# ForUm NEWSLETTER

Forum for Urban Futures in Southeast Asia  
Network of Southeast Asian and German experts  
Issue No. 13 EXPERT SEMINAR IN THE PHILIPPINES 2011, NETWORK ACTIVITIES AND NEWS

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Greetings to all, ForUm newsletter No. 13 is finally delivered to you!

To get start, I wish to share that this newsletter is divided into four sections. The first section is the core, focusing on the 13th ForUm network seminar which took place from the 27 March to 6 April 2011. Under the ForUm header of 2011 ‘Urban Regional Networking’, the theme of the seminar was ‘Urban environmental and risk management in Southeast Asia’. The seminar was held in the Philippines involving three cities (Manila, Cebu and Cagayan de Oro) in three islands (Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao) which the members were impressively carried in three major transportation modes (in land, on the sea and in the air)! Stories about our formal activities in the Philippines are shared by Imelda, Noel and Dr. Boy in their email circulation to the members. The schedule summary is then followed. Also, find our visits and extra-co curriculum activities in the following pages after theirs!

In this seminar, we were pleased to welcome the new participants, including Mr. Prak Angkeara from Urban Planning and Construction Phnom Penh, Mr. Virunpob Supab from Regional Environment Office Khon Kaen, Dr. Muh Aris Marfai from Coastal Management and Watershed Programme, Universitas Gadjah Mada Yogyakarta, Ms. Le Thi Thuy Ha from Vietnam Institute of Architecture, Urban and Rural Planning (VIAP) as well as a lot of new local experts from the Philippines!

Special thanks for the group of assistants and coordinators during the Philippines seminar, notably Imelda who arranged Manila’s visits with the help from Shelby A. Ruiz who explained us the work of NDRRMC Philippines and accompanied us, and Rhea Lyn Dealca, who is a DAAD aluna that joined us in Manila! In Cebu, mixed varieties of programs have been arranged, not only that the university hosted the seminar but also a wide range of organizations and stakeholders of urban and coastal development participated! Especially Ramon Aboutiz Foundation (RAFI) supported the seminar and Evelyn Nacario-Castro, the executive director of the Development Studies Centre gave us a very lively example of fruitful urban networking. The entire arrangement has been tremendously supported by Loma and Remie Vestil, the latter whom with her ‘JOKE LANG’ classic! And the fantastic team of Noel, Dexter, Jocelyn (Josie) and Doodz who took care of us so well during our stay in Cagayan de Oro with their great hospitality accompanying us throughout the seminar there! Also, not to forget that Noel, beside all the colorful banners even created an extra ForUm logo for the seminar, which is indicated at the beginning of this editor’s note!!!

As expressed by Professor Kraas that, this is one of the most successful seminars of ForUm in terms of the stakeholders’ involvement and engagement in discussing the seminar theme. Our sharing of deep gratitude to our fellow members from the Philippines for the fruitful technical trips and wonderful hospitality was well-expressed by Ta Quynh Hoa in her email to the organizers. Having also Boy Mercado to cheer us up and give us the food of thoughts always either with the feedback in the 12th newsletter by ‘the old soul thinker’, and this time with ‘the shower of the young energy’. YES!!! We work hard, we work well, and we work together like a fully developed person, combining all the qualities in our fellow friends, happy go lucky pig, energetic monkey, stable and strong log, multi-talented duck and hardworking carabao! And what's more?!?!! Mr. Tan’s skillful creativity spells out with his frog-croaking email of appreciation, idea initiated by Professor Lee during our wonderful 13th ForUm seminar and further polished by another member of Club 50s, Dr. Boy, turning all of us to engage now in the urban frog ForUm!
Apart from capturing the memories in the Philippines, this newsletter has the second section that features the exchange activities among the ForUm members. Find us this time the ‘Field study on urban management in Kuala Lumpur’ which involved the ForUm members from Malaysia and Indonesia, taking place from 22 to 29 September 2011.

In addition to the members’ activities in Southeast Asia, share us in this newsletter the news on call for papers, study courses and scholarships which we can find in the third section. As we all already know, University of Cologne will be the host of the International Geographical Congress 2012. The second circular is now available and the call for paper/abstract will be accepted until the 15 December 2011 where there will be more than 140 thematic sessions to choose from! Let us contribute, participate and see us in IGC 2012 in Cologne! Moving from the tangible space to the cyber space is the special coverage on the creation of the new social ForUm community on Facebook, initiated by Lorna Manila. Ang galing mo! Padayon! Included also the overview of international study programs in Germany on ForUm homepage and the international research internships (RISE worldwide 2012) where DAAD funds the undergraduate German students to serve as research assistants. Closely followed is the announcement of scholarships and DAAD selected Postgraduate Courses 2012/13 with relevance to developing countries for professionals. As a DAAD alumna who just completed a 2-month research under the DAAD re-invitation program, I strongly encourage the members of the network to optimize the opportunities made available by the DAAD and also to spread this news to your prospect colleagues and students.

Ending this newsletter is the fourth section, a rather comprehensive and very useful collection of literatures and links related to urban studies in general and urban risk management in specific, thanks to Christine for her contribution and efforts!

Final words… When the draft of the 13th newsletter lied on my table in October 2011, coincide with the theme of the 13th ForUm seminar in the Philippines, our ForUm member countries, Thailand, Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos are hit by the flood, specifically Thailand is facing the worst event in the last 50 years. I guess many of us are following up the flood news in these countries. On behalf of ForUm members, I truly hope that the flood events would end soonest possible and the victims would have enough strength to go through the recovery process. In Malaysia, tangible financial aid campaigns have also been initiated and channeled by a few charitable organizations. As for now, be, our strength with the people, and go, our prayers for them... and echoing Hoa’s,

‘We work hard, we work well, we work together, because we always be with you.’

Goh, Hong Ching
Department of Geography
Universiti Malaya, Kuala Lumpur
section 1

SEMINAR IN THE PHILIPPINES
Dear Professors, Colleagues and Friends in ForUm,

The expert seminar in the Philippines will take place two weeks from now. As your coordinator in Manila, Christine has requested me to send you a brief invitation to the 1-day Manila introductory excursion. For most of you this won't really be your first visit, but for those who would like to have a preliminary (or most current) exposure to the megacity, this schedule was carved with you in mind. This (optional) Manila portion is really preliminary in the sense that this is the beginning of our expert seminar.

The excursion in Manila will take us to the office of the National Disaster and Risk Reduction Management Council (NDRRMC) of the Philippines on 26 March, a Saturday. The NDRRMC will present related policies, plans, programs and projects for Metro Manila especially after the great onslaught of Typhoon Ondoy in 2009 which flooded 80% of the metro area. This is planned for the morning (about 2 hours), while in the afternoon, to let us get a glimpse of what local government units are implementing to prevent another Ondoy and related disasters, the NDRRMC staff will bring us to the cities of Marikina and Pasig where some initiatives have recently kicked off in collaboration with donors and several agencies.

You are warmly invited to join the Manila visit! You would need to make bookings to arrive in Manila on the 25th. Manila participants would then leave Manila for Cebu the following day, 27 March. I will arrange for the group flight booking.

Kindly let me know if you would like to join so that I can arrange your hotel stay while in Manila and transport for the excursion. By the way, the Manila excursion would entail a maximum charge of 50euros.

Please let me know if you have questions, or better yet, you may directly contact Christine for any clarification.

Look forward to meeting you again in Manila and in Cebu and CDO.

Warmest regards,

Minks
Hi All!

Our ForUm Conference is fast approaching both for Cebu and Cagayan de Oro. We are already exited to see you all!

But first, from your arrival in Cagayan de Oro domestic airport, the team from the City Tourism, headed by Imma Ray Gatuslao, will fetch you and will bring you straight to Mallberry Suites Business Hotel. Don't miss the scenery from the airport. The domestic airport is located in uptown Cagayan de Oro and the Hotel is in the downtown new CBD at Limketkai Centre. This hotel was selected for the convenience of all participants in locating their basic needs and the easy access to conference venues. We want to give you a traffic-free and worry-free accommodation throughout your stay here in Cagayan de Oro City.

Through out the conferences, we would be shuttling from the hotel to the presentation venues, study areas and public spaces and places. The Cagayan de Oro leg is designed for all participants (local city planners and ForUm experts) to have good interaction and learning experience (see schedules). Other conference schedules were situated in universities for interested academicians to interact with international paper presenters. Networking and urban environmental and risk management is still a developing concept in Mindanao, if not in the Philippines, and ForUm's effort to bring the discussion to the locals will surely open new possibilities.

Welcome to Cagayan de Oro City!

Noel Cornel Alegre
ForUm Country Coordinator (Mindanao)
Philippines
Regional Urban Networks

On 27 March to 6 April 2011 an expert conference by the ForUm Network, which is composed of members from various academic and non-academic institutions from varied disciplines and expertise on Geography and Urban Studies in Southeast Asia and Germany, will take place at Cebu and Cagayan de Oro Cities in the Philippines. The group has been meeting twice a year since 2007 which started at the Institute of Geography in the University of Cologne, Germany and has moved to different countries in Southeast Asia. This forthcoming conference in the Philippines will be hosted by Capitol University, Xavier University, the National Economic and Development Agency (Region 7), and the Local Government of Cagayan de Oro City.

The Seminar is funded by the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD - Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst), Xavier University, Capitol University, NEDA R7 and the University of Cologne, Germany. There will be no participation fees for invited participants, and their expenses for travel, accommodation and meals will be covered by the DAAD.

The Conference Secretariat is still accepting abstracts which will close on March 6, 2011 (2nd deadline). Invitation for the conference will be announced on March 9, 2011.

Please send your abstracts to this email address: forum@g.cu.edu.ph.

In 2011 regional networks and the establishment of city-networks are in the focus of the activities and seminars of ForUm Network. In order to meet the demands of modern urban politics under the conditions of increasingly globalized competition, multi-level systems should be established. A core objective of the concept of multi-level systems is to align interests between the different actor groups through processes of governance and regulation. Strategic partnerships, their potentials and limits, as well as their consequences for the competitiveness of Southeast Asian cities, are central topics which thus far have not been analyzed adequately from a comparative perspective. Important research questions in this context are e.g. the increasing connections between Southeast Asian states in terms of international labour migration, international investments and trade flows as well as international impulses for urban infrastructure and architecture, international concepts for the management of urban heritage and cooperation and exchange of concepts in management of urban environmental risk management. The conference seeks to catalyze local-regional-global discussions on the inter and intra-relation of urban networks in the preparation, planning and implementation of urban risk management by bringing-in together practitioners, implementers and academicians to critically explore present experiences and concepts with the hope that comparative perspectives when shared and learned will catalyze better local and regional urban networks in risk management strategies in Southeast Asia. Thus, this conference is an exciting opportunity for development practitioners, planners, academicians, and local government executives to engage with colleagues and experts from Southeast Asia and Germany in confronting the broad range of issues surrounding urban networks in relation to environmental risk management.

Urban Expert Seminar, 27 March - 6 April 2011 (Draft Schedule)

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<th>Date</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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<td>Mar 26, Sat</td>
<td>Optional program in Manila: Meetings with the National Disaster Risk Reduction Management Council of the Philippines and the Heritage Management Unit in Manila</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mar 27, Sun</td>
<td>Departure for Manila (optional)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Arrival in Cebu</td>
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<td>Mar 28, Mon</td>
<td>Welcome and keynote speeches</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cebu</td>
<td>Urban Networking and Environmental Management</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mar 29, Tue</td>
<td>Excursion and Discussions</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cebu</td>
<td>Urban Networking and Local Governance Presentations and Discussions</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mar 30, Wed</td>
<td>Education for better Urban Futures Presentations and Discussions</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cebu</td>
<td>Visiting Cebu University</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mar 31, Thu</td>
<td>Urban Heritage and Environmental Risk Management</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cebu</td>
<td>Welcome and keynote speeches</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mar 01, Fri</td>
<td>Workshop on GIS (optional) and Discussion Groups on Common Project Planning</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cebu, CDO</td>
<td>Wrap Up Session</td>
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<td>Departure from Cebu/Arrival CDO</td>
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<td>Apr 02, Sat</td>
<td>Welcome and keynote speeches</td>
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<td>CDO</td>
<td>Visiting Capitol University City</td>
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<td>Mar 03, Sun</td>
<td>Excursion and reports of RUJA activities on Urban Environmental Challenges in CDO</td>
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<td>CDO</td>
<td>Urban Networking and Local Governance Presentations and Discussions</td>
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<tr>
<td>Apr 04, Mon</td>
<td>Urban Networking and Local Governance Presentations and Discussions</td>
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<td>CDO</td>
<td>Networking and Cooperation Opportunities in Disaster Management and Education</td>
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<td>Apr 05, Tue</td>
<td>Visiting Xavier University</td>
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As I was preparing this little speech, and knowing that I will address you, my dear friends and colleagues, I recall many a-summer school (or urban forum) that we have participated-in together, the serious discussions that we have had, and the fellowship -- sharing many light moments together and joking with each other. I remember the joke of our colleague and friend, Ms. Hoa (from Vietnam).

The joke is about the meeting of two Presidents during a visit of one with the other. One President is from an English speaking country, the other is from a non-English speaking country. The President from the English-speaking country greets the other saying: “I am glad to see you, Mr. President! How are you? The other replies: “Me too! Thank you! And who are you?

Well, let me say, I am glad to see you, Prof. Kraas, Christine, friends and colleagues, participants, ladies and gentlemen! But I dare not, and I am very careful not to commit the same mistake to greet you -- “Who are you?” But, “How are you”? I trust that you have had a good trip, good sessions in Manila and Cebu, and a good rest. Well, now I suppose, you are eager, enthusiastic and ready to get going for the Cagayan de Oro portion of our Urban Forum. With that, on behalf of my Cagayan colleagues, let me welcome all of you to the continuation of our Summer School in Cagayan de Oro.

My task this morning is to “keynote” this Forum with its theme about disaster preparedness. I think you already have heard several keynote speeches for our forum. So, this one will be short. But, I hope this keynote will not be a disaster by itself. But even if it is, let me warn you so you are at least prepared.

Not too long after the recent tragedy in Japan, I received an email from a friend who forwarded to me a pictorial of devastation and anguish caused by many major earthquakes and tsunamis throughout our world's history. The statistics from the Geological Society of London showed twenty major earthquakes and tsunamis from 1906 to the recent one of 2011 in Japan. The pictures were indeed sad and dismal. Of the twenty earthquakes, the one with the lowest intensity on the Richter Scale was 5.9. That one occurred in Agadir, Morocco in 1960, with about 12,000 deaths. The strongest one, with an intensity of 9.2, was the earthquake and tsunami in the Indian Ocean in 2004 with 230,000 deaths. The average intensity of the twenty earthquakes was 7.8. The total loss of lives was a staggering 1,036,570, not to mention the enormous costs of destruction.

Indeed, we have witnessed so many kinds of disasters in our world. It’s not only earthquakes and tsunamis, but also volcanic eruptions, forest fires, residential fires, floods, nuclear holocausts and nuclear plant meltdowns, and even diabolic and bizarre genocides committed by inhuman regimes that also destroy the historical and cultural heritage of a people. These are disasters, natural and man-made, because as one of the papers has defined it -- they have caused “serious disruptions of the normal functioning of a community, causing widespread losses of human lives and resources.” All of us already know and understand the great
devastation and tragedy of disasters. What are our forum is highlighting on, if my understanding is correct, is on how we can prepare and be able to deal and cope with it in the event that it may strike in our places.

The presentations that we have already heard in Cebu and those that are still to be heard in Cagayan de Oro will certainly give us some light. The experts and not-so-experts among us have advanced so many great ideas, many different approaches and strategies – to name a few: “Networking”, “Spatial Approaches to Urban Environments”, the “GIS” technology, the “Integrated Community-based Disaster Management System”, the “Integrated Coastal Zone Management”, a “Clean and Green City”, the “Water Resource Management”, “The Importance of Women and Their Role in Risk Management”, etc. In all these approaches and strategies, we see the technical, the social and the political sides of possible interventions related to disasters.

However, disasters are what they are, and what they have been, and what we can expect them to be – so unpredictable and devastating! It can happen anywhere in the world, to a remote island far from civilization, or it can suddenly occur in a country where knowledge and technology are of the highest standards and caliber. Human as we are we have to accept the fact that, as one thinker wrote: “no matter how far we have advanced in knowledge and technology, there are still so many things we do not know…. For that matter, how much do we know about the earth or about human powers? How much do we as yet not know?”

Let us enjoy our forum, the intellectual exchanges, as well as our fellowship and friendship here in Cagayan de Oro, dubbed as the “City of Golden Friendship”. Daghang Salamat! (Thank you!)
EMAIL FROM HOA

Dear all friends of our ForUm,

I would like to convey my appreciation and thank to you - our dear Filipinos, for great organization and your hospitality when we were in Manila, Cebu and Cagayan de Oro. Thank Imelda, the Forum’s little sunshine, for your great effort that brought us chances to meet many interesting people and visited interesting places in Manila. Lorna and Remi, you are impressed me much with your very well organized schedule with full of presentations, during the project visits and tours in Cebu and taking care of us. Thank to you, I know more about RAFI, NEDA in Cebu and more over, I could experience the life of the city that I’ve never been before.

In Cagayan de Oro, I really felt it is the city of golden friendship. Noel, Dr. Boy, Dexter and other friends in Xavier University, thank you very much for whatever you did for our seminar. Your hospitality made us felt CDO as our home town. Also, thank you very much Prof. Kraas and Ms. Christine, who gave us chance to meet together and work together. It reminds me to a slogan printed in a pink van of Disaster Risk Management Office in Marikina "Work hard, Work well, and Work together". I’m sure I will do.

Have a nice weekend! Ta Quynh Hoa

REPLY FROM DR. BOY

Dear Ms Quynh Hoa:

Thank you for your "thank you". It was really our pleasure and honor to have co-organized and hosted the Philippine forum of our Urban ForUm network. Much obliged to the network and to all of you partners and friends. "De nada" as they say in Espanol. But it was not "nothing". It was great to have all of you here. Hope everybody has had a pleasant journey to your home country and back to your loved ones, safe and sound.

"Work hard, work well, and work together" sounds like an appropriate slogan for our Urban ForUm Network. What says you Prof. Dr. Kraas and Christine, and partners? It is much much better than mine below: "Be like these good creatures of God -- a pig, a monkey, a log, a duck, a carabao and a human being. Eat like a pig, play a lot like a monkey, sleep like a log, enjoy a bath like a duck, work like a carabao, use your wit now and then. That is how to stay totally fit in every way, a balanced person, as the theologians say, 'to be a fully developed person'."

Take care and have fun! BoyM
Dear ForUrn friends,

Let me join the others in saying a big "thank you" to all the German and Philippines organizers of the latest ForUrn get-together. I had a great time and I am sure the others as well, in spite of all the home-sicknesses for being away from our babies and kids and girlfriends, (though not from husbands and wives and wrong numbers), in spite of being down with diarrhea, stomach aches, running noses, coughs and fevers, in spite of the long journeys some of us faced traveling to the Philippines and back to our home countries.

Honestly, I don't remember too much about "working hard". All I remembered is that it was great fun all the way, from Manila to Cebu to Cagayan De Oro. I think a more appropriate slogan for our ForUrn seminar is "Laugh hard, Laugh well and Laugh together". (I hope this slogan does not go too unwell with DAAD). We laughed during the excursions and sight-seeing, we laughed during the presentations (croak, croak), we laughed during breakfast, lunch and dinner, we even laughed at the continuous jokes.

Thanks to Sunshine Imelda, the ever-smiling Lorna, to "Joke-lang" Reme (or Rene?), (her email address is not on the list, can Lorna please forward to her and include her in all our future emails?), to versatile Noel, to ever-young Dr. Boy, to Dexter, to Doodz and gang, to Quesa, Jojo, Imma, and others, to the National Disaster Management Centre in Manila, to NEDA, to Cebu City, to LapuLapu City, to Xavier University, to Capitol University, to University of San Carlos, to RAFI, etc, etc. And of course to our capable Prof Kraas and our beloved Cristine and our benevolent DAAD.

Dr Boy, to complete the virtues of all the animal characteristics in us, don't forget to include the frog, so that we can enjoy croaking together.

Best wishes, Happy New Year and Happy Easter

Tan Thean Siew
Excursion: "Travel hard, Travel well and Travel together"
Seminar: "Work hard, Work well and Work together"
Funny Moments: "Laugh hard, Laugh well and Laugh together"

©Photos: Hong Ching Goh (edited by Christine Knie)
HAPPY BIRTHDAY, LORNA!

and thank you for everything
section 2

EXCHANGE ACTIVITIES
September 2011 witnesses the annual bi-meeting of the ForUm members in one of the member countries in South East Asia, in which Myanmar, the country that now undergoes the encouraging evolution in social and political development is the host. Apart from this, there was a relatively smaller meeting between the members of ForUm from Indonesia and Malaysia. It took place in Universiti Malaya, Kuala Lumpur, where Department of Geography, Universiti Malaya received a total of 33 students from Regional Development Study Program, Faculty of Geography, Gadjah Mada University, as a part of the inbound student program of these two universities, involving the existing and future geographers! The group was led by Dr. Rini Rachmawati, head of Regional Development Study Program, companied by three lecturers i.e. Dr. Muhammad Baiquni, Dr. Djarot Sadharto Widyatmoko, and Ertis Saputra, M.Si.

The field study took place from 22 to 29 September 2011. The theme of the visit focused on 'Urban management through community development' which the sub-themes include urban tourism, urban mass transportation, Cyber city and the role of ICT, and urban environmental management: air pollution. Students applied Rapid Urban Appraisal (RUA) method involved in primary data collection such as area transect, field observation, in-depth interview as well as secondary data collection. The students also visited Ampang Jaya Municipal Council for a better closure to the city development in Kuala Lumpur and its conurbation.

A briefing on Kuala Lumpur City was given by Dr. Goh Hong Ching on the first day, and students were required to present their findings on the 27 September 2011. The geographical colleagues in these two universities are now seeking for better engagement by looking at possibilities to have research collaboration in the area of urbanization, apart from the existing yearly in- and outbound program.

Goh Hong Ching and Rini Rachmawati
ForUm members from Malaysia and Indonesia, 28 Sept 2011
section 3

CALL FOR PAPERS, STUDY COURSES AND SCHOLARSHIPS
The 2nd Circular of the IGC 2012 is available now. The Circular contains, amongst other useful information, a detailed description of the congress concept, information concerning the sessions organised by the IGU Commissions and Task Forces, a complete list of all sessions provided under the four key topics and details of the congress fees. Please click on the graphic on the left-hand side to download the 2nd Circular.

Call for papers
The Call for Papers for the IGC 2012 was published on the 1st July 2011. The scientific programme will include more than 140 thematic sessions on the key topics. You are now cordially invited to submit papers or posters for any of the sessions organised under the four Key Topics as well as for some of the sessions organised by the IGU Commissions and Task Forces. According to the new concept, the programme of the International Geographical Congress 2012 will feature two major parts:

1. Sessions organised by the IGU Commissions and Task Forces
2. Sessions and Poster Sessions under the four key topics of the IGC, which are:

Key Topics (select and click on one of the topics for detailed information)
- Global Change & Globalisation
- Society & Environment
- Risks & Conflicts
- Urbanisation & Demographic Change

Abstracts:
Abstracts may be handed-in for specific sessions via the online paper submission system before the closing deadline on 15th December 2011. Please find the complete list and short abstracts of the sessions under the key topics below. The selection of papers for each session will be the responsibility of the session chairs. Participants will be informed about acceptance by February 2012 to take advantage of early registration for the reduced IGC conference fee.

Abstract submission
Abstracts can solely be submitted online. Proposals submitted by postal mail or fax will not be accepted. The IGC 2012 offers an online submission system to submit all abstracts. Please follow the 5-step procedure described below for submitting your paper or poster abstract:

1. Create an account on the IGC 2012 website.
2. Choose the session for which you want to submit your abstract from the list of available sessions on the IGC website.
3. Log in to your account.
4. Fill in your personal data and provide an abstract of your paper or poster of no more than 3000 characters. You can either copy and paste your abstract into the form or type your abstract directly into the appropriate box.
5. Submit your abstract.

Please bear in mind that abstracts must not exceed 3000 characters and that it will not be possible to include graphs, maps, pictures etc in the text. The number of abstracts is limited to two abstracts per person.
SPECIAL NEWS: ForUm on Facebook

Group Name: ForUm: Network for Urban Futures in Southeast Asia

Lorna Manila from Cebu created a new social ForUm community on facebook for our network and meanwhile the group comprises already of more than 30 members. You will find it by the name: “Forum: Network for Urban Futures in Southeast Asia”. To enter the group you have to make an application for admission. The administrator: “Ms. Lorna Manila” will accommodate you. Inside the group you will find information and news. Furthermore the group members may post information around urban studies and urban innovations in different cities, which might be of interest for all of us.
Overview of International Study Programs in Germany on ForUm homepage

International study courses in Geography, Geoinformatic, Architecture/ Urban Planning & Environmental Science in Germany

To serve our network we have listed a selected number of international urban study programms in Germany which are funded by the DAAD.

http://forum-urban-futures.net/files/Study courses in Germany.pdf
http://forum-urban-futures.net/news/study-courses-postgraduate-courses-and-scholarships-201213

RISE worldwide - international research internships in 2012

After the successful implementation of RISE worldwide in 2011 - in which DAAD supported 247 projects by funding undergraduate German students to serve as research assistants - the program is returning in 2012. Students in the early stages of their studies who have an excellent background in the fields of engineering, natural sciences, and related disciplines, including earth sciences, and the ambition to work abroad and gain hands-on research experience in their fields will be matched with researchers worldwide who wish to engage in a meaningful cooperation with a young German research assistant. DAAD will support these short-term summer internships by awarding scholarships to successful applicants to help cover part of the living and travel costs.

How does RISE worldwide work?

1. Researchers from accredited universities and non-profit research institutions register online and submit internship offers, including a one-page project description, from October 10, 2011 through November 27, 2011. DAAD posts the internship offers in a database on its website.
2. German applicants register online to review the internship offers. They apply from December 5, 2011 through January 15, 2012 to a maximum of three projects.
3. The German applicants' profiles are checked for eligibility by DAAD staff and are then activated to be reviewed online by the researchers.
4. The prospective hosts are asked to provide DAAD with their quality assessment of applications their projects.
5. DAAD places students with internship projects and awards scholarships based on academic merit and the internship providers' quality assessment. Future hosts and interns are notified of the decision in March 2012. RISE worldwide is supported by the Federal Republic of Germany through funding from the Federal Ministry of Education and Research. We would like to thank them for their generous support, without which this program would not be possible.

With its Postgraduate Courses for Professionals with Relevance to Developing Countries, the DAAD has created an educational programme that has set several milestones on the way to attaining the Millennium Development Goals. This is because well-trained local professionals who are networked with international partners play an important role. They are the best guarantee for a better future with less poverty, more education, and good health for all.

If German universities would like to offer international postgraduate degree courses with a strong reference to topics related to developing countries, they can apply for admission into the programme “Postgraduate Courses for Professionals with Relevance to Developing Countries”.

For these courses, the DAAD sponsors selected persons from Developing Countries and by awarding them scholarships enables them to acquire an internationally competitive degree in a postgraduate course with close ties to practical experience.

Programme Goal
The main goal of the postgraduate programmes is promoting the higher qualification of young, employed professionals in fields related to development policy. This next generation elite are offered the opportunity to acquire an internationally recognized university degree in Germany. When these scholarship holders return to their home countries, ideally back to the same organizations or government agencies, the knowledge that they acquired during the postgraduate course should put them in the position to contribute toward the further development of their countries. The university degree acquired in Germany thereby fills the formal requirement allowing programme participants to move into decision-making positions after the completion of their studies.

Target Group
Young professionals (generally no more than 36 years old) with:
• a first academic degree and
• several years of work experience in a governmental ministry, central agency or subordinate authority, in a chamber of commerce and industry, an enterprise or business, or as the employee of an NGO or development help project,

are the primary, desired clientele of this programme.

In view of the goal outlined above, this funding instrument is expressly NOT aimed at young academics in teaching and research! The three Doctoral Programmes form an exception to this rule and are specially designed for young university instructors and academics:
• Development Studies - ZEF / Postgraduate Programme (University of Bonn)
• Agricultural Economics and Related Sciences (University Giessen / University of Hohenheim)
• Mathematics in Industry and Commerce - MIC (University of Kaiserslautern)

Booklet of Scholarships and DAAD selected postgraduate courses 2012/13:

From among the large number of postgraduate courses offered by German institutions of higher education, the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) supports a carefully chosen selection of programmes of particular interest to junior executives from developing countries. These degree courses, which consist of one to two years of concentrated study, provide young, academically-trained professionals in leading positions from developing countries with the opportunity to engage in postgraduate education and training in their particular field or profession.
This booklet contains the selection of all postgraduate courses supported under the DAAD funding scheme “Development-Related Postgraduate Courses”. The postgraduate courses themselves are responsible for contents and details concerning the individual programmes. The courses are open to all eligible candidates. Applications are welcomed from professionals with personal financial resources, from those who are funded by their government or company, or from those who are recipients of financial support from international sponsoring organisations. In addition, a limited number of full and partial DAAD-scholarships are available.

http://www.daad.de/imperia/md/content/entwicklung/hochschulen/ast/ast_2012-2013.pdf
http://forum-urban-futures.net/news/study-courses-postgraduate-courses-and-scholarships-201213
section 4
LINKS AND LITERATURE
Pain, K. (2010): Spatial Transformations of Cities: Global City-Region? Mega-City Region?
By the turn of the twenty first century, many of the world's cities were caught up in major economic and social transformation. The 1980s and 90s informational revolution has facilitated global connectivity on an unprecedented scale compared to previous periods of international economic relations. Ongoing developments in information and communications technologies (ICTs) since the mid 1970s are continuing to upgrade the intensity and speed of communications and transactions between cities across the world. Alongside these dramatic changes, the emergence of a distinctive, enlarged, urban functional space has been observed in a number of world locations. This has been described by Allen Scott as a 'global city-region' (2001a, b) and subsequently by Peter Hall and Kathy Pain (2006) as a global 'mega-city region'. Both these concepts have attracted major policy attention in Europe, North America and East Asia, where city governments are recognizing that something unprecedented is happening around their major urban concentrations.
Download of the article: http://www.lboro.ac.uk/gawc/rb/rb353.html

Prof. G.R. Teisman & M. Reudink: Transforming Urban Networks: the search for new types of regional governance
Chapters:
I. The rise of the network society
II. Competition between regions and territorial bounded governments
III. The growing need for co-operation between governments and with society and private sector: the rise of inter-organisational governance arrangements
   The need for public administration: reengineering the internal organisation
   Governance challenges for the near future
Download of the article: www.reurba.org/downloads/Governance%20-%20Teisman.doc

UN Habitat Publications: The State of Asian Cities 2010/11
The report throws new light on current issues and challenges which national and local governments, the business sector and organised civil society are facing. On top of putting forward a number of recommendations, this report testifies to the wealth of good, innovative practice that countries of all sizes and development stages have accumulated across the region. It shows us that sustainable human settlements are within reach, and that cooperation between public authorities, the private and the voluntary sectors is the key to success. This report highlights a number of critical issues – demographic and economic trends, poverty and inequality, the environment, climate change and urban governance and management.
Download of the article: http://www.unhabitat.org/pmss/listItemDetails.aspx?publicationID=3078

Urban World: A New Chapter in Urban Development
The next two decades of the 21st century will be an unprecedented moment in human history. The global population will move from 50 percent urban to 70 percent. This transition to a predominantly urban world is irreversible and it brings with it equally irreversible changes in the way we use land, water, energy and other natural resources. This transition also places cities at the centre of the climate change agenda.
Download of the article: http://www.unhabitat.org/pmss/getElectronicVersion.aspx?nr=2960&alt=1

Planning Sustainable Cities reviews recent urban planning practices and approaches, discusses constraints and conflicts therein, and identifies innovative approaches that are more responsive to current challenges of urbanization. It notes that traditional approaches to urban planning (particularly in developing countries) have largely failed to promote equitable, efficient and sustainable human settlements and to address twenty-first century challenges, including rapid urbanization, shrinking cities and ageing, climate change and related disasters, urban sprawl and unplanned peri-urbanization, as well as urbanization of poverty and informality. It concludes that new approaches to planning can only be meaningful, and have a greater chance of succeeding, if they effectively address all of these challenges, are participatory and inclusive, as well as linked to contextual socio-political processes.

Download of the article: http://www.unhabitat.org/pmss/listItemDetails.aspx?publicationID=2831_

The World Bank & National Disaster Coordinating Council of the Philippines (NDCC): Natural Disaster Risk Management in the Philippines: Enhancing Poverty Alleviation through Disaster Reduction

The social and economic cost of natural disasters has increased in recent years due to population growth, change in land use patterns, migration and unplanned urbanization, environmental degradation and global climate change. About 75 percent of the world’s major natural disasters between 1970 and 1997 occurred in the Asia and Pacific Region. In the East Asia and Pacific Region, there are several countries that are located in disaster prone zones and are exposed to a number of natural disasters annually. The list includes Vietnam, the Philippines, Cambodia, and most of the Pacific Island countries. In addition to the loss of lives and major destruction of economic and social infrastructure, natural disasters set back poverty reduction programs and cause diversion of government funds to pay for reconstruction and recovery efforts. The Philippines is known as one of the most hazard prone countries in the world. Disasters have destroyed human, social, and physical capital, and they have derailed social and economic development, as funds are reallocated from ongoing programs to finance relief and reconstruction assistance. While the documented losses caused by disasters are formidable, the full impacts are not known, and are probably much more significant.

Download of the article: http://siteresources.worldbank.org/INTEAPREGTOPENVIRONMENT/Resources/PH_Disaster_Risk_Mgmt.pdf


The Philippines Environment Monitor series has been providing a snapshot of key environmental trends and indicators in the country for the past seven years. Its aim is to inform a broad range of stakeholders, including government, the public, practitioners, and educators in a simple, easy-to-understand format. Over the years, the Environment Monitor series has covered general environmental trends as well as specific topics such as water quality, air quality, coastal resources, and solid waste management.

The Philippines Environment Monitor 2006 is intended to bring greater attention and insight into the effect of the environment on health in the Philippines. It focuses on how air pollution, water pollution, sanitation conditions and hygiene practices affect the health of the country, and highlights what is being done to reduce health risks through a better environment.

The East-West Center (2008): The Urban Transformation in Asia – Policy Implications of Decentralization

Across Asia, a massive demographic shift is underway. From booming South Asia to fast-growing China, people are moving to cities in search of work, opportunities, and a better way of life. This shift in human living patterns produces new challenges in virtually every aspect of human organization. It demands a new look at urban planning strategies, infrastructure, lifestyles, welfare needs, employment, housing, health care, food, shelter, water, and basic social interactions. At the same time, this surge in urbanization is changing the social fabric of countries, forcing a rethinking of the relationship between national and local government and creating new power centers outside of traditional political hierarchy. In addition, the rapid growth of megacities and midsize cities in Asia has strained existing urban administrative systems, which are struggling to respond to unprecedented political, economic, social, and physical changes. Government, civil society, and corporations must learn to adapt and innovate – while simultaneously preparing for future growth.

Table of contents:
I. Democracy, Decentralization, and Urbanization in Asia: The Challenges of New Policies, Strategies, and Institutional Frameworks
II. Asia’s Urban Infrastructure: Challenges and Opportunities
III. The Evolving Role of Civil Society in the Urban Transformation Process
IV. Urban Adaptation to Environmental Change: An Integrated Approach to Risk

Hendra Yusran Siry (The United Nation) (2007): Making Decentralized Coastal Zone Management Work for the South-East Asian Region: Comparative Perspectives

One of the current issues in Coastal Zone Management (CZM) in Southeast Asian region is finding appropriate and suitable ways to apply decentralized policy. The current debate in contemporary literature on decentralization and CZM focuses on the exploring enabling conditions for making decentralized CZM prove most effective instead of examining the validity of decentralized policy itself. The present paper will analyse decentralized CZM and conditions for effective decentralization in three selected States in the Southeast Asian region: Malaysia, Indonesia and the Philippines.

Download of the article: http://www.un.org/depts/los/nippon/unnff_programme_home/fellows_pages/fellows_papers/siry_0607_indonesia.pdf


Urbanization is arguably the most important social transformation in the history of civilization since man changed from being a nomadic hunter-gatherer and adopted a settled, subsistence agricultural way of life. While the timing and speed of urbanization have varied and are varying between countries, regions, and continents, the urbanization process has taken hold everywhere. It has proven to be an unstoppable and a mostly desirable phenomenon. Cities are the foundation of modern civilization; they are the engine room of economic growth and the centers of culture, entertainment, innovation, education, knowledge, and political power. This chapter, presented here, examines the policies, programs, and practices on sustainable regional development in the Philippines and presents strategies to address identified issues and challenges. The paper commences with an overview of economic, social, and urban trends in the Philippines, which leads to a discussion on urbanization and sustainable development issues.


In *Planning Asian Cities: Risks and Resilience*, Stephen Hamnett and Dean Forbes have brought together some of the region’s most distinguished urbanists to explore the planning history and recent development of Pacific Asia’s major cities. They show how globalization, and the competition to achieve global city status, has had a profound effect on all these cities. Tokyo is an archetypal world city. Singapore, Hong Kong and Seoul have acquired world city characteristics. Taipei and Kuala Lumpur have been at the centre of expanding economies in which nationalism and global aspirations have been intertwined and expressed in the built environment. Beijing, Hong Kong and Shanghai have played key, sometimes competing, roles in China’s rapid economic growth. Bangkok’s amenity economy is currently threatened by political instability, while Jakarta and Manila are the core city-regions of less developed countries with sluggish economies and significant unrealized potential.

But how resilient are these cities to the risks that they face? How can they manage continuing pressures for development and growth while reducing their vulnerability to a range of potential crises? How well prepared are they for climate change? How can they build social capital, so important to a city’s recovery from shocks and disasters? What forms of governance and planning are appropriate for the vast mega-regions that are emerging? And, given the tradition of top-down, centralized, state-directed planning which drove the economic growth of many of these cities in the last century, what prospects are there of them becoming more inclusive and sensitive to the diverse needs of their populations and to the importance of culture, heritage and local places in creating liveable cities?

Urban codes have a profound influence on urban form, affecting the design and placement of buildings, streets and public spaces. Historically, their use has helped create some of our best-loved urban environments, while recent advances in coding have been a growing focus of attention, particularly in Britain and North America. However, the full potential for the role of codes has yet to be realized.

In *Urban Coding and Planning*, Stephen Marshall and his contributors investigate the nature and scope of coding; its purposes; the kinds of environments it creates; and, perhaps most importantly, its relationship to urban planning. By bringing together historical and ongoing traditions of coding from around the world – with chapters describing examples from the United Kingdom, France, India, China, Japan, Australia, South Africa, the United States and Latin America – this book provides lessons for today’s theory and practice of place-making.

The Fifth Edition of the highly successful *The City Reader* juxtaposes the best classic and contemporary writings on the city. It contains fifty-seven selections including seventeen new selections by Elijah Anderson, Robert Bruegmann, Michael Dear, Jan Gehl, Harvey Molotch, Clarence Perry, Daphne Spain, Nigel Taylor, Samuel Bass Warner, and others –five of which have been newly written exclusively for *The City Reader*. Classic writings from Ebenezer Howard, Ernest W.
Burgess, LeCorbusier, Lewis Mumford, Jane Jacobs, and Louis Wirth, meet the best contemporary writings of Sir Peter Hall, Manuel Castells, David Harvey, Kenneth Jackson and others. *The City Reader Fifth Edition* has been extensively updated and expanded to reflect the latest thinking in each of the disciplinary areas included and in topical areas such as sustainable urban development, climate change, globalization, and the impact of technology on cities. The plate sections have been extensively revised and expanded and a new plate section on global cities has been added. The anthology features general and section introductions and introductions to the selected articles. New to the fifth edition is a bibliography of 100 top books about cities.

**Dialogues in Urban and Regional Planning, Volume 4**  
*Edited by Thomas L. Harper, Michael Hibbard, Heloisa Costa, Anthony Gar-On Yeh*  
*Published 25th November 2010 by Routledge – 308 pages*  

*Dialogues in Urban and Regional Planning, Volume 4* is a selection of some of the best scholarship in urban and regional planning from around the world. The internationally recognized authors of these award-winning papers take up a range of salient issues from the theory and practice of planning. The topics they address include planning and governance in Zimbabwe, rebuilding after Hurricane Katrina, safety issues in urban spaces, and an analysis of French transportation policies. The breadth of the topics covered in this book will appeal to all those with an interest in urban and regional planning, providing a springboard for further debate and research. The papers focus particularly on how planning institutions can meet contemporary environmental, demographic, economic, and socio-spatial challenges. The Dialogues books are published in association with the Global Planning Education Association Network (GPEAN) and its member planning schools associations. These associations represent 360 planning schools in nearly fifty countries around the globe. They have selected these papers based on regional competitions.

**Risk Sensitive Land Use Planning of Kathmandu Metropolitan City, Nepal: Framework and Process**  
*by: Renan Ma. T. Tanhhueco, Fouad Bendimerad and Jerome Zayas, 2010*  

**Abstract**

Kathmandu Metropolitan City (KMC), Nepal faces a number of problems related to its growing population, such as increased traffic, high level of solid waste generation, housing shortage, insufficient infrastructure, and overwhelmed basic services. The rapid development has resulted in an increased vulnerability to hazards such as earthquakes and floods. The city has experienced several large earthquakes during its history, with an average of one earthquake causing intensity 7 or greater every 35 years (JICA, 2002). The extreme physical vulnerability of the city is due to many factors, including poor building construction, a large number of high-occupancy older buildings, narrow congested streets, lack of strategic fire and emergency facilities, and poor access.

In 2006, a two-year collaborative project was subsequently undertaken between EMI, KMC, and NSET (National Society for Earthquake Technology, Nepal) to develop a Risk-Sensitive Land Use Plan (RSLUP) for the city. The objectives of the RSLUP were threefold: a) Provide a risk sensitive policy framework that will allow land uses and urban landscapes to be risk resilient; b) Prescribe a series of disaster risk reduction strategies and actions in the urban development practice; and c) improve emergency management capabilities in the city. To develop the RSLUP, conventional planning approach was reviewed and improved to incorporate disaster risk management and emergency management components under the concept of “mainstreaming” DRR into local developmental
processes. However, it was proven that collaboration and complementation among partners; mobilization of stakeholders for land use planning; awareness and educational campaigns on disaster risk reduction (DRR) were essential ingredients to ensure strong participation in crafting the land use plans. The RSLUP can be a model on how to mainstream DRR in urban developmental planning to other highly vulnerable cities.

**Keywords:** disaster risk reduction, risk sensitive land use planning, mainstreaming

ORGANISATIONS AND PROGRAMMES

Cities Alliance

The Cities Alliance is a global coalition of cities and their development partners committed to scaling up successful approaches to poverty reduction. The Cities Alliance provides matching grants in support of:

- City development strategies
- Citywide and nationwide slum upgrading
- Sustainable financing strategies

The Cities Alliance is also a learning alliance, working with networks of cities, organisations of the urban poor, universities and other partners to capture and disseminate the collective knowledge of city stakeholders on ways to reduce urban poverty and improve the quality and impact of urban development cooperation. Website: http://www.citiesalliance.org/ca/; Projects in the Philippines: http://www.citiesalliance.org/ca/ca_projects/results

Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC): Partnerships for Disaster Reduction-South East Asia (2008): Monitoring and Reporting Progress on Community-Based Disaster Risk Management in the Philippines

In the Philippines, the National Disaster Coordinating Council (NDCC) is presently engaged in a project entitled “Partnerships for Disaster Reduction-South East Asia (PDR–SEA) Phase 4”, in collaboration with the Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC) of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP) and the Disaster Preparedness Program of the European Commission’s Humanitarian Aid Department (DIPECHO). The project aims to promote good practices and enhance the role of local authorities in integrating community-based disaster risk management (CBDRM) into local planning and programming. This research study has been undertaken under the Project to monitor and report on the status of implementation of CBDRM projects and programs by various stakeholders in the Philippines. It provides an overview and status of existing CBDRM projects and programs, and identifies gaps and further support needed for these projects and programs. In addition, the final output includes coverage of CBDRM activity in at-risk communities, trends in type of preparedness and mitigation measures, gaps and needs of communities and CBDRM practitioners’ organizations, and link of CBDRM to local government units.

Website: http://www.adpc.net/v2007/Programs/CBDRM/INFORMATION%20RESOURCE%20CENTER/CBDRM%20Publications/2008/final_crphilippineshires_23nov.pdf

NEDA: National Economic and Development Authority

The National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA), as mandated by the Philippine Constitution, is the country’s independent economic development and planning agency.

Website: http://www.neda.gov.ph/

Cebu Office: Contact-Person: Ms. RD Marlene Ca. P. Rodriguez & Mr. ARD Efren B. Carreon Address: NEDA Region 7, Government Center, Sudlon, Lahug, Cebu City, Province of Cebu E-Mail: mcp66@yahoo.com, carreoneb2003@yahoo.com, ord@neda7.net.ph; Website: http://www.neda7.net.ph/
BMFI: Balay Mindanaw Foundation Inc. BMFi is a Mindanao-based and Mindanao-focused Philippine NGO. BMFi’s work and its people articulate a sense of fierce pride for Mindanao and a passion for transforming this poorest and most conflict-torn of the country’s regions into a “balay”, a true home for its peoples – Christians, Muslims and Lumads, indigenous peoples of Mindanao. Website: http://www.balaymindanaw.org/bmfi/index.html
Contact: 53-A, 12th Street, Zone 2, Upper Bulua 9000 Cagayan de Oro City, Philippines; Tel: +63 8822 738376, 738402 Fax: +63 8822 735946 Email: bmfi@balaymindanaw.org

RAFI (Ramon Aboitiz Foundation, Inc.)- Understanding Choices Forum

About the Understanding Choices Forum
The Ramon Aboitiz Foundation Inc. is committed to its vision of “Touching People, Shaping the Future”. The Foundation provides opportunities for the growth and development of individuals and groups through training, capacity building and dialogue, policy studies and development, data banking and referral systems, network development and institution building, and research and other related services. This mission is carried out through the Eduardo Aboitiz Development Studies Center.

The Eduardo Aboitiz Development Studies Center seeks to reconcile theoretical concepts with the pragmatic processes of development and help facilitate the success of interventions. It articulates and demonstrates the Foundation’s mission of democratizing development through the process of dialogue, participation, and empowerment. Thus, the Eduardo Aboitiz Development Studies Center promotes a public dialogue among various stakeholders to raise awareness and understanding of vital issues and trends shaping our communities and our country.

Among the various programs that the Eduardo Aboitiz Development Studies Center carries out is the Understanding Choices Forum. This forum aims to provide a venue for presenting ideas and issues and educating various stakeholders to better understand and thus make informed choices.

The Understanding Choices Forum also provides a venue for participants to interact with the speakers through an open forum. They are given the opportunity to raise points of objection, questions and clarifications. Since the forum is a venue to express personal and institutional ideas, and interest or position on various development issues, all sides of an issue are given the opportunity to convey their case. Reactors are invited to the forum.

The forum is free from party affiliation or bias and actively seeks understanding across lines of differences.

The forum provides the public with vital information on an issue. They will be provided with reliable and timely information that will aid the business sector in their investment programming, the government in policy formulation, the civil society in the program direction, and the general public in their personal decisions.

Website: http://rafi.org.ph/RAFI/index.php

WMCCC: World Mayors Council on Climate Change

The World Mayors Council on Climate Change is an alliance of committed local government leaders advocating an enhanced recognition and involvement of Mayors in multilateral efforts addressing climate change and related issues of global sustainability. There are presently over 50 members of the Council, representing a vast network of local governments working to reduce global greenhouse gas emissions.

Membership is open to Mayors and equivalent leaders of municipal levels of government. The Chair of the Council is Marcelo Ebrard, Mayor of Mexico City. Jürgen Nimptsch, Mayor of Bonn (Germany), is serving as Vice Chair while Former Mayor Yorikane Masumoto of Kyoto City (Japan) is the Honorary Chair. Website: http://www.worldmayorscouncil.org/home.html
HUCC: Housing and Urban Development Coordinating Council

As the highest policy making and coordination body on housing and urban development, HUDCC shall facilitate access to a variety of housing options that are decent, affordable and responsive to the diverse and changing needs of homeless and underprivileged Filipino families.


Contact: 9/F, Banco de Oro Plaza, Paseo de Roxas Makati City, Philippines Tel. (632) 811-4113; Fax. (632) 811-4118 E-mail: http://www.hudcc.gov.ph/

LCP: League of Cities of the Philippines

Protecting of cities, the League of Cities of the Philippines (LCP) is committed to bringing local urban governance agenda at the forefront of the country’s development strategies. As the mandated organization of the Philippine cities, the LCP believes effective change in the national consciousness starts with the primary visions of the local government units.

Mission: The LCP will serve as the unified voice of cities advocating policies and continuing autonomy; promoting capacity-building and best practice sharing; and strengthening internal and external linkages to lift the nation out of poverty. Vision: By 2016, We, the League of Cities of the Philippines, shall empower all cities to be engines of sustainable development, champions of good urban governance, and catalysts for nation-building committed to the improvement of the quality of life of their constituents.

Contact: LCP SECRETARIAT Unit J&K, 7th floor, CyberOne Building, Eastwood Libis, Quezon City 1610, Philippines Tel.: 470-6837or 470-6813 E-mail: secretariat@lcp.org.ph; Website: www.lcp.org.ph

National Disaster and Risk Reduction Management Council (NDRRMC)

Website - http://www.ndrrmc.gov.ph/

EPPC: European Chamber of Commerce in the Philippines

ECCP is a bilateral foreign chamber that promotes European interests in the Philippines as well as Philippine interests in Europe. With more than 700 members, ECCP offers a strong business network that potentially translates to multiple business opportunities. It is a unique organization that offers membership as well as professional services to members and clients.

Activities:
- We help members gain access to emerging business opportunities
- We assist members in internationalizing their business
- We offer members marketing opportunities
- We alert you on the latest business developments
- We create networking opportunities for our members
- We provide members with training opportunities

Website: http://www.eccp.com/v2/; Contact-Person: schumacher@eccp.com
Cebu Office: 3/F C.L.Center, 14 J. Osmeña St., cor Llorente St., Cebu City, 6000 Philippines Tel: +(63 32) 254 3767 Fax: +(63 32) 253 3387 E-Mail: cebu@eccp.com; Contact-Person: Roselu Paloma rpaloma@eccp.com
Earthquake and Megacities Initiative- Partnering with cities to reduce urban risk in changing climate, Partnering with megacities to reduce disaster risk

EMI is an international, not-for-profit, scientific organization dedicated to the reduction of disaster risk in megacities and major metropolises. It was founded in 1998 in response to the urgent need to stimulate urban earthquake preparedness and mitigation in developing countries. EMI serves as a catalyst for the delivery of scientific and technical knowledge to local government officials, policymakers, practitioners, and disaster management technical personnel.

Through its Cluster Cities Project, Cross-Cutting Capacity Development Program, and eLearning training platform MEGA-Learn, EMI contributes to the institutional capacity building of local organizations and mainstreaming of disaster risk reduction in the development agenda, planning and daily operations of local governments. EMI is also an advocate of the critical role local government play in global and regional forums and in implementing the global agenda for disaster risk reduction, such as the Hyogo Framework for Action and the Millennium Development Goals. EMI is registered as a nongovernmental organization in the Philippines.

Building sustainable and strategic partnerships
EMI is endorsed by three international scientific organizations, namely, the International Geographical Union (IGU), International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics (IUGG) and International Union of Geological Sciences (IUGS). EMI also cooperates with several multilateral programs, inter-governmental institutions and United Nations agencies. Among its major partners are ICLEI, Kobe University, Metropolis, Pacific Disaster Center, ProVention Consortium, World Bank Institute and the United Nations Development Programme.

EMI’s network of partners further includes about 20 of the largest cities in the world and many academic and professional institutions. At the 2005 World Conference on Disaster Reduction held in Kobe, Japan, partner cities and institutions pledged to engage themselves in disaster risk reduction, and acknowledged the need for organizations such as EMI to provide technical expertise and play a leading role in developing strategic partnerships to reduce urban and megacities risk.

Website: http://www.emi-megacities.org/home/about-us.html

GTZ: Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit, Philippines

On behalf of the German Government, the GTZ has been implementing projects to promote economic, ecological and social development in the Philippines for more than thirty years. The German Government, represented by BMZ, has agreed on the following priority areas for development cooperation in conjunction with NEDA of the Philippines:

- Environment
- Sustainable economic development
- Conflict transformation and crisis prevention
- Decentralisation (a cross-cutting issue).

German development cooperation in the Philippines focuses on the Visayas archipelago and the region of Caraga on the island of Mindanao. Website: http://www.gtz.de/en/weltweit/asiен-pazifik/616.htm

Project: Decentralisation: As a joint development effort of the governments of the Philippines and Germany, the German Technical Cooperation (GTZ) through its Decentralization Program (DP) aims to improve governance at the national and local levels. DP supports the harmonization and streamlining of processes in the local governments contributing to a better financial management and regulatory systems. It also promotes capacity development of institutions in carrying out the program’s work, making it available and accessible to the public. Website: http://www.decentralization.org.ph/; E-Mail: Herwig.Mayer@gtz.de
Philippines, FACT SHEET 2010
Uniquely, the Philippines is not only the Asian Development Bank’s (ADB’s) founding member and 11th largest shareholder, but also its host country. It is the fifth largest borrower, accounting for about 8% of total sovereign and nonsovereign lending. It is also one of the largest clients for private sector lending and equity investments, and is a supplier, winning bids under ADB loans and technical assistance (TA) projects. In response to assessments that ADB’s large program with the Philippines had yielded less than expected, and taking into account economic uncertainties, the Country Strategy and Program (CSP) for 2005–2007 was framed to make a significant break with past practice. In alignment with Philippine priorities, it had a tight strategic focus on fiscal consolidation, an improved investment climate, and the accelerated attainment of the Millennium Development Goals. There is greater selectivity of projects to be supported. The CSP’s flexibility has served its purpose well, allowing wide tolerance in the ADB–Philippines partnership and ensuring new operations do not run ahead of the political, macroeconomic, and sector supports needed for sustainability and high impact. The CSP was extended until 2010. http://www.adb.org/Documents/Fact_Sheets/PHI.pdf
Forum for urban future in Southeast Asia
Network of Southeast Asian and German Experts

Objectives of the Network
• Platform for a North-South-South Dialogue
• Capacity Building by Knowledge and Expertise
• Sustainable Research and Development Cooperation

http://forum-urban-futures.net/

The program is sponsored by the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) and the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ).