Summary Report

The Innovative FD Workshop and the CLMV Student Conference, 24-26 August 2018

for

"Creation of Innovative Educational System for Sustainable Society and Urban Growth"

FY2016 Re-Inventing Japan Project for the Type B category (ASEAN)
Support for the formation of Collaborative Programs
with Universities in Asia

MEIJI UNIVERSITY

**24-26 August 2018 | Meiji University ASEAN Center
Bangkok, Thailand**

Final Version

Table of Contents

Executive Summary

Introduction

This conference, held from 24-26 August 2018, was attended by 96 participants including 61 students from seven countries, and was hosted by Meiji University at the Meiji University ASEAN Center in Bangkok, Thailand. The conference was a part of the Japanese Government funded Meiji University's project "Creation of Innovative Educational System for Sustainable Society and Urban Growth" as selected under the FY2016 Re-Inventing Japan Project for the Type B category (ASEAN), aiming to support the formation of Collaborative Programs with Universities in Asia. It marked the second annual meeting of the involved partner institutions and the first time all four CLMV countries were represented along with Thailand, Singapore and Japan.

Participating faculty and students represented the following universities:

- Meiji University, Japan
- Meiji University, ASEAN Center
- Srinakharinwirot University, Thailand
- Chulalongkorn University, Thailand
- Thammasat University, Thailand
- Royal University of Fine Arts, Cambodia
- National University of Singapore

- National University of Laos
- Yangon Technological University, Myanmar
- Foreign Trade University, Vietnam
- University of Social Sciences and Humanities, Vietnam National University

Opening sessions took place in the morning of Friday, 24 August 2018, which was moderated by Dr. Hiroyuki Konuma, Professor and the Director of Meiji University ASEAN Center, and included speeches and keynote presentations from the following distinguished guests and organizing faculty:

- Dr. Narongsak Laosrisin, Associate Professor and Vice President for Administration, Srinakharinwirot University
- Mr. Masaharu Kuba, First Secretary, Embassy of Japan, Thailand (his speech was delivered by Dr. Konuma on Mr. Kuba's behalf)
- Professor Kosaku Dairokuno, Professor and Vice President, International, Meiji University
- Dr. Masami Kobayashi, Professor and Vice President, Director of International Program in Architecture and Urban Design, Meiji University
- Mr. Curt Garrigan, Chief, Sustainable Urban Development, Environment & Development Division, UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)

The conference consisted of two primary activities, both spanning the entirety of the three-day schedule, as well as field visits to the working sites/offices of two Bangkok-based community development organizations. Below is a summary of activities, followed by summarized conclusions of the conference.

Summary Results

The Innovative FD Workshop provided a venue for participating faculty members to share their work from a diverse range of disciplines as it relates to urban sustainability. Following the intensive lecture series, faculty provided feedback on how they felt the session contributed to the future of the project and the creation of the innovative educational system for sustainable society and urban

growth.

The following points summarize key reactions and suggestions made by participants:

- Cross-disciplinary knowledge sharing, multi-sectoral collaboration and an integrated approach are of the utmost importance and value.
- The vastly differing contexts and stages of economic development status among CLMV countries, Thailand, Singapore and Japan provide valuable comparison, learning opportunities from respective experience and future perspectives to the issues of sustainability and urban growth.
- Learning from field experiences, integrating them in educational and research systems, and returning back the educational knowledge and research results to the field for the benefit of communities, should be promoted as one of key sustainable educational approaches.
- Balancing top-down governance and community-based, bottom-up development is key to sustainable urban growth in CLMV countries.
- Political issues and urban issues are intimately intertwined.
- Communities can build-up strong social capital when they unite themselves to cope with various disasters and external pressures.
- More structured topics and discussion series could improve the program and provide clearer outcomes.
- Developing a formal knowledge sharing platform and/or publication could further enhance the desired outcome of the conference.
- Linking knowledge to practice is the ultimate goal of the "innovative educational system".

At the CLMV Students Conference, students were separated into four groups, each given a specific urban issue or theme to focus on. The groups were then asked to prepare a presentation in which they applied a comparative, cross-disciplinary perspective to each, which was shared during the final session of the conference. They highlighted topics such as urban slum issues, traffic problems, community based urban planning, etc.

The four themes are outlined below.

Group A: Urban Slums - The Garbage Problem in Klong Toey Slum
Group B: Urban Planning & Civic Participation for Sustainable Urban Development
Group C: Comparison of Urbanization Issues in CLMV, Japan, Thailand and Singapore
Group D: Lessons from Japan's Urbanization for ASEAN Countries

Field work was organized during the afternoon of Friday, 24 August 2018. Conference attendees were split into two groups to attend field visits to two separate organizations doing community-driven urban development work in Bangkok: The Sikkha Asia Foundation (SAF) in Klong Toey slum, and Community Organizations Development Institute (CODI). These field visits were an important component, as it gave both attending faculty and students an opportunity to learn from real experience and work being done to address some of the most pressing urban issues in Thailand.

Summary Conclusions

- Rapid urban development, increasing globalization and economic opportunity, and the need for effective political decision-making must be reconciled with the presence of low-quality, inadequate infrastructure, increasing inequality, and protecting the environment and resilience of communities.

- The future of the project would rely on a commitment to increased scientific research and collaborative studies, support of faculty development through an international cooperative network and knowledge sharing platform, and the further development of a 'project-based learning' approach that directly links research and community-based interventions for the benefit of end stakeholders.

- Creation of the innovative educational system for sustainable society and urban growth would necessitate faculty, students and practitioners to operate in increasing complexity, and to effectively work in a trans-disciplinary and multi-sectoral environment.

- Urbanization and economic growth lead to many unforeseen consequences, such as the issues now facing in Japan in the rural and urban divide, and an inadequate social protection and welfare system for an aging society in many developing countries. CLMV countries must think and plan for future problems, not only the immediate issues facing their cities today. Sharing experience and knowledge gained in Japan would be very vital for CLMV countries in meeting future challenges of rapid urbanization.

- CLMV countries can learn from past experience and problems faced in more developed societies like Japan, Singapore and Thailand, which is why projects like this are so important in building lasting partnerships well into the future.

- This conference was an important step in moving towards the final goal of the program: the creation of an innovative educational system that tackles the difficult problems of urban growth and aids in the development of a sustainable society. For the next year, more structured topics and themes should be identified for country presentation and for student conference.

- All involved noted the benefit and importance of the collaborative environment offered by the conference. CLMV participants especially recognized the benefit to their institutions as a means of developing academic and professional partnerships as they continue to build the knowledge base of their faculty and students surrounding issues of urban sustainability. Likewise, their Japanese counterparts felt the new partnerships with CLMV institutions plus Thailand and Singapore, as well as the emphasis on cross-disciplinary solutions and knowledge sharing, would continue to be of great mutual benefit to all partners

- Political and economic systems, trade, culture, and geography all contribute to a wide range of urban experiences among the participating countries. However, as the various presentations and discussions showed, there is also much overlap, and the cumulative knowledge provides important learning opportunities.

- All participants felt inspired and encouraged by the community-driven development models seen at CODI and Khlong Toey, as well as other examples of successful urban sustainability practices. This became the prevailing theme for the conference, that the educational systems of the future must find innovative ways to link knowledge and research to practical action. And though there is still much work to be done in creating this educational system, the shared experiences and proposed actions spoken of over this three-day conference were an important step towards realizing this goal and preparing our future leaders and practitioners to be innovators for a more sustainable future.

1. Background and General Introduction

Meiji University's project "Creation of Innovative Educational System for Sustainable Society and Urban Growth" is a Japanese Government funded program as selected under the FY2016 Re-Inventing Japan Project for the Type B category (ASEAN), aiming to support the formation of Collaborative Programs with Universities in Asia. The "Re-Inventing Japan Project" is based under the Japanese Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology that aims to develop human resources capable of being globally active and engaged citizens, as well as strengthen the globalization of universities.

This project aims to develop urban visions suited for Asian contexts, learning from the experiences of Japan's era of high economic growth and rapid urban expansion. From this vision, the project goal is to create an innovative educational system through collaboration with 15 partner institutions in the CLMV (Kingdom of Cambodia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Republic of the Union of Myanmar and Socialist Republic of Viet Nam) and other ASEAN countries.

The project consists of two phases: collaborating with the partner institutions to develop urban visions suited for Asian contexts through the "Envisioning phase" and conducting Innovative Faculty Development (FD) workshops and CLMV Student Conferences to organize educational curriculums based on these shared visions through the "Education phase".

This conference, held from 24-26 August 2018, was attended by 96 participants including 61 students from seven countries, and was hosted by Meiji University at the Meiji ASEAN Center in Bangkok, Thailand. It marked the second annual meeting of the involved partner institutions and the first time all four CLMV countries were represented at project proceedings, together with Thailand, Singapore and Japan. Participating faculty and students represented the following universities:

- Meiji University, Japan
- Meiji University, ASEAN Center
- Srinakharinwirot University, Thailand
- Chulalongkorn University, Thailand
- Thammasat University, Thailand
- Royal University of Fine Arts, Cambodia
- National University of Singapore

- National University of Laos
- Yangon Technological University, Myanmar
- Foreign Trade University, Vietnam
- University of Social Sciences and Humanities, Vietnam National University

The conference consisted of two primary activities, both spanning the entirety of the three-day schedule:

Innovative Faculty Development (FD) Workshop provided a venue for participating faculty to share research methods and findings related to urban sustainability in their respective countries. The FD Workshop aimed to make improvements to pedagogy and shared thoughts toward urban visions suited for Asian contexts.

CLMV Student Conference was a student-led, thematic work session at which students discussed issues related to urban sustainability in their respective countries and applied a comparative, cross-disciplinary perspective to propose comprehensive policies and solutions to problems.

The following report serves as an official record of the conference, and aims to summarize the presentations, discussions, and conclusions that came out of the three-day meeting.

2. **Opening Session** | Friday, 24 August 2018

Opening sessions took place in the morning of Friday, 24 August 2018, and were moderated by Dr. Hiroyuki Konuma, Professor and the Director of Meiji University ASEAN Center. The session included speeches and keynote presentations from several distinguished guests and organizing faculty members. Below is a summary of their remarks:

Opening Welcome Speech
Dr. Narongsak Laosrisin, Associate Professor and Vice President for Administration, Srinakharinwirot University

The conference was opened by Dr. Narongsak Laosrisin, Associate Professor and Vice President for Administration at Srinakharinwirot University. Dr. Laosrisin offered a warm welcome to all participants and expressed his deep gratitude to distinguished guests and participants for making the discussions possible. He also outlined his support for the important purpose of the workshop:

- To discuss the common issues facing ASEAN and CLMV countries of infrastructure development in urban areas from perspectives of architecture, political science, economics, and information and communication;
- Also, the broadening of perspectives regarding practical competence for Srinakharinwirot University administrators and other educators who are looking for effective practices;
- And to foster critical thinking, problem solving, and communication skills of the students.

Guest Address
Mr. Masaharu Kuba, First Secretary, Embassy of Japan, Thailand (speech delivered by Dr. Konuma on Mr. Kuba's behalf)

Following Dr. Laosrisin's welcoming speech, Dr. Hiroyuki Konuma, Director of Meiji University ASEAN Center, provided a guest address on behalf of Mr. Masaharu Kuba, First Secretary, Embassy of Japan, Thailand. He offered his deep gratitude to all participants and expressed his pleasure in seeing the continued success of the Re-Inventing Japan Project. He wished to congratulate Meiji University and its ASEAN and CLMV partner universities for the continued collaboration in implementing the project.

Mr. Kuba pointed out the timeliness of this project in its support of the world's commitment to achieve the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by the year 2030, as well as some of the challenges this conference aims to address:

- Including, among others, eradication of poverty and hunger, reduction of inequality, as well as making cities inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable.
- It is estimated 60% of the world population will reside in cities by 2030, while the slum populations in Southeast Asia represent nearly 30% of the total urban population.
- Major obstacles exist for sustainable development, such as heavy traffic, pollution, lack of adequate infrastructure, transport, housing, social services, and disaster management.
- It will be crucial to build up the knowledge and capacity of young generations and associated educational systems in formulating and implementing sustainable, inclusive and community centered urban development plans and strategies in each country.

Mr. Kuba reaffirmed the commitment and continued support of the Japanese Government, asserting that these challenges and goals cannot be met alone, which is why it is so important to build the strong collaborative partnerships detailed in this project.

Opening Remarks
Professor Kosaku Dairokuno, Professor and Vice President, International, Meiji University

Official opening remarks were made by Professor Kosaku Dairokuno, Vice President of Meiji University who is responsible for the accomplishment of this project. On behalf of Meiji University, and the School of Political Science and Economics, he expressed his deep gratitude for everyone's participation in the Innovative FD Workshop and CLMV Students Conference, with the aim of creating an innovative educational system for sustainable society and urban growth. He expressed his continued commitment to keep the funding in place for the project through the Re-Inventing Japan Project, as it is funded through the year 2016-2021.

Professor Dairokuno remarked how over the last 20 years, the ASEAN region, in particular the CLMV countries, have experienced rapid economic growth, leading to significant challenges. He then outlined some of the key challenges and the relevance of this conference in addressing them:

- Along with this economic growth has been the lack of adequate physical and social infrastructure, leading to problems such as environmental pollution, heavy traffic congestion, inadequate provision of housing and clean water, and a widening income gap between the rich and poor of society.
- It is increasingly important to develop new models for urban growth in Asian cities in order to achieve the UN SDGs and meet these challenges.
- In this regard, the Japanese experience of urban growth is very relevant, in which rapid economic growth following the end of WWII led to many of the same issues now facing CLMV countries.

Through sharing experiences and learning from each other, Professor Dairokuno expressed his hope that, despite cultural, political and economic differences, the participating faculty and students at this conference would bring something useful and important back to their home countries to address the challenges of the future.

Keynote Speech #1 – Urbanization in Asia and the Pacific
Mr. Curt Garrigan, Chief, Sustainable Urban Development, Environment & Development Division, UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)

The Opening Session of the conference included two keynote speeches. The first was provided by Mr. Curt Garrigan, Chief of the Sustainable Urban Development Section, UN ESCAP.

He provided a brief overview of UN ESCAP and the UN framework for achieving the 2030 Agenda and SDGs, especially SDG 11: *Make cities inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable.* Mr. Garrigan then went on to summarize the key issues facing the region, and some of the proposed solutions defined by the UN and its partners. They are as follows:

- Progress is being made towards the SDGs in Asia and the Pacific, however there has been regression on SDGs 10, 11 and 12. City growth is increasing inequality and causing myriad issues.
- Cities also have the most power to address these issues, as cities represent 80% of regional GDP output, and 60% of the global urban population lives in the region.
- Rapid urban growth has led to challenges in natural resource management, energy supply and demand, disaster risk management, and environmental degradation. Generally, infrastructure is not keeping pace with growth.
- Resource scarcity, most importantly water scarcity, will lead to future conflicts and crisis

without proper management.
- Solutions to these issues must be integrated. They must integrate renewables and find alternate energy sources. Infrastructure development must be more efficient, and find better ways to recycle, reuse, and integrate "soft", green infrastructure.
- Planning must anticipate future conflict, and consider environmental resources first, and then how development compliments the natural environment through nature-based solutions.

Mr. Garrigan concluded his presentation by providing five major ways forward in the path towards sustainable society and urban growth:

- Attract impactful investments and ensure collaborative partnerships: Create market opportunities and pursue technologies;
- Integrated planning to optimize resources: Scale up the use of nature-based solutions, including green and blue infrastructure in urban and peri-urban areas;
- Better understanding of water cycles and resource consumption patterns to identify policy interventions and behavioral changes: Assure investment in key areas to assure resilient and efficient infrastructure and systems;
- Apply circular economy approaches to reduce waste and address pollution issues;
- Plan growth and urbanization to allow for land value capture, and enhance ability to design infrastructure and systems to meet demands and meet social and environmental concerns.

Keynote Speech #2 – What is the Real Happiness for Asian People? Envisioning the Future Life and its Environment as Professionals
Dr. Masami Kobayashi, Professor and Vice President, Director of International Program in Architecture and Urban Design, Meiji University

The second keynote speech was provided by Dr. Masami Kobayashi.

Dr. Kobayashi began his presentation with an overview of Japanese modernization and urbanization, and some of the lessons that could be learned for the benefit of ASEAN and CLMV countries. He then discussed what "happiness" means for people, and how achieving the UN SDGs may help society achieve real happiness. Key points from his presentation are as follows:

- 1960s Japan faced rapid urban growth and many of the same issues as CLMV countries. Japanese government took a strong, top-down approach with a focus on: Extensive housing distribution; planning and construction of new towns; urban development for better economy (demolition); infrastructure construction as national projects.
- Paradigm shift and Environmental issues. Now facing different issues in the 21st century: Urban dwellings with a shrinking population; renewal of the existing urban fabric (disaster management and prevention); preservation and reevaluation of cultural stocks; restoration of destroyed environmental stocks; town management based on citizen participation.
- Tokyo has undergone constant destruction and reconstruction through its existence. WWII destroyed much of Tokyo, leading to major reconstruction effort and rural migration. Housing and transportation infrastructure constructed on a massive scale. Standard of living increased for all Japanese.
- Major issues still exist within Tokyo and other Japanese cities: Though Japan has overcome the pollution issues, it has still congestion (both auto and transit), increasing homelessness, high rates of depression and suicide.
- Japan ranks 51 in 2018 World Happiness Report, whereas Singapore (26) and Thailand (32) both rank higher. CLMV countries rank higher in some categories than Japan. How can Japan learn from these societies for the betterment of its society and urban future?

3. Innovative FD Workshop Session 1 | Friday, 24 August 2018

3.1 Introduction

The Innovative FD Workshop provided a venue for participating faculty to share research methods and findings related to urban sustainability in their respective countries. It was an exciting opportunity for colleagues to learn from other's experiences and reflect on how they applied to their own countries and urban contexts. Topics varied, reflective of the diversity of disciplines represented in the workshop, with research interests ranging from urban design and analytics, foreign trade and cooperation, disaster risk management, informal settlements and slums, social capital in the city, and migration. The workshop was formatted so each participating faculty member had 30-minutes for a presentation, followed by a question and answer session.

The Innovative FD Workshop Session 1 speakers proceeded in the following order:

- Cambodia, Royal University of Fine Arts (RUFA)
- Laos, National University of Laos

3.2 Summary of Presentations

New Urban Form - Conducting Road & Street Pattern Research: Russey Keo District Phnom Penh
Mr. Kim Sophanna, Lecturer in Architecture and Urbanism, Faculty of Architecture and Urbanism, Royal University of Fine Arts (RUFA), Phnom Penh, Cambodia

Key Points:

- In Phnom Penh, Cambodia, rapid urban growth occurred following the end of the more than twenty year political and humanitarian crisis, in the early 1990's.
- Before 1994, Phnom Penh was considered a relatively compact, well-planned Asian city. Following 1994, due to informal settlements and unchecked development, the city footprint expanded by nearly 10km to the north, west, and south, bringing numerous urban issues with it.
- Russey Keo District provides a prime example of the disorder and neglect found in many of the informal settlements of Phnom Penh.
- Sharp increases of squatter homes along the canal, railway, and riverbanks in the area have led to large neighborhoods of people without access to basic utilities and services, flooding and drainage issues, and poor waste management.
- Disorganized, fast-paced development, has led to informally designated streets and transportation networks, often leaving the Russey Keo District largely disconnected from the rest of Phnom Penh.
- The street network must be "healed" and formalized, which will make it easier to provide access to other services.
- However, political indecision and miscalculation has left these issues largely unaddressed.

Question & Answer:

- *Question: What was the major impact of the political situation on urbanization?*
- Answer: Due to the lack of authority in the city following the end of the Cambodian crisis, when people arrived there was no direction or plan for development, leading to the

disorganized spread of informal settlements.

- *Question: What impact is foreign investment having on Phnom Penh?*
- Answer: Most investment is coming from the Chinese in the form of casinos or private condominiums. The general feeling is that this new development is "not for Cambodians", but rather for foreigners, both Chinese and Western.

A Glance at Lao Higher Education – National University of Laos
Mr. Phouvong Phimmakong, Deputy Director, Office of International Relations, National University of Laos

Key Points:

- The National University of Laos (NOUL) was established in 1996, and remains the first and only national higher education institution in Laos.
- It has a vision to become a center of excellence in academics, research and human resources development for the national socio-economic development, and to be recognized at both regional and international levels.
- NOUL has a goal to expand its international partnerships within the ASEAN region, as well as outside, with countries such as Japan.
- It is especially interested in expanding its research networks into other regions, seeking funding for young researchers and faculty, and working with partners to develop research capacity.
- NOUL is still young and underdeveloped compared to many of the higher education institutions in the region, and it sees the collaborative partnership of this conference as an excellent opportunity for further development for the betterment of Lao people and the region.

Question & Answer:

- *Question: To participate in international workshops and trainings, it is important to establish international programs with English speaking faculty and students. How is NOUL developing English training and faculty development?*
- Answer: Many current faculty and students at NOUL already have sufficient English abilities to study and lecture in English, however there are no international programs at NOUL, at this time. It is something NOUL would like to establish in the near future.

4. CLMV Students Conference Session 1 | Friday, 24 August 2018

Following the Opening Session, all participating students joined the CLMV Students Conference Session 1. Students from Meiji University in Japan, as well as from the attending universities in Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Vietnam, Thailand, and Singapore came together for the student-focused portion of the weekend.

The session began with an orientation conducted by Professor Takane Kawashima, Associate Professor of School of Information and Communication, Meiji University, which outlined the structure of the collaborative activities the students would be undertaking.

Students were then separated into four groups, each having a mixture of students from various disciplines and countries. The groups were given a specific urban issue or theme to focus on, and were asked to prepare a presentation in which they applied a comparative, cross-disciplinary perspective to each.

The four themes are outlined below:

Group A: Urban Slums - The Garbage Problem in Klong Toey Slum
Group B: Urban Planning & Civic Participation for Sustainable Urban Development
Group C: Comparison of Urbanization Issues in CLMV, Japan, Thailand and Singapore
Group D: Lessons from Japan's Urbanization for ASEAN Countries

For most students, this was the first time they had an opportunity to engage with other students from outside their home country on issues related to urban growth and sustainability, providing a unique opportunity to learn from the differing viewpoints and contexts that each student brought to the conference. Therefore, the majority of Session 1 was spent by students introducing themselves to each other and determining a plan for researching and presenting on their issue.

5. **Field Work** | Friday, 24 August 2018

5.1 Introduction

During the afternoon of Friday, 24 August 2018, conference attendees were split into two groups to attend field visits to two separate organizations doing community-driven urban development work in Bangkok. These field visits were an important component of the weekend, as it gave both attending faculty and students an opportunity to learn from real experience and work being done to address some of the most pressing urban issues in Thailand.

Below is a summary of the visits and the programs being undertaken by each organization.

5.2 Visit to Klong Toey Slum

On 24 August, a group of 46 participants (36 students and 10 teachers/staff) visited Klong Toey Community 4 and observed the slum areas and learned about the activities of Sikkha Asia Foundation (SAF) which has been assisting Klong Toey slum dwellers, especially children, in improving their living conditions and promoting various educational programs. SAF was established in 1991 in Klong Toey as a local institution of Shanti Volunteer Association (SVA) Japan.
The group arrived at the SAF Head Office at around 14:00 hours and met with Mr. Yagisawa, who is the regional Coordinator of SVA. He briefed the group about Klong Toey Slum, which is a home to nearly 100,000 people including foreign workers from neighboring countries Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, etc., (consisting approximately 10% of the total Klong Toey slum population).

The group was divided into 4 small groups and visited slum areas escorted by SAF/SVA staff. The group also visited vocational training program sites (making handcrafts), children library, FEEMUE KLONG TOEY program, and the handicraft shop managed by SAF. After the visits, the group gathered together at the conference room of SAF and exchanged their views with Mr. Yagisawa and his staff. It was indicated that the slum dwellers have established their self-help communities including savings and credit scheme managed by themselves, and their living conditions have been improved, although they still depend on short term work or unsecured income. Mr. Yagisawa encouraged students not to end their experience with only visit or only study, but to connect themselves with Klong Toey for follow up actions to assist the slum drawers in a whatever way is feasible. The group left the venue at around 16:40 hours and returned hotel at around 18:00 hours.

5.3 Visit to CODI Head Office

The other group of visitors, consisting of 25 participants (20 students and 5 teachers/staff) met with Ms. Thipparat Noppaladarom, Advisor and Former Director of Community Organizations Development Institute (CODI), hosted at their headquarters in northeast Bangkok. CODI is a public organization committed to community-driven slum upgrading and community housing development in Thailand. It is part of the Ministry of Social Development and Human Security and has been in existence since 2000.

CODI is recognized internationally as one of the more innovative community development models in Southeast Asia. It's approach to urban housing and slum upgrading runs counter to many other government-led programs that focus more on the direct supply of public housing or the complete restructuring of communities through infrastructure upgrades and land acquisition. Instead, CODI takes the approach of supporting communities to initiate their own development and has a philosophy that the community must be involved in *all* steps of the process, including planning,

finance, construction, and management.

In most informal settlements, or slums, residents lack both the organizational capacity and financial means to upgrade and formalize their communities. This is where CODI focuses its efforts, especially the Baan Mankong National Collective Housing Program, which directly translates to "secure housing". Baan Mankong acts as a coordinating program that directs financing in the form of soft loans and government subsidy directly to community cooperatives.

Before receiving any financial support, these cooperatives must first amass a savings fund accumulated through the collective investment of community residents of no less than 10% of the proposed loan. The cooperative then acts as the leader in a collaborative effort to plan for the use of finances for upgrading of housing and community services, while also being responsible for the repayment of the low-interest loans to CODI. CODI helps facilitate these efforts through technical support and conflict resolution, but largely lets the communities act in their own interest. Their approach is to support the community to develop themselves, rather than do the development for them.

CODI and its Baan Mankong program have worked with communities in 76 out of 77 of Thailand's provinces to implement upgrading projects in more than 1,900 communities in 345 towns and cities, providing legal entity and secure housing to nearly 100,000 households. Loans have been repaid at a 97.5% rate. In addition to the housing and services that have been built, their programs have helped build organizational capacity and hard skills within the communities they work, further contributing to the "self-help" philosophy that guides their work.

Question & Answer:

Visitors from the conference were impressed with CODI's work in Thailand and were eager to learn more. A number of questions were posed to clarify how the Baan Mankong program had been so successful, and whether or not they thought it was a sustainable model for the future.

- *Question: Does CODI believe the program will continue to see government support for their programs in the future?*
- Answer: The program has already existed for 15 years, which already shows longevity and sustainability. Now, with the renewed focus on urban development and housing through the UN Sustainable Development Goals, especially SDG 11, support has only increased. One of the most important reasons for the program's success has been its support of a 20-year housing and development plan initiated by the National Housing Authority. Having long-term goals, and successfully helping to achieve those goals, helps ensure continued government support.

- *Question: How is the loan repayment rate so high (97.5%)? This is surprising considering the lack of financial means within the communities CODI works.*
- Answer: The first step any community must commit to when entering into the Baan Mankong program is financial planning. CODI supports the community in assessing the financial capacity of the community, including total income, expenses, and ability to repay a loan, before measuring its loan in accordance to this capacity, and then helps develop a realistic repayment plan. Also, the requirement of a community cooperative and savings group means communities are forced to collaborate and build trust amongst themselves. This builds community ownership and supports the legitimacy of community leaders that collect payments. Ultimately, it is this community ownership and trust that leads to such a high repayment rate.

- *Question: What is the connection between the community cooperative and savings group and the physical design/planning of the community upgrades?*
- Answer: It is generally uncommon for very low-income communities to have organized groups that collaborate on community issues. The founding of a cooperative and savings group forces the community to come together and develop the ability to work and collaborate together. After trust is built, the cooperative leads the effort to survey the community, both from a financial aspect, as well as housing/community needs. It is not until the major issues have been collectively identified that CODI supports design and planning efforts by bringing in architects and planners to help with community design and investment plans that are within the budget of their loan.

- *Question: Do you think there is an opportunity for traditional financial institutions to get involved and support the scaling of your programs?*
- Answer: Unfortunately, traditional financial institutions in the banking sector are very risk averse, and they often see these non-traditional loan structures with low-income communities as a risk they are unwilling to take. However, CODI is working to help open new channels for low-interest loans and post-finance mechanisms, and many in the banking sector are beginning to understand the low-risk, high-reward opportunity of these types of loan structures.

6. Reflection of Field Work and Discussions | Saturday, 25 August 2018

6.1 Klong Toey

Key Reflections:

- Students, especially those from Japan, expressed their shock at the living conditions of residents in Klong Toey. They remarked how the visit made them reflect on how lucky they are to have comfortable, secure living situations, and easy access to safe and nutritious food and water. Others expressed their shock at the proximity of the slums to the central business districts of Bangkok.

- One student from Meiji University reflected that he too was shocked by his visit to Klong Toey, but for different reasons. He was surprised to see that many residents owned smart phones, HD televisions, and laptops. He realized that though living conditions were poor, the communities in Klong Toey were stronger than some in Japan, and they helped each other. Instead of feeling sorry for Klong Toey residents, he remarked that he would like to learn how he can further support them in their community development.

- One Japanese professor remarked that they were surprised not just by the housing and living conditions in Klong Toey, but also the lack of roads and basic infrastructure. They said they are aware of much research that has been done into Klong Toey slum, but the conditions of the area show there has not been adequate action or investment following such studies.

- Professor from Cambodia reflected that he felt familiar in Klong Toey slum. However, he felt that when compared to the slums in Phnom Penh, Klong Toey is in better condition. The organization, access to community and educational facilities, were greatly improved over the conditions of slums in Cambodia. He reflected on how wanting to learn more about how these improvements could be made in Phnom Penh.

6.2 Community Organizations Development Institute (CODI)

Key Reflections:

- Professor from Myanmar felt familiar with the conditions of informal settlements and slums due to her work in Yangon. However, she remarked how there are no organized slum upgrading programs like CODI's, in Myanmar. She said there are workshops and professionals doing worth with communities, but the government is not involved or supportive of such initiatives. Her visit to CODI made her feel the Myanmar government must get involved.

- Professor from Laos reflected that he was very impressed with the work being done at CODI and in Thailand, in general. He felt it was very important for his home country to learn from.

6.3 General discussions

On being "shocked":

- 25% of Thailand, and 30% of Southeast Asia's urban population reside in slums. These communities represent the "real" world, so it's important we see it, try to understand it, and if we are "shocked", we must learn the reasons behind that feeling so we can determine how best to better the situation of slum dwellers in the region.

- Those that had researched slums in Thailand, Klong Toey in particular, remarked that though students visiting the slums for the first time may be "shocked", it is important to note that things *have improved*. Reblocking, canal switches, paved roads, and other improvements are noticeable. NGO work has led to improvement.

- Important to consider how "success" is defined when thinking about slum upgrading. It is not only defined by housing and living conditions, but also community strength and resilience. Architects can't *just* build, but must also consider social dynamics.
  - *Example:* Recently installed, well-designed public space in Klong Toey now neglected and largely filled with trash. Well intentioned intervention but did not consider the wider community issue of waste and facility management.

- Meiji Vice President Professor Kosaku Dairokuno noted that many young Japanese do not realize that in the 1950s, Japan had many slums in its cities. Following WWII, rapid urbanization occurred in a similar manner as is now being seen in CLMV countries (and Thailand). The Japanese government then took measures to improve the standard of living for all Japanese, especially the urban poor. It is important to remember where we started, and to consider the lessons that CLMV countries can learn from this process.

6.4 Student Presentations: Country Profiles

Following the Reflection on Field Work session, student groups provided brief presentations profiling the various states of urbanization in their respective countries. The order of presentations were as follows:

- Singapore
- Thailand
- Cambodia
- Vietnam
- Myanmar
- Laos
- Japan

Please see *Annex 4: Summary of the presentations of CLMV Students Conference* for presentation details.

7. Innovative FD Workshop Session 2 | Saturday, 25 August 2018

7.1 Introduction

The Innovative FD Workshop Session 2 was held to enable remaining universities/countries to complete their presentations. Speakers proceeded in the following order:

- Thailand, Srinakarinwirot University
- Myanmar, Yangon Technological University
- Thailand, Thammasat University
- Singapore, National University of Singapore
- Vietnam, Foreign Trade University
- Vietnam, University of Social Sciences & Humanity

At the end of the session, the Chair asked all participants to provide their views about the workshop, including their ideas towards the creation of innovative educational systems for sustainable society and urban growth.

7.2 Summary of Presentations

Urbanization & Migration: A Special Lecture for Meiji University
Dr. Sipim Sornbanlang, Lecturer, Srinakharinwirot University

Key Points:

- Globalization and the interdependence of economics, politics, social and cultural norms, and technology have a major impact on urbanization.
- International migration due to economic demands and conflict has created internal conflicts within many countries and cities, including many migrant workers from Thailand's neighboring countries.
- Case Study in Thailand: Burmese workers from Myanmar have been "securitized" – public claims that Burmese workers are a threat to Thai security has increased negative "threat perception" among Thai people towards Burmese.
- Can lead to discriminatory governmental policies that would actually be detrimental to Thailand's economy and urban development.

Informal Settlements in Yangon: Study and Analytical Framework in Nyaung Informal Settlement, Hlaing Thar Yar Township
Dr. Hnin Wint Yi, Professor, Department of Architecture, Yangon Technological University

Key Points:

- Yangon is Myanmar's commercial hub, and recent upsurge in new construction and proliferation of industrial zones on its periphery has been a major draw for unskilled in-migrants from rural areas.
- Informal settlements already taking place in large numbers around industrial estates, though workers requiring access to central Yangon have developed squatter settlements the inner city – estimated more than 30% of Yangon's population living in slums.
- Forced relocation occurred en masse from 2011-2015 – Hlaing Thar Yar one such settlement.
- Lack of comprehensive slum upgrading program in Myanmar is threatening the sustainable

urbanization of the country – must develop onsite upgrading programs with monitoring and evaluation processes put in place.

Question & Answer:

- *Question: How can examples from CODI and Klong Toey be used to guide Myanmar slum upgrading in the future?*
- Answer: Currently, government is not involved or interacting with communities when considering how to deal with slums, but the CODI example is a good one to consider for the future of Myanmar.

Flood 2011 in Bangkok – Stumps at High Tide
Dr. Tavida Kamolvej, Assistant Professor, Dean of Faculty of Political Science, Thammasat University

Key Points:

- Bangkok is still urbanizing. What used to be considered peri-urban in the adjacent provinces is now becoming part of a singular urban metropolitan area. It is also *re*-urbanizing, as land is repurposed and redeveloped at greater intensities than before.
- Land management, development standards, and planning is *very* bad in Bangkok, leading to many issues related to urbanization. Flood management is one such issue.
- Research and analysis into 2011 flood has shown: flood management infrastructure and emergency response networks were "decent" prior to this flood event. However, mismanagement and poor decision-making processes led to catastrophic flood of 2011.
- "Political flood" – Two different political parties with different management solutions, Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra and Bangkok Governor, led to indecision and delayed response.
- Concentration of decision making too strong within Prime Minister's office, with lack of technical expertise within. Effectively led to politicians advising on flood management.
- Emergency response networks have been improved, however major infrastructure investments still needed to adequately prepare for future catastrophic flooding events.

Question & Answer:

- *Question: Is water/flood management in Thailand really improving? Is it better prepared now than in 2011?*
- Answer: Networks have been improved, and decision-making should be more effective and efficient, leading to better overall management. However, upcountry irrigation improvements would help mitigate Bangkok flooding (sacrificing agricultural land for reservoir – hard sell to farmers). Better public information dissemination would also help improve response efforts.

In Search for Asian Urbanism: Lessons from Singapore Reality & Other Asian Cities
Dr. Junko Tamura, Assistant Professor, Department of Architecture, National University of Singapore

Key Points:

- Following independence from Malaysia in 1965, Singapore was the largest slum in Southeast Asia
- Planning: Huge urban planning program undertaken with the goal of "housing the people". Followed many classical urban planning frameworks, including: Ebenezer Howards, *Garden City*; Perry Neighborhood Unit; Plan Zuid; Randstad economy clusters
- Reality: Housing Development Board (HDB) public housing projects that now house more

than 83% of Singaporeans. Extremely homogenous buildings, often designed with "void decks", or open floor planned first levels devoid of housing units providing community space, as well as permeable connections to street network and nearby services.

- Newer, private housing developments at center of city, mostly occupied by expats and very wealthy.
- Spatial analysis: *Services* - Services fairly well distributed throughout Singapore. *Amenities* - HDB housing well connected to amenities. Newer, private housing not as conveniently located. *Public ROW* - Largely auto-oriented, though traffic not a major issue in Singapore. Existing space to enlarge pedestrian space. *Green/public space* - Mass expansion of parks/open space underway. Storm water management integrated into parks.
- Singapore largely centrally planned. Rapid urbanization and high standard of living, but community connection and shared culture is being lost.
- Comparative study: Indonesia – Lacks strong central government support in urban development, but examples of successful community-led development initiatives. Strong community, or "ethos" when compared to Singapore.

Question & Answer:

- *Question: Can local democracy work in coexistence with central governance?*
- Answer: Depends on the scale. Singapore is relatively small, with a strong central government. This model worked for Singapore's urbanization. Indonesia, by contrast, is BIG, and the government is unable to direct development in a similar manner. Communities must take more of the responsibility. However, some things cannot be done strictly from the bottom-up, i.e., larger infrastructure projects like building a dike.

- *Question: Does hi-rise public housing help create/destroy community?*
- Answer: In Singapore, government-led campaigns helped to build community in the country. Now, the top-down approach is no longer working, and there is a loss of community connection occurring.

Foreign Trade University of Vietnam
Ms. Trang Thu Tran, Staff, Department of International Affairs, Foreign Trade University

Key Points:

- Foreign Trade University (FTU) established in 1967, now with three campuses in Hanoi, Quang Ninh, and HCMC.
- Focused on international cooperation and building international partnerships. Green economy and community development becoming and increased focus within the University
- FTU hopes to develop: joint educational programs; exchange, study abroad, transfer programs; joint research and conferences; international projects.

Social Capital in Urban Communities in Central Provinces (Vietnam) in Adaptation to Natural Disasters
Dr. Son Thanh Tung, Faculty of Urban Studies, University of Social Sciences & Humanity

Key Points:

- What is social capital? Social relationships/networks. Motivated by social institutions: customs, norms, beliefs, values
- Why is social capital important? Recovery of a community after disasters. Limited resources

from the government.
- Central Vietnam – Quang Nam Province: Coastal cities with constant flooding leading to annual loss of life, economic and infrastructure damage.
- Conducted research through primary data collection to survey social capital in Quang Nam. Findings show social institutions are strong but are not supported by government institutions. Social networks are direct support during natural disasters. Social capital is fading, especially as families and communities are separated through the process of urbanization.

Question & Answer:

- *Question: How can social capital be strengthened in cities?*
- Answer: Support needed by government institutions/recognize role of civil society in development and management.

- *Question: Perception is that Asian societies have strong agricultural roots, very community-based with a natural tendency to help neighbors. Is this true?*
- Answer: NGOs are more important in the modern, urban age. Strong non-profit organized civil society is important to address urban community issues. Vietnamese cities lack community space, community organization is not supported/hindered by the government.

7.3 Results & Conclusions

The Innovative FD workshop was a venue for teachers to discuss and explore the potential of ultimate goal of this conference that is the creation of an innovative educational system for sustainable society and urban growth.

This workshop was gathered by counties with very different and diverse development status. Bringing these countries with diverse development status and experiences together, and create a strong partnership for sharing knowledge, learning each other`s experience and create an educational system to transmit such knowledge and experience to young generations, is an innovative approach towards sustainable future.

The workshop was conducted through inter-disciplinary and multi-sectoral approach by bringing different academic disciplines (such as economics, political science, science and technology, and information and communication) together to meet in venue. This approach facilitated effective interactions and collaborations among teachers in different disciplines towards sustainable and innovative solutions which require multi-sectoral consideration and inter-disciplinary collaboration.

There is a need to create an innovative bottom up educational system to learn from field experience by visiting fields, identify issues and solutions based on actual needs of people, through project-based learning. This approach would facilitate students in identifying their interests on study/research subjects, and would connect and facilitate their knowledge and research results for the benefit of communities and end stakeholders.

By doing so, future educational systems would not stand alone only for academic interest, but would serve for the benefit of our society, and educational system would become closer to communities for their sustainable future.

The following points are the summary of key reactions and suggestions made by the participants:

- Cross-disciplinary knowledge sharing, multi-sectoral collaboration and an integrated approach are of the utmost importance and value. How can we create a framework to build our communal knowledge base?
- The vastly differing contexts and stages of economic development status among CLMV countries, Thailand, Singapore and Japan provide valuable comparison, learning opportunities from respective experience and future perspectives to the issues of sustainability and urban growth.
- Balancing top-down governance and community-based bottom-up development is key to sustainable urban growth in CLMV countries.
- Political issues and urban issues are intimately intertwined. What does "democratic development" look like in CLMV countries?
- Communities can build-up strong social capital when they unite themselves to cope with various disasters and external pressures. How can government policies and NGOs support the social capital of communities?
- More structured topics and discussion series could improve the program and provide clearer outcomes, i.e., innovation in society, aging and urbanization, how government can support community-based development, civic engagement in a closed society.
- Developing a formal knowledge sharing platform and/or publication could further enhance the desired outcome of the conference.
- Learning from field experiences, integrating them in educational and research systems, and returning back the educational knowledge and research results to the field for the benefit of communities, should be promoted as one of key sustainable educational approaches.
- Linking knowledge to practice is the ultimate goal of the "innovative educational system for sustainable society and urban growth".

8. CLMV Students Conference Session 2 & 3 | Saturday, 25 August 2018

Concurrent with the Saturday Innovative FD Workshop Session 2, the four student groups were hard at work researching their respective themes and producing presentation materials.

These sessions were conducted in an intensive workshop format, with students participating in brainstorm discussions through the use of white-boards and post-it notes, self-assigning roles, and working together to create presentations for the Sunday wrap-up session. Students were excited and engaged in their respective tasks, with active conversations and creative thinking on display as the student groups worked under tight time constraints to produce their final conclusions.

9. Wrap-up Session | Sunday, 26 August 2018

9.1 Summary of Presentation of the CLMV Students Conference and Conclusions

The Wrap-up Session was moderated by Dr. Hiroyuki Konuma, Director of the Meiji University ASEAN Center, inviting the four student groups to give their concluding presentations. The presentations were the culmination of three intensive days focused on urban sustainability issues in CLMV countries, and it was an important opportunity for the students to reflect on their experience, as well as receive feedback from their colleagues and faculty.

The groups presented in the following order:

- **Group A:** Urban Slums - The Garbage Problem in Klong Toey Slum
- **Group B:** Urban Planning & Civic Participation for Sustainable Urban Development
- **Group C:** Comparison of Urbanization Issues in CLMV, Japan, Thailand and Singapore
- **Group D:** Lessons from Japan's Urbanization for ASEAN Countries

Group A – The Garbage Problem in Klong Toey Slum

Key Points:

- Slum upgrading is an important focus of UN Sustainable Development Goal 11: Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable.
- The garbage and waste management issues in Klong Toey were examined in three separate facets, all relating to the three interconnected dynamics of sustainability: environment, community, and infrastructure (economy).
- *Environment & Infrastructure:* incomplete sewage drainage and garbage disposal systems; narrow roads/alleys do not provide space for traditional disposal services; uncovered ditches filled with waste; lack of green space and carbon capture.
- *Community & Environment:* animals and pollution caused by community waste can lead to disease and other public health problems; water bodies/canals viewed as "dumping grounds", leading to poor drainage and flooding; community seems unaware of impacts their garbage disposal has on health.
- *Infrastructure & Community:* garbage buildup adds to fire hazards in Klong Toey; traffic caused by inadequate roadways hinders emergency response and evacuation routes; lack of community open space, as open space used as garbage disposal due to lack of formal management services.
- *Conclusions & Proposed Solutions:* 1) Education around proper waste management and benefits of recycling, 2) Recycling infrastructure, 3) Community farms to build community organization and healthy foods.

Question & Answer:

- *Question: Who will educate the community on waste management, and how would the program be financed?*
- Answer: Duang Prateep or other NGOs would need to work with the community, using the central library as a place to hold educational workshops. Build curriculum around waste and recycling at primary school level to change mindsets from young age.

- *Question: How best to incentivize behavior change? Subsidy or fine?*

- Answer: A fine would be difficult to police/enforce. Scavenger system already exists in Klong Toey, and if subsidy was provided to improve this collection system and centralize waste disposal services, it could become more efficient.

Group B – Urban Planning & Civic Participation for Sustainable Urban Development: Inclusive Society

Key Points:

- What do we create a more inclusive society in urban planning? Major issues discussed included: aging society and gender inequality.
- *Japan:* Citizen involvement in design process already happening, but not in decision-making process; aging society and decreasing tax-base, increasing debt; recent policy for "Dynamic Engagement of All Citizens"; proposed solution is to increase women's share in the workforce through integrated employment/childcare facilities; Japan ranked 114th in gender inequality; Politics is male dominated, and women are still considered "child care" with skills unrecognized in the workplace.
- *Vietnam:* Gender inequality in income, education, family roles, and overall ability to contribute to decision making; government has started programs related to gender equality with "girls empowerment programs"; Urban planning is conducted largely without citizen involvement; new financial district planned in District 2; displacement without compensation.
- *Cambodia:* Women are 51% of general population, only 40% of workforce; government is developing gender equality program; Design and planning processes typically only engage men in decision making; gender dynamics must be considered in design process.
- *Myanmar:* cultural and religious issues contribute to gender inequality; women largely uninvolved in government and positions of authority; However, State Counsellor Aung San Suu Kyi has led to women's rights programs.

Question & Answer:

- *Question: How can issues facing Japan be helpful to CLMV countries?*
- Answer: Must understand political and cultural differences but can learn from mistakes and successes. Especially the social welfare system of Japan, which has increased the standard of living for everyone in the country.

- *Question: Should women really be working at the same rate as men? Is a co-workplace/childcare for mothers actually equal?*
- Answer: Women should be involved in the workforce at the same rate, though as a man, it is difficult to see inequality. Workplace childcare should also include fathers' workplace if it is actually trying to achieve gender equality.

Group C: Comparison of Urbanization Issues with CLMV, Japan, Thailand and Singapore

Key Points:

- Examined from two angles: Tangible (i.e., transportation, natural disaster management, living conditions and human settlements), and Intangible (i.e., income gap/unequal distribution of goods and services, demographics, gender inequality).
- *Tangible - Transportation:* Japan has advanced transportation infrastructure, but trains are overcrowded and often unpleasant; Singapore has shifting focus to walkability and alternative transportation; Thailand has some of worst traffic in the world but investing

heavily into public transportation; CLMV countries have increasingly bad traffic, and inadequate infrastructure.

- *Tangible – Disaster Management:* Japan lacked community infrastructure in disaster management following 2011 earthquake; Thailand has inadequate planning and infrastructure for 2011 floods; Deforestation and inadequate infrastructure major issue for CLMV(T) countries; Comprehensive urban planning is needed.
- *Tangible – Living Conditions:* CLMV(T) has many slums, poor access to education, leading to unemployment, leading to higher crime rates, lack of health care; Japan and Singapore have growing issues of homelessness, though large scale slums no longer exists.
- *Intangible – Unequal distribution of goods and services, healthcare:* Japan has Universal Health Care; Singapore has MediSave; Cambodia has no government sponsored health care.
- *Intangible – Demographics:* Japan, Singapore and Thailand are aging/aged society; welcoming foreign workers, state sponsored fertility programs.
- *Intangible – Gender Inequality:* CLMV(T) has pervasive gender inequality, human rights abuses; Japan and Singapore, inequality in education, workplace, stemming from cultural mindset; in all countries, women in urban areas have been education and access to economy that rural areas.
- *Conclusions:* Similar trends in all countries, though different stages of development; Japan and Singapore are good caste studies for CLMV(T) countries to learn from; Tangible elements are easier to address than intangible.

Question & Answer:

- *Question: Aging cultures are facing different issues than CLMV countries. How do you address income inequality in CLMV countries?*
- Answer: Programs need to be put in place for poverty alleviation and workforce development targeting the urban poor.

- *Question: A 50/50 workforce split is often cited as a target statistic for gender inequality. Should this be the case?*
- Answer: Gender equality shouldn't be focused on a 50/50 split, but more on equal choice and equal opportunity in education, access, and income.

Group D: Lessons from Japan's Urbanization for ASEAN Countries

Key Points:

- Japan's "miracle" economic period from 1950s – 1990s. 1956-1964 had massive investments and improvements building up to Tokyo Olympics; 1950-1990 had transportation infrastructure boom, bringing increased manpower and residents to Tokyo and major cities; Shinkansen (high speed rail) helped develop regional metropolitan areas, development of secondary cities.
- Vietnam has two major economic centers in Hanoi and HCMC. Traffic, pollution, and urban slums are increasingly major issues, however, Vietnam has a young population and growing economy.
- Myanmar has one major urban center in Yangon. Traffic, pollution and slums are major issues, and though economy is growing, urban growth is not well organized or managed.
- *How can CLMV and Japan cooperate and learn from each other?* CLMV and other ASEAN countries are sufficiently dense where public transit will be well utilized; investment should happen ASAP into accessible, affordable, convenient public transportation systems.
- Mutual partnerships between countries, where Japan shares technology, finance and

educational expertise, while CLMV countries share labor and access to markets.

Question & Answer:

- *Question: Japan is increasingly in debt, with an aging society. Foreign financial aid will be diminishing in the future. How can CLMV self-finance their development?*
- Answer: Foreign debt is very different than domestic debt, however economic cooperation through SEZ's could help further increase GDP and economic base in CLMV countries; also diplomatic cooperation and human resource development is another resource Japan can provide.

- *Question: Japanese foreign development investment in the region is being taken over by China. Do lessons learned from Japan apply similarly with Chinese and CLMV relationships?*
- Answer: Vietnam has a poor relationship with China, and similarly, CLMV countries not seeing as much interest in "mutual benefit" with Chinese investment. How can CLMV countries become more mutual partners with Japan?

9.2 Summary of Discussions of the Innovative FD Workshop and Conclusions

The Chair of the Innovative FD Workshop, Professor Masami Kobayashi, summarized the outcomes of the workshop with an appreciation to all of the participants who contributed to the fruitful discussions.

He provided the summary conclusions of the workshop, beginning by identifying three key themes and challenges that came out of the discussions. They are as follows:

- Rapid urban development vs. Low-quality, inadequate infrastructure;

- Increasing globalization and economic opportunity vs. Increasing inequality;

- Protecting the environment and resilience of communities vs. Need for infrastructure development & effective political decision-making.

Next, Dr. Kobayashi outlined three major goals on which the future of the program would rely:

- Commitment to increased scientific research and collaborative studies into the challenges and opportunities identified during the conference;

- Additional support of faculty development through an international cooperative network and knowledge sharing platform;

- Further development of a 'project-based learning' approach that directly links research and instruction to community-based interventions for the benefit of end stakeholders.

Finally, Dr. Kobayashi provided his parting thoughts on the final goal of the program, which is the creation of innovative educational systems for sustainable society and urban growth:

- Complexity is increasing in our cities, and faculty, students and practitioners must learn to operate in this complexity;

- As such, our educational systems must prepare the future leaders and specialists of society

to adapt quickly and work in a trans-disciplinary, multi-sectoral environment;

- The best way to do so is for our educational systems to find innovative ways to create partnerships between academics and society, where students and faculty are able to directly apply their research/studies to impact our communities on an ongoing basis.

9.3 Concluding Remarks & Statements

At the end of the conference, Professor Kosaku Dairokuno, Vice President of Meiji University who is responsible for the accomplishment of this project, made his concluding remarks. They are as follows:

- Urbanization is a rising challenge, but there are two sides to the 'coin'. As people move to cities, people are leaving rural areas. However, remaining rural populations still require services and support. Urban and rural areas are indisputably interlinked.

- This is one example of an unforeseen problem that Japan is now facing following its rapid economic growth and urbanization over the past decades. Aging society and an inadequate social protection and welfare system for the elderly is another.

- CLMV countries must think about and plan for future problems, not only the immediate issues facing their cities today, and they can learn from past experience and problems faced in more developed societies like Japan, Singapore and Thailand.

- Because of this, Professor Dairokuno committed to do his best to find the continued support for this program over the next two years, so that they can build lasting partnerships well into the future.

9.4 Conclusions

The goal of this conference was to bring colleagues and students together with diverse backgrounds and experience so that they could identify common topics for collaboration related to sustainability and urbanization. It was intended as a platform to share challenges and opportunities, and learn from experiences on how to address urban issues. Ultimately, it was an important step in moving towards the final goal of the program: the creation of an innovative educational system that tackles the difficult problems of urban growth and aids in the development of a sustainable society.

Considering the diverse range of research interests and content presented, it was important that participants shared insights from the conference, and that concrete conclusions could be made so the program could progress towards this ultimate goal.

All involved noted the benefit and importance of the collaborative environment offered by the conference. Despite the language disparities and diversity of backgrounds, the expression of affection and openness shared by all faculty and students allowed for constructive relationship building and learning opportunities.

CLMV participants especially recognized the benefit to their institutions as a means of developing academic and professional partnerships as they continue to build the knowledge base of their faculty and students surrounding issues of urban sustainability. Likewise, their Japanese counterparts all felt that new partnerships with CLMV institutions, plus Thailand and Singapore, as well as the emphasis on cross-disciplinary solutions and knowledge sharing, would continue to be of great mutual benefit

to all partners.

Japan, Singapore, and to a lesser extent Thailand, have vastly different urban contexts when compared to the CLMV countries. Even within the CLMV countries themselves, there are a wide range of diverging urban issues. Political and economic systems, trade, culture, and geography all contribute to a wide range of urban experiences among the participating countries. However, as the various presentations and discussions showed, there is also much overlap and shared knowledge that can provide valuable learning opportunities.

Japan and Singapore were both rapidly developing countries within the last half-century, and they dealt – or are still dealing - with many of the same issues now facing CLMV countries. It is important to recognize and understand the different stages of development that all countries are going through and learn from these cumulative experiences so that CLMV countries may avoid past failures, as well as replicate successful sustainable urban development practices in the future.

Conversely, CLMV countries also have important lessons to share with Japan and the more developed Asian countries, such as community-based development models, alternative cultural practices, and the reasons behind higher levels of satisfaction and happiness that have been indicated in some of these countries.

All participants felt inspired and encouraged by the community-driven development models seen at CODI and Khlong Toey, as well as other community-led experiences shared during the conference. However, it was also acknowledged that these bottom-up approaches are not adequate on their own when dealing with issues like large-scale infrastructure investments or disaster crisis management. How to balance the role of national and local governments with the needs and functions of communities is an important question for the future of sustainable urban growth in the region.

How can governments better support communities to help themselves through innovative, localized solutions? How can civic engagement lead to better governance in countries where centralized decision-making is the prevailing model? What does "democratic development" look like in CLMV and other ASEAN countries? All conference participants acknowledged that these questions and more require additional research and practical knowledge development, and that they should see an increased focus in the future of the program.

While all felt the benefit of learning from the wide range of topics discussed at the conference, it was also acknowledged that improvements and more clear outcomes could be achieved with more structured topics for lectures and conversation. Potential topics that were discussed included: innovation, community-based design/development, politics and urban issues, civic engagement in a closed society.

Multiple participants felt the program and conference experience could be further enhanced by developing an organized knowledge sharing platform and framework to increase the quantity and quality of exchange among colleagues. Additionally, it was suggested that faculty could contribute to a joint publication highlighting their research and proposed urban solutions. It is important to continue to build the communal knowledge base for the benefit of CLMV countries, but also Japan, Singapore, Thailand, and elsewhere so that all can not only learn more, but also find ways to practically apply research and experiences within their respective countries.

This became the prevailing theme for the conference, that the educational systems of the future must find innovative ways to link knowledge and research to practical action. Faculty and students alike benefit greatly from direct contact with communities and stakeholders, however too often

academic institutions follow the models of, NATO (no action talk only), NASO (no action study only), NARO (no action research only), or NAVO (no action visit only). Going forward, the program should focus its efforts on finding innovative ways, such as 'mobile laboratories' and project-based initiatives, that link knowledge back to communities in a way that provides genuine, continuous impact.

There is still much work to do in creating this educational system, but the shared experiences and proposed actions spoken of over this three-day conference were an important step towards realizing this goal and preparing our future leaders and practitioners to be innovators and problem-solvers for a more sustainable future.