# **Summary Report**

The Innovative FD Workshop and the CLMV Student Conference, 23-25 August 2019

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



23-25 August 2019 | Meiji University ASEAN Center Bangkok, Thailand

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# **Executive Summary**

#### Introduction

This conference, held from 23-25 August 2019, was attended by 96 participants including 53 students from six 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 third annual meeting of the involved partner institutions, with Myanmar being the only country not represented from the CLMV countries.

Participating faculty and students represented the following universities:

- Meiji University, Japan
- Meiji University, ASEAN Center
- Srinakharinwirot University, Thailand
- Chulalongkorn University, Thailand
- Thammasat University, Thailand
- King Monkut's Institute of Technology Ladkrabang, Thailand
- Institute of Technology of Cambodia

- National University of Laos
- Hanoi University, Vietnam
- University of Social Sciences and Humanities, Vietnam National University, Ho Chi Minh City
- University of Languages and International Studies, Vietnam National University, Hanoi
- National University of Singapore

Opening sessions took place in the morning of Friday, 23 August 2019, and were moderated by Mr. Katsushi Goto, Assistant Professor in the Organization for International Collaboration at Meiji University, and included speeches and keynote presentations from the following distinguished guests and organizing faculty:

- Dr. Somchai Santiwatanakul, Associate Professor and President, Srinakharinwirot University
- Mr. Masaharu Kuba, First Secretary, Embassy of Japan, Thailand
- Professor Kosaku Dairokuno, Professor and Vice President, International, Meiji University
- Mr. Curt Garrigan, Chief, Sustainable Urban Development, Environment & Development Division, UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)
- Dr. Masami Kobayashi, Professor and Vice President, Director of International Program in Architecture and Urban Design, Meiji University

The conference consisted of two primary activities, the Innovative Faculty Development (FD) Workshop, and the CLMV Student Conference, 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. At the end of the workshop, Professor Dairokuno and Dr. Kobayashi facilitated a round table discussion with all participating faculty to provide their views about the workshop, and to uncover some key

conclusions and next steps from this year's FD Workshop.

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

- Progress on the 'innovative educational system' should be organized around two primary pillars, 1) the role of higher-education in supporting human resources to engage with urban issues, and 2) how academia should engage with the various levels of governance.
- A major challenge facing academia is how it continues to work in silos, despite best efforts to work more collaboratively. A pressing question is: How do we change our mindsets to work together?
- How can ASEAN countries equitably transition those living in informal settlements to be a
  part of the more formal economy? Examples of collective organizing and management of
  finances exist in the region. These types of programs, and the types of partnerships they
  embody, should receive more emphasis in research for means of replication and expansion.
- Comparing CLMV countries and Thailand to Singapore difficult, as these governments currently lack the leadership, political legitimacy, management capabilities, and resources to coordinate an effort in the same way as Singapore.
- If governments in the region are not strong enough, how can academics help to strengthen governments, and build the political trust needed to implement change at scale needed today?
- Japan has always emphasized human resource as the most important element of the country. This should remain a focus, and perhaps more international educational programs could help build capacity for this throughout ASEAN nations.
- A critical factor of success to the future 'innovative educational systems' of the region will be to act through research to work with the various governance level actors, at the national, regional, neighborhood, and community level.

**At the CLMV Students Conference**, students were separated into four groups, each with a mixture of students from various disciplines and countries. Groups were given a specific urban issue or theme to focus on, and then prepared a presentation together in which they applied a comparative, cross-disciplinary perspective to each.

The four themes are outlined below:

**Group A:** Path to safe, sustainable, inclusive, resilient society – Water-related Disaster

**Group B:** Urban Planning & its Civic Participation for Sustainable Urban Development

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

**Group D:** Japanese experience & solutions on urbanization issues, and assistance to ASEAN urbanization

**Field work** was organized during the afternoon of Friday, 23 August 2019. 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**

- This conference built on the goals of the last two years by continuing to highlight many of the major issues troubling the region related to sustainability and urbanization. It allowed both faculty and students to learn from a diverse range of backgrounds and cultures, encouraging them to reflect on their own countries and responsibilities in working towards a more sustainable future. Ultimately, it fostered an environment of deep discussion and deliberation about how each individual, and their respective institutions, could be a part of the much needed collaborative effort of sustainable urbanization in the ASEAN region and Japan.
- Much emphasis was put on the impressive ability of the most developed countries in the region, Japan and Singapore, to organize and coordinate their urbanization efforts. Their culture of effective governance and urban planning, backed by strong leadership, provides a model worth emulating.
- However, it was also acknowledged that both countries are dealing with their own issues, and it is important that CLMV countries, as well as Thailand and other ASEAN nations, do not repeat the same mistakes as they continue on their upward trajectory of development. Lacking the same forms of government, or a standing culture of coordinated urban planning, it is necessary that each country learn together, yet forge their own paths forward.
- This, perhaps, was the most conclusive takeaway from this year's workshop. That in order to overcome the many problems in need of solving within the region, countries must find new and innovative ways to tap into their most vital resource: their people.
- Educational institutions are in a unique position to be able to work together with citizens, as
  well as members of government and the private sector, to help identify the most pressing
  issues within their respective communities. Through partnerships and research programs, a
  collaborative environment can be curated that helps not only identify problems, but also
  work towards sustainable solutions. Universities and educators will then be even better
  positioned to help develop the specific human resources needed within communities to meet
  societal needs.
- While this is a tall and broad call to action, this three-day conference was an important next step in preparing our youth, the future leaders and practitioners of the world, to work toward the collaborative, transdisciplinary form of urbanization needed today.

# 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 countries (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 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 23-25 August 2019, was attended by 96 participants including 53 students from six countries, and was hosted by Meiji University at the Meiji ASEAN Center in Bangkok, Thailand. It marked the third annual meeting of the involved partner institutions, with Myanmar being the only country not represented from the CLMV countries. Participating faculty and students represented the following universities:

- Meiji University, Japan
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- Thammasat University, Thailand
- King Monkut's Institute of Technology Ladkrabang, Thailand
- Institute of Technology of Cambodia

- National University of Laos
- Hanoi University, Vietnam
- University of Social Sciences and Humanities, Vietnam National University, Ho Chi Minh City
- University of Languages and International Studies, Vietnam National University, Hanoi
- National University of Singapore

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 and summary of the conference.

# 2. **Opening Session** | Friday, 23 August 2019

Opening sessions took place in the morning of Friday, 23 August 2019, and were moderated by Mr. Katsushi Goto, Assistant Professor in the Organization for International Collaboration at Meiji University. The session included speeches and keynote presentations from several distinguished guests and organizing faculty members. Below is a summary of their remarks:

#### **Welcome Speech**

Dr. Somchai Santiwatanakul, Associate Professor and President, Srinakharinwirot University

The conference was opened by Dr. Somchai Santiwatanakul, Associate Professor and President at Srinakharinwirot University. Dr. Santiwatanakul expressed his pleasure and privilege in welcoming the distinguished guests and participants of the weekend's events. He remarked that he was thankful for the opportunity provided to the students and faculty at Srinakharinwirot University, and that he wished the workshop participants success in meeting its important goals:

- To find and share common solutions and educational practices within the ASEAN and CLMV countries to be applied to the many urban issues facing the region;
- And to broaden the perspectives and support collaboration and critical thinking for students in their respective fields.

#### **Guest Address**

Mr. Masaharu Kuba, First Secretary, Embassy of Japan, Thailand

Following Dr. Santiwatanakul's welcoming speech, Mr. Masaharu Kuba, First Secretary, Embassy of Japan, Thailand, provided a guest address to the participants. He offered his sincere appreciation to all participants for partaking in and making the Re-Inventing Japan Project a continued success. He wished to congratulate Meiji University and its ASEAN and CLMV partner universities for the continued collaboration in implementing the project.

Mr. Kuba reiterated his comments from last year that this project is of the utmost importance in its support of the world's commitment to achieve the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by the year 2030, as one more year has gone by since their initiation in 2016. He offered his insight into some of the crucial steps needed to meet the challenges set out in the SDGs:

- Collaboration between multiple actors, across different fields and disciplines, as one of the most important factors in achieving a truly sustainable, resilient, and inclusive urban future.
- The further development of capacity among educational institutions and urban actors to learn from each other and enact solutions that can address the many issues facing the cities of the region.
- The importance of investing in youth and their ability to understand the complex systems and problems in their countries in order to develop innovative strategies and programs that support a more sustainable future.

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 Dr. Kosaku Dairokuno, Vice President of Meiji University who is responsible for the accomplishment of this project. On behalf of Meiji University, Organization for International Collaboration, and the School of Political Science and Economics he expressed his deep gratitude for everyone's participation and continued commitment to the Innovative FD Workshop and CLMV Students Conference, over three years, and their efforts to search for new ways to solve the problems of the region.

Professor Dairokuno began by reminding participants that, in the 1950's, Japan faced many of the same issues of rapid urbanization that the ASEAN region is now facing, and that it wasn't without a sustained and collective effort that Japan was able to shape itself into the country it is today. In this light, he outlined some of the key challenges facing the region today, and the importance of the collaborative effort represented in this conference in addressing them:

- Rapid urbanization has provided great opportunity to many in the region, but it has also led
  to severe shortages in the provision of transportation and other basic infrastructure,
  contributing to increasingly dire situations in the world's cities.
- As urban in-migration has led to overcrowding and inadequate housing in cities, it has at the same time led to the depopulation of rural areas. This connection is important to recognize and consider when seeking sustainable development strategies.
- An aging society is a major issue facing Japan, and increasingly Thailand, leading to some
  previous investments now being infeasible or underutilized. While CLMV countries are
  comparatively young, there is potential to learn from some of the mistakes made by aging
  societies.
- With these challenges in mind, it is absolutely necessary to devise new administrative and
  policy frameworks to address these problems. This conference is aimed at fostering the
  creativity and collaboration needed to do so and finding ways we can all do more in solving
  these issues.

Professor Dairokuno expressed his hope that this year's conference would lead to some solid conclusions and pathways for the participating faculty and students at this conference to bring back to their home countries to address the challenges of the future.

# **Keynote Speech #1 – Smart Cities – Mobilizing Asia-Pacific Cities to Achieve the 2030 Agenda**

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 their role in helping cities achieve of the 2030 Agenda and SDGs. Mr. Garrigan notably pointed out that of the 169 targets identified in the SDG Zero Draft, 21% *can only* be implemented by local actors, while 24% *should be* implemented by local actors, and a further 20% should have clearer orientation towards local urban stakeholders, highlighting the huge importance and responsibilities of cities in achieving the global agenda.

However, while cities will be vitally important in realizing a sustainable future, they were not adequately engaged in the creation of the global agenda, and both awareness and capacity for

urban stakeholders to implement the SDGs is severely lacking, leading to increasing problems and setbacks in achieving them. Mr. Garrigan went on to discuss some of the challenges facing cities in the Asia-Pacific region, and highlighted how the application of technology and smart city principles can help in delivering against a number of these challenges:

- Cities in the Asia-Pacific continue to grow rapidly, however much of this growth is occurring
  in secondary cities where there is not enough focus by national governments or local
  capacity to do adequate planning, infrastructure development, or lack access to finance;
- Critical needs identified to focus on land, energy, materials, and water, with access to clean drinking water being especially problematic, as water is not a replenishable resource;
- Because most urban dwellers do not see or deal with the problems identified in the global agenda, it is difficult to create a sense of urgency or action;
- Smart city principles and the application of technologies can help engage local stakeholders, as well as implement solutions more efficiently and effectively, which will be necessary in order to achieve the SDGs in the short timeframe required;
- Asia houses some of the most innovative smart city programs in the world, i.e., Tokyo, Seoul, Singapore. It will be important to learn from within the region and tap into the enormous economic opportunities provided by smart city development by recruiting businesses;
- Youth will be a key driver of smart technologies, as well as local communities in driving solutions. It is the role of government to facilitate and match the necessary technology.

Mr. Garrigan concluded his presentation by stating the four emerging pathways for sustainable cities in Asia-Pacific:

- Strengthening urban and territorial planning
- Building long-term resilience (economic and disaster risk reduction)
- Investing in smart technologies and build data capacities mobility
- Enabling sustainable partnerships and viable funding mechanisms

# **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

Dr. Kobayashi gave the second keynote speech, beginning with an historic overview of Japanese modernization and urbanization and providing lessons and experiences from which ASEAN and CLMV countries could learn. 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.
- Major issues still exist within Tokyo and other Japanese cities: Increasing pollution, congestion (both auto and transit), increasing homelessness, high rates of depression and suicide.
- 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.
- 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, but are largely

ranked lower than most countries due to its low economic indicators.

**3. Innovative FD Workshop Session 1** | Friday, 23 August 2019

#### 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. There were a number of returning faculty from the previous year's workshops, as well as new participants. The setting provided an opportunity to learn from each 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, community-based development, urban pollution and governance, cross-cultural language exchange, informal settlements and slums 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:

- Thailand, King Mongkut's Institute of Technology Ladkrabang
- Thailand, Thammasat University

# 3.2 Summary of Presentations

#### **Urbanization and Air Pollution: Bangkok Experiences**

Dr. Teerawet Titseesang, Lecturer, Faculty of Administration and Management, King Monkut's Institute of Technology Ladkrabang, Thailand

#### **Key Points:**

- Bangkok faces many issues related to rapid urbanization over the past few decades: substandard housing/slums; land encroachment on wetlands, forests, and other environmentally sensitive areas; brownfields with persistent contamination on abandoned industrial/residential sites; impermeable surfaces leading to urban runoff into waterways; long commutes and traffic congestion contributing to high amounts of automobile-related air pollution; noise pollution; urban heat island effect.
- Air pollution has been identified as a problem in Bangkok since the 1990's, however, in January 2019, the city experienced its worst pollution crisis in history, as pollution clouded the entire city.
- PM 2.5 and PM 10 (defined as fine particulate matter (PM) with diameter of up to 2.5 or 10 µm, respectively) and the severe pollution became a political issue, as the government failed to provide any effective solutions of plans to mitigate the pollution; City government sprayed water in the air as a public display of action (despite the lack of scientific evidence it helped).
- Lessons learned and Challenges Ahead: 1) Targeting PM and O3 reductions, 2) Improving
  inspection and maintenance programs for cars, 3) Improving public transport & transport
  management, 4) Improving air quality management governance, 5) Broadening public
  participation, 6) Obtaining political will/leadership

#### Question & Answer:

Question: What potential solutions do exist that the Thai government could enact instead of

spraying water?

• Answer: It's more of a long-term approach that is currently lacking, such as the need for proper management and mitigation, reduction of combustion engines and improved public transportation options, laws and regulations, and green growth strategies.

# **Urbanization: A Critical Perspective – Hegemony of E-Governance and the Articulation of Digital State in Estonia**

Mr. Wasin Punthong, Lecturer, Faculty of Political Science, Thammasat University

#### **Key Points:**

- Focus on smart city/e-governance best practices from Eastern Europe/Estonia as lessons for ASEAN countries.
- Estonia is one of the most advanced and well-functioning digitalized states in the world, with nearly all government services available online, and nearly universal support from state politicians and citizens. How did it gain such political legitimacy?
- Institutional Factors: 1) Strong public-private alliances, 2) the growth of the national information ICT sector, 3) the role of future-oriented political leadership, 4) public procurement of *new* local digital technologies (in 1996, the government launched a program to place computers in all schools).
- A large part of the political legitimacy was curated and maintained by creating a feeling of "authentic Estonianism" through digitalization; post-communist Estonian national digitalization as a way to distance itself from its communist past. Strong leaders pushed this identity, and it was largely embraced by citizens.
- Russian speaking population feels disconnected from "digital nation-building" of Estonia;
   Digital nation-building must be inclusive, and focus on minorities and marginalized populations, otherwise "digital segregation" has potential to widen gaps in society.

- Question: Once e-governance is introduced for urban governance, how does it grow/how do you get people to use it?
- Answer: Public-private connections are vitally important, as is the proper institutionalizing of
  digital technologies throughout all government sectors; introduce technology to youth from
  an early age; most effective way is to build the e-governance systems together with citizens,
  as this will increase viability of technologies used and public buy-in.
- Question: In order to implement e-governance, you need a population with digital literacy. How do you foster this, and what issues are there in Thailand?
- Answer: Transformation needs to start in the educational systems. Build digital literacy from a young age. It is not an overnight transition; it takes time.
- Question: In a corrupt political system that does not have a culture of openness, how do you encourage this form of "open" e-governance system?
- In the case of Estonia, political trust and legitimacy was extremely important, and it existed before the digital transformation. However, digitalization can provide major economic development incentives to people, and can encourage additional participation in government, leading to building public trust.
- Ouestion: How can you apply an Estonian model in Thailand?
- Answer: The first step is to ask the people of Thailand if they want it. Thailand doesn't need to copy Estonia, and the use of digital technologies need to respond to what people need/want to better their lives, otherwise no one will use it.

# **4. CLMV Students Conference Session 1** | Friday, 23 August 2019

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, Vietnam, Thailand, and Singapore, came together for the student-focused portion of the weekend.

The session began with an orientation for CLMV students conducted by Professor Takane Kawashima, Associate Professor of School of Information and Communication, Meiji University, and an orientation for Meiji students by Masami Saito, Senior Assistant Professor of School of Political Science and Economics, Meiji University, which helped prepare students for the collaborative activities they 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:** Path to safe, sustainable, inclusive, resilient society – Water-related Disaster

**Group B:** Urban Planning & its Civic Participation for Sustainable Urban Development

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

**Group D:** Japanese experience & solutions on urbanization issues, and assistance to ASEAN Urbanization

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, 23 August 2019

#### 5.1 Introduction

During the afternoon of Friday, 23 August 2019, 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 Khong Toey Slum

On 23 August, a group of 33 participants (26 students and 7 teachers/staff) visited the Klong Toey Community 4 and learned about the activities of Sikkha Asia Foundation (SAF), an NGO founded in 1991 to support underprivileged children by offering educational opportunities. Mr. Katsumasa Yagisawa, Advisor and Board Member of SAF, along with two other SAF staff, greeted the group at their offices located within the community.

Mr. Yagisawa and his staff first led the workshop group through a brief walking tour of the surrounding neighborhood, allowing students and faculty to observe the conditions of those living in Bangkok's largest slum. Upon returning to SAF, Mr. Yagisawa provided a brief presentation about slums in Thailand, and Klong Toey Slum, in particular. He pointed out that there are more than 6,000 recognized slums in Thailand, and more than 2,000 in Bangkok. Altogether, the slum population is estimated around 5.6 million people in Thailand, and 2 million in Bangkok. Klong Toey is the largest slum in the country, with an estimated population of 100,000 people, made up of 47 communities. The SAF team pointed out that, based on the most recent data, Thailand is now considered the most unequal country in the world, with 66.9% of the country's wealth being held by only 1% of the population, while Klong Toey, and the overall slum population in Thailand, continues to grow. This is largely due to the continued migration of workers into Thailand and its cities, with many of Thailand's slum populations consisting of residents from Myanmar (3.4 million), Cambodia (1.5 mill), and Laos (0.6-1 million).

The group then discussed one of the major issues facing Klong Toey slum: the proposed government relocation and eviction of its residents to make way for commercial development. The land Klong Toey residents currently reside on is owned by the Thai Port Authority, and while part of the relocation plan includes 26,000 onsite housing units, this is inadequate for all of the slum's current residents. It is possible some residents will be relocated to a community 40km away, separating them from existing networks and job opportunities. There are many unknowns facing the future of Klong Toey, however SAF continues to actively engage with communities to improve their living conditions and early childhood education opportunities. Mr. Yagisawa encouraged students to learn more about Klong Toey, and if possible, to volunteer their time with SAF or other local organizations to work with community members.

#### 5.3 Visit to CODI Head Office

The other group, consisting of 30 participants (25 students and 7 teachers/staff), visited the Community Organization Development Institute (CODI) and observed one of its' canal-side housing development projects, "Lat Phrao Canal Community". After observing the housing projects along the

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canal, Ms. Pissinee Chanpreechaya (International Relations Section, CODI) and Mr. Thanat Narupornpong (Assistant Director, CODI) briefed the group about CODI's background and its' canal-side housing projects.

The Community Organizations Development Institute (CODI) was established as a public organization, a new form of government agency. Through an enactment of the Royal Decree, which merged the Urban Community Development Office and the Rural Development Fund, CODI was created, and has been operating since October 26, 2000 under the supervision of the Minister of Social Development and Human Security.

Lat Phrao Canal is one of nine canals in Bangkok that has been used to drain rainwater flowing into the city from northern Thailand, and it is one of the city's main flood drainage routes into the Chao Phraya River. Rubbish and houses built along its banks have obstructed its water draining ability, leading to it massively overflowing during the epic floods of 2011. To solve encroachment problems, CODI has been working with the communities along the canal to help them with resettlement plans to move households that encroach into the canal back on land, and let them have more secure and sustainable housing, as well as better environment of the community.

Most of the communities along the canal decided to join the housing development project "Baan Mankong" through the community-centered "Housing Cooperatives". With the financial support from CODI, the communities have been subsidized in the form of infrastructure, housing, assistance for affected people, and opportunity lost, as well as budget for housing loans with long-term installments and low interest rates. The community leaders and other members of Lang Wor Kor Chan Dra Ka Sem Community said that most people are happy with the new housing conditions, as the development has brought a better quality of life for all people in the community. In the future, many mass train routes will be built in this area and the government will try to promote boat transport after dredging the canal deeper to help commuters. The goal of the housing development project "Baan Mankong" is in accordance with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

#### Question & Answer:

A number of questions were posed to clarify how the Lat Phrao Canal Housing Project has been successful.

- Question: Are there any people against the project? How did the community and CODI solve the problem?
- Answer: There are still some communities along the canal who are afraid of losing their own benefits. As the land is limited, the land in the community must be shared equally among the members, so the people who used to have a big house resist the project, as their houses will be smaller. Therefore, we need to give the information and discuss more with those who are against the project until they truly understand. Before, there was also a lot of discussion in Lang Wor Kor Chan Dra Ka Sem Community, one of the successful communities of Lat Phrao Canal Community, and the process for sharing knowledge and public understanding were organized with the people. CODI is still trying hard to convince those protestors to join the majority who agree to the project.
- Question: Are people in the community happy with their lives now?

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- Answer: People in the Lang Wor Kor Chan Dra Ka Sem community are very happy now with the better environment.
- Question: Are there any concerns in the community?
- Answer: The only thing the community wants to make sure is that their families and the next generation can also live here.

# 6. Student Presentations | Saturday, 24 August 2019

## **6.1 Student Presentations: Country Profiles**

At the beginning of the second day of the workshop, on the morning of Saturday, 24 August 2019, student groups provided brief presentations profiling the various states of urbanization in their respective countries. The order of presentations was as follows:

- Urbanization Country Profile Report of Japan
- Bangkok Sidewalks
- Vietnam Country Profile
- Urbanization in Vietnam
- Bangkok Pedestrian Walkway
- Innovative learning system in Laos
- Study of Existing Problems of Urban Streetscapes in Phnom Penh
- Anxious for Control? Land Scarcity in Singapore: Redevelopment vs Protection
- Education in Thailand Urban vs. Rural
- Bangkok Urbanization

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

# 7. Innovative FD Workshop Session 2 | Saturday, 24 August 2019

#### 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:

- Laos, National University of Laos
- Cambodia, Institute of Technology of Cambodia
- Thailand, Srinakharinwirot University
- Vietnam, University of Language and International Studies, Vietnam National University
- Vietnam, University of Social Sciences and Humanity, Vietnam National University
- Singapore, National University of Singapore
- Vietnam, Hanoi University

At the end of the session, Professor Dairokuno and Dr. Kobayashi facilitated a round table discussion with all participating faculty to provide their views about the workshop, and to uncover some key conclusions and next steps from this year's FD Workshop.

# 7.2 Summary of Presentations

Creation of learning system for sustainable society and urban growth: Case of Bachelor Programme in Urban Environmental Planning and Design at National University of Laos

Dr. Soukanh Chithpanya, Associate Professor, Faculty of Architecture, National University of Laos

#### **Key Points:**

- Cities in Laos not nearly as dense as other nations in the region, however, major issues still remain related to inefficient land use due to urban expansion, urban traffic congestion, and seasonal flash flooding.
- Plans in Vientiane have existed for many years, with regular updates (1990-200-2010), however enforcement and implementation is lacking.
- Urban development policy in Laos: Sam Sang (3 development pillars) national policy − 1)
  Building provinces as strategic spatial development units, 2) Building district as
  comprehensive planning unit, 3) Building village as development projects' implementation
  unit; Hok Sor (6 aspects) Vientiane citywide urban development scheme − 1) Safety and
  security, 2) Societal civilization, 3) Sanitation/cleanliness, 4) sustainable/green, 5) scenery
  attractiveness, 6) light-scape and night-time. Neither adequately address role of planning in
  economic development or integrate SDG 11 and others.
- National University of Laos has developed the 'Learning System for Sustainable Society & Urban Growth', offering a 4 year Bachelor's program of Urban Environmental Planning & Design. Includes classroom based learning, virtual learning platform, community-based learning platform, and a professional internship program.
- National University of Laos hopes to move Laos towards a model of more integrated planning theory and practice that incorporates, "form planning (physical)", "flow planning (environmental), and "forecast planning (socio-economic)"

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Ouestion: What solutions to flood are being used in Vientiane?

Answer: Mostly focused on waste clean-up and drainage issues, but the University has made recommendations to focus on more sustainable, water-sensitive solutions.

#### **Phnom Penh: Evolution and Urbanization**

Mr. Chanly Hash, Lecturer, Responsible for Architecture, Department of Civil Engineering and Architecture, Institute of Technology of Cambodia

#### **Key Points:**

- Phnom Penh is the capital city, and economic, political, and cultural hub of Cambodia; population of approximately 2 million people, or 10% of Cambodia's total population.
- Phnom Penh has gone through many periods of change, from the ancient Angkor Empire, to colonization, to the Khmer Rouge period which destroyed much of society, leaving the institutions responsible for planning and management of Phnom Penh largely depleted.
- Currently, Phnom Penh is in a stage of exponential growth, expanding westward in all directions. Plans assume Phnom Penh will encompass much of the eastern banks of the rivers, and a 30km radius is assumed based on the current master plan.
- However, self-development (informal, slum) is a common pattern throughout the city, leading to congestion due to lack of connectivity in the road network, and major arteries operating over capacity due to a lack of planning or coordination with informal settlements.
- Current pattern of investment into satellite cities, contributing to urban sprawl and haphazard development patterns. Chinese outside investment having outsize impact on Phnom Penh. Historical buildings being neglected and demolished.
- Actions that need to be taken to improve urbanization in Phnom Penh include: better policy
  an decision making following short, mid, and long-term strategies; improving the institutional
  capacity of responsible parties; institutionalizing heritage preservation; focus on connectivity
  between missing road segments.

#### **Question & Answer:**

- Question: How are roads or infrastructure managed/maintained in informal settlements?
- Answer: Government has a 50/50 policy for coordination and management, putting responsibility on communities to bring resources to the table.
- Question: Master planning takes time, both to plan and implement, how is the government working to improve in the short term, or coordinate individual projects?
- Answer: For self-development/informal areas, the government does not take a proactive approach to help. If private developers want to develop an area, they must negotiate for improved connections/services.

## **Urbanization and Inequality**

Dr. Suwimon Hengpatana, Assistant Professor, Faculty of Economics, Srinakharinwirot University, Thailand

#### **Key Points:**

- Thailand is 52% urban, Bangkok being the largest city by far in the country.
- Urban areas continue to grow, but large gap in economic opportunity and activity between Bangkok and small and medium sized cities.
- Thailand 4.0 policy aims to ensure economic benefit is spread throughout the country,

- helping all cities grow, and helping Thailand overcome the middle-income trap
- Thailand 4.0 has four objectives: 1) economic prosperity, 2) social well-being, 3) raising human values, and 4) environmental protection.
- 'Smart cities' a major engine for new growth; Eastern Economic Corridor (EEC) envisioned to promote new growth hubs in Rayong, Chonburi, and Chachoengsao; aims to increase international economic standing and competitiveness.
- Inequality: Gross Provincial Product (GPP) shows a massive disparity between Bangkok and other regions.
- More of a focus needs to be given to the preparation and implementation of top-down & bottom-up policies, working together, in order to overcome this geographic unequal distribution of wealth.
- Local governments have to play a more important role; increasing capacity at the local level
  is vital, however, corruption and the culture of governance is a major hindrance in
  implementing Thailand 4.0 policies, and Thailand must confront the fact that many local
  governments do not want to change.

#### Question & Answer:

- Question: How will Thailand 4.0 help poorer, more rural areas? The policy seems to be very urban focused.
- Answer: It is necessary to have local governments take charge on local economic development, as they know their constituents and can enact better programs within the Thailand 4.0 frameworks.
- Question: Aging society is a growing problem in Thailand, but Thailand accepts many foreign workers. Is legalizing their status within Thailand seen as an important engine of growth to combat population decline? (No answer given)
- Question: The smart city/Thailand 4.0 policy is based heavily on technology. Does this help the poor and rural populations? If they lack the education/skills to join in this shift, will they get left even further behind?
- Answer: There needs to be a focus on job training and skill development, especially around computer technology in the educational system.
- Question: Provincial inequality is one thing, but Thailand is now the most unequal country in the world in terms of income. Before starting something like Thailand 4.0, should Thailand implement a more progressive income tax reform policy?
- Answer: There are currently many taxes levied in Thailand, but the poorest (income <20k TBH/mo) do not pay income tax. Inheritance tax, property tax, etc. are all present in Thailand, but the government does need more money to successfully implement its policies.

## **Japanese Education in Vietnam**

Ms. Thao Thi Phuong Trinh, Lecturer, Faculty of Japanese Language and Culture, University of Language and International Studies, Vietnam National University-Hanoi

#### **Key Points:**

- Vietnamese-Japanese relations are the best in the history of the two countries; major economic partners, with many Japanese companies opening new businesses in Vietnam. Therefore, interest in Japanese language and culture is growing.
- In 2007, Japanese language became 1 of 5 foreign languages taught in secondary and high

- schools, entered into the national high school graduation examination. Number of Japanese learners in Vietnam has grown by 1000% since 1990.
- Many Vietnamese see the increasing benefits of learning Japanese, due to growing job or educational opportunities. Many Vietnamese want to work for Japanese companies, as they offer higher than normal pay, and have a reputation for a good workplace.
- Japan-based Vietnamese workers also increasing; immigrant workers from Vietnam can help with Japanese problem of population decline.

# Question & Answer:

- Question: Japanese companies have a notorious business culture, and have been in the news for unethical business practices. What do Vietnamese think?
- Answer: Some Vietnamese workers feel taken advantage of. There are false promises made to Vietnamese workers that go to Japan, or they end up going to Japan simply to get married.

## **Urban Poverty: Life of poor migrants in big cities in Vietnam**

Dr. Tung Thanh Son, Faculty of Urban Studies, University of Social Sciences & Humanities, Vietnam National University-Ho Chi Minh City

# **Key Points:**

- Vietnam has received much acclaim for its rising economic star, but are people really improving their quality of life in Vietnam? Is poverty really getting reduced? What will it take to end poverty in Vietnam?
- Two types of urban poor: 1) Urban locals, most of whom have jobs and roots in their city, 2) migrants, most of whom have less stable employment/income, limited access to social public services, and lack social integration/capital of more long-term locals.
- Due to the inability for many migrants to obtain residential registration documents in their new cities, they receive limited access to public services: no public schools, no access to water/electrical utilities, no access to healthcare/insurance, no access to social security.
- Many current government/poverty reduction programs focus on formalizing the informal sector, however, most migrants prefer the informal economy because it is flexible, low skill, and they don't have to deal with government officials. Economic development policy focusing on job training for high-tech, 'smart city' development, but most migrants lack the skills to join in such programs.

- Question: How to formalize the informal economy?
- Answer: Government has tried, either by 1) clearing street vendors, 2) organizing market areas, 3) legalizing business accounting. Not easy, as street vendors don't see the benefit to them, and would rather be mobile in their enterprise.
- Question: Why do Vietnamese migrants not get access to services?
- Answer: The Ho Khau residential registration system is an old system that excludes
  residents of informal settlements. Services are tied to this registration, which is tied to your
  original place of birth, unless changed. Very difficult to get local officials to accept new Ho
  Khau registration, even if they are legally required to do so.
- Question: In industrial development theory, it is assumed rural workers will move to cities

- during a development process, so to not allow formalization through the Ho Khau registration process hinders development and causes many problems. How does Vietnam hope to achieve the SDGs if they cannot track where people are?
- Answer: The government understands but is neglecting the task of accepting more migrants into their registration, as it means more responsibility. Government officials actively ignore migrants within their jurisdiction.
- Question: In Japan, during its industrialization process in 1950-60's, the government invested heavily in schools, housing, infrastructure to prepare for expected migration. Does Vietnam see this as a priority?
- Answer: There is constant conflict between the Central Party and local municipalities and citizens. Even if there is a central policy requiring something, local authorities may neglect to accept migrants because it adds to their responsibilities, and they lack the resources or capacity to deal with them.

## **Designing with Ethos: Some History & Theory of Urban Dwellings**

Dr. Junko Tamura, Assistant Professor, Department of Architecture, National University of Singapore

#### **Key Points:**

- Focus on the quantification of patterns in urban dwellings throughout the world in order to understand the social logic of space through urban dwellings; define the "unconscious" or "unspeakable", or ethos, in urban dwellings, particularly informal settlements and lowincome housing in a city.
- Research translates house plans into graphs; maps behavior patterns to understand usage of a space; conducts interviews and correlates quantitative data with qualitative data using multivariant statistics.
- Study of two types of social housing provision: 1) self-help housing, or sites and services, and 2) mass produced standardized housing.
- Summary of Findings: Self-help housing, success depends on the custom of building practices (not a good model for Asia); Urban self-management, scale of community is to be determined to successfully facilitate Urban Self Management; Self-help + Urban Self-Management, contributes to place making in a neighborhood; Space / Activities, customary of vernacular can be observed, dynamic spatial transformation, dynamic spatial usages; Ethos, mutual-aid, consensus and democracy, inheritance.
- Ethos exists in every community or human, but it is only tapped into when people are put in a situation where mutual-aid is needed.
- Community-center in Semarang, Indonesia provided a case-study linking ethos in the design of a successful bottom-up approach.

- Question: What is ethos, and can it apply in more complex, diverse urban areas?
- Answer: Ethos represents actions taken by people despite there being no economic benefit. It is awoken in people when they respond to pressures/threats.
- Question: In my understanding of community, there are two types of communities, 1)
   Imagined communities, where people are looking to a future together, and 2) Nostalgic
   Communities, where people have a shared history or understanding. How does a universal "ethos" fit into that?
- Answer: Taking a quantitative approach in my research has been heavily criticized, but it

enables an objective analysis of community organization around urban dwellings. Through this approach, I find that a shared ethos is a global phenomenon.

- Question: Why does self-help not work in Asia?
- Answer: Self-help in the traditional sense is quite unique to the Latin-American "maestro", or
  a lay architect that enables people to build their own homes. In Asia, this person doesn't
  typically exist. The better approach is to buildout to the point of near completion (including
  the most difficult elements, like structural, plumbing, etc.), with all the essentials, but still
  allow room to play/improve.

# The International Cooperation in Research of the Department of Japanese of Hanoi University

Dr. Nguyen Song Lan Anh, Vice Dean, Department of Japanese Studies, Hanoi University

#### Key Points:

- History and Development of the Department of Japanese at Hanoi University; Japanese started being taught as a second language in 1973, with 1993 being the first year it was taught at the university level; 1994 Japanese began being taught as a course for workers; 2010 marked the creation of the first Maser of Japanese Language Education in Vietnam.
- Strategic objectives of the university are, 1) Training, and 2) Scientific Research.
- Extensive partnerships with Japanese universities and businesses.
- Project example: Oregon-Vietnam-Japan Collaboration and Exchange Project aims to "initiate exchange and collaboration between the University of Oregon (UO), Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University (APU), and two Vietnamese universities – University of Education Ho Chi Minh City (UE) and Hanoi University (HU).
- Expected five tangible outcomes from the program: 1) Mutual transfer of pedagogical expertise in Japanese language teaching between partnering programs; 2) Publication of course readers and translated classics or textbooks in Japanese studies that will expand and enrich the curriculum of Vietnamese universities; 3) Cultivation of professional ties between key scholars of Japanese Studies from each participating institution; 4) Institutional networking between the departments, programs, and universities involved; 5) Academic papers resulting from collaboration on research projects.

- Ouestion: What are the tangible results and research with Ritsumeikan?
- Answer: Each faculty member has their own research focus with Ritsumeikan and UO. Dr. Nguyen's research is about peer-learning in Japanese classrooms to help promote creativity.
- Question: These programs have changed to offer <u>two</u> languages, Japanese and English, not just Japanese. Is this better? Why? Should this model grow?
- Answer: I always tell my students they must learn two foreign languages. It opens up more
  opportunities and is vital for the future of Vietnam. Vietnamese students also want to
  continue their English studies as they are studying from a young age. So offering English
  programs in Japan will continue to attract interest.
- Question: Should there be an English platform for credit exchange within Asia?
- Answer: We are trying to expand partnerships. Students are eager to seek further opportunities to learn abroad. See it as a great learning opportunity.

• Question: English courses mobilize students, but it can be difficult in Japan to offer full English courses. Would a duo-lingual model work? Learning in both English and Japanese?

#### 7.3 Round Table Discussion & Conclusions

The following points are the summary of key discussion points and conclusions from the Round Table Discussion that concluded this year's Innovative FD Workshop:

- Dr. Kobayashi initiated the conversation by stating that the takeaways from this year's faculty
  presentations and discussions can be organized around two pillars: academia, and role of
  higher-education in supporting human resources to engage with urban issues, and how
  academia should engage with the various levels of governance.
- Professor Dairokuno reemphasized how it took Japan more than 30 years to fix many of the same issues now facing ASEAN countries, however, now they are dealing with their own, new issues in aging society and youth unemployment. He remarked how academia continues to work mostly in silos, despite best efforts to work more collaboratively. He then posed the question to the group: How do we change our mindsets to work together?
- Migration was a major topic of discussion, and how ASEAN countries can equitably transition those living in informal settlements to be a part of the more formal economy. Examples of collective organizing and management of finances as a means of formalizing housing were given from India, where people can gain access to affordable housing loans if they register their income, and CODI in Thailand, where collective organizing gives access to finance and tenure. These types of programs, and the types of partnerships they emphasize, need to be researched for means of replication and expansion by academics.
- A major emphasis was given to Singapore, which is seen as a success story in the way it reshaped itself from a poor nation. However, Singapore is a unique case, and it will be difficult to replicate. Singapore is very limited by its unique geography and had visionary leadership in Lee Kuan Yew. Comparing CLMV countries and Thailand to this case is difficult, as these governments lack the leadership, political legitimacy, management capabilities, and resources to coordinate an effort in the same way as Singapore. In some cases, trying to reproduce the results of Singapore, in the form of social housing, for example, have even led to negative results. There is no one-size-fits all approach.
- If governments in the region are not strong enough, how can academics help to strengthen governments, and build the political trust needed to implement change at scale needed today?
- On the other hand, how can academics help to tap into the collective rule, or 'ethos', that exists in communities? Can that be strengthened and channeled in a way to move cities towards a more sustainable future?
- From an educational standpoint, it was noted that in Japan, despite its population being in flux, the government has always emphasized human resource as the most important element of the country. This should remain a focus, and perhaps more international educational programs could help build capacity for this throughout ASEAN nations.
- In conclusion, it was stated that for the academics in attendance, as well as the students, the most important thing to do is to continue to study the pressing issues touched on during the conference, and to cultivate human resources to address them. In addition, it is critical to act through this research to work with the various governance level actors, at the national, regional, neighborhood, and community level.

# 8. CLMV Students Conference Session 2 & 3 | Saturday, 24 August 2019

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, 25 August 2019

# 9.1 Summary of Presentation of the CLMV Students Conference and Conclusions

The Wrap-up Session began with Mr. Katsushi Goto 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 C:** Comparison of Urbanization Issues with CLMV, Japan and Thailand
- **Group A:** Path to safe, sustainable, inclusive, resilient society Water-related Disaster
- **Group B:** Urban Planning & its Civic Participation for Sustainable Urban Development
- **Group D:** Japanese experience & solutions on urbanization issues, and assistance to ASEAN urbanization

#### Group C - Comparison of Urbanization Issues with CLMV, Japan and Thailand

# Key Points:

- Thailand has a car culture, where priority is given to the personal automobile in urban planning and design. However, the expansion of rail lines shows Bangkok is ready for more public transportation.
- Pedestrian infrastructure is not adequate for people walking and connecting to public transportation. Thai people are willing to walk, but lack the facilities to make it safe and comfortable.
- Vietnam public transportation mostly consists of the bus. It is inexpensive, and many people use, however, the system also faces the same congestion as everyone else, leading to an inefficient form of travel. Therefore, people prefer the motorbike Vietnam is the 2<sub>nd</sub> leading nation in motorbikes per capita behind Taiwan.
- Investment in rail is recommended, however, it is not feasible outside of central cities. Pedestrian ways are also inadequate, making the reduction of private vehicle use difficult to sell.
- Japan is a good model for public transportation. Rail is given priority over all other forms of transportation, and rails are built in connection with roads.
- Japan also makes it very expensive and difficult to own a car, through licensing and maintenance fees, discouraging people from driving personal vehicles.
- Recommendations are to build/expand more train lines, and make existing trains more comfortable/convenient. Improve pedestrian comfort with sidewalks, and underground walkways. Begin preparing for and supporting he transition to electric cars/autonomous vehicles. However, these are all very expensive.

- Question: Public transportation can be expensive, and different types have different costs. What is the most cost-effective solution?
- Answer: Subways are too expensive, so it is suggested to move towards electric/autonomous vehicles. However, these are not viable options yet in most ASEAN countries.

- Question: Congestion is due, in part, to population growth. Is building public transit the only/best solution to this issue? What about satellite cities, or focus on other areas? Look at where the population centers are and focus on keeping people in those areas instead of commuting?
- Answer: You could tax cars entering central cities (congestion pricing), or make it harder to enter the city (license plate schemes, even-odd day, etc.). But is this equitable?
- Question: Underground pedestrian space is expensive. Who will pay for it? Development incentives (FAR) are offered in Japanese cities to encourage private developers to contribute to things like underground connections and green space.
- Answer: The private sector must be involved. Governments can't be solely responsible.
- Comment: The train system in Bangkok only covers major destinations, however, it doesn't reach suburbs or most residential areas. Do you think the bus system should be expanded or updated? Urban planning and transportation is not coordinated, and new trains aren't coordinated with new population centers.

Group A - Path to safe, sustainable, inclusive, resilient society - Water-related Disaster

## **Key Points:**

- Case Studies were utilized to shed light on the various types of water-related disasters in ASEAN and Japan: *Vietnam:* floods in Central Vietnam, 2018 tsunami; *Cambodia:* 2011 flash floods and 2013 prolonged flooding; *Laos:* 2019 flash flooding in northern Laos, constant minor flooding in Vientiane; *Japan,* 2011 Great East Japan Earthquake and tsunami; *Singapore:* Water shortages and no local resources.
- Garbage management was highlighted as an issue in many CLMV countries, as debris blocks drains, worsening flooding and spreading disease. Slum dwellers are most at-risk to waterrelated disasters.
- Proposed Solutions: ASEAN Water-related Disaster Committee, a regional committee
  dedicated to water disaster prevention, mitigation and response; floor-raised style of
  construction; underground water storage facilities for flood containment/drainage; Import
  water, water reservoir management, "new water" reclamation, desalination, and overall
  education on water management/use reduction; Hard infrastructure needs include levees,
  dams, etc. together with emergency response plans/coordination; waste management
  education / programs.
- ASEAN Slum Water Disaster Committee: A Foundation for disaster response that offers lowinterest loans through bonds to fund prevention measures.

- Question: How do tsunamis link to the solutions offered? I see the link between flooding and garbage, but not tsunamis. Aren't they a different type of water-related disaster?
- Answer: Overall focus was on water-related issues, how ASEAN cities do not focus enough attention on water-related issues. Important to be aware of all the issues, including tsunamis.
- Question: If slum dwellers don't pay tax, who will pay for the programs/infrastructure? Is it the government's responsibility?

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- Answer: Preventative measures for slums affect the entire city. Slum dwellers are not going anywhere, and they are a part of the economy, city. Even if informal, the interests of slum dwellers should be considered the same as the interests for all in the city.
- Comment: Did you look at water catchment areas? How can development patterns incorporate water catchment and other green infrastructure to prevent flooding? Grey infrastructure is incredibly expensive, while green infrastructure can be more cost effective in dealing with rainwater management while providing green space at the same time.
- Comment: It is also important to think about redundancy / dispersed infrastructure in dealing with water issues. Resiliency is about having both large-scale infrastructure, as well as local, green or water-resource infrastructure.
- Comment: Educational infrastructure is also vital. Organizing and educating communities in disaster preparation, prevention and response plans.

Group B: Urban Planning & its Civic Participation for Sustainable Urban Development

#### **Key Points:**

- Smart cities were presented as a framework to improve all ASEAN cities; ASEAN Smart City Network.
- 10 keys keeping cities from becoming 'smart': lack of infrastructure, lack of education, issues around open data, lack of funding, lack of communication, lack of policies/direction, cultural issues, geographic diversification, poor private-public participation, lack of trust between government and governed.
- Proposal for "Strategic proposal flow" of initiating smart city projects: Phase 1: Identify problem, Phase 2: Identify technology, Phase 3: Make proposal, Phase 4: Evaluation.
- Case study on Garbage Disposal use to demonstrate strategic proposal flow.
  - Phase 1: Waste management and garbage disposal identified as major issue throughout the region. Phase 2: Technology of community based application incentivizing garbage sorting/disposal. Phase 3: Educational/communications campaign to raise awareness about the app, together with community led design of application. Phase 4: Use SDG/New Urban Agenda indicators to track and evaluation.

#### Question & Answer:

- Question: As an economist, I want to know how this will be paid for. Are you willing to increase taxes to handle waste management?
- Answer: In the case of the app, the government would pay for it. Would be necessary to raise taxes to pay.
- Question: What about a tax on plastic bags as a disincentive to buy or use plastic? Should private industry be involved in extinguishing plastics?
- Answer: We focused on community level education first in order to start bottom-up public awareness.

Group D: Japanese Experience & Solutions on Urbanization Issues, and Assistance to ASEAN Urbanization

## **Key Points:**

- The students began by highlighting the different socioeconomic statistics between Japan, Singapore, Vietnam and Cambodia, clearly indicating how Japan and Singapore are "developed", while Vietnam and Cambodia are still "developing".
- The group then went on to use case studies from each country to highlight issues around cultural heritage and how urbanization can lead to cultural loss.
- Japan: Shibuya Ward has been under constant development since 1945, now with 2007 Development Guidelines and 2010 Redevelopment Plan helping to shape development in the area. Clear policies and authorities dealing with new development.
- *Singapore:* Tabula Rosa area, and the massive urbanization effort of Singapore. Highly coordinated and government-led.
- *Bio-political Theory*: Students led a discussion about how uncontrolled vs. controlled growth can lead to loss of culture, and how in the opinion of the student, places like Shibuya are beyond "controlled", and now in an "expansion" phase where culture is being lost.
- Cambodia: Bodeng Building in Phnom Penh is an historic building formally occupied by squatters. Instead of any preservation effort, it was long covered in advertisements and left in dereliction. It was demolished in 2017, leading to the loss of a cultural asset.
- *Vietnam:* Doi Moi led to rapid economic growth and urbanization, leading to the loss of traditional culture through Vietnam. Vietnam is now emphasizing ways to grow economy while maintaining and promoting traditional culture.
- Conclusions were made that Japan and Singapore provide good examples in their patterns of
  development, displaying control over the planning and development of their cities. However,
  it is important to strengthen cultural heritage preservation efforts, otherwise "expansion" in
  developed areas can lead to the loss of identity. We must seek ways to grow the economy
  together with culture.

#### Question & Answer:

- Question: With population decline, communities can disappear. How to resolve this?
- Answer: Policies can help to keep elderly living together with younger generations. Education
  of younger generations on the importance of taking care of parents; Also, community
  preservation/strengthening in architecture and organizations can help maintain communities.
- Question: How can you strengthen the link/connection between cultural development and economic development?
- Comment: Uncontrolled vs. Controlled is an oversimplification; Cities have many different stakeholders, and it is not easy to "control". In Shibuya, there is a design review committee that includes community stakeholders in development proceedings. This process led to a plaza being integrated on the ground level of a major commercial development to be used for cultural events, and to help preserve cultural heritage in the area. This governance structure is what makes it work.
- Comment: In the post-industrial society, culture has changed. This new, modern culture is also worthy of respect.

#### 9.2 Concluding Remarks & Statements

At the end of the conference, Professor Kosaku Dairokuno, Vice President of Meiji University, made his concluding remarks. They are as follows:

- Being one year further into attempting to implement the SDGs, it is clear that issues of modernization and urbanization will continue to be of the utmost importance.
- How do we tackle these issues while not repeating the same mistakes and creating the same problems seen in the more advanced economies of the region? What values do we need to consider?
- Especially when attempting to address global warming / climate change, it is difficult to get people to act. People don't always care, as they don't seem to be affected in their day-to-day lives.
- What can we do? Who needs to take responsibility? Government cannot do it all on their own, and therefore they need to partner with businesses, communities and individuals.
- Professor Dairokuno reflected that he is part of an aging society where he will be part of the last generation to enjoy full benefits of the Japanese welfare state, however younger generations will not have the same luxury without making some significant changes.
- The youth in this room, and in the world, will have to face these problems. It is their responsibility, and it will take their leadership to address them.

#### 9.3 Conclusions

This conference built on the goals from the last two years by continuing to highlight many of the major issues troubling the region related to sustainability and urbanization. It allowed both faculty and students to learn from a diverse range of backgrounds and cultures, encouraging them to reflect on their own countries and responsibilities in working towards a more sustainable future. Ultimately, it fostered an environment of deep discussion and deliberation about how each individual, and their respective institutions, could be a part of the much needed collaborative effort of sustainable urbanization in the ASEAN region and Japan.

Much emphasis was put on the impressive ability of the most developed countries in the region, Japan and Singapore, to organize and coordinate their urbanization efforts. Their culture of effective governance and urban planning, backed by strong leadership, provides a model worth emulating.

However, it was also acknowledged that both countries are dealing with their own pressing issues, and it is important that CLMV countries, as well as Thailand and other ASEAN nations, do not repeat the same mistakes as their own countries continue on their upward trajectory of development. Lacking the same forms of government, or a standing culture of coordinated urban planning, it is necessary that each country forge their own paths forward.

This, perhaps, was the most conclusive takeaway from this year's workshop. That in order to overcome the many problems in need of solving within the region, countries must find new and innovative ways to tap into their most vital resource: their people.

Educational institutions are in a unique position to be able to work together with citizens, as well as members of government and the private sector, to identify the most pressing issues within their respective communities. Through partnerships and research programs, a collaborative environment can be curated that helps not only identify problems, but also work towards sustainable solutions. Universities and educators will then be even better positioned to help develop the specific human

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resources needed within communities to meet societal needs.

While this is a tall and broad call to action, this three-day conference was an important next step in preparing our youth, the future leaders and practitioners of the world, to work toward the collaborative, transdisciplinary form of urbanization we need.