regular Author Fees: 450 Euro

Student Author Fees: 300 Euro

Listener Fees : 200 Euro

Regular Author Fees: 500 Euro

Student Author Fees: 350 Euro

Listener Fees : 250 Euro

Special Journal Issue

ICURPT 2010 has teamed up with the International Journal of Natural Sciences and Engineering for publishing a Special Journal Issue on Advances in Urban, Regional Planning and Transportation. All submitted papers will have opportunities of consideration for this Special Journal Issue. The selection will be carried out during the review process as well as at the conference presentation stage. Submitted papers must not be under consideration by any other journal or publication. The final decision, based on peer review reports, will jointly be made by the guest editors and the Editor-in-Chief.

International Conference on Sustainable Architecture and Urban Development, in Amman, Jordan, 12- 14 July, 2010

<http://www.csaar-center.org/conference/saud2010/>

The Second International Conference on
Sustainable Architecture and Urban Development

12- 14 July, 2010 Amman, Jordan

Organized by: The Center for the Study of Architecture in the Arab Region, Jordan. In collaboration with the Ministry of Public Works and Housing, Jordan, and the University of Dundee, School of Architecture, UK

Important Dates

Full paper submission for review February 05, 2010

Notification of acceptance March 20, 2010

Deadline for final papers May 01, 2010

Introduction

The increasing urbanization of many parts of the world coupled with other globally critical issues such as environmental pollution, energy consumption, and resources shortage are resulting in major urban crises in many parts of the world. A strong emphasis nowadays is placed upon improving the sustainability of the built environment "from cradle to cradle". This is attributed to the growing public awareness of the importance of "sustainable development" practices, which also enhances quality of life. Public governance and the construction industry are confronted by the push for sustainability. A fresh and holistic approach to designing, constructing and managing the built environment addressing building and the spatial environment is required, which will need to address buildings and the entire spatial environment. New sets of regulatory practices, indicators, measurements, and priorities are emerging with application at all scales - from individual buildings to the district and city-scale level....

Conference Theme and Research Tracks

We invite participants to submit papers in all areas related to sustainable development, and particularly scholarly work focusing on bridging the gap between theory and practice. The conference welcomes papers from participants from different backgrounds, disciplines and countries. Papers may reflect on a wide spectrum of issues and explore a wide range of solutions. The conference has five research tracks as below. We invite worldwide scholars, architects, planners, policy-makers, engineers, real estate decision makers, educators, and researchers and their counterparts in the environmental design and construction fields to share their experiences and to submit a paper in any of the topics listed under the theme tracks.

Main Conference Topics (please see also the conference website)

- Urban Planning & Urban Design for Sustainability
- Design for Sustainability
- Whole Life Urban Sustainability and its Assessment
- Governance & Local Planning for Sustainability
- Climate Change Versus Sustainability

Submission Guidelines

Abstract submissions should be approximately 600 words and must be in English. Full paper submission could be either in English or Arabic. Abstract and full paper submissions should be sent in MS Word or PDF format. Abstracts should be e-mailed to scientific committee co-chair (saud10@csaar-center.org). Full paper submissions are required to be done online.

Conference Fees and Registration

Participants wishing to attend the Conference are encouraged to register in advance and as early as possible. (please see "online registering")

Conference Proceedings

All papers accepted for publication will be published in a conference proceedings volume.

Journal Publication

A selection of outstanding papers will be published in one of the following peer reviewed print journals

Best Paper Award (3 Awards)

The Best Paper Award is presented to the individual(s) judged by a separate awards committee to have written the best paper appearing in the conference proceedings.

Conference Coordinator: Mohammed AITa'ani, JRES, Jordan

Conference Secretary: Samer Taweel, CSAAR, Jordan, samer @ csaar-center.org

UGEC Conference (Urbanisation and Global Environmental Change), in Arizona, October 17-19, 2010



Opportunities and Challenges for Sustainability in an Urbanizing World, October 17-19, 2010, <http://www.ugec2010.org/>

The 1st International Conference on Urbanization and Global Environmental Change creates the first opportunity for a joint meeting and discussion between international scholars and practitioners who work at the interface of urban areas and global environment change. Our main goal is to promote a stronger collaboration between academics, political decision-makers, and practitioners, acting at local,

regional, and global scales in order to capture the benefits of urbanization, as well as mitigate and adapt to global environmental and socioeconomic change and its impacts.

The UGEC Conference will work closely with the Global Land Project (GLP) Open Science Meeting, held October 17-19. GLP is a joint research project for land systems for the International Geosphere-Biosphere Programme (IGBP) and the International Human Dimensions Programme (IHDP). Both conferences will be held back to back with one overlapping day, in which the two programs will focus on the themes surrounding the urban, land, and climate change interface.

Abstract submission

The Deadline for Abstract Submission is **February 15, 2010**.

<http://www.ugec2010.org/abstract-submission.php>

We invite abstract submissions for oral and poster presentations. We suggest the following seven topics to guide your submissions; however, they should not be viewed as exclusive:

1. Effects of and Responses to Climate Change in Urban Areas
2. Land Use and Land Cover
3. Biodiversity, Habitat Conservation and Urban Areas
4. Health
5. Governance and Institutions
6. Regional Perspectives through Case Studies
7. Constructing Integrated Approaches for Urban Areas and Global Environmental Change

Furthermore, the joint UGEC/GLP day will follow the theme of "Sustainable land systems in the era of urbanization and climate change". Abstracts are welcome under the following topics:

1. Direct and Indirect Interactions of Urban Areas and Land Use Changes
2. Competition for Land
3. Urban Areas and Climate Impacts
4. Impact of Urbanization on a Large Scale (beyond urban areas), Biogeochemical Cycles and Ecosystem Functions
5. Sustainable Cities in Arid Areas

Abstract submissions should be written in English, not exceeding 300 words. The abstracts will be chosen based on clarity, appropriateness of the topic, methodology, originality and contribution to the overall field of research.

SEAGA Conference, November 2010, Vietnam, Info sent by Phann Sithan



SEAGA Southeast Asian Geographers Association

<http://www.seaga.co.nr/seaga-2010/>

“Understanding the changing space, place and cultures of Asia”

SEAGA, the Southeast Asian Geographers Association, is an association of geographers and professionals in related fields like history, the geo and environmental sciences, urban planning and others in academia, education, government and the private sector in the region. The SEAGA Conference 2010 is also the 10th conference that is being organised since the association was established in 1990.

First Call for Papers

This is a first call for papers on the following themes. Abstracts of papers are to be sent to SEAGA Conference Organising Committee at seagahanoi@live.com **by 31 March 2010**.

Three types of proposals will be considered

1. Paper presentation (15- 20 minutes)
2. Specialised Panel Discussions (90 minute session comprising 3-4 papers)
3. Workshops (90 minute workshop)

Conference Theme

Changing space, place and cultures of Asia is the conference theme in 2010 and we are inviting multidimensional perspectives of this issue from scholars, policy makers and entrepreneurs as well as researchers and teachers. The aim of the conference is to advance the discourse on the issues of changing space, place and cultures in Asia, so as to inform citizens, enterprises and governments in their actions.

Major themes of interest:

1. Changing Physical Landscapes in Southeast Asia
2. Living with Global Environmental Change
3. SE Asia and Environmental Management
4. Changing Population, carrying capacities and ecological footprints
5. Sustainable Development and Southeast Asia
6. Politics, policies and sustainability
7. Health and development issues
8. Cities and sustainable development
9. Economic growth, competitiveness and sustainable development
10. Changing Agriculture in SE Asia
11. Geographies of rural transition
12. New regionalisms in Southeast Asia
13. Sustainability and Education
14. Geography Education
15. Field-based teaching in Southeast Asian geography
16. Remote sensing and GIS: their contribution to environmental management in Southeast Asia

IGC COLOGNE 2012 Down to Earth", 26 – 30 August 2012, Germany



The **32nd International Geographical Congress in Cologne** focuses scientific attention on the core themes of humanity. Researchers from around the world are expected in Cologne in 2012. Geographers bring the wide-ranging perspectives and methodology of their subject to bear on four major thematic complexes and contribute to the solution of urgent scientific and socio-political issues – bringing research down to earth:

- * Global Change and Globalisation
- * Society and Environment
- * Risks and Conflicts
- * Urbanisation and Demographic Change

Registration

Reduced conference fees: until March 10th 2012

Registration for the congress and field trips: up to May 15th 2012 (field trips are limited in the number of participants)

Last registration: until July 31st 2012