



Summary of Thematic Session D:

“Adapting Cities to Changing Climates”

Chaired by Mr. Allen Kearns
Co-chaired by Liana Bratasida

The 2nd High Level Seminar on
Environmentally Sustainable Cities

15-16 March 2011, Kitakyushu, Japan

Presentations



- “Adapting Cities to Climate Change in East Asia – An Overview” (*Ms. Seona Meharg, Theme Manager, Sustainable Cities and Coasts, Climate Adaptation Flagship CSIRO*)
- “Contribute to Climate Change: Waste management and Urban Forest Improvement in Koh Kong Town, Cambodia” (*Mr. Chey Pich Rathna, Director, Environment Bureau, Koh Kong Province, Cambodia*)
- “Adapting to Climate Change: Cities in Indonesia” (*Ms. Liana Bratasida, Assistant Minister for Global Environmental Affairs, Ministry of Environment, Indonesia*)
- “Puerto Princesa City, the Philippines: A Model in Sustainable Development” (*Ms. Jovene Sagun, City Planning and Development Coordinator, Puerto Princesa City, the Philippines*)
- “Status of Establishing Low Carbon Green City in Korea” (*Ms. Yeon Jung, Assistant Manager, Department of Energy Business/Eco Energy Town, Korea Environment Corporation*)
- “Local Practical Responses to Climate Change: Experiences of Local Governments and Schools in Thailand” (*Dr. Paul C. Vorratchaiphon, Senior Director, TEI*)
- “WaterLinks: Planning for Climate Change Impact in Manila (Philippines) through Partnership” (*Mr. Arijanto Istandar, Water and Sanitation Team Leader, USAID ECO-Asia*)
- “ICLEI’s Approach for Climate Resilient Cities” (*Ms. Michie Kishigami, Director, ICLEI Japan Office*)
- “Climate Disaster Resilience Initiative” (*Dr. Bernadia Tjandradewi, CITYNET Programme Director*)

Key Discussion Points (1)



Session specific discussion point 1:

- **Integrated policy, program and plan**
 - Need to **integrate the climate change adaptation to comprehensive** policy, program, or plan at national, regional, and local level as well as need to translate them to sectoral planning at these various levels
 - Need to **develop law and regulation, strategy, action plan**, that can be adapted according to local context
 - **Internal incentives** within the city, as well as **city leadership and reputation**, may be a stronger motivation for cities to initiate the Climate Change Adaptation (CCA) planning than external pressures.

Session specific discussion point 2:

- **Improving data and methodology for analysis**
 - The challenge is how to find a way to **fill the information gaps**.
 - There is a need to **develop tools, methodologies, or strategies based on the local context**. It is difficult to have a uniform methodology, but it is possible to extract several guiding principles

Session specific discussion point 3:



- **Understanding the roles of stakeholders, and develop collaboration and partnership**
 - Important role of **networks** in facilitating partnership, knowledge sharing and best practices in the region
 - Important role of **local government** in developing the city and community’s resilience in facing the climate change and its consequences.
 - **Private sector** involvement may provide expertise or methodologies needed to improve the planning and implementation of CCA projects
 - **Framework and platform** for stakeholder participation is necessary

Session specific discussion point 4:

- **Capacity building**
 - **Capacity building for local level** (government, scientist, community, other institutions), is needed. In addition, national governments need to provide assistance to LGs, including **financial and technical assistance**.
 - **Education** for climate change needs to be incorporated into the current system, in order to **increase the awareness** of the future generation

Key Discussion Points (2)



- **Opportunities for replication/scaling-up**
 - Compiling experiences of various demonstrations projects/best practices developed by different institutions is necessary in order to **learn from these experiences and not having to start from zero**
 - Various institutions, such as research organizations, donor agencies, and local government may have **different understanding and expectations on current and future research agenda**
- **Opportunities for Public Private Partnership (PPP)**
 - There is opportunity for PPP, especially in developing new eco technology, information, encouraging government incentives, public participation, and networking
- **Implication for low-carbon development**
 - Low carbon development should not only focus on climate change adaptation, but should also be incorporated in good planning and design for multiple purposes (e.g. health, sustainable transportation, distributed or decentralized energy and water service at precinct scale.