Building, Roads, and Public Spaces

BREAKOUT SESSION SUMMARY

With the rapid pace of urbanization coupled with better economic opportunities in urban areas, cities are being pushed to expand, placing an increasing amount of pressure on their built infrastructure. In this breakout session, ASCN members pinpointed their common problems faced in, and innovative approaches toward, the provision of affordable housing, revitalization of urban areas, preservation of historical districts, and more.

***NOTE** – the topics are based on the ASEAN Sustainable Urbanization Strategy (ASUS) **Action 2** "Develop and expand affordable housing solutions".*

ATTENDEES

Cities – Bangkok, Luang Prabang, Seberang Perai, Vientiane Province

Corporations – Hyundai, Lotte, WSP

Institutions – Global Green Growth Institute, Korea Research Institute for Human Settlements, Re-Imagining Cities, Seoul Urban Solutions Agency

Built Infrastructure – *Bangkok*

PRESENTATION Bangkok's ongoing projects, key challenges, and future plans of built infrastructure.

DISCUSSION Inevitable expanding rate of growth, inherent strategic locations, competitiveness existing in the region, and attractive features accommodating investors.

Parks & Open Spaces – *Luang Prabang*

PRESENTATION Luang Prabang's urban development and planning on a World Heritage Site, including its master plan and the challenges in urban management.

DISCUSSION Limited budget, rapid urban expansion, land used change, and people movement. Natural environment decreased from urban development and no proper water/solid waste management.

Built Infrastructure – *Vientiane Province*

PRESENTATION Vientiane Province's urban development master plan in the central urban area of Vientiane Hills, including the objective and description of the project area.

DISCUSSION Demands for the development of Vientiane Hills and factors for consideration with regard to public interest.

RECOMMENDATIONS

(1) Implement projects in line with local requirements and investor expectations.

(2) Offer attractive intrinsic financial schemes and benefits to private sector partners.

(3) Promote PPPs in funds and phased micro-projects (small projects).

(1) Types and time frames of tourism should be managed according to the capacity.

(2) Improve the road infrastructure and construction of bridges.

(3) Eco-friendly expansion in eco-tourism concept: flexibility in reacting to change.

(1) Solve natural challenges and environmental factors with government regulations.

(2) Use new development to incentivize tourism.

(3) Create new demand for development by involving the people who have pride and love for their city.

TAKEAWAYS

- ➔ **Point 1:** Bangkok should consider finishing the Grand Station project with support from the Government to continue development of the station.
- ➔ **Point 2:** Luang Prabang should consider revising its master plan to improve road and building infrastructure.
- ➔ **Point 3:** Vientiane Province should consider how the demand for development will be created and whether such development will be a solution to its challenges.

Traffic Management & Public Safety

BREAKOUT SESSION SUMMARY

Traffic congestion is a growing problem across ASEAN cities, as traffic management infrastructure is not suited for the constant increase in urban population and private vehicles. This does not only have a significant economic cost, but it is also a hazard in terms of safety and environment. The purpose of this workshop was to discuss common problems ASEAN cities are facing in this field, as well as how traffic management systems can help improve public safety.

***NOTE** - The topics are based on the ASEAN Sustainable Urbanization Strategy (ASUS) **Action 5**: Introduce and Improve Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Systems, and **Action 6:** Develop and Enhance Traffic Management Systems.*

ATTENDEES

Cities – San Fernando

Corporations – Greencharge

Institutions – Korea Local Information Research & Development Institute, Korea Transport Institute, Smart Cities Council

Agencies –Digital Economy Promotion Agency of Thailand

Academia – Seoul National University University of Seoul

TOPIC 1: Effective Public Transportation Services – Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Systems – *Cebu City*

BRT systems are considered especially important in resolving the issue of traffic congestion in ASCN cities as the cost for implementation is lower than light rail systems (LRT), but almost as efficient for middle-sized cities.

PRESENTATION Cebu City's plans to introduce a BRT system in the city by 2025, the first one in the Philippines.

QUESTION *Given that the success of a BRT does not only lie in its construction but also in its adoption rate by citizens, what key features should a successful BRT system contain?* Discussants were asked to take the point of view of either citizens or a mayor.

CONCLUSIONS Citizen-focused tables emphasized the need for comfort and convenience, connectivity and easy-access, and affordability as well as easy payment systems. Mayor-focused tables also mentioned the importance of connectivity and integration with other public transportation systems, accessibility, and convenience. Focus was given to financial aspects such as the costs of implementation and use, and subsidization vs. privatization, as well as actual features of the BRT such as traffic lights and dedicated lanes.

TAKEAWAYS

Education about the benefits of the BRT and other similar measures are important for the successful implementation of a BRT. However, from the discussions above, we can conclude that including certain things that citizens consider important as well are another way of ensuring the success of the BRT:

(1) Having an **overall transportation plan** including other modes of transportation. This includes plans to improve or increase the integration of different modes of transportation, logistically but also through a unified payment system, for instance.

(2) Although the relative simplicity and affordability of building a BRT system are what makes it a good choice for ASEAN cities, it is crucial to **invest in features that makes the ride convenient and comfortable** for citizens. This includes high-tech initiatives as well, such as a system showing real-time information about bus departure and arrival times, A/C, and measures that increase safety.

TOPIC 2: Traffic Management and Public Safety using New Technologies – *Phuket*

PRESENTATION Presentation on Phuket's public safety initiatives, mostly in terms of maritime security, but also the wide reach of CCTV and how the city applies face recognition technology.

➔ *Further discussion is needed on (1) how the technologies applied in Phuket can be used in other areas, and (2) the limits and dangers of such technologies, and ways to mitigate such.*

Solid Waste and Wastewater Management

BREAKOUT SESSION SUMMARY

The breakout session was organized to help find solutions to the solid waste and wastewater problems that ASCN cities face. Thematic presentations, as well as the SCAPs, helped inform the discussions that transpired during the session.

***NOTE** – the topics are based on the ASEAN Sustainable Urbanization Strategy (ASUS) **Action 4** "Enhance solid waste management systems" and **Action 7** "Develop flood management systems".*

ATTENDEES

Cities – Battambang Province and Municipality, Kuching North, Kuching South, Luang Prabang, Sarawak State
Corporations – Data Alliance, Ecube Labs, Veolia
Institutions – Korea Environment Institute (KEI), Seoul Urban Solutions Agency (SUSA)
International Organizations – Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI), Local Governments for Sustainability (ICLEI), United Nations Development Program (UNDP)
Academia – Seoul Institute

Topic #1: – *Smart Cities & Solid Waste Management (GGGI)*

- Rethinking waste from crisis to opportunity in the ASCN urban setting
- Benefits of tech applied to waste management and smart waste cases

Topic #2: – *Data-driven Waste Management (Data Alliance, SUSA)*

- Benefits of using IoT in waste management and outcomes of data-driven solutions
- Multi-stakeholder cooperation in finding solutions to waste problems

Topic #3: – *Wastewater Management Investment in Korea (Korea Environment Institute)*

- Importance of establishing policies to manage wastewater
- Investing in infrastructure for solving wastewater challenges
- Learning from the current sewage policy and use of smart technologies in Korea
- Institutional change from supply to service and ownership

KEY DISCUSSION OUTCOMES:

Table #1 – Luang Prabang and Kuching North

1) Compost waste and implementing a safe waste incineration process
2) Create a marketplace for organic waste
3) Use biogas as an affordable solution for waste management
4) Implement alternative ways to finance waste management

Table #2 – Kuching South

1) Implementing tech on all the steps of the waste lifecycle
2) Increasing government support and financing of waste management
3) Create waste profiles for more effective classification and introducing a buy-back scheme
4) Increase civic participation

Table #3 – Battambang Province and Municipality

1) Implement smart bins and volume-based waste disposal fees
2) Increase competition by supporting private players in waste management
3) Transform waste to energy

Table #4 – Sarawak State

1) Use IoT in waste management processes
2) Provide incentives for households
3) Ensure continuity after introducing new waste management solutions

TAKEAWAYS

- **Point 1:** ASCN cities should consider not only applying modern technologies, but also creative yet affordable ways to better manage waste and wastewater.
- **Point 2:** New schemes and partnerships need to be explored to finance waste and wastewater management initiatives and bring long-term increase in revenue.
- **Point 3:** Local governments need to involve citizens in the waste and wastewater management process by educating them, involving them in policy making, and providing them incentives.
- **Point 4:** Cooperation among different stakeholders and entities is vital to bridge expertise between urban actors to come up with more effective and inclusive urban solutions.