



Summary of the Bangkok Knowledge Sharing Workshop on Urban Green Growth in Dynamic Asia

6-7 August 2014, Bangkok, Thailand

The Bangkok Knowledge Sharing Workshop on Urban Green Growth in Dynamic Asia was co-organised by the Bangkok Metropolitan Administration and the OECD, within the framework of the Urban Green Growth in Dynamic Asia Knowledge Sharing Platform. Its objective was to discuss urban green growth and climate change resilience in Bangkok. More than 70 participants, including Asian and OECD cities, Asian national governments and key international organisations (subnational networks, development agencies, research institutes etc.), shared knowledge and expertise on this topic. The event was supported by the OECD Knowledge Sharing Alliance.

1. Opening sessions

The session was opened by Pusadee Tamthai, Deputy Governor, Bangkok Metropolitan Administration. She expressed her thanks to the OECD for supporting us through their policy expertise, shared the challenge that Bangkok faces, and expressed her expectations to the workshop. Martina Kampmann, OECD Knowledge Sharing Alliance, explained the objectives of the workshop and OECD's approach towards knowledge sharing.

The following expectations from the workshop were stated by participants In the introductory session: how to breach theory to practice and reality; how to increase the awareness of the community and also policymakers; how to get funds from International Financial Institutions and Climate Funds to the city level; identifying synergies between existing initiatives, in terms of capacity building and awareness raising; identifying mechanisms and instruments to connect policies made by national governments and policies made by local governments.

Pusadee Tamthai, Deputy Governor, Bangkok Metropolitan Administration

“The toughest challenges to combine economic, social and environmental objectives in Bangkok, is the lack of authority of BMA to manage urban affairs, the lack of discipline of urban residents and the need to combine law enforcement and respect of human rights. Over the past years, BMA has significantly increased green space areas, strengthened collaboration with other organisations working in the city, and campaigned to raise people’s awareness and involvement in making the city greener. I am hoping the workshop will be an opportunity to learn from each other’s successes and failures. In particular, learning from the experience of Japan in narrowing the gap between the rich and the poor – which is widening in Bangkok – is essential for us.”

Martina Kampmann, OECD Knowledge Sharing Alliance

“The **Urban Green Growth in Dynamic Asia Knowledge-Sharing Platform** promotes policy dialogue on urban development between developing and emerging economies, with the

objective to produce new substance, new ideas to green cities. We especially promote continuous dialogues through feedback loops and the creation of new partnerships between local governments, citizens, national governments but also with the OECD and agencies working on the field. Social issues are crucial: we think trust between the government and the people needs to be increased in times where global challenges are quite strong for every individual and community. Peer learning and dialogue in this regard, are essential to share knowledge and create mutual understanding.”

2. Key discussion points and main findings

The first 3 sessions were organised as one large roundtable discussion, with key presentations from the OECD and BMA, followed by open discussion involving cities, national governments and international organisations. The topics of the three sessions were, in this order: *i)* land use and infrastructure for urban climate change resilience; *ii)* economic and social policies for urban climate change resilience; and *iii)* institutional mechanisms for urban climate change resilience.

After these first three sessions, the main roundtable was broken down into smaller roundtables of 5-10 participants each. The objective was to brainstorm on policy recommendations for urban climate change resilience in Bangkok, taking into account previous discussions and knowledge of each participant. The following recommendations were made:

- Land use and infrastructure: models and experiments should be an element of master plans. The planning process is key, not just the plan, and should be inclusive and evolving: flexibility should be introduced in long-term planning. Also, designating land for public services and integrating land use and infrastructure strategies, should not be neglected to build climate change resilience.
- Economic and social policies: local governments should work closely with the private sector. Funds should be raised and insurance systems set up to protect locals. The heterogeneity of the local population should be taken into account when designing resilience policies. City governments should learn from how locals deal with disasters. Finally, housing and resettlements strategies should be improved.
- Institutional mechanisms: co-ordination mechanisms to involve all stakeholders should be designed, and outcome-oriented. This will help to create common visions among urban actors. Such mechanisms should also include on-going evaluation of plans across sectors.
- Raising public awareness and engagement (this topic was added because it was frequently mentioned during the discussions): data management should be improved and information should be provided to the public, using the right language and the right media. Collective platforms, mobile applications and campaigns can be used to socialise hot urban issues and receive information on the needs of urban residents. Identifying champions among locals is also critical to raise awareness. Finally, building capacity and knowledge of public officers is another key element in view of urban climate change resilience.

3. Follow-up of the Bangkok knowledge sharing workshop

A discussion paper on urban green growth and climate change resilience in Bangkok was prepared by the OECD before the workshop and distributed to all participants. The inputs of the

workshop were then integrated by the OECD in this document after the workshop. The revised discussion paper is sent for feedback a few weeks after the event, so that participants can further share knowledge on the topic. This will encourage policy dialogue through continuous exchange and learning loops. The paper will form a special chapter in the future OECD Bangkok case study report.



Martina Kampmann, OECD Knowledge Sharing Alliance, and Pusadee Tamthai, Bangkok Metropolitan Administration



Participants of the Bangkok Knowledge Sharing Workshop on Urban Green Growth in Dynamic Asia

List of participating organisations

	Organisation
1	Bangkok Metropolitan Administration, Thailand
2	Nonthaburi Municipality, Thailand
3	Iskandar Regional Development Authority, Malaysia
4	Haiphong People's Council, Viet Nam
5	National Assembly Delegation and People's Council of Haiphong City, Viet Nam
6	Haiphong City Environmental Protection Agency, Viet Nam
7	Haiphong Department of Foreign Affairs, Viet Nam
8	City of Bandung, Indonesia
9	City of Kitakyushu, Japan
10	City of Yokohama, Japan
11	Alliance for Regional Development / Chicago Central Area Committee, USA
12	IAU-IDF, France
13	Office of Natural Resources and Environmental Policy and Planning (ONEP), Thailand
14	Office of National Economic and Social Development Board (NESDB), Thailand
15	Department of Alternative Energy Development and Efficiency (DEDE) Ministry of Energy, Thailand
16	Ministry of Industry, Thailand
17	Ministry of National Development and Planning, Indonesia
18	Ministry of Environment, Cambodia
19	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, Viet Nam
20	Urban Development Agency, Ministry of Construction, Viet Nam
21	Centre for Liveable Cities, Ministry of National Development, Singapore
22	ICLEI
23	CDIA
24	GIZ Bangkok office
25	GIZ-GIDRM
26	AFD, Bangkok office
27	Overseas Environmental Cooperation Center (OECC)
28	JICA Thailand Office
29	UNEP
30	Asia Pacific Roundtable on SCP
31	UN-HABITAT Bangkok Office
32	IGES
33	University of Tokyo
34	USAID/RDMA
35	ISET
36	USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific Project
37	Temasek Foundation
38	OECD
39	Mahidol University
40	Thammasat University