

Urban Green Growth in Dynamic Asia: Knowledge Sharing Workshop

14:30-17:30, 24 May, 2013
Stockholm Waterfront Congress Center, Stockholm, Sweden

The OECD has been working on urban green growth policies in key OECD cities and would like to increasingly share views and experiences with cities in Asia. The upcoming study on "Urban Green Growth in Dynamic Asia", under OECD the Green Cities Programme, explores effective and practical policy frameworks and instruments to achieve urban green growth in fast-growing Asian cities. The project includes 4-6 studies in Asian cities and a series of conferences and workshops. In particular, it focuses on how knowledge and experience from OECD cities, including the four from the Green Cities Programme case study, could be effectively shared, and how lessons can inform strategies and implementation of green urban development projects in non-OECD cities, notably in Asia.

Right after the "Cities and Green Growth – Urban Evolution" Conference (23-24 May, Stockholm), the OECD and the delegation from Asia will meet to discuss the insights of the conference, share lessons from Asian cities and to explore further collaboration between the Asian cities, the OECD and eventually international organisations that are already working with the cities in Asia. This workshop also functions as a kick-off event for the upcoming "Urban Green Growth in Dynamic Asia" project.

OECD Green Cities Programme

The OECD Green Cities Programme assesses how urban green growth and sustainability policies can contribute to improve the economic performance and environmental quality of metropolitan areas, and thus enhance the contribution of urban areas to national growth, quality of life and competitiveness. To date, the programme has conducted case studies of the cities of Stockholm, Kitakyushu, Paris and Chicago as well as two national studies in China and Korea. The key findings are integrated into the OECD report on *Green Growth in Cities*, which will be launched at the "Cities and Green Growth – Urban Evolution" conference on 23 May, 2013, in Stockholm. The programme now aims to extend its scope to cities in Asia.

Knowledge Sharing (KS) at the OECD

In the context of the Urban Green Growth in Dynamic Asia study, the OECD together with other implementing agencies and networks aims to share results and facilitate a joint learning process. This could be in the form of joint workshops and peer learning, exchange through regional networks, etc. Through knowledge sharing the OECD intends to learn more about the policies and practical implications of greening cities in Asia and offers to build a learning platform together with the participants at equal footing. The following principles apply:

- *Ownership* – Priorities must be owned by developing countries/ partners involved;
- *Demand-driven* – knowledge sharing activities should be guided by demand and mutual benefit;
- *Equal footing basis* – participation and peer learning on diverse growth and development experiences depending on interest and willingness to contribute;
- *Complementarities* – KS activities should identify and make the best use of the strengths of the OECD as well as of the comparative advantages of each institution in Member and non-Member countries;
- *Flexibility* – KS activities would adapt and apply diverse modalities according to specific needs and contexts of the countries or actors. It would also evolve to respond to emerging issues and challenges.

Workshop Programme

✚ **Introduction by the OECD** (14:30 – 14:45)

✚ **Lessons from the Conference** (14:45 – 15:15)

Discuss lessons learned from the “Cities and Green Growth – Urban Evolution” Conference. Which lessons from the cities presented during the conference could be of special interest for Asian urban green growth practices?

✚ **Challenges and experience in Asian cities** (15:15 – 16:15)

Participants from Asian cities/countries present their challenges and experiences. What are the present efforts and needs in greening cities in your country or in your city respectively? Which areas or sectors are of particular importance when talking about green growth in your cities? What are your experiences to date? Which lessons could be useful for peer learning in Asia? Which lessons could be of interest for OECD cities and the work of OECD on greening cities?

✚ **Coffee break** (16:15 – 16:30)

✚ **Future collaborative actions** (16:30 – 17:30)

Discuss future knowledge sharing activities in order to continue peer learning and possibly improve the effective design and implementation of greening cities.

✚ **Closing remarks**

Confirmed participants

Bangkok Metropolitan Authority (Thailand)
City of Phnom Penh (Cambodia)
Iskandar Regional Development Agency (Malaysia)
Ministry of Environment (Vietnam)
Ministry of Finance (Indonesia)
City of Stockholm (Sweden)
City of Kitakyushu (Japan)
Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)
Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)
Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)

Further information

Information on “Cities and Green Growth – Urban Evolution” Conference (23-24 May, Stockholm) is available at: <http://www.urbanrevolution.se/>

For further information, please contact Tadashi Matsumoto (tadashi.matsumoto@oecd.org) or Martina Kampmann (martina.kampmann@oecd.org).