



# **Southeast Asian-German Urban Experts' ForUm Newsletter**

***ForUm Newsletter Issue No. 17***

***17<sup>th</sup> May 2017***

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# Editorial

People say when you start to recollect memories you are getting old. On the contrary, I think to be able to recollect memories refreshes and reinforces the things learnt and a time past which was well spent.

This issue of the ForUm Newsletter is very unique simply because it is Issue No. 17 with 7 Sections and dated 17<sup>th</sup> May in the year 2017. It not only documents urban events and developments of ForUm and news of its members since the ForUm meeting in Myanmar in 2015 until May 2017, but it also celebrates some of the career successes of ForUm members, and a recap of “auld lang syne” of the pioneer and popular “Club 50”. And finally, there is a quiz on whether you remember 7 mementoes of ForUms held in the past.

Do you know what ForUm is all about? To clarify this, **Section 1** of this Newsletter begins by answering 7 questions about “facts and figures” of ForUm and ending with a short special feature on the pioneer and “incorrigibly dignified” **Club 50** (who together with other later members) provided much of the social life, gusto and the bonding agent to soothe the otherwise long hours of serious intellectual work. This has made each and every ForUm meeting so special and memorable.

As mentioned above, we are happy and proud to remember some of our ForUm members who have advanced in their careers and **Section 2** documents some of these “success stories”. Undoubtedly, there are many others but time does not allow me to follow up on them. As such, I have confined the success stories to one member per country except for Cambodia, where although I was informed there are several members who have become important national leaders but they remained uncontactable (at least until May 2017!).

**Section 3** recollects our Myanmar outing to Nay Pyi Taw and Mandalay in 2015 and this is followed in **Section 4**, by the report of the previous ForUm meeting in Khon Kaen, Thailand in 2017. Much of the details of these 2 reports depended on Prof. BoyM’s excellent detailed daily personal account of his travels. To Dr. BoyM who has made memories in ink we say thank you. Each of these 2 sections is followed by selected and annotated pictures to add to your reading pleasure.

**Section 5** attempts to give an update of each country report (where available until 2017) followed by a list of some publications of some ForUm members in **Section 6**. **Section 7** concludes with a miscellaneous collection of events, links, scholarships and related literature. **Finally**, I conclude this newsletter with a small quiz.

Well, all these in 68 interesting pages! I hope you will enjoy reading this newsletter just as much as I have enjoyed many long hours preparing these materials.

Prof. Lee Boon-Thong  
17<sup>th</sup> May 2017

# Section 1

## **Want answers on ForUm? Seven interesting facts and figures you should know.**

### **1. *What is ForUm?***

“ForUm” stands for ForUm for Urban Futures in Southeast Asia. This is a networking of Southeast Asian and German experts for North-South-South dialogue focussing on urban challenges and conflicts – providing a platform for exchanges on concepts, researches, applications of urban issues and best practices. At least once a year, the urban experts from Germany and different Southeast Asian countries meet over an intense period of 10 days or so, to make scientific presentations from their respective countries and to discuss regional case studies and best practices. The meetings are normally enhanced by presentations from local experts, NGOs, private sectors, government bodies and city managers of the host countries. Relevant fieldwork excursions and interesting site visits complement each ForUm meeting to make it a rewarding and enriching experience.

### **2. *What is the vision and goal of the ForUm?***

- Vision: to intensify and integrate the interdisciplinary and intercultural “North-South-South dialogue” among urban experts from Southeast Asia and Germany, making contributions to the theory, models and good practices through multi-stakeholder approach involving scientists, urban administrators, private sectors, and the civil society.
- Goal: Unlike other seminars, this is an exchange platform involving about ten days of intensive interaction that enables future joint researches, publications, exchange excursions, seminars, newsletters, short- and long-term teaching exchanges, and thesis supervision, etc.

### **3. *Who are the partner countries?***

The countries are Cambodia, East Timor, Germany, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Thailand, and Vietnam. So far, more than 200 individuals from various universities, government sectors, NGOs, the private sectors and international cooperation agencies are in the network and have participated in the ForUms.

### **4. *When and where was the first ForUm meeting held?***

The first meeting started as a German-Southeast Asian “Summer School” in October 2005 at the University of Cologne, Cologne, Germany. At the end of 2009, the appellation was changed from “Summer School” to “Urban Experts ForUm” as this was more appropriately a meeting of practitioners, academicians and experts in the urban field.

### **5. *How many ForUm meetings have been held so far and who organises them?***

Nineteen (19) ForUm meetings have been held so far from 2005 to 2017 (January). Except for 2013, 2014 and 2016, ForUm meetings have been held at least once every year. Generally, the academic institutions of ForUm members in the respective countries (often, government bodies and sometimes, the private sectors, are also involved) are responsible for the preparations of the programmes, accommodation, field trips, etc. The social fraternity of the ForUm is informally organised by a small group of “chronologically senior” members (who call themselves the “Club 50s”). For the records, sincere appreciation goes to all host countries, which have organised previous ForUm meetings with deep commitment, enthusiasm and with wonderful successes.

### **6. *Where, when, and what are the themes of the 19 meetings held since 2005 to 2017?***

- i. Cologne (Germany), 16 - 29 October 2005 on “Urban and Peri-Urban Developments: Structures, Processes and Solutions”.
- ii. Yogyakarta (Indonesia), 1 - 8 October 2006 on “Urbanisation with a Special Focus on Decentralisation”.
- iii. Manila and Cagayan de Oro (Philippines), 18 March – 1 April 2007 on “Challenges of Urbanisation: Urban Driving Forces I”.
- iv. Phnom Penh & Siem Reap (Cambodia), 18 – 31 October 2007 on "Challenges of Urbanisation: Urban Driving Forces II”.
- v. Bangkok and Chiang Mai (Thailand), 17 – 29 February 2008 on "Challenges of Urbanisation: Urban Coherence I”.
- vi. Vientiane and Luang Prabang (Laos), 21 September – 4 October 2008 on “Geographical Information Science for Urban and Regional Development in Asia and Africa”.
- vii. Hanoi (Vietnam), 10 – 20 December 2008 on "Challenges of Urbanisation: Urban Coherence II”.
- viii. Siem Reap and Battambang (Cambodia), 11 – 21 January 2009 on "Urban Heritage Management in Secondary Towns and Cities: Regulatory Frameworks, Community Participation and Financial Challenges”.
- ix. Kuala Lumpur and Penang (Malaysia), 1 – 11 March 2009 on "Challenges of Urbanisation: The Role of Civil Society in Urban Development I”.
- x. Cologne and Berlin (Germany), 22 August – 1 September 2009 on "Challenges of Urbanisation - The Role of Civil Society in Urban Development II”.
- xi. Luang Prabang (Laos), 3 – 10 July 2010 on "Challenges of Urban Heritage and Governance in Southeast Asia”.
- xii. Jakarta, Yogyakarta & Solo (Indonesia), 23 – 31 October 2010 on "Urban Public Space and Governance”.
- xiii. Hanoi (Vietnam), 1 – 3 December 2010 on “Socio-economically Sustainable Urban Development”.
- xiv. Cebu and Cagayan de Oro (Philippines), 27 March – 6 April 2011 on "Regional Urban Networks: Urban Environmental and Risk Management in Southeast Asia”.

- xv. Nay Pyi Taw and Yangon (Myanmar), 29 September – 8 October 2011 on “Urban Regional Networks: Sustainable Urban Future”.
- xvi. Cologne (Germany), 31 August – 8 September 2012 on “Urban Natural and Social Risk Management in Southeast Asia”.
- xvii. Nay Pyi Taw, Taunggyi and Yangon (Myanmar), 29 November – 8 December 2012 on “Housing for People & Urban Heritage for All”.
- xviii. Nay Pyi Taw and Mandalay (Myanmar), 7- 13 September 2015 on “Urban Systems in Southeast Asia I”.
- xix. Khon Kaen (Thailand), 19 – 25 January 2017 on “Urban Systems in Southeast Asia II”.

(Ed. The 20<sup>th</sup> ForUm will be held in Kuching, Sarawak, Malaysia in June 2018).

***7. Who sponsors the ForUm meetings; who provides the leadership; and what have been the achievements of the ForUm network?***

ForUm expresses its gratitude for the generous sponsorship of Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst (DAAD) or German Academic Exchange Service, without which the ForUm series would not have been possible. The Institute of Geography, University of Cologne provides the leadership and guidance under the very able mentorship of Professor Dr Frauke Kraas (Teaching and research interests on Megacities, Urban and Social Geography, Governance, Heritage, Health, Risks, Migration, Southeast Asia (Myanmar, Thailand, Indonesia, India, and China). The achievements of ForUm are innumerable and (sometimes) immeasurable and they have been documented explicitly in the previous 16 newsletters as well as in the current issue. Irrefutably, ForUm has established a strong international, interdisciplinary and multi-stakeholder exchange platform which has enabled joint research projects, joint research papers and books (academic anthologies), numerous bi-/multinational staff qualification and teaching exchanges (short-term and long-term stays), joint international research evaluations, PhD/Master supervisions, supervision of international internships and many bilateral student excursions, to name some.

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(Note from the Editor: It is most appropriate at this juncture for us, the participants of ForUm, to express our deep gratitude to Prof Frauke Kraas for her commitment and leadership to ForUm. Any sponsored event, without a good and dedicated leader, would be just another “one of those normal events”. But ForUm is different and unique. Its sustained existence has spawned a new generation of Southeast Asian urban researchers simply because Prof. Kraas has a heart for the “locals” – a heart that is born out of genuine, sincere, and unselfish motivations. A precious and irreplaceable German-Southeast Asian connection has emerged because she chose to sacrificially relate, nurture and encourage each individual participant).

***"Vielen herzlichen Dank Prof. Kraas"***

# Special feature

## The nostalgic 'Club 50' of the ForUm



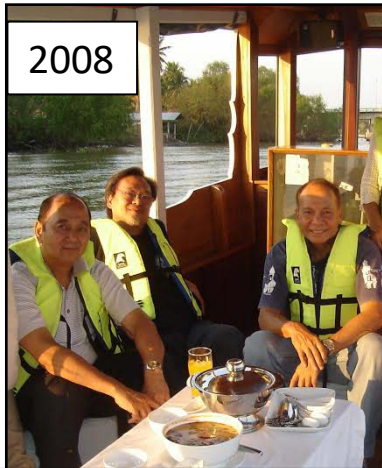
Picture of the pioneer Club 50 at the first Summer School in Cologne in October 2005.

Picture taken during an excursion to Bonn. From left: Boy (Anselmo Mercado) from the Philippines, Sekson (Sekson Yongvanit) from Thailand, and Lee (Lee Boon-Thong) from Malaysia.

What is this "Club 50"? It is an informal identification which the chronologically more senior members of the group gave themselves at the first Summer School in 2005 in Cologne. Without mincing any words, to qualify you have to be above 50 years old! Indelibly, over the years new members have joined!

I vividly recall that at the first Summer School in Cologne, we (Club 50ers) didn't know that we were making memories and playing a crucial albeit informal role of bonding a most diverse group; we just knew we were having fun. Looking back over the 12 years (from 2005 to 2017), we know that although participants may come and go, Club 50 has become to be accepted as a rather "necessary" part of the social fun dimension of the ForUm. Club 50 (who together with other later members) provided much of the social life, gusto and the bonding agent to soothe the otherwise long hours of serious intellectual work. However, we are not just fun to be with but also, as someone puts it, "always sharing, caring, encouraging". This has made each and every ForUm meeting so special and memorable.

Down the road, the Club 50 knows that friendship means that memories always last...even over long distances and that the unspoken bonding imprinted in our hearts will never be diminished by time or distance. We will be friends until we are old, indeed very old! Thanks to every one for the heart-warming memories. And very special thanks to Prof. Frauke Kraas for initiating the Summer School and to DAAD for making "meeting up" possible through their sponsorship, and subsequently making ForUm meetings so special year after year.



2008

Dinner cruise on River Mae Klong, Bangkok.



2010

On the banks of Solo River, Indonesia, singing the legendary and famous “Bengawan Solo”!



2013

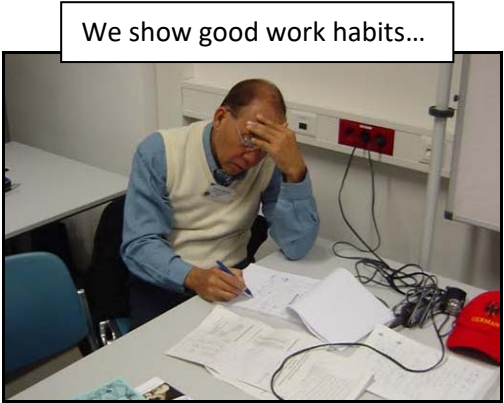
“Award-winning picture”!



2017

Club 50 meeting up again in Khon Kaen (Thailand) together with our beloved mentor and friend, Prof. Frauke Kraas in this award-winning picture (with their unbelievable “Colgate” smiles) taken in 2013 (left); and again in Khon Kaen in 2017 (right).

So, you want to know what Club 50 members do during the ForUm? Read on...





We inspire confidence...



We offer a helping hand.."Let me hold the laptop for you while you sing..."

...and even chaperone ladies for late supper!!



But sometimes we don't really know what they are doing...like this one – all by themselves in the dark garden? Hmmm...(Ed: not to worry, everything is ok!)

And finally...



We eat all the left-over food... and then...

***Do not disturb!***

**...we have our siesta!!!**



(with our hand(s) on our very full tummies!!)

**BREAKING NEWS!!!**

We wish to congratulate Ajan Sekson Yongvanit on being promoted to full Professor recently (2017). CONGRATULATIONS Professor Dr. Sekson Yongvanit.

# Section 2

## Success Stories of ForUm members

The sentiments expressed here by these individuals truly reflect the immeasurable impact of DAAD funding and support of the ForUm programme. Participation in the ForUm has helped many members, either directly or indirectly, to advance in their careers since 2005. We are happy to record some of these achievements of ForUm members and celebrate with them their successes.

- **Associate Professor Dr. Rini Rachmawati from Indonesia**

First ForUm participation was in 2005 (Germany) followed by 7 other participations in 2006 (Indonesia), 2007 (Cambodia), 2008 (Thailand), 2010 (Indonesia), 2012 (Germany), 2015 (Myanmar), and 2017 (Thailand).

*Best Head of study programme...*



Dr. Rini was appointed as the Head of the Regional Development Study Programme, Faculty of Geography, Universitas Gadjah Mada in 2011. During her tenure as Head until 2015, Dr. Rini managed to internationalise the programme through fieldwork collaboration with universities in Malaysia, Singapore and Thailand. For this, Dr. Rini, In 2013, received an award from the University Rector as the “Best Head of Study Programme”. Again, in 2016 she received an award from the Regional Development and Planning Specialty Group of the American Association of Geographers in recognition for her outstanding leadership in organising the 13<sup>th</sup> Asian Urbanisation Conference held in January 2016. ***Dr. Rini described her career as having “started and grew with ForUm” because the Summer School in 2005 in Cologne was her first exposure to global interaction.*** Currently, she has active collaboration with Utrecht University (Netherlands), University of Minho (Portugal), Nanjing University (China) and the University of Bourgogne (France).

**"Tahniah" Dr. Rini !!**

- **Dr. Ta Quynh Hoa from Vietnam**



First ForUm participation was in 2008 (Vietnam) followed by 8 other participations in 2009 (Malaysia & Germany), 2010 (Laos & Indonesia), 2011 (Philippines & Myanmar), 2012 (Germany) and 2015 (Myanmar).

### *Appointed as Dean of Faculty...*

Dr Ta Quynh Hoa was promoted to be the Director of the International Cooperation Centre for Education and Consultancy (ICCEC) in her university in Hanoi, the National University of Civil Engineering (NUCE) in November 2015. And in the following year, June 2016, she was appointed as the Dean of International Education Faculty. Besides her busy lecturing position as the Senior Lecturer in the Faculty of Architecture and Planning in NUCE, she is also responsible for organising and facilitating all the international joint programmes at both the undergraduate and postgraduate levels with countries such as Malaysia, Indonesia, and Singapore. In addition, she also facilitates collaboration with other domestic higher institutions like National Economics University and Vietnam Institute of Urban and Rural Planning. ***It is clear that the networking established in ForUm has given the University authorities confidence in her ability to take on the new role.***

**"Xin chuc mung" Dr Quynh Hoa !!**

- **Associate Professor Dr Zin Nwe Myint from Myanmar**

First ForUm participation was in 2008 (Thailand) followed by 5 other participations in 2011 (Myanmar), 2012 (Germany & Myanmar), 2015 (Myanmar) and 2017 (Thailand).

*Secured the prestigious Georg Forster Fellowship...*



Dr. Zin Nwe was deservedly promoted to Associate Professor at the Department of Geography, University of Yangon in August 2015. Equally more newsworthy is the fact that in April 2016 she applied for and successfully secured the highly prestigious Georg Forster Research Fellowship funded by the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation, with a research proposal on heritage conservation and tourism of Mrauk-U. Her application was among the few successful ones from hundreds of applications from developing countries. That's an excellent achievement. ***Dr Zin Nwe partially attributes her success to the experience and learning curves from ForUm participation: "members giving suggestions and sharing their knowledge. I learned a lot in every ForUm meeting, especially from the more senior ones". In a wider context, Dr. Zin Nwe adds that the expert network group***

***in ForUm are not only experts in urban matters, but also experts in sharing, caring, encouraging and fun to be with".***

**"Gon yu par tal" Dr Zin Nwe !!**

- **Assistant Professor Dr. Monsicha Bejrananda from Thailand**

First Forum participation was in 2006 (Indonesia) followed by 6 other participations in 2007 (Indonesia), 2008 (Thailand), 2009 (Malaysia), 2010 (Indonesia), 2012 (Myanmar) and 2017 (Thailand).

*Appointed as Dean...*



In 2012 Dr. Monsicha Bejrananda moved from King Mongkut's Institute of Technology Ladkrabang (KMITL) to Khon Kaen University and was immediately appointed as the Dean of Faculty of Architecture. And because of a DAAD scholarship to Cologne in 2009 and her active ForUm participation, she was able to establish in 2013 a MOU between University of Cologne and Khon Kaen University. Since then, several academic exchanges have taken place. ***She added: "ForUm has connected my Faculty not only with University of Cologne but also with colleagues from other universities in Southeast Asia...". "The network not only gives me a lot of experiences but also new friends and opportunities that do not come easily".***

***"Yin-dee-duai" Dr Monsicha !!***

- **Ms Imelda Baleta from the Philippines.**

First Forum participation was in 2005 (Germany) followed by other 7 participations in 2006 (Indonesia), 2007 (Philippines & Cambodia), 2008 (Vietnam), 2009 (Germany), 2011 (Philippines), and 2012 (Myanmar).

*Appointed as Coordinator of Future Cities Programme...*



Ms Imelda works with the Urban Sector Group of Asian Development Bank (ADB) as a National Consultant based in the Philippines. Recently, she has been appointed as the Coordinator of the Future Cities Programme - a Regional Technical Assistance (RETA) project (complete name is R-RDTA 9025: Establishing the Future Cities Programme in the Asia and Pacific Region). This RETA project covers a very extensive region from Bandung and Makassar in Indonesia to Suva in Fiji, Tbilisi in Georgia, Ulaanbaatar in Mongolia and Mandalay in Myanmar. This is indeed a huge responsibility which we, in Forum, believe she will be most capable of delivering.

**"Maliga yang bati sa inyo po" Ms Imelda !!**

- **Ms Saykham Thammanosouth from Lao PDR**

First Forum participation was in 2008 (Vietnam) followed by 4 other participations in 2009 (Malaysia & Germany), 2012 (Germany), and 2015 (Myanmar).

*Appointed as Deputy Director-General...*



Ms Saykham was the Head of the Division of Public Works and Transport Institute and in 2016 she was promoted to become the Deputy Director-General of the Public Works and Transport Training Institute (PTTI). This Training Institute, under the Ministry of Public Works and Transport (MPWT), has the responsibility of organising training for MPWT staff. ***Ms Saykham attributes her promotion to the “international perspectives she gained from ForUm experts’ exposure which raised the profile of her work to an international stage”.***

***"Some Seuy" Ms Saykham !!***

- **Prof. Dr. Lee Boon Thong from Malaysia.**

First Forum participation was in 2005 (Germany) followed by 15 other participations in 2006 (Indonesia), 2007 (Philippines & Cambodia), 2008 (Thailand & Vietnam), 2009 (Malaysia & Germany), 2010 (Laos & Indonesia), 2011 (Philippines & Myanmar), 2012 (Germany & Myanmar), 2015 (Myanmar), and 2017 (Thailand).

*Appointed as Deputy Vice-Chancellor...*



After 34 years in the University of Malaya, teaching and doing research related to Urbanisation, Urban and Settlement Geography, Prof. Lee left to join a private University to serve initially as the Director of Academic Quality in Nilai University. In 2013 he was appointed to one of the University's top management positions as the Deputy Vice-Chancellor, in charge of academic affairs and post-graduate studies. He is now retired, though still active in research collaboration. **"Having attended 16 ForUm meetings, I can see the indelible positive impacts of ForUm upon the Southeast Asian participants and the invaluable networking between Germany and Southeast**

**Asia as well as among the Southeast Asians. It is a joy to see the fruits of these DAAD-sponsored ForUms. Thanks in particular to Prof. Kraas, who sacrificed much of her precious time to mentor and nurture the many young minds of Southeast Asia and in doing so, established and cemented the North-South-South relationship and friendship".**

**Congratulations Prof Lee !!**

# Section 3

## Urban Experts' ForUm in Myanmar 2015

The ForUm Experts' Seminar in 2015 was held in Nay Pyi Taw and Mandalay, Myanmar, from September 6 - 14, 2015 with the theme on "Urban Systems in Southeast Asia I".



### Participants:

Prof. Dr. Frauke Kraas (Germany)  
Mr Ralf Symann (Germany)  
Associate Prof. Dr. Djaka Marwasta (Indonesia)  
Associate Prof. Dr. Rini Rachmawati (Indonesia)  
Ms. Saykham Thammanosouth (Laos)  
Mr. Chanthasak Bottaphanith (Laos)  
Prof. Dr. Lee Boon Thong (Malaysia)  
Assoc. Prof. Dr. Khin Khin Soe (Myanmar)  
Daw Sandar Win (Myanmar)  
Ms. U Zin Min Swe (Myanmar)  
Dr. Than Than Thwe (Myanmar)  
Dr. U Win Myint (Myanmar)  
Daw Aye Aye Myint (Myanmar)  
Daw Hlaing Maw OO (Myanmar)  
Assoc. Prof. Dr. Saw Yu May (Myanmar)  
Prof. Dr. Nyo Nyo (Myanmar)  
Prof. Dr. Kyaw Lat (Myanmar)  
Daw Moe Thida (Myanmar)  
Daw Khin May Htay (Myanmar)

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Zin Nwe Myint (Myanmar)  
Dr. Toe Aung (Myanmar)  
Daw Thaw Tar Htet Htet Paing (Myanmar)  
Prof. Dr. Anselmo Mercado (Philippines)  
Assoc. Prof. Dr. Noel Alegre (Philippines)  
Assoc. Prof. Dr. Le Thu Hoa (Vietnam)  
Dr. Ta Quynh Hoa (Vietnam)  
Ms. Le Thi Thuy Ha (Vietnam)

## **Programme & Schedule (September 6-14, 2015)**

### **Venue 1: Nay Pyi Taw 7-10 Sept 2015**

#### **7 Sept 2015**

- 09.00 Registration
- 09.30 Opening ceremony  
Opening speech by His Excellency, Minister, Ministry of Construction  
Speech by the Head of the Forum Network
- 10.00 Photo session and coffee break
- 10.30 Daw Aye Aye Myint, "National urban development strategy in Myanmar"
- 11.00 Daw Hlaing Maw Oo, "Regional cities and corridors in Myanmar"
- 11.30 Prof. Dr. Frauke Kraas, "Urban systems research: theoretical approaches and its application to Myanmar"
- 12.00 Prof. Dr. Lee Boon Thong, "Fifty years of strategising new hearts for the clogged city: from new towns to regionopolis, urban corridors and conurbation"
- 12.30 Lunch
- 13.30 Assoc. Prof. Dr. Le Thu Hoa, "Roles of the central cities in regional development: the case of Red River Delta in Vietnam"
- 14.00 Dr. Toe Aung, "Planning city and regional development of Yangon"
- 14.30 Dr. Than Than Thwe, "Decentralizing the urban systems of Southeast Yangon region"
- 15.00 Coffee break
- 15.30 Prof. Dr. Anselmo Mercado, "Participative planning system in Cagayan de Oro, Philippines"
- 16.00 Assoc. Prof. Dr. Rini Rachmawati, "Urban pattern tendencies in Indonesia: from centralised towards decentralised urbanisation"

#### **8 Sept 2015**

- 09.00 Prof. Dr. Kyaw Lat, "Future of Yangon: issues and challenges"
- 09.30 Assoc. Prof. Dr. Noel Cornel Alegre, "Development of underdevelopment: a discourse on urban regional centers in the Bicol region"
- 10.00 Coffee break
- 10.30 Saykham Thammanosouth, "Urban system and planning, management and development in Lao PDR"
- 11.00 Daw Moe Thida, "Planned city expansion program and urban system initiative"
- 11.30 Ms. Le Thi Thuy Ha, "Coastal urban system development in Vietnam using ecosystem-based approaches – case study in mangrove populated areas in Ca Mau Province"
- 12.00 Dr. Ta Quynh Hoa, "Urban system development for climate change adaptation: case study of Can Tho City, Mekong River Delta, Vietnam"
- 12.30 Lunch.

13.30 Excursion in Nay Pyi Taw

### **9 Sept 2015**

- 09.00 Dr. U Win Myint, "Urban system within a region or a region within an urban system: a tale of two cities and two regions in Myanmar"
- 09.30 Assoc. Prof. Dr. Djaka Marwasta, "Spatial trends of urban physical development of Yogyakarta City during 1756-2015"
- 10.00 Coffee break
- 10.30 Chanthasak Bottaphanith, "Urban system development in Vientiane, Laos"
- 11.00 Discussion: lessons learnt from the case studies I
- 12.00 Lunch
- 13.00 Discussion: lessons learnt from the case studies II
- 14.30 Coffee break
- 15.00-16:30 Comparative discussion: Regional urban systems in Southeast Asia

### **10 Sept 2015**

Transfer from Nay Pyi Taw to Mandalay: the north-south axis in Central Myanmar as the backbone of the Myanmar urban network system. Excursion to the urban system of Meikthila – Sagaing- Amarapura (Mahagandayon Monastery, U Bein Bridge) – Mandalay: developing a corridor for the enhanced urban network system

### **Venue 2: Mandalay 11-14 Sept 2015**

#### **11<sup>th</sup> Sept 2015**

- 09.00 Welcome address at the University of Mandalay by Prof. Dr. Zaw Win, Deputy Director-General DHE, Ministry of Education
- 09.30 Prof. Dr. Frauke Kraas, "Urban network system of Myanmar: joint Myanmar-German Research on Mawlamyine, Pyay, Sagaing and Taunggyi"
- 10.00 Coffee break
- 10.30 Daw Khin May Htay, "Mandalay green city urban development strategies"
- 11.00 Assoc. Prof. Dr. Zin Nwe Myint, "Regional urban system of Rakhine State: a three tier base for tourism development"
- 11.30 Discussion: Regional urban system networks
- 12.00 Lunch
- 13.00 Assoc. Prof. Dr. Khin Khin Soe, "Urban transformation in Yangon downtown area: a case study of Latha Township (from Latha Road to Shwedagon Road)"
- 13.30 Assoc. Prof. Dr. Saw Yu May, "Taunggyi, Ayethayar and Inle Lake: Shan regional urban network"
- 14.00 Coffee break
- 14.30 Discussion: The future urban network system in Myanmar

#### **12<sup>th</sup> Sept 2015**

- 09.00 Prof. Dr. Nyo Nyo, "The spatial system of cultural heritage buildings in Mandalay City"
- 09.30 Ms. U Zin Min Swe, "Urban development of Mandalay and its surrounding urban and regional planning"
- 10.00 Coffee break

- 10.30 Ralf Symann, "Misereor: Myanmar partners and their projects"
- 11.00 Daw Sandar Win, "Socio-economic potentials of Mawlamyine – and developing the corridor"
- 11.30 Daw Thaw Tar Htet Htet Paing, "Socio-economic potentials of Pyay"
- 12.00 Lunch
- 13.00-18.30 Excursion to Mandalay: Palace, Shwe Nandaw Kyaung Monastery, Mandalay Hill, Kuthodaw Monastery, Maha Muni Pagoda, handicraft potentials.
- 20.30 Myanmar Traditional Puppet Show

### **13<sup>th</sup> Sept 2015**

- 09.00 The German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD); The Goethe-Institute in Myanmar; plenary discussion: suggestions from the ForUm group – lessons learnt for urban system development
- 10.00 Coffee break
- 10.30 ForUm conclusion: assessment of the experts' seminar, outcomes, priorities and procedures for the following seminar
- 12.00 Lunch
- 13.00-15.00 Discussion for ForUm Network: future work, exchange, country reports, evaluation, photo memory documentation
- 18.00-20.00 Farewell dinner

### **14<sup>th</sup> Sept. 2015**

Departure for home

**Brief report (edited from the account by Dr. Boy. Indeed, without his write-up nobody would have been able to remember such details after almost one and half years! Thanks Boy).**

After a 6-hour high-spirited bus ride from Yangon, the ForUm members checked into Thingaha Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw, to rest before the opening ceremony the next day on 7<sup>th</sup> September. The Opening Ceremony started with a Welcome Address by the Minister of Construction of the Republic of Myanmar, followed by a warm response from Prof. Dr. Frauke Kraas. The rest of the day was devoted to 8 scientific presentations by ForUm members from different countries (see programme). After the morning session of scientific presentations on 8<sup>th</sup> Sept., the members had a welcome break with an excursion in Nay Pyi Taw and its surrounding townships of Zabu Thiri, Dhekina Thiri, Pobba Thiri, Pyinmana Thiri and Leway Thiri including a visit to the Parliament compound, an organic farm, the Wunna Theikdi Stadium and the Dhatuceya Dhat Paung Su Pagoda. NPT is the new administrative capital of Myanmar with a population of about 200,000 people. Dinner was hosted by the Director of the Department of Building, Ministry of Construction of Myanmar at the YKKO Restaurant. The morning of 9<sup>th</sup> September was back to formal scientific presentations followed by workshop discussions in the afternoon. Dinner was at the Western Park Restaurant hosted by the Department of Urban and Housing Development.

On 10<sup>th</sup> September, the group embarked on a 4-hour bus trip to Mandalay in Central Myanmar via Sagaing, stopping for a delicious traditional Myanmar lunch. Entering the Mandalay-Amarapura territory, the group visited the renowned 1,208-meter long U Bein Bridge made from teak woods located at the Taungthaman Lake. Later, we checked into the Noble Mingalar Hotel in Mandalay. A

whole-day session on September 11, held at the University of Mandalay, discussed more scientific papers. An important outcome of the discussion so far was clarifying the concept of urban systems (i.e., the connectivity between hierarchies of cities) vis-à-vis urban structures and urban processes. After a full morning session the following day, the group had an afternoon excursion to several local industries and handicrafts centres including visits to outstanding landmarks in Mandalay such as the Mandalay Palace Complex, the Shwe Nandaw Kyaung Monastery, the Kuthodaw Pagoda and the acclaimed Mandalay Hill (230 m above sea level) to take in a magnificent panoramic view of the Mandalay sunset.

September 13 was the final day and the finishing session of the Urban ForUm seminar in Myanmar was devoted to a plenary discussion on “The roles of various stakeholders in bringing about urban systems development” which elicited a good exchange of views and impressions. Our farewell dinner was held at the Daung Lann Gyi Restaurant serving sumptuous traditional Myanmar dishes and which ended with an impromptu social party with singing and traditional dancing.

#### **Outcome of the scientific meetings:**

- It is necessary to view the urban system as the relationship between hierarchies of cities. In this connectivity, each country needs to first of all, identify the hierarchy that most affects the urban system; and then to prioritise the hierarchies for policy intervention.
- SEAsian cities are highly macrocephalic – will the development of other urban centres (whether secondary, tertiary or even border towns) be important?
- Planning for urban systems varies between countries; nonetheless, it is important that planning be inclusive for all sectors of the society taking into consideration social equity, social justice, civil society participation, quality of life, people-oriented approach, impact of climate change in urban areas, etc.
- The ASEAN community has to decide what they really need for themselves as far as foreign consultancy is concerned - what to do with “foreign experts” who have insufficient local knowledge, culturally sensitive urban design, Idealistic master plan, how to handle foreign expert advice, the kind of foreign expertise needed, and how to manage decision-making processes to ensure that the decisions and outcomes will be relevant and useful for development.

## Myanmar ForUm 2015 in pictures





"Nay Pyi Taw...here we come!!"



A welcome mid-journey break



Work begins! Scientific paper presentation



And a pose in between the sessions: “who is that thorn among the roses?”



After a hard day's work, we are so satisfied with the sumptuous dinner. Thank you.



Visit to the organic farm in Nay Pyi Taw



We didn't know that, aside from temples and pagodas, Myanmar has a famous landmark – the U Bein Bridge in Amarapura, just south of Mandalay...

We didn't know that the foot bridge is 1.2 km, making it the longest bridge of its kind in the world...

We didn't know that the bridge was built in 1851 using teak pilings, making it not only the longest but also the oldest teak bridge in the world...

Now, WE KNOW AND TREASURE THIS VISIT.



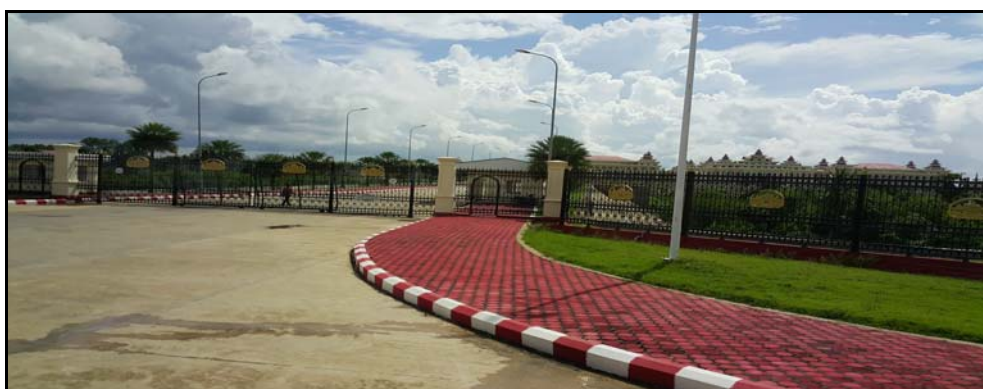
"The ForUm newsletter was late. I was disappointed...and I waited and waited for your roses to help me overcome my disappointments...the roses never came..."



“Pretty almond-coloured” girls  
(description of pretty lasses of Myanmar  
by Rudyard Kipling, who wrote “Road to  
Mandalay”).



Farewell dinner with traditional Myanmar food.



The sprawling grounds of the Parliament compounds.



"We are always happy because at the end of the day we always have our drinks and food...aah..."



Finally, we see again the mighty Irrawaddy (Ayeyarwady) River (left) and going into Mandalay city. Now, how about a drink in downtown Mandalay? I have got the right place for Club 50! (right).

# On the road to Mandalay





**Magnificent sunset panorama from the top of Mandalay Hill**

# Section 4

## Urban Experts' ForUm in Khon Kaen (19-25 January 2017) on "Urban Systems in Southeast Asia II"



### List of participants:

Prof. Dr. Frauke Kraas (Germany)  
Assoc. Prof. Dr. Djaka Marwasta (Indonesia)  
Assoc. Prof. Dr. Rini Rachmawati (Indonesia)  
Prof. Dr. Lee Boon Thong (Malaysia)  
Dr Goh Hong Ching (Malaysia)  
Dr. Seng Aung (Myanmar)  
Thaw Tar Htet Htet Paing (Myanmar)  
Dr. Zin Mar Than (Myanmar)  
Assoc. Prof. Dr. Zin Nwe Myint (Myanmar)  
Daw Aye Aye Mint (Myanmar)  
Assoc. Prof. Dr. Khin Khin Soe (Myanmar)  
Prof. Dr. Anselmo Mercado (Philippines)  
Assoc. Prof. Dr. Rawee Hanpachoen (Thailand)  
Assoc. Prof. Dr. Sekson Yongvanit (Thailand)  
Dr Chaiyan Rajchagool (Thailand)  
Asst. Prof. Dr. Monsicha Bejrananda (Thailand)  
Kwangsuang Athipodi (Thailand)

Asst. Prof. Dr. Kritsanaphun (Thailand)  
Le Thi Thuy Ha (Vietnam)  
Assoc. Prof. Dr. Le Thu Hoa (Vietnam)  
Dr. Nguyen Ngoc Hieu (Vietnam)

## SCHEDULE

### Thursday 19 Jan 2017 Arrival of participants

#### Friday 20 Jan 2017

- 9:00 Registration  
9:30 Opening Ceremony & Welcome Speech by KKU President/Vice President  
10:00 Special presentation from NESDB  
11:00 Coffee break  
11:30 Keynote speech : Prof. Dr. Frauke Kraas  
"Urban systems in Southeast Asia: theoretical approaches revisited".  
12:20 Lunch  
*Presentation 1.1*  
13:30 Prof. Dr. Lee Boon-Thong  
"The chickens and ducks of 'backyard urbanisation': redressing the urban systems of mainland Southeast Asia"  
14:15 Prof. Dr. Anselmo Mercado  
"'Backyard urbanisation': from concept to actuality"  
15:00 Coffee break  
*Presentation 1.2*  
15:20 Assoc. Prof. Dr. Djaka Marwasta  
"Urban System in developing Indonesia"  
15:50 Deputy Director General Aye Aye Mint  
"Nay Pyi Taw – regional connection and urban system development"  
18:00 Dinner reception @ Khum Sri Tan, KKU Campus

#### Saturday 21 Jan 2017

- 9:00 Registration  
*Presentation 2.1*  
9:30 Dr. Goh Hong Ching  
"Regional development of Iskandar Malaysia: a case when urban meets nature in a developing country"  
10:00 Assoc. Prof. Dr. Le Thu Hoa  
"Development of urban system in Vietnam in the context of climate change and green growth"  
10:30 Coffee break  
*Presentation 2.2*  
11:00 Assoc. Prof. Dr. Rini Rachmawati  
"Urban system, spatial planning and policy in Indonesia"  
11:30 Dr. Zin Mar Than  
"The urban system of Kachin State, Myanmar"  
12:00 Lunch  
*Presentation 2.3*  
13:30 Prof. Dr. Frauke Kraas  
"DAAD programmes and activities"

- 14:00 Dr. Chaiyan Rajchagool  
"The four-wheel centric road design: its rationale and its perils in the urban system of transportation"
- 14:30 Asst. Prof. Dr. Monsicha Bejrananda  
"Urban system in northeastern region of Thailand and the rise of Khon Kaen City as a regional model of public transport development policy"
- 15:00 Coffee break
- Presentation 2.4*
- 15:20 Thaw Tar Htet Htet Paing  
"The regional urban system of Ayeyarwady region"
- 15:50 Dr. Nguyen Ngoc Hieu  
"Transformation of HCMC to a regional metro area with regional coordination issues (from industrial zones to infrastructure development and competition problems on sea ports amongst neighbouring provinces".
- 16:20 Assoc. Prof. Dr. Sekson Yongvanit  
"Urban development in the Khon Kaen region".
- 18:00 Dinner by personal preference at night market /walking street.

### **Sunday 22 Jan 2017**

- 8:30 Registration
- 9:00 Forum discussion (Joint supervision / DAAD programmes and activities for ForUm Network academics)
- 10:40 Coffee break
- Presentation 3.1*
- 11:00 Dr. Seng Aung  
"Urban development and environmental issues in Myitkyina, Kachin State, Myanmar"
- 11:30 Asst. Prof. Dr. Amorn Kritsanaphun  
"Peri-urban environmental governance"
- 12:00 Lunch

### *Presentation 3.2*

- 13:30 Assoc. Prof. Dr. Zin Nwe Myint  
"The urban system of Rakhine State, Myanmar"
- 14:00 Assoc. Prof. Dr. Rawee Hanpachoen  
"Urban system in northeastern region of Thailand"
- 14:30 Meeting & talking with new members
- 15:00 Coffee break

### *Presentation 3.3*

- 15:20 Le Thi Thuy Ha  
"Urban regeneration for outside of dykes areas in big cities in northern Vietnam"
- 15:50 Assoc. Prof. Dr. Khin Khin Soe  
"Changes of the urban structure after the construction of the Yangon-Thanyin Bridge and in Thanyin Town, Southern District, Yangon Region, Myanmar"
- 16:20 Kwansuang Athipodi  
"Thailand: systematic unplanable human settlement in unmanageable society"
- 18:00 Dinner within KKU Campus

### **Monday 23 Jan 2017**

- 9:00 Sight seeing: Visit to Chum Phae  
(Low-income housing development and community fund)
- 12:00 Lunch at Chum Phae.
- 13:30 Meeting with KK Municipality's Mayor @ Municipality Office

14:45	Meeting with Khon Kaen City Development (KKTT) Co.,Ltd. or Khon Kaen Chamber of Commerce at KKTT's Office
16:00	City exploration
18:00	Dinner by personal preference

### **Tuesday 24 Jan 2017**

8:30	Registration
9:00	ForUm Discussion (Country reports)
10:40	Coffee break
11:00	ForUm Newsletter: Contributions
12:00	Lunch
13:30	ForUm discussion: joint teaching and research activities ahead
15:00	ForUm book project: Urban Systems in Southeast Asia
15:20	ForUm evaluation
15:50	Conclusion of the ForUm Experts' Seminar 2017
18:00	Farewell party @ Smile Restaurant, Bueng Nong Kote

### **Wednesday 25 Jan 2017**

Departure from Khon Kaen City.

## **Brief report**

The duration of the Khon Kaen ForUm was unusually shorter than previous ForUms – instead of 10-12 days, only 7 days comprising 2 travelling days, 4 days of intensive scientific presentations and discussions on “Urban Systems”, and a one-day excursion. The 21 delegates from Germany, Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam were warmly welcomed by the Vice-Rector of Khon Kaen University which was followed by a response from Prof. Kraas.

The following is (slightly edited) Dr Mercado (BoyM)'s detailed account of the full day excursion on January 23, 2017 (Thanks BoyM):

Day 3 of this seminar was a full day fieldtrip. Field trips have always been an essential and traditional part of the Urban ForUm seminars – to get out of the classroom and to see what goes on “out there” in actual life. One could therefore imagine the participants' eagerness to be “in the field” and see the “sights”. The “sights” included: 1) seeing a low-income housing and community development programme in Chum Phae Province; 2) a meeting with the Mayor of the Municipality of Khon Kaen at his office; and 3) a meeting with the Khon Kaen City Development Co. Ltd., and private business leaders at the Chamber of Commerce Office in Khon Kaen.

At about 8:30 am, we left our hotel riding in three vans westwards towards the Province of Chum Phae, the first leg of the fieldtrip. The weather was sunny but cool and breezy, just perfectly pleasant for a fieldtrip. More than an hour later, we arrived at the low-income housing and community development programme site.

### **Community development in action:**

To welcome us were the community leaders and several government officers. We saw, on display, some handicraft and farm goods produced by the community members. A woman leader

gave us a briefing on the community development programme they had embarked upon. They described their story, its history, their aims, strategies, experiences, struggles, accomplishments and future plans.



Organic rice cultivated by the community



Display of handicrafts



Community briefing centre

From this community, we learned . . .

1. How this community of some 1,052 low-income families had struggled with poverty problems (low and insecure incomes, illegal housing, unsanitary housing conditions with serious waste disposal problems, and little community spirit, etc.)
2. How, by discussing their problems, the community began to take positive steps to deal with their problems with the help of the municipal government.
3. Their main aims are: To obtain decent sources of livelihood and housing; to nurture and foster a caring-helping-one-another community; to own and control their destiny as a community through the values of a sense of belonging; to practise regular savings from their income; to participate in planning for community development; to establish community infrastructures and economic projects; and to collect information and sharing knowledge for the common good.
4. The community's organisation and management structure is well established with clear-cut objectives, roles, tasks, projects and labour assignments.



5. They highlighted four main socio-economic on-going projects: a) acquisition of house lots for housing, b) a Community Fund which had reached Baht 3.6 m from the members' savings, and from which they could avail of loans for livelihood, farming, etc., c) a community farm of

about 3 hectares to grow organic rice and other crops, d) a potable bottled water project.

6. The community and the municipal government have been partners in community development, with the government readily assisting the community for their various social, economic, technical, management and financial needs.



ForUm members out into the farms



This was indeed a captivating and inspiring story of low-income families struggling and developing together for a decent and wholesome life. After the briefing, the group was taken to see the various projects: the housing project, the potable bottled water facility and the farming area. We concluded this visit with a sumptuous lunch from our kind and generous hosts.

#### A Visit to the Mayor's Office:



After lunch, the group travelled back to Khon Kaen and stopped by the Municipal Mayor's Office. The Mayor himself and some of his staff welcomed us at the briefing room. There he presented his government's vision and the local government's development agenda for the City.



Striking pose: the Mayor & Dr. Boy Mercado.

Among the interesting points of his presentation are the visions of a "Happy Society" with "nobody left behind", and an all-inclusive development for the City of Khon Kaen. The Mayor would promote "people participation" to get the citizenry involved in the development process. He cited some of his programmes to respond to the issue of poverty, such as a feeding programme for some 2,000

“poorest of the poor” in the City, and also helping them with housing needs and education for their children. An assistance programme for the handicaps was also established. The Mayor was tapping and partnering with charitable institutions, restaurants and schools to help in the programmes.

The Mayor mentioned that, because of the unusual development and assistance programmes, his governance has been “at odds” with the central government. His city had been considered as a “maverick” city. However, he is adamant in pursuing his development agenda for the good of the people and society of Khon Kaen.

#### A Visit with the business leaders:

This last leg of the fieldtrip, a visit at the Chamber of Commerce’ Office, provided an opportunity for our Urban ForUm group to meet some of the influential leaders, certainly a “driving force” of urbanisation in Khon Kaen City – the business sector.



Urban ForUm Group at Chamber of Commerce



Business leaders’ presentation

The businessmen leaders of the city explained how the business sector would play a significant and crucial role in the city’s development. The opportunities, they pointed out, were phenomenal and the proactive business leaders would not want to miss out on them. They accepted this role as the business sector’s “social responsibility”, other than the economic benefits that various businesses could reap out of playing a major part of the city’s development. In particular, the business leaders were looking at the transportation system as among the most important aspects of where they could play the big game. Khon Kaen is expected to have a mass rail transit because of the input of these businessmen.

## Khon Kaen ForUm in pictures

You are so early.



We can't wait to start the ForUm meeting!

Registration morning

Poster Exhibition



Listening intently to scientific presentations...





"Chickens and ducks" in a scientific presentation?? Hmm...





So funny. She asked us to look at her back instead of the screen !!



Well, let me think about it and I'll give you the answer tomorrow, OK?



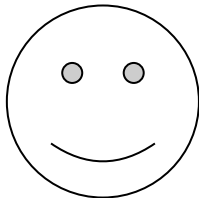
Thai participants at the workshop session (planning a coup d'etat?)





Hello Hello...

When Club 50 speaks, please  
don't talk with your husband  
over your phone!!!!



(Editor's note: No, she is not calling her husband but using her phone to illustrate a point).



Sorry I can't hear you. Please speak louder.



Ok. Ok. If you want me to shout, I'll shout!

It is heartening to see the local post-graduate students fully participating in the discussions.



"I can float in the air! The art of levitation!!"

After dinner “ForUm Got Talent” (FGT):



“Loi Krathong” from Thailand



German-Malaysian presentation (*Ed: can't remember what it is about!!!*)



A dance from Myanmar



The Vietnamese singing a song



I want to tell you a joke but you must laugh whether you like it or not, OK?

**Bonus...**



Who has the cheekiest smile??





We feel so safe with our Club 50 “security guard” with us all the time!

An evening out at the night market is a must in Thailand... (“we are as happy as can be...”)





Yeeks..fried crickets, maggots, locusts, cicadas...



"Hey, you Filipino...don't just stand there and look. Try one like me!!"



# Section 5

## Country Reports and Members' Update

### Vietnam

#### Assoc. Prof. Dr. Le Thu Hoa

- Involved in a research project on “Strategy for urbanisation in Vietnam towards sustainable development”.



- Visited Mokpo Province and Seoul, Korea to learn of their experiences in urban development and green growth in July 2015.

- Attended the Second Annual Workshop of Urban Climate Resilience in Southeast Asia (UCRSEA) on “Engaging Cities in Climate Resilience” in Hanoi, April 2016.
- Member of a research project on “Development of satellite towns in Hanoi”, conducted by the Institute of Hanoi’s Socio-economic Development.
- Designed and implemented a Training of Trainer (ToT) programme on Green Growth, with the technical and financial support from UNDP and MPI in 2016/2017. Two other ForUm members from VIAP and NUCE sent their junior staff to participate in the pilot training.



Dr. Hoa conducting the ToT programme which was also attended by staff from VIAP and NUCE.

- Co-organised with Khon Kaen University the International Conference on Social Science and Humanity (ICHUSO) on a bi-annual basis in November at KKU and May at NEU.



Dr. Sekson presenting a souvenir to President of Hanoi Economic University during the ICHUSO.

Trans-border Alternate Organisers between Thailand and Vietnam of the bi-annual ICHUSO with ForUm members taking the lead.



### Dr. Nguyen Ngoc Hieu



- Conducts postgraduate urban sustainable development programme in collaboration with the Technical University of Darmstadt, Germany.

- Involved with a consultation project on “Land readjustment in Vietnam” with the World Bank/ Vietnam team.
- Involved with a consultation on assessing institutional arrangement for Vietnam’s urban indicator system (sponsored by Cities Alliance and Urban Development Authority of Vietnam).
- Presented a paper on “Improvement effectiveness of the use of MRT by redeveloping MRT station area using land-readjustment tool”, at the German ASEAN Science and Technology (GAST) Conference on Modern Friendly Metro System for Mega City, held in Binh Duong, Nov 2015.



- Co-organised and presented a paper on “Upgrading urban poor neighbourhood, Tra Vinh case study”, at the Consensus Building Asia Conference on Building Consensus in Asia Focussing on Renewal Energy, Tokyo, March 2016.



- Co-organised and presented a paper on “Dispersed interests and coordinated institutional arrangements for flood prevention and protection”, at the Conference on Urban Flooding, Possible Research Directions and Applications, held in Binh Duong, Sept 2016.
- Presented a paper on “Urban expansion and flood” at the Conference on Urban Flooding Control in HCMC, April 2016.



- Presented a paper on “Hochiminh city - challenge and opportunities in the new era”, at the Asian City Planning Forum, Shanghai, October 2016.

- Presented a paper on “Institutional issues of urban heritage in Hochiminh city”, at the Heritage Conservation Conference of Hochiminh City, 2015.

### **Dr. Ta Quynh Hoa**

- Teaching seminars on urban planning community involvement for local staff in urban management projects financed by the World Bank (Sept.2016).
- Involved with a collaborative research project with the University of Montreal (Canada) on “Bridging the gap: new towns and village-based urbanisation in Hanoi (Vietnam)”, 2016-2017.
- Participated in the international project on “TRY SPACES of public space for young people” in collaboration with the University of Montreal ( Canada ) , School of Paris de la Vilet (France), and University of Mexico (Mexico), 2017-2022.
- Participated to teach in the Vietnam – Poland Education Exchange Partnership at the Faculty of Architecture, University Wroclaw (Poland) on the Erasmus + Programme on “Mobility for learners and staff – higher education student and staff mobility”, 21 April – 9 May 2016.



- Participated in the 2<sup>nd</sup> International Seminar on Modern Architecture (mASEANa 2017) in Hanoi, DOCOMOMO International & Japan Foundation, 13-15 Jan 2017.

- Participated in the JICA study on “TOD planning model with integrated public transport system in Hanoi”, July – Oct 2016.
- Collaborated with Dr. Nguyen Ngoc Hieu in organizing the Partnership Conference on “Urban Planning in ASEAN Countries”, Shanghai (China).
- Organised the International Conference on “Social Housing in Vietnam – Prospects and Challenges”, Hanoi, 3-6 Dec 2016.



- Participated in the 36th Council Meeting of ARCASIA (Architects Regional Council Asia) in Ayuthaya (Thailand), November 2015.

#### **Ms. Le Thi Thuy Ha**

- Participated in a training course on “Land readjustment – tools for urban regeneration”, at the International Urban Training Center, Gangwon Province, South Korea, Dec. 2016.
- Member of the national group to draft the Ministry of Construction Circular on “Criteria for Urban Green Growth System in Vietnam” (2016-2017).
- Team leader of ministerial project on “Survey and analysis of current situation of urban development and management in Vietnam for Programme of Urban Green Growth System Development” (2016-2018).
- Appointed as the housing and urban development expert to the National Plan on “Amendment to the national orientation of the development of Vietnam urban system to 2030, vision to 2050 response to climate change”, 2016-2018.



Le Thi Thuy Ha successfully completed the Land Readjustment in South Korea.

## Thailand

### Khon Kaen University

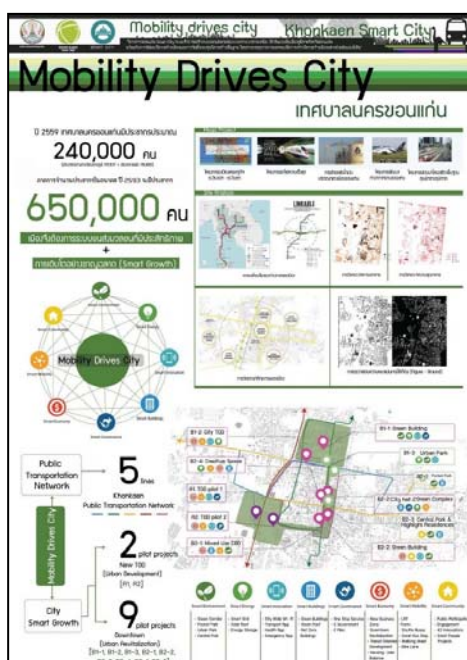
- Assoc. Prof. Dr. Sekson Yongvanit conducted a research on "Driving forces of Khon Kaen City".
- Dr. Sekson is also involved in a joint research with Hawaii University and ForUm members in Cambodia on "Roles of local leadership and city development in Battambang - Siemriep – Phnom Penh".



- Assistant Prof. Dr. Monsicha Bejrananda, Assistant Prof. Kitrapat Dhapalabutra, and Dr. Amorn Kritsanaphan from King Mongkut's Institute of Technology Landkrabang (KMITL) conducted a field study on "Monitoring and elevation report on housing development and informal settlements prevention programme in Lower-Northeast Region, Thailand" supported by the National Housing

Authority of Thailand (NHA) during November, 2015 to November, 2016.

- Dr. Monsicha Bejrananda conducted a collaborative research in Transportation Development with SIRD, KCU, focussing on the designing and EIA for urban public transportation system in Khon Kaen city (LRT in KK City) and TOD (Transit-Oriented Development).
- Dr. Monsicha Bejrananda conducted a joint research with Chulalongkorn University and KMUTT, sponsored by the Office of Transport and Traffic Policy and Planning (OTP) on "Port development policy and plan".



- Dr. Rawee Hanphachern and faculty members of Urban and Regional Planning Department conducted an action plan in cooperation with Khon Kaen Municipality and KKT on "Smart City/Smart People" from 2016 up to now.

- A jointed conference between the Faculty of Humanity and Social Sciences and NEU, Hanoi is held twice a year.
- In order to provide information and raise awareness of participatory urban development and planning to the public, Dr. Monsicha Bejrananda and Dr. Rawee Hanpachoen conduct a Radio programme "Mueang Khong Rao" ("Our Hometown") every Wednesday and Friday, hosted by the Urban and Regional Planning Department.
- The Urban and Regional Planning Department hosted a national conference in June, 2016 on "The 5<sup>th</sup> Urban and Regional Planning Academic Symposium 2016 (URPAS 2016): Partnership for New Urbanization", which is a collaboration between 5 planning schools from Khon Kaen University, Chulalongkorn University, Thammasat University, King Mongkut's Institute of Technology Ladkrabang, Silapakorn University, and the Urban Planners' Association of Thailand.
- Dr. Monsicha Bejrananda presented a Public Lecture on "Urban Green" at the Global South Studies Center, Cologne, (24 June 2015).
- Together with Klungboonkrong, P. and Faiboun, N., Dr. Monsicha presented a paper on "The application of the environmental adaptation concept to a collector road in KKU, Thailand" at the 7th International Conference on Science, Technology and Innovation for Sustainable Well-Being (STISWB VII) in Nakhon Pathom-Phetchaburi (30 July - 2 August, 2015).

#### **King Mongkut's Institute of Technology Ladkrabang (KMITL)**

- Dr. Amorn Kritsanaphan conducted a research on "Capacity building for sustaining the techno-hazard mitigation and management under devolution and participatory approach in the local level" sponsored by the Research Council of Thailand during October 2015 to March 2016.
- Dr. Amorn Kritsanaphan conducted a research on "The potential development of agricultural sector in the peri-urban Bangkok area regarding sustaining food security", sponsored by the Research Council of Thailand" during October 2015 to March 2016.
- Dr. Amorn Kritsanaphan conducted a research on "Process evaluation for livelihood support for the urban poor (SUP)", sponsored by the World Bank in 2016.
- Dr. Amorn Kritsanaphan conducted a research on "The designing and planning guideline in infrastructure for solving the wastewater pollution and water-use conflict in agricultural sector", sponsored by the Research Council of Thailand, October 2016 (on-going).
- Dr. Amorn Kritsanaphan and Dr. Monsicha Bejrananda participated in a conference at VGU, Ho Chi Minh City, in October, 2015.

#### **Others**

- Dr. Chaiyan Rachagool from Payao University conducted a research on "Payao study", relating to the driving force of Payao University.
- Dr. Chaiyan conducted a research on "Evolution of land transportation network in eastern part of northern region of Thailand".
- Kwansuang Athipodi writes a series of weekly column on city development ("Thin-Tharn-Baan-Mueang Heimat") in the Siamrat Newspaper.

## Philippines

- Danio Antonio who is the overall Head of UN Habitat's Global Land Tool Network (GLTN) Programme presented a paper on "Land governance as a pre-requisite for sustainable urban development" at an ADB meeting in Manila on 10 Feb 2017, organised by the Urban Sector Group of Asian Development Bank.

## Myanmar

- Research project on "81 + Cities Project – The Myanmar Urban System", a collaborative research by University of Cologne, University of Yangon, and Department of Urban and Housing Development, Ministry of Construction. Members involved are Prof. Frauke Kraas, Daw Aye Aye Myint, Dr. Khin Khin Soe, Daw Thaw Tar Het Het Paing, Dr. Zin Mar Than, and Dr. Zin Nwe Myint.
- Dr. Khin Khin Soe conducted a research on "Logistics and freight distribution: a case study of the rubber commodity flows from Kayin State", (DHE, 2016)
- Dr. Khin Khin Soe is conducting a research on "Changes of the urban structure after the construction of the Yangon-Thanlyin Bridges, Thanlyin Town, Yangon Region, Myanmar", (2017).
- Dr. Seng Aung conducted a research on "Handloom weaving and urbanization in Myitkyina, Kachin State, Myanmar" in 2016.
- Dr. Seng Aung is currently researching on "Challenges of urban expansion on wetland ecosystem in Hukawng Valley, Kachin State, Myanmar".
- Dr. Zin Mar Than conducted a Social Impact Assessment (SIA) of the Myitsone Dam Project in Putao District on behalf of the Special Investigation Committee of the Myanmar Government, 5 - 8 Dec 2016.
- Dr. Zin Nwe Myint is conducting a research on "Heritage conservation and tourism development of Myauk-U, Rakhine State, Myanmar", 2017-2020.
- Dr. Zin Nwe Myint is conducting a research on "Yangon under transformation: squatter problems of Hlaingtharyar Township", 2017-2018.
- A joint fieldwork was conducted in Mogkok and Pyin Oo Lwin on "Socio-economic development potentials of Mogkok and Pyin Oo Lwin" by the University of Cologne, University of Yangon, University of Mandalay and Taunggyi University from 21 - 29 Feb 2016. Participants were Prof. Frauke Kraas, Regine Spohner, Prof. Nyo Nyo, Dr. Saw Yu May, Dr. Zin Nwe Myint, Htay Htay Naing, Shwe Zin Theik, Wai Mon Aung, Sai Hlaing Khan, and students from the University of Cologne.



- A joint research fieldwork by the University of Cologne, University of Yangon, University of Mandalay, Lashio University, and the Ministry of

Construction (Lashio) was conducted in Lashio on the “Socio-economic development potentials of Lashio”, 24 Feb – 3 Mar 2017. Participants were Prof. Frauke Kraas, Prof. Nyo Nyo, Dr. Zin Nwe Myint, Dr. Khin Khin Soe, Daw Thaw Tar Htet Htet Paing, Dr. Zin Mar Than, staff and Masters students from Lashio University.

- The University of Cologne together with the University of Myitkyina, and the Ministry of Construction conducted a fieldwork in Myitkyina, Kachin State on the “Myanmar urban network system in Myitkyina”, from 16 – 19 Dec. 2015. The participants were Prof. Frauke Kraas, Dr. Seng Aung and Daw Thaw Tar Htet Htet Paing.
- Prof. Frauke Kraas, Daw Thaw Tar Htet Htet Paing, Prof. Josef Nipper and Dr. Zin Mar Than conducted a research project on the “Socio-economic development potentials of Indawgyi Lake area” in Kachin State from 11 – 15 Dec. 2015.



Interviewing the local people in Indawgyi Lake area.

- The Centre of Excellence for Urban and Regional Development, University of Yangon conducted a series of lectures and seminars:

Date	Lecture/Seminar	Instructor
5-10 Oct. 2015	Quantitative methods in Geography (Part-1)	Prof. Dr. Josef Nipper
13 Oct 2015	Spatial planning in Geography: goals and organizational system	Prof. Dr. Josef Nipper
19 Oct 2015	Concepts, models, instruments in regional planning	Prof. Dr. Josef Nipper
21 Oct 2015	Conflicts in a multi-region and multi-purpose planning system	Prof. Dr. Josef Nipper
2-6 Nov. 2015	Quantitative methods in Geography (Part-2)	Prof. Dr. Josef Nipper
9 Nov. 2015	What is Urban Geography about?	Prof. Dr. Josef Nipper
10 Nov. 2015	Man, Society and Nature – the urban habitat	Prof. Dr. Josef Nipper
11 Nov. 2015	The Old City: antique and medieval times	Prof. Dr. Josef Nipper
12 Nov. 2015	The Garden City concept: a solution to overcome existing problems of the industrial cities	Prof. Dr. Josef Nipper
17 Nov. 2015	Urban renewal and urban heritage: how and for whom?	Prof. Dr. Josef Nipper
19 Nov. 2015	Cities as a sustainable habitat: How can it be?	Prof. Dr. Josef Nipper
21 Feb. 2016	Historic development and regional development potentials of the Mogok area	Prof. Dr. Frauke Kraas, Dr. Zin Nwe Myint, Regine Spohner

1 Mar. 2016	The state of the current transformation processes in Myanmar	Prof. Dr. Frauke Kraas
13 Jun. 2016	Role of Geography in the education system	Prof. Dr. Frauke Kraas
14 Jun 2016	Research proposal writing for PhD candidates	Prof. Dr. Frauke Kraas

- The 2015 German Alumni Association Myanmar (GAAM) Annual Meeting was held, with DAAD support) in Yangon on the theme “Quality assurance in education towards sustainable development in Myanmar” from 30 Oct to 1 Nov. ForUm participants were Prof. Frauke Kraas, Dr. Khin Khin Soe, Dr. Seng Aung, and Dr. Zin Mar Than.



- The 2016 German Alumni Association Myanmar (GAAM) Annual Meeting was held, with DAAD support) in Yangon on the theme “Contributions of alumni towards sustainable development in Myanmar” from 28 – 30 Oct. ForUm participants were Prof. Frauke Kraas, Dr. Khin Khin Soe, Dr. Zin New Myint and Dr. Zin Mar Than.

- To commemorate the 96<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the University of Yangon, Yangon University together with University of Cologne organised an International Conference on “University and National Development” on 2 December 2016. Participants from ForUm were Prof. Frauke Kraas, Dr. Zin Nwe Myint, Dr. Khin Khin Soe, Daw Thaw Tar Htet Htet Paing, and Dr. Zin Mar Than.



Participants and students' working group at the Conference on “University and National Development”.

- Dr. Seng Aung participated in the Scientific Research Conference on “Water Resources in Cambodia and Southeast Asia: Challenges, Research and Impact” in Phnom Penh from 30<sup>th</sup> November - 1<sup>st</sup> December 2015.
- Dr. Seng Aung participated in the 6<sup>th</sup> NEU - KKU International Conference on “Socio-Economic and Environmental Issues in Development” in Hanoi from 12-13 May 2016.

## **Malaysia**

### **Professor Dr. Lee Boon Thong**

- Presented a guest seminar paper at the Faculty of Urban and Environment Economics & Management, Vietnam National Economic University, Hanoi, on “Urbanisation strategies for Southeast Asian cities: a perspective” (12 Jan 2015).
- Involved with a joint research project with Ritsumeikan University (Japan) on “Regional and urban development in mainland South East Asia” funded by the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science.
- Editorial Board of Urban Planning, a new online journal based in Lisbon, in a special issue on “Paradigm Shifts in Urban Planning”, Vol 1, Issue 4, 2016.
- Presented a paper on “Urban green space management: an alternative perspective”, at the Scientific Working Group on Southeast Asia, Duisburg, Germany (26-27 June).



- Presented a Public Lecture on “Constructing a bohemian perspective to urban green space management”, at the Global South Studies Centre, Cologne (24 June 2015).



Prof. Lee meeting up with Forum members from Vietnam in Hanoi in 2015.

### **Tan Thean Siew**

- Mr Tan is actively involved in consultancy projects dealing with issues on urban development in Penang, Malaysia.

### **Dr. Goh Hong Ching**

- Appointed as the Editor-in-Chief, Journal of Design and Built Environment (Oct 2016 - Sept 2018).
- Selected as a Fellow of the ASEAN Science Leadership Programme, Global Young Academy 2016/2017.
- Dr. Goh is also a member of the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS) Asia Core Programme (ACP) as a Researcher, 2011-2016.

- Appointed as the Guest Editor of the Planning Malaysia Special Issue 2016.



Group photo of ASLP fellows in Bang Saen, Thailand, June 2016.

- Dr. Goh presented a paper on “Natural resource conservation in a fast urbanized region of Iskandar Malaysia” at the Urban Nature Seminar organised by Future Cities Lab, ETH, Singapore, 23 Jun 2016.



- Presented a paper on “Natural resource governance in light of urbanization in coastal region: a case of Iskandar Malaysia” at the Herrenhausen Symposium on Sustainable Development Goals and the Role of Research - A Focus on Coastal Regions, 8 – 9 Dec 2015, Hanover.



- Attended the Science Tour 2016 "City of the Future", in Stuttgart, Germany, 31 Jan - 6 Feb 2016.

- Attended the consultative meeting on DAAD on-line lecture series, Jakarta and SEOMEO, 11-13 May 2015.
- Conducted a DAAD online-lecture on ‘Urbanization in Malaysia’, Jakarta and SEOMEO, 16 Aug 2015
- Sharing of experience as an alumna of DAAD to Germany, during the Post Graduate study in Germany, EURAXESS Links ASEAN Initiative, 22 - 23 Jun 2015, EURAXESS of European Commission and MOSTI.
- Presented a proposed ASEAN Young Scientist Network on Medium-Sized Cities, at the ASEAN Science Leadership Programme Training Workshop, 9 -12 Jun 2016, Global Young Academy.
- Co-researcher on “Commemorate and urban memory in multi-culture, multi-ethnic and multi-religion at Kerayong Road public cemeteries”, 2016 (Universiti Malaya Research

Grant).

- Co-researcher on “Social awareness of carbon emission towards sustaining quality of life”, 2017, (Universiti Malaya Research Grant).
- Attended the 13th International Asian Urbanisation Conference in Jogjakarta, 6 - 8 Jan 2016).

## Indonesia

- 10th Global RCE Conference in Yogyakarta 23-25 November 2016

Universitas Gadjah Mada, being the main secretariat of RCE (Regional Centre of Expertise), hosted the conference with the theme on “Engaging with Local Communities for Sustainable Development Goals”. Fifty countries were represented by a wide range of stakeholders to discuss the fundamental role that education plays in achieving a sustainable urban future worldwide. A field trip included two projects which Dr. Rini Rachmawati was very much involved - the river restoration project of the Code River, which passes through the city of about 400,000; and a sustainable tourism project at Pentingsari on the slope of Mt. Merapi, an active volcano. Both projects involved the cooperation and coordination of multiple stakeholders between volunteers, government officials, and organisations like the RCEs.

- International Conference on Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) 1 - 3 December 2016 held in Shizuoka University, Japan.

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Djaka Marwasta was invited as a keynote speaker that was participated by more than 10 universities from Indonesia, Thailand, Mongolia, and Japan to discuss strategies to implement ESD. The ESD programme in Indonesia conducted by UGM also received Japanese newspaper coverage (dated December 3th, 2016). The conference was then followed by collaborative discussions on strengthening cooperation between UGM and Shizuoka University on Students Community Services (4-12 December 2016).



Dr. Djaka Marwasta was a keynote speaker at the International Conference on ESD.

- 1st International Conference on Southeast Asia Studies (ICSEAS) 13-14 Oct. 2016

The conference was held in Gadjah Mada University. Assoc. Prof. Dr. Djaka Marwasta presented a paper entitled “The Influence of Yogyakarta Urban Physical Development to Residential Comfort” which was subsequently published in a Scopus indexed journal.

- 13<sup>th</sup> International Asian Urbanisation Conference held in UGM (Jan 6-8, 2016)

Held under the auspices of the Asian Urban Research Association (AURA) with Dr. Rini Rachmawati serving as the chairperson of the Organising Committee. The theme was “Rapid Urbanisation and Sustainable Development in Asia” with participants from 19 countries - Indonesia, India, Malaysia, France, Austria, Singapore, Finland, Thailand, Vietnam, Germany, Taiwan, the United States of America, Cambodia, Japan, Kazakhstan, New Zealand, the Philippines, Portugal and Romania. Prof. Dr. Frauke Kraas from the University of Cologne was invited as one of the keynote speakers. Other collaborators for the conference were the Asian Geography Specialty Group (AGSG) and the Regional Development and Planning Specialty Group (RDPSG) of the Association of American Geographers (AAG), the ForUm for Urban Future in Southeast Asia, Ikatan Geografi Indonesia (Association of Indonesian Geographer) and the Asosiasi Sekolah Perencanaan Indonesia (Indonesian Association of Planning Schools).



Dr Rini (left) and Prof. Kraas (right) addressing the conference.

- PrepCom 3 Habitat III in Surabaya

The UN Habitat III Conference held in Quito, Ecuador on October, 2016 was preceded by a series of preparatory preliminary meetings, one of which was Preparatory Committee (PrepCom) 3 Habitat III that was held in Surabaya in July 26 – 27, 2016. In the PrepCom 3 Habitat III, Dr. Rini Rachmawati participated in the Urban Speaker’s Corner with a presentation on “Smart city development: research, Implementation and Innovation” based on Gadjah Mada University’s research on Smart Cities.

- International Geographical Congress (IGC) in Beijing (21-25 August 2016).

Dr. Rini Rachmawati attended the 33<sup>rd</sup> International Geographical Congress (IGC) held in Beijing. She presented her paper entitled “Virtual space utilization in the digital SMEs villages: implementation of Smart City and region” at the Geography of The Global Information Society Commission.



Dr. Rini meeting up in Beijing with Prof. Kraas, who was the Chairperson of the IGC Commission for Transformation Processes in Megacities.

- Visit to the Department de Geographie, Universite de Bourgogne, France (27-28 Sept. 2016).

Dr. Rini Rachmawati visited the Departement de Geographie, Universite de Bourgogne, France, where she presented a seminar paper for staff and post-graduate students on “Urbanization in the era of Information and Communication Technology (ICT): Indonesian case compared to other countries”. A Letter of Intent (LOI) was signed by both parties to promote sustainable cooperation for student and staff exchanges, joint student activities, and conference/seminar/workshops.

## Germany

(Ed: The full German report will be incorporated into the next ForUm Newsletter).

## Cambodia

- Lor Chunn Pau was involved in one of the Adjudication teams in a pioneering project on slum resolution and upgrading in Phnom Penh and came up with a detail report entitled “Slum Resolution or Slum Upgrading in Capital City Phnom Penh, Cambodia”.



Showing title ownership (left); Lor Chunn Pau at the slum upgrading site (standing on extreme right); one of the slums of Phnom Penh (below)



# Section 6

## Recent publications by ForUm members

- Carsten Butsch, Frauke Kraas, Sridharan Namperumal & Gerrit Peters (2016), "Risk governance in the megacity Mumbai/India – a complex adaptive system perspective", *Habitat International*, 54 (February).
- Dasri, R. & Bejrananda, M. (2015), "Application of AHP in evaluation of walkability zones in Udonthani Municipality", *Proceedings of the Urban and Regional Planning Academic Symposium (URPAS): Resilient City*. Bangkok: KMITL. (June). [In Thai].
- Dasri, R. & Bejrananda, M. (2016), "Evaluation of walkability zone in Udonthani Municipality", *Journal of Urban and Regional Planning*, 1(1), 177-186. [In Thai].
- Goh Hong Ching & Noratqah Mahmood@Mahmud (2016), "The users' perceptions of Perdana Botanical Garden in Kuala Lumpur", *Journal of Design and Built Environment*, Vol. 16 (1), 27-36.
- Goh Hong Ching (2016), "Sea gypsies of southern Johor, Malaysia- the impacts of urbanization on the local indigenous people in Iskandar Malaysia", *Proceedings of International Conference on World Ethnic Minorities, Cultural Heritage and Teaching Innovation*, Hualian, 109-134.
- Goh Hong Ching (2016), "Assessing mangrove conservation efforts in Iskandar Malaysia", in Jeffrey Cruikshank (ed.), *MIT-UTM Malaysia Sustainable Cities Program Working Paper Series*, Cambridge: Massachusetts Institute of Technology.
- Hla Yin Nu & Khin Khin Soe (2016), "Perception of agricultural activities on potential development on socio-economic condition of Pyay Township", *Pyay University Research Journal* (16<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Edition).
- Kanniah K.D., Sheikhi A., Cracknell A.P., Goh H.C., Tan K.P., Ho, C.S., & Rasli, F.N. (2015), "Satellite images for monitoring mangrove cover changes in a fast growing economic region in Southern Peninsular Malaysia". *Remote Sens.* 7, 14360-14385.
- Khin Khin Soe (2016), "Agri-food chain analysis with economic development processes of Kyauktan Township". In Frauke Kraas, Mi Mi Kyi, & Win Maung (eds.), 'Sustainability in Myanmar', *Southeast Asian Modernities*, 15, (Berlin), 229-249.
- Khin Khin Soe & Yin Yin Lwin (2015), "Analysis of labour productivity in rubber latex extraction among smallholder rubber farmers in Kyarinnseikkyi Township, Kawkeik District, Kayin State", *Journal of the Myanmar Academy of Arts and Science*.
- Khin Khin Soe, Frauke Kraas & Yee Yee Than (2016), "Economic development potentials of Sagaing Region: perception on crafts and handicrafts of Sagaing Town, Taungoo University Research Journal, Vol 7, No 1, 29-39.
- Köker, Wiebke & Frauke Kraas (2016), "Nachhaltige stadtentwicklung und moderne architektur in Bangkok", *Thailand-Rundschau* 29 (1): 16-25.
- Kraas, Frauke (2015), "ASEAN: Sicherheit und Zusammenarbeit in Südostasien". In Stadelbauer, J. (Hg.), 'Politische Räume – Staaten, Grenzen, Blöcke', *Handbuch für den Geographieunterricht* 7, Köln: 268-275. (Aulis).
- Kraas, Frauke (2015), "Konflikte und Konfliktpotentiale in Südostasien. In Stadelbauer, J. (Hg.), 'Politische Räume – Staaten, Grenzen, Blöcke', *Handbuch für den Geographieunterricht* 7, Köln: 275-282.

- Kraas, Frauke (2015), "Agrarregionen Myanmars". In Gerhard, U., Meier, G., Nüsser, M., Schmidt, S. (Hg.), 'GO EAST | Klima – Krisen – Kulturen', HGG-Journal 29 (2014/2015), Heidelberg, 31-46.
- Kraas, F. (2016), "Bildungswesen und schulalltag in Myanmar", Praxis Geographie 46 (3): 50-53.
- Kraas, F. (2016), "Südostasien: aktuelle prozesse der raumentwicklung", Praxis Geographie 46 (3): 4-9.
- Kraas, Frauke (2016), "Bangkok in Zukunft. Transformationspfade zur nachhaltigen Megastadtentwicklung". In Königlich-Thaiändische Botschaft in Berlin (Hg.), 'Aktivitäten von Ihrer Königlichen Hoheit Maha Chakri Sirindhorn in den Thaiändisch-Deutschen Beziehungen'. Festschrift zum 60. Geburtstag, Berlin: 160-181.
- Kraas, Frauke (2016), Die „New Urban Agenda“ – zur Habitat III-Konferenz in Quito 2016, Praxis Geographie 46 (10): 46-47.
- Kraas, Frauke (2016), "Megastädte als Risikoräume. Zum Umgang mit natürlichen und vom Menschen (mit-)verursachten Risiken", Praxis Geographie, 46 (12), 32-38.
- Kraas, Frauke (2016), "Ökonomische transformationen im Delta des Ayeyarwady/Myanmar", Geographische Rundschau, 68 (7/8): 24-29.
- Kraas, Frauke (2016), "Rubine und Saphire: Zur Entwicklung der Bergbaustadt Mogok/Myanmar". In 'Die Welt verstehen – eine geographische Herausforderung'. Eine Festschrift der Geographie Innsbruck für Axel Borsdorf. Innsbrucker Geographische Studien 40: 95-118.
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- Kraas, Frauke (2016), "Urbanisierungsprozesse in Südostasien", Universitas 71 (845): 36-45.
- Kraas, Frauke (2017), "Die Städte Südostasiens", In Heineberg, Heinz, 'Stadtgeographie. Grundriss Allgemeine Geographie', 5, überarbeitete Auflage. Paderborn: 350-363.
- Kraas, Frauke, Regine Spohner (2015), "Ergebnisse der Volkszählung 2014 in Myanmar", Geographische Rundschau, 67 (12): 44-50.
- Kraas, Frauke, Hlaing Maw Oo, Zin Nwe Myint, Regine Spohner (2015), "Yangon's urban heritage: reassessing the historic stages of development". In Erica Avrami (ed.), 'Building the future: the role of heritage in the sustainable development of Yangon', World Monuments Fund. New York: 24-31.
- Kraas, Frauke, Hlaing Maw Oo, Regine Spohner (2015), "Mapping Yangon's urban heritage: concept, categories and priorities". In Erica Avrami (ed.), 'Building the future: the role of heritage in the sustainable development of Yangon', World Monuments Fund. New York: 50-59.
- Kraas, Frauke & Zin Nwe Myint (2015), "Potentials for sustainable tourism development in Taunggyi Region, Myanmar", Journal of Myanmar Academy of Arts and Sciences, Vol. XIII, No. 6, 237-254.
- Kraas, Frauke, Dietrich Soye, Carsten Butsch, Franziska Krachten, Holger Kretzschmer (eds.) (2015), "IGC Cologne 2012. Down to Earth". Documentation of the 32nd International Geographical Congress in Cologne 26-30 August 2012. Kölner Geographische Arbeiten 95. Köln. 227 S.
- Kraas, Frauke, Nay Win Oo (2016), "Improving research publications and theses in Myanmar: guidelines for researchers, PhD and Master candidates", Myanmar Academy of Arts and Science (MAAS), Instruction Material No. 26. Yangon, 2nd edition (reprint).

- Kraas, Frauke, Zin Nwe Myint & Khin Khin Soe (2016), "Urban developments in Hakha and Falam, Chin State/Myanmar", *Journal of the Myanmar Academy of Arts and Science (MAAS)*, 301-318.
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- Kraas, Frauke, Nicole Häusler (2016), "Tourismusentwicklung in Myanmar", *Geographische Rundschau*, 68 (9), 52-57.
- Kraas, Frauke, Mareike Kroll (2017), "Urban sustainability: priorities for international cooperation". In Hauff, Michael von, Claudia Kuhnke (eds.), 'Sustainable development policy: a European perspective', *Routledge Studies in Sustainable Development*, Abingdon (Routledge): 206-227.
- Le Thu Hoa (2016), "Community-based solid waste management: the case of Sai Son Commune, Quoc Oai District, Hanoi", *Journal of Mekong Society*, Vol 12, No. 1 (Jan-April).
- Le Thu Hoa (2016), "Strategy for Urbanisation (in Vietnam) Towards Sustainable Development".
- Mareike Kroll & Frauke Kraas (2016), "Non-communicable diseases in urban India - challenges for public health". *UGEC Viewpoints*, 19<sup>th</sup> July.
- Mareike Kroll, Revati K Phalkey, Sayani Dutta & Frauke Kraas (2016), "Involving private healthcare practitioners in an urban NCD sentinel surveillance system: lessons learned from Pune, India", *Global Health Action*, 9 (October).
- Nguyen Ngoc Hieu (2016), "Soft measure options for managing development in Hochiminh City centre", *Urban Construction Planning*, Vietnam Institute of Urban and Rural Planning, Ministry of Construction (July).
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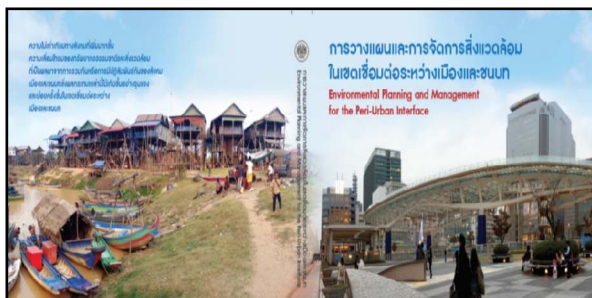


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- Srisilp, P.& Bejrananda, M. (2016), "An analysis of spatial expansion factors in Khon Kaen City". Journal of Urban and Regional Planning, 1(1), 253-264. [In Thai].
- Ta Quynh Hoa (2016), "Research on housing models for low income people in Hanoi – current situations, issues and proposed solutions", Construction Magazine, Ministry of Construction, No 1, p 96-99.
- Ta Quynh Hoa (2016), "Study on transit-oriented development (TOD) to promote green growth and sustainability for Hanoi city", Magazine of Science and Technologies, National University of Civil Engineering, Hanoi.
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- WBGU – German Advisory Council on Global Change (ed.), Alexandra Hamann (concept and script), Aike Arndt, Elyon's aka Joëlle E.M., Maki Shimizu, Archana Sreenivasan, Jay Daniel Wright (Illustration) (2016), "The urban planet – how cities save our future", Berlin.
- WBGU (2016), "Development and justice through transformation: the Four Big 'I's", Special Report, Berlin. Lead authors: Frauke Kraas, Claus Leggewie, Peter Lemke, Ellen Matthies, Dirk Messner, Nebojsa Nakicenovic, Hans Joachim Schellnhuber, Sabine Schlacke, Uwe Schneidewind; Co-authors: Clara Brandi, Sebastian Busch, Frederic Hanusch, Miriam Köster, Mareike Kroll, Carsten Loose, Inge Paulini, Benno Pilardeaux, Teresa Schlüter, Gesa Schöneberg, Astrid Schulz, Benjamin Stephan, Johannes Sutter, Kira Vinke, Hannah Wallis, Matthias Wanner.
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# Section 7

## **Miscellaneous (events, links, related publications,etc.)**

- ForUm publication: ForUm members in Khon Kaen discussed the possibility of a ForUm publication in a special issue of a Scopus-indexed journal (e.g. Planning Malaysia) on a theme Urban System in South East Asia (as per presentations from the previous two ForUm seminars in Myanmar and Khon Kaen with a target publication date of 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of 2018. Contact Dr. Goh Hong Ching for details.
- Future ForUm meetings: It is proposed at the last session of the ForUm Expert Seminar in Khon Kaen that an application should be made to DAAD for a further 2-year support on the theme of “Urban Agenda in Southeast Asia” for future ForUm Expert Seminars based on “considerations of relevance, new, and its relations to the South-South cooperation” to be held in Hanoi/HCMC (Vietnam) and Kuching (Malaysia). Tentative event dates: (1) between 4<sup>th</sup> week of Nov and 1<sup>st</sup> week of Dec 2017, (2) 4<sup>th</sup> week of Nov 2018. Prof. Kraas will inform if successful.
- 14<sup>th</sup> Asian Urbanisation Conference: King Mongkut’s Institute of Technology Ladkrabang and Khon Kaen University will be co-hosting the 14<sup>th</sup> Asian Urbanisation Conference (AUC) to be held in Bangkok in January 2018. Contact Dr. Monsicha (KKU).
- Scholarships are available in Malaysia on urban planning and urban development. See <https://malaysiacities.mit.edu/apply-scholars>.
- Publication: Charnnuwong, P. & Tiya Wongsuwan, S. (2015), “Sport event and urban development: a case study of Buriram City”, Proceedings of the 5<sup>th</sup> Urban and Regional Planning Academic Symposium (URPAS 2015): Resilient City. Bangkok: KMITL. (June).



- Publication: Kritsanaphan, A. (2015), “Environmental planning and management for the peri-urban interface”, Bangkok: KMITL Press, 242 p.
- Publication: Kritsanaphan, A. (2015), “Social capital and participatory approach in the control and management of transboundary water pollution in the peri-urban area”. Bangkok: KMITL Press, 184 p.
- Training Programme: DIES ProGRANT in Myanmar: Practical-oriented training for new researchers. This course, supported by DAAD, is part of the DIES (Dialogue on Innovative Higher Education Strategies) Programme of the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD)

and the German Rectors' Conference (HRK). The main aim of this ProGRANT is to train researchers and young PhD holders to develop promising proposals for national or international research funding. The schedule of this programme: Seminar I from 6-10 March 2017 was held at the University of Yangon; the E-Learning Module is currently running from March - June 2017; Seminar II will be held from 2-6 Oct. 2017 at the University of Mandalay.

- DAAD Regional Alumni Seminar: The DAAD Regional Office in Hanoi will be holding its Regional Alumni Seminar on "Environment and Health" to bring together alumni of German universities in Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia and Myanmar, for those who are interested to discuss cross-border activities and specific regional challenges. The objectives are to share knowledge and experiences, to create a platform for the regional scientific exchange, and to establish a regional network of experts in various fields. The seminar will be held from 26 - 28 May 2017 in Hanoi.
- NEU-KKU International Conference: In order to enhance the exchange in teaching, researching and policy making for sustainable development, the National Economics University (NEU) (Vietnam) and Khon Kean University (KKU) (Thailand) will be co-organising the semi-annual 8<sup>th</sup> International Conference on "Socio-economic and environmental issues in development". Date: 12 - 13 May 2017. Venue: National Economics University (Hanoi). Papers are invited on the following topics: Theoretical and practical socio-economic and environmental aspects of development; impacts of socio-economic development on the environment and territorial organisation of the economy; socio-economic development and environmental management; related issues in humanities and social science; policy implications for urban and regional socio-economic sustainable development. Please contact Dr. Le Thu Hoa.

## *Finally* , can you recognise these 7 items?

These 7 items are ForUm T-shirts or ForUm mementoes given to participants at the various ForUms since 2005 to 2017. Can you identify (i) the venues, (ii) the dates, and (iii) the themes of the 7 ForUm meetings of these items? Club 50 will give a special treat, at future ForUms, for those who are able to correctly answer them. (Ed: Clues and answers are found in this newsletter!).

1.



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3.



4.





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