

UNCRD Annual Reports 2017/2018



United Nations
Centre for Regional Development
Nagoya, Japan

UNCRD Annual Reports 2017/2018

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United Nations
Centre for Regional Development
Nagoya, Japan

Mission Statement of UN DESA

The Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat is a vital interface between global policies in the economic, social, and environmental spheres and national action. The Department works in three main interlinked areas: (a) it compiles, generates, and analyses a wide range of economic, social, and environmental data and information on which States Members of the United Nations draw to review common problems and to take stock of policy options; (b) it facilitates the negotiations of Member States in many intergovernmental bodies on joint courses of action to address ongoing or emerging global challenges; and (c) it advises interested Governments on the ways and means of translating policy frameworks developed in United Nations conferences and summits into programmes at the country level and, through technical assistance, helps build national capacities.

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Director's Note



It is my great pleasure to address the readers of the UNCRD Annual Reports 2017/2018.

As I assumed my current position only in August 2018, I was not on hand to witness the many activities described in this combined issue of the UNCRD Annual Report, which covers the period from July 2016 to June 2018. However, by means of the experience gained from my participation in a number of UNCRD meetings and training sessions since August 2018, it is easy to imagine how all these activities were successfully conducted with the active participation of UNCRD staff members and the many individuals and entities which support the Centre.

Prior to joining UNCRD, I engaged in projects in the field of socioeconomic infrastructure such as road transportation while working at the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism, Government of Japan. I have also worked in the field of international cooperation while working for the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and the World Bank. In order to realize the United Nations-led Agenda 21 in 1992 and the Millennium Development Goals (MDG) initiative in 2000, it was necessary for each country's efforts to be linked to a project in the field to obtain financial support for development and technical cooperation. Since the early 1970s, UNCRD has been promoting a wide range of "regional development" issues in its research and training programmes under the broad banner of international cooperation, and has supported developing countries through a range of assistance in capacity-building, research and training, advisory services, and information-sharing activities in the regional development field.

More than three years has passed since the United Nations Sustainable Development Summit at which the *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development* was adopted which included the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). UNCRD has put concerted efforts into aligning its work programme and activities with this Agenda and the SDGs. In the environment field, the Centre has continued its focus on sustainable urban management with the Environmentally Sustainable Transport (EST) and 3Rs (reduce, reuse, recycle)/waste management projects. During the reporting period, the Regional EST Forum was held in Vientiane, Lao PDR and EST Training Courses were held in Pathumthani, Thailand and Tokyo, Japan, respectively. And for 3Rs, two Regional 3R Forums in Asia and the Pacific were held in

Adelaide, South Australia, and in Indore, Madhya Pradesh, India. These forums' programmes are also in line with 2030 Agenda and the SDGs. Developing countries are seeking insights and advice on how to deal with complicated issues such as transportation and waste disposal for the sustainable development of their towns and cities. Support of strategy formulation and provision of high-level policy dialogues in each country at these forums and training courses are ways in which UNCRD has responded to the needs of developing countries.

Among the points addressed by the SDGs are the most pressing global challenges of our time. They address a wide range of social, economic, and environmental issues, generally through an integrated approach. UNCRD has emphasized that regional development constitutes an important approach to sustainable development, believing that such an approach is a useful instrument in achieving the 2030 Agenda/SDGs in each region (Localizing SDGs). To this end, it is our belief that UNCRD can utilize the experiences that have been gained so far. UNCRD has continued to conduct training courses upon request and on a self-financed basis. For example, in 2018, a training course on localizing SDGs were held for officers of the Bangkok Metropolitan Administration (BMA), Thailand and in Kuching City South, Malaysia, respectively (details of these training courses will be contained within the next Annual Report). During that time, requests to join the training course as an observer came from various local governments in the Chubu region of Japan, which indicated the trend towards localizing SDGs in response to the increasing awareness of their importance in local communities. This is one of the trends for which UNCRD is working.

During the reporting period, a public symposium was organized as part of the UNCRD 45th Anniversary Commemorative Event which focused on SDG 11 "Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable" in light of the current situation in which social capabilities to deal with pressing issues such as low birthrate and an aging society are being questioned. The situation whereby natural disasters cause widespread damage is an additional context in which SDG 11 becomes highly relevant. SDGs apply to, and should be implemented by, all countries, so they have drawn considerable interest from various parties in terms of how to ensure the sustainable development of each country. While focusing on SDG 9 "Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation" and SDG 11 among the 17 goals, we would like to continue our efforts to build and promote sustainability and resilience in our cities and regions, and utilize in the best possible manner the past and ongoing experiences from UNCRD activities to contribute to making a better world.

In regards to the vision of our future efforts and the direction to be taken by UNCRD, we will continue to take into account issues of sustainable development in developing countries and the ongoing needs of internationalization in Chubu region and Japan as a whole, while sharing this concern with all relevant parties.

We would like to express our profound gratitude for the generous assistance and encouragement received until now, and in continuing to carry out the UNCRD mandate, we would sincerely request the further support and cooperation of all involved parties.



Kazushige Endo
Director

UNCRD Overview, July 2016-June 2018

This report, *UNCRD Annual Reports 2017/2018*, combines two reporting periods spanning the period from July 2016 to June 2018. This section, “UNCRD Overview”, retains a conventional approach by discussing the activities being undertaken by each unit (Economic and Social Development; Environment; and Information Services). This organizational setup is depicted in the UNCRD Organizational Chart on the next page. The main report presents UNCRD activities on a thematic basis (Regional Development; Environment; Publications; and Outreach Activities). At the conclusion of the report, financial statements and a calendar of activities are included.

Relationship between UNCRD and UN DESA

UNCRD was established in 1971 in Nagoya, Japan through an agreement between the United Nations and the Government of Japan for the promotion of regional development in developing countries and countries with economies in transition. UNCRD is a project of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations (UN DESA) and, has been administered by the Division for Sustainable Development Goals (DSDG). See annex 1 for further details.

UNCRD and Additional External Support

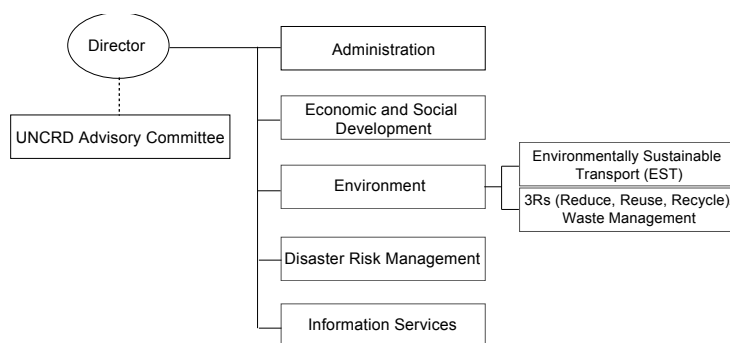
UNCRD receives its core budget as a result of the generous support of the Government of Japan. In addition to the core budget, UNCRD also receives valuable external support from a broad range of partners and collaborating agencies/governments for its activities. UNCRD facilities in Nagoya have benefited from the welcome support for office premises from the Nagoya International Center (NIC), and additional support for a seconded official at UNCRD extended by the Aichi Prefectural Government. The Centre also received external funding from the UNCRD Cooperation Association for its outreach activities and deeply appreciates this continued support. We would like to take this opportunity to express our sincere gratitude to one and all.

Summary of the Reporting Period

UNCRD carried out a number of activities during the reporting period, from July 2016 to June 2018, in support of *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development* and SDGs.

During the reporting period, UNCRD organized the 45th Anniversary Commemorative Event in August 2016. The aim of the event was to widely disseminate the four-and-a-half decades of UNCRD’s experiences in various thematic areas with a view to moving towards the fulfillment of the *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*. The event consisted of the Expert Group Meeting (EGM) on “Regional Development in the Context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”; the Public Symposium: “Wisdom of the World and Wisdom of Chubu ~ Sustainable and Resilient Regional Development ~ United Nations Centre for Regional Development”; and a technical tour to Toyota City. In addition to the Anniversary Commemorative events, the collaborative events

UNCRD Organizational Chart



(As of June 2018)

were co-organized in cooperation with an academic association and universities.

During the reporting period, a series of collaborative activities were conducted with UN-Habitat and other international organizations, etc. Following the Expert Group Meeting held in Monteria, Colombia in October 2015, a side event was organized at the High Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF) in July 2016 in collaboration with UN-Habitat, UNISDR, UNDP and the International Recovery Platform (IRP). The next event was a session of the Speaker’s Corner on the pre-launch of an issue of the *Regional Development Dialogue (RDD)* on “Urban-rural linkages in support to the New Urban Agenda” at the third session of the Preparatory Committee for Habitat III in Surabaya, Indonesia in July 2016. UNCRD published RDD vol. 35 and organized a session of Urban Library at Habitat III, held in Quito, Ecuador in October 2016. In addition, during Habitat III, UNCRD co-organized a Training Event with UN-Habitat on Delivering the New Urban Agenda through sustainable urban mobility solutions and Transit Oriented Development (TOD). Furthermore, UNCRD is continuing to network with the collaborative partners on urban-rural linkages. To this end, a follow-up meeting on the topic was held in Rome, Italy in March 2017.

Also, during this period, the Economic and Social Development Unit has continuously engaged in organizing policy forums and training in the area of regional development, including sustainable urban management. UNCRD took part in a training course on performance-based budgeting for Indonesian Government officials in September-October 2016 at the request of the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA). The training course was conducted in Aichi Prefecture, Japan, where UNCRD is located, and it was followed by an experience-sharing seminar in Jakarta, Indonesia in December 2016. UNCRD co-organized the Vientiane International Mayors Forum in March 2017, in conjunction with the 10th Regional Forum on Environmentally Sustainable Transport (EST) in Asia to discuss key questions and issues related to the implementation of SDG 11, where mayors, leaders and representatives of local governments from Lao PDR, and from around the world took part to enhance their capacities. UNCRD also implemented a project on “Technical Cooperation to the Process of Formulation of the Strategic Plan of Territorial Organization for the Metropolitan Area of Bucaramanga (AMB)” since July 2017 and completed in June 2018. The project was in support of the process of formulation of the Strategic Plan of Territorial Organization for the Metropolitan Area of Bucaramanga (PEMOT). The guidelines for PEMOT were also completed. For capacity-building, the project conducted ten training workshops during the period from July 2017 to June 2018. A mission to Bilbao was conducted in November 2017 with the aim of learning about the transformation process of the metropolitan area. The learning experience there enriched the formulation of PEMOT by AMB. Moreover, the International Symposium on the Implementation of SDGs-Role of Technology, Partnership and

City-to-City (C2C) Cooperation for Building Resilient and Sustainable Societies was organized by UNCRD in collaboration with Toyota City Government in February 2018. As for other activities during 2017, discussion with BAPPEDA (Regional Planning Agency) of the Government of Indonesia was made to explore possible capacity-building collaboration on specific SDGs. And for the local events on SDGs, UNCRD organized the Public Seminar on “Localizing SDGs in Chubu Region” in February 2017 and also in February 2018. For more SDGs-related activities, UNCRD was involved in several events at local universities.

During the intervening period, the Economic and Social Development Unit had received additional support for its activities from various entities for the period June 2016 to June 2017 including: Toyota City Government; Nagoya International Center; Meijo University; and the Japan Association for Human and Environmental Symbiosis (JAHES). For the period July 2017 to June 2018 including: Toyota City Government; and Meijo University.

During the reporting period, UNCRD’s Environment Unit has continued its focus on sustainable urban management with the following activities: Environmentally Sustainable Transport (EST); 3Rs (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle)/Waste Management; and International Partnership for Expanding Waste Management Services of Local Authorities (IPLA) – a SDG Partnership.

For environmentally sustainable transport (EST), a range of activities was implemented. The 10th Regional EST Forum in Asia in March 2017 in Vientiane, Lao PDR, where the EST member countries adopted the *Vientiane Declaration on Rural Transport towards Achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*. Also in support of the 10th EST Forum, three events were organized: (a) Pre-event on the Contribution of Rural Transport to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, 13 March 2017; (b) the Regional Seminar on Sustainable and Inclusive Transport Development – Fostering Rural Transport Connectivity to help achieve SDGs, 14-16 March 2017; and (c) Vientiane International Mayors Forum, 15 March 2017, in support of SDG 11. With the theme of “Rural-Urban Connectivity in Integrated Regional Development – Implications towards Livelihood Security and Poverty Alleviation”, UNCRD organized a side event in July 2017 at the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development. UNCRD also co-organized the Regional EST Policy Dialogue and Training Workshop with the theme “Building Resilient and Sustainable Cities through EST Solutions & Measures ~ Realizing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development” in October 2017 at AIT, Pathumthani, Thailand, where seventy-four local/city government officials from thirty-four cities underwent training. And the Regional EST Training Course on “Railways as the Low-Carbon and Sustainable Transport Development Solutions in Achieving Safe, Inclusive, Efficient and Resilient Communities under the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development” was organized at the United Nations University (UNU), Tokyo, Japan in February-March 2018.

In the area of 3Rs and waste management, the Seventh Regional 3R Forum in Asia and the Pacific was held in November 2016 in Adelaide, South Australia where the *Adelaide 3R Declaration towards the Promotion of Circular Economy in Achieving Resource Efficient Societies in Asia and the Pacific under the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development* was adopted. UNCRD co-organized a side-event at the UN Ocean Conference in support of SDG 6 and SDG 15 and with the theme of 3R as the Basis for Moving Towards Zero Waste Plastics in Coastal and Marine Environment. In June 2017, UNCRD conducted a field study programme provided by Kawasaki city to deepen the understanding of the current situation at Kawasaki Eco Town in order to prepare for a future 3R training programme in support of SDGs. The Eighth Regional 3R Forum in Asia and the Pacific was organized in April 2018 in Indore, Madhya Pradesh, India. The mayors and city authorities signed the *Indore 3R Declaration*. In support of the Eighth Regional 3R Forum in Asia and the Pacific, pre- and relevant-events were organized during this forum. The 7th International Conference on Solid Waste Management (7th IconSWM 2017) held in December 2017 at which UNCRD provided substantial support is also considered as an event in support of the forum. As

for the “Status of 3Rs in Asia-Pacific”, UNCRD co-organized a special session on “Status of 3Rs in Asia-Pacific” at the 4th 3R International Scientific Conference (3RINCs) in March 2017, with the aim of strengthening the ongoing assessment on the State of the 3Rs in Asia and the Pacific Report at that time. Moreover, UNCRD organized the 6th drafting committee meeting in collaboration with IGES to finalize the 3rd Draft of the synthesis report, “State of the 3Rs in Asia and the Pacific”. This report was launched during the Eighth Regional 3R Forum in Asia and the Pacific. Additionally, during the reporting period, UNCRD supported, participated in, and contributed to several national and international conferences and meetings in support of the *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*.

During the intervening period, the Environment Unit received additional support for its activities from various entities, for the period July 2016 to June 2017 including: the Ministry of the Environment, Government of Japan; Ministry of Public Works and Transport, Lao PDR; United Nations Office for Sustainable Development (UNOSD); Department for International Development (DFID)/Research for Community Access Partnership (ReCAP); United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UN ESCAP); IRU & United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat); Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ); Local Governments for Sustainability (ICLEI); International Union of Railways (UIC); Government of South Australia, Australia; Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO); Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) of India; CSIR-Institute of Petroleum, Dehradun, India; Japan Society of Material Cycles and Waste Management; International Society of Waste Management, Air and Water; Korean Society of Waste Management; Indian Institute of Technology (IIT)-New Delhi, India; Asia-Pacific Network for Global Change Research (APN); Kuching City Government; and Jadavpur University, Centre for Quality Management System. For the period of July 2017 to June 2018, support was received from: the Ministry of the Environment, Government of Japan; Japan Railway Technical Service (JARTS); Curtin University Sustainability Policy Institute, Perth, Australia; The Institute for Transportation and Development Policy (ITDP), China; East Japan Railway Company; Eco-Mo Foundation, Japan; United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR); Iwate Prefectural University, Japan; National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies (GRIPS), Japan; Institute of Transportation Economics (ITE), Japan; GIZ; Asian Institute of Technology (AIT); Partnership on Sustainable, Low Carbon Transport (SLoCaT); UNOSD; ReCAP; BMZ; UN-Habitat; Cities Alliance; United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO); International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD); Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD); Government of India; Government of South Australia, Australia; International Society of Waste Management, Air and Water (ISWMAW); VITO; and Griffith University.

Information Services continue to comprise two separate sections, Publications and Outreach Activities, and both have the objectives of disseminating information and increasing awareness of UNCRD’s activities. The Centre continues to produce informational materials (UNCRD brochure and the *UNCRD Annual Report*); periodicals (*Regional Development Dialogue, RDD*); and other occasional publications. During the reporting period, work began on the preparation of *RDD, Vol. 36* which comprised meeting papers from the Expert Group Meeting (EGM) held as part of the UNCRD 45th Anniversary Commemorative Event, in 2016.

For Outreach Activities, during this period, public seminars were held to promote better understanding of the activities of UNCRD. And participation in outside events was maintained to enhance the Centre’s visibility in a broader regional context, especially within the Chubu Region, in which the Centre is located. At the same time, in order to promote the understanding of development issues among students and the local community, UNCRD staff members continued to provide lectures on UNCRD activities and SDGs upon request.

UNCRD 45th Anniversary Commemorative Event

In commemoration of the 45th anniversary of UNCRD's establishment, UNCRD held a Commemorative Event during the reporting period, which included various anniversary collaborative events.

UNCRD 45th Anniversary Commemorative Event

30 August-1 September 2016, Nagoya and Toyota, Japan

A 45th Anniversary Commemorative Event was organized by UNCRD in collaboration with the Implementation Committee for UNCRD's 45th Anniversary, the UNCRD Cooperation Association, and Nagoya International Center (NIC). The aim of this event was to widely disseminate UNCRD's four and a half decades of experience in various thematic areas with a view to moving towards the *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*. The event consisted of an Expert Group Meeting (EGM) on "Regional Development in the Context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development"; a Public Symposium: "Wisdom of the World and Wisdom of Chubu ~ Sustainable and Resilient Regional Development ~ United Nations Centre for Regional Development"; and a technical tour to Toyota City. Throughout the event, UNCRD conducted a review of the achievements made during the past 45 years, affirmed the future direction that it should take, as well as widely disseminated the information on the activities of UNCRD and their effectiveness.

(1) Expert Group Meeting (EGM) on "Regional Development in the Context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development"

For the EGM, UNCRD engaged twenty-two experts, comprising two mayors (Surabaya, Indonesia and Toyota, Japan), scholars, and practitioners of regional and urban development from Australia, Bangladesh, China, India, Japan, Mongolia, and Sri Lanka as well as experts from international organizations such as the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development



(OECD) and the United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR), and the private sector. It was attended by eighty participants, including ex-UNCRD staff members



EGM participants

and the alumni of the training courses.

At the EGM, the new challenge and the future direction of UNCRD were discussed and determination was re-affirmed to promote the *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*, recognizing the importance and relevance of UNCRD's current initiatives of integrated regional development planning (IRDP), environmentally-sustainable transport (EST), 3Rs (reduce, reuse, recycle), and International Partnership for Expanding Waste Management Services of Local Authorities (IPLA) – a SDG partnership on waste management at local and municipal levels.

Finally, the EGM made the following recommendations for UNCRD to efficiently and effectively assist developing countries to implement the New Agenda: launch a vision in the context of the *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*; create a database and disseminate good practices of sustainable regional and urban development to developing countries; further expand its network which has been built up over the past forty-five years; and strengthen its relationship with the local community.

The papers generated for the Expert Group Meeting will be published in a special issue of the UNCRD journal, *Regional Development Dialogue (RDD)*.

(2) Public Symposium: “Wisdom of the World and Wisdom of Chubu ~ Sustainable and Resilient Regional Development ~ United Nations Centre for Regional Development”

The Public Symposium was held with an audience of 150, including scholars, local government officials, university students, private companies, NGO/NPO members, and ordinary citizens.

At the Symposium, Lenni Montiel, Assistant Secretary-General for Economic Development, United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA), delivered a keynote speech, focusing on the implementation of the *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*. He highlighted the important role of cities and regions in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), noting that the regional development approach continues to be a very useful instrument, and invited the Chubu region to devise an exemplary sustainable regional development plan following the experience of forty-five years ago when the region presented a model regional development plan. He conveyed UN DESA's hopes that UNCRD will continue its important work on regional development, which is very pertinent in implementing the *2030 Agenda*. Following the keynote



Lenni Montiel delivered a keynote speech

speech, the UNCRD Director reported on the results of the EGM.

The Symposium also heard welcome statements by Masaaki Kobayashi, Vice-Minister, Ministry of the Environment; Tatsushi Nishioka, Director, Global Issues Cooperation Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Hideaki Ohmura, Governor of Aichi Prefecture; and Takashi Kawamura, Mayor of Nagoya City, all of whom expressed their continued support for the activities of UNCRD.



Panel discussion

The panel discussion had the same theme as the Symposium itself, “Wisdom of the World and Wisdom of Chubu ~ Sustainable and Resilient Regional Development ~ United Nations Centre for Regional Development”. The co-moderators and panellists engaged in extensive and insightful discussion on sustainable and resilient cities focussing on SDG 11, drawing from experiences of Nagoya City, Kamaishi City (which was affected by the Great East Japan Earthquake in 2011), Surabaya City, and the State of South Australia. The Symposium was considered successful, particularly in raising broader public awareness on SDGs among the various stakeholders in the Chubu Region, where UNCRD is located.

(3) Technical tour to Toyota City

At the end of the Commemorative Event, UNCRD conducted a technical tour for participating experts to observe the experience of Toyota City in creating a low-carbon society in conjunction the private sector. The experts visited Toyota Ecoful Town, which demonstrates the various innovative measures introduced by Toyota City to create a low-carbon society and lifestyle. The Town is a result of empirical projects carried out by Toyota City together with the private sector and the citizens, including the hydrogen station for *Mirai*, a hydrogen fuel cell electric vehicle, smart houses, smart mobility park, and the Intelligent Transport System (ITS).



Visit one of smart houses at Toyota Ecoful Town

The 45th Anniversary Commemorative Event was an excellent opportunity for UNCRD to demonstrate its continued leadership in promoting sustainable regional development in the context of the *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*.

UNCRD 45th Anniversary Collaborative Events

Public Symposium on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and Collaboration between the United Nations and the Region

4 June 2016, Nagoya, Japan



Panel discussion

As a pre-event to the 45th Anniversary Commemorative Event, UNCRD co-organized a symposium in collaboration with Nagoya Gakuin University. The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) constitute an urgent call for action by all countries - developed and developing - in a partnership with various stakeholders including civil society. With this awareness, the symposium addressed sustainable development as well as the ways in which collaboration, cooperation and partnerships can be built together with the United Nations, univer-

sities, civil society, the private sector, and so on to promote sustainable development in the Chubu Region.

At the symposium, UNCRD explained the process of how the *2030 Agenda* together with SDGs was formulated and agreed upon and outlined the Centre's main activities: Integrated Regional/Urban Development Planning (IRDP); Environmentally-Sustainable Transportation (EST); 3Rs (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle); and the International Partnership for Expanding Waste Management Services of Local Authorities (IPLA) in the context of implementing SDGs. UNCRD also introduced its training and capacity-building activities that have been undertaken in close cooperation with local governments, universities, and the private sector in Aichi Prefecture to assist training participants, mostly government officials from developing countries, to obtain the knowledge and skills required to formulate and implement an integrated set of sustainable development policies and measures to promote SDGs.

The valuable experiences of former UN experts were also shared to seek further collaboration among the UN, NPOs/NGO, and the wider civil society. Lively discussion and exchange of opinions with the floor took place while concrete ideas of cooperation in the fields of education, human resource development, and education were advanced. The symposium was attended by around 180 students and members of the general public. It is to be hoped that they were encouraged to join local actions and efforts to implement SDGs.

Special Session, "Japan Association for Human and Environmental Symbiosis (JAHES) and International Cooperation – UNCRD Activities and its Future" at the Nineteenth Academic JAHES Conference

18 September 2016, Tokyo

As part of the UNCRD 45th Anniversary Commemorative Event, a special session regarding cooperation between UNCRD and the Japan Association for Human and Environmental Symbiosis (JAHES) was held at the Nineteenth Academic Conference of JAHES in Tokyo. This event was held as a result of many former UNCRD staff members belonging to JAHES.

During the session, UNCRD delivered a presentation on its activities and reported on the Expert Group Meeting at the 45th Anniversary Commemorative Event, which was held in August 2016. At the ensuing panel discussion, international cooperation through JAHES activities and collaboration between UNCRD and academia for promoting SDG 11 were among the topics raised.



Panel discussion

Session on “Resilient and Sustainable Cities in Emerging Asia in the Context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development” at Meijo International Forum

9 October 2016, Nagoya

On 8-9 October 2016, the Meijo International Forum was co-organized by the Embassy of Sri Lanka, UNCRD, the Sri Lanka Academics Association of Japan, and Meijo Asian Research Center under the theme: “Discussions for Sustainable Development and Culture: Lessons for and from Emerging Asia”. Approximately 160 participants attended the Forum. Various academic and case studies were presented and discussed. Also addressed were a number of issues related to sustainable development in Asia. During the Forum, UNCRD organized a session on “Resilient and Sustainable Cities in Emerging Asia in the Context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development” on 9 October 2016 as part of UNCRD’s 45th Anniversary Commemorative Event. UNCRD’s presentation also included how to make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable. It was emphasized that a sustainable and resilient city must be energy-efficient, have efficient transportation systems, proper and modern public health and sanitation, good infrastructure, resource efficiency, a productive economy, and flourishing trade and proper governance. For a sustainable city to exist, the different systems within it have to work together in unison towards achieving this goal.



Participants of the Meijo International Forum 2016

Regional Development

Sustainable Urban Management

Vientiane International Mayors' Forum (VIMF)

5 March 2017, Vientiane, Lao PDR

The Vientiane International Mayors' Forum organized by the Division of Sustainable Development (DSD)/UN DESA, the United Nations Office for Sustainable Development (UNOSD) and UNCRD, was held on 15 March 2017, in conjunction with the Tenth Regional Forum on Environmentally Sustainable Transport (EST) in Asia, Vientiane, Lao PDR, from 14 to 16 March 2017. The Forum was attended by seventy-three representatives from thirty-nine cities in Asia, Africa, and



Latin America, including twenty-one mayors and deputy mayors, representatives from international organizations, and urban development experts. The main objective of the Forum was to provide an international platform for an exchange of experiences among mayors and other leaders of local governments on the implementation of local-level policies and projects to enhance the achievement of sustainable cities, as envisaged for implementing SDG 11 and other related Goals as well as in line with the New Urban Agenda adopted at the UN Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III) in Quito, Ecuador, in October 2016.

The Forum began with a joint session with the Tenth Regional EST Forum in Asia, which looked at policies for achieving smart, resilient and low-carbon cities. The Forum then held five parallel sessions to address a range of sustainable urban development and management issues complementing the SDGs. These sessions covered issues such as policies for achieving smart, resilient and low-carbon cities; integrated planning for sustainable urban development; participatory planning and financing for SDG 11; conservation of the cultural and natural heritage; provision of public space; and making cities more resilient. Mayors, leaders, and representatives of local governments from around the world as well as from Lao PDR presented cases and experiences and discussed key challenges and issues related to the implementation of SDG 11, focusing on Making Cities and Human Settlements Inclusive, Safe, Resilient, and Sustainable. Some of what was discussed and shared with participants at each session were as follows (excerpted from the Chair's Summary of the Tenth Regional EST Forum Meeting in Asia).

- Cities play a critical role as centres of power and economic growth and are linked to a large number of SDGs. Embracing the SDGs and the New Urban Agenda provides an opportunity for reassessing traditional methods of city planning, development and management and engage in those in a more comprehensive, integrated and inclusive manner, while providing enough flexibility to adapt the global goals to local contexts, recognizing their particular circumstances, needs, priorities and governance structures.
- Public participation formulates what should be done, and at the same time makes the citizens themselves “owners” of city development.
- Financing remains a significant challenge in facilitating a sustainable cities transformation. Cities need to improve their own sources of revenue, such as the property tax and consider using other financing mechanisms, such as PPPs, user charges, and value capture.
- Public consultations in the process of formulating urban renewal-related projects are essential to ensure the widest possible local public ownership of urban development programmes and projects. Direct and indirect promotion of sustainable tourism can generate some significant additional incomes for cities through additional business and employment opportunities. However, effective protection and conservation of local natural and the cultural resource base, including intangible heritage, is essential for long-term sustainability of tourism industries.
- Applying risk-informed planning and design strengthens resilience proactively. Despite the level of resilience integrated into development planning, some risks will remain thus requiring emphasis on disaster management initiatives that are designed to take people out of harm’s way.

The questionnaire survey conducted at the end of the Forum showed that the objective of the Forum to share good practices and lessons learned in order to develop strategies and policy planning for implementing SDGs and the New Urban Agenda was met. As a result of the Forum, it is to be expected that further efforts would be encouraged towards realizing an inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable city in participating cities.

International Symposium on the Implementation of SDGs – Role of Technology, Partnership, and City-to-City (C2C) Cooperation for Building Resilient and Sustainable Societies

2-3 February 2018, Toyota, Japan

Toyota City is known for its advanced efforts in developing itself into a “smart city” in close cooperation with the private sector, with its motto of “linking through people, knowledge and technology towards building sustainable societies”. The city is promoting low-carbon policy measures while raising its citizens’ awareness on SDGs through various innovative projects and activities. Against this background, UNCRD and Toyota City co-organized the “International Symposium on the Implementation of SDGs – Role of Technology, Partnership, and City-to-City (C2C) Cooperation for Building Resilient and Sustainable Societies” on 2-3 February 2018 in Toyota City. The symposium was also open to the public and had an audience of 180, including government officials, academia, private companies, citizens, and non-governmental, and nonprofit organizations (NGOs and NPOs).

Following welcome remarks by Toshihiko Ota, Mayor of Toyota City and opening remarks by UNCRD, Hiroko Kuniya, Board Member, Renewable Energy Institute delivered the keynote address entitled “SDGs as Hope – Not to Give up on the Future”, explaining the outline of SDGs and the necessity of efforts to achieve them. She emphasized that social dialogue with diverse stakeholders was important in promoting SDGs at the local level.



Panel discussion

Her keynote address was followed by two panel-discussion sessions: one was from the perspective of partnership and C2C cooperation and the other was from technology and innovation to promote SDGs. During the first session, entitled “City-to-City (C2C) Cooperation on Human Resource Development, Knowledge Exchange and Environmental Education

in Asia,” moderated by Takashi Otsuka, Director, ICLEI Japan, the panelists, comprising Bandung City (Indonesia), Toyama City, Chubu International Center, JICA, and Toyota City delivered presentations on their respective cases of building resilient and/or sustainable societies through joint problem-solving efforts with their respective partners. Otsuka pointed out the potential of SDGs, noting that they could serve as a platform for various stakeholders to find solutions together while connecting cities beyond national boundaries.

The second session on “Building Resilient and Sustainable Societies using New Technologies and Partnerships” began with a presentation by C.R.C Mohanty, Environment Programme Coordinator, UNCRD on “Urban Mobility and Sustainable Transport – Key Issues and Challenges in Implementing SDG 11”. He introduced the Environmentally Sustainable Transport (EST) initiative and its regional forums in Asia to address problems caused by rapid urbanization such as traffic jams, air pollution, and traffic accidents. Chulalongkorn University and Toyota Motor Corporation made presentations on their innovative projects utilizing technology such as the “sharing system for the last one mile” as well as a pilot project for alleviating traffic congestion in Thailand. Finally, Toyota City presented its efforts for various social empirical projects. Masaki Umejima of Keio University, moderator of this session and a member of the Advisory Board of Toyota City Connecting Social Demonstration Promotion Council – which is the core association of these social verification activities – mentioned that good coordination is an indispensable prerequisite in connecting the latest technology with solutions properly and that this role should be undertaken by the local government and universities.

Finally, Mayor Ota, noting that “linking” would become a universal keyword in the future, concluded that Toyota City had both aspects of urban and rural areas and could be regarded as an epitome of Japan. He stated his belief that problem-solving efforts linking people, knowledge, and technology in the city would be beneficial in other parts of Japan as well.

Collaborative Work on Urban-rural linkages towards Habitat III

July-October 2016

A series of collaborative activities were conducted with UN-Habitat, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN (FAO), the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), Communitas, German Corporation for International Cooperation GmbH (GIZ), and others, following the Expert Group Meeting on the topic held in Monteria, Colombia in October 2015 with the aim of bringing the issue of “urban-rural linkages” high on the New Urban Agenda in anti-

pation of the adoption at Habitat III. The first among them was a side event organized at the High Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF) on “Integrated Regional Development Approach for Building Inclusive and Resilient Societies” on 20 July 2016 in collaboration with UN-Habitat, the United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the International Recovery Platform (IRP). This event, however, had two purposes. One was to address the recovery aspects of disaster risk reduction in an integrated manner in the process of regional development planning. Another was to integrate urban-rural linkages. The side event heard opening speeches from Minister Sekiguchi, Permanent Mission of the Government of Japan to the United Nations, Marcos Bonturi, Director, Global Relations Secretariat, OECD and Juwang Zhu, Director, DSD/UN DESA (delivered by Chikako Takase). There was also a presentation by Gyaltshen Penjor, Deputy Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of the Kingdom of Bhutan to the United Nations on Bhutan’s plan for integrating mass transit options in its *Eleventh Five-Year Plan* (2013-2018), whose pre-feasibility study was assisted by UNCRD.

The next event was a session of the Speaker’s Corner on the pre-launch of an issue of the UNCRD journal *Regional Development Dialogue* (RDD) on “Urban-rural Linkages in Support to the New Urban Agenda” at the third session of the Preparatory Committee for Habitat III in Surabaya, Indonesia in July 2016. Volume 35 of RDD contains the papers submitted to the Expert Group Meeting on the subject. The session was conducted as a dialogue among those authors who were attending the third session of the Preparatory Committee, moderated by Maruxa Cardama, Executive Coordinator and Founder of *Communitas*.

Finally, UNCRD released volume 35 of RDD and organized a session of the Urban Library to mark its launch with seven authors of eleven papers contained in the volume at Habitat III, held in Quito, Ecuador on 17 October 2016. The session was moderated by Maruxa Cardama of *Communitas* and the opening and closing remarks were delivered by Chikako Takase. As in the case of the Speaker’s Corner, at the third session of the Preparatory Committee, the session was conducted as a dialogue among the authors, who effectively conveyed the gist of their respective papers. All in all, the session succeeded in delivering the message of the UNCRD journal, which looked at urban-rural linkages from various perspectives, including integrated and participatory planning, partnership as a form of governance, intermediate cities, city-region food security, equitable distribution of urban development gains to rural areas through agricultural value chain and case studies from China. This event kicked off two successive events on the same topic: Special Session on Urban-Rural Linkages and a Networking Event. UNCRD was the co-organizer of both events, with the former being led by UN-Habitat and the latter by GIZ and Colombia.

In addition, during Habitat III, UNCRD co-organized a Training Event with UN-Habitat on Delivering the New Urban Agenda through sustainable urban mobility solutions and Transit Oriented Development (TOD) on 20 October 2016 in Quito. The three-hour session was divided into three sections: one hour and fifteen minutes each of lecturing and thirty minutes of questions and answers. UNCRD was responsible for the section of TOD and invited the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport, and Tourism of the Government of Japan, World Bank, Institute for Transport and Development Policy (ITDP), World Resource Institute and SLoCaT. Each presented their respective work on TOD and provided useful examples. Keeping aside the interactive dialogue session of thirty minutes at the end was a very good idea, which provided lively discussion and exchange of information. Two of the participants volunteered to be interviewed by the Habitat III secretariat. Furthermore, UNCRD is maintaining networking with the collaborative partners on urban-rural linkages, and a follow-up meeting on the topic was held in Rome, Italy in March 2017.

Integrated Regional Development Planning

Training Course on Performance-Based Budgeting for Indonesian Government Officials

30 September-7 October 2016, Aichi, Japan; and 13 December 2016, Jakarta, Indonesia

UNCRD took part in a training course on performance-based budgeting for Indonesian Government officials upon request from Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and assisted in the efforts of the Indonesian Government in the effective and practical introduction of Performance-Based Budgeting (PBB) to its budgeting process.

The training course was conducted in Aichi Prefecture, Japan, the region in which UNCRD is located. The modules included a lecture on “Regional Development in Japan” by UNCRD and visits to four local governments in Aichi Prefecture. UNCRD arranged and attended all the visits, helping the officials to obtain clear views on Japanese practices and to deepen their understanding of how PBB is implemented in each local government. The number of participants was fourteen in total, ranging from the directorate for Allocation of Development Funding (DFA), other directorates of BAPPENAS (National Development Planning Agency) as well as selected line ministries.

The training course was followed by an experience-sharing seminar in Jakarta, Indonesia. The participants of the training programme in Japan presented their findings and discussed the possibility of adopting the good practices of Japan in the Indonesian context. UNCRD made a follow-up presentation as guest speaker at the seminar, describing the background and progress of policy evaluation in Japanese local governments, and proposed a way to improve the quality of policy evaluation.

Technical Cooperation to the Process of Formulation of the Strategic Plan of Territorial Organization for the Metropolitan Area of Bucaramanga

July 2017-June 2018, Bucaramanga, Colombia

UNCRD re-started the work of Integrated Regional Development Planning (IRDP) in Latin America as there was a growing demand and interest of Latin American countries in the implementation of IRDP in their efforts towards sustainable development. Upon the request from the Metropolitan Area of Bucaramanga (AMB), UNCRD initiated the Technical Cooperation to the Process of Formulation of the Strategic Plan of Territorial Organization for AMB (*PEMOT*, Spanish acronym) with the objective of supporting the process of formulation of *PEMOT* by providing technical cooperation assistance and training in consistence with the operational framework of UNCRD, using IRDP as an instrument to achieve SDGs in AMB.

AMB is the second largest metropolitan area in Colombia, comprising the four municipalities of Bucaramanga, Piedecuesta, Giron, and Floridablanca, following the Metropolitan Area of Bogota. In 2015, AMB had already formulated a Comprehensive Metropolitan Development Plan for 2016-2026. The strategic metropolitan plan was regarded as an opportunity to overcome the urban and regional challenges that need to be addressed in the short term as well as to start building the territorial vision for the long term. In fact, Colombia had already begun implementing territorial integration with a legal framework and the metropolitan areas, including AMB were expected to demonstrate an example of the advantages of regional integration.

The Project had three components: technical assistance to the process of formulation of *PEMOT*; capacity-building workshops; and an international technical exposure visit to Bilbao, Spain. For capacity-building, the project conducted ten training workshops during the period



from July 2017 to June 2018 which were attended by a total of 336 participants including government officials from four AMB municipalities, central government officials, officials from public utility companies, and private sector representatives. The mission to Bilbao was conducted in November 2017 with the purpose of learning about the transformation process of the metropolitan area. Learning experience there enriched the formulation of *PEMOT* by AMB. Finally the Project came up with the proposal to *PEMOT*, consisting of thematic inputs and guidelines on the metropolitan system; natural system; transport and mobilization services; infrastructure and facilities; housing and habitat; public space; urban-rural linkages; metropolitan governance; and financing as well as on relevant projects to be implemented on a metropolitan scale, all of which were finally integrated into relevant chapters of *PEMOT*.

Through the Project, UNCRD succeeded in enabling AMB to understand the importance of SDGs and integrate them into the strategic plan of *PEMOT*, using the framework of IRDP, thus showing that IRDP continued to be a useful tool for localizing SDGs. The experience in AMB is expected to be beneficial to other metropolitan areas in Colombia as well as other Latin American countries.

UNCRD's Participation in a Session of the Fifth World Summit of Local and Regional Leaders (UCLG)

13 October 2016, Bogotá, Colombia

UNCRD was invited as a speaker for a session on “The Role of the Cities in the Implementation of the Paris Agreement, COP21” at the Fifth World Summit of Local and Regional Leaders (UCLG) held in Bogotá on 13 October 2016. The session touched on the cities’ responsibilities to implement SDG 11. Focusing on SDG 11 and the responsibilities of cities towards meeting this Goal, the session provided an opportunity to discuss the challenges in defining and implementing the roadmap to meet the objectives of the New Urban Agenda; options for the policies, strategies and programmes to be implemented; ways to engage citizens in promoting collective action in the city to act against climate change; and the commitment to sustainability needed for equity issues, health, and economic development. UNCRD’s presentation discussed Integrated Regional Development Planning (IRDP) and its relevance as a tool to the implementation of SDGs.

Environment

Environmentally Sustainable Transport (EST)

Tenth Regional Environmentally Sustainable Transport (EST) Forum in Asia

14-16 March 2017, Vientiane, Lao PDR

On the tenth anniversary of the Environmentally Sustainable Transport (EST) Initiative in Asia, the Tenth Regional EST Forum was co-organized by UNCRD - Division for Sustainable Development Goals (DSDG)/UN DESA with the Ministry of Public Works and Transport (MPWT) of the Government of Lao PDR, the Ministry of the Environment of the Government of Japan (MOE-Japan), Partnership on Sustainable, Low Carbon Transport (SLoCaT), the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UN ESCAP) and the United Nations Office for Sustainable Development (UNOSD), from 14 to 16 March 2017 in Vientiane, Lao PDR. With the theme of “2030 Road Map for Sustainable Transport ~ Aligning with Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)” the objectives of the Forum were to provide policy and institutional insights into how Asian EST member countries can contribute in achieving the *2030 Agenda of Sustainable Development/SDGs* through their sustainable transport solutions and actions. The Forum was attended by over 300 participants comprised of central and city government representatives from thirty-eight countries (Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, People’s Republic of China, Ecuador, India, Indonesia, Islamic Republic of Iran, Japan, Kiribati, Republic of Korea, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People’s Democratic Republic, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Peru, the Philippines, Russian Federation, Seychelles, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Viet Nam, and Zimbabwe), subsidiary Expert Group Members of the Regional EST Forum in Asia, international resource persons, representatives from various United Nations and international organizations, multilateral development banks, scientific and research organizations, nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), local observers and professionals from the transport and development sector in Lao PDR. Participants were from forty-eight countries, which included twenty-five regular member countries of the Regional EST Forum in Asia.

The objectives of the Tenth Regional EST Forum in Asia were to: (a) identify and discuss how Asian EST member countries can contribute in achieving the *2030 Agenda of Sustainable Development/SDGs* through their sustainable transport solutions and actions; (b) discuss various policy options, institutional measures, technological interventions, financing mechanisms, and partnership arrangement in the transport sector for the achievement of SDGs; (c) strengthen policy consultation on rural accessibility and connectivity for food security, eliminating hunger, regional cooperation and sustainable regional development; (d) address the role of railways in the context of *2030 Agenda of Sustainable Development* and SDGs; (e) discuss and address how

sustainable transport can contribute to achieve gender equality and to empower woman and girls; (f) review and evaluate countries' progress, initiatives, achievements, and best practices in addressing the goals of the *Bangkok 2020 Declaration (2010-2020)*; and (g) draw vital lessons and gain insights into the directions of the EST member countries in moving towards the SDGs through their sustainable transport solutions and actions.

As an integral part of the Tenth Regional EST Forum, two special events were co-organized: (a) Pre-event on Sustainable Rural Transport, 13 March 2017; and (b) Mayors' Forum on Sustainable Cities in Asia, 14 March 2016. As a demonstration of their leadership and commitment towards SDG 11, twenty-nine participating city mayors and local government representatives unanimously and voluntarily adopted and signed the *Kyoto Declaration* and the Addendum for the Promotion of Environmentally Sustainable Transport (EST) towards realizing smart, resilient, and livable cities in Asia.

The Forum addressed a number of cross-cutting issues of the transport sector, including environmentally-sustainable transport – connecting the dots to SDGs; the *Paris Agreement on Climate Change* and the New Urban Agenda; achieving greater food security, women's empowerment, poverty eradication through an improved, inclusive, and equitable transport system; rural-urban connectivity in achieving sustainable regional development; policies for achieving smart, resilient and low-carbon cities, the role of road safety in achieving sustainable development, green freight and logistics in the context of SDGs, rural transport access and services, climate adaptation and increasing resilience of rural transport infrastructure, enhancing the wider sustainability of rural transport networks, among others.

Following the outcome of the *Paris Agreement on Climate Change*, the *Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (2015-2030)*, the Third International Conference on Financing for Development in Ethiopia, the Istanbul Plan for Action on Least Developed Countries, and other global processes to facilitate intergovernmental policy consultations on sustainable transport solutions and actions for achieving the *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*, member countries of the EST Forum discussed and unanimously adopted the goodwill, voluntary, and legally non-binding “*Vientiane Declaration on Sustainable Rural Transport towards Achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*” and a chair's summary at the Tenth Regional EST Forum.



Forum participants

Side Event at the 2017 High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development

14 July 2017, New York

Under the theme of “Rural-Urban Connectivity in Integrated Regional Development ~ Implications towards Livelihood Security and Poverty Alleviation”, UNCRD, Division for Sustainable Development Goals (DSDG)/UN DESA, the Permanent Mission of Japan to the United Nations, United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), Research for Community Access Partnership (ReCAP) and GIZ/BMZ co-organized a side event on 14 July 2017 at the 2017 High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) on Sustainable Development. The main objective of the side event was to address and provide policy insights into how IRDP and relevant policy tools, such as urban-rural linkages and promoting connectivity in rural areas, can make a useful contribution towards the implementation of the *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development* and SDGs.

H.E. Hiroshi Minami, Ambassador and Deputy Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations addressed the meeting, highlighting the need to bridge the rural-urban gap in key development sectors such as agriculture, infrastructure, energy, and transportation, among others. He also underscored the importance of sustainable urban development in line with SDG 11 and Habitat III’s New Urban Agenda. UNCRD delivered a presentation on environmentally-sustainable transport (EST) in the context of inclusive development.

The side event contributed to the Forum’s theme by focusing on policies and tools that are found effective in promoting the eradication of poverty and promotion of prosperity, such as integrated regional development planning (IRDP), international guidelines on urban and territorial planning, national urban policies, strengthening policies and the capacity to address regional disparities, territorial approach to food security and nutrition, rural-urban linkages and partnerships, city-region approaches to food systems, and promoting rural transport. The side event also included good examples of such efforts, such as the *Vientiane Declaration on Rural Transport for Sustainable Regional Development* adopted at the Tenth Regional EST Forum in Asia in Lao PDR.

Regional EST Policy Dialogue and Training Workshop for South Asia and Southeast Asian Cities

10-12 October 2017, Pathumthani, Thailand

The Regional EST Policy Dialogue and Training Workshop under the theme of “Building Resilient and Sustainable Cities through EST Solutions & Measures ~ Realizing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development” was organized by UNCRD-DSDG/UN DESA from 10 to 12 October 2017 at the Asian Institute of Technology (AIT), Pathumthani, Thailand in collaboration with the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UN ESCAP), the Ministry of Transport (MOT) of the Royal Thai Government, AIT, the Ministry of the Environment of the Government of Japan (MOEJ), the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, Government of Germany, German International Cooperation (GIZ), Sustainable Urban Transport Project (SUTP), Transformative Urban Mobility Initiative (TUMI), and the Partnership on Sustainable, Low Carbon Transport (SLoCaT). The training workshop was supported by the Institute for Transportation and Development Policy (ITDP), 100 Resilient Cities, and ASUA, Japan and was organized as a follow up to the recommendations of the Ninth Regional EST Forum in Asia and in support of building the capacity of cities and local authorities towards achieving SDG 11 (Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable). The Regional EST Policy Dialogue and Training Workshop was attended by over 100 participants from



Participants of the Regional EST Policy Dialogue & Training Workshop

thirty-four cities in twenty-one countries (Australia, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, People's Republic of China, Germany, India, Indonesia, Japan, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Maldives, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand, US, and Viet Nam), including city officials, international resource persons, UN representatives, and personnel from international organizations, scientific, and research organizations and non-governmental organizations (NGOs). A total of twenty-one city mayors/vice mayors attended the training.

The objectives of the training workshop were: (a) to foster a common understanding across Asia on essential elements of EST as well as the need for an integrated approach to address unsustainable transport practices, and to build more liveable, sustainable, safe, and resilient Asian cities; (b) to gain policy insights to EST solutions and measures to enhance the sustainability, economic competitiveness, and resilience of cities; (c) to help cities establish sustainable transport planning goals, performance targets, standards and evaluation programmes; and (d) enhance the capacity of Asian cities and local authorities in better addressing SDG 11 through sustainable transport solutions and measures.

The Regional EST Policy Dialogue and Training Workshop helped build the capacity of South Asia and Southeast Asian cities to promote sustainable transport policies, planning, and development to better address SDG 11. The training course, including the practical sessions on project preparations for designing and implementing sustainable transport infrastructure and services in building resilient cities, provided useful orientation for developing cities towards accessing international financing. The workshop further discussed how central, state, and local governments and agencies should orient their transport policies and programmes to increase investments towards people and environment friendly, climate- and disaster-resilient infrastructure and services to minimize the loss of human life and socioeconomic damage.

Participation in the UNOSD 2017 Sustainable Development Transition Forum – Session 3: Sustainable Cities and Communities

30 October to 1 November 2017, Incheon, Republic of Korea

UNCRD participated in, and contributed to, the Sustainable Development Transition Forum (SDTF) from 30 October to 1 November 2017 in Incheon, Republic of Korea. The main objective of the 2017 SDTF was to achieve a better understanding of successes, lessons, and specific mechanisms for initiating and fostering the profound transformation that is urgently needed to make our societies sustainable and resilient, as expressed in the *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*. While discussing the specific thematic foci and selected SDGs of the 2017 and 2018 HLPFs, the 2017 SDTF aimed to achieve the correct balance among the economic, social, and environmental dimensions of sustainable development throughout the different sessions of the Forum. The event was attended by approximately 130 participants from central governments, UN agencies, Think Tanks, Development Banks, and academic institutions from around the world.

The 2017 SDTF contributed to the achievement of a better understanding of successes, lessons, and the specific mechanisms for initiating and fostering the profound transformation that is urgently needed to make our societies sustainable and resilient, as expressed in the *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*.

Regional EST Training Course on Railways

26 February-2 March 2018, Tokyo, Japan

The Regional EST Training Course under the theme of “Railways as the Low-Carbon and Sustainable Transport Development Solutions in Achieving Safe, Inclusive, Efficient and Resilient Communities under the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”, was held at the United Nations University (UNU) in Tokyo, Japan from 25 February to 3 March 2018. The training course was organized by UNCRD - DSDG/UN DESA in collaboration with the Ministry of the Environment and Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism of the Government of Japan, UNU-Institute for the Advanced Study of Sustainability (UNU-IAS), United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR), Japan Railway Technical Service (JARTS), the Institute for Transportation and Development Policy (ITDP), Curtin University Sustainability Policy Institute, Australia, and the Eco-Mo Foundation, Japan. The training was attended by fifty-one participants from the following seventeen countries: Australia, Bangladesh, Cambodia, P. R. China, India, Indonesia, Islamic Republic of Iran, Japan, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Pakistan, the Philippines, Russian Federation, Sri Lanka, Thailand, and Viet Nam. Under the overall framework of the Regional EST Forum in Asia, the Training Course on Railways addressed the specific needs, gaps, and challenges in the rail transport sector of Asia, and enhanced the capacity of EST member countries in making the railway transport system more safe, efficient, inclusive, resilient, and sustainable. As an integral part of the training course, two-day comprehensive technical field visits were designed to cover various design, operation, and safety aspects of the subway and surface rail system, including high-speed railways.

The needs-based training course contributed to enhancing the capacity of developing countries in making the railway transport system – both passengers and freight – safe, efficient, inclusive, resilient, and sustainable.



Participants of the Regional EST Training Course on Railways

3Rs (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle)/Waste Management

Seventh Regional 3R Forum in Asia and the Pacific 2- 4 November 2016, Adelaide, South Australia, Australia

UNCRD co-organized the Seventh Regional 3R Forum in Asia and the Pacific together with the Australian Government, Office of Green Industries SA, on behalf of the Government of South Australia, Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO), and the Ministry of the Environment, Japan (MOEJ), in Adelaide, South Australia from 2 to 4 November 2016.

Around 340 participants attended the Forum, comprising high-level government representatives (both central and local), international experts and resource persons, representatives from various United Nations and international organizations, scientific and research organizations, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), the private and business sectors, and other stakeholders from the following countries: Australia, Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, People's Republic of China, Germany, India, Indonesia, Iran, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kiribati, Kyrgyzstan, Republic of Korea, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Maldives, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mongolia, Myanmar, Niue, Nepal, Pakistan, Palau, the Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation,

Samoa, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Tuvalu, UK, Vanuatu, and Viet Nam. The expanded number of participating countries indicated that the Forum was providing a valuable platform for policy dialogue and the exchange of information among all the participating stakeholders.

The Forum was entitled "Advancing 3R and Resource Efficiency for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development" in order to gain policy and scientific insights into how resource efficiency and 3Rs can be advanced in achieving SDGs, including discussions on the role of 3Rs and resource efficiency in realizing smart, resilient, inclusive, and liveable cities. The Forum also enabled the private and business sectors not only to demonstrate their expertise, technical knowhow, and range of services through various exhibitions, but also facilitated exploration of various collaborative models and partnership options towards effective implementation of the *Ha Noi 3R Declaration (2013-2023)* as well as advancing 3Rs as an economic industry in Asia and the Pacific. Therefore participants discussed issues such as: (a) policy and instructional transformation; (b) resilience of cities and communities; (c) biomass waste in the rural economy; (d) private sector and sustainable business opportunities; (e) collaborative research and development; (f) greening SMEs for resource efficiency; (g) multilayer and inter-municipal cooperation; and (h) emerging science and technology. The Forum also provided participants with the opportunity to discuss lessons learned from country experiences in terms of challenges and barriers to 3Rs implementation in institutions, policies, regulation, financial incentives, research and development, and



Forum participants

financing mechanisms.

Consequently, the *Adelaide 3R Declaration towards the Promotion of Circular Economy in Achieving Resource Efficient Societies in Asia and the Pacific under the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development* was adopted. Japanese Vice Minister of the Environment, Shigemoto Kajihara, stressed the importance of the *Adelaide 3R Declaration*, which would promote 3Rs, resource efficiency and sustainable development, and also contribute to the implementation of the Paris Agreement through sustainable consumption and production, particularly in this rapidly growing region, Asia and the Pacific. UNCRD pronounced that the Forum would continue to serve as the catalytic platform to promote 3Rs and resource-efficiency policies and programmes. UNCRD also mentioned that the next Forum would be the mid-term assessment of the Hanoi 3R Goals (2013-2023) through the publication of the *State of 3Rs in Asia and the Pacific*.

In addition, UNCRD organized a pre-event with the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES) with the support of the MOEJ to draft the *State of 3Rs in Asia-Pacific*. The objectives of the pre-event were: (a) to discuss the drafting synthesis report with regional aspects; and (b) to arrive at a common understanding on the schedule towards the Eighth Regional 3R Forum in Asia and the Pacific in 2017. In parallel, an International 3R Exhibition was co-organized through the joint efforts of the Office of Green Industries SA and MOEJ with the participation of a number of private and business sector representatives to showcase and demonstrate state-of-the-art technologies and equipment in 3Rs and resource efficiency areas.

The Seventh Regional 3R Forum in Asia and the Pacific provided an excellent opportunity to exchange information and engage in dialogue on policies to advance the implementation of 3Rs and promote resource efficiency in the context of the *2030 Agenda*.

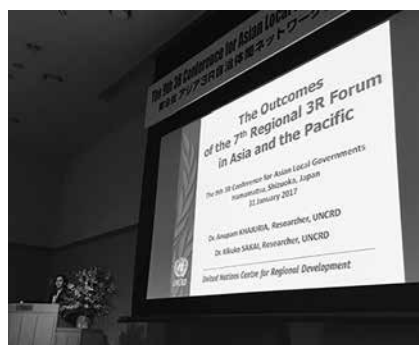
Keynote Speech at the Ninth 3R Conference for Asian Local Governments – 3R Development by City-to-City Cooperation

31 January 2017, Hamamatsu, Japan

UNCRD acted as a supporting organizer in the Ninth 3R Conference for Asian Local Governments – 3R Development by City-to-City Cooperation.

The Japan Environmental Sanitation Center has organized the 3R Conference for Asian Local Governments since 2008 to exchange 3R information and the problems on waste management among local governments. Four Asian local governments; Bandung City (Indonesia), Kota Kinabalu City (Malaysia), Da Nang City (Viet Nam) and Bangkok (Thailand); as well as their collaborators, the Japanese local governments of Hamamatsu, Akita, Osaka, and Yokohama played key roles in this conference in presenting their experience in city-to-city cooperation in the presence of 130 participants.

UNCRD made a keynote speech on “The Outcomes of the Seventh Regional 3R Forum in Asia and the Pacific” in order to introduce the UNCRD-led Regional 3R Forum in Asia and the Pacific. The presentation focused on the outcomes on 3R initiatives and practices in the context of moving towards closed-loop economies and efficient resource utilization. UNCRD also underlined the importance of multi-stakeholders’ cooperation among governments, scientific and research organizations, and the private sector. UNCRD explained that the Forum had provided policy insights for the improvement of resource efficiency and the circular economy and trans-



formation for the creation of sustainable business opportunities towards the economic success of Asia and the Pacific.

The presentation referred to the *Adelaide 3R Declaration* and its subtitle “Towards the Promotion of Circular Economy in Achieving Resource Efficient Societies in Asia and the Pacific under the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”.

Special Session at the Fourth 3R International Scientific Conference (3RINCs) on Material Cycles and Waste Management

8-10 March 2017, New Delhi, India

UNCRD and the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES) organized a Special Session on “Status of 3Rs in Asia-Pacific” at the Fourth 3R International Scientific Conference (3RINCs) on Material Cycles and Waste Management.

3RINCs had the function of providing a platform for academic activities which promote a 3R society, to strengthen mutual ties, and hold interdisciplinary discussions. The conference was organized by the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), New Delhi, India; the Central Building Research Institute, Roorkee, India; the CSIR-Indian Institute of Petroleum, Dehradun, India; the International Society of Waste Management, Air and Water (ISWMAW); and the Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi.

The objective of the Special Session was to discuss the status of 3R policy implementation including resource efficiency, and related scientific research in the Asia-Pacific region. It also aimed to share new information on policies for 3Rs and waste management in Malaysia and India, among others, in order to strengthen the ongoing assessment of the Report on the State of 3Rs in Asia and the Pacific. Reflecting on past Regional 3R Forums, UNCRD pointed out that conventional styles in waste management could be maintained. Consequently, UNCRD stated that the Regional 3R Forum, together with the State of 3Rs in Asia and the Pacific would serve to promote the implementation of 3R policies and practices

UNCRD’s participation brings positive effects on the Regional 3R Forum in Asia and the Pacific.

Co-organization of a side-event at the UN Ocean Conference

5-9 June 2017, New York

UNCRD co-organized a side-event, “3R as the Basis for moving towards Zero Plastic Waste in Coastal and Marine Environments,” at the UN Ocean Conference with the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA). The objective of this side event was to discuss how 3Rs and resource efficiency measures could help countries address the issues of plastic waste to protect the coastal and marine environment. UNCRD provided a background paper on the issue of micro-plastics in the coastal and marine environment and 3R solutions. Around 120 participants joined this side-event.



Keynote Speech at the Tenth 3R Conference for Asian Local Governments ~ Appropriate Treatment and Recycling of Household Electronic Waste (E-Waste) ~ 5 October 2017, Osaka, Japan

UNCRD participated at the Tenth 3R Conference for Asian Local Governments as supporting organizer.

UNCRD made a keynote speech on “The Adelaide 3R Declaration ~ Implications towards Circular Economy of e-waste” which introduced the UNCRD-led Regional 3R Forum in Asia and the Pacific and highlighted 3R initiatives and practices in the context of moving towards closed-loop economy and resource efficiency. UNCRD outlined the importance of the *Adelaide 3R Declaration* in the presentation entitled “Towards the promotion of circular economy in achieving resource-efficient societies in Asia and the Pacific under the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.” UNCRD’s presentation also included various case studies from different countries in regard to e-waste generation, and treatment and management system. The presentation placed importance on the partnership for e-waste issues such as multi-stakeholders’ cooperation and triangular cooperation among government, scientific, and research organizations so that the 3R Forum could provide insight to policy transformation towards resource efficiency vis-à-vis circular economic development.

Keynote Speech at the Global Dialogue on Technology for Resilient Cities 17-19 October 2017, Osaka, Japan

UNCRD participated in the Global Dialogue on Technology for Resilient Cities and delivered a keynote speech on “Why should 3Rs and Resource Efficiency matter to Urban Resilience and SDGs? – Lessons from Regional 3R Forum in Asia and the Pacific” in order to explore how technologies can contribute to urban resilience against various environmental impacts. UNCRD’s presentation included the following themes: the role of the Regional 3R Forum in Asia-Pacific; various aspects of resilience and the nexus between resource efficiency/3Rs and urban resilience; resource efficiency and the circular economy; zero-waste and low-carbon society through 3Rs; issues of plastics in coastal and marine environments; waste management and resilience of SIDS; 3R measures for disaster resilience, role of eco-towns and eco-industrial zones towards the circular economy; sustainable urban business opportunities and the need for triangular cooperation (science-policy-business); emerging technologies such as green chemistry and nano-technology in 3Rs; partnerships as the basis for moving towards a zero waste society; and the contribution of 3Rs towards SDGs. The Global Dialogue provided a valuable opportunity to build and strengthen networking with a number of key organizations such as the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UN ESCAP), Climate and Clean Air Coalition (CCAC), 100 Resilient Cities, C40, Cities Alliance, and Waste Concern in the areas of 3Rs, resource efficiency, and technologies for waste management.

Pre-event of the Eighth Regional 3R Forum – The Seventh International Conference on Solid Waste Management 2017 (7th IconSWM 2017) 15-17 December 2017, Hyderabad, India.

The Seventh International Conference on Solid Waste Management 2017 (7th IconSWM 2017) was co-organized by Jadavpur University, Centre for Quality Management System (CQMS), The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI), New Delhi, Consortium of Researchers on International Collaboration (CRIC), Indian Institute of Science, Centre for Sustainable Technology (CST),

Bangalore, and Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur, India under the aegis of the International Society of Waste Management, Air and Water (ISWMAW).

IconSWM, established in 2009, is currently the biggest sustainable platform in India for the betterment of waste management and environmental protection and the event attracted the participation of more than 500 delegates from thirty countries. The 7th IconSWM 2017 deliberated on various issues related to innovation and implementation in sustainable waste management including segregation, collection, transportation, treatment technologies, policies and strategies, energy recovery, life cycle analysis, climate change, circular economy, and research and business opportunities.

UNCRD acted as a supporting organizer and considered the 7th IconSWM Conference as a pre-event to the Eighth Regional 3R Forum in Asia and the Pacific. UNCRD delivered an opening speech at the conference as well as providing a short background paper and presentation at a plenary session on “3R approach towards a bio-medical waste management system”, to understand the problems and issues of mismanagement of bio-medical waste generated during diagnosis, treatment or immunization of human beings and animals or research activities or in the production or testing of biological material in health camps or healthcare establishments. The presentation stated that improper bio-medical waste management caused health problems to communities and the health workers as well as to the general environment. Also explained was the fact that the illegal disposal and burying of bio-medical waste caused land, water, and air pollution. This presentation as well as the background paper emphasized the mechanism of how 3R technology contributes to bio-medical waste management, basically by reducing waste quantities, reselling plastic, paper, glass, and metal materials to scrap dealers for reuse, and improving the potential of recyclable waste that was rendered unusable through contamination. UNCRD encouraged the conference participants to attend the upcoming Eighth Regional 3R Forum in Asia and the Pacific.

Expert’s Session at the Seventeenth Expert Meeting on Solid Waste Management in Asia and Pacific Islands (17th SWAPI)

17-19 January 2018, Tokyo, Japan

UNCRD organized an experts’ session as one of the implementing/steering committee members of the Seventeenth Expert Meeting on Solid Waste Management in Asia and Pacific Islands (SWAPI), held from 17 to 19 January 2019. There were 181 participants in total, including international experts from PR China, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), and the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP). The meeting consisted of two experts’ sessions, three special sessions on disaster waste management, waste to energy, and landfill disposal for solid waste management, and a session devoted to research projects. The first meeting of SWAPI had been held in Tokyo in October 2005, and since then it has been held thirteen times in Japan, twice in the Republic of Korea, once in Taiwan Province of China, and once in the People’s Republic of China.

UNCRD organized an experts’ session, “Key indicators for 3R progress assessment: Challenges to reduce final disposal”, designed to encourage experts to contribute their knowledge and experience to the state of 3Rs in Asia and the Pacific through 3R monitoring and reports. This session aimed to discuss topics such as monitoring and reporting 3R progress in setting appropriate indicators and formulating common definitions in waste management. UNCRD announced that country chapters had been uploaded onto the UNCRD’s website and the main report was to be disseminated at the upcoming Eighth Regional 3R Forum in Asia and the Pacific. Reflecting the lessons from the state of the 3Rs in Asia and the Pacific, experts (drafting members) discussed

the appropriate indicators to measure 3R efforts especially for reducing final disposal. Physical, chemical, social, and democratic factors were suggested by the experts in consideration of health issues to minimize risks. Concerning the second phase of the state of 3Rs in Asia and the Pacific, experts commented that the country-level optimal goals as well as emerging themes would be considered, for example, cost effectiveness of 3R implementation, waste and trade relationships concerning environment, and citizens' recognition of 3Rs.

The Seventeenth SWAPI meeting provided an excellent opportunity for UNCRD to promote 3R initiatives such as the Regional 3R Forum, State of the 3Rs in Asia and the Pacific, and the IPLA. UNCRD also contributed to the sessions in promoting and facilitating knowledge exchanges among experts. The discussions and lessons will be reflected in the second phase of State of the 3Rs in Asia and the Pacific. Following the UNCRD-led experts' session, the Centre is expected to establish an experts' platform through the experts' network with related institutions in the Regional 3R Forum.

Eighth Regional 3R Forum in Asia and the Pacific

9-12 April 2018, Indore, Madhya Pradesh, India

UNCRD co-organized the Eighth Regional 3R Forum in Asia and the Pacific together with the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) of the Government of India, and the Ministry of the Environment of the Government of Japan (MOEJ). More than 700 participants participated in the Forum, comprising high-level government representatives (both central and local), international experts and resource persons, representatives from various UN and international organizations, scientific and research organizations, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), private and business sectors, and other stakeholders. Participants came from the following countries: Afghanistan, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bhutan, Cambodia, the People's Republic of China, France, Germany, Greece, India, Indonesia, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kiribati, Republic of Korea, Kyrgyz Republic, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Maldives, Mauritius, Federated States of Micronesia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Palau, the Philippines, the Russian Federation, Samoa, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Switzerland, Thailand, Tonga, Tunisia, Tuvalu, US, and Viet Nam.

The global theme "Achieving Clean Water, Clean Land, and Clean Air through 3R and Resource Efficiency – A 21st Century Vision for Asia-Pacific Communities" to address how 3Rs and resource efficiency measures could provide many complementary benefits in making cities and countries clean, smart, liveable and resilient; to gain policy, institutional, and technological insights towards effective implementation of 3Rs and resource efficiency to foster circular economic development, sustainable change in current use of natural resources and ultimately achieve a zero waste society; and to discuss how public and private sectors could explore various partnership opportunities in areas of 3Rs and waste management to move towards a zero waste society. Consequently, the participants shared knowledge and experience on a zero waste society; 3Rs and clean water, clean land, and clean air; protection of coastal marine ecosystems; greening of SMEs and enhancing national productivity; resource security and 3R technologies; and financing 3Rs. Moreover, participating countries presented 3R progress and challenges concerning source separation, composting, waste-to-energy technologies and emerging waste streams during the session on "Major Achievements and Initiatives by Countries on the Implementation of the *Ha Noi 3R Declaration (2013-2023)*". The Forum announced the launch of "State of the 3Rs in Asia and the Pacific" as its first regional synthesis report on the status of 3Rs. The report comprises an indicator-based assessment of 3R policy implementation in eleven countries, Bangladesh, Cambodia, China, India, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Viet Nam as well as the Pacific Island region.

In parallel with plenary sessions, the Asian Mayors' Policy Dialogue on "Achieving Clean Water, Clean Land, and Clean Air through 3Rs and Resource Efficiency" was held to promote 3R implementation in municipalities and to exchange examples of good practice. The Mayors' Dialogue recognized the importance of sharing information on secure, safe, and clean treatment concepts and recognized the importance of 3Rs, resource efficiency, and a circular economic development approach for achieving inclusive, resilient and sustainable cities in line with the objective of the SDGs and the New Urban Agenda. Participants discussed the importance of local-level actions and citizens' participation to foster sustainable urban development planning and practices. Consequently, the participating mayors and local authorities of the municipalities in the Forum signed the voluntary goodwill *Indore 3R Declaration* entitled, "Indore 3R Declaration of Asian Mayors on Achieving Clean Water, Clean Land, and Clean air in Cities" constituting a valuable guiding reference to the 3R initiative. UNCRD also organized a pre-event with the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, Government of India to celebrate India National 3R Day for *Swachh Bharat* (Clean India Mission). The event provided an opportunity to explore insightful linkages between the principles of 3R and resource efficiency and the goal of achieving the *Swachh Bharat* Mission. An International 3R Exhibition was also co-organized with the joint effort of the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, Government of India and MOEJ with the participation of a number of private and business sector representatives to showcase and demonstrate state-of-the-art technologies and equipment in the 3R and resource-efficiency areas.

The Eighth Regional 3R Forum in Asia and the Pacific provided an excellent opportunity to exchange information and engage in dialogue on 3R policies and programmes to work towards the effective implementation and creation of a clean environment as well as making a clear contribution towards achieving the *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*.



Forum participants

List of other contributions in various meetings/activities during the reporting period:

2016

- 18 July 2016, New York
Presentation: "Promoting the International Partnership for Expanding Waste Management Services of Local Authorities (IPLA) – SDG Partnership" at the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development 2016

- 28-29 October 2016, Nagoya
Keynote Speech; and presentation “Role of Public-Private-Partnerships in Circular Economy ~ Experience from IPLA ~ A Rio+20 Partnership” at ISIE Joint Socio-economic Metabolism and Asia Pacific Conference, Nagoya 2016
- 27-29 October 2016, Kuching, Sarawak, Malaysia
Presentation: Happy Toilet Healthy City at World Toilet Summit and Expo (WTS) 2016
- 24-26 November 2016, Kolkata, India
Presentation: 3R Issues, Challenges, Implementation in Asia and the Pacific – Lessons from Regional 3R Forum; and Short Background paper and Presentation: Resource Efficiency and Recycling Networking of plastic debris – Case of PICs at the 6th International Conference on Solid Waste Management 2016 (6th IconSWM 2016)

2017

- 19-20 April 2017, Nairobi, Kenya
Presentation: 3Rs and Resource Efficiency as the Basis for Moving Towards Zero Waste Societies at the Pan-African Youth Conference
- 30 June 2017, Kawasaki, Japan
Field study programme at Kawasaki Eco-Town
- 5 September 2017, Tokyo, Japan
Participation in the Science, Technology and Innovation for SDGs
- 22-23 June 2017, Tokyo
Draft committee meeting for the State of the 3Rs in Asia and the Pacific
- 7-9 September 2017, Selangor, Malaysia
Presentation: Towards Resource Efficient and Zero Waste Societies at the Selangor Smart City and Future Commerce Convention 2017
- 23-25 October 2017, Brussels, Belgium
Presentation: Asia-Pacific Perspective of 3Rs and Circular Economy ~ Experiences from the Regional 3R Forum in Asia and the Pacific at the Global-Science Technology and Innovation Conferences (G-STIC)
- 30 November-1 December 2017, Bangkok
Presentation: Role of UNCRD in promoting 3Rs and Resource Efficiency in support of SDGs at the Regional Workshop on Sustainable Development Benefits of Decentralized Municipal Solid Waste Management in Asia-Pacific Region
- 8 December 2017, Kusatsu, Japan
Participation in the Twenty-fifth West Japan Network Meeting among International Agencies for Environmental Programme Cooperation

2018

- 17-23 June 2018, Adelaide, South Australia.
Presentation: Promoting the Circular Economy in the Asia-Pacific Region at the Global Leadership Programme on the Circular Economy

Publications

The UNCRD publications programme dates back to the Centre's founding in 1971 and has reflected the changing areas of research and training activities throughout this period. The programme, however, has had the unchanging objective of informing scholars and policymakers, practitioners, and students of regional development of the results of UNCRD research and training activities. The output has also endeavoured to provide information of a more general nature to a wider audience.

Among the constituencies being reached through publications are central and local governments, research and training institutions, the academic community at large, and bilateral and multilateral agencies. UNCRD also has a publications exchange programme with the libraries and information centres of relevant UN and international organizations, development and planning agencies, academic institutions, and research and training centres in both developed and developing countries. The exchange programme serves the purposes of enhancing UNCRD resources while disseminating the centre's research and training results, and fostering cooperation with related organizations.

Regional Development Dialogue

Regional Development Dialogue (RDD) has been regularly published since 1980 and is the Centre's longest-running publication. This journal enables the Centre to disseminate the results of its research and is intended to serve as a forum for critical discussion of local and regional development problems, issues, and experiences in both developed and developing countries. A major objective is to stimulate dialogue among scholars, practitioners, and policymakers on issues concerning local and regional development. To this end, each article has one or more designated commentators to provide additional information, alternative viewpoints, or supplementary material. Each RDD focuses on a single topical theme related to the output from one of UNCRD's research areas or former regional offices. Until Volume 34, 2013, RDD was published twice-yearly; following the release of Volume 35, 2014 issue, it became an annual publication.

During the reporting period, Volume 35, 2014, was released (in October 2016) with the theme of "Urban-Rural Linkages in Support of the New Urban Agenda", and edited by Chikako Takase, Jackson Kago, Remy Sietchiping, and Xing-Quan Zhang. The issue built upon the output of an Expert Group Meeting which was co-organized by UNCRD and the United Nations Human Settlement Programme (UN-Habitat), held in Monteria, Colombia in October 2015. The purpose of the meeting was to enable participants to discuss and share their experiences and lessons on strengthening urban-rural linkages through intermediate cities. This volume of RDD was the inaugural issue following the decision to publish annually. The preparation of Volume 36, 2016 issue, with the theme "Regional Development in the Context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development" was begun during this period. The issue will build upon the output of the Expert Group

Meeting held in August 2016 as part of UNCRD's 45th Anniversary Commemorative Event.

The UNCRD Homepage includes detailed content's lists and the Editorial Introduction of recent *RDD* issues. Appropriate articles appearing in past *RDD* issues are indexed and/or abstracted in periodical indexes such as the Asian-Pacific Economic Literature; Ekistic Index of Periodicals; Geo Abstracts; GEOBASE; Index to International Statistics; International Labour Documentation; International Regional Science Review; Monthly Bibliography, Part II, issued by the United Nations Library in Geneva; Rural Development Abstracts; Social Planning, Policy and Development (SOPODA); and Sociological Abstracts (SA). A worldwide network of related institutions is maintained on the mailing lists, through which information and publications are exchanged. The network includes information centres and libraries in both developed and developing countries.



Informational Materials

A separate type of publication is aimed at a general readership and is designed to provide basic information on all programmes and activities at UNCRD. The *UNCRD Annual Report* and regular UNCRD brochures are produced for this purpose. To create a better understanding of its mission within the local community and within Japanese research and training institutions and government agencies, Japanese versions of the *UNCRD Annual Report* and UNCRD brochure are also published. The UNCRD Highlights newsletter is also available in Japanese on the UNCRD Homepage.

UNCRD Annual Report

The *UNCRD Annual Report* is published in both English and Japanese and presents the current status of the Centre's research and training programmes and describes both recent and forthcoming events. In addition to general information about the Centre, the Annual Report also contains financial statements and calendars of events, and is designed to present a concise summary of the Centre's activities to a wider audience.

UNCRD Brochure

The UNCRD Brochure is an illustrated fold-out publication designed to present a brief overview of UNCRD's organizational setup, ongoing activities, as well as general information and facilities. Published periodically in both English and Japanese, the UNCRD Brochure, regularly updated, is freely available at the UNCRD Office and distributed during workshops, meetings, seminars, and at all outreach events. It has the promotional function of introducing UNCRD to both the general public as well as a specialized readership.

Recent and Forthcoming Publications

Informational Material

(free-of-charge)

UNCRD Annual Reports 2015/2016

UNCRD Annual Reports 2017/2018

Periodical

Regional Development Dialogue (RDD) (semiannual journal until 2013, thereafter annual)

Vol. 36, 2016 ("Regional Development in the Context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development," edited by A.T.M. Nurul Amin) (forthcoming)

Vol. 35, 2014 ("Urban-Rural Linkages in Support of the New Urban Agenda," edited by Chikako Takase, Jackson Kago, Remy Sietchiping, and Xing-Quan Zhang)

Outreach Activities

UNCRD's outreach activities seek to increase awareness of UNCRD's programme of activities among local citizens, local institutions, NGOs, and other UN organizations based in Japan. Through this process, UNCRD hopes to enhance their understanding of current international issues and problems facing developing countries in particular, while raising their awareness of the importance of sustainable regional development.

In addition to updating the UNCRD website and releasing informational materials in Japanese, seminars and other outreach events are organized. UNCRD also accepts school visits to its Office as well as dispatching staff member to schools and organizations requesting lectures on the Centre's activities. UNCRD's volunteer programme includes personnel from diverse backgrounds who wish to assist and support its activities and events.

UNCRD Public Seminars on "Working at the United Nations"

22 December 2016; and 22 December 2017, Nagoya

UNCRD has organized seminars to stimulate interest in the United Nations (UN) and promote greater understanding of activities of both the UN and UNCRD, and to enhance awareness among the younger generation who may wish to pursue a career at the UN.

Each seminar consisted of two parts. The first was a panel discussion with each panellists introducing themselves and the organizations to which they belonged, followed by an outline of their motivation for joining the UN as well as both the challenges and the appeal of working as a UN staff member. The second part was the guidance by the Recruitment Center for International Organizations, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, which explained how to apply for work in the UN and what kind of experiences would be useful.

At the panel discussion on the 22 December 2016, UNCRD Director Chikako Takase moderated the panel discussion, while Akiko Ikeda, Chief General Service, United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (UNESCWA); Sachiyo Hoshino, Special Assistant to the Director, UN-HABITAT Fukuoka Office; and Ryosuke Ujihashi, Associate Expert, United Nations Forum on Forests Secretariat (UNFF) Secretariat took part as panellists. Akiko Ikeda mentioned that there are various opportunities at the UN, and it is an attractive workplace where



one can begin projects from scratch. Sachiyo Hoshino introduced her experiences of launching a landfill disposal site in a developing country. She said the UN works globally, but working in a developing country should be sensitive to local methods and materials, and negotiations should be appropriate to the country. Ryusuke Ujihashi advised students who aim to become UN staff members, that it is hard to tell what kind of knowledge and experience will lead to a future, so in order to expand future potential, it is important to face seriously what they are studying now.

At the 22 December 2017 seminar, UNCRD former Director Chikako Takase moderated the panel discussion, while Setsuko Yamazaki, prior Country Director of the United Nations Development Planning (UNDP) Cambodia; Shin Umezu, Senior Political Affairs Officer and Team Leader for South and Southeast Asia, APD/DPA, United Nations; Junichiro Kasaka, Senior Liaison Associate, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) Representation in Japan; and Tomoko Osuga, Public Partnerships Specialist, United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) Tokyo Office took part as panellists. Setsuko Yamazaki stated that the UN is a workplace where people from various cultures, social backgrounds, and expertise gather and work in a diverse environment, which is an important aspect to achieving anything in the development field. Shin Umezu told of his experiences and stated that to work for international benefit is one aspect of UN work, and sometimes there is danger to life such as working in countries stricken by conflict. Junichiro Kasaka, who is involved in humanitarian assistance in both Japan and overseas, introduced his wide-ranging work, such as coordination with donors and partners, and the training received to take part in missions. Tomoko Osuga said that one of her main challenges was to change people’s habits. In educating on prevention of diseases and hygiene, it is important that people themselves achieve an awareness of the need for change which requires a multi-year effort, and cannot be achieved in a short time.



Approximately ninety participants attended each seminar, respectively. As it was a rare opportunity to hear from people currently working or with experience working at UN organizations, many audience members took notes, and continued to ask panellists questions after the seminar’s official conclusion.

UNCRD Public Seminar “Localizing SDGs in the Chubu Region”

6 February 2017, Nagoya

UNCRD organized a seminar to present an opportunity for the Chubu Region to consider ways of implementing SDGs at local and regional levels. Following welcome remarks, Keiko Osaki-Tomita, Chief of the Demographic and Social Statistics Branch of UN DESA delivered a keynote speech, focusing on the outline and implementation status of SDGs. She said that SDGs are a very ambitious and comprehensive programme and have direct relevance to UNCRD activities to promote regional development. In addition, she said the important thing is that each region should find appropriate ways by themselves to promote SDGs in partnership among central governments, local governments, the private sector, and NPOs in consideration of social disparities or socially vulnerable people in order to “leave no-one behind”.

In the panel discussion moderated by K.K.U. Ananda Kumara, Meijo University professor, following the keynote speech, four panellists provided advice on how to promote SDGs in the region from their respective viewpoints.

Masaki Inaba, Board Chair of Japan Civil Society Network on SDGs, who had been involved in formulating the SDGs Implementation Guiding Principles developed by the government said that partnerships among NGOs, NPOs, and local governments are indispensable to promote SDGs in



Panel discussion

theregions. Masashi Taketani, Deputy Director of Environmental Strategy Division of Ministry of the Environment introduced the SDGs Implementation policy developed by government and said that local governments should incorporate SDGs into their plans. He also mentioned the “SDG Compass” which is a guideline for private companies to understand and promote SDGs. Kiyoshi Fujikawa, professor at the Graduate School of International Development, Nagoya University declared that not only economic but also environmental and social aspects are important for sustainable society. Finally, Keiko Osaki-Tomita recommended that Japan should disseminate the valuable lessons that it has learned from its accumulated experiences of natural disasters to the world. Even after the seminar had closed, many participants continued to ask panellists questions. We re-realized that many people had a high level of interest in SDGs. Therefore UNCRD will continue to present opportunities to disseminate SDGs to the general public in the Chubu Region.

UNCRD Public Seminar “Localizing SDGs in the Chubu Region”

13 February 2018, Nagoya

UNCRD organized this seminar to present an opportunity for the Chubu Region to consider the ways to implement SDGs at both local and regional level. Following welcome remarks by UNCRD, Kotaro Katsuki, Director of Global Issues Cooperation Division of Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan and Hideaki Ohmura, Governor of Aichi Prefectural Government delivered opening remarks. After a video presentation on SDGs, C. R. C. Mohanty, UNCRD Environment Programme Coordinator/Expert made a presentation on “Issues, Challenges, and Opportunities in Implementing SDG11”. He mentioned the particular importance of promoting SDG11, while introducing the topic of environmental pollution resulting from the rapid urbanization around the



world. Following this, Shuzo Murakami, President of the Institute for Building Environment and Energy Conservation delivered a keynote speech entitled “SDGs for Local Governments and Communities in Japan - Significance, Purpose and Means”. He explained the indispensability and merit of addressing SDGs especially for local government. He also mentioned “SDGs Models of Local Governments” which is a project that central government would launch to support local governments in their SDGs implementation. In the panel discussion, moderated by Murakami, four panellists introduced their activities for SDGs. Nobuhiro Kanai, Deputy Director of Environmental Strategy Division of Ministry of the Environment pointed out that SDGs were closely related with the Japanese Government’s current policy for overcoming population decline

and revitalizing the local economy, while introducing a project he had worked for in Niseko Town, Hokkaido. Teru Kisuna, Director of the Natural Environment Division of Aichi Prefectural Government introduced activities for biodiversity which Aichi had been working on since the Aichi Expo 2005, Japan. Yumiko Ito, Group Leader of the Corporate Responsibility Group of LIXIL Corporation showed their cooperate strategy linked with SDGs. She also talked about a sanitary project which the company had been addressing in developing countries. Yoko Shinkai, Chief Producer of Environmental Partnership Office Chubu (EPO Chubu) noted children can be more SDGs-conscious than adults, while introducing the activities which children participated in. Finally Murakami concluded that everyone needs to think of SDGs as their own matter and begin to take action to contribute to the goals. About 150 people from local governments, private companies, NGOs, and universities participated in the seminar. It was found that many local governments and companies fully intended to integrate SDGs into their projects. UNCRD will continue to address this issue and spread concerns for SDG achievement.

Campus SDGs Seminar on “17 Sustainable Development Goals that can Transform You and the World”

21 June 2018, Nagoya

Since the adoption of the 2030 *Agenda for Sustainable Development* and its seventeen SDGs, UNCRD has been organizing public symposiums and seminars to raise public awareness of the SDGs in the Chubu Region in collaboration with key local stakeholders. Universities are one such stakeholder as they can play



an important role in both research and education for students. In particular, the engagement of youth is crucial for promoting and implementing SDGs at the local level. The more that young people understand the context of SDGs, the better they will be able to be engage as global citizens towards sustainable development.

Against this backdrop, UNCRD has launched the Campus SDGs programme for the purpose of raising awareness of the SDGs and encouraging students to take concrete action towards them. The first seminar, entitled “Campus SDGs Seminar on 17 Sustainable Development Goals that can Transform You and the World,” was held at Meijo University. The opening remarks were delivered by C.R.C. Mohanty, UNCRD Environment Programme Coordinator. His main message was that as global citizens, student’s individual understanding, action, and personal conviction can count a lot towards transforming the world to achieve the SDGs. Next, UNCRD and students of Meijo University introduced each of the seventeen SDGs and their current status, using relevant statistical data. Participants were then divided into three groups with each group selecting one of the goals to take as its own and discussed and presented what actions they could take towards achieving that particular goal.

The first group took SDG 14 (Life below Water) and as a sustainable marine conservation initiative, came up with ideas of “My Bottle Campaign” and a mechanism for collecting plastic waste bottles. The second group, which focused on SDG 13 (Climate Action), proposed several approaches to reducing energy and power consumption in all aspects of their daily life. The last

group, targeted SDG 5 (Gender Equality), raised gender issues from the perspective of different countries and cultures. They introduced a comment by a Nepalese student, saying that the topic of gender issues has already arisen in families and schools. They suggested that it should be important not only to change institutions but also to transform people's consciousness in order to realize gender equality. UNCRD commented on the above presentations and summed up the seminar declaring its intention to continue awareness-raising of SDGs at universities to enable students to understand and address the SDGs, which will also contribute to promoting education for sustainable development (ESD) in the Chubu Region.

Other events

■ UNCRD's Panel and Publications Exhibition

1-28 December 2017, Tsu, Mie Prefecture, Japan

With the cooperation of the Mie Prefectural Library, UNCRD exhibited illustrated panels introducing the UNCRD's activities along with UNCRD publications, *Regional Development Dialogue* (RDD) and other publications on UNCRD projects, at the library exhibition area. To raise visitor's interest, the library displayed books relevant to the United Nations and UNCRD's activities from their archives.

■ Guidance Meeting, "How to become a UN Official"

29 July 2017, Nagoya

The Recruitment Center for International Organizations of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of Japan, the Nagoya International Center (NIC), and UNCRD co-organized a guidance meeting on "How to become a UN Official". In the meeting, the staff of the Recruitment Center outlined on expected qualifications and conditions to work at the United Nations, how to apply for a position, and advice for preparing applications. In order to facilitate participants' understanding of UN work, UNCRD introduced its activities as the only UN organization in the Chubu Region.

■ Global Human Resources Development Seminar, "Let's Work in the International Cooperation Field – A Global Perspective"

2 September 2017, Nagoya

With the co-organization the Recruitment Center for International Organizations of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of Japan, the Nagoya International Center, and UNCRD, the global human resource development seminar was held. The various organizations related to international cooperation participated in the event, and each organizations delivered lectures, speeches, and/or took part in panel sessions on the theme of "working". UNCRD and the Recruitment Center organized the panel discussion session, and UNCRD's former director Chikako Takase attended. The staff of the Recruitment Center explained the preparation and requirements for becoming a UN official, referring to Takase's career, and Takase herself gave advice based on her work experience. In parallel, individual consultation sessions were also held, with participants visiting the relevant booth in which they were interested.

Participation in an Outreach Event

■ Booth Exhibition at World Collabo Festa

22-23 October 2016; and 14-15 October 2017, Nagoya

The festival, World Collabo Festa, is the biggest international exchange/cooperation event in the Chubu region. UNCRD organizes a booth exhibition each year to promote a better understanding of the UN as well as UNCRD itself in an enjoyable format. A picture-card show and a UN quiz were held in collaboration with the Tokai-Nagoya branch of the Foundation for the Support of the United Nations (FSUN) and UNCRD volunteers.

At the 2016 event which was held on 22-23 October 2016, a new picture-card show was introduced which was designed to provide a better understanding of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which is a part of a new sustainable development agenda, that UN member states are expected to achieved by 2030.

At the 2017 event, held on 14-15 October 2017, the theme of the festival was promoting SDGs. Therefore, UNCRD, one of the UN organizations involved in promoting SDGs, was able to publicize SDGs proactively and, to this end, utilized publicity cards and a flag illustrating the SDGs logo alongside the UNCRD logo.



Upper: During the 2016 event. Explaining to a visitor about UNCRD.
Lower: During the 2017 event. Using a picture-card show to explain UNCRD's activities.

Press Release/Media Coverage

Press and media coverage on UNCRD activities and projects was compiled into a “Record of Press Reports on UNCRD” for the period July 2016-June 2017 and July 2017-June 2018, respectively, for distribution to Japanese central and local government offices and organizations. The reports compiled newsclips, including those published on websites. During the initial reporting period, the events related to the UNCRD Anniversary Commemorative were reported. Concerning environment-related activities, there were multiple coverages for the Seventh Regional 3R Forum in Asia and the Pacific in Australia and the Tenth Regional EST Forum in Asia in Lao PDR. As for training-related activities, the training course for Indonesian Government officials was reported.

In the latter period, as the SDGs began to attract public attention, events related to the SDGs received increased attention from the media. Both the UNCRD’s public event on localizing SDGs, and the international symposium focusing on SDGs, held in Toyota, received various media coverages, which was an indication of the interest towards SDGs. As for the environment-related activity, the Eighth Regional 3R Forum in Asia and the Pacific in India was covered through a considerable number of media outlets.

Informational Materials and Dissemination

As part of UNCRD outreach activities, the Japanese editions of the UNCRD Annual Report and the UNCRD brochure were produced, in addition to the UNCRD Highlights newsletter which is available on the UNCRD Homepage. The Japanese materials are published with the support of the UNCRD Cooperation Association which also covers the costs for organizing UNCRD seminars and meetings, and participation in the World Collabo Festa event. Various other activities are also held with the generous support of the Association.

Financial Statements

STATEMENT OF CONTRIBUTIONS

TABLE 1. STATEMENT OF UNCRD CORE FUND ACCOUNTS

	(in US dollars)		
	1 January- 31 December 2015 ¹	1 January- 31 December 2016 ²	1 January- 31 December 2017 ⁴
Income			
Voluntary Contributions	779,631	986,307	779,546
Interest Income	8,720	-	-
Miscellaneous Income	22,720	-	6,305 ⁵
Transfer from/(to) Grant	-	(1,544)	-
Investment Income	22,720	506 ³	36,670 ⁶
Total Income	811,071	984,257	842,521
Total Expenditures and Commitments			
Staff and Other Personnel Cost	576,199	572,846	561,365
Supplies, Commodities, Materials	2,670	234	65
Equipment, Vehicles and Furniture	-	2,553	2,927
Contractual Services	92	71,394	4,160
Travel	14,501	23,197	6,954
Transfers and Grants	99,148	98,311	51,832
General Operating and Other Director Costs	209,029	235,726	49,986
Total Direct Expenditures	901,639	1,004,262	677,289
Indirect Support Costs (United Nations)	106,337	122,689	83,901
Indirect Support Costs (Implementing Partners)	7,445	7,888	4,585 ⁷
Total Indirect Support Costs	113,782	130,577	88,486
Total Expenditures	1,015,421	1,134,839	765,775⁸
Net Excess/(shortfall) income over expenditures	(204,350)	(150,582)	76,746
Other Adjustments	1,544	-	-
Exchange rate (loss)/gain	-	13,730	-
Refunds	-	-	-
Unspent Contribution Balance, Beginning	1,898,791	1,695,986	1,559,134
Unspent Contribution Balance	1,695,986	1,559,134	1,635,880

Notes: These contributions are afforded from the Government of Japan: UNCRD Core Fund.

¹ Contribution was made in US dollars, received 9 November 2015.

² Contribution was made in US dollars, received 26 August 2016.

³ Represents reversal in 2016 of 31 December 2015 accrued interest. 2016 interest of US\$9,391 will be posted to the grant in 2017.

⁴ Contribution was made in US dollars, received 9 August 2017.

⁵ Includes net foreign exchange gain of US\$6,081.

⁶ Represents interest income for 2016 of US\$16,384 and for 2017 of US\$20,286.

⁷ Reclassification will be made between Transfers and Grants and Indirect Support Costs (Implementing Partners) in 2018, being reflected in 2018 certified financial statements.

⁸ Includes outstanding obligations of US\$63,938 as of 31 December 2017.

TABLE 2-1. STATEMENT OF CONTRIBUTION FOR THE UNCRD ENVIRONMENT UNIT**Active Project Name**

National EST Strategies and Capacity Building for Socio-Economic Concerns (Project Code: M1-32XES-000029)

(in US dollars)

	1 January- 31 December 2015	1 January- 31 December 2016	1 January- 31 December 2017
Income			
Voluntary Contributions	241,293	250,185	229,253
Interest Income	4,288	(396) ¹	14,253 ²
Miscellaneous Income	-	-	-
Total Income	245,581	249,789	243,506
Expenditures			
Staff and Other Personnel Cost	83,957	129,260	6,230
Supplies, Commodities, Materials	201	-	-
Equipment, Vehicles and Furniture	1,031	971	2,459
Contractual Services	7,208	12,552	(3,605)
Travel	229,582	10,391	160,429
Transfers and Grants	71,640	78,516	76,929
General Operating and Other Director Costs	11,904	8,138	17,641 ³
Total Direct Expenditures	405,523	239,828	260,083
Indirect Support Costs (United Nations)	46,913	24,970	26,416
Indirect Support Costs (Implementing Partners)	5,732	6,261	12,073 ⁴
Total Indirect Support Costs	52,645	31,231	38,489
Total Expenditures	458,168	271,059	298,572 ⁵
Excess of Income Over Expenditure	(212,587)	(21,270)	(55,066)
Unspent Contribution Balance, Beginning	712,466	499,879	478,609
Unspent Contribution Balance, Ending	499,879	478,609	423,543

Notes: These contributions are afforded from the Government of Japan.¹ Interest accrued of US\$7,153 in 2016 has been posted to the grant in the 2017 accounts.² Represents interest income for 2016 of US\$6,752 and for 2017 of US\$7,501.³ Includes net foreign exchange loss of US\$9,542.⁴ Reclassification will be made between Transfers and Grants and Indirect Support Costs (Implementing Partners) in 2018, being reflected in 2018 certified financial statements.⁵ Includes outstanding obligations of US\$40,557 as of 31 December 2017.

TABLE 2-2. STATEMENT OF CONTRIBUTION FOR THE UNCRD ENVIRONMENT UNIT**Active Project Name**

Promotion of the 3Rs (Reduce, Reuse and Recycle) in Asia (Project Code: M1-32XES000030)

(in US dollars)

	1 January- 31 December 2015	1 January- 31 December 2016	1 January- 31 December 2017
Income			
Voluntary Contributions	240,661	472,028	397,023
Interest Income	2,008	(215) ¹	8,109 ²
Total Income	242,669	471,813	405,132
Expenditures			
Staff and Other Personnel Cost	105,781	58,079	65,745
Supplies, Commodities, Materials	279	-	-
Equipment, Vehicles and Furniture	-	233	650
Contractual Services	49,307	6,099	1,189
Travel	290,837	208,716	(29,266)
Transfers and Grants	37,738	42,760	112,172
General Operating and Other Director Costs	4,387	7,158	9,410 ³
Total Direct Expenditures	488,329	323,045	159,900
Indirect Support Costs (United Nations)	61,399	38,575	11,272
Indirect Support Costs (Implementing Partners)	3,020	3,418	15,805 ⁴
Total Indirect Support Costs	64,419	41,993	27,077
Total Expenditures	552,748	365,038	186,977⁵
Excess of Income Over Expenditure	(310,079)	106,775	218,155
Unspent Contribution Balance, Beginning	466,627	156,548	263,323
Unspent Contribution Balance	156,548	263,323	481,478

Notes: These contributions are afforded from the Government of Japan.

¹ Interest accrued of US\$3,463 in 2016 has been posted to the grant in the 2017 accounts.

² Represents interest income for 2016 of US\$2,997 and for 2017 of US\$5,112.

³ Includes net foreign exchange loss of US\$4,163.

⁴ Reclassification will be made between Transfers and Grants and Indirect Support Costs (Implementing Partners) in 2018, being reflected in 2018 certified financial statements.

⁵ Includes outstanding obligations as at 31 December 2017 of US\$48,715.

TABLE 3. STATEMENT OF CONTRIBUTION FOR THE UNCRD LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN OFFICE**Active Project Name**

Support Regional Integration Strategy, Bogotá (Project Code: M1-32XES-000046)

(in US dollars)

	1 January- 31 December 2015	1 January- 31 December 2016	1 January- 31 December 2017
Income			
Voluntary Contributions	72,740	-	-
Interest Income	177	-	-
Total Income	72,917	-	-
Expenditures			
Staff and Other Personnel Cost	46,932	15,003	(6,413)
Supplies, Commodities, Materials Equipment, Vehicles and Furniture			
Contractual Services	148	6,053	(960)
Travel			
Transfers and Grants			
General Operating and Other Director Costs	97	617	-
Total Direct Expenditures	47,177	21,673	(7,373)
Indirect Support Costs (United Nations)	6,133	2,818	(959)
Total Indirect Support Costs	6,133	2,818	(959)
Total Expenditures	53,310	24,491	(8,332)
Excess of Income Over Expenditure	19,607	(24,491)	8,332
Exchange Rate (loss)/gain	5,289	(547)	-
Unspent Contribution Balance, Beginning of Period	-	24,896	(142)
Unspent Contribution Balance	24,896	(142)	8,190

UNCRD Calendar of Activities, July 2016-June 2017

2016

30-31 August	Nagoya	Expert Group Meeting on “Regional Development in the Context of 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”
31 August	Nagoya	Public Symposium “Wisdom of the World and Wisdom of Chubu ~Sustainable and Resilient Regional Development ~United Nations Centre for Regional Development”
1 September	Toyota	Technical Tour
18 September	Tokyo	Special Session “Thinking about International Cooperation Through the Japan Association for Human and Environmental Symbiosis (JAHEs) Activities: How to Cooperate between JAHEs and UNCRD” (UNCRD 45th Anniversary Commemorative Collaborative Event)
30 September-7 October; and 13 December	Nagoya and Jakarta, Indonesia	Training Course and Experience Sharing Seminar on Performance-Based Budgeting for Indonesia
9 October	Nagoya	Special Session on “Resilient and Sustainable Cities in Emerging Asia in the Context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development” at the International Forum on “Discussions for Sustainable Development and Culture: Lessons from and Lessons for Emerging Asia” (UNCRD 45th Anniversary Commemorative Collaborative Event)
17 October	Quito, Ecuador	Urban Library “Urban-Rural Linkages in Support to the New Urban Agenda” at Habitat III
20 October	Quito, Ecuador	Training Event “Delivering the New Urban Agenda through Sustainable Urban Mobility Solutions” at Habitat III
2-4 November	Adelaide, South Australia	Seventh Regional 3R Forum in Asia and the Pacific
22 December	Nagoya	Public Seminar on Working at the United Nations (UN)

UNCRD 45th Anniversary
Commemorative Event

Calendar of Activities

2017

6 February	Nagoya	Public Seminar “Localizing SDGs in Chubu Region 2017”
8-10 March	New Delhi	UNCRD Special Session at 4th 3RINCs
14-16 March	Vientiane, Lao PDR	Intergovernmental Tenth Regional Environmentally Sustainable Transport (EST) Forum in Asia
15 March	Vientiane, Lao PDR	Vientiane International Mayors Forum (VIMF) as Integral Part of the Tenth Regional EST Forum in Asia
5 June	New York	UNCRD-UN DESA Side Event “3R as the Basis for Moving Towards Zero Plastic Waste in Coastal and Marine Environment” at the UN Ocean Conference
22-23 June	Tokyo	The Sixth Drafting Committee Meeting, State of the 3Rs in Asia and the Pacific

UNCRD Calendar of Activities, July 2017-June 2018

2017

14 July	New York	Side event on the theme of “Rural-Urban Connectivity in Integrated Regional Development – Implications towards Livelihood Security and Poverty Alleviation” at the 2017 High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development
18 July	Bucaramanga, Colombia	Workshop on Development of PEMOT – METROPLAN (Technical Cooperation to the Process of Formulation of the Strategic Plan of Territorial Organization for the Metropolitan Area of Bucaramanga, AMB)
25 July	Bucaramanga, Colombia	Thematic Workshop on Metropolitan Natural System (Technical Cooperation to the Process of Formulation of the Strategic Plan of Territorial Organization for AMB)
15 August	Bucaramanga, Colombia	Thematic Workshop on Metropolitan Roads and Transport (Technical Cooperation to the Process of Formulation of the Strategic Plan of Territorial Organization for AMB)
6 September	Bucaramanga, Colombia	Thematic Workshop on Metropolitan Infrastructure and Facilities (Technical Cooperation to the Process of Formulation of the Strategic Plan of Territorial Organization for AMB)
4 October	Bucaramanga, Colombia	Thematic Workshop on Metropolitan Housing (Technical Cooperation to the Process of Formulation of the Strategic Plan of Territorial Organization for AMB)
10-12 October	Pathumthani, Thailand	Regional EST Policy Dialogue and Training Workshop for South Asia and Southeast Asian Cities
24 October	Bucaramanga, Colombia	Thematic Workshop on Metropolitan Public Space (Technical Cooperation to the Process of Formulation of the Strategic Plan of Territorial Organization for AMB)
15 November	Bucaramanga, Colombia	Thematic Workshop on Urban-rural Linkage (Technical Cooperation to the Process of Formulation of the Strategic Plan of Territorial Organization for AMB)
15-17 December	Hyderabad, India	Pre-event of the Eighth Regional 3R Forum – The Seventh International Conference on Solid Waste Management 2017 (7th IconSWM 2017)
22 December	Nagoya	Public Seminar on Working at the United Nations (UN)

2018

31 January-1 February	Bucaramanga, Colombia	Workshop on Formulation of PEMOT-METROPLAN (Technical Cooperation to the Process of Formulation of the Strategic Plan of Territorial Organization for AMB)
2-3 February	Toyota, Japan	International Symposium on the Implementation of SDGs – Role of Technology, Partnership and City-to-City (C2C) Cooperation for Building Resilient and Sustainable Societies
13 February	Nagoya	Public Seminar “Localizing SDGs in Chubu Region 2018”
26 February-2 March	Tokyo	Regional EST Training Course on Railways

9-12 April	Indore, Madhya Pradesh, India	Eighth Regional 3R Forum in Asia and the Pacific
11 June	Indore, Madhya Pradesh, India	Mayor Policy Dialogue during 8th Regional 3R Forum in Asia and the Pacific
14 June	Suzuka, Japan	Campus SDGs Seminar on "Making Toilets around the World Safe and Hygienic" at Suzuka Univ
21 June	Nagoya	Campus SDGs Seminar on "17 Sustainable Development Goals that can Transform You and the World"
29 June	Bucaramanga, Colombia	Final Workshop on PEMOT-METROPOPLAN (Technical Cooperation to the Process of Formulation of the Strategic Plan of Territorial Organization for AMB)

UNCRD Calendar of Activities, July 2018-June 2019

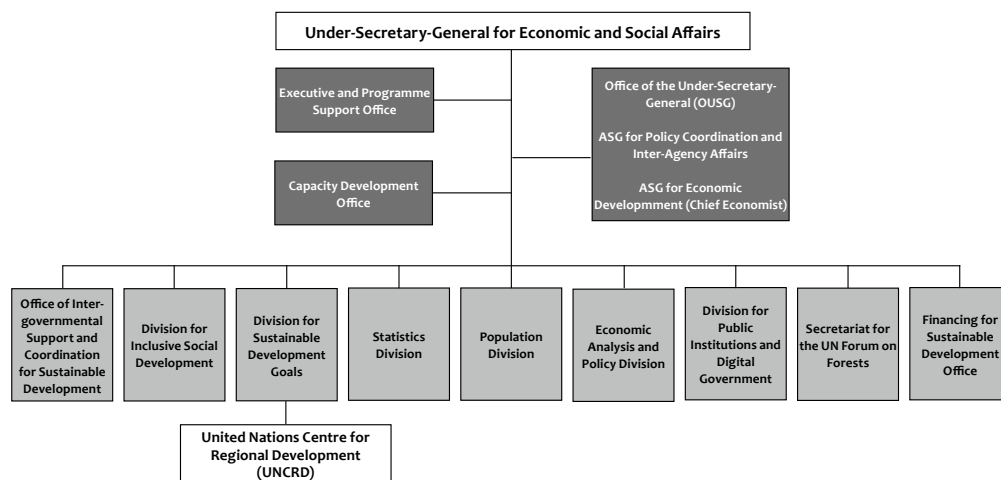
2018

2-13 July	Aichi, Japan	Training Course on Localizing the SDGs for Bangkok Metropolitan Administration (BMA)
4 July	Nagoya	SDGs Workshop at Nagoya International Junior and Senior Highschool
3-7 September	Aichi, Japan	Training Course on Localizing the SDGs for Council of the City of Kuching South
18-19 September	Nairobi	Regional Awareness Workshop Integrating Urban-Rural Linkages in Policies and Strategies in Nairobi, Kenya, 18-19 September 2018
2 October	Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia	Pre-event on the Rural-Urban Connectivity ~ Implications Towards Poverty Alleviations & SDGs
2 October	Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia	Workshop on Capacity Building Strategy for the Implementation of Low Carbon High Volume Transport in South Asia for achieve SDGs
2 October	Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia	Training Course on EST in Sustainable Urban Design ~ Implications Towards SDG 11
2-5 October	Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia	Eleventh Regional EST Forum in Asia and the Pacific
5 October	Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia	Asian Mayors Forum on EST in Cities during the 11th Regional EST Forum in Asia
3 November	Nagoya	Campus SDGs Seminar on "Think about SDGs" at Meijo University
22-24 November	Guntur, India	8th International Conference on Sustainable Waste Management (8th IconSWM 2018) (pre-event of the Ninth Regional 3R Forum in Asia and the Pacific)
28 November	Kasugai, Japan	Lecture on "Can SDGs Solve the Problems of Human Society? – Innovations in Science Technology and Social System"
19 December	Nagoya	Special Symposium on "Lessons from Local SDGs Activities in EU and OECD Countries"
21 December	Nagoya	Public Seminar on Working at the United Nations (UN)

2019

15 February	Nagoya	Public Seminar "Localizing SDGs in Chubu Region 2019"
27- February-1 March	Bangkok	Fifth 3R International Scientific Conference on Material Cycles and Waste Management (3RINCs) (Pre-event of the Ninth Regional 3R Forum in Asia and the Pacific)
4-6 March	Bangkok	Ninth Regional 3R Forum in Asia and the Pacific
27 May; and 5 June	Mie, Japan	Mie International Week 2019 Event, SDGs Youth Training
28 May	Mumbai	UNCRD Special Session at 15th World Conference on Transport Research (WCTR)

Annex 1. Relationship between UNCRD and UN DESA



(As of April 2018)




SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



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