

5<sup>th</sup> Kitakyushu Initiative Network Meeting  
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## Session F: Ongoing and Future Initiatives on Sustainable Urban Development



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## Objectives of Session F



- Review current and prospective regional initiatives promoting sustainable urban development in Asia-Pacific, and discuss how these initiatives can sustain the results of the Kitakyushu Initiative after its completion and identify areas for future collaboration
- Identify priority areas that require regional cooperation that could be brought to the attention of the 6<sup>th</sup> Ministerial Conference on Environment and Development in Asia and the Pacific, which ESCAP is organizing in Astana, Kazakhstan on 27 Sep - 3 Oct 2010

## Organization of Session F



- Regional partners are invited to briefly present their relevant initiatives and elaborate on how these initiatives can make use of the results of the Kitakyushu Initiative, and identify areas for future collaboration
- Implementing partners of the Kitakyushu Initiative will present first, and then other regional partners will be invited to take the floor
- Discussion

## ESCAP Programmes and Activities leading to MCED 6

## ESCAP Urban Programmes



- More than 20 years promoting urban agenda in Asia-Pacific
- ESCAP activities
  - Normative and analytical work
  - Identifying, testing and replicating innovative solutions
  - Policy dialogue
- Wide array of national and regional partners

## ESCAP Urban Programmes (2)



- Kitakyushu Initiative for a Clean Environment
- Eco-efficient and Sustainable Infrastructure
- Asia-Pacific Mayors' Forum on Environmentally Sustainable Urban Infrastructure
- Decentralized Solid Waste Management
- Integrated Pro-poor Water and Wastewater Management in Small Towns
- Housing the Urban Poor
- Pro-poor Housing Finance
- State of Asian Cities Report
- Asia-Pacific Urban Forum

### Asia-Pacific Urban Challenge

- 40% of Asians currently live in urban areas: by 2030, a majority (around 2.7 billion) will live in cities and towns: this means adding a new town of 130,000 every day for the next 20 years
- The scale and pace of urbanization in Asia-Pacific is unprecedented in history
- Over 80% of the region's GDP is produced in cities and towns
- Over 40% of Asia-Pacific's urban residents live in slums, without adequate shelter and basic services
- Cities account for 67% of all energy use and for 71% of all GHG emissions
- Asia-Pacific stands to be most affected by climate change impacts

### Action required

- Under the current development paradigm urbanization and urban development in Asia is unsustainable. There is a fast closing window of opportunity to make them inclusive and sustainable
- The cost of inaction will be massive: increased poverty, social instability and environmental degradation for decades to come
- Making Asian cities ecologically sustainable on the one hand and equitable on the other will require considerable innovative thinking and action
- It would also require innovative approaches to financing of urban infrastructure and services to meet the needs and demands of the growing urban populations

### ESCAP Future activities

- By 2030, when Asia-Pacific becomes urban, what do we want our cities to be? We identified 7 pillars for making Asian cities sustainable and inclusive:
  1. Economic productive
  2. Environmental sustainable
  3. Socially just and inclusive
  4. Cultural vibrant
  5. Globally, regionally and locally connected
  6. Resilient to shocks and climate change
  7. Participatory in decision-making
- In the run-up to MCED 6, ESCAP seeks to stimulate a region-wide discussion on a vision and action plan for making Asian cities sustainable and inclusive

### MCED Process

- Ministerial Conference on Environment and Development in Asia and the Pacific (MCED)
- Convened every 5 years since 1985
- Attended by Ministers from all ESCAP member states (62)
- Adopts the Ministerial Declaration and Regional 5-year Plan of Implementation

**Outcomes of previous MCEDs**

1985 UNESCAP action areas

1990 Regional strategy for Sound and Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific

1995 Regional Action Programme for Environmentally Sound and Sustainable Development 1995-2000

2000 Regional Action Programme for Environmentally Sound and Sustainable Development 2001-2005 and Kitakyushu Initiative for a Clean Environment

2005 Regional Implementation Plan for JPOI 2006-2010 and a set of regional/ subregional initiatives including the Seoul Initiative on Green Growth

### Asia-Pacific Urban Forum

- Organized regularly to discuss pressing issues
- Attended by ministers, Parliamentarians, mayors, senior officials from national and local governments, representatives from NGOs and civil society, academics, private sector, international organizations
- APUF 2010 organized as side-event to MCED 6
- ESCAP will be presenting outcomes of the Kitakyushu Initiative and other programmes
- Other regional partners are invited to join the programme and participate with dedicated sessions, side events, etc.



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