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Local Project Planning Workshop

Urban Renewal in the Historic Town Centre of Jakarta
17 - 19 July 2017 in Jakarta, Indonesia

Partners of Connective Cities



In cooperation with



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CONNECTIVE CITIES

International Community of Practice for Sustainable Urban Development

Cities are gaining increasing importance globally, and urban actors all over the world are facing similar urban development issues. Although local solutions are required, these issues are becoming increasingly relevant at the global level. While many innovative solutions for sustainable urban development exist at local level, for example in energy efficiency, mobility or municipal services, frequently these are not widely known. Often there is a lack of systematic access to these practical solutions. The pressing challenges posed by worldwide urbanisation call for efficient and innovative approaches, especially in the areas of good urban governance, integrated urban development, local economic development and municipal service provision – our four focal themes.

Connective Cities, the International Community of Practice for Sustainable Urban Development, is a joint venture between the Association of German Cities (Deutscher Städtetag), the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH and the Service Agency Communities in One World (a division of Engagement Global). Connective Cities is supported by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ).

Connective Cities provides demand-based services designed to improve cooperation among urban practitioners at global level. The platform enhances the sharing of good practice examples, expert knowledge and solution-oriented peer-to-peer consulting, and creates opportunities for partnerships among different stakeholders. Connective Cities creates a base for knowledge sharing and the development of transformative solutions in local contexts that are customised to local requirements for sustainable urban development.

By conducting dialogue events and project workshops, Connective Cities facilitates exchange among urban practitioners on relevant themes, and functions as a platform for networking. To implement its strategy Connective Cities also organises trainings, study tours, virtual discussion forums and webinars. Working with Connective Cities can result in new forms of cooperation among the various actors involved. The platform also aims to facilitate the initiation of joint projects among urban practitioners from various local settings, in order to disseminate innovative solutions for sustainable urban development.

Together with United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG) World Secretariat and United Cities and Local Governments Asia-Pacific (UCLG Aspac), Connective Cities organised the Regional Peer-Learning and Action Planning Workshop on “Urban Renewal in Historic Town Centres and Public Space Improvement” in Jakarta, Indonesia from 17 - 19 July 2017.

Urban renewal in historic town centres is a way to integrate cultural heritage into the Sustainable Development Goals and the New Urban Agenda. The SDGs contain an explicit heritage target, 11.4. It calls for strengthening efforts to protect and safeguard the world's cultural and natural heritage while making cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable.

The event brought together experienced urban practitioners from the Asia-Pacific region and from Germany, exchanging their views and experiences on urban renewal policies and instruments. The results of this workshop will be utilized for future policy making on the preservation of heritage and other cultural and local assets in the context of urban renewal processes. The workshop also supported the ongoing planning process for the urban renewal of Jakarta's Historic Town Centre and, eventually drafting the application for UNESCO World Heritage Site.



Starting Situation

Formerly known as Batavia and famous for its role in early global trade, particularly spices, Jakarta is now the vibrant capital of Indonesia and home to more than 10 million inhabitants. The historic downtown area of Kota Tua, comprises of more than 300 hectares, and four nearby islands that served as shipyards during colonial times. It holds a variety of heritage sites, including buildings from the colonial period in the 17th and 18th centuries, which attract tourists and contribute to the economic, social and cultural growth of the city.

Yet, Kota Tua faces many challenges despite its rich cultural heritage. As the area declined in importance over time, many buildings of historical value have deteriorated. Others have been demolished due to the increasing investment pressure on inner city areas led by Jakarta's rapid urbanisation. Poor infrastructure and service provision, high air pollution, floodings and traffic jams further add to the problems.

Recently there has been a strong attempt to revitalize and restore the historic town centre and improve the public space. Lacking integrated policy approaches and implementable measures, the City of Jakarta has requested for international expertise and peer support to achieve sustainable, inclusive and integrated urban renewal as well as to apply for the status of UNESCO World Heritage Site.





Transformation Areas

In the context of broader global efforts towards enabling learning and knowledge transfer among cities and local governments, the workshop boosted the urban heritage specialists communication network in the Asia-Pacific, exploring policies and management models which ensure the preservation and continuity of tangible and intangible heritage and other cultural and local assets in the context of urban renewal processes.

As components of an integrated approach to urban renewal, **four specific fields of exchange** with peer cities were focused on (see graph on the right).

Within these four areas of discussion, good practices from participating cities in the Asian region (Guangzhou, Semarang, Solo, Surabaya, Vigan) and from Germany (Essen, Goerlitz, Nuremberg, Tuebingen) were exchanged and lessons learnt for possible transfer.

POLICY OPTIONS for preservation of historic town centres in urban transformation

- incorporation of cultural identity and ecological concepts
- monument conservation/ rehabilit.
- sustainable use of resources

Integrated and sustainable SUB-DISTRICT DEVELOPMENT

- economic development
- tourism & local traditions
- fostering the local labour market
- private sector investment

Revitalization of URBAN PUBLIC SPACE through cultural strategies

- user-oriented projects
- cultural education
- social interaction
- public participation

GOVERNANCE and MANAGEMENT of cultural heritage preservation

- management concepts for cultural heritage preservation
- strategic planning, financial administration, funding
- UNESCO application

Good Practices

APPROACH	CITY	TRANSFER to Kota Tua
Working cross-sectionally Integrated approach Integrated funding system	German Association of Cities	Triggering private investments by increased public investments Participation of all stakeholders
Regulation development Institutional development Tax incentives for heritage renewal	SEMARANG Indonesia	Set-up of a management board Funding from the central government Infrastructure upgrading
Inter-institutional collaboration Collaboration with site owners Public participation	GUANGZHOU China	Broadening immediate protection periphery of heritage sites Improving heritage site visibility
Public participation	SURABAYA Indonesia	Encouraging interaction and inclusion with public space design Economic development by conservation
Securing endangered buildings Upgrading infrastructure Modernizing buildings	GOERLITZ & TUEBINGEN Germany	Securing endangered buildings Creating funding schemes Advising property owners
District-oriented approach Inter-departmental subject forums Involving politicians, academia, etc	NUREMBERG Germany	Considering area specific needs Cooperation and prioritization Ensuring political will
Heritage sites inventory & database Creating a specialists group Cultural heritage regulations	SOLO (SURAKARTA) Indonesia	Cultural events and markets for creating cultural public spaces and supporting heritage revitalization
Participative governance Increased heritage and culture funding Cultural awareness and education	VIGAN The Philippines	Creating awareness and acceptance Engaging all stakeholders through heritage conservation-based policies
Inclusion of various stakeholders Masterplan and marketing strategy Organising cultural events	ESSEN Germany	Stakeholder collaboration Participation through transparency Embracing diversity





Recommendations

Recommendations in strategic terms comprised a review of the existing masterplan for Kota Tua, especially concerning evaluation of the „Outstanding Universal Values“ („OUV“) of the existing urban environment and monuments in order to meet the „OUV“ criteria of a UNESCO nomination. The extension of a possible buffer zone, possibly including the four islands and the immediate historic town centre, would positively influence the overall urban renewal process and create spill-over effects within and even beyond the buffer zone.

The rehabilitation of the area then - based on the existing legal instruments, urban development goals and local laws of heritage nominations - would raise the chances to mobilise financial resources available as well as increase commitment of owners and other stakeholders. Starting the rehabilitation with selected monuments of high quality and relevance for the preservation of the entire ensemble, would benefit the overall nomination process.

This strategy should be based on a systematic approach to mobilise owners of the buildings and get their support and commitment based on specific instruments related

to tax exemptions, advice on reconstruction work and individual consultations on appropriate future uses of properties. Moreover, the rehabilitation of public space might be an important incentive for this intended private sector driven reconstruction approach. Creating a mixed living environment with mixed uses - recreation, commerce, living - would also help integrating various user groups and attract visitors and investors alike.

In institutional terms, the creation of a sub-district of its own (Kota Tua and Islands) could greatly facilitate the rehabilitation process by allowing to allocate sufficient management authority and fiscal resources to one distinct level of government. Including Kota Tua revitalization in the ongoing formulation of the medium-term development plan (RPJMD) is seen as important as well. The application for inscription on the World Heritage List would thus be an accompanying process in collaboration with the national level institutions (in charge of putting up a “Tentative List”), that follows special procedures and needs time. The progress in rehabilitation has its own very important value for Kota Tua, but to the same extent it adequately supports the application process.

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