An Emerging ‘ASEAN ESC Community’?:
Some Thoughts & Observations

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6th High Level Seminar on Environmentally Sustainable Cities
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“A clean and green ASEAN with fully established mechanisms for sustainable development to ensure the protection of the region’s environment, the sustainability of its natural resources, and the high quality of life of its peoples.”
An idea for discussion

Is there an emerging ‘ASEAN ESC Community’?

Yes, over 10 years, building on past and existing achievements and projects. It has great potential.

Looking forward, how can we grow this ‘ASEAN ESC Community’?

AWGESC could help by developing a ‘Draft Action Plan for ASEAN ESC Community’
Who makes up the emerging ‘ASEAN ESC Community’?
Most ASEAN cities still lack **guiding frameworks, capacity and resources** to meet the challenges of sustainable urban development.

In 2003 ASEAN Environment Ministers established the **AWGESC** to help address these challenges through regional cooperation.

Furthermore, **EAS Environment Ministers** have also prioritised regional collaboration on ESC since 2008.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area of Work</th>
<th>Project</th>
<th>Partners</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **Measuring and Recognising Good Effort/Performance on ESC** | • ASEAN Initiative on ESC (AIEESC)  
  • ASEAN ESC Indicators  
  • ASEAN ESC Awards *(2008 – present)* | • Hans Siedel Foundation                                               |
| **Strengthening National ESC Frameworks and Local Capacity** | • ASEAN ESC Model Cities Programme *(2010 – present)*  
  • Clean Air for Smaller Cities *(2008 – present)*  
  • JICA-LPPE *(2010 – present)*  
  • CityLinks Pilot Partnership between U.S. Cities and ASEAN member states *(2012 – present)* | • IGES, GIZ, JICA, USAID/ICMA etc. |
| **Networking, Partnerships and Community Building** | • The annual High Level Seminar on Environmentally Sustainable Cities (HLS ESC) *(2010 – present)* | • IGES  
  • EAS participating countries |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Cities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>BRUNEI DARUSSALAM</strong></td>
<td>Bandar Seri Begawan, National Housing Scheme, Rimba, Temburong District</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CAMBODIA</strong></td>
<td>Battambang, Phnom Penh, Pursat, Siem Reap</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>INDONESIA</strong></td>
<td>Balikpapan, Banjarmassin, Jakarta, Lamongan, Makassar, Malang, Pekanbaru, Padang, Palembang, Surabaya, Surakarta, Tangerang</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>LAO PDR</strong></td>
<td>Luang Prabang, Paksane, Vientiane, Xamneua, Xayabouri</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>MALAYSIA</strong></td>
<td>North Kuching, Kuantan, Melaka, Putrajaya</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>MYANMAR</strong></td>
<td>Yangon, Mandalay, Pyin Oo Lwin, Taunggyi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>PHILIPPINES</strong></td>
<td>Cagayan de Oro, Davao, Iloilo, Legazpi, Palo, Leyte, Puerto Princesa, Quezon City, Santiago City, San Carlos City (Negros Occidental)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SINGAPORE</strong></td>
<td>Singapore, North West District, South West CDC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>VIET NAM</strong></td>
<td>Bac Ninh, Can Tho, Cao Lanh, Da Lat, Da Nang, Hanoi, Halong, Hue, Ho Chi Minh</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

68 CITIES

70 million citizens

~10% of ASEAN pop.

Underlined cities = ASEAN ESC Model Cities Year 2
Who makes up the ‘ASEAN ESC Community?’

ASEAN ESC Model Cities
Year 1
(2011/12)

ASEAN ESC Model Cities
Year 2
(2014/15)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Model Cities Year 1</th>
<th>Model Cities Year 2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cambodia</td>
<td>Phnom Penh, Siem Reap</td>
<td>Phnom Penh, Pursat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indonesia</td>
<td>Palembang, Surabaya</td>
<td>Balikpapan, Lamongan, Malang, Tangerang</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lao PDR</td>
<td>Xamneua</td>
<td>Luang Prabang, Xamneua</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malaysia</td>
<td>North Kuching</td>
<td>TBC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Myanmar</td>
<td>Yangon</td>
<td>Yangon, Mandalay, Pyin Oo Lwin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philippines</td>
<td>Palo, Leyte; Puerto Princesa</td>
<td>Legaspi; San Carlos, Negros Occidental; Santiago</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thailand</td>
<td>Mae Hong Son, Muangklang, Phitsanulok</td>
<td>Chiang Rai, Nongteng, Panusnikon, Pichit, Renunakon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Viet Nam</td>
<td>Cao Lanh, Da Nang</td>
<td>Dalat, Da Nang</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
HLS ESC Seminar Series

High Level Seminar on Environmentally Sustainable Cities (HLS ESC) (2010 – present)

1st HLS ESC (2010) Jakarta

2nd HLS ESC (2011) Kitakyushu

3rd HLS ESC (2012) Siem Reap

4th HLS ESC (2013) Hanoi

5th HLS ESC (2014) Surabaya

Key National Ministries supporting ESC in each EAS country

20 – 30 Cities

20 – 30 Supporting Organisations (Academe, NGOs, private sector etc.)
How can we grow the ‘ASEAN ESC Community’?
A proposal?

A proposed ‘Draft Action Plan for an ASEAN ESC Community 2030?’

- **Time- and goal-based approach** to guide and accelerate the realisation of green, clean, liveable and low-carbon and resilient cities in ASEAN.
  - Also a **fund-raising and donor coordination tool** clarify the priorities of AWGESC for future projects and activities.

- Should be **pragmatic and oriented at scaling up on existing achievements** at the regional, national and local level.

- The **initial broad feedback received at 6HLS** will be very helpful for detailed discussion at the upcoming Annual Meeting of the **AWGESC** (May/June 2015 in Viet Nam (TBC))
Practical actions to grow the ‘ASEAN ESC Community’

ASEAN ESC Model Cities Programme will be an important platform to help realise proposed goals under the Draft Action Plan.

In Year 3 and beyond, the programme aims to:

• Further **strengthen the national frameworks**, especially in **CLMV countries**.

• **Elaborate the concept of ‘Model Cities’** by:
  
  ➢ Extending the seed funding modality to key ESC sectors such as ‘Model schools’, ‘Model residential communities’ etc.

  ➢ Develop **commonly-applicable voluntary indicators for Model Cities** targeting public buildings, private buildings, schools and communities.
Practical actions to grow the ‘ASEAN ESC Community’

• **Increase city-to-city exchanges** by facilitating study visits based on compiled recommendable good practices in Year 1 and 2

• **Increase and strengthen partnerships between supporting organisations** and cities created in Years 1 and 2

• **Enhance website to disseminate regional ESC data of on ASEAN ESC activities**, including an ‘Online Sourcebook of ASEAN ESC Cities’ in both English and vernacular languages.
Conclusion

Continued support by EAS participating countries, donors and other supporting organisations will be important to help sustain the ASEAN ESC Model Cities Programme and other initiatives of AWGESC, as a core driver of regional ESC cooperation, to ‘leapfrog’ towards clean, green, sustainable, low-carbon and resilient ASEAN ESC Community!

Thank you for your attention