

# ForUm NEWSLETTER

## Forum for Urban Futures in Southeast Asia Network of Southeast Asian and German Experts

Issue no. 10: 1<sup>st</sup> half 2009. HIGHLIGHTS ON THE SUMMER SCHOOL IN MALAYSIA



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## ***EDITORIAL***

***by Tan Thean Siew***



In the spirit of sharing and cooperation, the task of editing the Forum newsletters is rotated among the member countries. This time the task is fallen upon me, and in the familiar do-or-die spirit, I have put myself whole heartedly into the task and I hope I have come out unscathed; the finished product will speak for myself, and you will be my kind and understanding judge.

In the process of preparing this newsletter, I, considered still a dinosaur in everything computer, have depended on a process of trial-and-error in coming out with the draft newsletter; designing the layout, choosing the colours and texts, cutting and pasting the photos, incorporating the wonderful materials contributed by you, converting to pdf format for publishing in the Forum home page, and doing all the other necessary tedious tasks, before sending it for checking by Christina and Prof Kraas. For all this I have come out a better man, at least in the field of preparing newsletters.

In similar vein, when I first joined the Forum summer schools, the subjects of urban drivers, urban coherence, and civil society, were all rather



## ***Editorial*** (continue)

vague to me, but after many readings and learning from all my learned friends and experts in the group, the importance and pertinence of this area of study to the urban situations and problems faced in all our countries in South East Asia have become apparent, particularly to me coming from a background of urban planning. Urban coherence, encompassing social, economic, environmental and political cohesion, harmony and balance, is after all the goal of all our urban planning tasks. To understand the urban phenomena that can lead to urban coherence, one has, of course, to understand the urban forces and urban drivers at work. And finally the crucial role of civil society in urban coherence and good governance, in order to achieve the fulfillment of basic human needs and the realization of basic human rights, is apparent in situations of weaknesses and failures of the market economy and of the government which are clearly evident in our developing countries.

Our network of experts and people concerned with urban issues has come a long way since the first summer school in Cologne in 2005 and since I first joined the network in 2007 in the summer school in the Philippines. We have become more “learned” and more equipped to deal with the various urban (and peri-urban) issues and problems we are continuously facing in our work in our own countries. But of not less importance, we as a group have learned to understand and enjoy each others’ company in the real spirit of social cohesion and brotherliness.

In this issue, the summer school in Malaysia, in Kuala Lumpur and Penang to be specific, will be the main theme. Many have contributed materials and articles which go a long way to make this issue more interesting. It has also been agreed that the Forum newsletter be published twice a year. This is more realistic than the 4 times a year that was ambitiously aimed for at the beginning, and which has only been achieved in 2005-06, but not since 2007. This is also more to coincide with the twice-a-year summer schools. Hence this 10<sup>th</sup> issue will be the first issue for 2009, and the next one will be for the second and last one for the year.

In ending, let me reminisce on the rainbow that all those who attended the summer school in Malaysia were fortunate to witness in Penang Hill. (In fact we saw two rainbows, an occurrence that is very rare). The sight took our breaths away, and released us of any worry and tension we might have in ourselves then. To me, and I hope to all of us, the rainbow symbolizes the urban situation in our countries. A rainbow is made up of billions of tiny water droplets floating in the sky, each refracting and reflecting the sun’s ray as it shines on them, and in the process it exposes the brilliance and glory that are inherent in every one of them. Together in total and perfect coherence they manifest to the world a beautiful and magnificent beacon to heal even the most troubled soul. I would like to think the droplets represent all the people in our countries, the seven colours of the rainbow represent our seven South East Asian countries. With a little bit of sunshine, (help from DAAD?) our people can become the glory that the world so badly needs. Like the promise given to Noah, the rainbow represents the hope for a better future for all of us.



# THE SUMMER SCHOOL IN MALAYSIA



## CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS

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The Forum Summer School in Malaysia was held from 1<sup>st</sup> to 11 March 2009, in the cities of Kuala Lumpur and Penang. The theme was on “Challenges of urbanizations” with special focus on “The role civil society in urban development”. It was organized by Nilai University College in conjunction with the University of Cologne and sponsored as usual by DAAD.

The following is a brief chronology of day-by-day events:

### **Day 1, (Sunday Mar 1):**

***Arrival of participants*** and checking-in at the Swiss Garden Hotel, Kuala Lumpur.

*In the evening: Welcome cocktail reception*, and meeting of old friends, at the hotel poolside.

### **Day 2, (Monday Mar 2):**

***Registration and opening ceremony.***

Welcome address by Prof. Dr. Lee Boon Thong, Nilai University College, Malaysia.

Welcome speech by Prof. Dr. Frauke Kraas, Head of ForUm Network, Department of Geography, University of Cologne, Germany.

Welcome speech by His Excellency Dr. Guenther Gruber, German Ambassador to Malaysia.

Opening speech by Y.M. Prof. Emeritus Tengku Dato' Shamsul Bahrin, President, Nilai University College, Malaysia.



***Session 1: Presentations on “German - Malaysian Cooperation and Introduction to the Challenges of Urban Development in Malaysia (I)”.***

“Programmes and activities of DAAD”: presented by Dr. Harald Olk, Head of the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD), Kuala Lumpur.

“Economic cooperation and joint activities”: presented by Mr. Alexander Stedtfeld, Executive Director & Representative of the Malaysian-German Chamber of Commerce and Industry (MGCC).

“The role of civil society in urban development”: by Prof. Dr Frauke Kraas, Head of ForUm Network, Department of Geography, University of Cologne, Germany.

“Access to social services for the urban underprivileged”: by Professor Dato’ Dr. Sothi Rachagan, Vice-President, Nilai University College, Malaysia.

***Session 2: Presentations by invited speakers on “The Role of Civil Society in Urban Development in Malaysia (II)”***

“Refugees in Malaysia: The work of UNHCR among refugee communities in urban areas”: presented by Ms. Ellie Al Daqqa, from the Office of the **UN** High Commissioner for **Refugees** (UNHCR) Malaysia.

“Shelter’s role in addressing urban social issues”: by Mr. James Nayagam, Executive Director, Shelter Home Malaysia.

“Civil society in George Town: A historical view”: by Dr. Neil Khor Jin Keong, Department of History, University of Malaya:

***Session 3: Presentations by Forum Network members on “The role of civil society in urban development in Malaysia(III) and Philippines (I)”***

“The manifestation of civil society in new urban residential areas in Malaysia”, presented by Shariffah Bahyah Bte Syed Ahmad, Dean, School of Humanities and Social Sciences, Nilai University College, Malaysia.

“Demystifying academics and urban poor development: the case of Capitol University’s extension programme”, by Noel Cornel Alegre, Associate Professor, CUREXO-IDS, Capitol University, Philippines.

***In the evening: Welcome Chinese Dinner at the Flavors Restaurant of the Swiss Garden Hotel.***



**Day 3, (Tuesday Mar 3):**

***Excursion I: Mega-urbanization issues in the Klang Valley***

Morning tour and briefing of Putrajaya, a planned city located south of Kuala Lumpur, and the new federal administrative centre of Malaysia.



***Seafood lunch on board cruise boat on Putrajaya Lake***



Aftersoon tour and briefing on Cyberjaya, a new planned IT township, the nucleus of the Multimedia Super Corridor (MSC).

Tour of the new township of Shah Alam and the suburban residential town of Petaling Jaya.

Dinner at Restaurant Kelantan Delights (Kelantanese food).

**Day 4 (Wednesday Mar 4):**

***Session 4: Presentations by Thai members on “The role of civil society in urban development in Thailand (I)”***

“Development of civil society in Khon Kaen University”: presented by Dr. Sekson Yongvanit, Associate Professor, Department of Geography, Khon Kaen University, Thailand.

“Level of citizen participation in local tourism development planning: A case study of Srisakes Province”, by Dr. Monsicha Bejrananda, Faculty of Architecture, King Mongkut Institute of Technology Ladkrabang, Thailand.

“Role of civil society in making Chiang Mai a sustainable city: An overview”: by Prof. Dr. Manat Suwan, Department of Geography, Chiang Mai University, Thailand:

***Session 5: Presentations by the Indonesian members on “The role of civil society in urban development in Indonesia (I)”***

“The centre of excellence as a part of sustainable civil society in the challenge of disaster risk reduction”: by Yuni Windarti, Institute for Research and Community Services, Gadjah Mada University, Indonesia:



“Economic crisis, political reform, and the rise of civil society in Indonesian urban development: an analysis based on the good governance and decentralization survey”: presented by Drs. Sukamdi, Faculty of Geography, Gadjah Mada University, Yogyakarta, Indonesia, and Joko Pitoyo, Centre for Population Studies, Gadjah Mada University.

“Strengthening of civil society by “Kampong Tourism” in Yogyakarta”: by **Djaka Marwasta**, Faculty of Geography, Gadjah Mada University, Indonesia.



***Session 6: Presentations by Vietnamese members on “The role of civil society in urban development in Vietnam”***

“Enhancing community participation to improve living environment in Hanoi’s Ancient Quarters for sustainable development”: presented by Dr. Ta Quynh Hoa, Faculty of Architecture & Planning, University of Civil Engineering, Hanoi, Vietnam.

“3R in Hanoi: Can it become a “movement”?”: by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Le Thu Hoa, Dean, Faculty of Urban and Environment, National Economics University, Hanoi, Vietnam.

***Session 7: Presentations on “The role of civil society in urban development in Philippines (II)”***

“Strengthening civil society: The Philippines experiences”: by Dr. Anselmo Mercado, President of the Cooperative Business Institute in Cagayan de Oro City, Philippines.

“Shared leadership, enhancing social capital: The Opol experience”: by Dixon Q. Yasay, Mayor, Municipality of Opol, Misamis Oriental, Philippines.

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***In the late afternoon and evening: Walking tour of the Historic core of Kuala Lumpur, Central Market, Chinatown and Bukit Bintang Walk.***



**Day 5 (Thursday March 5):**

***Visit to Integrated Transport Information System Centre (ITIS) at Bukit Jalil Traffic Management and KL Structure Plan***

Briefing on “Integrated Transport Management Centre” by Ms. Wan Nurazlin bt. Mustaffa (Electrical Engineer, ITIS)



Briefing on Kuala Lumpur Structure Plan by Puan Hj. Nik Mastura Diyana bt. Nik Mohamad, Deputy Director, Department of Master Plan for Kuala Lumpur City Council.



***A walk through Kampung Baru.***

A 100% Malay enclave in the heart of Kuala Lumpur, its high land value has imposed tremendous pressure for modern redevelopment, but the old residents have so far been able to withstand the pressure with the intention of preserving their ethnic Malay lifestyle.



***Visit to Petronas Twin Towers***



On the skybridge at the 42<sup>nd</sup> floor





Drive through Mont Kiara and Damansara high-end residential and commercial development areas, and an “orang asli” resettlement project, and then dinner of Nonya cuisines at H & H Restaurant.



Cheeky Orang Asli boys

**Day 6 (Friday March 6): Journey to Penang by bus.**

On the way detoured to Cameron Highlands (which at 2,000 metres, is the most popular highland retreat in Malaysia) for lunch and a visit to the Boh Tea Plantation, and for afternoon tea at the Sungai Palas Tea Centre.



Sunset arrival in Penang.

Check-in at Bayview Hotel Georgetown

Buffet Dinner at the Revolving Restaurant (Ranch BBQ)



**Day 7 (Saturday March 7):**

***Session 8: Presentations by invited speakers on “German-Malaysian cooperation” and “Civil societies in urban development in Malaysia (IV)”***

“The German-Malaysian Society: programmes and activities”: Hr. Ebinger, President of the German-Malaysian Society, Penang.

“The role of civil society in urban governance in Malaysia”: presented by Dr Goh Ban Lee, Fellow of the Socio-Economic and Environmental Research Institute, Penang.

“Individual freedom versus collective responsibilities in the advancing city: Insights from looking about Penang”: by Assc. Prof. Dr. Chan Huan Chiang, Centre for Policy Research, Universiti Sains Malaysia.



***Session 9: Presentations by invited speakers on “Challenges of Urban Development in Malaysia (V)”***

“Urban development in Penang”: by Mr. Mohd. Bazid bin Haji Abd Kahar, Penang Development Corporation:

“Heritage issues and the role of Penang Heritage Trust”: by Mr. Laurence Loh, Arkitek LLA Sdn. Bhd.

***Session 10: Presentations by Indonesian Forum members on “The role of civil society in urban development in Indonesia (II)”.***

“Achieving civil society in Indonesia”: by Rini Rachmawati, Faculty of Geography, Gadjah Mada University, Indonesia.

“The role of community in urban water supply: A case study of Yogyakarta, Indonesia”: by Dyah Widiyastuti, Faculty of Geography, Gadjah Mada University, Indonesia:

“Informal groups of interest in food production, processing and management”: by Harsoyo Oedijono, Faculty of Agriculture, Gadjah Mada University, Indonesia.

***Session 11: Presentation II by Thai members on “The role of civil society in urban development in Thailand”.***

“Lessons learned from civil society activities in Thailand”: presented by Kwansuang Atipodhi, Department of Architecture, Chulalongkorn University.

“Civil society and its role in urbanisation in Thailand”: by Dr. Chaian Rajchagool, Institute of Religion, Culture and Peace, Payap University, Chiang Mai, Thailand.





"Community organization movement towards urban development in Thailand": by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Daranee Bunchorntavakul, Faculty of Architecture, Department of Urban and Regional Planning, Thailand:

**Day 8 (Sunday March 8):**

Morning discussion

**Excursion III: Round island trip of Penang Island**

Bayan Baru industrial and new town areas;  
Lunch of Penang "Hawkers' Food" in George Town;  
Batu Ferringgi tourist beach resort;  
Balik Pulau hills and fruit growing region;  
Paya Terubong high-density housing areas;  
Penang laksa and nutmeg juice for tea time;  
Penang Hill by funicular rail;  
Rainbows before dinner (E).  
Dinner at Bellevue Restaurant on Penang Hill.





**Day 9 (Monday March 9):**

**Morning: Guided heritage walk and trishaw ride in historic Inner City of George Town, a UNESCO World Heritage Site.**

Lunch at a heritage Indian restaurant

*Return to hotel*



***Afternoon: Session 12: Presentation by Malaysian, Cambodian and Laotian Forum members on “The role of civil society in urban development in Malaysia (VI), Cambodia, and Lao PDR”.***

“The role of unit owners in managing high-rise residential buildings in Malaysia”: by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Tiun Ling Ta, from the School of Social Science, Universiti Sains Malaysia.

“An overview of the roles of NGOs in urban development in Cambodia: Lessons learned, challenges and opportunities”: by Phann Sithan, Housing Rights Task Force, Phnom Penh, Cambodia, and San Phyrum, Ministry of Land Management Urban Planning and Construction, GTZ/ IP-GOPA- LASED Kampong Cham, Cambodia.

“Community empowerment on urban environmental sanitation services, Ban Hatsady Tai, Vientiane City Lao PDR”: by Saykham Thammanosouth, Public Works and Transport Institute, Vientiane, Lao PDR.

***Session 13: Plenary discussions on the role of civil society in urban development.***

***Evening: Farewell dinner and karaoke party at Penang Chinese Swimming Club, Tanjung Tokong.***





**Day 10 (Tuesday, Mar 10):**

***Session 14: Workgroup discussions on tasks & planning for future activities, networking and future cooperation***

***Session 15: Presentation of workgroup discussions, Report of the network partners on past activities, Evaluation, and Final discussions on German-Southeast Asian cooperation***

***Buffet lunch at hotel***

***Afternoon: Journey back to Kuala Lumpur by bus.***

**Day 11 (Wednesday, Mar 11):**

**Departure of participants from KLIA: "BON VOYAGE"**



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## PARTICIPANTS OF THE MALAYSIAN SUMMER SCHOOL



**Sukamdi  
(Indonesia)**



**Ta Quynh Hoa, Le Thu Hoa  
(Vietnam)**



**Phann Sithan  
(Cambodia)**



**Sharifah Bahyah bt Syed  
Ahmad (Malaysia)**



**Noel Cornel Alegre (Philippines)  
Rini Rachmawati (Indonesia)**



**San Phyrum (Cambodia)**



**Monsicha Bejrananda (Thailand)  
Lee Mei Ming (Malaysia)**



**Dixon Q Yasay (Philippines)**



**Adiyanti Sutandyo Buchholz  
(Indonesia)**



**Alex Koenig (Germany)**



**Yuni Windarti  
(Indonesia)**



**Tiun Lin Ta  
(Malaysia)**



**Daranee Bunchorntavakul  
(Thailand)**



**Manat Suwan  
(Thailand)**



**Hasoyo Oedijono  
(Indonesia)**



*(from left)*  
**Dyah Widiyastuti  
(Indonesia)  
Saykham Thammanosouth  
(Lao PDR)**



*(from left)*  
**Frauke Kraas,  
Christine Knie  
(Germany)**

*(from left)*  
**Djaka Marwasta  
(Indonesia)  
Joko Pitoyo  
(Indonesia)**



*(from left)*  
**Sekson Yongvanit (Thailand)  
Kwansuang Atipodhi (Thailand)  
Anselmo Mercado (Philippines)  
Lee Boon Thong (Malaysia)  
Tan Thean Siew (Malaysia)  
Chaiyan Rajchagool (Thailand)**





## SOME PERSONAL NOTES ON THE URBAN FORUM SUMMER SCHOOLS (2005-2008)

Anselmo B. Mercado (Philippines), July 2009

### I. Introduction

These notes are really my personal impressions that go back to the First Summer School in Cologne, Germany in 2005 up to the recently concluded one in Kuala Lumpur and Penang, Malaysia, in March 9 – 18, 2009. I have had the fortune to participate in almost all the Summer Schools of the Urban ForUm (i.e., Cologne, Indonesia, Philippines, Cambodia, Vietnam and Malaysia in March 2009) except the one in Thailand (2008). I have therefore witnessed the growth and development of the so-called Summer Schools which have now developed into a network called **Urban ForUm** with partners from Cambodia, Germany, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Philippines, Thailand, and Vietnam.

I offer these notes to the network for whatever they are worth hopefully to help in building-up a strong network of committed partners whose studies, practice and commitment to their various professions related to urban development will redound to the benefit of their cities and peoples.

I would like to thank our key leaders from the University of Cologne, Prof. Dr. Frauke Kraas and Ms. Christine Knie for their leadership and the great care they manifested that had made the Summer Schools an effective forum to bring about a greater awareness and understanding of the challenges posed by urbanization in South East Asia and elsewhere in the world. To my co-participants and others who had in one way or another contributed to the success of the Summer Schools, also my appreciation and gratitude to them. A word of gratitude must also go to the sponsors, for their generous support without which the Summer Schools would not have been realized.

### II. Beginnings, Evolution and Development

1. The Summer Schools (SS) have certainly evolved and emerged from a somewhat “cloudy beginning”. I suppose this is quite normal for anything that is novel.

At the start the participants were unfamiliar with one another. The SS objectives and directions were also somewhat hazy. Even the various presentations were made with individualistic orientations based on a general and broad theme called “Urbanization”. Nevertheless, it was a good beginning – getting the participants and their institutions to become acquainted with one another, getting the “ball rolling” so to speak. Perhaps no one had any idea where the Summer School would lead to.

For me, the First SS in Cologne (2005) was an “eye opener” on the phenomenon of Urbanization. It was a good idea to have the First SS in Germany, to be exposed to a “First World” country because it offered a perspective, some ideas and a “feel” of urban living in a modern well developed healthy city with infrastructures that had come about because of good urban planning. I had certainly learned very much from this initial exposure and activity, both from the formal classroom sessions and the excellent field excursions in three nearby cities of Bonn, Cologne and Dusseldorf.

2. After three years (2005-2008), the SS partners had formed the “Urban ForUm for Urban Futures”. This was a positive development. Due to this, the Summer Schools that took place in other Asian countries after Cologne had taken on a focused direction with a relevant theme



-- "Challenges of Urbanization" with sub-themes on "Driving Forces", "Urban Social Coherence" and "Strengthening Civil Society." These themes in turn had given guidance to the various presentations done at the subsequent SSs. From the broad general topics, the papers and discussions had become focused on the themes and sub-themes, a very prudent and helpful way to understand a complex phenomenon of Urbanization. From a "cloudy beginning", the SSs had opened up to some rays of clarity in purpose and vision and content.

### **III. Comments on the Actual Conduct and Experiences of the SSs**

#### **1. Organizational Aspects:**

Organizing the SSs to be held in different countries and hosted by country-partner-organizations must have been quite a challenging and taxing work especially for the lead organization and the coordinator (and the country co-coordinators as well). Each country had had particular experiences to bring the SS to reality and make it successful.

- a) **Indonesia:** I found the Indonesian SS very well hosted by the partner-organization, the Gadjadjar University's Department of Geography. Holding it in the beautiful, interesting and bustling city of Jogjakarta was appropriate and the SS was successfully conducted.
- b) **Philippines:** The Philippine SS was somewhat more difficult because it was held in two cities, Manila and Cagayan de Oro. The lead coordinator had to plan, organize, make arrangements, communicate and work with two co-coordinators, one from each city. Nevertheless, the SS in the Philippines came out successful in spite of some shortcomings and deficiencies.
- c) **Cambodia:** The SS in Cambodia, I observed, had one particular drawback, in that the lead coordinator had to work with only one partner-organization with minimal help from other partner-organizations in Cambodia. Nevertheless, the Cambodian SS accomplished the objectives. Holding the SS in two places (Phnom Penh and Siem Reap) was commendable.
- d) **Thailand:** I could not give my impressions on the SS in Thailand because I missed it. However, I participated in the planning of the Thailand SS by a smaller group several weeks prior to the main event. I believe the group came out with a good well-thought out plan that made the Thailand SS a success.
- e) **Laos:** I also missed the Forum in Laos. I understand it was not really a full Summer School like the ones held previously in other countries. Nevertheless, the Forum was held in Vientiane, and I heard it was interesting and a success.
- f) **Vietnam:** The Vietnam SS had strong and weak points. The strong points include: Hanoi was an excellent choice for what it could offer as a city of interest on the theme of the SS. The remarkable post-Indochina War changes that had taken place in Hanoi were of real interest to the participants. And the participants were not disappointed. Another strong point of the SS was the well-thought plan of the sessions with field excursions which was well implemented. The one weak point that I observed in the Vietnam experience was the seemingly lack of support from the partner-organizations whose representatives could not be found during the SS to host and lend a helping hand to the SS. Fortunately, a new partner-organization was able to host the SS and with the help of their capable staff the Vietnam SS 2008 turned out to be also a success.
- g) **Malaysia:** The Malaysian SS was held in the cities of Kuala Lumpur and Penang, two great cities of South East Asia that have a lot to offer on the phenomenon of Urbanization, Urban

Planning and Urban Development. The first leg was in Kuala Lumpur, a very impressive city in many aspects with peculiarities and similarities as other mega cities in South East Asia. The second leg was held in Penang, a city that attracts many tourists and others because of its rich history and quite a well planned development that has preserved interesting heritage sites and natural resources. The SS was well organized and efficiently carried out at the academic and fieldtrip aspects. The accommodations and facilities were excellent. Thanks for all these very successful and enjoyable SS to the Malaysian partners and co-organizers as well as to the generous financial support provided by the ForUm coordinators and sponsors.

## **2. Contents and Timetables of the SS**

The contents as well as the presentations of the Summer Schools were generated and guided by the main theme and sub-themes. There was a good balance of the “classroom sessions” and the field excursions. At times (in the initial SSs), I had the feeling that we tried to “squeeze in” too much in a day’s session and putting in too many presentations at the expense of giving ample time for a satisfactory presentation of each one. However, this had improved over time from experience. I felt that the time management of the SS in Hanoi was much improved – there was ample time for each presentation and the “work days” were neither too long (too heavy) nor too short (too light).

## **3. Participants**

Some of the participants were consistent and regular attendants which gave them cumulative benefits and greater understanding of the dynamics of Urbanization as the themes and subthemes unfolded in the series of SSs. Other participants were not as regular for some reason or other. Whether or not this was a disadvantage, it is hard to say. Obviously, their participation and contribution was a plus. In general, I felt that the SSs were not adversely affected by the coming and going of irregular participants.

The presentations enthusiastically done by capable presenters were generally very interesting, informative, educational and beneficial to the Urban ForUm. The variety of case studies and projects was particularly remarkable giving the Forum a multi-dimensional outlook and perspective of Urbanization. As a whole, the participation in the discussion and plenary sessions and open forum was also good.

## **4. Accommodations, Conference Venues and Facilities**

Understandably, each country had its peculiarities, and it is not appropriate for me to venture on comparisons. In general, I felt comfortable in all the Summer Schools. I enjoyed the hospitalities of the host-partners and the people in the countries. Some facilities could not offer the most ideal seating arrangements, communication systems, secretariat support, etc. As a whole, the deficiencies were not serious enough to hamper the proceedings and the attainment of the SS objectives.

## **5. Others**

- a) Newsletters: The Urban ForUm network was able to produce several Newsletters which were ably done by the partner-organizations taking turns to produce them. If I am not mistaken, ten Newsletters were produced and sent out since 2005 to 2009.
- b) One book had been published. A second book, I understand, is forthcoming.

- c) The keynote concept papers were very important to guide the participants and to keep them “on track” in the making and presentation of their papers. They were also very helpful in clarifying the concepts and issues that were discussed and raised during the sessions.

(I refer to the concept papers of Prof. Dr. Frauke Kraas on “The Challenge of Urban Coherence” (Cambodia), on “Urban-Spatial Coherence and Social Cohesion: Paradigm Shifts and Concepts” (Vietnam); and concept paper of Prof. Dr. Boonthong Lee and Dr. Johannes Hambaber on “A Framework on Multi-layer Driving Forces” (Philippines-Cambodia), and the key-note talks during the opening session in Malaysia (by Prof. Bahrin of Nilai University, Malaysia and by Prof. Dr. Frauke Kraas).

- d) With respect to the leadership of the Urban ForUm network, I want to thank Professor Dr. Kraas and Ms. Christine Knie for their thoughtful and intelligent guidance of the SSs and the network. Their individual personalities and leadership styles compliment one another to lead a diverse group of partners and to develop a good network with future potentials.
- e) The continuing series format of the SSs, unlike the “come-and-go” or “one-time-then-finish” type of seminars or fora, is an advantage and a plus factor for the Urban ForUm network. The key to this continuity is of course the good leadership, the commitment of the partners, and the concatenation of relevant themes and sub-themes (a sort of building blocks that form a coherent structure) on the complex phenomenon of Urbanization.

#### IV. Impact

My impressions here are on two main points, 1) The SSs impact on me personally, and 2) The impact on others particularly the general public.

##### Impact on Me:

1. The theoretical knowledge I acquired from the academic presentations and discussions in the SSs is significant and meaningful. Being an agriculturist and a rural development specialist, urbanization and urban development were out of my expertise and were novel to me. Many of the field excursions were very educational, interesting and enjoyable giving me a “feel” of what’s-on-the-ground realities of urban life and environment. The field excursions went beyond just “tourism” because they were purposely related to the academic purpose of the SSs.
2. The ten-day exposure in each country was very helpful and appropriate to know the country and the people more deeply (i.e., culture, economic and social life, the physical and infrastructures, problems and challenges besetting the country). Shorter than the ten-day duration would not have been enough, and longer would have taken the participants out of their regular work too much.
3. To know the participants of the SSs (i.e., their professional background and involvements, some personal background, their personalities to some extent, etc.) was a real privilege and pleasure for me. The informal fellowship and friendship that had developed among the participants is something I will cherish personally. I think this particular aspect, the social aspect (apart from the academic), had given the SSs and the Urban ForUm network a “human face”. We owe this to the participants who in no time started to relate well with each other and found ways and means to enjoy one another’s company during the SSs.



### **Impact on the “Others”:**

1. I cannot comment on the impact of the SSs on the other participants. It is better that this should come from them.
2. The SSs’ impact on the public perhaps deserves to be reflected upon and given attention to. I am not sure whether or not our SSs have had any impact at all on the public. Is it our ForUm’s purpose to reach out and create some impact on the public? If so, what has our ForUm done on this score? What should our ForUm do to create the impact it wants to have on the public?

### **V. The Future: Moving Forward? Where to Go?**

Let me share a few points:

1. I am pleased to know that the SSs and the Network have good potentials to build on from where it is and to move on to the future with a defined purpose and possibly more financial support. For this reason, Professor Dr. Frauke Kraas (University of Cologne, Department of Geography) and Ms. Christine Knie have urged the partners to help analyze and to offer ideas and suggestions for the network’s future directions and how to get there (for the next three years). Prof. Dr. Kraas has put the participants (partner-organizations) into a “thinking mode” posing key issues for reflection and discussion:

- What have we learned from the Summer Schools?

Certainly, the SSs has helped advanced our knowledge on many complicated aspects of Urbanization along the main themes of “Urban Driving Forces”, “Urban Cohesion/Coherence” and the “Role of Civil Society in Urban Development”.

- On what aspects or issues should the future SS focus on – People (Civil Society)? Infrastructures? Social or political or economic?

Given the diversified and divergent interests and varying expertise and experiences of the partner-organizations, this will be a “tough nut to crack”. Perhaps, a key question would be: what needs to be highlighted in urban studies that all partners would be commonly interested and committed to given the urban realities of our countries? We may have to build a consensus on this question.

My own reckoning is that there are biased perspectives that defend each country’s development accomplishments and efforts. However, realities out there exist, the reality of poverty, of disenfranchised sectors or groups, the reality of strong-handed governments with the image of corruption within, the strong alliance or connivance of government-business sector to the detriment of non-powerful civil society, the gap between wonderful plans and their actual implementations. All these, in turn, affect many other facets in society as services, infrastructures, quality of life for all (not only for a few or some).

- Many Other Issues, e.g., Impact of Globalization, Tripartite Dialogue of Three Main Driving Forces (Government, Business Sector and Civil Society) at all levels (National, Regional, Provincial, Local). Perhaps what we should look for are “Best Practices”, Systems that work and may be replicable internationally!

These questions/issues will surely pose a challenge to all the partners involved and will elicit from them a more serious and purposeful thinking mode, commitment, responsibility and full cooperation to the Urban ForUm network.

2. I believe the “partnership” concept has to be given more flesh in the network. This is an aspect the network has to improve somehow. For some reason or other, the SS coordinator had to take the major brunt of the work-load in running the SS in each country. Perhaps this was necessary in our fledgling network -- the leadership initially “to hack through the forests” (so to speak) and clear the way. We are grateful for the leadership. Eventually, however, the leadership should share some of the responsibilities and the tasks with the partners. Otherwise, for one, the so-called “partners” will become too dependent on the lead-coordinator and the “partnership” concept will not really register with the country partners. Second, the work load should also be shared by delegating to the host partners tasks that ought to be done by the host partners. This means that the partners have to commit and be willing to take on their responsibilities and tasks. I believe that given the opportunity, plus clear-cut definitions of roles, functions and responsibilities, the “co-ownership” of the network as a whole will develop and the dependency on the lead-coordinator can be lessened.

What responsibilities, roles and tasks should be given to the lead-organization and lead-coordinator and the partners should be defined and discussed somehow by the network partners in the final Summer School in Cologne in the later part of 2009.

3. Country specific projects can be undertaken by partner-organizations in the future to address the issues and challenges of Urbanization and Urban Development Planning. These projects may be jointly (collaboratively) undertaken by partner-institutions within the country or within a certain region in the country. In turn the “country project” may seek for assistance or collaborative relationship with “external” institutions within the country and with international partners.

An example is the proposal to set-up a “Mindanao Center for Urban Development Studies and Education” in the Southern Philippines. (Please refer to the attachment of the concept paper proposal by Anselmo B. Mercado).

## **A “MINDANAO CENTER FOR URBAN DEVELOPMENT STUDIES AND EDUCATION” (MinURBANDEVCenter): A PROPOSAL**

*Anselmo B. Mercado*

### **RATIONALE:**

The phenomenon of Urbanization has been one of the current major areas of study and interest around the world. Who are the driving forces in the growth and development of the urban centers? What impacts have urbanization and urban development had on society in general and the various sectors in particular? Urban development – for whom? For whose benefit? Who are the gainers, the losers? Whose needs are looked after, or prioritized? Urban development – from whose perspective? How can “urban coherence” or “social cohesion” be achieved for the common good taking into account the many various perspectives and interests of different actors, stakeholders, interest groups, communities, etc.? How should urban development be done? What aspects (i.e., technical, social, economic, environmental, physical, etc.) need to be studied and given attention to? What responsibilities and roles should Government, the business sector and civil society take and play in urban planning and development?

These and many more are the issues and challenges in urban development. Policy-makers, academics, government, business and civil society have been confronting them for decades to make urban centers become more livable and peaceful to raise a family in, and that provide, for all, the healthy environment and opportunities for total human development and quality of life commensurate to human dignity today and in the generations to come.

In Mindanao, there is no Center dedicated to the phenomenon of urbanization and Urban Development and Planning that I know of. There is an academic program on Urban Planning in the University of the Philippines. I do not know of any other institution in the Philippines that offers academic and practical programs on Urban Development. I am certain that governments and administrators of major cities in the Philippines have put in place Urban Development Planning desks that can help them develop their cities. However, urban planning officers have a lot to be desired in terms of their technical know-how and their comprehensive grasp of the complex phenomenon and process of urbanization and urban development.

Urbanization and Urban Development are so complex that they need to be studied, observed, experimented and understood from various dimensions and viewpoints. The policy-makers are crucial and must be involved, the academic institutions have much to contribute, various civil society groups (business sector, NGOs, communities, etc.) can play important roles in articulating their various interest, the local governments should be fully involved -- all are key actors in the process of urban development. Hence, this concept of a “**Center for Urban Development Studies and Education**” (MinURBANDEVCenter) should be a multi-stakeholder owned and operated.

### **OTHER RELEVANT INFORMATION:**

#### **The Urban ForUm Network:**

During the past four years, when I was the director of SEARSOLIN, I have had the privilege, pleasure and benefit from participating actively in the Southeast Asian-German Summer Schools (a series of Forum), organized by the Urban **ForUm** (an international network of academics, practitioners, students and experts on Urbanization from Government, academic, business and civil society sectors). The Urban ForUm network started in the Year 2005 with its first “Summer School” hosted by the University of Cologne, Germany. Subsequent Summer Schools were held



in Indonesia, Philippines, Laos, Cambodia, Thailand, Vietnam and Malaysia hosted by country-partners in the respective countries. The ForUm and the Summer Schools have been financially supported since 2005 by the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) under its DAAD Alumni Programme.

In the Philippines at large, several other institutions have been invited to participate in the Summer Schools, such as the Asian Development bank in Manila, and a few others. Our part of the Philippines (Mindanao) in particular, has been represented in the Summer Schools since its start by the participation of: 1) the Cagayan Local Government unit (Ms. Emma Gatuslao, Ms. Roquesa Eduave); 2) Municipality of Opol (Mayor Dixon Yasay); 3) Capitol University (Mr. Noel Alegre – CUREXO-IDS), and 4) SEARSOLIN, Xavier U. (Dr. Anselmo B. Mercado and Dr. Robert Holmer). All participants of the Summer Schools (as expected) had to present papers about their development experiences and case studies related to Urbanization.

The lead-organization of the Urban ForUm network is the Department of Geography of the University of Cologne, Germany headed by Prof. Dr. Frauke Kraas. The network is coordinated by Ms. Christine Knie (Department of Geography, University of Cologne). All other institutions from Asian countries that have actively participated in the Summer Schools are partner-organizations.

### **The “Summer Schools”**

The term “Summer School” is used in Germany to refer to an organized and sponsored seminar or a forum that goes beyond a “short-term” one to three-day seminar/forum/symposium. Our Summer Schools have been ten-day seminars (moved from one country to another, hosted by the partner-organizations in the respected countries) organized to include a balanced format of academic classroom sessions and several fieldtrip exposures relevant to the seminar themes and sub-themes. This format has been very educational and meaningful (and enjoyable) to the participants as they have gone and been exposed to cities like Cologne, Bonn and Dusseldorf (Germany), Manila and Cagayan de Oro (Philippines), Jogjakarta (Indonesia), Phnom Penh and Siem Reap (Cambodia), Vientianne (Lao PDR), Bangkok and ChiangMai (Thailand), Hanoi (Vietnam), Kuala Lumpur and Penang (Malaysia).

The Summer Schools’ main themes that have guided our academic and practical program of activities (i.e., presentations and discussions, field exposures, etc.) have evolved during the actual conduct and experiences of the Summer Schools, namely: 1) The Driving Forces of Urbanization and Urban Development; 2) The Process of “Social Coherence” and “Social Cohesion” taking place in Urban development; and 3) The Role and Relevance of Strengthening Civil Society in Urban Development. Interesting presentations and exchanges of ideas, experiences and insights have enriched the UrbanForUm network and the participants. Other resources that have developed from the Summer Schools (e.g., papers, studies, newsletters, publications, etc.) and other resources from partner-organizations have also been offered and shared (e.g., linkages, exchange programs, etc.) for the benefit of the partners, participants and the general public.

### **Future Joint Activities and Linkages with Partner-Organizations:**

During the Summer Schools, the participants have discussed among other things:

- Enhancing partner-relationships,
- Collaborative undertakings within the local environment where the partner-institution is based (with Government and civil society organizations and institutions),

- Collaborative undertakings between and among international partner-organizations of the Urban ForUm network.

In several occasions during the Summer Schools, the Philippine group has discussed the need for such collaborations. We have discussed the concept of setting-up a **Center for Urban Development Studies and Education** particularly in Mindanao. We have presented this idea to Prof. Dr. Kraas and Ms. Christine Knie and at the Summer School sessions. All of them have been very positive, receptive and encouraging. Prof. Dr. Frauke Kraas has in fact offered the resources of the Department of Geography of the University of Cologne at her disposal (e.g., scholarships for graduate studies, etc.) to assist in this regard.

#### **Objectives of the Meeting:**

The main objective of this meeting is to discuss the relevance of this concept to set-up the MInURBANCenter, and, the feasibility to set it up. Furthermore, there are other “talking points” that the group may want to explore:

- What interest and relevance does this idea have for each one vis-à-vis his/her and organization’s work?
- Does Mindanao need this? Should our institutions be pro-active and get seriously involved in this?
- Follow-up meetings for this purpose?
- A “collaborative” set-up for the Center?
- Resources that can be tapped (“within” and “external”)? (Dr. Robert Holmer, former German CIM expert and consultant attached to Xavier University has manifested his interest to help)
- Etc.

Hopefully, this brief proposal can generate interest, commitment and concrete action on how to face up to the reality of Urbanization and the many issues and challenges posed by it.

## Postmodern Developments in Southeast Asian Cities?

Frauke Kraas, Köln/Cologne

### Postmodern urban development – inspired by Edward Soja

The US-American Geographer Edward Soja in his visionary monograph on the theory of postmodern urbanisation (2000) pointed out six main characteristic processes, which he sees to be symptomatic for a postmodern city. These are – focused and in short – (1) the transformation from earlier fordistic industrial production to flexible production systems, (2) the transformation of a city to a so-called „global city“, (3) the construction of large urban institutions, (4) the growth of urban polarisation, (5) the protection of the city through private security systems and (6) the breach with earlier ideas on the principles of „the urban“. Moreover, for Soja, the globalised megacity of Los Angeles worked as a prime example: here a consumer-shaped city had proven to be dependent on worlds of artificial consumption and leisure with its sophisticated architecture.

### Southeast Asia postmodernised?

Against this brief background, the question arises whether or not also Southeast Asian cities are on their way to postmodern cities in which comparable elements and trends can be observed during the last decades.

1. It is obvious that for some years now several Southeast Asian cities started to move away from pure and dominant labour-intensive industrial production – with high numbers of workers, low-skilled labour and mass production as characteristics – to more service-oriented production where higher skills and education, higher investments in research & development as well as consumption- and technology-oriented production are required. For example, a more human resource-oriented sector developed in the automotive and electronics industry in the (mega)urban centres of Indonesia, Malaysia and Thailand, not to mention Singapore where already since the mid-1980s a human resource-and capital-intensive production has started to push out the labour-intensive industrial production. Moreover, highly qualitative design and cosmetic products, produced in flexible adaptation to the markets, are meanwhile achieving top quality and are of international competitiveness. Here, in urban centres the capacities emerged to achieve gainful added-value products.
2. Beyond Singapore, only in a few Southeast Asian cities – Bangkok, Ho Chi Minh-City, Jakarta, Kuala Lumpur and Manila – have yet gained functions of global cities, at least on a beta- or delta-level. Among these are for instance international finance and insurance companies, few headquarters of internationally producing companies. But also international congress centres, airports or institutions of international importance (such as the UN-ESCAP or the Asian Development Bank) are indicators for a growing internationality. At the same time, growing polarisation processes can be identified, such as on the labour market or in the educational sector.
3. Within the cores of Southeast Asian cities, numerous signs of transformation can be identified which are indicating a re-organisation of space: No longer a single core area, such as one old city, one downtown area or one „central business district“, demarcates the economic centre,



but numerous, functionally different economic centres have emerged – such as for instance the areas around Central, Sukhumvit, Silom oder Sathorn in Bangkok or numerous locations around the former city centre near the Masjid Jamek mosque in Kuala Lumpur. Large infrastructure constructions, such as the new airport Suvarnabhumi in Bangkok, new highway crossings or new harbours have been built. New, modern and spacious – inner-city as well as sub-urban – residential quarters have been constructed, often as satellite cities with a high degree of economic and organisational independence (such as the Ciputra Project in Hanoi or Lippo Karavaci in Jakarta), including own shopping malls, schools, hospitals or leisure and wellness worlds. Large infrastructure housing estates, such as Muang Thong Thani in Bangkok or Ciputra in Hanoi, prove the limited governability and steering capacity of the state or a municipality resp. They are elements of postmodern fragmentation of the cities in multi-functional centres and structures with more or less independent settlement areas („heteropolis“).

4. Even if so-called „gated communities“, i.e. guarded communities which can be entered only by authorised persons or visitors, are until now relatively rare in comparison to other parts of the world (such as North and South America), and even „high-tech“-corridors like Silicon Valley/USA have rarely been erected, the emergence of smaller corridors is visible, such as Cyberjaya or Putrajaya in Malaysia. For about two decades, an „islandification“ of urban structures in respect to completely different land-use can be observed also in numerous cities in Southeast Asia. Among these, a growing polarisation between people of different income, education and life-style groups is obvious, furthermore, population groups of different origin, access to power and chances for integration into a society can be identified. Particularly the lower income groups – irrespective of all social aid projects and upgrading measures – can be found marginalised to a growing extent, even if there are examples of good practice which demonstrate a successful participation in the economic growth.
5. At least partially a growing privatisation of public space can be observed, such as in respect to limited and controlled access to residential areas, shopping centres or leisure facilities. Also, at least in parts of the cities, private security systems can be found – such as in the „gated communities“ of apartment blocs along major arteria. In respect to the characteristics of consumption and leisure, some cities are extraordinarily well equipped: In Bangkok for instance the shopping complex of „Central World“ is currently with more than 550.000 m<sup>2</sup> the largest „lifestyle shopping complex“ in Southeast Asia, with more than 500 shops, more than 50 restaurants, 20 cinemas and two department stores – as well as direct connections with the Bangkok Convention Centre and the World Hotel Bangkok. Further large complexes, like the Siam Paragon or the Mah Boon Krong Shopping Centre, The Emporium, Siam Centre or Amarin Plaza (all in Bangkok), prove the multi-nuclear structures of the consumption functions in the city.
6. At least visible yet is the breach between a traditional understanding of the functions and responsibilities of a city, particularly in respect to „urbanity“: While in a more „traditionalistic“ sense the city is the epitome of economic, cultural and civil societal evolvement and freedom, more recent developments in cities are gradually alienating urban realities from such a „European-biased“ concept of cities. The growing loss of nativeness, authenticity and urban cultural history, the lack of readiness for social balance, reducing capability for integration and weakening steering capabilities all lead to the fact that „the urban“ has to be re-conceptualised at least in emerging and developing economies. For the Southeast Asian

cities this does at least imply that the different stakeholders – from administration, government, private sector, civil society, non-governmental organisations, neighbourhoods etc. - who are responsible for the urban development have to agree upon or at least deal with the different ideas and notions of the future development of their respective cities.

### **Postmodern visions and scenarios?**

Which kind of ideas, visions or scenarios may be derived from the previous brief views for the future development of Southeast Asian urban future – an idea most suitable and adequate for our „ForUm for Urban Future in Southeast Asia“?

At first, it should be stated that Edward Soja's approach is just one, even though one of the most prominent concepts of postmodern urban development in the interdisciplinary scientific discussion. It is more an approach than a theory or a theoretical frame, and certainly urban „realities“ are to be questioned in a sense that developments in time and space can easily be „constructed“ around approaches. Then, one may question whether developments observed in the North American context can easily be „transported“ across cultures into a development in Southeast Asia (and can we even speak of Southeast Asia instead of single nations or cities?). And are complementarities, similarities transferable?

Even if one has to be cautious when „transferring“ observations and terms into other contexts, historic settings and cultures in general, in respect to urban areas one may at least state that built elements and connected international developments have a lot in common across borders. Therefore, it is possible and reasonable – like in other cities and megacities worldwide – at least in my view, to think about consequences that can be derived from the previous thoughts in order to reflect on the future of Southeast Asian cities:

1. More than ever are cities the result of numerous decisions and actions of numerous stakeholders – individuals, groups, interest groups, strategic alliances, networks, parties etc. Therefore, more dialogue, interaction and negotiation is needed between legitimised representatives of all parties involved from administration, government, planning, aristocracy, military, private sector, civil society on the role and development trends of the cities within Southeast Asia, particularly against the background of emerging strategic alliances and competitiveness among cities worldwide. Such dialogues would lead to a more (post)modern, multi-perspective understanding of urban development – even if this, of course, would imply that new ways and forms, perhaps new institutions or arrangements of dialogue and exchange have to be established, new and unconventional negotiation processes have to be invented. In future there can no longer be regularising steering „from above“ alone but new strategies of enabling and empowerment as well as new forms of self-organisation and self-steering „from below“ have to be at least also considered, such as they have been incepted for instance as private-public-partnerships, neighbourhood communities and community-based networks (squatters movements, women's refuges etc.). Complex, holistic approaches have to be developed, which target at solving or reducing social vulnerability, support the development and strengthening of socially adapted forms of steering and aim at an inclusion of forms of civil society organisations.
2. Equally new for most (even if not all) Southeast Asian cities would be, if development visions and scenarios would be generated out of a balance between „internal“ and „external“ views and perceptions. In these demands of different urban classes and groups would be



represented – lower- as well as high-income classes – and at the same time the requirements of an internationally competitive city would be included. These comprise minimal levels of quality of life, a certain degree of authenticity of historic and recent features of urban development, cultural life as well as consumption and leisure facilities.

3. Presumably, different views and perspectives of urban and regional development will judge and decide upon these crucial questions differently: (a) Shall one strengthen a capital region in order to strengthen the national competitiveness, while at the same time intensifying perhaps means and measures of regional balancing? Or shall one (b) choose a decentralisation strategy in which at least larger parts of financial resources and decision making processes are redirected away from a capital region in order to strengthen peripheral parts of the country and thereby support self-reliable developments?

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## Participatory planning of urban environmental sanitation services in Hatsady Tai



**Application of the Household-Centred Environmental Sanitation Approach (HCES) in an urban neighbourhood in Vientiane, Lao PDR.**

### Objectives & approach

The objectives of the project were:

- (i) to improve the environmental sanitation services in Hatsady Tai, through participatory planning, implementation and management;
- (ii) to test, validate and revise the Household-Centred Environmental Sanitation Planning Approach (HCES); and
- (iii) to support the Government of Lao PDR in identifying suitable policies and planning frameworks for urban environmental management.

The project adopted a demand-driven and participatory planning approach (HCES approach) to improve environmental sanitation services (ESS) in Hatsady Tai, a low-income village (Ban) in Vientiane.

The three main project components included:

- (i) community-level capacity building and awareness raising in environmental management,
- (ii) participatory planning of ESS, and
- (iii) implementation of the developed ESS plans with private sector involvement.

### Success factors

The project is perceived as success by all involved parties. The following factors may explain the reasons for success:

Application of the HCES approach with supporting tools (Compendium of Sanitation Technologies)

Application of a systems approach to environmental sanitation services, adapted to the local context.

Community involvement and consultation in every step of the planning process.

Involvement of all relevant institutional stakeholders in strategic steps of the planning and decision-making process.

Creation of a Village Environmental Unit (VEU) driving and owning the project, and assuring O&M of implemented plans.

Interdisciplinary coordination team consisting of national and international planners, engineers and community workers.

Involvement of the private sector in the implementation of the environmental sanitation improvement plans.

*Household-Centred Environmental Sanitation (HCES) is a novel approach to environmental sanitation based on the understanding that development can only be sustainable if people play a central role in the planning, design and implementation process. As the name implies, the HCES approach is a demand-oriented approach placing the household and neighborhood at the core of the planning and implementation process without neglecting wider domains of service provision.*



### The Planning Process

The planning process applied in Hatsady Tai followed the 10 Steps of the HCES approach. The 10-Step planning process describes the ten typical steps involved in developing and implementing an HCES program. The 10 steps are grouped into three main components:

- (i) Appraisal (Steps 1 - 4);
- (ii) Engagment (Steps 5 - 9); and
- (iii) Action and Implementation (Step 10).



#### Appraisal - Step 1 to 4

Ban Hatsady Tai was selected as project site following an official request for assistance submitted by the village authorities to PTI (HCES Step 1). Project site, project coordination committee (PCC) and planning methodology (i.e. the HCES planning process) were discussed and approved by all relevant stakeholders at a project launching workshop conducted in February 2007 (HCES Step 2). The environmental sanitation services were assessed in a interdisciplinary and participatory way (Step 3). The most urgent issues related to environmental sanitation were prioritized in a community consultation workshop (Step 4), and a decision was taken to pursue the planning process (Engagement). During Step 4, a village environmental unit (VEU) was created which comprise

#### Engagement - Step 5 to 9

During Step 5 of the planning process, possible environmental sanitation options were analysed. A systems approach was chosen, ensuring that all waste products (i.e. toilet, bathroom and kitchen wastewater, solid waste, storm water drainage) were included in the system selection process. Plans were developed by a interdisciplinary team of architects and engineers, in close collaboration with the VEU. The plans were ultimately approved by all key stakeholders, including community representatives, district authorities, and sector agencies. The plans included infrastructure improvements, management regulations, and Operation and Maintenance (O&M) plans. In parallel, a series of training courses and



awareness raising workshops on environmental sanitation, solid waste management, and the role of women in environmental management, were conducted for members of the PCC and community representatives.

#### Action and implementation - Step 10

The environmental sanitation plans were implemented by a private company., with support of the community (contracted and voluntary community labor). Land was provided for free by 3 land owners.



The local community was involved from the very early stages of the project through participation in: (i) assessing the current ESS and hygiene practices; (ii) establishing their needs and priorities; (iii) developing a sound concept for improved ESS, including technical and managerial components (institutional setup, financial management, O&M); (iv) physical implementation of the interventions; and (v) management of the improved services.

#### Project Outcomes





### Improved environmental sanitation Infrastructure

- 15 private toilets, including improved storage chamber, and connection to sewer system;
- Wastewater collection and treatment system, including small-bore sewer (150m), and community septic tanks;
- Storm water drainage (300m);
- Basic solid waste collection equipment for 70 households;
- Small-scale composting schemes for 15 households

### Adapted institutional arrangements

- Village Environmental Unit (VEU), with representatives of local authorities, community, mass organisations;
- Management regulations with O&M procedures for liquid and solid waste management components;
- Village Environmental Fund for the management of finances related to the O&M of the UESS.

### Increased awareness and capacities

- Training courses on improved solid waste management (3R) and composting, role of women in environmental management;
- Village cleaning campaigns (2);
- Participatory assessment of environmental sanitation services, and indoor and out-door living conditions of 70 households.

## Lessons Learnt

### More guidance required

The HCES planning guideline [1] provided a useful theoretical framework with clear working principles easily understood by all parties involved. Additional training manuals and user guides, such as the Compendium of Sanitation Systems and Technologies [2], are necessary to facilitate application of the HCES framework.

### Top-down vs bottom-up

Transition from a top-down to a demand-responsive, bottom-up approach is not trivial. The decision-making power of district authorities in Lao PDR was clearly underestimated. This was felt before implementation of the developed plans, when decisions taken by the district (i.e. defining minimal road widths) significantly influenced the plans previously approved within the framework of a participatory and consultative process. The importance of a sound and

comprehensive stakeholder analysis during the launching phase is thus re-emphasised here.

### Participatory processes take time

The HCES planning process was perceived as (too) long by the community. This strained situation disappeared with the first turn of the sod. It is thus crucial that all involved stakeholders, especially the community, understand the rationale of such participatory processes to avoid frustrations and consultation marathons.

## Project Organization



The project was managed by a project coordination committee (PCC), chaired by Public Works and Transport Institute (PTI), under the Ministry of Public Works and Transport (MPWT). Other members of the committee included the head of the village (Naiban) and the Village Environmental Unit (VEU).

The VEU was created during Step 4 of the HCES planning process.

It consists of 12 members, including community members and representatives of the different mass organisations on village level (Lao People's Revolutionary Party, Lao Women Union, Lao Elderly Association, Lao Youth Organisation). The VEU is now in charge of the operation and maintenance of the improved environmental sanitation services.

The PCC was assisted by governmental and private organisations on a mandate basis in the various phases of the project cycle (e.g. solid waste management component mandated to Water Resources and Environment Administration of Vientiane). The PCC was backstopped by the Swiss Federal Institute of Aquatic Science and Technology (Eawag) and the Asian Institute of Technology (AIT). The project received financial support from the Swiss funded NCCR North-South programme.

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# A study of spatial model for street blocks in Hanoi's Ancient Quarter for conservation and sustainable development

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## Abstract

In the conservation field, particular for urban heritages, the conservation of historic towns and urban areas is one of the most difficult works that requires an integration of coherent scientific theoretical approaches and feasible solutions. The deep causes of these difficulties in the conservation since historical towns are still “alive” entities: inside an old physical cover of hundreds year old is the breath of vivid commercial, cultural and social life. This fact often generates immanent conflicts in these historical towns or urban areas.

Hanoi Ancient Quarter was chosen as a subject of this research for conservation and sustainable development. Hanoi's oldest quarter, called “The Ancient Quarter” (AQ) is the heart of Hanoi city - a capital of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam. Having nearly thousand of historical years, the AQ's formation and development is closely related to the evolution of Hanoi city. It plays a very important role as a historical, cultural and commercial centre of Hanoi. However, the AQ is under a big pressure of immanent demands and influences from outside that is damaging the AQ's equilibrium structure of economy, society and physical environment aspects. Therefore, finding suitable spatial planning solutions to retain and foster the cultural significance of the AQ while increasing living conditions, limiting economic impact and revitalizing the community space are very urgent at the time.

This research will focus on analyzing current physical conditions and potential of the AQ, particularly looking into current situation of the pilot chosen block and Moreover, it also proposes a conceptual design of spatial model for chosen block that meet the local resident's demand of increasing living area, creating space for community's activities while limiting economic impact on the place.

*Keywords: Hanoi Ancient quarter, cultural significance, core values, preservation, redevelopment model, living condition, housing quality.*

## Introduction

The Ancient Quarter (AQ) has submitted its application to the UNESCO World Heritage since 2004. However, it is at present experiencing strong external and internal pressures such as rapid urbanization which causes the further inflow of population to this already densely populated area, resulting in small living spaces and poor living environment due to the lack of public space and parks, as well as deteriorating infrastructure. In addition, increased rate of motorization results in traffic congestion and worsens traffic safety and air quality. Moreover, due to its attractive business environment, there is a

continuous inflow of people from outside to the AQ that seriously impacts the living environment in the area.

In order to promote sustainable development and conservation, guiding applicable spatial model for street block and a principle in policy development for AQ should be the three aspects of “preservation of cultural value,” “improvement of living conditions,” and “economic development.” More comprehensive and sustainable policy interventions for AQ are necessary to ensure that it will keep its historical value as well as accordingly adjust to the changing times.

## **Define tangible and intangible values of the Ancient Quarter**

### ***Tangible values***

With the area of 100ha, the Ancient quarter is bounded by Hang Dau Street in the north, Hang Bong and Hang Gai Street in the south, Tran Nhat Duat Street in the west and Phung Hung Street in the east. The tangible values of the AQ are defined as:

#### **a. Urban Structure - Functions**

The Ancient quarter - market quarter is an integral part of the Royal City and has an organic connection to the Royal Citadel. It creates basic characteristics of an eastern urban area (Citadel near by market). Fine grain, fine texture morphological fabric with similar land plot, similar building volume are considered as unique characters of the AQ's urban structure. According to *Research Institute on Architecture* [1] “the narrowness of the facades, a constant of the merchant city, may be explained by the fact that feudal laws taxed the shops according to the width of their façades” ( p 19).

#### **b. Historical street network**

The unique structure of chess-board shaped streets is stable during the time: streets of the Ancient Quarter are narrow, and intersect each other creating different street blocks. Originally, the streets were village alleys spreading out from dykes or village roads without advanced urban planning. The linkage among the streets evokes the interrelationships of villages of rural Vietnam



Figure 01: Compare the map of the AQ in 1932 (left) and now ( right), there is no change in the street network .

#### **c. Typical housing style: Old-age tube-shaped houses**

According to Phe, H. H & Nishimura, Y., [3] many houses in the Ancient Quarter are wide in depth (from 15m to 60m) follow the common model of low rise family houses placed next to each other to create a row of houses on the street. These houses are normally one or two levels with tiled roofs, a courtyard in the middle and an open terrace on the roof. This is the architectural style only exists in Hanoi's Ancient Quarter.





Figure 2 : Traditional tube-shaped houses



Figure 3 : House's facades reflect a mixture of different architecture styles

#### d. Public and religious buildings

There is a variety of religious buildings, such as: communal houses, temples, shrines, clan worshipping houses, Catholic churches, Islamic churches and club-houses. The buildings are of different architectural styles. Many of the buildings are over 100 years old.

### 2.2 Intangible cultural values

#### a. Cultural commercial space

The diversity in production trades and business, yet each street specialized in one or two products are unique characteristics of this commercial space.

Indigenous knowledge in production and business: Many of the businesses in the Ancient Quarter originated from craft villages. The businesses were family orientated or clan orientated.

#### b. Folklore religious festivals

Many of the festivals represent the consciousness of communal religion and the tradition of being grateful to one's benefactor. The Ancient Quarter now has many temples and shrines worshipping the spirits who deserve acknowledgment for the development of Hanoi, including national heroes, cultural icons and trade founders. Many religious festivals still exist until.



Figure 4 : Dragon dance on street of the AQ's in early XX century



Figure 5 : A procession in Hang Buom street recently

#### c. Life style

Traditions of family and society: The family unit plays an important role in forming the personality and profession of an individual. People of Hanoi's Ancient Quarter highly appreciated family traditions, such as their duties to their children, courteousness and respect for the elderly

#### General issues of the AQ

Although containing many recognized cultural values, the AQ is facing a fact that many core values are changed or lost in oblivion. This problem is resulted from immanent causes of the area, including the down-gradation of physical environment's quality; un-equilibrium and unsustainable in socio- economy; and the lost of historical cultural values.

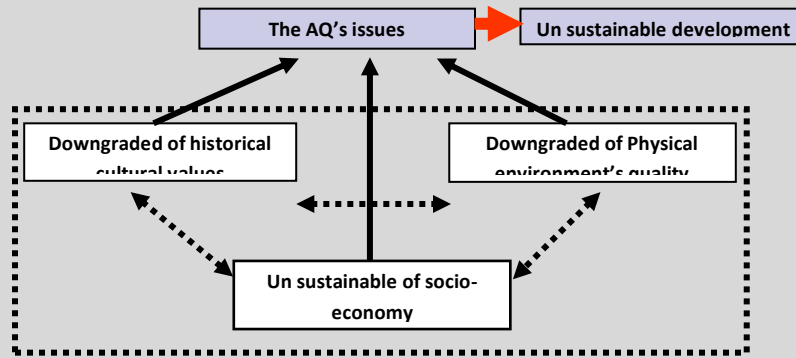


Figure 6: General issues of the AQ

These issues are not separately, they interact together. As Logan mentions in his article [2] the AQ's physical fabric is under a pressure of population growth and limitation of living areas. When the physical environment is downgraded and living conditions are very poor, it generates a need of improving or changing the old physical cover of the area. If these changes are not well directed or managed, it will destroy – instead of improve – the historical traditional urban space of the area. Consequently, the historical cultural values that strongly connected with urban space will be lost. The spontaneous development of economic activities also affects to the preservation of ancient buildings which are considered as one core value of the AQ. The deterioration of culture values causes negative impact to the society's behave to the urban historical area that reduce residents' awareness of protecting and preserving the AQ's heritage. Therefore, all these three issues mentioned above are related together.

#### Assessment of the living environment in the pilot chosen block (Hang Buom – Hang Giay- Ta Hien - Luong Ngoc Quyen)

In order to have a conclusive view about living environment and living quality in the AQ, one block was chosen for pilot study because the AQ is created by a street network with many street blocks. According to Viet.P.D [4] about AQ's history and urban morphology, the spatial and socio structure is similar to most of blocks. Therefore, in the scope of this study, we chose one block to do detail survey and study then to generalize to all blocks in the AQ. This block is bounded by four streets: Hang Buom – Ta Hien – Luong Ngoc Quyen – Hang Giay. Total land area is 8180m<sup>2</sup> with 939 permanent residents in the total number of 1017 people (within 253 households). Real living density is very high: 1148 people/ha. Average living area is 9m<sup>2</sup>/people. This chosen block is has not specific aspects, it is located in Hang Buom commune, a commune has medium socio- economic conditions.

### ***Introduction about household interview survey (HIS) in the chosen block***

One questionnaire survey was conducted carefully in the block for three weeks. The survey covered 100% households within the block of 253 households. In order to get exact information from all households, the survey team collaborated to the AQ's management Board, commune authority and resident groups' leaders. The aim of the survey is focusing on residents' living environment, their assessments about their living quality and their expectation about housing improvement.



Figure 7 : Surveyed Block

### ***Survey' results of housing conditions and living environment in the chosen block***

**a. Living area:** The average living area in the block is 33.22m<sup>2</sup>/ HH, lower than the average numbers in the whole AQ and the whole Hanoi of 44m<sup>2</sup>/HH and 88m<sup>2</sup>/HH respectively.

According to household survey, 99HHs are very unsatisfied with their living conditions, 52% of them stated that narrow living area is the major reason of their un-satisfaction and it causes many physical and social problems in one house.

**b. Housing age:** In the chosen block, there are many old houses that half of them are over one hundred years old houses located mostly in Hang Buom Street. It can be said that high housing age is one of the objective causes that creates a degradation in housing quality of the block.

**c. Housing ownership:** Housing ownership in the pilot block is very complicated. In one plot of land or in one house there are many households share together. Each household has different tenure condition and housing ownership. It is the complicated housing ownership in each house number in the AQ that generates a barrier to slowdown the housing improvement process.

**d. Housing physical conditions:** Many houses in the block , particularly in Hang Buom street are in seriously downgraded conditions as houses number 102, 96, 98, 91, 50, 24, 26, 28, 49, 17... that negatively impact to residents' life and safety. The downgraded housing quality is the second critical issue (after issue of narrow living areas) that makes 45.8% of residents unsatisfied with their living conditions.





Figure 8: Public toilet in very poor condition. House 2 Ta Hien street      Figure 9 : Bad housing quality House 23 Hang Giay street

### ***Living environment in the chosen block and key issues***

Table 1: Key issues of living environment in the AQ

Issue	Cause	
	Objective	Subjective
<b>Narrow living area</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Dense population while limited land</li> <li>- Limited living area</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Regulations of conservation and preservation restrict the extension of AQ's space</li> </ul>
<b>Downgraded housing quality</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Extreme climate</li> <li>- Un-durable materials</li> <li>- Aging houses, downgraded quality</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Lack of frequent maintenance</li> <li>- Lack of periodical improvement</li> <li>- Slow improving process with many barriers</li> </ul>
<b>Poor sanitation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Poor and overloaded infrastructure</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- High density</li> <li>- Complicated social status</li> <li>- Lack of frequent maintenance</li> <li>- Low residents' awareness</li> </ul>
<b>Poor natural ventilation and lighting</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Typical block structure and housing type that are not facilitate natural ventilation and lighting</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The lost of inner courtyards and open well restricts natural ventilation and lighting</li> </ul>
<b>Slow process of housing improvement</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Complicated housing ownership</li> <li>- Lack of financial source for improving state owned houses</li> <li>- Complicated social structure ( many different people groups of incomes, occupation and lifestyles)</li> <li>- Many poor people that can afford to housing improvement</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Many regulations are implemented to the AQ</li> <li>- Local residents expect Government in supporting for housing improvement and urban service upgrading.</li> <li>- Lack of incentives to encourage self- improve of local residents</li> </ul>

### **Strategies for improving living conditions in the AQ of Hanoi**

#### ***General objectives***

In order to help the AQ following a good way for sustainable development, it is needed to have a strategic direction with suitable vision that was shared by all stakeholders (government, community, related

agencies...). In the future, AQ will be the most significant traditional commercial and trade quarter enriched with exquisite blend of cultural, social, economic and living functions for the city as well as Vietnam.

### Long term strategies for improving living conditions

In order to achieve the above vision, the following two objectives are set:

- Reduce population density in the AQ by move out suitable groups of residents that volunteer for moving
- Propose a redevelopment model to extend urban space in a harmonious with nature.

#### a. Population density reduction in the AQ

There are many reasons that make local residents do not want to move out from AQ as for trading purpose, earning for living or the relationship with this location. Beside, there are many people expect to move out of the AQ if they have suitable conditions. According to HIS survey in the chosen block, in the number of 299 HHs were interviewed, there are 25 HHs (99 people) want to move out. Therefore, we can do relocation with the voluntary of local residents based on: 1) survey the expectation for moving out of local residents; 2) plan and design new resettlement areas that attract people while creating new occupation opportunities; 3) provide free of charge urban services that resettled people can travel from new areas to AQ easily; and 4) Formulate a financial mechanism for low income people in the AQ to support them in having a new accommodation out of the AQ.

#### b. Proposed Block Redevelopment Model

##### Spatial solution

- Define zone for preservation – zone for redevelopment
- Define spatial volume for redevelopment zone ensuring the increase of living floor area and commercial area while building volumes do not generate negative impact to streetscape. Three new buildings create extra living floor areas.
- Create more commercial areas on first floor of newly built construction.
- Create open space at core of block to improve micro climate, generate more community space and make more profits
- Create a parking area under open space ground with the entry from Luong Ngoc Quyen street.

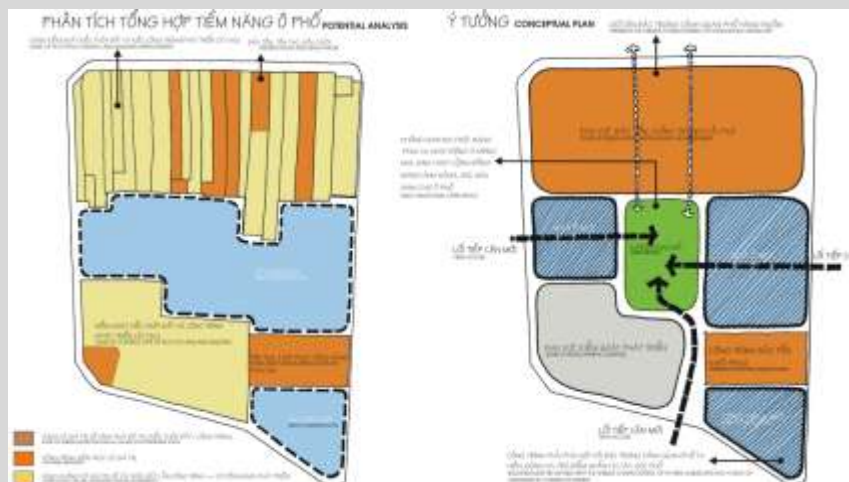
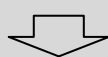


Figure 10: Proposed spatial zoning for chosen block



Figure 11: Proposed redevelopment model with open space at core of the chosen block



Future street facade



Current street facade

Figure 12: Vision of Hang Buom street in the future

### ***Short term action plans***

#### **Encourage and impulse simplifying of housing ownership and land use right**

- Formulate legal base to simplify housing ownership and land use right
- Organize permanent official real-estate information center within AQ to help bridging needs of selling and buying
- Encourage original residents to acquire back their houses or buy state-owned parts of original houses in order to own full-scaled houses

#### **Encourage shared-cost community-based improvement**

- Pilot share-cost community-based mechanism in several house-number for wider application (With support of experts, Commune PC or any representative from communities, promote shared-cost community-based improvement in quality of service and common spaces (toilets, bathrooms, kitchens, corridors...), sanitation conditions (lighting, ventilation, solid waste collection).
- Provide financial aids to the poor groups to improve their house
- Provide technical support, community consultation services to community in shared-cost community-based improvement

#### **Establish effective technical, institutional and organizational system for sustainable development of the AQ**



- Authorize community to manage their own neighborhood
- Consolidate the integration among stakeholders : State, Hanoi People Committee (HPC), AQ Management Board (AQMB), Commune People Committee (CPC), Local community
- State: provide sound legal bases including policies for construction, taxation, investment projects, housing ownership and conservation
- HPC: localize legal bases, investment, policies, taking initiatives for partnership...
- AQMB: shifting the single role as physical management organization into coordinating roles among various stakeholders for the sustainable development of AQ, coordinate large-scale redevelopment in AQ
- CPC: Coordinating between government agencies and local community. Directly help community in improving living conditions.
- Motivate and promote private sectors ( i.e : resident-run-enterprises) to take part in managing the quarter
- Create AQ's fund to support for sustainable development in the AQ
- Organize workshops or training courses to improve community's capacity and raise people awareness of preserving physical and intangible core values of the AQ

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# Urban design with community participatory in revitalizing and improving streetscapes' beautification of historical towns for sustainable development

## Case study: Hang Buom street in Hanoi Ancient Quarter

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### I. INTRODUCTION

Urban design is a research and practical field, which considers the main object as "public space" and people as centre for all theories. It is interdisciplinary and integrated field to attain the goal about quality improvement of urban spaces. Among disciplines, community is an important factor, which is under influence of spatial change caused by activities of urban design. Moreover, community is one of the beneficiary groups while sharing social responsibilities.

The method of community participatory in urban design has been applied popularly in many developed countries that attracted significant consideration, especially in conservation and revitalizing physical integrity of historical towns. Since its "*Linking universal and local values*" conference in 2003, UNESCO has promoted the view that heritage protection does not depend alone on top-down by governments or experts but must involve local communities. It is imperative that the values and practices of local communities, together with traditional management system, are fully understood, respected, encouraged and accommodated in preservation and management plans if heritage resource are to be sustained in the future (UNESCO, 2004). In developed countries as Australia, America, Canada or Japan, Singapore, ect...at small or medium sized urban conservation and refurbishment projects communities often involve in different stages during the whole process: from first stage of condition assessment and analysis, problem defining, solution proposing to final stage of maintaining and managing the project output. It has brought about many positive results, especially in conservation of historical townscape. However, in Vietnam this method just has been piloted in some projects while neither been applied widely nor regulated in detail in urban design process at neighborhood or street level. Therefore, it is necessary to examine and verify the method many times before asserting its preeminent and feasibility in Vietnam context in order to get high quality urban design products.

Using integrated, analyzed and survey methods with local involvement in a pilot project "Revitalizing and improving the beautification of streetscape in Hang Buom" of the component "Sustainable development for Hanoi Ancient Quarter" – a biggest pilot project belong to the Program "Comprehensive urban development of Hanoi Capital to 2020 – HAIDEP" sponsored by JICA, this paper will introduce the approach of community participatory, its process and results in revitalizing and improving streetscapes in Hanoi Ancient quarter (AQ). Moreover, this research will focus on the factors that influence on the method's results while verifying the feasibility of this pilot project. Lesson learnt from the research will consolidate method theories and practices to increase the possibility of applying this method to other similar projects in Vietnam.

### II. Introduction on case study "Revitalizing and improving the beautification of streetscape in Hang Buom in Hanoi Ancient Quarter"

Hang Buom street (HB.St) is at once a typical street of Hanoi AQ and having its unique characteristics. HB.St is located on the conservation 1<sup>st</sup> grade of Hanoi AQ which is the commercial and residential area of old Chinese community in Hanoi. Historically, there are many relics and old religious buildings in the street, especially as Bach Ma temple which is considered as one of "four exorcism" of Thang Long – Hanoi. The street still has many ancient houses with mixture of Chinese architectural style and traditional Vietnamese style. Currently, HB is famous with typical business of confectionary, winery and Chinese cuisine restaurants. According to a block survey conducted in 2005

with 253 households in Hang Buom ward, the historical heritage buildings, ancient houses and traditional architecture of ancient houses and street identity are factors that significant impact on Hang Buom streetscape.

Socially, most of original habitants were Chinese but they were back to their county at the time of 1978. Therefore, the current habitants are most retired pubic servants and people immigrated after 1980s that their knowledgement and relation to the area are not very deep. In terms of urban streetscape, the beautification and street attractiveness are downgraded seriously. Street's facade is chaotic, many ancient houses were replaced by glassed, steelled high rise buildings, historical relics are damaged resulting in the decrease of street identity (*Referred to Table No.1, 2*)

No	House type	Number	Percentage %
1	01 storey	5	4
2	02 stories	58	46.4
3	03 stories	42	33.6
4	More than 03 stories	20	16
5	Total	125	100

**Table1. Assessment of house height in Hang Buom street – May, 2006**

Year	1999	2003	2006
Number of ancient house	85	65	30

**Table 2: Decrease in number of ancient houses in Hang Buom Street in the period of 1999-2006**

For these mentioned reasons, Hang Buom has been choosen as an subject for surveying, analyzing and developing visions and strategies for the street as well as piloting some actions to verify the effects of the community participatory method in revitalizing and improving the area's townscape.

### **Research methodology**

The goal of this research is to examnine the urban design project's feasibility. Therefore, it is essential to formulate a system of critearia to assess this feasibility. In principle, the first step is to define fators as barriers for improvement process and verify the impact of the project on these barriers. Within community participartory method, barriers that projects have to face are: a) Quality of resources; b) Financial contribution capacity; and b) Institutional mechanisms for the method. Therefore, the criteria system will help to realize the barriers change and achivement when applying this method.

#### ***Defining stakeholders and their roles:***

To appraisal the factor of quality resource feasibitily, it is the most important to define clearly stakeholders and their roles in the project's process. Theoretically, in an urban design process at street level in Vietnam major stakeholders are:

- *District government:* to assess and approve projects, to mornitor different stakeholders, provide financial support.

- *Ward/Commune authority*: to take the initiative, direct the project execution, collaborate with stakeholders, provide technical and documentation support.
- *Professionals, researchers (project experts)*: define problems and issues, working with communities, provide technical support for governments and communities
- *(Group of) community*: to involve in whole process of projects, conducting planned actions, contributing human resource and financial resource.
- *Other stakeholders*: enterprises, associations, NGOs, NPOs, community companies...

Due to significant features that Hang Buom street has tangibly and intangibly, and street as a subject of the pilot project “Sustainable development for Hanoi Ancient Quarter” it is required to have more stakeholders (apart from mentioned stakeholders above) that involve in the process as:

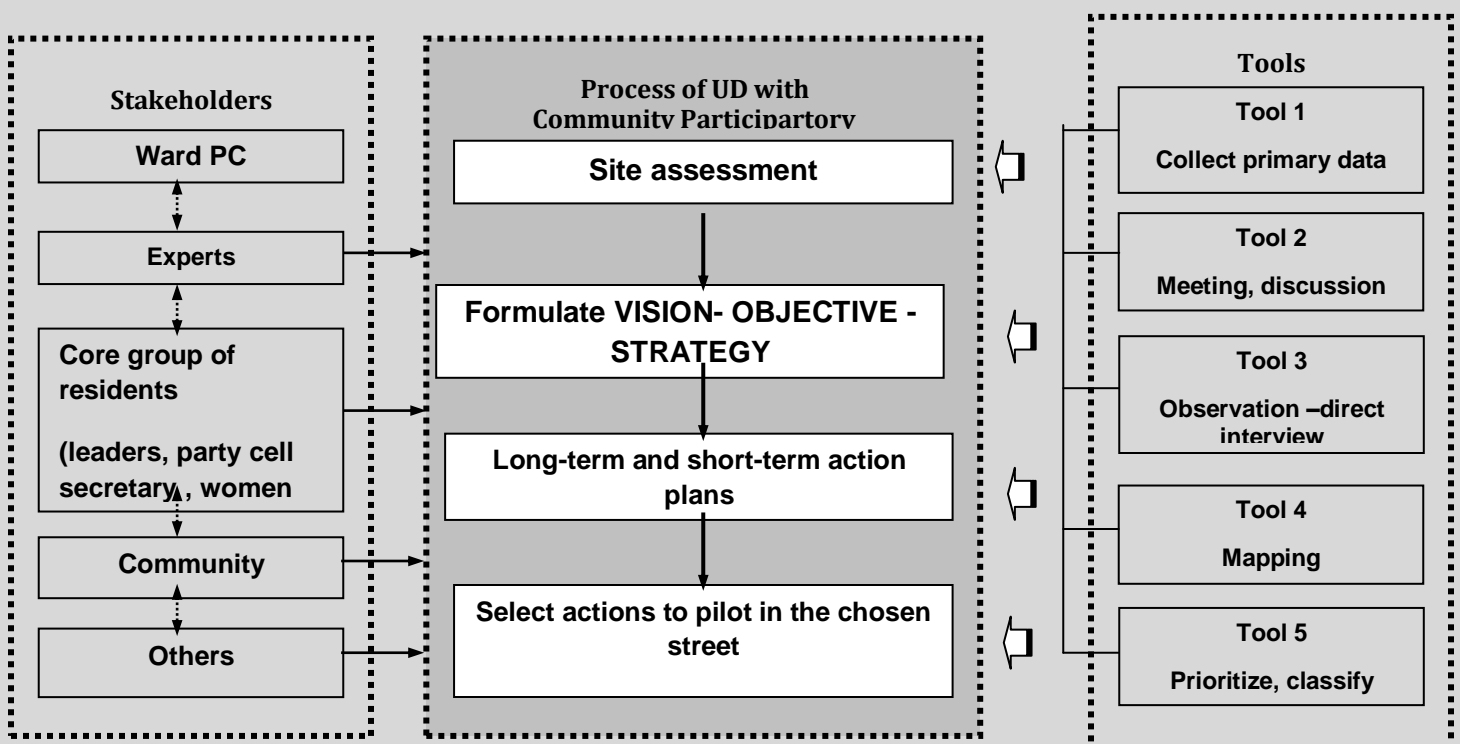
- *City government*: the street located in a national historical area then it needs the general direction of city Gov to co-ordinate all stakeholders; provide support in terms of human and financial resources as well as legal mechanism.
- *Ancient quarter management Board* ( belong to Hoan Kiem district PC): collaborate to ward authority, provide cultural and technical experts, provide documents and guidelines in urban design for community
- *Community group of core members*: individuals from community that are enthusiastic and effectively working, to be a bridge to connect local government, technical experts to local people (leader of resident group, communists, veterans, representatives of women unions, youth union...
- *Sponsors*: International and national organizations to support human and financial resources for urban design.

**Formulating criteria for resource assessment:** by using some **qualitative** criteria of standards, awareness, willingness, activeness, ability of taking initiatives, leadership, making decisions ...before and after applying the method; to find out of which factor can be changed or can not be changed within for how long ... of each partner. Therefore, the impact of this method on resource’s quality and on the whole results of the project can be realized clearly.

Besides, criteria on financial capacity and legal institutions are also required to foster community involvement.

**Process of the pilot action “Revitalizing and improving the streetscape of Hang Buom”** includes 04 main steps : 1) Assessment of streetscape current situations, 2) Formulating vision and development objectives and strategies, 3) Proposing for long term and short-term action plans follow the objectives, 4) Define some actions which is suitable to the limitation of time and budget amount.

**Diagram: Process of urban design with community participatory – Tool - Participation**





## Execution stage

1. Project's team formulated detail plan to guide on site analysis and assessment; defined vision and objectives in order to build appropriate strategies for the street.
2. Meeting with Ward PC to have approvals on project's major goals and asking for support
3. Group making for streetscape assessment: guiding group (03 people) includes 02 project experts and 01 ward's land management officer. Group of core residents (03 people) includes 01 leader of "TỔ", 01 representative of elderly people and 01 person who knows very well about history and community of the area, Group of residents' representative (05 people) includes different types : retired public servants, businessmen, worker, student...
4. Group of core residents and group of residents' representative discussed together and sharing opinions on community participatory method. Organized training course for group of core residents to provide knowledge and skills to participate into the project ( 2 days full-time)
5. 1<sup>st</sup> meeting for the whole community in the street to introduce about the project ( within ward's broadcast support)
6. Conducted site assessment: groups were divided into different themes as townscape, transportation, and housing. Each group contains core members, community representatives, experts and Ward's officer.
7. Analysis – Solution finding – Choosing prior actions to pilot : by whole of community, Ward's officer and experts
8. 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting for whole community: to show assessment results and prioritized actions, plan for financial mobilization.

## Tools for community participatory method

**Tool 1:** Collecting secondary data, all previous assessment related to this streetscape and documents of local policies related to the themes of townscape and built environment protection.

**Tool 2:** Meeting – Discussion (*Figure 1*)

It is an integral tool to the method. Meeting content and the way of performing are relevant to the meeting's subjects. In the pilot project, there were 02 types of meeting: Discussing meeting to get arguments between experts and community core members. General meeting with whole community aims to provide information of implementation process and collects community's feedback.

**Tool 3:** Site observation and analysis (*Figure 2*)

Walking around the site, observing and marking problems relating to physical environment. This tool helps community and working groups to define very quick positive and negative elements of streetscape; provides understanding and sharing among stakeholders that help both parties (consultants and community) to conduct actions together in a convenient and effective way.



Figure 1: Meeting – Discussion



Figure 2 : Site observation and analysis

**Tool 4:** Interpretative mapping by giving specific information and elements on maps logically (Figure 3)

**Tool 5:** Prioritizing problems and issues, defining suitable solutions to meet the objectives by marking and ranking (considering technical conditions, financial solutions, and legal institutions) (Figure 4)



Figure 3: Mapping



Figure 4: Problem ranking

#### Outcomes:

After a short time collaborative working, the vision for HB.Str was formulated with community agreement as:

**Vision:**“Hang Buom will be one of the most commercially attractive streets of the Ancient Quarter and Hanoi city with a beautification of streetscape that demonstrates the unique identity of the street, historically and culturally”.

In order to archive this vision, it is necessary to set up long –term and short – term plans with alot of time and energy contribution. However, some actions can perform immediatly within existing resources.

The project’s groups decided the 05 most critical problems related to the downgradation of streetscape and urban design elements and proposed at the same time 03 prioritized actions in the scope of time and budget limitation.

Critical problems	Propose for pilot actions
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Disordered and chaotic streetscape facade, un-well planed of overhanging and pent-roof system.</li> <li>2. Lack of publish rubbish bins on the street</li> <li>3. Narrow, un-planed occupied street pavements</li> <li>4. Chaotic and bad images of electric –wire systems.</li> <li>5. Open drainage gutter systems causing pollution and bad effects to street’s attractiveness</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Installing pent-roof system to improve walking environment and streetscape image</li> <li>2. Installing public dustbins on the street and provide solid waste collecting equipments</li> <li>3. Minimize signboards, ad. Boards which is ugly color and over sized</li> <li>4. Formulate Urban design guidelines for street development</li> </ol>

Other actions as re-pavements, refurbishment of damaged ancient houses, underground the open drainage system and electric system, etc... were proposed also in the action plans for street improvement in the future.



Figure 5: Assessment of existing architecture houses on the street



Figure 6: Assessment of nodes and visual landmark on the street

#### Pilot action “Installing pent-roof system to improve walking environment and streetscape image” on Hang Buom street

Core member group conducted quick interview residents’ opinion about the planed action and financial affordability. In the result is **96% of interviewed people** agree to the pent-roof installation in terms of colors, style, and height factor. Besides, Ward People Community informed each household in the meeting about implementing process and financial contribution. Project’s experts, core member group and Ward officers organized a meeting to have community’s consensus on the goal and objectives of the action. The future images of street after intervention were demonstrated by virtual computer graphic tool and were introduced to all people. It helps the residents to understand the feasibility of pilot action and willing to participate in. **100% of people** in the meeting agreed to the action of installing pent-roof for unification of streetscape. Financial contribution, time to perform and service provider were discussed openly during the meeting. Result was having community’s agreements in terms of pent-roof styles, implementing partner, time and percentage of financial contribution of 40%. After that, group of core members was responsible for mobilizing from the community **40% of total expense**, the rest part was sponsored by City Government and other international organization (Figure 7, 8).





Figure 7: Image of Hang Buom St. before installing unified pent-roof system.



Figure 8: Image of Hang Buom St. after installing unified pent-roof system.

After 25 days of installing new unified systems of removable pent-roof on a pilot segment of street from Hang Huong – Hang Buom to Hang Giay - Hang Buom intersection, the streetscape is improved positively in compare to previous time. Community and local Gov. were very satisfied with this result. Officers of Hang Buom Ward were very happy since it is the first time the community demonstrate their high awareness of the beautification of streetscape. It proves that in the future the revitalization and improvement of streetscape is feasible with community contribution financially if having appropriate and effective mobilization and propaganda.

#### Formulate future images of Hang Buom street



Figure 10: Image of Hang Buom street in the future designed with community's opinion and comments

### III. Assessments on successful rates and feasibility of the project

#### 1. Assessment on major stakeholders' role:

- **Ward authority:** Theoretically, local authority (Phường) should be the most active stakeholder that involves from very beginning of the project and has the role of taking initiative while supporting and managing actions in the area, connecting community to experts in the field of sharing roles among many stakeholders. However, in practice the local authority is still passive, and is only responsible for solving legal procedures (informing, inviting, attending meetings) and does not fulfill their role. They are still outsiders. Having in-direct benefits from the project.

-**Group of core members:** responsible for calling up and mobilizing residents to participate to planned actions. They were trained to have skills in assessing physical values of built environment of the area. They were chairpersons in the meetings and working with community to come with final decisions. They contributed opinions and ideas on



urban design field for street improvement. They involved in streetscape improvement actions and connected the community to project experts. Having in-direct benefits from the project.

- **Community:** Collaborated with experts and core members during streetscape assessment, defined problems, marking and ranking that problems.

Directly involved in streetscape revitalization and improvement actions.

Contributed money and human sources. Having direct benefits from the project.

- **Project (assessing through experts):** Took initiatives in the pilot action (under the steering of city Gov). Directly trained community on skills and tools for assessment. Supported community during improving and refurbishing streetscape (methodologically and technically); discussed and negotiated together with the community for consensus.

## 2. Assessment on project feasibility

This is one of the urban design actions with community participatory that was first piloted in Hanoi city particularly and in Vietnam generally. Through attained results, it is said that the action was successful in terms of taking consideration of community to involve in the whole implementation process and sharing responsibility financially and human resource (even it was small action)

However, looking at sustainability aspect, the project has not been really sustained because of some reasons:

- The project was not started by local authority, it is one component in the HAIDEP program presided over by Hanoi PC and one international consultancy collaborate with local consultants. City Gov, District as well as the Ancient quarter Management Board has not have detail strategies to support AQ's communities on urban design plans for the next steps.
- Time for performing the project "Sustainable development Hanoi AQ" was very short (only 1.5 years) while the pilot actions of streetscape revitalization and improvement was conducted for 02 months. Only 03 actions were piloted among 06 actions proposed by the community. It is from the fact that each conservation and regeneration project in a specific area should be planned and set up implementing strategies by related stakeholders for a period of 10 to 20 years. (examples can be seen in Japan, China, Canada, Australia, etc.). The project results only be examined after long time implementing process.
- Community and core members have not yet participated as roles of initiative for actions that directly affected to them and the area where they are living. The influence spread of core members to other residents in the community was not at high level.
- Project experts was not working or staying in the area. When the project finished, these experts have not got continuing helps in terms of technique for the community.

## 3. Important factors determining the feasibility of community participation method in urban design projects for historical streets

Essential of the method is how to make community's benefits to be considered and respected by the whole society, especially in the aspect of improving and preserving physical environment of the area. Community benefits are not only material but also spiritual welfare (maintaining intangible values of the area, increase community's pride on historical area that they are living in...). If the community cannot be aware by themselves, it is needed to inform them about their benefits that must be protected. Therefore, the significant factors that should be strengthened to ensure the feasibility of similar projects or actions:

- a. **Community resource:** It is needed to have resources from community such as money, human resource, knowledge, skills, leadership, social network etc. Community resources, especially organizing, managing and planning skills, will increase considerably when community can be involved in development projects. The more community participation in urban planning and design there is, the more benefit there will be to the

community. Therefore they will be ready to contribute their sources. It can be said that resource factor has mutual effects to foster the community participation.

- b. **Community awareness and willingness in participation:** community's willingness, creative mind and maximum self-control in improving their built environment is very important. If community has good awareness and knowledge then the implementation of projects that related to community's benefits will be auspicious. The most critical is how to maximum the community involvement.
- c. **Responsibility of municipalities and local Governments in mobilizing and fostering community participation:** Administrators and leaders should have thorough awareness of community participatory processes and levels of participation. The matter of how and in what level do they expect community to be involved (just as informing or asking community to contribute to the whole process) depends subjectively on the leaders. Leader's consideration and determination is important factor to enhance community involvement. Community mobilization is sophisticated that need to address incrementally. Therefore, the leaders should be patient, understanding and have negotiation ability in order to reach a consensus between government and community.
- d. **Having technical, resources or service supports** from Gov or other organizations to encourage community's creativeness, self-reliant and helping together among community.

**Conclusion:** Through pilot action in Hang Buom, the feasibility of the project was examined and verified. The research also proposes recommendation on implementation and management mechanism bases on community participation for urban design project in the field of conservation and improvement the public space at street level. Currently, the state budget for that urban improvement project is very limited, then "State and public partnership" in urban design is the irreversible way if we really want to improve our urban quality immediately, especially for historical towns that preservation and projection are always required. The research also provides an integrated, interdisciplinary approach with community participation for urban design in Viet Nam context.

#### Reference

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- 2 Pham Thuy Loan & Ta Quynh Hoa (2006), "Urban design with community participation in Hang Buom street – Hanoi ancient quarter", Urban planning Magazine, Ministry of Construction, No. 23-24/2006, 59-61.
- 3 Carley Pennink (2000), *Public-Private Partnerships in Urban Development*, Institute for Housing and Urban Development Studies
- 4 John Friedmann (1987), *Planning in the Public Domain*, Princeton University Press, Princeton, New Jersey.
- 5 UNESCO (2004), *Linking Universal and Local Values: Managing a Sustainable future for World heritage*, World Heritage Papers No.13 ( Paris: UNESCO).
- 6 World Bank (1996), *The World Bank Participation Source Book*.

## UPCOMING EVENTS



### Planning our Urban Future - World Habitat Day 2009 – 5 Oct. 2009

<http://www.unhabitat.org/whd/>

The United Nations has designated the first Monday of October every year as World Habitat Day. The idea is to reflect on the state of our towns and cities and the basic right of all to adequate shelter. It is also intended to remind the world of its collective responsibility for the future of the human habitat.

The United Nations chose the theme **Planning our urban future** to raise awareness of the need to improve urban planning to deal with new major challenges of the 21st century. This is because urban settlements in all parts of the world are being influenced by new and powerful forces. In both developed and developing countries, cities and towns are increasingly feeling the effects of climate change, resource depletion, food insecurity, population growth and economic instability. These factors will significantly reshape towns and cities, physically and socially, in the century ahead. Many developing countries will, in addition, continue to experience rapid rates of urbanization, along with its most serious negative consequences - overcrowding, poverty, slums with many poorly equipped to meet the service demands of ever growing urban populations. With over half of the world's population currently living in urban areas, and this number set to rise to two-thirds in another generation, there is no doubt that the 'urban agenda' will increasingly become a priority for governments, local authorities and their non-governmental partners everywhere.

Unfortunately, current urban planning systems in many parts of the world are ill equipped to deal with these major urban challenges of the 21st century and, to a large extent, have failed to acknowledge the need to meaningfully involve communities and other stakeholders in the planning of urban areas. By failing to take these factors into account, planning systems in several parts of the world have contributed to the problems of marginalization and exclusion in rapidly growing and largely, poor and informal cities.

This is why urban planning needs to be given a fresh focus starting on World Habitat Day 2009. After all, we know the problems, but we need to share the best solutions as efficiently and widely as possible by planning better and more sensitively for ourselves and our environment.

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*With invitation and warm greetings from Mrs. Khoo Salma:*

### Penang International Conference on Sustainable Cultural Development, 8 – 9 October, 2009

[http://www.lestariheritage.net/picscd/picscd\\_02.html](http://www.lestariheritage.net/picscd/picscd_02.html)



As a new World Heritage Site, the city of George Town faces many challenges. 'The Economics of Revitalization' is the theme of a conference designed to learn from international speakers and to engage local stakeholders, in order to formulate the correct approaches and broaden the movement to revitalize the George Town World Heritage Site.

Panels are organised according to the following themes:

- Optimising returns from cultural tourism
- Value adding to property & business in the World Heritage Site & its surroundings
- Developing a win-win-win relationship with community organisations
- Effective enabling & enforcement: The role of government

#### **Conference Objectives**

- To engage stakeholders in the conservation and revitalization of the George Town Heritage Site and to create a networking platform for stimulating the heritage industry.

- To address some of the World Heritage Committee's recommendations for a establishing a comprehensive conservation plan.
- To showcase George Town's conservation and cultural development efforts, in celebration of the anniversary of its WH listing.

#### ***Conference Tours & On-Site Dinners***

The conference program will complement conference room presentations with tours and on-site dinners to enhance the participants' understanding of the issues discussed. Participants will get a chance to experience a selection of George Town's many attractive heritage sites, cultural performances and traditional trades.

#### ***Exhibition & Networking Opportunities***

The exhibition is intended to be a platform for facilitating exchange - enabling participating organisations to meet, interact and establish industry networks. Business matching, design matching and skills matching will be facilitated. Companies & institutions are invited to take part in the exhibition to promote their expertise and products.

#### ***Conference Fees***

RM 250 per person, inclusive of conference materials, lunches and teas

RM 150 student rate



The State Government of Penang, Malaysia invites submissions for an international competition for design ideas to physically brand the historic city of George Town, Penang in conjunction with its listing as a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 2008.

<http://www.markinggeorgetown.com/home>

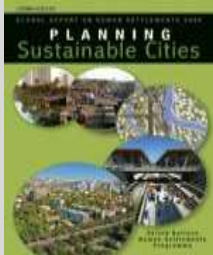


## UN HABITAT (2009): Planning Sustainable Cities - Global Report on Human Settlements

2009:Release Date - October 5th 2009

<http://www.unhabitat.org/pmss/listItemDetails.aspx?publicationID=2831>

Planning Sustainable Cities reviews recent urban planning practices and approaches, discusses constraints and conflicts therein, and identifies innovative approaches that are more responsive to current challenges of urbanization. It notes that traditional approaches to urban planning (particularly in developing countries) have largely failed to promote equitable, efficient and sustainable human settlements and to address twenty-first century challenges, including rapid urbanization, shrinking cities and ageing, climate change and related disasters, urban sprawl and unplanned peri-urbanization, as well as urbanization of poverty and informality. It concludes that new approaches to planning can only be meaningful, and have a greater chance of succeeding, if they effectively address all of these challenges, are participatory and inclusive, as well as linked to contextual socio-political processes.



## Khoo Saslma Nasution (2008): George Town: The Challenge of World Heritage Listing

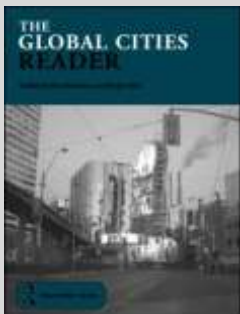
[http://www.lestariheritage.net/support/George\\_town\\_article\\_in\\_heritage\\_asia\\_2008.pdf](http://www.lestariheritage.net/support/George_town_article_in_heritage_asia_2008.pdf)



Historic townscapes, religious pluralism and multicultural living heritage forged by mercantile and cultural exchanges at the crossroads of civilizations – these have been pronounced the Outstanding Universal Values which qualified Melaka and George Town, the Historic Port Cities of the Straits of Malacca, to be listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. George Town, the younger of the two cities, was established on the northeastern promontory of Penang island. The latter was a part of the Malay kingdom of Kedah until it was occupied by the...

## Neil Brenner, Roger Keil (2005): The Global Cities Reader

[http://www.routledge.com/shopping\\_cart/products/product\\_detail.asp?sku=&isbn=0415323444&parent\\_id=&pc=](http://www.routledge.com/shopping_cart/products/product_detail.asp?sku=&isbn=0415323444&parent_id=&pc=)



Providing the first comprehensive survey of new interdisciplinary scholarship on globalized urbanization, this important volume contains fifty selections from classic writings by authors such as John Friedmann, Michael Peter Smith, Saskia Sassen, Peter Taylor, Manuel Castells and Anthony King, as well as major contributions by other international scholars of global city formation. Classic and contemporary case studies of globalizing cities serve to illuminate global city theory within Europe, North America and East Asia, whilst contributing authors explore key topics including: \* the histories and geographies of globalized urbanization \* the social and economic order of globalizing cities \* pathways of globalized urbanization in the older industrialized world, the developing world and on the `margins' of the world economy \* state restructuring, urban governance and socio-political contestation in globalizing cities \* culture, identity and representation in globalizing cities \* emerging issues and debates in contemporary research on globalized urbanization. Containing wide-ranging discussions on major theories, methods, themes and debates, and a

combination of theoretical and methodological contributions, comparative analyses and detailed case studies, this key textbook will appeal to a broad interdisciplinary readership at undergraduate and graduate levels in urban, globalization, development, cultural, and environmental studies.

### Content Overview

PART 1 GLOBAL CITY FORMATION: EMERGENCE OF A CONCEPT AND RESEARCH AGENDA

PART 2 STRUCTURES, DYNAMICS AND GEOGRAPHIES OF GLOBAL CITY FORMATION

PART 3 LOCAL PATHWAYS OF GLOBAL CITY FORMATION: CLASSIC AND CONTEMPORARY CASE STUDIES

PART 4 GLOBALIZATION, URBANIZATION AND UNEVEN SPATIAL DEVELOPMENT: PERSPECTIVES ON GLOBAL CITY FORMATION IN THE GLOBAL SOUTH.

PART 5 CONTESTED CITIES: STATE RESTRUCTURING, LOCAL POLITICS AND CIVIL SOCIETY

PART 6 REPRESENTATION, IDENTITY AND CULTURE IN GLOBAL CITIES: RETHINKING THE LOCAL AND THE GLOBAL

PART 7 EMERGING ISSUES IN GLOBAL CITIES RESEARCH: REFINEMENTS, CRITIQUES AND NEW FRONTIERS

### David Satterthwaite (2005): The scale of urban change worldwide 1950-2000 and its underpinnings

<http://www.iied.org/pubs/pdfs/9531IIED.pdf>

<http://www.iied.org/pubs/display.php?o=9531IIED>

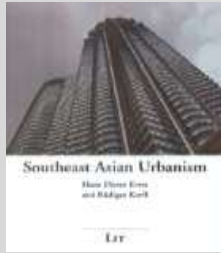


The world's urban population multiplied ten fold during the 20th century and most of the world's growth in population between 2000 and 2020 is expected to be in urban areas. However, the world was less urbanized and less dominated by large cities by 2000 than had been expected. Most of the world's largest cities had several million fewer people than had been predicted one or two decades earlier. There were also fewer 'mega-cities' with ten million or more people and the year when the world's urban population is predicted to exceed its rural population has been put back to 2007. This paper discusses the reasons for this and also why the long-term trend to an increasingly urbanized world has not changed. Lower urbanization levels and fewer

large cities also does it alter the fact that many aspects of urban change in the last fifty years are unprecedented, including the size and number of very large cities. But this review of urban change, shows some surprises, including: - many of the largest cities now having more people moving out than moving in; - Asia having most of the world's largest cities (but this only returns to what has generally been the case). Northern America and sub-Saharan Africa have the most 'new' large cities; and - How rapid urban change is not confined to low- and middle-income nations, since Northern America has some of the world's fastest growing cities over the last 50 years. This paper also outlines what has underpinned the trend towards an increasingly urbanized world and the economic logic behind it – for instance how most of the world's largest cities and fastest growing cities are in the largest national economies. The ending of colonial empires after World War II also had profound effects on urban trends in Africa and much of Asia – and although political changes still have importance in underpinning urban change, they are now less important than economic change for most nations. The paper also describes the costs generated by rapid urban growth and suggests that most are not caused by the urban growth itself but by 'poor governance' – the inability of national and local institutions to adapt to the new challenges that rapid urban growth presents. It also describes some of the exceptions, the national and city governments that have managed to adapt.

**Hans-Dieter Evers, Rüdiger Korff (2000): Southeast Asian Urbanism. The Meaning and Power of Social Space**

<http://www.lit-verlag.de/isbn/3-8258-4021-2>

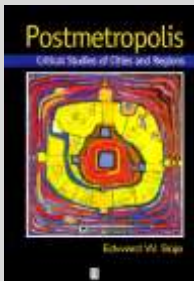


Southeast Asian Urbanism is based on the results of over two decades of field research on cities and towns of Thailand, Sri Lanka, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines and Singapore. The connections between micro and macro processes, between grassroots interactions and urban structures, between social theory and empirical data are analysed to provide a vivid picture of the great variety of urban forms, the social creativity in the slums of Bangkok, Manila or Jakarta, the variety of cultural symbolism and the political and religious structuration of urban space. The book is written in the tradition of German or European sociological research from

Marx and Weber to Habermas and Bourdieu. The work on Southeast Asian urbanism was carried out within the research programme of the Sociology of Development Research Centre of the University of Bielefeld in Germany, but also during teaching and research assignments at Chulalongkorn University, the National University of Singapore, the Science University of Malaysia, the National University of Malaysia, Andalas University, Padang, the Population Studies Centre at Gadjah Mada University, the University of Indonesia, the University of the Philippines and the Institute of Southeast Asian Studies, Singapore. The book will be of interest to urban anthropologists, political scientists and sociologists, to students of Southeast Asian history, culture and society, to urban planners and policy makers.

**Soja, E.W. Postmetropolis: Critical Studies of Cities and Regions. Oxford: Basil Blackwell, 2000.**

[http://www.amazon.com/Postmetropolis-Critical-Studies-Cities-Regions/dp/1577180011/ref=sr\\_1\\_1?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1253612986&sr=8-1](http://www.amazon.com/Postmetropolis-Critical-Studies-Cities-Regions/dp/1577180011/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1253612986&sr=8-1)



**Edward Soja, Distinguished Professor of Urban Planning at University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) - School of Urban Planning**

Professor Soja teaches in the Regional and International Development (RID) area of Urban Planning and also teaches courses in urban political economy and planning theory. After starting his academic career as a specialist on Africa, Dr. Soja has focused his research and writing over the past 20 years on urban restructuring in Los Angeles and more broadly on the critical study of cities and regions. His wide-ranging studies of Los Angeles bring together traditional political economy approaches and recent trends in

critical cultural studies. Of particular interest to him is the way issues of class, race, gender, and sexuality intersect with what he calls the spatiality of social life, and with the new cultural politics of difference and identity that this generates.

In addition to his work on urban restructuring in Los Angeles, Dr. Soja continues to write on how social scientists and philosophers think about space and geography, especially in relation to how they think about time and history. His latest book brings these various research strands together in a comprehensive look at the geohistory of cities, from their earliest origins to the more recent development of what he calls the "postmetropolis." His policy interests are primarily involved with questions of regional development, planning and governance, and with the local effects of ethnic and cultural diversity in Los Angeles.

<http://www.spa.ucla.edu/dept.cfm?d=up&s=faculty&f=faculty1.cfm&id=251>

## Links to International Urban Study Programmes offered by German Universities

### Urban Studies Program at Darmstadt University

<http://www.urban-studies.de/>

The urban studies program at Darmstadt university was launched in April 2007. It offers a number of different study opportunities to prepare the participants to meet the new challenges resulting from advancing globalization and the need for participatory governance, poverty reduction and interdisciplinary networking. The courses are innovative through its modular structure and its faculty composed of the best experts and academics available worldwide.

The umbrella of the different course options is the 2-years master's course 'International Cooperation and Urban Development' which awards an advanced diploma. Students who are not available for the full period may obtain a diploma certificate after one year, or a specialization certificate for individual modules that take one or two weeks. Further postgraduate options include a PhD diploma and tailor made training courses in the field of urban development planning and housing.

The MSc. course starts every year in October. Applications are being accepted any time until June, 15th of the same year. In order to be considered in the first selection round, applications should arrive before 1st of December of the year before. For extension of the deadline please contact [Mrs. Leslie Quitzow](#). Please note that the German Embassy requests a pre-selection procedure in some countries (i.e. in Vietnam, China) for which the deadline is in May. Interested persons may either make use of the application form contained in this web site or write to [PAR](#).

From October 2009 onwards, this Masters course will simultaneously be taught at the Vietnamese-German University in Saigon (VGU) (<http://www.vgu.edu.vn>). This makes it possible for students from the Darmstadt course to attend the same classes in Vietnam for one semester or less.

Since 2008, 'International Cooperation and Urban Development' is part of the ERASMUS MUNDUS program – the Higher Education program of excellency of the European Commission. For details see 'www-mundus-urbano.eu' ([www.mundus-urbano.eu](http://www.mundus-urbano.eu)). This programme combines the Darmstadt 'urban-studies' program with different specialization options in Rome, Barcelona or Grenoble and grants a double degree at the end of the two years course.



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### Urban Management Studies, TU Berlin

<http://www2.tu-berlin.de/fak6/urban-management/index.htm>



The Berlin University of Technology, Faculty VI, is actively involved in the training of foreign experts since 15 years. Its educational portfolio includes both short and long-term post-graduate training courses in specific subjects as well as a master program providing state-of-the-art knowledge in key sectors of urban management, environmental management and engineering.

The courses draw on the extensive experience and research of faculty and international experts that are members of the international network of the TU. They also include experts from different public and private institutions mainly in Berlin, e.g. from the Senate in Berlin and from the GTZ (Gesellschaft für Technische

Zusammenarbeit).

The three-semester Master Course in Urban Management is open for graduates from various disciplines. It has a focus on development situations in the South and transition countries. The course offers training in



management approaches that cross the boundaries of isolated professional knowledge and aims to present workable solutions for city management. The issues addressed are related to the most urgent problems of urban development in many countries, including environmental degradation, uncontrolled urban growth, insecure land tenure, substandard housing conditions for the urban poor, and inadequate decision making and local planning systems. Teaching draws on case studies and experience gained by local governments, NGOs, and the private sector. German language courses are offered throughout the first year. The course language is English.

The duration of the Master Course is 3 semesters including a master thesis. Two semesters are reserved for classes at the Technical University Berlin. The third semester is dedicated to further specialization and the preparation of a master thesis. Topics addressing issues derived from problems in the students' home countries are encouraged. The program also involves internships in relevant institutions in Germany or abroad.

The number of participants is limited to a maximum of 25 people per course. Most of the students will come from non-European countries. Graduates from Germany and other EU countries planning a career in development organizations are also invited to apply. The course is open to graduates from any country holding a bachelor degree or an equivalent in urban development-related fields.

# CLUB 50 GROUP SONGS

MALAYSIAN SUMMER SCHOOL (March 1-11, 2009)

(lyrics by Dr. Boy)

## **1 (Melaody – “Guantanamera”)**

Bamba la bamba  
Oh oh bamba la bamba  
Bamba la bamba  
Oh oh oh bamba la bamba

Bamba la bamba  
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia  
Cyberjaya, Putrajaya,  
Shah Alam, Petaling Jaya

Bamba la bamba  
Cameron Highlands, Penang Island.  
Places of splendor,  
Of the great Malaysaia.

Bamba la bamba,  
Prof Lee and Sharifah,  
Mei Ling and Thean Siew.  
What could we do without you?

Bamba la bamba  
Prof Kraas and Christine,  
We thank you so deeply  
For your lead in our Forum.

Bamba la bamba  
Oh oh bamba la bamba  
Summer school in Malaysia  
Is truly “Bamba la bamba”.

## **2 (Slow melody)**

Goodbye. We hate to say goodbye.  
We had a great time  
Thank you, thank you for your warm care  
From our hearts we thank you  
Who knows where our Forum is going.  
Its going somewhere...  
Going somewhere.....