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
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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

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.

Presentations

- “Adapting Cities to Climate Change in East Asia – An Overview” (Mr. Sean Mehang, 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 Phich 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)
- “Porto Princesa City, the Philippines: A Model in Sustainable Development” (Ms. Jovanee Sagan, City Planning and Development Coordinator, Puerto Princesa City, Philippines)
- “Status of Establishing Low Carbon Green City in Korea” (Mr. Yeon Jung, Assistant Manager, Department of Energy Business/Eco Energy Team, Korea Environment Corporation)
- “Local Practical Responses to Climate Change: Experiences of Local Governments and Schools in Thailand” (Dr. Paul C. Vennatcharaphun, Senior Director, TEI)
- “WaterLinks: Planning for Climate Change-Impact in Manila (Philippines) through Partnership” (Mr. Ariajanto Isandar, Water and Sanitation Team Leader, USAID-ECO-Asia)
- “ICLEI’s Approach for Climate Resilient Cities” (Ms. Michi Kohshi, Director, ICLEI Japan Office)
- “Climate Disaster Resilience Initiative” (Dr. Bernadette Yandradwari, CITYNET Programme Director)

Session specific discussion point 3:

- **Understanding the roles of stakeholders, and development of 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