Our City, Our Future:
Sharing Local Solutions for Sustainable Development
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INTRODUCTION

With this Annual Report 2017 I would like to present to you CityNet’s accomplishment throughout the year 2017. Last year marked the network’s 30th anniversary since its inception in 1987. We also successfully held the 8th CityNet Congress with the generosity of Colombo Municipal Council as the host, during which I had the honour of being re-elected as the CityNet Secretary General for the second term by the majority vote of the members.

With the theme of “Our city, our future: Sharing local solutions for sustainable development”, the Congress has concluded the achievements of our four year journey together since the network’s relocation to Seoul. We have also made the pledge through the Colombo Declaration to share local solutions for sustainable development and together we shall strive to overcome urban challenges whether in climate change, rapid urbanization and disasters by co-developing local participative and integrated solutions for sustainable development. Several opportunities for cities to take a leadership role have emerged following the recognition that climate friendly development requires actions at the local level. It is up to us now to utilize this interest to improve the well-being of our city residents.

CityNet holds the knowledge and programmatic capacities to connect solutions to challenges in the Asia Pacific cities, and its main challenge as an organisation is the funding to implement its mission. What we have seen in the past is very constrained funding, and this is the model we need to change with our members’ support. I appeal to all our members and well-wishers to work together and find innovative solutions to overcome this challenge.

I would like to express our gratitude to the Seoul Metropolitan Government and the City of Yokohama, who have generously hosted the CityNet Secretariat and CityNet Project Office respectively. My heartfelt appreciation goes to all our members and partners who have shown their full support and active participation throughout 2017.

As CityNet President Mayor Park Wonsoon of Seoul conveyed during the 2017 CityNet Congress we cannot remain doing just sharing and exchanging, we need more action. As a member driven organisation, CityNet member cities need to be proactive in taking the initiative and the lead to engage potential partners to create investment opportunities for the cities.

I look forward to strengthened collaboration through CityNet for our better future; only by actively working together as a network can we achieve our vision of developing local solutions for sustainable development.

Sincerely,

Vijay Jagannathan
Secretary General

Welcome Message from the Secretary General
CityNet is the largest association of urban stakeholders committed to sustainable development in the Asia-Pacific region. Established in 1987 with the support of UNESCAP, UNDP and UN-Habitat, the Network of cities has grown to include over 135 municipalities, NGOs, private companies and research centers.

We connect actors, exchange knowledge and build commitment to establish more sustainable and resilient cities. Through capacity building, city-to-city cooperation and tangible projects, we help our members respond to Climate Change, Disaster, the Sustainable Development Goals and rising Infrastructure demands.

Our Mission
To connect urban actors and deliver tangible solutions for cities across the Asia-Pacific region.

Our Values
- **Connect**: We bring together local governments, civil society, and the private sector to collectively act for more sustainable cities.
- **Exchange**: We unite key stakeholders to share knowledge and find innovative solutions for urban challenges.
- **Build**: We believe in building a movement for more people-friendly, socially just, ecologically sound, economically productive, culturally vibrant, and globally connected cities.

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**About Us**

From CityNet

**Members and Partners**

“The City of Makati has been a member of CityNet for the past 26 years. So this was during the period of my father. And in the past 26 years we have already ingrained the CityNet’s goals and policies in our existing city programmes and policies as well. And I am very happy to note that as my initiative and as a member of CityNet we are now currently working with CityNet to build the first ever DRRM Academy and this will be the first in the city and will be the first in the Philippines”

Mar-Len Abigail S. Binay-Campos
Mayor of Makati

“We firstly joined CityNet as an ordinary member. The main reason at that time was to take the opportunity to build our network with other cities in the Asia-Pacific region and of course to learn and collaborate with other cities in the city network and to gain from that experience to turn Kuala Lumpur City into a sustainable one.”

Datuk Mahadi bin Che Ngah
Deputy Mayor of Kuala Lumpur

“30 years ago, CityNet had a vision, to help cities address common urban challenges and achieve sustainable urban development.

Clearly since the beginning, CityNet had a very forward looking vision. Over the years, CityNet has advocated and supported mutual understanding and cooperation among cities across the Asia-Pacific regions.”

Park Won Soon
Mayor of Seoul
“As we all agree, we are at the threshold of a new era for a greater CityNet, of course to achieve greater CityNet and impact to member and cities in this CityNet family, we are in need of greater collaboration and input from the members and advisors.”

Kim Chang-beom
Ambassador of the Republic of Korea to Indonesia
Former Ambassador of International Relations for the Seoul Metropolitan Government

“In today’s context, when you look at Asia, we have cities in different level of development, willing to help each other. We have many think tanks and others who got the capacity. Like in this case Yokohama or Seoul, they have excellent engineering and planning facilities available that would be happy to help other cities at a much lower cost than getting a consulting firm.”

Vijay Jagannathan
CityNet Secretary General

“Green growth, sustainable development or circular economy, all of them emphasize that governments and cities need a new model of growth, growth is still important it has to be sustainable, it has to be inclusive and that starts with planning....are investments in line with that new model of growth and economic development, I think that is where the critical jobs are for cities and where organizations like CityNet and GGGI can play a key role in helping with planning and bring green finance”

Frank Rijsberman
Global Green Growth Institute Director General

“‘The answers, the solutions, and the problems come from the family and the only thing we can do is to guide them. We believe experience is the best education; please help us bring our abundant experiences to CityNet’”

Madelaine Yorobe Alfelor
Mayor of Iriga City

“One of the things that ESCAP is very proud of is the Urban SDG Knowledge Platform, which was developed in collaboration with CityNet and with the support of the Seoul Metropolitan Government, it is a significant knowledge platform that all cities can benefit from in terms of sharing best practices, learning about things that work and processes at the city level.”

Curt Garrigan
Chief, Sustainable Urban Development Section, UNESCAP

“‘As a leader to successfully implement the SDGs, they must have courage, they must have will to do, they must have Knowledge of the SDGs, the indicators, and the goals. Seberang Perai would like to offer many best practices and experience to be shared with CityNet’”

Dato’ Sr. Hj. Rozali bin Hj. Mohamud
Mayor of Seberang Perai

“We believe that it is important for local governments, as one of the main actors of the SDG implementation, to work closely with the international community, we in Suwon create a condition where the citizens who care about social development can actively engage in local issues. As a member of CityNet, Suwon is using our network to help other cities improve their citizen’s quality of life and increase inclusiveness”

Taeyoung Yeom
Mayor of Suwon

“Human activities and experience exchange are very important and essential for the growth and the future success of our city. Many city issues can be discussed among the members and it could be solved by the knowledge sharing and capacity building of each city. As a new member of CityNet, during the Congress we have mutual benefits to share and exchange knowledge, from developed to developing cities. We think for the future that it is essential to devise a human resources exchange programme between cities”

Moon Seok-Jin
Mayor of Seodaemun District
CityNet 2018-2021 Executive Committee and Elected Officials

We would like to congratulate Seoul Metropolitan Government for the election and continued leadership as the President of the largest association of urban stakeholders in the Asia Pacific region along with the new office bearers of the CityNet Executive Committee.
2017 Highlights

23 countries

139 members:
88 full members
49 associations
2 corporate members

35 activities with over 26 partner organizations

12 International and Regional Events

CityNet Members Participating in the 2017 Activities

- 37% Indonesia
- 21% Sri Lanka
- 8% Philippines
- 5% Nepal
- 2% Malaysia
- 10% Korea
- 2% Japan
- 1% Vietnam
- 1% USA
- 2% Thailand
- 2% Bangladesh
- 1% Bhutan
- 1% Chinese Taipei
- 1% Cambodia
- 1% China
- 3% India
- 1% Indonesia
- 1% Vietnam
- 1% USA
I. 2017 Congress
Our City, Our Future: Sharing Local Solutions for Sustainable Development

The 2017 CityNet Congress, the network’s largest event that occurs every four years, was held in Colombo, Sri Lanka on November 5-8. It also marked CityNet’s 30th anniversary as one of the largest associations of urban stakeholders in the Asia Pacific region. The event convened over 300 city mayors, city officials, urban stakeholders and international experts identifying and further elaborating on urban priorities and localised solutions to tackle the challenges of urbanisation.

The Congress which consisted of the 35th and 36th Sessions of the Executive Committee, 8th General Council, Mayors Dialogue, Plenary Session on “30 Years of Developing Sustainability in Cities”, technical sessions, and site visits provided an opportunity to evaluate CityNet’s activities throughout the past four year and map out the organisational vision and strategy for the following years.

At the 8th General Council, elections were held for the Main Office Bearers of CityNet for the period 2018-2021, namely President, Vice President, Executive Committee, Secretary General, Auditor, and Election Committee. At the 8th General Council, Seoul Mayor Park Won-Soon shared the Seoul Metropolitan Government’s commitment to continue the leadership as the President of CityNet. He reminded all CityNet members that cities and countries need to actively cooperate in sharing their experience and resources to find solutions to various urban challenges. In this aspect, he added, that the role of CityNet as a multi stakeholder network is more significant than ever.

Vijay Jagannathan, CityNet Secretary General, was also re-elected by the Council for his second term where he pledged to continue his “unfinished business” by starting to develop a financing model that would help expand the reach of CityNet’s programmes to elevate the visibility of the organisation as a professional network representing cities and partners throughout Asia Pacific.

According to the goals and visions provided by its members and leaders, CityNet continues to adapt with the ever-growing urban challenges through various activities and projects to meet urban priorities and to connect local solutions pursued within Asia Pacific.
These activities and projects include capacity building programmes, city-to-city partnerships, international and regional advocacy. Not only CityNet aims to share local solutions among cities, but also to transition the shared knowledge into actions and results that drive change and create tangible impacts on its members, especially on the seven priority areas developed over the years of working with its member cities and associations.

CityNet will be incorporating the 7 priority areas identified by its members to address key urban issues by bringing cities, urban stakeholders and international partners together to build sustainable cities. As a network, CityNet will continue being committed to these urban challenges by connecting urban actors and delivering tangible solutions for cities. CityNet looks forward to your participation in various activities from capacity buildings, technical expertise consultations, project management and exposure visits in the coming years.

CityNet 7 Priority Areas for 2018-2021:
1. Disaster Risk Management
2. Urban Climate Change Resilience
3. Knowledge Platform Modalities in a Digital World
4. Paradigm Shift in Urban Challenges in Asian Cities
5. Affordable Housing
6. Mobility Solutions
7. Good Governance and Decentralization

During this Congress, CityNet, with partners from UNESCAP, UN-Habitat, International Water Management Institute, Clean Air Asia, GSEF, the Asia Foundation, Korea Transport Institute, and others offered sessions, forums, and interactive programs to explore innovative ways to develop sustainable cities of the future.

One of the highlighted sessions was the Cities Investment Fair, moderated by the CityNet Secretary General Vijay Jagannathan, where experts from international organisations, namely the World Bank, Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank, Cities Development Initiative for Asia and the Global Green Growth Institute explained funding mechanisms on sustainable development relevant to urban stakeholders. Some CityNet member cities presented their project ideas in order to receive feedback on how to develop bankable projects.

Mayors’ Dialogue “Leadership in Localizing the SDGs”

Inaugural Ceremony attended by the Speaker of the Parliament of Sri Lanka and the Prime Minister of Sri Lanka as the Guest of Honour and Chief Guest respectively

Mayors’ Dialogue “Leadership in Localizing the SDGs”

Cities Investment Fair with panelist from the World Bank, AIIB, CDIA, and GGGI

Representative from a member city shares her point of view in one of the technical sessions.

CityNet Deputy Secretary General Sangbum Kim speaks at the Cluster meeting.

CITYNET
CHAPTER 01.
2017 CONGRESS
OUR CITY, OUR FUTURE

CITYNET COLOMBO CONGRESS
Our City, Our Future:
Sharing Local Solutions for Sustainable Development
November 5 - 8, 2017 - Colombo, Sri Lanka

Cities Investment Fair

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CityNet Deputy Secretary General Sangbum Kim speaks at the Cluster meeting.

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CityNet Deputy Secretary General Sangbum Kim speaks at the Cluster meeting.
As part of the 2017 CityNet Congress, city leaders gathered for a dialogue to share their views on localising the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) that hugely depends on the local leadership. SDG 11 states “Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable” that highlights the importance of cities in regard to sustainable development.

As a result, all CityNet city leaders made pledges to jointly take effective actions to make the cities in the Asia-Pacific region self-reliant, sustainable, inclusive and resilient, to shape the future of cities which are people friendly, socially just, ecologically sustainable and sound, economically productive, culturally vibrant and globally connected cities.
We, mayors and leaders of the CityNet member cities, and partner organizations, declare to jointly take effective action to make the cities in the Asia-Pacific region self-reliant, sustainable, inclusive and resilient.

Collectively we shall work to shape the future of our cities which are people friendly, socially just, ecologically sustainable and sound, economically productive, culturally vibrant and globally connected cities.

We shall endeavour to share local solutions for sustainable development and together we shall strive to overcome urban challenges whether in climate change, rapid urbanization and disasters by co-developing local participative and integrated solutions for sustainable development.

At this gathering of the 8th CityNet Congress in Colombo, we hereby:

• Acknowledge and reaffirm the leading role of cities and local governments in achieving sustainable development.
• Promote, unite and advocate for CityNet’s members’ needs and appropriate solutions in the localizing of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the New Urban Agenda, the Paris Agreement and other major global initiatives of the international community
• Commit to build partnerships among local and national governments, civil society, academia, global multilateral institutions such as the United Nations and businesses to collectively take actions for sustainable for making urban environments sustainable, inclusive and resilient
• Resolve to share innovative ideas and practices through peer-to-peer learning and city-to-city cooperation for improving social, environmental, and economic sustainability
• Recognize and promote good local governance by strengthening local leadership and accountability, as well as building local capacities for citizens’ participation and ownership in sustainable development
• Promote and foster the development and implementation of innovative smart technologies, solutions and mechanisms for more inclusive and sustainable cities

We firmly commit to work together as a robust network of innovative and interconnected cities and urban stakeholders who will shape our sustainable urban future. In this spirit, we declare 2018-2028 as the decade for realizing our common vision of sustainable development through shared local solutions.
II. Knowledge Sharing
A. Urban SDG Knowledge Sharing Platform

Initiated and developed by CityNet, United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP), and Seoul Metropolitan Government, the Urban SDG Knowledge Sharing Platform was officially launched in 2017 in conjunction with the 2017 CityNet Congress to support local actions for successfully implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The platform has since collected over 107 policies, projects, and best practice cases from its members and partners.

The Urban SDG Knowledge Platform aims to connect best practices and foster knowledge sharing among urban stakeholders.

Visit our website and upload your cases here: [http://urbansdgplatform.org](http://urbansdgplatform.org)

B. CityNet Services

CityNet Services is one of the most sought-after regular programmes where members conduct sustainable learning exchanges across the network. CityNet Services, is an umbrella term referring to a package of services that CityNet members can access with the goal of coming closer to solutions to their specific urban development challenge, these can be in the form of technical assistance, study visits, and city-to-city partnerships.

Activity: Through this programme, CityNet conducted a study visit for Thimphu District Municipality on Seoul City’s best practices from September 13-15, 2017. A five-member delegation from Thimphu visited CityNet Secretariat and Seoul Metropolitan Government to learn on Seoul City’s outstanding programmes in the field of solid waste management, storm water urban drainage system, urban beautification and landscape, and urban road management. The three-day learning session offered a practical snapshot on the tools and processes that were undertaken by some of the Seoul City’s successful urban development programmes.
C. Capacity Buildings

CityNet continues being committed to expanding the secretariats capacity to reach all of its members in the network. CityNet Secretariat led and supported 14 workshops, together with over 20 partner organizations and cities in 2017.

Transportation Strategy Workshop for Asian Cities: April 9-15

The 2017 Transportation Strategy Workshop for Asian Cities, with a focus on Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) and transfer system, connected urban professionals to discuss BRT best practices and problems in Asia Pacific region, exchanged innovative practices and explored potential solutions for problems raised through cooperation with Seoul Metropolitan Government. The workshop was staged in partnership with Seoul Human Resource Development Centre (SHRDC) and took place from April 9 – 15, 2017.

The workshop, as a follow up of a survey of the most interesting and applicable transportation policy at the Transportation Strategy Workshop for Asian Cities conducted in 2016, was specifically designed for urban practitioners and decision makers from rapidly growing contexts; the workshop offered discussion with urban actors for sustainable policy making and an opportunity to strategize a new agenda for urban transportation. It also offered a unique opportunity to practice knowledge transfer and to exchange best practices on BRT and transfer system through study visit and group discussion during the programme.

15 city officials from Vietnamese cities participated in the “2017 Seoul Waterworks Workshop” from April 23 to 29. This workshop was co-organized by the Office of Waterworks Seoul Metropolitan Government (ARISU) and CityNet Secretariat.

Seoul Waterworks for Vietnamese Cities: April 23-29

Workshop on waterworks tailored specifically for Vietnamese cities

The workshop was particularly tailored for Vietnamese member cities. By reflecting the participants’ interests and each city’s prior waterworks challenges, the workshop provided the lectures and site visit related with waterworks issues such as water supply and quality management and integrated water information systems.

Through the City Report, SWOT and PDM analysis, participants shared their cities’ challenges and designed their future policy plan based on the lessons from the workshop. CityNet Secretariat, experts from relevant institutions, government officers and private sectors shared the idea and suggestions for each city and expected continuous cooperation.
To improve disaster management system of the Asia Pacific region, CityNet along with Seoul Metropolitan Fire and Disaster Headquarters (SMFDH), co-organized a Field Experience Training on April 17-22 and a workshop on Life Saving and Fire Services on June 11-17, particularly tailored for Philippine members. Fire officers participating in the Field Experience Training were dispatched to SMFDH where they focused on real hands on situations and experiences of Seoul, while those participated in the workshop attended simulated technical training sessions and knowledge transfer.

In the workshop, 12 fire officers participated and shared challenges of Philippines cities and discussed possible solutions with professionals from SMFDH during the city report presentation and discussion session. Quezon City, for example, presented a fire fighting operational expertise on one of the fire-prone area and explained their challenges such as lack of skills and knowledge, Safety Control Deficiency, and lack of unity-of-command (multiple responders/ rescuers). SMFDH professionals shared past experiences of Seoul and hoped to support Asian cities through continuous workshops and trainings.

In conjunction with the 3rd Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Mayors Forum in Taguig City, Philippines, CityNet and its associate member, The League of Cities of the Philippines (LCP), organized an afternoon learning session on cases, policies, and practices on improving local sustainable transport programme for ASEAN cities on July 26, 2017.

The session provided a convergence platform of the different on-going regional efforts to promote urban mobility within the framework of sustainable transport. It also helped identify needs and challenges of ASEAN cities for the development of a more focused programme intervention to address their capacity gaps related to implementing their local transport programmes. The session which was anchored on global commitments like SDG 11 (Make cities inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable) and the New Urban Agenda aimed to jumpstart regional initiatives with CityNet on strengthening knowledge sharing on sustainable transport options.
Benefits of Sustainable Urban Lighting:
June 29 - 30

CityNet in partnership with Lighting Urban Community International (LUCI) and the Seoul Metropolitan Government held a 2-day workshop on sustainable urban lighting which gave a strong sense of a range of issues to implement strategic urban lighting, with the added challenge of dealing with cities of very different sizes, histories and resources.

The sessions were moderated by Professor Don Slater from the London School of Economics and Mr Rik Van Stiphout the Programme Advisor Light & Culture of the City of Eindhoven, with the support of experts from SMG, LUCI and CityNet.

The talks presented diverse case studies of urban lighting strategies, including Seoul, Eindhoven and Latin American cities. There was also a strong focus on spectacular lighting – e.g. festivals (Yudeung Festival of Jinju) and public light art. A full session addressed issues of energy saving and climate change. Various discussions were held to emphasize the importance and difficulty of integrating social aspects of lighting into the more economic and technical strategies.

Two interactive sessions allowed participants to explore various issues of integrating social aspects of lighting, not only in terms of their own city but also in comparison with other municipalities. Both sessions asked participants to focus particularly on the practical issues involved in developing a coherent, robust and sustainable strategy for urban lighting. The first of these sessions asked delegates to engage in a SWOT analysis, considering strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats they could identify separately or in common. The second session focused on “road mapping for intelligent urban lighting session” with a support from Philips Lighting Korea.

To anticipate climate change and to promote mitigation actions in various sectors, especially in the energy sector, innovative action is needed, bringing collective and holistic cooperation between all stakeholders; central government, local government, NGOs, professional, academics, business, and financial institutions both local and national, and international. In response to this, the Jakarta Research Council in collaboration with CityNet organized a Workshop on Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Acceleration for Climate Change Mitigation, aimed to support Localized Paris Agreement mitigation action, in accordance with the national and local commitment to reduce emissions (30%) by 2030.

As the preliminary activity, this workshop discussed how to increase participants’ understanding and awareness of the policy instruments and the importance of innovative mitigation actions, especially in the energy sector. It is also an opportunity to bring together the mission of all stakeholders, to realize the accelerated mitigation of Climate Change. Renewable energy is already helping us in addressing climate change. It is the time to put our efforts together and accelerate the policy implementation.
D. Bus Rapid Transit Cities Network

CityNet-World Bank Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Cities Network is a thematic network initiated by CityNet and the World Bank to provide greater benefits and opportunities to a group of cities currently operating or are well underway of developing BRT systems in the Asia Pacific region. The network endeavours to enhance the service provision capacities of these cities.

The development of public transport system does not end as soon as the physical elements are constructed, continued efforts to maintain service quality to bring maximum impacts to the residents are critical to maintain the success.

One of the initial activities to kick-off this network was a preliminary scoping and assessment mission to Bogor City on its BRT operation upon the mayor’s request. Bogor City requested a technical assistance particularly on how to run the BRT system in terms of business management, and interconnecting private firms and public efforts for public transportation. In December 2017 CityNet and the World Bank visited Bogor City to assess the newly relaunched Bogor’s public bus route, as well as its public transport reform plan. CityNet and the World Bank engaged with the Mayor of Bogor, Bima Arya, where he expressed his enthusiasm to accelerate the implementation of the BRT system in Bogor, and he is looking for opportunities and possibilities of cooperation or formal assistance.

The Mayor of Bogor expresses his enthusiasm to accelerate the implementation of the BRT system in Bogor.
III. City-to-City Cooperation
A. EU World Cities

Four Korean cities - Seoul, Suwon, Gwangju and Busan - are being paired with four European cities - Eindhoven (Netherlands), the Scottish Cities Alliance (UK), Tampere (Finland) and Barcelona (Spain) - under the World Cities project. This European Union (EU) initiative - supported by the European Parliament - promotes long-term working relations between cities of the EU and cities in other countries, such as the Republic of Korea.

The overall aim of the project is to promote better urban policy and thereby improve the quality of life in participating cities. The cooperation agenda with the Republic of Korea requires the identification of pilot regions and cities and the development of concrete actions for implementation. This covers, for example, urban innovation (the smart city) and green technologies (energy efficiency, low carbon development). Actions are designed to increase so-called ‘triple-helix cooperation’ between governments, research and business. World Cities will also create opportunities for business and new jobs while pursuing the sustainable development of the cities involved.

The initiative was launched at the Launch Meeting held in Seoul on 14 March 2017 and scheduled to conclude in 2018. Over the course of 2017, meetings between the all partnered cities - where the EU cities visited Korean cities and vice versa - were facilitated by CityNet to further identify specific areas of cooperation and the results of the cooperation will be presented in April of 2018.
Following the CityNet Services provided to the Sidoarjo Regency and the establishment of partnership between Sidoarjo Regency Public Hospital and Boramae Medical Center under the Seoul Metropolitan Government in the field of education, healthcare, and hospital management, a short-term academic programme was arranged for doctors from Sidoarjo Public Hospital by Boramae Medical Center in 2017.

In 2016 Sidoarjo Regency attended the CityNet Services programme, where Sidoarjo Regency delegation visited Seoul Metropolitan Government to learn on Seoul City’s outstanding policies in the field of ICT, water management, and public health. Through this activity CityNet played a key role in connecting the two public hospitals and establishing a MoU. Further Cooperation between the two hospitals are planned to continue in 2018.

To improve disaster management in CityNet member cities, the Seoul Metropolitan Fire and Disaster Headquarters (SMFDH) contributed its decommissioned but fully functional fire engines to select CityNet members.

Based on several considerations and selection process with the SMFDH, Colombo Municipal Council in Sri Lanka was selected as the recipient for 2017. SMFDH is then responsible for a training workshop to transfer the knowledge on the use and maintenance of the fire engines.
The CityNet National Chapters (NC) are a part of the network’s decentralization strategies. As the organisation continues to expand, the main goal for National Chapters is to become sustainable champions through locally sourced funds. As CityNet champions in the region, it is expected that National Chapters reach out for new membership and initiate innovative activities.

CityNet National Chapter allows CityNet to expand through membership recruitment and its programmes in the National Chapter regions.

National Chapters are expected to facilitate cooperation between cities and organisations in the region and allow potential new member municipalities or organizations to be able to experience the benefits of CityNet.

Currently, there are 6 National Chapters: Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Nepal and Sri Lanka with the Philippines being the newest National Chapter that was approved at the 2017 CityNet Congress.
A. Bangladesh

The National Chapter Bangladesh completed the approved project from the previous year that aimed to enhance disaster resilience of community, children and youth through awareness and capacity building programmes on disaster risk reduction for communities to better respond when disasters occur. Some of the outcomes included the establishment of a Disaster Resource Center, increased community awareness, and the formation of Disaster Management Committee and Community Volunteer Group.

B. India

Established in 2013, CityNet National Chapter India is led by the Housing and Urban Development Corporation (HUDCO) that planned on establishing themselves as the focal point for all CityNet related activities in India. They will be working on identifying themes and priority areas for future work related to urban development and support the CityNet activities by coordination among members in the region.

C. Indonesia

Mayor of Balikpapan as the host of National Chapter Indonesia until 2017 held the 2017 CityNet National Chapter Indonesia Congress consisting of the election for the new president of the National Chapter and the discussion on upcoming activities. Following the election, CityNet welcomed the new President City - Sidoarjo Regency - led by Regent Saiful Ilah for the period of 2017 to 2021. With the new leadership, CityNet Indonesia intends to promote the network to other cities and expand the Chapter’s programmes including community empowerment activities and increased engagement with the private sector.

D. Nepal

The member municipalities of the CityNet National Chapter Nepal, led by Municipal Association of Nepal (MUAN), are currently in the phase of submitting requests for projects, which is to be held during the National Chapter Nepal General Assembly and the Working Committee meetings. With the increase in the municipalities nationwide, the chapter will now focus on increasing membership and working with them. Likewise, it will emphasize on strengthening of Regional Learning Centres (RLCs). RLCs are the learning centres or hub for knowledge exchange between the municipalities. Currently, there are six RLCs for 265 municipalities (including newly declared municipalities) however, their capacity needs to be strengthened. Hence, National Chapter Nepal will focus on such projects in the years to come.

E. Philippines

The newest addition CityNet National Chapter Philippines is led by Makati City as the President of the Chapter. The proposed goals of this National Chapter is to promote cooperation and expertise exchange among CityNet members in the country which will develop local government’s capacity in urban development, and to build strong partnership among various stakeholders at a local level. The priority activity at this early stage is to have capacity building within Metro Manila cities, use of smart city concept in the urban planning and improve governance with the help of CityNet.

F. Sri Lanka

National Chapter Sri Lanka was established in 1997 in Colombo with the prime objective to decentralize its operations and to actively connect with its members. The Secretariat is located and hosted by the Colombo Municipal Council (CMC) and is an umbrella organization of the municipal councils of Sri Lanka consisting of 23 municipal councils.

In 2017 a Teacher Training on Primary Education was successfully completed in September 2017 under the guidance of the CityNet Yokohama Project Office, which enabled teachers to understand how children of various ages recognize various learning methodologies. In addition, a community learning centre project for urban underprivileged children in Colombo was completed in partnership with CityNet Associate member / local NGO – Sevanatha - and the Community Development Council of the area.
Community Development Project on Participatory Development Planning

Following the success of the 2016 National Chapter Indonesia’s project implemented in Bandung coordinated by the Bandung Creative City Forum (BCCF), CityNet initiated to replicate this success in Surabaya in collaboration once again with BCCF and the Surabaya Creative Network. “Aksiku Gawe Sub: A Path toward Youth Engagement in Participatory Development Planning” in Surabaya Municipality, Indonesia, was the first youth based participatory development planning process in the city. It engaged 75 high school students, 15 undergraduate students and 3 lectures from a local university, 5 members of Karang Taruna (youth organization), and 5 young designers from Bandung as design thinking facilitators.

The project emphasized the active participation of the youth in the city aimed at providing potential solutions to the urban challenges facing the city. Solutions and outcomes from the project included revitalization of traditional markets waste management systems and river bank aesthetics by creating story-lined murals showing a better waste management system. Through activities that were carried out, this project has increased the cleanliness awareness among the community as well as highlighted the active participation of the young generation in city planning.
V. Clusters

Cluster election was held at the respective cluster meeting as part of the 2017 CityNet Congress for the position of cluster leader and co-leader:

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<td>Kuala Lumpur City Hall</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Government</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sustainable Development</td>
<td>Barisal City Corporation</td>
<td>Center for Urban Studies, All India Institute</td>
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<tr>
<td>Goals</td>
<td></td>
<td>of Local Self Government, Housing and Urban</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Development Corporation (HUDCO), League of</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Cities of the Philippines</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
A. Climate Change

The Climate Change Cluster missions are to facilitate collaboration among cluster members on ways to combat climate change, to develop a shared and systematic understanding over potential threats related to the climate change, and to strengthen leadership competence and maintain responsive mindset to accommodate innovative initiatives in establishing multistakeholder collaborative climate actions.

The first phase of the “Climate Leadership Programme: For a Better, Greener, and smarter City towards Resilient and Sustainable City” was successfully held from 28-30 August 2017 hosted by Jakarta Capital City Government as the Cluster Leader and was attended by over 40 urban leaders and stakeholders. The objective of this three-phase programme is to anticipate future climate risks and opportunities, and to cultivate a new more collaborative leadership at all levels for a more adaptive initiatives and sustainable resiliency.

Leaders from urban stakeholders will make use of their strengthened leadership competencies to build cross-sectoral networks, initiate transformational changes at individual, organizational and network levels and develop innovative prototypes. The second phase of this leadership programme is scheduled in 2018.

B. Disaster

The 10th CityNet Disaster Cluster Seminar in Yokohama was organized from August 31 to September 3, 2017 with over 120 participants attending from 16 cities and 2 institutions. The seminar was organized in collaboration with the World Bank Tokyo Disaster Risk Management (DRM) Hub. Representatives from five World Bank client countries also attended the seminar as part of the Technical Knowledge Exchange on Emergency Preparedness and Response, organized by the World Bank DRM Hub.

The Disaster Cluster also carried out several major activities that included city-to-city cooperation on Community Based Adaptation and Resilience Against Disasters Project (CBARAD), training on structural and seismic engineering, and study visits for Makati DRRM Planning Team and Taipei City Fire Bureau to Yokohama City.
C. Infrastructure

The infrastructure cluster mission is to strengthen mutual integration and human-centered approach among the cluster members in the process of cultivating various urban problem-solving abilities through cluster activities. A number of training courses and seminar were organised with a support of the Seoul Metropolitan Government as the Infrastructure Cluster leader. The Cluster plan in 2018 is to expand members’ knowledge through workshops and seminars and promote partnership agreements for practical intercity policy exchange.

D. SDGs

The main objectives of the SDG Cluster are to support efforts of Asian cities to attain their SDGs mainly through capacity building and technical assistance, and to assist in developing outcome-oriented monitoring and evaluation system in order to measure progress and assess roadblocks in SDG implementation.

In 2017 the SDG Cluster supported workshops in Thimphu, Bhutan and Barisal, Bangladesh in February and March respectively. The participants were not only from the local government but also the NGOs and other professionals.

Thimphu sent 26 participants and Barisal City Corporation sent 19 participants. The Society For Development Studies (SDS) also conducted workshop for 38 officials from 24 cities in Asia and Africa for SDGs.
VI. Members Outreach
A. Indonesia

During the 2017 CityNet Congress held in Colombo, Sri Lanka, three legislative meetings that included a general election were conducted for the main office bearer positions. As a result, several Indonesian cities hold key positions within CityNet namely Bogor as the Executive Committee member, Jakarta as the Climate Change Cluster Leader, and Sidoarjo as the new host of the National Chapter.

The Secretariat representatives paid a visit to these cities in December 2017 to initiate a regular communication and collaboration for the upcoming programmes. During the visit to Sidoarjo Regency, the newly-elected National Chapter Indonesia leader, Regent Saiful Ilah, elaborated on the Chapter’s development plan and showcased how the city works closely with the private sector that has also contributed to the city’s development.

In addition, the visit to Indonesia was a great opportunity to express CityNet’s gratitude to Surabaya as one of the former Executive Committee members for the period of 2014-2017, while at the same time to invite the Indonesia’s second biggest city to continue their active support to the network.
B. Malaysia

Represented by the CityNet Assistant Secretary General and Director General of International Cooperation Bureau Hoiseung Lee, CityNet Secretariat officially visited Kuala Lumpur City Hall to invite one of CityNet’s largest cities’ proactive engagement with the network particularly leading to the 2017 CityNet Congress.

Through the discussions, Kuala Lumpur Deputy Mayor Datuk Mahadi bin Che Ngah expressed the city’s intention to be more active in the network and will increase engagement with CityNet in a leading role. Kuala Lumpur also stated its interest in contributing to the SDG and Infrastructure clusters. In this regard there are several projects of which Kuala Lumpur shared such as their “River of Life” public space project in revitalizing the river areas and their new launched Mass Rapid Transit (MRT) which has reduced the traffic congestion in the city.

C. Philippines

CityNet’s recent mission to Makati City, Philippines on December 22, 2017 was a follow up to the National Chapter Philippine discussions at the Congress to provide guidance on the National Chapter formation.

Prior to the 2017 CityNet Congress proper, the CityNet Secretariat had a chance to visit Colombo Municipal Council(CMC), Sri Lanka as part of the Congress preparation and to thank VKA Anura as the CMC Municipal Commissioner for hosting the 2017 CityNet Congress as well as gathering the support to ensure the success of the Congress. CityNet presented the CMC with background on CityNet activities and detailed information on the Congress. In addition, CityNet met the National Chapter Sri Lanka members and facilitated discussions for their active participation and involvement on future CityNet activities.
VII. Global Advocacy
### VII. Global Advocacy

Another important role that CityNet has played throughout 2017 is advocating at global level. The network took part in global platform to raise the awareness in the sustainable urban planning development as well as to voice its support and inspirations to the other international organisations, which are committed to address urban challenges.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Official Mission</th>
<th>Place</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>February</td>
<td>8th East Asia Summit High Level Seminar on Sustainable Cities</td>
<td>Chiang Rai</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>March</td>
<td>4th Asia Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development</td>
<td>Bangkok</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>April</td>
<td>United Nations Advisory Committee of Local Authorities</td>
<td>Istanbul</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>May</td>
<td>Asia Foundation – Shifting to Planned Urbanization: The Role of Development and South-South Cooperation in Implementing the New Urban Agenda</td>
<td>Manila</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>June</td>
<td>United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs - United Nations Public Service Forum - The Future is now: Accelerating Public Service Innovation for Agenda 2030</td>
<td>Netherlands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>June</td>
<td>European Chamber of Commerce in Korea (ECCK) Green Working Group (GWG) presentation and panel discussion on Global Trends: Smart &amp; Sustainable Cities</td>
<td>Seoul</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>June</td>
<td>Innovative Governance of Large Urban Systems (IGLUS)– Seminar on Smart Cities</td>
<td>Seoul</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>July</td>
<td>3rd ASEAN Mayors Forum</td>
<td>Taguig</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>September</td>
<td>2017 Urban Environmental Accords Melaka Summit</td>
<td>Melaka</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>November</td>
<td>Asia Innova 2017: Connecting Smart Cities Between Asia and Europe</td>
<td>Spain</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>November</td>
<td>United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific Sustainable Development Goals Week</td>
<td>Bangkok</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>December</td>
<td>Asia Pacific Leaders Forum: Open Government for Inclusive Development</td>
<td>Jakarta</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Stefanos Fotinou represents ESCAP, Hoi Seung Lee represents Seoul Metropolitan Government, and Vallop Suwandee represents CityNet as a Vice President City (Bangkok) exchange MoU on the Urban SDG Knowledge platform at the 4th Asia Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development in Bangkok.

CityNet Special Advisor Mary Jane Ortega speaks at the Asia Foundation event - Shifting to Planned Urbanization: The Role of Development and South-South Cooperation in Implementing the New Urban Agenda.

CityNet Deputy Secretary General Sangbum Kim speaks at the United Nations Public Service Forum and Awards Ceremony in The Hague under the theme “The Future is Now: Accelerating Public Service Innovation for Agenda 2030”.

CityNet ANNUAL REPORT
VIII. Publication
VIII. Publication

CityVoices magazine, published twice yearly, is a collection of experiences and reflections on CityNet projects as experienced by partners and member city officials. Each issue focuses on a particular theme related to CityNet’s mission to build sustainable and people-friendly cities.

RECIPRO:CITY is the official publication of the Urban SDG Knowledge Platform that supports the knowledge sharing of best cases on urban policies. The Urban SDG Knowledge Platform is a follow up of the 2016 Urban SDG Forum, and the Asia Pacific region’s resolve to answer the APUF-6 Jakarta Call for Action. The project, through exchange of exemplary sustainable urban development cases, fosters collaborative efforts and city-to-city cooperation to further enable cities to develop and adopt innovative solutions to share urban challenges in the Asia Pacific region.
IX. New Members
New Members

CityNet would like to give a warm welcome to its nine newest CityNet members, four cities as full members and five associate and corporate members.

1. Full Membership

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City</th>
<th>Country</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Seongdong-gu</td>
<td>Korea</td>
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<tr>
<td>Seodaemun-gu</td>
<td>Korea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mandaue City</td>
<td>Philippines</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tasikmalaya Regency</td>
<td>Indonesia</td>
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</table>

2. Associate Membership

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City/Organization/Company</th>
<th>Country</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Korea Smart Card</td>
<td>Korea</td>
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<tr>
<td>Seoul Metro</td>
<td>Korea</td>
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<tr>
<td>International Climate Development Institute (ICDI)</td>
<td>Chinese Taipei</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lekhnath Small Town Water Supply &amp; Sanitation User Committee</td>
<td>Nepal</td>
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<tr>
<td>Plus Arts NPO</td>
<td>Japan</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

CityNet is a unique member-driven organization which has grown from 26 members at its inception in 1987 to 139 members in over 20 countries in the Asia-Pacific region.

Today, the comprehensive CityNet network includes city governments, national level organizations, development authorities, non-governmental organizations, private companies and community-based organizations. Network operations are funded by annual membership fees. Programmes, projects and activities are funded through the network’s partnerships with donor agencies.

CityNet strives to meet the changing needs of members and most importantly to listen to its members to successfully and continually implement relevant programmes and activities.

How to Become a CityNet Member

Eligibility Criteria

Any city government, authority, development authority, association of local authorities, non-governmental organization, community-based organization, institution, or corporation, that shares the objectives and vision of CityNet may apply for membership.

Contact Us

For more information on any of CityNet programmes or projects, or to support its activities, please check CityNet website at www.citynet-ap.org or contact the Secretariat at info@citynet-ap.org.
Partners we worked with in 2017
CityNet is the largest association of urban stakeholders committed to sustainable development in the Asia Pacific region. Established in 1987 with the support of UNESCAP, UNDP and UN-Habitat, the Network of cities has grown to include more than 135 municipalities, NGOs, private companies and research centers. CityNet connects actors, exchanges knowledge and builds commitment to more sustainable and resilient cities.