earoph

Eastern Regional Organisation for Planning and Human Settlements

Changing Cities, Building Opportunities

WORLD HABITAT DAY 2012

CONFERENCE REPORT

1ST OCTOBER 2012, PUTRAJAYA, MALAYSIA

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1.0 Introduction

World Habitat Day 2012

World Habitat Day is annually observed on the first Monday of October to reflect on the state of human settlements and people's right to sufficient shelter. Officially designated by the United Nations in 1986, the day is aim to remind people that they are responsible for the habitat of our future generations and to date many countries all over the world celebrates this special day and Malaysia is no exception.

Every year new themes are identified for the world to address and for local actions to be implemented. Among the themes are 'Shelter for the Homeless" (1987); "Our Neighbourhood" (1995); "Future Cities" (1997); "Safer Cities" (1998); "Women in Urban Governance" (2000); "Cities without Slums" (2001), "Water and Sanitation for Cities" (2003), "Harmonious Cities" (2008), "Planning our Urban Future" (2009), "Better City, Better Life" (2010) and "Cities and Climate Change" (2011).

The theme for 2012 celebration is "**Changing Cities, Building Opportunities**". As more than half of humanity, 3 billion people, now lives in cities and urban areas, cities have changed dramatically and now seek continuous solutions to cater for its growing needs. Malaysian cities too are experiencing growth rapidly, with more than 64% of its population now living in cities, it has strained the country's urban resources and the Nation is challenged to provide for quality urban living, sufficient urban amenities, high quality urban infrastructure as well as provision of parks, greens and quality built environment.

However, today some cities in the world are resilient and have addressed these challenges as opportunities to change and better themselves. Some of these cities have transformed sustainably as it response to create better cities with dynamic economic growth; providing better quality of life, better jobs and better urban spaces in its cities.

2012 Celebration and Observance in Malaysia

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This year, World Habitat Day was celebrated on the 1st October 2012 and in conjunction with this, a conference was organized by EAROPH in Malaysia with the support of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government Malaysia. The conference gathered community leaders, professionals, decision makers, developers and administrators of cities, regions and townships in Malaysia to discuss on matters pressing to local communities and built environment and to encouraged them to renew their commitments over their responsibility to the livelihood of communities and future generations.

The half-day conference was held at the Putrajaya Convention Centre, Putrajaya City, Malaysia and was officiated by the Deputy Secretary General (Policy and Development), Ministry of Housing and Local

Government, Malaysia. The conference the started with the presentation of a Lead Paper from Mr Hamdan Majeed, the Executive and Founding Director of Think City Sdn Bhd, an urban regeneration company, wholly owned by Khazanah Nasional Berhad. Mr Hamdan spoke on Cities, People and Economy – sharing with the participants a book he co-wrote in 2010 (Cities, People and Economy by Homi Kharas, Albert Zeufack and Hamdan Majeed, Khazanah Nasional Berhad and the World Bank, 2010). Three other speakers shared local and global experience and they are:-

1. Dato' Ismail Ibrahim – CEO of Iskandar Regional Development Authority - A Changing Urban Region – Opportunities for Economic and Social Growth in Iskandar Malaysia and the Role of Governance;
2. William Lau Hui Lay – President, Singapore Institute of Planners - Singapore Changing City – Challenges and Opportunities in Managing Resources; and
3. Dr Lee Jayong, Korean Research Institute on Human Settlements (KRIHS) - Implementation of Smart City in Korea in response to Climate Change.

1st October 2012 • Hall 6, Putrajaya Convention Centre, Putrajaya

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5.0 Technical Papers

5.1 Lead Paper - Cities, people and Economy

Hamdan Majid, Executive and Founding Director of Think City Sdn Bhd

Hamdan Majeed

Executive and Founding Director of Think City Sdn Bhd,

An urban regeneration company of Khazanah Nasional Berhad. Hamdan has an interest in the development of civil society in Malaysia, the political economy of Third World and Islam. He is actively involved in activities and discussions in the areas of economics and socio-political development, world affairs and religion.

a. Summary of Paper

The improvement of mobility system, cities have reached to the larger territorial scale. This changer as change the function or structure of the city as City became the place for live, play and work. However many urban issues had risen in city level. Therefore this paper discussed on the importance of city transformation programme had transform and into vibrant and sustainability.

b. Key Highlights

- Penang: A case study (From Port City - Industrial City – Knowledge City)
- Challenges of Penang
  - Lack of planning control & development
  - Loss of own identity
  - Traffic congestion
  - Bad street infrastructure
  - Lack of traffic control
  - Urban heat island (2°C increase over last 2 years)
  - River pollution
  - Marine water quality getting worst
  - Unsustainable water & infrastructure planning
  - Decline of quality of life
  - Decline of population growth
- Penang Solution

5.4 Paper 3 – Implementation of Smart City in Korea in response to Climate Change

Dr Jae Yong Lee, Korean Research Institute on Human Settlements (KRIHS)

a. About the Speaker

Dr. Jae Yong Lee

Associate Research Fellow, Korea Research Institute for Human Settlements (KRIHS)

He was the Director of The Presidential Council for Future & Vision.

He was the project manager for U-City Industry Invigoration Method, MLTM, U-Eco City Testbed Comprehensive and Strategic Plan, Ansan U-City BTL Project Management.

He was also the project researcher for U-City Trend Analysis and Future Technology Development Strategy and The Production of the National Base Map and the Establishment of the Master Plan for the National Spatial Data Infrastructure in Cambodia

b. Summary of Paper

Ubiquitous City (U-City) is a new paradigm shift of technology. It's about smart infrastructure (e.g. chip, censor, CCTV, etc.) and intelligent facilities (e.g. sending report/message through mobile phone). Today, the trends are changing and cities have become more competitive. The paper discussed on how the ubiquitous technology can be used in the city and how can construction technology combined with information technology. Through the existence of U-City, Korea is now aim to have a world class infrastructure and industries.

c. Key Highlights

- Korea's Urban Development:
  - 1950s: Post-war Restoration Stage
  - 1960s – 1970s: Industrialisation / Economic Development Stage
  - 1980s – 1990s: Housing shortage relief stage
  - Early 2000: Housing + self-sufficiency stage
- Increase competitiveness of a city

d. Recommendations

- Create new services and infrastructure where both elements complement each other.
- Main body of the U-City Construction:
  - Central Government
  - Local Government
  - IT Business

Appendix – Paper Presentation