Cities’ Leading Roles for SDGs

September 26, 2018

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UNU-IAS
1. Development of SDGs
2. International Actions for SDGs
3. Japan’s Initiatives for SDGs
Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) (Sep. 2015)

17 Goals and 169 Targets were adopted at the UN General Assembly (Sep. 2015)
Background of the SDGs

Following-up remaining issues of the MDGs

1. **Eradicate Extreme Poverty and Hunger**
2. **Achieve Universal Primary Education**
3. **Promote Gender Equality and Empower Women**
4. **Reduce Child Mortality**
5. **Improve Maternal Health**
6. **Combat HIV/AIDS, Malaria and Other Diseases**
7. **Ensure Environmental Sustainability**
8. **Global Partnership for Development**

Serious Consideration of Planetary Boundaries

Policy making process with a wide range of stakeholders

Steffen et al. (2015)
Contents

1. Development of SDGs
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3. Japan’s Initiatives for SDGs
2-1 Global Implementation

Global

- Holding of the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF) at the UN headquarters in July every year under the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC).

- Theme in Each Year
  - 2018: Transformation towards sustainable and resilient Societies

Goals reviewed at HLPF 2018

- 6 Clean Water and Sanitation
- 7 Affordable and Clean Energy
- 11 Sustainable Cities and Communities
- 12 Responsible Consumption and Production
- 15 Life on Land
- 17 Partnerships for the Goals
Goal 11: To realize inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable cities and habitats

- SDG 11 focuses on cities and habitats covering a wide range of issues related to cities: habitats, transport, disasters, environment, culture and natural heritage,

- SDG 11 is interlinked with other goals such as SDG 3 on Health and Welfare, SDG 4 on Quality Education, SDG 5 on Gender, SDG 6 on Water and Sanitation and SDG 8 on Employment,

- SDG 11 encourages stakeholders to take actions by providing them with the forum.
The New Urban Agenda

• Adopted by HABITAT III, in Quito, October 2016
• Provides the international community with guidance in localizing SDGs as the international guidelines for realizing sustainable cities
HLPF2018 Side-event
Sustainable Cities in Asia

- Organized by the Government of Japan, UNESCAP and UNU with support from UNHABITAT, UCLG and IGES,
- Explored solutions to the common challenges faced by cities in the region,
- Identified roles of cities and local governments in achieving SDGs,
- Reaffirmed to further regional and sub-regional cooperation in achieving SDGs.
The Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development (APFSD) is organized in March every year to develop a roadmap and support toward SDGs implementation and capacity building at the regional level;

The United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) serves APFSD as its secretariat; and

The UNU-IAS developed guidelines for partnership in SDGs implementation in close collaboration with ESCAP in March 2018 to support ESCAP member states.
9th EAS High-level Seminar on Sustainable Cities
March 2018, Siem Reap

- Date: 8 - 10 March 2018
- Venue: Siem Reap, Cambodia
- Organizers: Government of Cambodia, Government of Japan, ASEAN Secretariat, ASEAN Working Group on Environmentally Sustainable Cities
UNU-IAS and UN-ESCAP partnership

Help improve existing partnerships

Provide practical and step-by-step guidance

Promote inclusiveness to achieve Sustainable Development Goals

Support capacity-building
Implementation in Asian Countries

- **Inter-ministry cooperation, reinforcement of organization**
  - Clarifying responsibility of implementation (mapping)
    - India
  - Establishment of a coordinating agency
    - Indonesia, Philippines, Turkmenistan, Armenia, China, Japan
  - Establishment of a specialized agency
    - Sri Lanka

- **Reflecting SDGs to domestic law**
  - Indonesia, Pakistan

- **National development plan**
  - China, Philippines, Azerbaijan

- **Implementation plan for SDGs has been developed in each country**
Research Programmes by United Nations University (UNU)

1. Sustainable Societies
   - Sustainable solutions through activities on education and knowledge generation
     - Governance for Sustainable Development
     - Education for Sustainable Development (ESD)
     - Water for Sustainable Development

2. Natural Capital and Biodiversity
   - Promotion of sustainable use of biodiversity and ecosystem services
     - International Partnership for SATOYAMA Initiative
     - Ecosystem Services Assessment

3. Global Change and Resilience
   - Developing approaches for adaptation/mitigation to climate change
     - Low Carbon Technology Transfer
     - Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR)
Inclusive Research on Integrated Implementation Methodology Towards Achievement of SDGs

Sub theme 1: Establishment of assessment indicators
(National Institute for Environmental Studies, Japan)

- Development of indicators with a view to the post Fifth Basic Environment Plan
  - Inclusively sorting out existing indicators
  - Examination of integrated indicators using SDGs (social, economic and environmental aspects)
  - Investigation in effectiveness and meaning of indicators

Sub theme 2: Government and SDGs
(United Nations University Institute for the Advanced Study of Sustainability)

- Research on governance for achievement of SDGs at national level
  (International comparison of administrative systems at central governments)
- Case studies of Japanese local governments towards achievement of SDGs at sub-national level

Sub theme 3: Private sectors and SDGs
(Keio University)

- Effective SDGs implementation and development of assessment methods in private sectors activities
  - Creation of new private governance and measurement through SDGs, based on analysis of consistent activities for multiple targets (cooperation with private companies) / Investment and SDGs

※This research was supported by the Environment Research and Technology Development Fund (1-1801) of the Environmental Restoration and Conservation Agency, Japan
UNU-IAS SDG Dialogue Series

- Initiative to promote discussions on SDGs from science community and policy makers
- Dialogue-style event to discuss ideas for achieving SDGs with experts from various fields
- Summary will be shared through Policy Briefs

Themes of the previous Dialogue

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2. International Actions for SDGs
3. Japan’s Initiatives for SDGs
3-1 SDGs Promotion Headquarters
(established in May 2016)

• Chaired by the Prime Minister,
• Consisting of all the Cabinet Members,
• Aims to develop and coordinate national framework policies and measures to achieve SDGs through identifying priority agenda,
• Formulated the “SDGs Implementation Guiding Principles” in December 2016, and
• Formulated Action Plan in December 2017.
3-2 SDGs Implementation Guiding Principles

• Developed by the SDGs Promotion Headquarters on 22 December 2016

• Major principles: 1) Universality, 2) Inclusiveness, 3) Participatory approach, 4) Integrated approach, 5) Transparency and accountability

• Follow-up: the first round of follow-up and review will be completed by 2019

Eight priority areas

(People)
1. Empowerment of All People
2. Achievement of Good Health and Longevity

(Prosperity)
3. Creating Growth Markets, Revitalization of Rural Areas, and Promoting Science Technology and Innovation
4. Sustainable and Resilient Land Use, Promoting Quality Infrastructure

(Planet)
5. Energy Conservation, Renewable Energy, Climate Change Countermeasures and Sound Material-Cycle Society
6. Conservation of Environment, including Biodiversity, Forests and the Oceans

(Peace)
7. Achieving Peaceful, Safe and Secure Societies

(Partnership)
8. Strengthening the Means and Frameworks for the Implementation of the SDGs
3-3 SDGs Action Plan 2018

(Developed by SDGs Promotion HQ, December 2017)

Promoting “Society 5.0”
- Achieving “Society 5.0” and “Productivity Revolution” to address social problems and potential needs which are raised by SDGs
- Following Keidanren’s revision of their “Charter of Corporate Behavior” to support private companies for their activities toward achieving SDGs

Local vitalization, resilient and green cities
- Revitalizing local communities and achieving resilient and green cities promoting SDGs in each community
- All the Ministries support model cities, and share their best practices

Empowerment of future generations and women
- Empowering future generations and women
- Implementing “Work Style Reforms”, “Law to Promoting Women in Workplace” and “Revolution in Human Resources Development”
- Promoting support for health, woman empowerment, education, disaster risk reduction from the perspective of human security
Aims to contribute to local vitalization through encouraging leading local governments selected as “SDGs Future Cities” by the government.

Among these selected cities and local governments, “SDGs Model Projects” are decided for the financial support from the government.

**SDGs Future Cities**

**Selection of the cities**
1. Activities of local governments for implementing SDGs
   - Creating future visions
   - Establishing system
   - Reviewing each plan
2. Implementation of projects toward achieving SDGs

**”SDGs Model Projects”**
1. Generating synergy between economy, society and environment
2. Developing “Autonomous Cycle”
3. Collaboration with multi-stakeholders

**Utilization of best practice**
Disseminating best practice of selected cities both domestically and internationally
- Organizing events
- Public relations to wide generations

Source: Cabinet Office
SDGs Future Cities Initiative

2008

Associations of stakeholders for Future Cities

2008

Environmental Model Cities

2011

Future Cities

(June 2018)

2011

SDGs Future Cities

Source: Prof. Shuzo Murakami, Cabinet Office
SDGs Future City Initiative
(Designated in June 2018)

SDGs Future City Initiatives

SDGs Future Cities with model projects
SDGs Future Cities

Hokkaido pref. Sapporo city Semboku city Iide town Nagano pref.
Suzu city Toyama city Hakusan city
Sakai city

Maniwa city Okayama city Ube city Kitakyushu city
Iki city

Oguni town

Hiroshima pref. Totsugawa vil.

Kamakura city Yokohama city

Shimokawa town Niseko town
Matsushima city Tsukuba city
Kanagawa pref.

Shizuoka city

Hamamatsu city

Toyota city

Kamikatsu town Shima city
Platform of Public and Private Partnership for Local Vitalization

- Aims to facilitate public and private partnership for SDGs implementation

Information Exchange  |  Discussion Groups  |  Public Awareness

Local Governments  |  Partnership  |  Private Sectors

Innovation

Local Vitalization through SDGs Implementation
1. In developing SDGs, stakeholders including cities were highlighted as the vehicle to implement the 2030 Agenda. The role of cities has been reflected in SDG 11;

2. A wide range of actions have been already taken by the countries in the region, and it is expected for cities to play a leading role in achieving SDGs; and

3. SDGs Future Cities Initiative will be playing a key role in implementing the 2030 Agenda together with ASEAN SDGs Frontier Cities programme.
Contribution to Sustainable Future by ASEAN SDGs Frontrunner Cities and ESC Model Cities