

APPENDIX C

SUMMARY OF PLENARY SESSION 1

Plenary 1: Outputs of the ASEAN ESC Model Cities Programme

This session was chaired by Cambodia (Dr. Vann Monyneath, Deputy Director General for Technical Affairs, Ministry of the Environment) and co-chaired by Japan (Mr. Akira Nitta, Director, International Cooperation Office, Ministry of the Environment). A total of 8 presentations were made:

1. *Outputs of the ASEAN ESC Model Cities Programme* by Ms. Masnellyarti Hilman, Chairperson of the ASEAN Working Group on Environmentally Sustainable Cities (AWGESC)
2. *Activities of Cambodia under the ASEAN Model Cities Programme* by Mr. Chiek Ang, Head of Environmental Department, Phnom Penh Province, Cambodia;
3. *ASEAN Model Cities Implementation in Indonesia* by Mr. R. Sudirman, Assistant Deputy for Solid Waste Management, Ministry of Environment, Government of Indonesia;
4. *Capacity Building Project for Green, Clean and Beautiful Xamneua: first year achievements and next steps of the project implementation* by Mr. Sengdara Douangmyxay, Deputy Division Head for the Department of Housing and Urban Planning, Ministry of Public Works and Transport, Lao PDR;
5. *ASEAN ESC Model Cities Programme* by Ms. Ling Ling Chui, Environmental Control Officer, Department of Environment, Malaysia;
6. *Outcomes of the Model City Programme 2011 in Myanmar* by Mr. Kyaw Thar Sein, Assistant Head of Department, Pollution Control & Cleansing Department, Yangon City Development Committee, Myanmar;
7. *Philippine Eco-Friendly and Healthy Cities* by Ms. Corazon Davis, Assistant Secretary, Administration and Finance, Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Philippines;
8. *ASEAN ESC Model Cities* by Mr. Santi Boonprakub, Deputy Director General, Office of Natural Resources and Environmental Policy and Planning (ONEP), Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, Thailand; and
9. *Development of Environmental Sustainable Cities in Vietnam* by Ms. Le Thanh Nga, Researcher, Institute of Science for Environmental Management, Vietnam Environment Administration, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, Vietnam.

Presentation Summaries (in order of presentation)

In her introductory remarks, **Ms. Masnellyarti Hilman, Chair of the AWGESC**, explained the ASEAN Community's Vision 2020 to be clean, green and sustainably developed, and how the AWGESC contributes to its realisation by developing a framework for sustainable cities suited to the region's diversity, as well as formulating strategies to address related challenges. The ASEAN ESC Model Cities Programme, commenced in April 2011, is one of AWGESC's newest initiatives to promote ESC development by raising the capacity of local governments. It is a concrete outcome of the past two High Level Seminars (HLS) on ESC under the framework of the East Asia Summit Environment Ministers Meeting (EAS EMM), which at its inaugural meeting had adopted ESC as a priority area for environmental collaboration among EAS participating countries. In one year, the programme has managed to extend assistance to 7 national governments and 14 cities, supporting national and local government capacity development related to solid waste management, water and sanitation, urban greenery, low carbon city development and others. Moreover, additional support have been mobilised and linkages are being explored with about 10 supporting organisations. Based on these results, AWGESC plan to extend the programme into the 2nd year. Finally, Chair of the AWGESC invited **Mr. Hideyuki Mori, IGES President**, to present further details on behalf of the programme's Regional Secretariat. Mr. Mori gave an overview on how the Model Cities programme provides an overarching framework to pursue five recommended activities by the 1st HLS ESC and invited participants to continue collaborating on this platform in the future.

Mr. Chiek Ang, Head of Environmental Department, Phnom Penh Province presented a summary of 'Activities of Cambodia under the ASEAN Model Cities Programme'. He reported that Phnom Penh has established a City Committee on Plastic Bags Reduction (CCPBR), which is working towards replacing plastic bags with biodegradable and reusable alternatives with the support of two private markets in the production of awareness raising materials. Meanwhile, Siem Reap has set up a Province Committee on Organic Waste Reduction (PCOWR) which had selected two markets to pilot waste segregation and composting. The activities of these two cities are to serve as reference to other cities under a new nationwide ESC campaign and Clean City Contest, which will be linked to the ASEAN ESC Indicators and is to involve about 35 cities.

Mr. R. Sudirman, Assistant Deputy for Solid Waste Management, Ministry of Environment, Indonesia presented 'ASEAN Model Cities Implementation in Indonesia'. The programme has focused on reducing waste generation in the selected cities of Palembang and Surabaya by establishing waste banks based on a successful model in Yogyakarta. It has been found that study tours and information sharing are effective methods, but a mechanism to measure the impacts needs to be developed. The waste bank model will be spread to other cities in the coming years and it is proposed that waste management will become a focus area for AWGESC activities.

Mr. Sengdara Douangmyxay, Deputy Division Head for the Department of Housing and Urban Planning, Ministry of Public Works and Transport, Lao PDR presented 'Capacity Building Project for Green, Clean and Beautiful Xamneua: first year achievements and next steps of the project implementation'. Xamneua is building on the Model Cities ESC concept by launching the green and clean city programme, which sets out to increase the town's public green space, ensuring pollution-free natural waterways; reducing waste and increasing reuse and recycling; and preparing air and water quality monitoring. Project activities for the 1st year included organising workshops and demonstration activities., For example, 20 families and a

school starting the production of bio-extract from organic waste. Activities for Year 2 will include the continuation of the information campaign; the installation of waste water treatment facilities; and the expansion of town green areas. The lessons learnt from Year 1 activities are: 1) training programmes should be followed by implementation of action plans and demonstration projects; 2) it is important to link project objectives with government policies and other programmes to secure adequate support; and 3) the assessment of the project's success should look at intangible and longer-term effects, beyond physical impacts.

Ms. Ling Ling Chui, Environmental Control Officer, Department of Environment, Malaysia presented 'ASEAN ESC Model Cities Programme'. The selected Model City for Malaysia, Kuching North, has enhanced both its home composting programme and also the capacity of its Sejangkat Composting Centre. Firstly, for the home composting component a study tour to Kitakyushu was organised. An improved home composting method (EM Bokashi) was piloted in 2 residential areas, with plans to expand to five more. A local formula for the EM Bokashi inoculant is being developed to replace commercial versions, thus cutting down costs and enabling wider participation. Secondly, North Kuching visited Nonthaburi Municipality, Thailand, to learn better techniques for large-scale composting. The 1st National workshop was held on 21 December 2011 in Kuching to review the status of project implementation by the city. On 30-31 January 2012, experts from Kitakyushu and Nonthaburi were invited to visit North Kuching to audit progress made. The city's achievements were promoted at the 2nd national workshop. For Year 2, there are plans to involve more cities, as well as to disseminate North Kuching's successful practices through publications.

Mr. Kyaw Thar Sein, on behalf of the Director General and Secretary of the Environmental Conservation Committee, Planning and Statistics Department, Ministry of Environmental Conservation and Forestry, Myanmar presented 'Outcomes of the Model City Programme 2011 in Myanmar'. Yangon City Development Committee (YCDC) goals for the Model Cities programme were in the areas of water management services and solid waste management. In Year 1, a study tour has been conducted in Penang, Malaysia, on water supply and quality management. Topics covered included water treatment, pipe laying and plumbing, quality control and monitoring, and water leakage repairs. The skills and knowledge learnt would help to improve their practices on water treatment, distribution, quality control and monitoring, as well as reducing non-revenue water. Lessons learnt would be transferred to other cities in Myanmar. Plans for the near future are to collaborate with institutions for technical assistance in capacity building on both water and solid waste management.

Ms. Corazon Davis, Assistant Secretary, Administration and Finance, Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Philippines presented 'Philippine Eco-Friendly and Healthy Cities'. In the 1st national workshop, the action plans and good practices of two Model Cities (Palo and Puerto Princesa) were presented to 16 other 'top' Philippine cities. The Philippine National Focal Point believes that best practices should be widely promoted and can be replicated by other cities; Bottom-up initiatives are most effective in securing public adoption of any practice, while appropriate technical assistance should also be available. For Year 2, Philippines aims to streamline this programme's activities with existing policies and extend support from the project to 14 other cities. It is recommended that minor infrastructure expenses, such as for composting equipment and others, should be eligible for funding support.

Mr. Santi Boonprakub, Deputy Director General, Office of Natural Resources and Environmental Policy and Planning (ONEP), Ministry of Natural Resources and

Environment, Thailand presented 'ASEAN ESC Model Cities'. Thailand's three Model Cities: Muang Klang, Mae Hongson, and Phitsanulok each with its own 'Green and Clean' theme: 'Low Carbon City with "Learning Centre"', 'Liveable and Identity City with "Living Museum"', and Community Based Management, respectively. Thailand's ESC concept is centred on the King's philosophy of 'sufficiency economy' which is characterised by values such as practicality, moderation, and self-reliance. For future activities, Thailand will strive to provide a forum and thematic sub-forums for high-performing cities to share and exchange knowledge as well as promote cooperation with a greater range of stakeholders including civil society and the private sector.

Ms. Le Thanh Nga, Researcher, Institute of Science for Environmental Management, Vietnam Environment Administration, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, Viet Nam presented 'Development of Environmental Sustainable Cities in Vietnam'. Vietnam's National Programme objectives are threefold: to development of ESC criteria for Vietnam; to enhance awareness on ESC; and to develop a legal framework on ESC. The results of the first year of the National Programme relate to the first objective, and include the organising of the 1st national consultative workshop on ESC indicators, and the drafting of an ESC indicator system for Vietnam. Future – more specifically 2nd year – plans are to enhance awareness and undertake training activities, through organising workshops in provinces and cities in line with intensified public communication campaigns.

Discussion

- AWGESC shared that a proposal to extend the programme into Year 2 with an enhanced modality based on lessons learnt from Year 1 is under consideration within ASEAN.
- Thailand commented the programme's activities indicated that solid waste management continues to be a priority area for local governments. In particular, much good work has been done on organic waste management and this aspect should be effectively integrated into the 3Rs framework and approaches. Thailand also pointed out the importance to establish clear performance indicators so that actual progress can be measured with certainty.
- Echoing this point was Australia, who stressed the importance of the employing an analytical focus to evaluate the achievements made. It was also highlighted that the programme offers significant opportunities to link and match cities through the platform in strategic and structured ways, such as twinning partnerships, which has proven to be popular and effective in transferring good practices and knowledge from one city to another.
- The ASEAN Secretariat commended the good work done by the selected cities and recommended the further expansion and scale-up of those achievements. The programme has managed to overcome initial bureaucratic and institutional constraints to deliver visible results, and that stakeholders should continue to utilise the programme's network and coordinating mechanisms to provide further assistance to deserving cities. As the programme originated from the EAS framework, it is hoped that other EAS participating countries would pick up the concept of 'Model Cities' and contribute to this initiative, including in terms of funding, which remains a critical factor for enabling progress.

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