

UNCRD  
Annual Reports

.....  
**2015/2016**

United Nations  
Centre for Regional Development  
Nagoya, Japan



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**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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# Contents

Director’s Note.....	2
UNCRD Overview, July 2014-June 2016 .....	5
Regional Development .....	13
Sustainable Urban Development	
Integrated Regional Development Planning	
Environment .....	29
Environmentally Sustainable Transport (EST)	
3Rs (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle)/Waste Management	
International Partnership for Expanding Waste Management	
Service of Local Authorities (IPLA) – a SDG Partnership	
Social Dimension .....	46
Human Security	
Disaster Management Planning .....	48
Publications.....	49
Outreach Activities .....	52
Financial Statements.....	58
UNCRD Calendar of Activities, July 2014-June 2015 .....	68
UNCRD Calendar of Activities, July 2015-June 2016 .....	70
UNCRD Calendar of Activities, July 2016-June 2017 .....	72
Annex 1: Relationship between UNCRD and UN DESA.....	74

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# Director's Note



This Annual Report covers a rather long period, from July 2014 to June 2016. The Overview section summarizes the activities of the United Nations Centre for Regional Development (UNCRD) during this period. Looking back, there were many memorable moments during this period which saw the adoption of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in July 2014, which thereafter became the framework of the post-2015 Development Agenda with the adoption of *Transforming our World: The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development* in September 2015. In the same year, the *Addis Ababa Action Agenda* was adopted in July to cement the financial framework for sustainable development and later in the year, the *Paris Agreement* was reached in December, demonstrating the global commitment to try to restrict the temperature rise during this century to 2 degrees Celsius. In addition, the *Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction* was adopted in March 2015. These important global agreements provided the framework and direction for streamlining the activities of UNCRD.

UNCRD was convinced from long ago that the regional development approach was most suitable to the implementation of sustainable development. It was analysed in depth at the Expert Group Meeting held in May 2013 and integrated regional development planning (IRDP) was considered a useful tool to promote sustainable development at regional and local levels. Along these lines, UNCRD together with UN DESA collaborated with Toyota City to stage the High-Level Symposium on Sustainable Cities: Connecting People, Environment and Technology which was co-convened by the United Nations and Toyota City in January 2015 in Toyota City. In addition, as a follow-up to SDG 11 and also as a contribution for Habitat III which was held in October 2016, UNCRD, UN-Habitat, the Andalusia Agency for Development International Cooperation, and Monteria City Council collaborated to organize the Expert Group Meeting (EGM) on “The Role of Intermediate Cities in Strengthening Urban-Rural Linkages towards the New Urban Agenda” in October 2015. Selected papers from this meeting were published in *Regional Development Dialogue (RDD)*, UNCRD’s principal journal, in time for Habitat III.

UNCRD continued to organize major regional policy forums on Environmentally Sustainable Transport (EST) in Asia and 3Rs (Reduce, Reuse and Recycle) in Asia and the Pacific. They are

naturally contributing to the implementation of SDGs and the *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*. The Eighth Regional EST Forum in Asia was held in November 2014 in Colombo, Sri Lanka with the theme “Next generation solutions for clean air and sustainable transport – towards a liveable society in Asia”. It was held in conjunction with the Better Air Quality (BAQ) conference 2014 and attracted a large audience. It should also be noted that, taking advantage of the large number of mayors participating, an Addendum to the *Kyoto Declaration* was adopted at the conference. The Ninth Regional EST Forum in Asia was held in November 2015 in Kathmandu, Nepal with the theme “EST for Resiliency – Building Safe, Smart, Low-Carbon and Resilient Cities in Asia”. Despite the large-scale earthquake which had recently occurred in the country, there was a strong determination on the part of the Government of Nepal to host the conference and in the process, the opportunity was taken to integrate the concept of “resilience” into consideration of EST. The Regional 3R Forum in Asia and the Pacific held its sixth meeting in August 2015 in Malé, the Maldives. The Government of the Maldives organized the Maldives National 3R Day as a pre-event and galvanized ninety-nine private resort operators to sign a declaration to achieve sustainable tourism and a green economy. In addition, the City and Atoll Councils of the Maldives signed the *Saafu Raajje (Clean Maldives) Declaration*. It should be noted that the Maldives has continued to maintain the *Saafu Raajje* campaign. In addition, there were a number of activities related to the International Partnership for Expanding Waste Management Services of Local Authorities (IPLA), including the IPLA Global Forum 2015 held in October 2015 in Moscow, Russian Federation.

UNCRD continued its activities to reach out to the people in the Nagoya region to raise the visibility of UNCRD work. The Centre participates in the World Collabo Festa every year, the largest international event in the Tokai region held in October, by organizing a booth to demonstrate the activities of UNCRD and also holds a quiz to raise awareness on sustainable development issues. In 2015, UNCRD joined the UN global campaign, “Turn the World UN Blue,” by switching on the blue lights which decorated the Nagoya TV Tower located adjacent to the venue of the World Collabo Festa. The illumination took place in the final moments of the opening day when crowds of people were still present. UNCRD also organized other photo exhibitions, one of which joined the touring exhibition of UN photos which commemorated the seventieth anniversary of the United Nations.

The Centre was pleased to assist the Clean Water System Supply project of Nagoya Higashiyama Lions Club in Lao PDR through its Global Partnership Programme (GPP), which was designed to improve the water supply system in a remote Laotian village to release the burden on women and girls. The programme followed up with donation of stationary items to the children of the village. UNCRD expresses its deep appreciation to the generous support of Nagoya Higashiyama Lions Club for this initiative.

This reporting period also signified a period of further consolidation at UNCRD. As I ended the note for the previous Annual Report, UNCRD was endeavouring to streamline its activities in order to focus on the implementation of *The Future We Want*. With further changes in the external situation facing UNCRD, these efforts needed to be strengthened such that activities were further consolidated in Nagoya. During this process, the Africa Office was closed at the end of 2014 and the Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) Office was closed at the end of February 2016. Both offices worked with many countries in their respective regions and contributed to the capacity-building, development, and implementation of a number of regional development plans and planning exercises. I would like to express my deepest gratitude to the staff of these offices, the governments and organizations which supported the activities of these offices, and to the many people who collaborated in many different capacities, including instructors, trainees, and researchers. This does not mean, however, that UNCRD no longer works in these regions.

Rather, the activities are now conducted from Nagoya. For example, in the Mayors' Forum and training courses, representatives from these regions are included and when there are opportunities, UNCRD will conduct projects in these regions. Through the work of these offices over a period of many years, UNCRD has accumulated experience and knowledge of these regions, which should be utilized in furthering the implementation of the *2030 Agenda*. In consolidating its activities, UNCRD also decided not to have a separate and specific programme on disaster management planning. These aspects are integrated into the regional development, urban management, and environment units. The Ninth Regional EST Forum in Asia in Kathmandu was a good example of this approach.

UNCRD faces various limitations and has been considerably scaled down. However, the programme is now set for implementing the *2030 Agenda*. UNCRD has been supported by numerous entities and individuals. I would like to express my deepest appreciation to all those who supported and worked together with UNCRD during the period covered by this report.

We look forward to your continued support for UNCRD programmes and to further opportunities for collaborative activities.



Chikako Takase  
Director

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# UNCRD Overview, July 2014-June 2016

In September 2015, during the period covered by this combined Annual Report, a new sustainable development agenda, *Transforming Our World: The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*, was adopted as a new development framework for the ensuing fifteen years by world leaders at the United Nations Sustainable Development Summit. Contained within this initiative were seventeen Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and 169 targets which constituted a fifteen-year plan of action for people, the planet, and for global prosperity. The SDGs constituted a development framework designed to follow and expand on the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) which were adopted in 2000 and intended to be achieved by 2015. The SDGs, a new and ambitious universal agenda, calls on both developed and developing countries to begin efforts to achieve SDGs, and to use them to frame their agendas and policies. Upon the adoption of the *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*, all UN development institutions are also formulating specific action plans. UNCRD believes that regional development is a useful instrument to promote sustainable development and thus instrumental in the implementation of the *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*, which includes SDGs.

This report, *UNCRD Annual Reports 2015/2016* combines two reporting periods spanning the period from July 2014 to June 2016. This section, “UNCRD Overview”, retains a conventional approach by discussing the activities being undertaken by each unit at the UNCRD Nagoya Office (Economic and Social Development; Environment; Disaster Management Planning; and Information Services) followed by overviews of activities conducted during this time by the UNCRD regional offices in Africa (Nairobi) (until December 2014) and in Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC, in Bogotá) (until February 2016). 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; Social Dimension; Disaster Management Planning; 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**

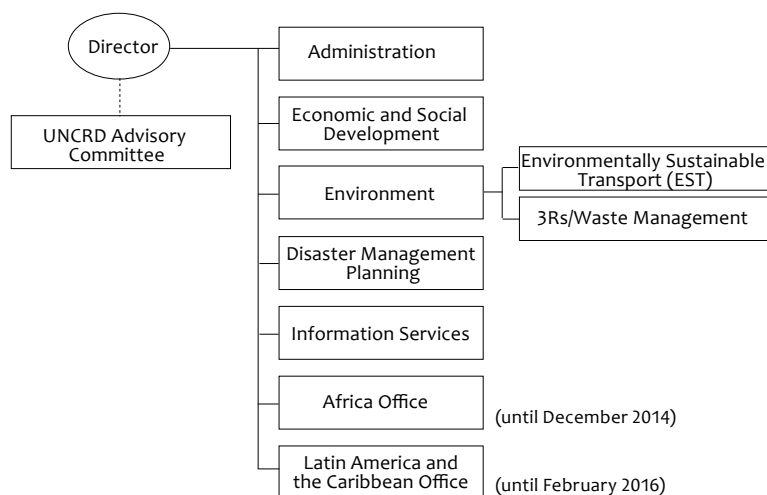
UNCRD was established in 1971 in Nagoya, Japan through an agreement between the United Nations and the Government of Japan for the promotion of regional development in developing countries and countries with economies in transition. UNCRD is a project of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations (UN DESA) and, since 2009, has been administered by the Division for Sustainable Development (DSD). 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



**UNCRD Organizational Chart (as of June 2014)\***



**Note:** \*The UNCRD Africa Office was closed at the end of December 2014 and the UNCRD Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) Office was closed at the end of February 2016.

of partners and collaborating agencies/governments for its activities. UNCRD facilities in Nagoya have benefited from the generous 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 from all parties and would like to take this opportunity to express its sincere gratitude to one and all.

**Overview of Units and Regional Offices**

**Economic and Social Development Unit**

Under the theme of Regional Development, during the reporting period, the Economic and Social Development Unit engaged in organizing policy forums and training in the area of regional development, including sustainable urban management. Concerning organizing forums, UNCRD supported organization of the High-Level Symposium on Sustainable Cities: Connecting People, Environment and Technology, co-convened by the UN and Toyota City, held on 15-16 January 2015 in Toyota City, Japan, which aimed to engage government experts, urban planners, mayors, and decision-makers in a dialogue on how to improve decision-making that moves us towards sustainable cities and sustainable urbanization while providing a timely opportunity for senior decision-makers of both developed and developing countries to engage in an open and in-depth discussion on challenges in advancing sustainable cities.

As regards training, upon request from Bangkok Metropolitan Administration (BMA), UNCRD organized a training programme from 16 to 19 March 2015 in Japan, with the objectives of enhancing each participant’s understanding on sustainable urban development to identify applicable policies and/or initiatives to promote sustainable development in the context of Bangkok. Participants were also exposed to actual cases and experiences of sustainable urban development through visiting and exchanging views with local governments of Aichi Prefecture and the cities of Toyota, Kyoto, and Osaka.

During the intervening period, the Economic and Social Development Unit received additional support for its activities from various entities, for the period June 2014 to June 2015 including Toyota City Government; Bangkok Metropolitan Administration (BMA); and Nagoya Higashiyama Lions Club and Lions Clubs International Foundation; and Kitakyushu City Government. For the period July 2015 to June 2016 including Nagoya Higashiyama Lions Club; UN-Habitat; and Nagoya Gakuin University.

### Environment Unit

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.

UNCRD co-organized the Eighth Intergovernmental Regional EST Forum in Asia, in conjunction with BAQ 2014, with theme of the “Next generation solutions for clean air and sustainable transport – towards a liveable society in Asia” from 19 to 21 November 2014 in Colombo, Sri Lanka. The Forum adopted the *Colombo Declaration for the Promotion of Next Generation Low Carbon Transport Solutions in Asia*. The Unit also supported organization of the High-Level Symposium on Sustainable Cities: Connecting People, Environment and Technology on 15-16 January 2015 in Toyota City, Japan. As an outcome of this symposium, participants from twenty-three countries adopted the *Toyota Statement on Sustainable Cities and Urbanization* for promoting sustainable cities in all their dimensions.

The Public Symposium on EST in Asia, with the theme “Outcomes of Regional EST Forums in Asia, including the *Bangkok, Bali, and Colombo Declarations*, and their Relevance to the Post-2015 Development Agenda/Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), as well as the Role of the Scientific and Research Community and the Private Sector” was jointly organized by UNCRD and Nagoya University on 19 March 2015 in Nagoya. The outcome of this symposium provided significant input for the Ninth Intergovernmental Regional EST Forum in Asia. In order to realize EST by effective implementation of the *Bangkok 2020 Declaration*, the Government of Nepal officially requested UNCRD for technical assistance to develop a National EST Strategy for the country. As a follow up to this request, UNCRD provided the necessary technical assistance and financial support to the Government of Nepal for the formulation of the National EST Strategy in 2014. In this connection, UNCRD jointly organized a “Multi-stakeholders’ Consultation Meeting on the pre-final draft of National EST Strategy for Nepal” on 30 July 2015 in Kathmandu. UNCRD also co-organized the Ninth Intergovernmental Regional EST Forum in Asia with the theme “EST for Resiliency – Building Safe, Smart, Low-carbon and Resilient Cities in Asia” from 17 to 20 November 2015 in Kathmandu.

In the reporting period, UNCRD also undertook a four-day technical mission (6-10 June 2016) for the pre-feasibility study in specific corridors of Bhutan. In addition, UNCRD also contributed to the Expert Group Meeting (EGM) on Special Needs and Challenges in Developing Countries for Achieving Sustainable Transport which was organized by UN DESA at UN HQ-New York on 10-11 May 2016. UNCRD also contributed to the International Recovery Forum 2016, which was organized by International Recovery Platform (IRP) on 26-27 January 2016 in Kobe, Japan (See the section on the Disaster Management Planning Unit). UNCRD's participation in EGM and IRP meetings has provided an opportunity to contribute to the outcome of various meetings by sharing some of the useful lessons and experiences gained from the regularly-held Regional EST Forums in Asia.

In the area of 3Rs and waste management, UNCRD facilitated the implementation of necessary policy measures to promote regional PPPs in the waste sectors of Pacific Island Countries

(PICs) during a side event at a UN SIDS Conference on 3 September 2014 in Apia, Samoa. UNCRD also co-organized with City of São Paulo, Brazil and the International Solid Waste Association (ISWA), the IPLA Global Forum 2014, from 8 to 11 September 2014 in São Paulo, which underscored the important role of municipal governments in formulating a vision for sustainable cities. The Forum adopted the São Paulo Declaration of Municipalities and Local Authorities for Scaling up of National and International Public-Private Partnerships in Waste Sector for Achieving Sustainable and Resilient Cities. Additionally the IPLA event, “Multi-stakeholder Co-operation for Knowledge and Capacity Development in Waste Management” was organized with the collaboration of Lagos Waste Management Authority (LAWMA) on 18 December 2014 in Lagos, Nigeria. The IPLA event, “International Dialogue on Solid Waste Management Towards Zero Waste”, was co-organized with United Administrative Especial de Servicios Publicos (UAESP) Bogotá on 26-27 March 2015, which addressed policies and programmes to achieve zero waste cities, and financing waste management systems, among others.

The Sixth Regional 3R Forum in Asia and the Pacific, organized by UNCRD, from 16 to 19 August 2015 in Maldives, addressed 3Rs as an economic industry with next-generation 3R solutions for a resource-efficient society and sustainable tourism development. The Forum motivated ninety-nine private resorts to sign the *Declaration on the Promotion of 3Rs and Resource Efficiency towards Protection of Local Environment and Marine Ecosystems* with the objective of achieving sustainable tourism development and a green economy in the Maldives. The IPLA Global Forum 2015 was co-organized by UNCRD, Federal Supervisory Natural Resources Management Service (*Rosprirodnadzor*), International Centre for the Best Environmental Technologies (ICBET), and Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection of the City of Moscow from 6 to 8 October 2015, in Moscow, under the overall theme of “Science-Policy-Business-Community Interface towards a Resource Efficient Nation: Minimum Land-filling and Maximum Resource Recovery”. The Forum produced the *Moscow IPLA Declaration on Regional Cooperation for Waste Exchange and Resource Recovery towards Circular Economic Development*. During the Plenary Session, UNCRD presented a paper on “Capacity-building plan on innovative waste management,” concerning the promotion of 3Rs as an economic industry in the context of Rio+20 outcomes and implications towards a resource-efficient and zero-waste society. Also introduced were the beneficial outcomes of the Sixth Regional 3R Forum in Asia and the Pacific in terms of various potential economic opportunities of 3Rs and the waste sector at the Tenth International Conference on Waste Management and Technology (ICWMT, 2015) which was held in Mianyang, Sichuan Province, People’s Republic of China from 28 to 30 October 2015.

UNCRD conducted and moderated a special session on how to advance a science-policy interface in the promotion of 3Rs and resource efficiency at the Third 3R International Scientific Conference (3RINCs) on Material Cycle and Waste Management from 9 to 11 March 2016 in Hanoi, Viet Nam.

During the intervening period, the Environment Unit received additional support for its activities from various entities, for the period July 2014 to June 2015 including: the Ministry of the Environment, Government of Japan; International Solid Waste Association (ISWA); International Waste Working Group/University of KwaZulu-Natal (IPLA Sub-regional Secretariat for Southern Africa); the United Nations Environment Programme/International Environment Technology Center (UNEP/IETC); Climate and Clean Air Coalition (CCAC); Government of Sri Lanka; World Health Organization (WHO); SAFER Vehicle and Traffic Safety Centre at Chalmers (SAFER); German International Cooperation (GIZ); Institute for Transportation and Development Policy (ITDP); The World Resources Institute’s Center for Sustainable Transport (EMBARQ); Local Governments for Sustainability (ICLEI); The Korea Transport Institute (KOTI); International Union of Railways (UIC); and Research and Education Centre for Sustainable Co-Development, Graduate

School of Environmental Studies, Nagoya University (NU-SusCoDe). For the period of July 2015 to June 2016, support was received from: the Ministry of the Environment, Government of Japan; the Ministry of Physical Planning, Infrastructure and Transport, Government of Nepal; Partnership on Sustainable, Low Carbon Transport (SLoCaT); the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP); International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD); *Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit* (GIZ); Institute for Transportation and Development Policy (ITDP); The Youth Community of Nepalese Contractors; Government of Maldives; International Centre for the Best Environmental Technologies (ICBET); and the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES).

### **Disaster Management Planning Unit**

The concept of disaster management planning is integrated into the activities of the other units. For example, when such activities as training on regional development or the international Mayors' forum are planned, the concept of disaster prevention and reconstruction is always incorporated into the programme. In addition, UNCRD has continuously served as a steering committee member of the International Recovery Platform (IRP). The IRP was created in January 2005 during the World Conference on Disaster Reduction (WCDR) in Kobe, Japan to support the implementation of the *Hyogo Framework for Action* (HFA) by addressing the gaps and constraints experienced in the context of post-disaster recovery. After a decade of functioning as an international source of knowledge on good recovery practice, IRP is now focusing on a more specialized role as an international mechanism for sharing experience and lessons associated with build-back-better and as an international source of knowledge on good recovery practice. During this period, as it mentioned in the section of the Environment Unit, UNCRD participated in the IRP's International Recovery Forum which took place in Kobe on 26-27 January 2016. At the forum, UNCRD made a brief presentation on the outcome of the Ninth Regional EST Forum in Asia in a session on "Development continuity planning". UNCRD will retain this interactive cooperation.

### **Information Services**

Information Services 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 *UNCRD Annual Report*); periodicals (*Regional Development Dialogue*, *RDD*); and occasional publications. The *RDD*, the principal publication of UNCRD, covering the broad themes of UNCRD research activities was published twice yearly until the *RDD* 2013 issues, but following the release of the 2014 issue, the journal has been published annually. Thus, *RDD*, Vol. 35, 2014 is the first volume after this change.

For Outreach Activities, UNCRD organized a two-day UN and UNCRD Photo Exhibition in February 2015. To commemorate the seventieth anniversary of the UN, a photo exhibition toured a number of countries as well as cities in Japan. UNCRD took the opportunity to stage an exhibition using photos selected from the UN photo exhibition together with photos and panels depicting a range of UNCRD activities. In October 2015, the Centre joined the global campaign "Turn the World UN Blue" to promote the UN's support for world peace and to seek for a better tomorrow for the whole world. Numerous landmarks throughout the world were floodlit in "UN Blue" including the Nagoya TV Tower with the support of UNCRD. Moreover, during this period, UNCRD arranged the contribution of Nagoya Higashiyama Lions Club through the Centre's Global Partnership Programme (GPP) to Lao PDR on the "Clean Water Supply System Project." In addition, as in previous years, 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 UN and UNCRD activities upon request.

#### **UNCRD Africa Office (until December 2014)**

UNCRD Africa Office's programmes were designed to assist African countries achieve sustainable development by designing and implementing effective and innovative regional development policies to address their needs while building local capacity with the aim of solving pressing socioeconomic development and environmental problems. To achieve these objectives, during this period, the UNCRD Africa Office conducted the Africa Training Course on Local and Regional Development Planning and Management (ATC) in Kenya from 21 October-1 November 2014 under the theme of Regional Development. The course is described under the theme of integrated regional development in this report. The objective of this training was to provide mid-career planners with the requisite knowledge and analytical skills to formulate and implement effective regional development policies and plans. Particularly, to increase the representation of women in the course (as participants and resource persons) and in order to mainstream gender and achieve gender balance in local and regional development planning, women who are engaged in local and regional planning and management were strongly encouraged to apply for the course. As a result of this initiative, of the thirty participants who took part in the training course, eight were females.

In addition, UNCRD Africa Office received funding from the UN Trust Fund for Human Security (UNTFHS) to implement a research-cum-capacity-building project in Kenya, Liberia, Rwanda, and South Sudan. The project aimed at promoting and disseminating the human security concept, norms and practices and deepen its understanding and acceptance among the target African countries with the aim of achieving sustainable peace and development. During this period, UNCRD Africa Office also organized a training workshop in Kenya entitled "Human Security in Africa: Capacity-Building to Promote Sustainable Development in Kenya" from 29 to 31 July 2014, to enhance understanding of the human security approach to sustainable peace and development while disseminating the findings of the Human Security Assessment.

The UNCRD Africa Office was closed at the end of December 2014. UNCRD would like to take this opportunity to express our deepest gratitude to all the related agencies involved in the Africa Office and its wide-ranging activities, also to UNCRD staff members who contributed to the development of countries, regions, and localities through central and local governments officials' training, research, and preparation of regional development plans.

#### **UNCRD Latin America and the Caribbean Office (until February 2016)**

Following its inception in 1997, the UNCRD Latin America and the Caribbean Office (LAC) Office promoted integrated regional development planning (IRDP) and territorial integration as a means to support the economic, social and environmental links within and among territories. This has included urban, peri-urban, and rural areas in order to progress towards the achievement of sustainable development and human security. IRDP promoted by the UNCRD-LAC Office recognizes the multidimensional, cross-sectoral, and multi-scalar character of development, urban and rural linkages, the interdependencies and complementarities between territories, and their complex exchanges of resources, services (including "environmental services"), energy, information, and human services. The projects addressed social, environmental, economic, and governance conflicts in the region, and promoted a balanced distribution of population and economic

activities in a spatial context to achieve equity and social cohesion, efficient territorial organization, and the effective incorporation of environmental and risk management aspects (including climate change) in an integrated manner with the other dynamics and sectors of urban-regional development (such as transport, housing, basic and social services, energy, water, economy, etc.).

Projects implemented also linked the themes of Territorial Development and Human Security (understood as “territorial security” – a concept/approach based on the principles of human security, conceptualized by Gustavo Wilches-Chaux.) involving multidimensional aspects of territorial security: ecological security, social security, economic security, energy security, institutional security, food security, cultural security and political security under a framework of protection and empowerment policies. Integrated regional development has placed particular attention on human security in countries and regions where serious social and economic disparities are observed, and conflicts experienced resulting from unresolved HS threats, including environmental degradation, loss of biodiversity, uncontrolled urbanization, and the effects of climate change.

A major role of the UNCRD-LAC Office in these processes has been to promote and facilitate multi-stakeholder dialogue, inter-institutional/government (horizontal and vertical), and with other stakeholders, jointly build a vision of development, build consensus and facilitate agreements on the main issues to be addressed while articulating coherent territorial solutions, facilitating synergies among all actions within a framework of economic efficiency and social justice. Emphasis has also been placed on redistribution of wealth to reduce opportunity gaps among citizens, especially among the most disadvantaged in marginal situations as a means to help resolve existing conflicts.

During the reporting period, the UNCRD-LAC Office implemented a number of projects under a wide variety of themes, such as: to provide support to the regional integration process and establishment of the first Administrative and Planning Region of Colombia (RAPE – Central Region, Spanish acronym); to provide technical support for the constitution of the Territorial Integration Committee (CIT, Spanish acronym); promotion of Integrated Regional Development Planning and Management for an equitable, balanced, and sustainable development in Cundinamarca Region; organization of the International Forum Uraba-Darien – A Biodiverse Region and International Dialogue on Solid Waste Management Towards Zero Waste in Latin America; and development of a Strategy for the Harmonization of Metropolitan Planning Instruments between Bogotá and its Surrounding Municipalities. The UNCRD-LAC Office developed wide-ranging work in Colombia covering technical assistance and training, nationally and internationally recognized, in the areas of regional integration and IRDP within a framework of sustainable development and human security. This work has become particularly relevant in the country today, in light of the current situation, whereby the territorial approach to address the formulation of public policies for sustainable development and decision-making for territorial governance is a national priority. This becomes especially relevant taking into account the national interest on formulating a territorial planning policy, the Post-2015 agenda, peace agreements, and the post-conflict agenda.

In addition to the knowledge management activities, the UNCRD-LAC Office also implemented various activities aimed at raising awareness of UNCRD’s activities on IRDP through publications, conferences, and relevant inputs provided on IRDP case experiences. Related activities included a substantive contribution to the UN-Habitat – UNCRD International Seminar on Urban-Rural Linkages; contribution to the workshop organized by the United Nations Office for Sustainable Development (UNOSD), Incheon, Republic of Korea, under the UN Development Account Project on national implementation of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs); contribution to the International ECLAC Seminar on Decentralization, Regionalization and IRDP; contribution to the joint UNCRD-UN/Habitat publication of *Regional Development Dialogue (RDD)*; and

three publications based on the outcomes of the projects implemented.

Moreover, the UNCRD-LAC Office also devoted this reporting period to discussing collaborative arrangements and formulating proposals and negotiating agreements with relevant governments to secure funding for UNCRD-LAC operations. This involved discussion of collaborative arrangements with UN offices in Colombia to build a joint programme with UNCRD and achieve continuity of operations. A variety of proposals was elaborated, for implementation of a capacity-building programme on integrated regional development in Colombia and other Latin American countries, in collaboration with relevant organizations/governments.

During the intervening period, the UNCRD-LAC office received additional support for its activities from various entities, for the period July 2014 to June 2015 including Facatativa Chamber of Commerce; *Gobernación de Cundinamarca*; Cundinamarca Planning Secretariat; Bogotá Chamber of Commerce; *Gobernación de Cundinamarca, Meta, Tolima y Boyacá y Bogotá D.C.*; *Gobernación de Antioquia*; and Special Administrative Unit for Public Services - UAESP. For the the period July 2015 to June 2016, the LAC office received various support through the organization of the Panel/Charrette on Promotion of Integrated Regional Development Planning and Management for an Equitable, Balanced and Sustainable Development; National Forum on Integrated Regional Development Planning; Workshop on Territorial Planning Guidelines for Cundinamarca; Meeting of the Territorial Integration Committee; National Forum on Integrated Regional Development Planning on Integrated Regional Development Planning; and Workshop on the Territorial Integration Committee.

The UNCRD-LAC Office was closed at the end of February 2016. UNCRD would like to take this opportunity to express our deepest gratitude to all the related agencies involved in the UNCRD-LAC Office and its wide-ranging activities, also to UNCRD staff members who contributed to the development of countries, regions, and localities through central and local governments officials' training, research, and preparation of regional development plans. Our heartfelt thanks to one and all.

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# Regional Development

## Sustainable Urban Management

### **UNCRD/UN DESA side event on “Promoting Resource Efficiency for Sustainable Urban Development” at the Second High Level Political Forum (HLPF) on Sustainable Development**

7 July 2014, New York

UNCRD and the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA) co-organized this side event, entitled “Promoting Resource Efficiency for Sustainable Urban Development” at the Second High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) on Sustainable Development on 7 July 2014 in New York. It was supported by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (MOFA-J), Ministry of the Environment of Japan (MoEJ), the City of Kitakyushu, Toyota City, Ministry of Transportation of Indonesia, UNEP, UN-Habitat, and the Institute for Transportation and Development Policy (ITDP). The theme of the HLPF was “Achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and charting the way for an ambitious post-2015 development agenda including the sustainable development goals (SDGs)”. The side event was designed to contribute to this theme, in particular the latter part.

Following the opening remarks by the Senior Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs, Government of Japan, and by the Director of Division for Sustainable Development (DSD)/UN DESA, cases studies on efficiency for sustainable development on urbanization by the Government of Indonesia and Japanese local governments were presented. The side event also included useful cases of efficient land use, presented by UN-Habitat, focusing on compact cities, and a presentation on green buildings from UNEP. Around 70 people representing UN entities, international organizations, universities, and both central and local governments participated in the event.

The Ministry of Transportation of Indonesia addressed efficient intra-city and inter-city public transportation systems in the country, aimed at sustainable urban development. Indonesia has the world's fourth largest population after China, India, and the US. Due to the rapidly increasing population, traffic demand is also increasing rapidly, the Indonesian government is promoting the use of public transportation. And with such population increase and growing transport demand, Indonesia is faced with a number of transport-related problems such as heavy traffic congestion, low share of public transportation services, low commuter rail transport capacity, high proportion of motorcycle traffic, high rate of road accidents, growing air pollution in major cities, and high transportation costs, including high costs resulting from health issues arising from air pollution. In order to address these problems, Indonesia has drawn up ambitious plans in terms of its transport infrastructure development. The benefits of developing a multi-modal transport system are not only limited to fuel and CO<sup>2</sup> reduction, additional benefits expected include reduced main road maintenance costs and, more importantly, reduction in the



road accident rates.

The Ministry of the Environment, Japan (MOE-J) described how Japan is promoting 3Rs and a resource efficiency policy towards achieving a sound material cycle society. In line with economic growth and population increase, mainly in Asia, the amount of waste generation has been rapidly increasing with diversification of waste streams. In developing countries, there are widespread cases of environmentally-inappropriate disposal and hazardous recycling activities. MOE-J emphasized the importance of establishing multilayer partnerships as part of Japan's bilateral cooperation. As an example, the on-going bilateral cooperation between Kitakyushu City and Surabaya City was described. Regarding the market for waste management and recycling businesses in Asia, Japan is committed to environmental preservation in Asia by transferring Japanese environmental technologies and by providing institutional capacity-building as a package. In this regard, the ongoing cooperation with UNCRD in convening the Regional 3R Forum in Asia and the Pacific was highlighted together with the growing scale of the Forum and its expanding membership of countries. Due importance was attached to the implementation of the *Hanoi 3R Declaration* (2013-2023) and the *Surabaya 3R Declaration* (2014).

Kitakyushu is a leader in implementing sustainable urban management, with its Green City Programme just being peer-reviewed by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). Kitakyushu has a long history of overcoming pollution and then effecting a transformation to being a sustainable city, and transferring its knowledge and experience to developing cities through strong programme of international collaboration. Based on this history, the vibrant multi-stakeholders' partnership among citizens, local government, and the private sector has been a key factor in the city's transformation from once-a-heavily-polluted city into an eco-city earning international recognition. By implementing cleaner production methods, Kitakyushu has systematically demonstrated that economic development and environmental improvement can co-exist. Due to such efforts, the city was selected as a "Green Growth City" by the OECD in 2011.

Toyota City presented another example of a sustainable city, by implementing a system that optimized energy use throughout the society in order to achieve a low-carbon society. In 2009, Toyota City was designated by the Government of Japan as an Environmental Model City, which aims to reduce the emission of CO<sup>2</sup> by 30 per cent by 2030. One of the notable initiatives of Toyota City is the implementation of a "Smart Community" project which promotes local production and consumption of renewable energy as well as the optimization of energy use and affordability.

UN-Habitat NY Office and an associate professor from the University of Pennsylvania jointly addressed the importance of land-use efficiency and compact city design in sustainable urban development. Noting more rapid population growth in urban areas than rural areas, they highlighted the advantage of compact cities utilizing statistics on gasoline use and land area of the built-up area. The UNEP NY Office introduced a key focus of UNEP's Sustainable Buildings and Climate Initiative (SBCI), which includes application of green principles and assessment of each link (intervention point) in the supply chain – energy-carbon-waste-water-raw materials. A more resource-efficient city and local building sector can reduce the demand and cost of infrastructure and improve delivery of city services such as waste management, transportation, energy, and water supply.

On the basis of these experiences and programmes, the side event aimed at identifying policies and tools to promote resource efficiency, leading to sustainable urban development, while showcasing model cases of sustainable cities.

## High-Level Symposium on Sustainable Cities: Connecting People, Environment, and Technology, Co-Convened By the United Nations and Toyota City

15-16 January 2015, Toyota, Japan

Toyota City is known for its efforts in creating a low-carbon society in conjunction with the private sector. As an overseas office of UN DESA located in Nagoya, UNCRD supported the organization of the High-Level Symposium on Sustainable Cities: Connecting People, Environment, and Technology, Co-Convened By the United Nations and Toyota City, held on 15-16 January 2015 in Toyota City, Japan. The Symposium was supported by the following departments of the Japanese government: Cabinet Office; Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry; Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism; Ministry of the Environment as well as the Aichi Prefectural Government. The Symposium was attended by 250 participants from twenty-three countries and seven international organizations.

The Symposium aimed to disseminate experiences and assist central and local governments in improving decision-making in urban planning and management and in moving towards sustainable cities and sustainable urbanization. The Symposium was comprised of six thematic sessions: Thematic Session I: Sustainable Cities in the Global Development Context Post-2015; Thematic Session II: Human Centred Strategies for Urban Development: The Adaptive City; Thematic Session III: Conservation of the Natural Environment and the Sustainable City; Thematic Session IV: The Smart City Approach; Thematic Session V: Resilient Cities: Good Practice and Lesson learned; Thematic Session VI: Investing Sustainable Cities.

UNCRD moderated Thematic Session I which provided a global overview on sustainable cities and outlined trends concerning sustainable cities and urbanization and the critical role of cities in promoting sustainable urbanization in the post-2015 context. UNCRD also made a presentation entitled "Utilizing Integrated Regional Development in Supporting Resilience" during Thematic Session V, noting that integrated regional development planning (IRDP) is an effective instrument to make cities resilient and sustainable. In Thematic Session VI on Investing Sustainable Cities, UNCRD delivered another presentation entitled "Business Case for Sustainable Urban Practices", highlighting, for practical use of 3Rs, the importance of conducting more comprehensive sustainable business and expanding investment opportunities in partnership with the private sector to come up with win-win solutions.

Throughout every session, the Symposium stimulated frank and open discussions on challenges and successes in designing and implementing strategies and policy measures in support of sustainable cities and sustainable urbanization. It offered all participants a platform for sharing experiences and best practices in the economic transformation of cities; in investing in urban infrastructure; in advancing science, technology, and innovation for sustainable cities and sustainable urbanization; and in promoting dynamic rural-urban economies and multi-stakeholder engagement, including with the private sector. As an outcome, the *Toyota Statement on Sustainable Cities and Urbanization* was adopted.

Taking the opportunity presented by the Symposium, subsequently six Asian cities (Bandung, Kuching South, Nagoya, Sumita-cho, Toyota, and Yangzhou), met in a special ceremony for the signing of the *Kyoto Declaration on the Promotion of Environmentally Sustainable Transport in Cities* and unanimously endorsed and signed the *Kyoto Declaration* and its *Addendum*. As of January



Special Ceremony for the Signing of the Kyoto Declaration

2015, the number of cities which have endorsed the *Kyoto Declaration* and its *Addendum* was fifty-one from sixteen countries.

### **Training Programme in Japan for Bangkok Metropolitan Administration (BMA)**

16-19 March 2015, Aichi, Kyoto, and Osaka, Japan

Following a request from Bangkok Metropolitan Administration (BMA), UNCRD conducted a training programme from 16-19 March 2015 in Japan which comprised an important part of the 15th Intermediate Executive Bangkok Metropolitan Management Programme, conducted by the Training and Development Institute of BMA. The training programme was attended by seventy-two middle executive officials of BMA led by Deputy Permanent Secretary, with all costs being borne by the requesting entity.



The training curriculum was designed by UNCRD, taking into account the needs as well as the current conditions of Bangkok. It consisted of four modules: policy formulation; urban renewal; environment and tourism. As for policy formulation, participants learned and discussed Aichi Vision 2020 with senior officials from Aichi Prefectural Government, with which BMA has boosted exchanges since the Aichi-Bangkok memorandum on mutual cooperation launched in 2012. The BMA delegation visited Toyota City Government and its pavilion “Ecoful Town” to share experiences for creating a low-carbon society. The curriculum also included field study visits to Kyoto City for its Tourism Promotion Plan 2020 and relevant policies and projects and Osaka City for promoting urban renewal projects in the city centre.

In the respective cities, participants observed actual examples of good practices and engaged in lively discussion with senior government officials. In Kyoto City, in particular, BMA participants actively exchanged opinions on sustainable tourism with the Tourism and Meeting, Incentive tour, Convention, Event/Exhibition (MICE) Office of Kyoto City Government. Kyoto ranked No. 1 in the 2014 poll for the world’s best cities, as voted by readers of the U.S. magazine *Travel + Leisure*, for the first time, while Bangkok had been ranked No. 1 for four years from 2010 to 2013. The discussion was reported on by a local newspaper, *Kyoto Shimbun*, which noted that these rival cities have learned from each other’s policy and projects and will continue to aim to be the best city in future visitor polls.

As the final output, participants formulated reports for presentation on what they had learned and how lessons could be introduced and applied in Bangkok after returning to Thailand. Judging from the results of the course evaluation questionnaire, the majority of participants were in agreement that the curriculum prepared by UNCRD responded to their expectation and needs and the main objective was achieved.

### **Expert Group Meeting on “The Role of Intermediate Cities in Strengthening Urban-Rural Linkages towards the New Urban Agenda”**

27-28 October 2015, Monteria, Colombia

UNCRD, UN-Habitat, Andalusia Agency for Development International Cooperation, and Monteria City Council co-organized the Expert Group Meeting (EGM) on “The Role of Intermediate Cities in Strengthening Urban-Rural Linkages towards the New Urban Agenda” on 27-28 October 2015 in Monteria, Colombia. During the two-day meeting, around twenty experts from Australia,

Brazil, Canada, China, Colombia, Ecuador, India, Italy, Japan, Kenya, South Africa, Spain, and Zimbabwe representing international cooperation organizations, universities, as well as central and local governments, gathered to discuss their experiences and lessons on strengthening urban-rural linkages through intermediate cities with particular focus on post-conflict situations.



Photo: UN-Habitat

The EGM addressed the role of intermediate cities in strengthening urban-rural linkages – a rather new topic for UN-Habitat, although it has been one of the topics continuously addressed by UNCRD from its regional development perspective. In addition to the “urban-rural linkages,” the EGM focused on the role of intermediate cities, which are experiencing rapid population growth and associated increases in the need for infrastructure development. The city of Monteria was chosen for its size and the efforts of the city to become more sustainable and socially inclusive. The city is receiving many internally-displaced persons resulting from the conflict and post-conflict situations. The Mayor of Monteria participated in the entire EGM and was active in his participation and contributions to the discussion. In addition to making the opening statement, the UNCRD Director moderated one session in which she also briefly introduced the work of UNCRD, focusing on the relevance of integrated regional development planning (IRDP) to the topic of the EGM. The UNCRD LAC Office also co-operated in organizing the meeting and made a presentation on the work of the office on IRDP, involving Bogotá City, Cundinamarca State, and other surrounding states of the region. This was followed by a presentation by the representative of the National Planning Department of Colombia, who elaborated on the programme. Other presentations covered a wide range of topics related to rural-urban linkages and the role of intermediate cities.

The results and conclusions of the meeting will serve as a knowledge base for information on trends, policies, tools, innovation, and best practices that will inform the Habitat III Conference scheduled to take place in Quito, Ecuador in October 2016. As there are fine complementarities between the work of UN-Habitat and UNCRD, the collaboration between the two institutions is increasing towards Habitat III, but also in terms of facilitating the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in particular Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 11.

The EGM culminated in the *Monteria Communiqué*, which underscored the important role played by small and intermediate cities, and the role of technology and partnerships. It also recognized the importance of territorial approaches and recommended several actions to strengthen rural-urban linkages. The papers from the EGM were published in an issue of UNCRD’s journal *Regional Development Dialogue (RDD)*.

## Integrated Regional Development Planning

### Africa Training Course on Local and Regional Development Planning and Management

21 October-1 November 2014, Juja, Kenya

UNCRD Africa Office, which ceased operations in 2014, in partnership with the African Institute for Capacity Development (AICAD), conducted an Africa Training Course (ATC) on Local and Regional Development Planning and Management in AICAD’s training centre in Juja, Kenya from 21 October to 1 November 2014. The current training course built on the progress made and experiences gained through earlier capacity-building programmes supported by AICAD, the Japan

International Cooperation Agency (JICA), and UNCRD implemented from 2002 to 2007 and 2013 and similar training courses conducted between 2008 and 2012 in partnership with Singapore's Ministry of Foreign Affairs and JICA. The course also used the lessons learned from related projects undertaken by the United Nations and other international development agencies to increase the target African countries' capacity to reduce poverty, promote good governance, and achieve sustainable development. The training course was designed and implemented to support mid-career planners and government officials from local and regional agencies and institutions in analytical skills and methodology to improve their effectiveness in formulation and implementation of development plans and policies. The total of thirty participants from six countries (Burundi, Ethiopia, Kenya, Namibia, Tanzania, and Uganda) attended and completed the training course.

The principal objective of the training course was to provide mid-career planners with requisite knowledge and analytical skills in formulating and implementing effective regional development policies and plans. More specifically, the course aims at:

- Strengthening the institutional capacity of African nations in regional planning by training government planners in the essential skills and approaches necessary for effective regional development planning and management;
- Enhancing the capacity of African planners in preparation and delivery of similar training courses when they return to their respective countries and thus increasing the multiplier effects;
- Creating a forum in which African planners can exchange views and experiences, thereby promoting network-building among relevant institutions and personnel in Africa; and
- Preparing relevant training materials and textbooks relevant to African countries which will be used in various research and training institutions.

The curriculum of the training course was organized into eight distinct but interrelated modules. Lecture topics, panel discussions, workshops, and field studies constitute the modules. The principal objective of each module was to articulate and expose participants to the basic tenets of development theory and practice; and to ensure that emerging issues in local and regional development planning receive adequate coverage. The participants were trained on the practical process of planning, which links knowledge to action and theory to practice. Country cases, prepared by the participants, were also presented and discussed during the training course. Thus, the modules covered the domains of theory, analysis, project planning, and implementation as well as exchange of practical experience in local and regional development planning and management. At the end of the course, participants prepared tangible training outputs, in the form of checklists of new ideas, tasks, and initiatives for their re-entry planning. The checklists are useful products that each participant can take home and share with his/her colleagues. They are intended to ensure socialization of training impacts for maximum effect, in contrast to conventional training approaches which tend to result in a personalization of the knowledge gained, and therefore contain few spread effects.

The training's personnel consisted of UNCRD and AICAD staff and other experts invited from key research and training institutions as well as various UN agencies in Kenya. They conducted training in various modules in accordance with UNCRD's participatory and output-oriented training methodology. Participation of the African scholars and practitioners was intended to further contribute to institutional capacity-building through localization of the training faculty.

### **Intermunicipal workshops (Bogotá and its surrounding municipalities) for the Constitution of a Metropolitan Area and a Territorial Integration Committee**

25 and 28 March; 26 May; 10 June; 28 July; 8 and 14 August ; 23 and 24 September 2014, Bogotá, and Facatativa, Cundinamarca, Colombia

The main objective of the Territorial Integration Committee (CIT, Spanish acronym) is to establish mechanisms for integration, coordination and harmonization of the various relevant bodies for the implementation of territorial plans. A CIT seeks to support initiatives for sustainable social and economic development in the area of influence in the territory formed by the Capital District and its surrounding municipalities, in response to phenomena such as conurbation, and close relations in terms of land use as well as in the provision of public services.



Meeting at Facatativá, Cundinamarca in August 2014

A series of nine workshops was implemented during 2014 in partnership with the governments of Cundinamarca and Bogotá, the National Planning Department (DNP), municipal mayors and planning directors of the city-region, representatives of community organizations and the private sector, which enabled a multi-stakeholder dialogue to devise an agreement to constitute the Territorial Integration Committee between Bogotá and the twenty municipalities of the surrounding region. The expected outcome is the integrated regional development plan for sustainable development among the territorial entities. In this meeting, all governmental levels (central, regional, and municipal) highlighted the relevance of the initiative to harmonize territorial planning among the territorial entities.

Approximately fifty participants including mayors and representatives of the seventeen municipalities involved in the Committee, and Bogotá's Chamber of Commerce.

### **Workshop for the Agreement to Constitute the Territorial Integration Committee**

24 September 2014, Boyacá, Colombia

The main objective of the Territorial Integration Committee (CIT) between Bogotá and the surrounding region is to establish mechanisms for integration, coordination, and harmonization of the various relevant bodies for the implementation of territorial organization plans. A CIT seeks to support initiatives for sustainable social and economic development in the area of influence in the territory formed by the Capital District of Bogotá and its surrounding municipalities, in response to phenomenon such as conurbation, close relations in terms of land use or close relations in the provision of public services. The expected outcome is an integrated regional development plan for sustainable development among the territorial entities.

During this reporting period, the UNCRD-LAC Office held three meetings aimed at discussing the CIT agenda and the possibility of its constitution, in which Bogotá and twenty municipalities of the region participated. These series of meetings was held to advance the design of the Technical Support Document (DTS) which will serve as the basis for the CIT's establishment. In these two meetings, the first draft of the DTS, which includes a proposal for the definition of the influence area, its characteristics in environment, social, economic and infrastructure matters among others which also lead to the definition of an agenda of action of the CIT and organizational chart; as well as the agreement to constitute the initiative.

On 24 September 2014, UNCRD-LAC implemented a workshop in partnership with the governments of Cundinamarca and Bogotá, the National Planning Department (DNP), (approximately fifty participants including representatives of municipalities interested in the committee's

constitution, Cundinamarca's Regional Environmental Corporation, the Territorial National Council, and the Bogotá Chamber of Commerce and delegates of the Ministry of Interior and Ministry of City, Housing, and Territory). The meeting enabled a multi-stakeholder dialogue to take place and come up with an agreement to constitute the Territorial Integration Committee between Bogotá and the twenty municipalities of the surrounding region. At this meeting, every governmental level (central, regional, and municipal) highlighted the relevance of the initiative to harmonize territorial planning among the territorial entities.

### **Forum for the Constitution of the First Administrative and Planning Region (RAPE) of Colombia-Central Region, Boyacá, Colombia**

25 September 2014, Boyacá, Colombia

UNCRD-LAC supported the regional integration process of the first Administrative and Planning Region of Colombia (RAPE) – Central Region (Spanish acronym), which is comprised of the governments of the departments of Cundinamarca, Boyacá, Meta and Tolima, and the Capital District of Bogotá. This process involved a series of technical assistance activities for public officials of the involved governments in building consensus on the main issues to be addressed, and defining the strategic road map to attain the objectives, centered on the following five strategic axes agreed upon by the governments involved to guide integrated territorial planning: (a) ecosystems sustainability and risk management; (b) infrastructures of transport, logistics, and public services; (c) regional competitiveness and international projection; (d) food security and rural economy; and (e) regional governance and good government. The vision that RAPE proposes (for 2034) is to be recognized as an area of peace and security, with social, environmental, and economic balance, culturally diverse and globally competitive and innovative.



Governors of Boyacá, Cundinamarca, Bogotá, Meta, and Tolima

Territorial integration and integrated planning address acute imbalances, disparities and social inequalities, as well as environmental degradation in the regions. It recognizes geographic, economic, environmental, economic, population, and functional relationships among territories, from biotic and physical ecosystems, local cultural identities, amenities, and economic and productive infrastructure, urban-rural linkages, as well as the interdependencies and complementarities among territorial jurisdictions.

The RAPE Central Region is the result of decentralization policy, and the will of territorial governments to cooperate in building a common regional vision to plan accordingly, and define an action plan, define projects and allocate resources to address key aspects of sustainable development under principles of concurrence, at the proper territorial planning scale and with the participation of all levels of government. UNCRD-LAC has been technically supporting the initiative since its inception, facilitating dialogue and building consensus on regional development scenarios among the territorial entities. The five governors committed to work in cooperation, and with the central government and the local governments, to address such major challenges as acute imbalances, disparities, social inequalities, and environmental degradation.

UNCRD-LAC supported a series of seven interinstitutional workshops were held in the second semester of 2014, focused on the finalization of the documents for the formal constitution of the region. The Office also elaborated a publication of the Technical Support document which

served as the basis to present the initiative to the Congress, which was launched in the ceremony of constitution of RAPE.

On 25 September 2014, the RAPE Central Region was officially constituted in a ceremony attended by approximately 350 participants, comprised of representatives of the central government, congress, governors, mayors, academia, the private sector, and community organizations, among others. As outlined by the Director of the National Planning Department, this is a historical development from the *Organic Law of Territorial Planning* enacted in 2011 by the central government, in relation to territorial integration/association figures to promote sustainable development and peace building (in the context of post-conflict efforts, which is core of Colombia's new national development plan). The Governor of Cundinamarca explicitly acknowledged the support provided by the LAC Office in this initiative.

### **Contribution to the International Forum Uraba-Darien – a Biodiverse Region**

20-21 November 2014, Medellín, Colombia

UNCRD-LAC was invited by the Government of Antioquia to contribute in the International Forum entitled Uraba-Darien – a Biodiverse Region, on 20-21 November 2014. The event enabled a valuable multi-stakeholder dialogue to build a common vision of the future development of this region based on biodiversity, sustainable development, and peace building through a territorial approach. This region is considered one of the richest in Colombia and the world in terms of biodiversity, but has also suffered from long-running armed conflict. A very important recovery process is aimed for this region, led by the regional government of Antioquia, with the participation of a wide variety of stakeholders, different levels of government, Ministry of Environment, private and community associations, academia, and a large number of community organizations (indigenous, black, youth, women, among others) and international cooperation agencies (such as the French Development Agency, the World Wildlife Fund (WWF), and the United Nations Development Programme, UNDP).



Nearly 400 representatives from these entities attended the forum. The UNCRD-LAC Office coordinator contributed with inputs in the working teams and with views and conclusions at the end of the event, based on the Office's experience on integrated regional development and territorial planning, for sustainable development. The government expressed interest in the Office's involvement and support for the process. This was envisaged as a useful case of integrated regional development planning and a way to incorporate SDGs in planning and monitoring of the initiative.

### **Inter-institutional Workshops (Bogotá and its surrounding municipalities) for the Constitution of a Territorial Integration Committee (CIT)**

24 April and 15 May 2015, Bogotá, Colombia

UNCRD-LAC facilitated the implementation of various meetings aimed at discussing the Territorial Integration Committee (CIT) Agenda, in these meetings representatives of Bogotá's government, various municipalities of the surrounding region and key stakeholders of the region participate and explored the possibility of its constitution.



This series of meetings was held to advance the design of the Technical Support Document (DTS) which will serve as the basis for the CIT's establishment. In these two meetings, the first draft of the DTS, which includes a proposal for the definition of the influence area, its characteristics in terms of environment, social, economic, and infrastructure issues among others which also lead to the definition of an agenda of action of the CIT and organizational chart; as well as an agreement to constitute the initiative.



Approximately thirty participants, including representatives of municipalities interested in the committee's constitution, the Government of Cundinamarca, Cundinamarca's Autonomous Regional Corporation, the Territorial National Council and the Bogota's Chamber of Commerce and delegates of the Ministry of Interior and Ministry of City, Housing and Territory.

### **Governmental Articulation Workshop of the Project "Promotion of Integrated Regional Development Planning and Management for an Equitable, Balanced and Sustainable Development"**

26 June 2015, Bogotá, Colombia

The Department of Cundinamarca (in which Bogotá is located), is comprised of 116 municipalities, and is a very diverse territory in social, economic and environmental and ecological aspects. This territory is of great importance in the national and international context, as it is the largest population hub, and the most important financial, employment, and business centre in Colombia.



The Bogotá-Cundinamarca City-region continually attracts population and generates strong functional relations with the neighbouring territories. Nevertheless, at the same time it faces important challenges, as a result of rapid changes in both its urban structure and in functional aspects, due to transformations in urban-rural linkages, and due to increased urbanization in the metropolitan area of Bogotá and its surrounding municipalities, which result in depletion of natural resources, socioeconomic inequities, and acute territorial disparities. Consequently, the region requires the adoption of suitable regional development policies and planning to respond to these challenges.

The project's main objective is to strengthen technical and institutional capacities in Cundinamarca for strategic territorial planning, with a long-term vision for the Department, and the formulation of the first guidelines of integrated regional development planning to attain an equitable, balanced, and sustainable development of the territory.

The project was started in January 2015. In the first semester, the first two phases of the project were implemented, focussing on the systematization of the *Cundinamarca Vision 2035*. In coordination with the Secretariats of Planning and Regional Integration of the Department, information related to the process of regional development and territorial planning of Cundinamarca was identified and systematized in the period defined from 2000 to 2015. Approximately 200 document inputs were analysed, which included diagnoses and proposals (territorial occupation models, guidelines, directives, projects, etc.) from different sectors and territorial entities (na-

tional, departmental, and municipal), and consolidate them into maps. A selection of different territorial visions was identified that have been built by different relevant actors, highlighting thirteen milestones on which it is proposed to work in the collective construction of the Strategic Agenda for the Territorial Ordering of Cundinamarca.



This period also involved the first phase of the participatory building of a shared long-term territorial development vision of sustainable development in the Department and its municipalities, with the participation of relevant stakeholders which involved the definition of regional development objectives and strategic axes (which will also address the adoption of SDG). This vision served as the basis to orientate the formulation of Territorial Planning Guidelines (TDG), to be formulated in the next phase.

Against the above, the Governmental Articulation Workshop was held to consult with the governing body and the public servants of Cundinamarca on the identification of a long-term territorial vision for the Departamento for 2032, its priorities, strategic axes and projects, key stakeholders, and strategic partners to be involved in the process. The workshop also aimed at identifying the main opportunities and challenges of the project, and present the results achieved so far, mainly the work of systematization of relevant territorial information, diagnoses, and proposals (territorial occupation models, guidelines, directives, projects, etc.) and the route map and methodology for the integrated regional planning process. This involved the analysis and conclusions on the various territorial visions that have been proposed since 2000, and establish the bases of the territorial model that will lead to the elaboration of Guidelines on Territorial Planning (DOT, Spanish Acronym) for Cundinamarca.

The workshops served to discuss with key sectors of the departmental government of the project and jointly identify the main strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats of the project and build a stakeholders' map to engage in all project stages. Among the main issues discussed were: equal opportunities for all, social inclusiveness, territorial identity and productive capacities, capacity development for innovation and competitiveness, connectivity (physical, human, and technological), and regional governance. This is expected to move towards a secure, and environmentally, socially, and economically sustainable territory that can become a benchmark for the country and the world at large.

Approximately eighty participants, including the Governor of Cundinamarca, public officials of Cundinamarca's Government, representatives of different Secretariats and entities, as well as representatives of national entities related with territorial and regional planning, participated in the workshop.

### **Panel/Charrette Promotion of Integrated Regional Development Planning and Management for an Equitable, Balanced, and Sustainable Development in the Cundinamarca Region**

12-17 July 2015, Bogotá, Colombia

This project, which was started in January 2015, continued with a variety of capacity-building activities aimed at building a strategic territorial agenda for the region, through the implementation of a continued participatory process, where regional stakeholders, with the support of UNCRD-LAC together with national and international experts, jointly analysed the territory of Cundinamarca from different perspectives – capitalizing on the lessons learned from past planning experience – and made proposals on key factors that should constitute the strategic agen-

da for future integrated territorial planning of Cundinamarca. Multiple workshops and forums (a total of twenty-three during the period) were held with public officials, national, superregional, regional, and local authorities, environmental organizations, provinces, private sector, civil society and academia, among others. These activities had the participation of around 390 individuals.



Main issues addressed were: the wide socio-economic and environmental gaps between the metropolitan conglomerate around Bogotá and the large rural area, the diversity, the need for territorial cohesion, climate resilience, water availability, social welfare, and infrastructure to guarantee connectivity (land, sea, and air transport), tourism and regional logistics. Democracy and regional governance were also widely discussed, emphasizing the need for a more effective and results-based dialogue among the different territorial actors (including Bogotá, the Central Region, and the central government), and the new role and competences of the Department, as the articulator of municipal territorial plans, inter-municipal systems, and implementation of national policies.

Key aspects proposed for the strategic agenda for Cundinamarca were:

- (1) Environmental resilience (water, risk management, food security, sustainable energy);
- (2) Territorial cohesion and convergence (accessibility to services and social welfare);
- (3) Sustainability and economic resilience (a structured, connected, specialized, territory, renewed productivity and knowledge); and
- (4) Democracy and governance (effective participation, interdependent management, transparent, with effective territorial associations)

A multi-stakeholder dialogue committee was constituted with key leaders and representatives of the territory (involving national, regional and municipal stakeholders and the private and community sectors) to continue the strategic planning process. Based on the building of a shared vision of the development of the region, the territorial planning guidelines for the Department were defined (the first of this type in Colombia under the *Territorial Ordering Organic Law* of 2011). This implied the design of a conceptual framework following the orientations defined by the National Planning Department/Ministry. A draft Departmental Ordinance was drawn up, which constituted the legal framework for the guidelines.



The territorial guidelines are envisaged as a starting point to overcoming the institutional weakness linked to the lack of an intermediate level of government (between the national and the municipal levels) in Colombia, to articulate regional dimensions as environmental, economic, social, and cultural management, which is crucial to the sustainability of the territory and the quality of life of citizens. This new instrument should allow the Department to assume its institutional role, and the construction of territorial scenarios and strategies to deal with current problems and face the challenges ahead. The guidelines were presented and discussed in three sessions of the Cundinamarca Assembly, and were considered as a key initiative for the sustainable development of the Department by the Assembly members, attracting wide political interest. The guidelines also included a strategy for implementing and monitoring the impact of priority plans and projects within the framework of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), under a territorial approach.

The project involved a knowledge management component under which wide dissemination of the progress made and project outcomes was achieved, particularly in the municipalities, the Territorial Planning Councils (TPCs) and among representatives of the central government and other relevant stakeholders. These activities (three forums and production of an interactive website of the project) were crucial to the discussion and building of the Territorial Strategic Agenda and the guidelines of Territorial Planning in Bogotá -Cundinamarca, to enhance the project participation process and knowledge-sharing.

This project has become an example for replication for other regions in Colombia and other countries in Latin America that are facing similar territorial planning challenges. The National Planning Ministry of Colombia invited UNCRD-LAC to present this project at various events. It also generated international interest, and was presented at the Seminar on Regionalization, Decentralization and Territorial Ordination, co-organized by the UN Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) and the Government of Chile in January 2016. By invitation of the organizers, the UNCRD-LAC coordinator presented an account of the progress and lessons learned from the various project activities, especially the formulation of the territorial planning guidelines to a group of approximately 100 people, including representatives of regional governments of Chile, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, and Peru, as well as officials of the Undersecretariat of Regional Development of Chile, and representatives of various agencies of the United Nations organization.

### **Workshop on Territorial Planning Guidelines for Cundinamarca**

6 October 2015, Bogotá, Colombia

The workshop aimed at a wide dissemination of the progress made and outcomes of the Project on Integrated Regional Development Planning for Cundinamarca, particularly to the municipalities, the TPCs and representatives of the central government and other relevant stakeholders. The workshop contributed to the building of the Territorial Strategic Agenda and drawing up the guidelines of Territorial Planning in the Department of Cundinamarca. It also aimed to discuss and collect inputs to enhance the project and the participation process.



Main issues discussed were related to the current and future challenges faced by Cundinamarca region such as climate change, water and food security which demand a series of immediate planning measures and action from the Department, and its important role as the articulator of municipal territorial plans and inter-municipal systems. The territorial planning guidelines, the first of their type in Colombia (under the *Territorial Planning Organic Law* of 2011), aim to address the big dispersion and disarticulation regarding land-use orientation, and socio-economic and environmental planning and project implementation, which has generated considerable vulnerability in the territories.

The territorial guidelines are a starting point to correcting institutional weaknesses linked to the lack of an intermediate level of government (between the central and municipal levels) in Colombia, to articulate regional dimensions related to environmental, economic, social, and cultural management, which is crucial to the sustainability of the territory and the quality of life of its citizens. This new instrument should allow the Department to assume its institutional role, and the construction of territorial scenarios and strategies to allow current problems and future challenges to be faced.

The workshop was attended by approximately 100 participants, including representatives of the Planning Secretariat of Cundinamarca, Planning Territorial Committees of the municipalities, the Government of Cundinamarca, the Departmental Planning Council and the National Planning Department and delegates of Agustin Codazzi Geographic Institute.

### **Sessions of the Territorial Integration Committee (TIC) of the Bogotá Region**

4 November 2015, Bogotá, Colombia

25 February 2016, Bogotá, Colombia

Currently, the territory of Bogotá, together with its metropolitan region, has a population of over ten million people. As with many other subnational territories in LAC, heterogeneous in nature, Bogotá and its region face great challenges which go beyond the political-administrative jurisdictions of the territories that comprise it, regarding conurbation-management, infrastructure, comprehensive land-use and natural resources management for environmental preservation and sustainability, availability of water, food, and raw materials, security, peace, and coexistence, among others. All these are crucial for the promotion of development and improvement in the quality of life of its inhabitants. Bogotá, since 2001, has promoted the coordination and agreement of policies and strategies of regional integration, together with the territorial entities, under a regional development model.

Over the past decade, in coordination with other stakeholders, the Capital District of Bogotá has implemented a variety of initiatives aimed at responding to specific situations identified in the territories. However, the absence of proper institutions has prevented the attainment of results and desired transformations. Bogotá's administration (2012-2015) promoted the constitution of different institutional alternatives (formal and informal) to enhance decision making at the regional level, in line with its policy strategy which aims at "Facilitating the implementation of agreed and articulated actions between Bogotá, the neighbouring territories, and the Nation, to address regional problems and promote development at the regional level". In implementing this strategy, the city counted on the support of different public and private actors which have contributed their knowledge and expertise to the development of Bogotá and its region.

UNCRD-LAC has been one of these strategic partners, which has supported the past four administrations of the City of Bogotá, by providing technical assistance for the implementation of this process from its outset, starting with initiatives such as the Bogotá-Cundinamarca Regional Planning Board, the Water Board, the Technical Regional Board, and the process of constitution of the Administrative Special Planning of the Central Region (RAPE, Central Region), among others. This process, technically supported by UNCRD-LAC, has included a series of activities aimed at facilitating a sustained dialogue between the variety of public stakeholders who are making decisions in the region in terms of development planning, implementation of projects and the allocation of funds (within the city and between the city and other territorial entities), as well as the identification of mechanisms for inter-institutional coordination that allow harmonization of planning instruments.

In its last phase, during this reporting period (2015-2016), emphasis was placed on supporting the city in the constitution of an inter-institutional body of agreement between Bogotá and its surrounding municipalities to harmonize the territorial planning and fiscal instruments among the different territorial entities, involving different governance scales, i.e., national, metropolitan, and municipal.

A principal achievement during this period was the constitution of the Territorial Integration Committee (TIC), an official body for dialogue, debate, and consensus-building on territorial planning (regulated by Law 614 of 2000), which defines the conformation of this Committee among

municipalities that constitute a metropolitan area that have an area of influence with more than 500,000 inhabitants. The main criteria for membership in the area of influence of the TIC are conurbation phenomena, close relations in land use, and close relations in the provision of public services. A TIC mainly addresses: (a) the harmonized implementation of municipal territorial plans; (b) a strategic vision of future development in the area of territorial influence; (c) community participation; (d) creation of an integrated Geographic Information System (GIS); and (e) required regulations for deliberation and operation. UNCRD-LAC contributed to building this body of territorial association as its technical secretariat, providing advice and support to the first initiative of its kind in the Bogotá City-region.



During the session in November 2015

The TIC of the Bogotá Region is represented by the Mayor of Bogotá and the mayors of the surrounding municipalities that are part of the area of influence (approximately twenty-five); the governor of Cundinamarca or its delegates; the director of the Regional Autonomous Corporations that have jurisdiction in the area of influence; a delegate from the Ministry of Housing, City, and Territory and of the Ministry of the Interior; two representatives of productive organizations; a representative of nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) and other invitees such as the National Geographic Institute (IGAC), the Ministry of Environment, the National Planning Department, and the Territorial Planning Councils.

During the 2015-2016 period, a series of technical support activities was implemented to build consensus on the strategic agenda, formulate a technical support document, define the area of influence, draw up minutes of the agreement and statutes, and carry out the required protocols for the establishment of the TIC, and its subsequent operation. Approximately nine workshops were held with the participation of approximately 180 people representing the entities described above.

The TIC was officially established in October 2015, with signatures of an agreement signed by the Governor of Cundinamarca, the mayors of Bogotá and twelve municipalities, the Director of the Regional Autonomous Corporations that have jurisdiction in the area of influence, *delegate* from the Minister of Housing, City, and Territory and the Minister of the Interior.



During the session in February 2016

Two sessions of the Committee were held, one in November 2015 and one in February 2016, which served to advance on the definition of the agenda, and the action plan. The 2016 session, the first held with the newly-elected territorial administrations that took office on 1 January 2016, disseminated the initiative to the new administrations of the municipalities comprising the TIC and the Department of Cundinamarca about the background, state of progress, as well as its main challenges to date. Participants confirmed their interest in the TIC, and their commitment to its strengthening. Challenges raised were related to the prevailing need to harmonize planning instruments and territorial plans, especially in relation to conurbation, land-use control, mobility and transport, ecosystems, water, housing, industry, public facilities, risk management and climate change. These agreements should be reflected in the revisions of the territorial organization plans for the next twelve years, under a common and agreed upon regional vision.

## Forum on “Achievements of Regional Integration”

30 November 2015, Bogotá, Colombia

During the reporting periods, various activities aimed at the exchange and dissemination of experiences and knowledge were implemented. In November 2015, a national forum was held in coordination with Bogotá’s Planning Office, UN Habitat, and the Chamber of Commerce of Bogotá, aimed at evaluating the progress made by the 2012-2015 administration of Bogotá, and the main challenges ahead in regional governance. A panel of experts on integrated regional development planning and regional integration was organized, comprised of representatives of incoming and outgoing administrations, the RAPE-Central Region, UNCRD, and other organizations. The Coordinator of UNCRD-LAC was part of the expert panel.

Discussions were centred on an evaluation of the main initiatives and projects of regional integration promoted by Bogotá, in cooperation with its surrounding region (neighbouring municipalities, Cundinamarca, and other departments), concrete results achieved and the main challenges ahead in integration and regional coordination. All these initiatives and projects should be sustained, complemented, and enhanced in the future.

The Forum presented an opportunity to draw up a balance sheet of the progress made in regional integration, concrete results achieved, and the main challenges ahead. Aspects highlighted were the importance of the consolidation of association figures as the Special Administrative Planning Region (RAPE-Central Region), which comprised the departments of Boyacá, Cundinamarca, Meta and Tolima, and Bogotá; and the constitution of the Territorial Integration Committee (CIT) between Bogotá and the municipalities of its region (Cundinamarca). Both initiatives have been supported by UNCRD-LAC, and are working on a common agenda for the formulation and implementation of joint projects.

The spatial dimension of regional integration was one of the central themes of the working group, which was developed as part of the forum.



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# Environment

## Environmentally Sustainable Transport (EST)

### **Eighth Regional Environmentally-Sustainable Transport (EST) Forum in Asia** 19-21 November 2014, Colombo, Sri Lanka

The Intergovernmental Eighth Regional EST Forum in Asia was jointly organized by UNCRD, the Ministry of Environment and Renewable Energy (MERE) of the Government of Sri Lanka, the Ministry of Transport (MOT) of the Government of Sri Lanka, the Ministry of the Environment of the Government of Japan (MOE-Japan) and Clean Air Asia, in conjunction with the Better Air Quality Conference (BAQ) 2014, with the theme “Next Generation Solutions for Clean Air and Sustainable Transport – Towards a Liveable Society in Asia” from 19 to 21 November 2014 in Colombo, Sri Lanka. Approximately 1,000 participants from forty countries comprising the member countries of the Regional EST Forum in Asia, city mayors and local authorities, participants of the BAQ 2014, Subsidiary Expert Group members of the Regional EST Forum in Asia, international resource persons, representatives from various UN and international organizations, scientific and research organizations, multilateral development banks, nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), representatives from the private and business sectors, as well as local observers and professionals from government and other sectors in Sri Lanka attended the conference. The Integrated Conference was supported by various international organizations, and donor agencies, such as the Asian Development Bank (ADB), EMBARQ (World Resources Institute’s Center for Sustainable Transport), German International Cooperation (GIZ), International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI)-Local Governments for Sustainability, Innovation Center for Mobility and Societal Change (InnoZ), Institute for Transportation and Development Policy (ITDP), International Union of Railways (UIC), Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), Partnership on Sustainable, Low Carbon Transport (SLoCaT), South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme (SACEP), TERI University, the Korean Transport Institute (KOTI), University of Gothenburg, SAFER - Vehicle and Traffic Safety Centre, the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UN ESCAP), the World Health Organization (WHO), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), Walk21, Smart Freight Centre, Stockholm Environment Institute, International Centre Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD), Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES), Climate and Clean Air Coalition (CCAC), World LPG Association (WLPGA), SHAKTI Sustainable Energy Foundation, Health Effect Institute (HEI), Centre for Science and Environment (CSE), the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), and the World Bank (WB), among others.

A number of pre-events and special events were also organized in conjunction with the Eighth Regional EST Forum in Asia. They included: Asia Auto Gas Summit and Cooking for Life,



Consultation Meeting for the Joint Forum on Clean Air in Asia and the Pacific and the Fifth Governmental Meeting on Urban Air Quality in Asia, Doubling Fuel Efficiency of Vehicles in Asia: Tools and Methodologies, Using BenMAP-CE to Estimate Air Pollution Benefits, Household Air Pollution – Effects on Health and Climate Change, from the low-hanging fruits to high-hanging fruits: Capitalizing on Project Achievements, Scaling up Sustainable Transport Solutions to Improve Quality of Life in Cities, Green Freight Day: Asia in the Changing World of Green Freight – Building Blocks for Green Freight in Asia, and Green Freight for the World, Improving AQ Monitoring Systems, Experts Group Meeting on Accelerating Fuel Economy Policies in the ASEAN Region, AirNow-International – A Growing Community of Users, and Clean Air Asia Partnership Roundtable.

The objectives of the Eighth Regional EST Forum in Asia were to: (a) discuss various policy options, institutional measures, technological interventions, and financing mechanisms for the promotion of next generation solutions for clean air and sustainable transport to achieve a liveable society in Asia; (b) address how to achieve the *Bali Vision Three Zeros ~ Zero Congestion, Zero Pollution, and Zero Accidents* towards the next generation transport system for sustainable/inclusive development in Asia; (c) discuss the nexus between EST and productivity and human development; (d) review countries' initiatives, achievements, and best practices in addressing the *Bangkok 2020 Declaration (2010-2020)*; (e) bring together governments, experts, donors, international organizations, the private sector, academia, NGOs, and other selected stakeholders to share their expertise, experiences, and best practices in various thematic areas of EST as underlined in the *Aichi Statement (2005)*; and (f) discuss how the Asian EST Initiative can contribute in the post-2015 development era.

Recognizing that clean air and sustainable transport are essential to a liveable society in Asia, the integrated conference called for innovative, smart and cost-effective solutions (policy, institution, technology, and financing) that significantly reduce air pollution and greenhouse gases (GHGs) from energy, industry, transport, and area sources, and ensure a safe, equitable environment and people-friendly transport system by accelerating the shift towards more environmentally-sustainable transport (EST) in Asian cities and countries.

The Forum addressed a number of cross-cutting issues of the transport sector, including how to implement *Bali Vision Three Zeros ~ Zero Congestion, Zero Pollution, Zero Accidents* towards achieving a liveable and sustainable society in Asia; e-Mobility as the next generation solutions for clean air and sustainable transport in Asia; improved accessibility to essential utilities and services – a critical need for communities throughout emerging Asia; road safety and injury prevention – indispensable for national productivity; the *Colombo Metropolitan Transport Master Plan* vis-à-vis national and international efforts on low carbon technology transfer and infrastructure development in the transport sector; staging a special side-event for Asian Mayors and Local Authorities, ~ “Realizing resilient, smart and liveable cities in Asia – the role of EST”; country initiatives and achievements on implementing the goals of the *Bali Vision Three Zeros*; private sector financing for next generation transport infrastructure; next generation sustainable transport solutions in post-2015 development era; Intelligent Freight System (IFS) for improved pro-



Participants of the forum

ductivity and energy security in Asia; and, finally, expanding railways – a vital means to meet the growing transport demand in Asia. The integrated conference further recognized a number of other key thematic areas and cross-cutting issues including public health, education and jobs, poverty eradication, national productivity, human development, sustainable and resilience transport infrastructures, NMT, food and energy security, and climate change issues.

In this context, the Forum recognized the role of EST as a key enabler of inclusive economic development, environmental protection, human development, and national productivity. The Forum noted that considering the increasing resource demands, it is important for developed countries and multinational institutions to fulfil the existing commitments for financial assistance, technology transfer, and the sharing of expertise and experiences in advancing environmentally-sustainable transport in Asia. At the same time, there is need for regional connectivity that is more inter-connected and intermodal in order to adapt to a more efficient, affordable, and sustainable transport system. In order to promote safe, clean, and efficient transport modes, or to maintain an advantageous modal split, multiple modes need to be well integrated. Full and seamless integration of public transport modes (physical, information, network, and fare integration) will be an essential characteristic of next-generation transport systems for the twenty-first century which can be achieved by forming transit alliances between central and local government organizations, academic and research institution, and the private sector at local, country or regional levels.

The Forum well recognized that resilience and sustainability are basic pillars of society, and building climate- and disaster-resilient infrastructure might be more expensive however it appears that there are many economic benefits in taking into account this approach as resilient transport infrastructure can significantly reduce economic losses and protect life and property when such an event takes place. The forum further recognized that “green freight” is essential for Asian countries in the twenty-first century to respond to high logistics costs, disproportionate environmental social impacts from freight movement, and market pressures to improve efficiency. Walking was also identified as a basis for proper urban transport planning, since it creates more efficient and more equitable transport systems in general. The integration of walking and cycling with public transport systems was also mentioned as an important strategy to realize the *Bali Vision Three Zeros* for twenty-first century transport systems in Asia. It is equally realized that railways play a key role in serving urban-rural linkages, economic development, and regional connectivity, offering opportunities to mitigate emissions, reduce traffic congestion, enhance traffic safety, and improve accessibility and connectivity. However, the shift from road transport to railways is a challenge for many Asian countries. It will certainly require the strengthening of institutional arrangements, innovative financing mechanisms, and the setting of indicators and targets for benchmarking purposes. To enable progress towards achieving *Vision Three Zeros* for the next generation transport system, multilateral development banks (MDBs) voluntarily committed US\$175 billion in loans and grants to be re-allocated from unsustainable to sustainable transport in the developing countries.

Participants agreed on the important role that sustainable transport has to play in realizing economic development and poverty eradication. In many cities, transport is one of the most important sources of employment, especially in the informal sector. There is a need for strong political will to implement institutional reform and simplification. Countries need to provide strong links between institutional and financial mandates since an institution with budgetary capacity will be more effective in achieving its goals and moving forward. The Forum also recognized the advantages of Intelligent Transport System (ITS) to improved safety, higher efficiency, and better services with reduced pollution regarding GHG emissions. In order to address the transport issues, countries need to implement EST in policies, planning, and development. In this regard, more cooperation, collaboration, networking, and support among the member

countries, the private sectors, MDBs, and international organizations are indispensable.

As an outcome of the Eighth Regional EST Forum in Asia, the participants unanimously adopted the *Colombo Declaration for the Promotion of Next Generation Low Carbon Transport Solutions in Asia*; the *Addendum to the Kyoto Declaration for the Promotion of Environmentally Sustainable Transport – Towards Realizing Resilient, Smart and Liveable Cities in Asia*, and the Chair's Summary.

### High-Level Symposium on Sustainable Cities: Connecting People, Environment, and Technology

15-16 January 2015, Toyota, Japan

The High-Level Symposium on Sustainable Cities: Connecting People, Environment and Technology was co-convened by the United Nations and Toyota City. The symposium was supported by the Government of Japan: Cabinet Office; Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry; Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism; Ministry of the Environment as well as the Aichi Prefectural Government. The major objectives of the symposium were to: (a) share experiences and assist central and local governments in improving decision-making in urban planning and management and in moving towards sustainable cities and sustainable urbanization; (b) discuss the challenges and successes in designing and implementing strategies and policy measures in support of sustainable cities and sustainable urbanization; and (c) provide a platform for sharing experiences and best practices in economic transformation of cities for: investing in urban infrastructure; advancing science, technology, and innovation for sustainable cities and sustainable urbanization; and promoting dynamic rural-urban economies and multi-stakeholder engagement, including with the private sector.

As an outcome of the High-Level Symposium on Sustainable Cities, the participants from twenty-three countries adopted the *Toyota Statement on Sustainable Cities and Urbanization* to promote sustainable cities in all their dimensions. The *Toyota Statement* covers (a) sustainable cities in the global development context post-2015, (b) good governance for sustainable cities and sustainable urbanization, (c) the adaptive city: toward realizing sustainable cities, (d) technology, innovation, and the promotion of smart city, (e) building urban resilience, and (f) efficient financing for sustainable cities.

### Special Ceremony for Signing the Addendum to the Kyoto Declaration

16 January 2015, Toyota, Japan

The Special Ceremony for Signing of the *Kyoto Declaration on the Promotion of Environmentally Sustainable Transport (EST) in Cities* was organized by UNCRD on 16 January 2015 during the High-Level Symposium on Sustainable Cities: Connecting People, Environment and Technology, co-convened by the United Nations and Toyota City.

Following the adoption and signing of the *Addendum to the Kyoto Declaration* at the Eighth Regional EST Forum in Asia, held in Colombo in November 2014, six Asian cities – Toyota City, Kuching South City, Bandung City, Yangzhou City, Sumita-Cho, and Nagoya City endorsed and signed the *Addendum to the Kyoto Declaration* at the ceremony.

Photos: Signing of the Addendum to the *Kyoto Declaration* by (a) Toyota City, (b) Kuching South City, (c) Bandung City, (d) Yangzhou City, (e) Sumita-cho, and (f) Nagoya City



## Public Symposium on Environmentally Sustainable Transport (EST)

19 March 2015, Nagoya

The Public Symposium on Environmentally Sustainable Transport (EST) in Asia was jointly organized by UNCRD; Research and Education Center for Sustainable Co-Development, Graduate School of Environmental Studies, Nagoya University (NU-SusCoDe); and the 16th International Seminar in FY2014, the Committee of Infrastructure Planning, Japan Society of Civil Engineers (JSCE-CIP) with theme of the “Outcomes of Regional EST Forums in Asia, including the Bangkok, Bali, and Colombo Declarations, and their Relevance in the Post-2015 Development Agenda/ Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), as well as the role of the scientific and research community and the private sector”. Approximately 100 participants including, international resource persons, representatives from various international organizations, scientific and research organizations, multilateral development banks, NGOs, representatives from the private and business sectors, as well as local observers from Japan attended the Symposium.



Experts participated in the symposium

The objectives of the public symposium were to: (a) make the Japanese public, research and scientific community, and private sector aware of the needs of developing countries of Asia in transport and sustainable development and their role in achieving a smart, safe, liveable, resilient, and inclusive communities and societies in Asia; (b) discuss how Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs) and other financing mechanism could be promoted in order to realize sustainable and resilient transport infrastructure in Asian countries; and (c) provide substantive input to the Ninth Regional EST Forum in Asia in 2015.

UNCRD presented the outcomes of the Regional EST Forums in Asia from the First EST Forum in Aichi (2005) to the Eighth Regional EST Forum in Colombo (2014). The Public Symposium provided a useful platform to disseminate the major achievements accomplished by the EST Initiative in Asia and their relevance in an international context. The outcome of the Symposium further provided significant input for the Ninth Regional EST Forum – planned to be held in Kathmandu, Nepal in 2015.

## Multi-stakeholders' Consultative Workshop on the Pre-Final Draft of National Environmentally Sustainable Transport (EST) Strategy for Nepal

30 July 2015, Kathmandu, Nepal

In order to realize EST by the effective implementation of the *Bangkok 2020 Declaration*, the Government of Nepal, as a member country of the Regional EST Forum in Asia, officially requested UNCRD for the necessary technical assistance to develop a National EST Strategy for Nepal. As a follow-up to the request, UNCRD provided technical assistance and financial support to the Government of Nepal for the formulation of the National EST Strategy in 2014. The Ministry of Physical Infrastructure and Transport (MoPIT) of the Government of Nepal was working as a lead agency collaborating with other line ministries and departments to develop the EST Strategy.



Government officials and experts participated in the workshop

With this background, MoPIT organized the Multi-stakeholders' Consultation Meeting on the pre-final draft of National EST Strategy for Nepal on 30 July 2015 in Kathmandu, Nepal, in collaboration with the Ministry of Environment, Science, and Technology (MoEST), the Ministry of Urban Development (MoUD), the Ministry of Health and Population (MoHP), the Ministry of Federal Affairs and Local Development (MoFALD), the National Planning Commission of Nepal (NPC) and UNCRD. The consultation meeting was supported by the Center for Infrastructure Development Studies (CIDS), Institute of Engineering (IOE), Tribhuvan University, Nepal. About fifty participants comprising of senior government representatives, national, and international organizations, NGOs, academia, and the private and business sectors attended the consultation meeting.

Detailed discussion took place on the three major components: (a) Component 1 – urban transport, inter-city transport, and rural transport; (b) Component 2 – fuel economy, energy security and green freight (cross-cutting); and (c) Component 3 – climate and disaster resiliency transport system and infrastructure (cross-cutting) of the National EST Strategy. Based on the comments/suggestions/inputs received from the Multi-stakeholders Consultative Workshop the final draft was prepared and submitted to MoPIT, Government of Nepal for endorsement.

### **Ninth Regional Environmentally Sustainable Transport (EST) Forum in Asia** 17-20 November 2015, Kathmandu, Nepal

The Intergovernmental Ninth Regional EST Forum in Asia was jointly organized by UNCRD, the Ministry of Physical Infrastructure and Transport (MoPIT) of the Government of Nepal, the Ministry of the Environment of the Government of Japan (MOE-Japan), and the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UN ESCAP) from 17 to 20 November 2015 in Kathmandu, Nepal, with the theme of “EST for Resiliency – Building Safe, Smart, Low-carbon and Resilient Cities in Asia”. The Forum was attended by over 350 participants comprising government representatives from the following twenty-six countries (Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, Fiji, India, Islamic Republic of Iran, Indonesia, Japan, Kyrgyzstan, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Maldives, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, the Philippines, Republic of Korea, Samoa, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, and Viet Nam), 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 (MDBs), scientific and research organizations, nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), representatives from the private and business sectors, and local observers and professionals from the transport sector in Nepal.

The Forum was supported by a number of national and international organizations and donor agencies, including the Konrad Adenauer Stiftung, Partnership on Sustainable, Low Carbon Transport (SLoCaT), German International Cooperation (GIZ), EMBARQ, International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD), International Recovery Platform (IRP), Institute for Transportation and Development Policy (ITDP), SAFER-Vehicle and Traffic Safety Centre, University of Gothenburg, and YCNC-Nepal, among others. Two pre-events were also organized in conjunction with the Ninth Regional EST Forum in Asia: (a) Regional Seminar on Safe, Climate Adaptive and Disaster Resilient Transport for Sustainable Development on 17 November 2015; and (b) a Regional Dialogue on Transport and Climate Change on 18 November 2015.

The objectives of the Ninth Regional EST Forum in Asia were to (a) identify and discuss how to build inclusive, safe, smart, low-carbon and climate- and disaster-resilient cities and communities in Asia; (b) discuss and address various policy options, institutional measures, technological interventions, financing mechanisms, partnership arrangements to realize safe, smart, low-

carbon and resilient transport infrastructure and services; (c) address the potential contribution of EST toward resiliency, energy efficiency, the low-carbon transport, and health and climate benefits; (d) discuss and understand the adaptation, resilience, and mitigation approach from the viewpoint of natural disasters and climate change impacts; (e) discuss the potential role of intra/inter connectivity for resiliency and food security; (f) address railways as low-carbon sustainable transport solutions in the post-2015 era; (g) review countries' initiatives, progress, achievements, and best practices in addressing the *Bangkok 2020 Declaration* (2010-2020); (h) discuss how the Asian EST Initiative can contribute in the post 2015-development era and the COP21 process; and (i) bringing together governments, experts, donors, international organizations, the private sector, academia, NGOs and other stakeholders to share their expertise, experiences, and best practices in various thematic areas of EST as underlined in the *Aichi Statement* (2005) and *Bangkok 2020 Declaration*.

The Forum further addressed a number of cross-cutting issues concerning the transport sector, including safe, climate adaptive, and disaster-resilient transport systems for Asia ~ how can we build resilient societies?; Nepal EST Strategy (2015-2040) for resilient and sustainable development ~ how can Nepal finance and implement resilient transport development?; major challenges, progress and achievements by member countries on the implementation of the *Bangkok 2020 Declaration* ~ moving from *Aichi* (2005) to *Kathmandu* (2015); funding resilient transport infrastructure and services; sustainable rural transport for resilient rural communities, food security and poverty eradication; climate adaptation and resilience in the transport sector of Asia; presentation on country initiatives and achievements on implementing the goals of the *Bangkok 2020 Declaration*. The Forum also recognized many other key thematic areas and cross-cutting issues including low-carbon transport, air quality, transport safety and urban resilience, climate and disaster-resilient transport systems and infrastructure development, innovative funding and financing mechanisms, greening of freight and climate change issues, among others.

The Forum recognized that: (a) if Asian countries effectively implement the *Bangkok 2020 Declaration* (2010-2020), the region will be in the forefront in achieving sustainable transport, but would also be on path of resilience providing important complements towards international obligations on climate mitigation; (b) public transport and freight services play important roles in modern cities and need to be managed in a way to achieve social, economic, and environmental objectives along with improving road safety; (c) the need for better knowledge-sharing and dissemination on sustainable transport plans to the general public and plans for monitoring and



Participants of the forum

implementing new policies and measures. Policies should be able to deal with emerging topics as well; (d) sustainable urban design and planning were seen as major issues and challenges to overcome. Several countries suffer from environmental and natural disasters but at the same time, countries have progressively gained experience and developed actions plans in transport areas; (e) training and capacity-building workshops were recognized as important means to bridge such knowledge and technical gaps; (f) given that the frequency and magnitude of natural disasters (floods, earthquakes, cyclones, landslides, etc.) are on the rise across Asia, the Forum further acknowledged the need for developing countries and cities of Asia to better integrate “resilience” as an important strategy and component of their national planning, budgeting and financing of transport infrastructure and services development. Resilient transport policy, planning, and infrastructure development can help cities in many ways, such as in enhancing cities’ ability for efficient and fast evacuation and relief distribution; improving the ability of cities and communities to withstand disaster and adverse effects of climate change; facilitating cities’ development strategy for energy efficiency and energy security through low-carbon transport options; improving road safety measures and provisions of people-friendly transport infrastructures; disaster-risk reduction and enhancing adaptability; improving long-term cost benefits for governments by reducing future maintenance and reconstruction costs; and increasing international investment and business opportunities; (g) addressing challenges in funding resilient transport infrastructure in developing countries. As the private sector is known to be a major custodian of both funds and technologies, it could be strategic for countries and cities to explore all feasible forms of PPPs (public-private-partnerships) in building next generation transport infrastructures towards resilience. In this regard, local and central government policies need to be conducive in promoting PPPs towards development of resilient transport infrastructure and services. The countries and cities could also consider promoting new areas of sustainable business opportunities that would help proliferate resilient transport systems and services. In this regard, promotion of triangular cooperation among government, private sector, and scientific and research organizations in the areas of transport sector resilience could be helpful. Additional efforts are, in this context, also to be made to learn from insurance companies; and finally, (h) in the context of enhancing resilience and livelihood security of rural communities, the Forum further recognized the key role of rural transport. Under the *2030 Sustainable Development Agenda*, it is important to consider proper accessibility of rural communities and farmers to essential utilities – education and health facilities, markets, and work places. To this end, the Regional EST Forum in Asia should consider strengthening policy consultations in the areas of rural transport, sustainable development, and resilience.

Efforts could be put into building stronger cooperation with a number of existing and new prospective partners of the EST process such as UN ESCAP, DFID, the SLoCaT Partnership, SECAP, ASCAP, International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD), organizations specializing in rural and regional development planning, among others. The Forum could also make efforts to explore the possible role of intelligent transportation system (ITS) in strengthening rural and regional transport and connectivity towards disaster resilience.

As an outcome of the Forum, participants unanimously adopted the Chair’s Summary which provides a comprehensive overview of EST, and the progress made by the member countries towards implementing the *Bangkok 2020 Declaration* and *Bali Declaration on Vision Three Zeros - Zero Congestion, Zero Pollution, and Zero Accidents towards Next Generation Transport Systems in Asia*.

## Expert Group Meeting on Special Needs and Challenges in Developing Countries for Achieving Sustainable Transport

10-11 May 2016, New York

The Expert Group Meeting on Special Needs and Challenges in Developing Countries for Achieving Sustainable Transport was organized by UN DESA at UN HQ-New York on 10-11 May 2016 to consolidate expert inputs on sustainable transport solutions which could serve as guidelines to the implementation of SDGs. The additional objective was also to provide useful input for the consideration of the UN Secretary General's High Level Advisory Group (HLAG) on Sustainable Transport in preparing the 2016 *Global Outlook Report on Sustainable Transport vis-à-vis* the International Conference on Sustainable Transport in 2016.



Participants of the Expert Group Meeting

The EGM brought together over thirty sustainable transport experts mostly from developing countries and some representatives from a few UN organizations for two days of dialogue. Representing all regions, the participants shared their country and community experience while also identifying ways in which they had been able to advance and where roadblocks remained. By focusing on the needs, gaps, and challenges in developing countries, the participants agreed on recommendations that will provide guidance on implementing sustainable transport in the context of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and will also inform the *Global Outlook Report* of the High-Level Advisory Group on Sustainable Transport to be released in late 2016.

UNCRD's participation in the UN DESA EGM meeting provided an opportunity to contribute to the outcome of the meeting by sharing some of the useful lessons and experiences from the regular Regional EST Forums in Asia. It also provided an opportunity to understand UN DESA's activities on sustainable transport at the global level, including the process leading to the 2016 *Global Outlook Report on Sustainable Transport* and the International Conference on Sustainable Transport in Turkmenistan.

## A Technical Mission to Bhutan for a Pre-feasibility Assessment of MRT/LRT in Specific Corridors of Bhutan between Paro and Thimphu

6-10 June 2016, Paro/Thimphu, Bhutan

The Royal Government of Bhutan had approached the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA) for necessary technical support to study the feasibility of an internal railway system in Bhutan. As a follow up to the request, UN DESA had asked UNCRD to look into the possibilities of providing technical assistance to the Government of Bhutan. UNCRD had therefore included a pre-feasibility assessment for Bhutan MRT/LRT under its Asian EST initiative project for 2016.

Against this background, UNCRD conducted a four-day (6-10 June 2016) technical mission for the pre-feasibility study in specific corridors of Bhutan. The main objective of the mission was to conduct a technical field visit for a pre-feasibility assessment of MRT/LRT in specific corridors- in and around the Thimphu, Thimphu-Paro, and Thimphu -Phuntsholing area of Bhutan considering two key components: (a) economic and technical component; and (b) social and environmental component. The technical mission was led by C.R.C. Mohanty, Environment Programme Coordinator, and was joined by UNCRD Researcher, Ganesh Raj Joshi, and international resource persons Julien Gaudremeau, Consultant, Rail Concept, France; Karlson James Hargroves; Consultant, Strategic Transitions Group, Australia; and Frederic Tardif, Railway Expert



Rail Concept, France. Two officials, Pema Lhamo and Pema Dema from the Ministry of Information and Communications (MoIC) of the Government of Bhutan also joined the technical field visits.

Based on the field visits undertaken by the team, the preliminary assessment leads to a conclusion that development of an integrated rail-ways system could be possible in specific corridors of Bhutan. An important consideration in developing this core rail infrastructure is the integration with other supportive modes, both in the pre-rail phase and as part of the ongoing operation of the rail system (such as BRT, cable-cars, zero-emissions taxis, bicycle, walking, and traditional forms of transport such as horse-driven carts).



Participants of the consultation meeting

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

#### Sixth Regional 3R Forum in Asia and the Pacific

16-19 August 2015, Malé, Maldives

UNCRD co-organized the Sixth Regional 3R Forum in Asia and the Pacific (Maldives 3R Forum) together with the Ministry of Environment and Energy (MEE), Government of the Maldives, Ministry of Tourism (MoT), Government of the Maldives, Ministry of the Environment of the Government of Japan, from 16 to 19 August 2015 in Malé, Maldives (under the overall theme of 3Rs). with the title Economic Industry – Next Generation 3R Solutions for a Resource Efficient Society and Sustainable Tourism Development in Asia and the Pacific. The Forum was attended by more than 300 participants, comprising high-level government representatives and other stakeholders from thirty-one Asia-Pacific countries: Australia, Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, the People's Republic of China, India, Indonesia, Japan, Kiribati, Republic of Korea, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Maldives, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Niue, Palau, the Philippines, the Russian Federation, Samoa, Singapore, the Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu, and Viet Nam, and from six countries in Africa, Europe, and North America; Subsidiary Expert Group Members of the Regional 3R Forum in Asia; international resource persons; representatives from various UN and international organizations; scientific and research organizations; nongovernmental organizations (NGOs); representatives from the private and business sector; and local observers and professionals on waste management from the Maldives. As a pre-event to the Forum “Maldives National 3R Day ~ Our Environment, Our Economy, Our Future” and “Signing of *Saafu Raajje* Declaration by the City and Atoll Councils of the Maldives” were organized by the Government of Maldives on 16 August 2015 in Malé with the participation



Participants of the forum

of representatives of more than one hundred private tourist resorts in the Maldives. As an expression of the Sixth Regional 3R Forum in Asia and the Pacific, 16-19 August 2015, Malé, Maldives their commitment to progressively implement 3R and resource efficiency measures in their business operations, ninety-nine private resorts signed the *Declaration on the Promotion of 3Rs and Resource Efficiency towards Protection of Local Environment and Marine Ecosystems* with an objective to achieve sustainable tourism development and a green economy in the Maldives. The Sixth Regional 3R Forum in Asia and the Pacific not only discussed innovative, effective, and smart solutions (policy, institutions, technology, infrastructure, financing, and multi-stakeholder partnerships) towards effective implementation of the *Ha Noi 3R Declaration (2013-2023)*, but also provided a unique opportunity to discuss various economic and employment opportunities in 3Rs, keeping in mind the diverse socioeconomic conditions across the region as well as the limitations of SIDS and the emerging development scenario under the post-2015 development agenda: Transforming the World: The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

The Sixth Regional 3R Forum in Asia and the Pacific successfully addressed 3Rs as an economic industry with next-generation 3R solutions for a resource-efficient society and sustainable tourism development in Asia and the Pacific while paving the way to facilitate a public conversation and foster debate about the need to align environment and development outcomes and to highlight that there are no contradictions among sustainable natural resource management, waste minimization, climate mitigation, and economic growth. The regional 3R Forum, since its inception, has been facilitating a partnership between the policy, business, and science communities. Another key feature of the Maldives 3R Forum was to motivate ninety-nine private resorts to sign the *Declaration on the Promotion of 3Rs and Resource Efficiency towards Protection of Local Environment and Marine Ecosystems* with the objective of achieving sustainable tourism development and a green economy in the Maldives.

### Special Session of the Third 3R International Scientific Conference (3RINCs) on Material Cycle and Waste Management

9-11 March 2016, Hanoi, Viet Nam

The objective of the UNCRD-3RINCs Special Session was to create a science-policy interface to strengthen technical and scientific inputs to policy consultations at the intergovernmental Regional 3R Forum in Asia and the Pacific, which has been convened since 2009 through the joint efforts of UNCRD and the Ministry of the Environment (MOE) of Japan. At the same time, the special session aims at promoting a partnership between the Regional 3R Forum in Asia and the Pacific and 3RINCs to enable the research community to hold further discussions on policy recommendations and various issues emerging from the Forums. The theme of the special session was “3R policy issues and needs for scientific and policy cooperation ~ Regional 3R Forum in Asia and the Pacific”. The special session aimed to discuss environmental policies and the present status and perspective of the future network of the environmental, 3Rs, and resource-efficiency related research and developments in the Asia-Pacific Region



Presentation during the event

UNCRD conducted and moderated a special session on how to advance a science-policy interface on the promotion of 3Rs (reduce, reuse, recycle) and resource efficiency. Through delivering a keynote lecture on “Advancing 3Rs and Resource Efficiency for Sustainable Development ~ Development of Regional 3R Forum in Asia and the Pacific,” C.R.C. Mohanty, Environment Coordinator of UNCRD, made an appeal to the international community to consider establishing a regional advisory panel of eminent scientists and community leaders to support the policy community by providing evidence-based trustworthy advice for policymakers on how to improve economic prosperity and human well-being in the region through resource efficiency, waste minimization, and sustainable natural resource management. On the sidelines of the Special Session on 3RINCs, bilateral discussions took place with the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) and Griffith University in relation to the Australia 3R Forum in November 2016. SPREP strongly supported the idea of organizing a dedicated session or pre-meetings on the 3R issues currently facing Pacific Island Countries (PICs). SPREP agreed to explore possible support on the participation of PICs at the Australia 3R Forum. With EU funding, SPREP has launched a new project to set up a “Clean Pacific Roundtable” which will have its first meeting in June 2016. In this regard, it was agreed that the SPREP representatives would discuss internally how SPREP could contribute to the Australia 3R Forum as one of the supporting organizations. Similarly, the representative from Griffith University, which is already acting as the Subregional Secretariat for UNCRD-led IPLA – a Rio+20 partnership, also agreed to explore how the University could contribute to the Australia 3R Forum.

### **International Partnership for Expanding Waste Management Service of Local Authorities (IPLA) – a SDG Partnership**

#### **IPLA Side Event of UN SIDS Conference** 3 September 2014, Apia, Samoa

The side event of the SIDS Conference on Expanding Waste management Services of Pacific Island Countries through International PPPs was co-organized by SPREP, JICA, Griffith University, and IPLA in collaboration with UNCRD on 3 September 2014. The main objectives of the events were: (a) Consider the international PPP for a sustainable waste management in PICs; (b) Identify the policy and institutional measures for treating plastics and e-waste issues in PICs; and (c) Recognize the concept and initiatives on 3R + “Return” and discuss the need to develop an effective regional cooperative framework to promote it.



Mr. Nikhil Seth, Director, DSD/UN DESA delivers the opening address



The event urged the implementation of necessary policy measures to promote regional PPPs in the waste sectors of PICs. The government is a key driver in demonstrating appropriate policies to initiate and enforce waste management best practices. The necessary steps should be established to set up a regional cooperative framework on collectively promoting 3R+ Return practices.

## IPLA Global Forum 2014 of ISWA 2014 Solid Waste World Congress

8-11 September 2014, São Paulo, Brazil

The IPLA Global Forum 2014 was co-organized by the City of São Paulo, the International Solid Waste Association (ISWA), and IPLA in collaboration with UNCRD on 8-9 October 2014 in São Paulo, Brazil as an integral part of the ISWA 2014 World Solid Waste Congress which was held from 8 to 11 September 2014. The theme of the forum was “Empowering Municipal and Local Authorities through Improved Knowledge Management - How can Municipalities Choose and Apply Better Technologies for Sustainable Waste Management?” The Forum was



Panelist and speakers

attended by more than 150 participants from thirty-four countries including representatives from central and local governments, international and UN organizations, development banks, scientific and research institutions, NGOs, and private and business sectors.

The 2014 IPLA Global Forum was organized with the objective of discussing and exploring all possible means of empowering the municipalities and local authorities through improved knowledge management towards sustainable waste management. In particular, the Forum provided an opportunity to discuss the need for improved knowledge management at the municipal level to tackle the growing and increasingly complex and expanding waste streams and associated issues through appropriate technological choice and intervention.

The Forum underscored the important role of municipal governments in setting a vision for sustainable cities, from city planning initiatives to revitalization of older cities and neighbourhoods, as stated in the Rio+20 outcome document, *The Future We Want*, through appropriate financing mechanisms. While waste management has been a traditional entry point, all types of infrastructure and facilities need to integrate 3Rs (reduce, reuse, recycle) principles during the early and fundamental stages of development planning. The infrastructure planning process, particularly at the urban level, is a complex but highly critical process for expanding waste management services of municipalities and local authorities. Insufficient planning and lack of science-based policy-making have left cities of developing countries unprepared to manage growing and complex waste streams, and support is urgently needed in some cases to build the required 3R infrastructure and facilities. Different waste streams will require different infrastructure and corresponding management systems involving industry and consumers to ensure they are delivering at the scale and speed required.

As the key outcome of the Forum, *São Paulo Declaration of Municipalities and Local Authorities for Scaling up of National and International Public-Private Partnerships in Waste Sector for Achieving Sustainable and Resilient Cities*, was adopted and signed by the participating cities at a special signing ceremony organized on 20 September 2014. Underscoring that making cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable will be an important area for the international community to address under the post-2015 development agenda, the *São Paulo Declaration* calls for, among other things – enhanced national and



Signing declaration

international PPPs in world cities; multilayer partnerships among cities and municipalities, private sector (both national and multi-national), international organizations, development banks, scientific and research institutions, SMEs, NGOs, community-based organizations (CBOs), the informal sector, citizens, and other stakeholders in developing and implementing sustainable waste

management projects; and international cooperation (city-to-city, country-to-country) in building domestic technological and organizational expertise to make developing cities and municipalities self-reliant in dealing with the growing generation of municipal solid waste, including newly emerging waste streams such as electronic waste (E-waste), health-care waste, plastic waste, construction and demolition waste, and hazardous household waste. The *São Paulo Declaration* is further opened for signature by all IPLA member cities and partners and prospective partner cities and municipalities.

**IPLA Event 2014**

18 December 2014, Lagos, Nigeria

The interactive stakeholders’ forum with the theme “Multi-stakeholder Co-operation for Knowledge and Capacity Development in Waste Management” was held on 18 December 2014 at the Lagos Chamber of Commerce and Industry (LCCI) Conference and Exhibition Centre, Alausa-Ikeja, Lagos. The Forum was attended by 125 participants drawn from the private sector, academia, civil societies/grass-roots communities, the media, and the public sector (relevant ministries/agencies and local government councils), from the following nine states: Edo State, Ondo State, Osun State, Rivers State, Oyo State, Plateau State, Ogun State, Delta State, and Lagos State.

The Forum, organized by the Lagos Waste Management Authority (LAWMA) in collaboration with the IPLA and UNCRD, was designed to facilitate an interactive platform for technical exchange among participants towards identifying multi-stakeholder collaborative roles in fostering requisite empirical research and technological innovations for indigenous waste management solutions; to catalyse the development and synergy of knowledge, human and organizational capacity of stakeholders towards promoting resource efficient and zero waste systems across the country.

The Forum made the following recommendations: There is a need to institutionalize the proposed multi-stakeholder partnership to ensure trust across the three major stakeholder groups; stakeholders should adopt a loss-leader approach towards practical and proactive steps in providing innovative technologies, capacity-building, and requisite funding; There is also a need for the establishment of a Centre for Waste Management; as well as formation of waste management interactive networks/clubs for sustained technical exchange; appropriate funding (by government and private sector stakeholders) is required to incentivize/facilitate the necessary academic research/data development (buy patent rights to research findings) for a broader scope to waste management; academia should consider disseminating research findings to industries and the government; and also initiate/coordinate relevant research findings and data development, while government/industries should be willing to legislate and/or implement the same; the government as a key driver should demonstrate sufficient political will to initiate and

enforce waste management best practices; LAWMA’s synergy with academia should be utilized for comparison and exchange of existing data and research findings, and to explore the possibility of applying such outcomes for development of relevant policies and technologies;



Participants of the forum

stakeholders should support sustained interaction/feedback mechanisms in the intended multi-stakeholder partnership, for the harmonization and application of available data (e.g., an online interactive group); government should be willing to provide enabling policies, and other infra-structural support which will guarantee return on investment and promote viability of the recycling market; and stakeholders interested in the recycling/resource recovery business should forward their expressions of interest to LAWMA and will then be guided through the project procurement process.

## IPLA event - International Dialogue on Solid Waste Management towards Zero Waste

26-27 March 2015, Bogotá, Colombia

The IPLA event, International Dialogue on Solid Waste Management towards Zero Waste, was co-organized by *United Administrative Especial de Servicios Publicos (UAESP)* Bogotá, which performs the role of sub-regional secretariat of the IPLA, and Office of the Mayor of Bogotá City on 26-27 March 2015 in Bogotá, Colombia. UNCRD-LAC continued supporting the IPLA in coordination with the



Panelist and speakers

UNCRD Environment Unit based in Nagoya. In this reporting period, the LAC Office cooperated to organize this event. The Dialogue, which was attended by more than 300 participants from several Latin American countries, addressed a number of areas such as policies and programmes to achieve zero waste cities, financing waste management and sanitation systems, waste management strategies during natural disasters and catastrophic events, social inclusion in waste management, technologies and their adaptation, and waste management in the context of climate mitigation and post-2015 development, among others.

The UNCRD-LAC Office spoke at the panel discussion on the increasing role of territorial governments (city and regional) in the implementation of the Post-2015 agenda and on incorporating solid waste management into integrated regional development planning.

UNCRD-Nagoya delivered a presentation on building an efficient waste management system during natural disaster and catastrophic events and, key consideration in the context of 3R infrastructure, provide encouragement for further promoting IPLA. IPLA has not only played a catalytic role in influencing Latin American countries to bring about changes in the way they govern and implement waste management, it has also been instrumental in promoting “regional cooperation” in Latin America in the area of waste management. UNCRD has made concerted efforts to promote the idea of implementing necessary policy measures to promote waste management as an economic industry with strong partnerships with the private sector and waste entrepreneurs in the Latin American region.



## IPLA Global Forum 2015

6-8 October 2015, Moscow, Russian Federation

UNCRD (IPLA Global Coordinating Secretariat), Federal Supervisory Natural Resources Management Service (*Rosprirodnadzor*), International Centre for the Best Environmental Technologies (ICBET) (Sub-regional Secretariat of IPLA for the Russian Federation and other Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU) countries) and Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection of the City of Moscow co-organized the 2015 IPLA Global Forum from 6 to 8 October 2015, in Moscow, Russian Federation, under the overall theme of “Science-Policy-Business-Community Interface towards a Resource Efficient Nation: Minimum Landfilling and Maximum Resource Recovery”. The Forum was supported by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment of the Russian Federation, United Nations Industrial Organization (UNIDO) Center for International Industrial Cooperation in the Russian Federation, Russian Academy of Science, Analytical Center for the Government of the Russian Federation, Interregional association of the socio-economic cooperation “Central Federal District”, the Chamber of Commerce and Industry and the Public Chamber of the Russian Federation. The Forum was attended by more than 200 participants from twenty-one countries (Austria, Belarus, Czech Republic, Dominican Republic, France, Finland, Germany, India, Italy, Ireland, Japan, Kazakhstan, Republic of Korea, Malaysia, Pakistan, Russian Federation, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, and Thailand), including representatives from local and central governments, regional and subregional organizations, academic and research institutions, NGOs, the private and business sector, as well as international and UN organizations and local observers and professionals on waste management from the Russian Federation, including representatives of fifty regions of the Russian Federation, members of the Federal Council of the Federal Assembly, as well as ministries and agencies at the federal and regional level. Over the course of three days, fifteen round table discussions, conferences and thematic sessions were organized under the overall framework of the 2015 IPLA Global Forum.

The Forum recognized the role of extended producer responsibility (EPR) in delivering a number of benefits to municipalities and local authorities in developing and expanding their waste management services. The Forum recognized the role of regional cooperation in providing an opportunity to promote technology transfer, and to effectively deal with electrical, industrial, and hazardous wastes, including new and emerging waste streams. Capacity-building of municipal officials and other stakeholders and the private sector can be enhanced through exchange and cooperation among cities, regions, industries, and countries. The Forum concluded by a round-up session and by introducing the *Moscow IPLA Declaration on Regional Cooperation for Waste Exchange and Resource Recovery towards Circular Economic Development*. The Declaration will act as an important catalyst in combining the efforts and capabilities of state and municipal authorities, business community, academia and the general public towards sustainable waste management, efficient resource recovery, and the gradual phasing out of landfilling in the Russian Federation and other Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU) countries.



Participants of the forum

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## **The Tenth International Conference on Waste Management and Technology** 28-30 October 2015, Mian yang, People's Republic of China

Under the overall theme of “Towards Environmental Quality Improvement”, the Tenth International Conference on Waste Management and Technology addressed: (a) solid waste life cycle management; (b) disposal and utilization of biomass; (c) capacity-building plan on innovative waste management; (d) municipal solid waste management; (e) e-waste policy, management and treatment technology; (f) hazardous waste environmentally sound management; (g) restoration of contaminated sites; and (h) international management of chemicals, among others.



The presentation and discussions embraced a number of relevant issues of disposal and utilization of municipal and industrial waste management and the persistent organic pollutants management and remediation. The discussions covered proper and effective waste management to support a cycling society, safe solutions to e-waste and hazardous waste management, among others. Anupam Khajuria, researcher at UNCRD's Environment unit, made a presentation during the Plenary Session – Capacity-Building Plan on Innovative Waste Management entitled “Promotion of 3Rs as an Economic Industry” in the context of Rio+20 outcome and implications towards resource-efficient and zero waste society. She also introduced the beneficial outcomes of the Sixth Regional 3R Forum in Asia and the Pacific in terms of various potential economic opportunities of 3Rs and the waste sector. Along with economic development, the demand for construction material increases dramatically, and in order to alleviate and eliminate the construction waste which poses a serious threat to the living environment of human beings, it is essential to use renewable building materials while the treatment, recovery, and recycling of the construction & demolition (CD) waste should be a closed circular economy industrial chain, saving energy and resources to achieve clean production, and protecting the living environment. These measures can create a virtuous circle for sustainable development. Anupam Khajuria also presented various case studies on the topic of “Environmental Management from the Perspective of 3R – Experience of 3R Practice Internationally” at the workshop on Environmental Management from the Perspective of 3R – Special Session of the Management Professional Committee, Society of Management Sciences of China on 30 October 2015 and made reference to the new global Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) under the Post-2015 development agenda adopted at the UN Summit on 25-27 September 2015, which emphasized the importance of sustainable management and development.



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# Social Dimension

## **Workshop on Human Security Assessment and Capacity-Building to Promote Sustainable Development in Kenya**

29-31 July 2014, Nakuru, Kenya

UNCRD received funding from the UN Trust Fund for Human Security (UNTFHS) to implement a research-cum-capacity-building project entitled “Human Security in Africa: Assessment and Capacity Building to Promote Sustainable Peace and Development” in Kenya, Liberia, Rwanda, and South Sudan. The project aims at promoting and disseminating the human security concept, norms, and practices to deepen the understanding and acceptance of the concept among the target African countries with the aim of achieving sustainable peace and development. In this regard, the project will undertake human security assessments in target African countries to identify human security issues and practical policy concerns. The project will also conduct sensitization seminars and training courses to build the capacity of participating African countries’ understanding of human security and a human security approach to sustainable peace and development to reduce vulnerability, conflict, and poverty. The project has the following three objectives:

- (1) To undertake human security assessment in target African countries for identifying and addressing human security concerns arising from poverty, environmental degradation, conflicts, political and health problems, involuntary resettlements, and globalization;
- (2) To undertake training on human security and methods of assessment to empower and strengthen individuals’ and communities’ capacity and resilience in the face of various human insecurities that are fueled by economic, social, political, and environmental threats; and
- (3) To promote the human security concept and deepen its understanding among planners, policymakers, and representatives of the African Union (AU), and multi-lateral and bilateral agencies through workshops and seminars and also disseminate the human security assessment reports.

To achieve these objectives in Kenya, research was conducted to identify the most critical and pervasive human security threats and a comprehensive human security assessment report was produced. To enhance understanding of the human security concept and disseminate the findings of the *Human Security Assessment Report of Kenya*, UNCRD organized a training workshop on “Human Security Assessment and Capacity-Building to Promote Sustainable Development in Kenya” from 29 to 31 July 2014 in Milele Resort, Nakuru, Kenya. Twenty-six individuals participated in the training workshop.

The main objective of the training was to enable the participants to understand the concept of human security, the threats that arise due to human insecurity and increase their resilience against these threats. It was also designed to enhance awareness of the importance of incorpo-

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rating human security issues into the ongoing poverty reduction, regional, and county development strategies in four counties in Kenya (Elgeyo Marakwet, Isiolo, Laikipia, and Nandi). The human security training focussed on equipping the participants with the skills and knowledge of the human security concept, assessment methods and tools to reduce vulnerability that arises from economic, political, social, and environmental threats.

More specifically, the training aims were:

- Equipping the participants (local stakeholders) with skills and knowledge of the human security concept, assessment methods and tools to reduce vulnerability that arises from economic, political, social and environmental threats;
- Disseminating the findings of the Human Security Assessments Report from the four counties in Kenya;
- Identifying means to integrate the human security approach into the ongoing poverty reduction and county/regional development strategies; and
- Developing action plans for implementing human security in the respective counties.

The training was conducted using an output-oriented participatory methodology and resource persons prepared lectures on different types of human security and threats including economic, food, health, environmental, personal, community, and political security and presented them through an interactive style of pedagogy. The training included lectures, workshop discussions, and case study analysis. Participants had developed action plans, to be discussed in follow-up activities and workshops. The participants also endorsed these plans to ensure commitment to human security in the long term and implement the recommendations of the Assessment Report in the respective counties.

The results of the human security sensitization and training workshop included:

- Participants have a better understanding of the human security concept assessment methods and tools to reduce vulnerability that arise from economic, political, social, and environmental threats;
- The findings of the human security assessment report from the four counties (Elgeyo Marakwet, Isiolo, Laikipia, and Nandi) were disseminated;
- County governments embraced the importance of mainstreaming the human security approach/issues in regional and national development plans/strategies; and
- Action plans for implementing human security in the respective counties were developed.

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# Disaster Management Planning

## Participation in IRP's International Recovery Forum 2016 and in the Open Dialogue Session

26-27, January 2016, Kobe, Japan

UNCRD participated in the International Recovery Platform (IRP)'s International Recovery Forum 2016 which was held on 26 January 2016 in Hotel Okura Kobe, Kobe, Japan. The theme of the forum was "Build back better towards Resilient and Healthy Communities: Integrating Health into Recovery Plans". The objectives of the forum were to: (a) explore knowledge and understanding of the concept of "Build back better" in recovery, rehabilitation, and reconstruction through sharing of country experience; and (b) explore strategies and actions of health agendas in the context of "Build back better", and to launch the consultative edition of the Updated Guidance Notes on Recovery for Health. Approximately 150 participants from various countries attended the Forum.

During the Forum, UNCRD presented the outcome of the Ninth Regional EST Forum (see the Environment Programme section of this report for details) with the key message that resilient transport policy, planning and infrastructure development can help cities in many ways, including through more efficient and faster rescue, evacuation, and relief operation and recovery; improving ability for cities to withstand disasters and the adverse effects of climate change; and facilitating energy efficiency and energy security. UNCRD's presentation also included the introduction of the environmentally sustainable transport



UNCRD Director delivering the presentation at the forum

(EST) Forum and how EST leads to resilience building; and outlined the increasing frequency and intensity of natural disasters in the Asia and Pacific Region. In addition, UNCRD presented a brief description of the huge earthquakes that hit Nepal in April and May 2015 as well as the Nepal EST Strategy, which has resilience transport infrastructure and services at its core.

On 27 January, the International Labour Organization (ILO) and IRP co-organized a post-event, "Open Dialogue Session" in order to engage interested participants and learn from each other, many of whom were themselves survivors of natural disasters. The objectives of the post-event were to: (a) participate in the post-event, "Open Dialogue Session" and engage in an active discussion on articulating the practice of build-back-better; and (b) exchange information on relevant issues related to disaster risk reduction and build-back-better as they relate to regional development.

UNCRD's presentation received positive feedback and appreciation particularly regarding the linkage between sustainable transport and disaster risk reduction. UNCRD's message also resonated with others on the panel, which emphasized the importance of holistic planning, a long-term viewpoint, and awareness raising.

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# 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 Vol. 34, 2013, RDD was published twice-yearly, however following the release of the 2014 issue, it became an annual publication.

During the reporting period, Vol. 35, 2014, entitled "Urban-Rural Linkages in Support of the New Urban Agenda" began preparation. The issue will build 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 will be the inaugural issue following the decision to publish annually.

RDD is available through subscription, direct sales, and on an exchange basis. The journal is promoted through periodicals indexing, exchange of advertisements, and through commercial

booksellers.

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 UNCRD Offices and distributed at 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.

#### **Africa Training Course Alumni Newsletter** (Discontinued 2013)

The UNCRD Africa Office supported and worked closely with the Africa Training Course (ATC) alumni to strengthen the linkages among development planners in Africa, which are currently very weak. The expansion of such a network is crucial for planners and related personnel to share experiences and exchange information on regional planning and development issues. The network of Africa planners was invigorated by the continuous publication of the ATC Alumni Newsletter. The first ATC Alumni Newsletter was published in June 2000; and until 2013 was regularly published. The Alumni Newsletter contained information about UNCRD's activities and alumnis' profiles and information on the challenges they faced in their day-to-day activities.

#### **General Publications Series**

Another type of publication comprises Research Reports, Textbooks, and Training Materials. These are additional means to inform policymakers, researchers, planners, and the international development community at large of the results of the Centre's research projects. Textbooks have the objective of improving training in regional development and related fields and to assist trainers to improve their capacity.

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## Recent and Forthcoming Publications

### ■ Publications Unit

#### Informational Material

(free-of-charge)

UNCRD Annual Report 2014

UNCRD Annual Reports 2015/2016

UNCRD Annual Reports 2017/2018 (forthcoming)

#### Periodicals

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

(US\$40 for developed countries; US\$30 for developing countries)

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) (forthcoming)

Vol. 34, No. 2, Autumn 2013 (“Integrated Regional Development Planning for Sustainable Development,” edited by Brenda Yuen)

Vol. 34, No. 1, Spring 2013 (“Disaster Risk Reduction and Resilience Building in Cities: Focusing on the Urban Poor,” co-edited by Graham Tipple (Guest Editor) and Jean D’Aragon)

*Regional Development Studies (RDS)* (suspended in 2013 until further notice)

(was a refereed journal published annually in collaboration with the University of Nairobi)

(US\$20 for developed countries; US\$15 for developing countries)

Vol. 16, 2012

Vol. 15, 2011

### ■ Disaster Management Planning Unit

#### Workshop Report

“Reconstruction towards Sustainable Communities: Promotion of Locally-based industries with All Stakeholder Approach, 27 February - 2 March 2012” (in English and Japanese)

### ■ UNCRD Africa Office

#### UNCRD Textbook Series

Kwale District and Mombasa Mainland South Regional Physical Development Plan, 2004-2034 (Nairobi: UNCRD and Ministry of Lands, Government of Kenya, 2011)

Ewaso Ng’iro North River Development Authority Integrated Regional Development Plan, 2010-2040 (Nairobi: UNCRD and ENNDA, 2011).

#### Newsletter

UNCRD Africa Training Course Alumni Newsletter, Issue Nos. 26 and 27, July 2012-June 2013

UNCRD Africa Training Course Alumni Newsletter, Issue Nos. 24 and 25, July 2011-June 2012

# 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 sending staff member to schools and organizations requesting lectures on the Centre's activities. UNCRD's volunteer programme has the participation of people from diverse backgrounds who wish to assist and support its activities and events.

## UNCRD Public Seminar on "Working at the United Nations (UN)"

19 December 2014, Nagoya

23 July 2015, Nagoya

UNCRD has organized seminars to stimulate interest in the 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 United Nations (UN).

At the 19 December 2014 seminar, Chikako Takase, Director of UNCRD, explained the seminar's purpose and briefly introduced UNCRD's activities at the opening. In the panel discussion, following the opening, each panelist introduced themselves and their organizations to which they belonged, and outlined their motivation for joining the UN as well as both the challenges and the appeal of working as a UN staff member. Yuki Matsuoka, Head of the



United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR) Office in Japan said that one of the attractive aspects of working at UN organizations is that individuals can be involved in dynamic processes such as compiling action frameworks which can guide many countries although difficulties in coordinating with the UN member countries sometimes emerge. Toshiya Nishigori, Public Affairs and Civil Society Liaison Officer of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Tokyo Office responded to the question "What is your driving force to keep working?" His response was that his driving force was to maintain a strong personal sense of mission regarding the people and objectives for which

he is working. Each panelist concluded with inspirational words to the audience as parting messages. Yu Sasaki, Communication Specialist with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) Tokyo Office, had working experience in both the private sector and international nongovernment organizations (NGOs), advised that anyone wishing to work at the UN organizations should first ask themselves why. Sachiko Yamamoto, former Regional Director for Asia and the Pacific of the International Labour Organization (ILO), who has a great deal of experience in dealing with important assignments, said that UN workplaces not only involve political economy but cover other fields such as education and environment issues. Following the panel discussion, the session was opened to the floor during which panelists responded to questions raised by the audience.

A majority of the approximately 150 participants were students and more than half were high school students. As it was a rare opportunity to hear from people currently working at UN organizations, many students took notes, and continued to ask panelists questions after the seminar had concluded.

At the 23 July 2015 seminar, four panelists different from the previous year attended. Following the opening by the UNCRD Director, the panelists introduced their organizations and themselves using visual aids. They outlined their reasons for joining the UN, as well as both the challenging and appealing aspects of working as a UN staff member in the panel discussion moderated by UNCRD Director. Mihoko Kumamoto, Head of Hiroshima Office, United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR)



noted the Japanese tendency to be passive, whereas the UN expects initiative and action. She encouraged audience members to join the UN. Junko Sasaki, Director of Tokyo Office, United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), as a fluent speaker of five languages, noted the importance of flexibility among UN workers due to the diverse cultural backgrounds of staff, even if they are communicating in a common language. Masaki Watabe, Head of Kobe Office, UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) pointed out that the ability to understand global situations and to be able to take responsibility for your own actions are essential for anyone working at the UN. And Haruka Katarao, Peace Promotion Advisor, Hiroshima Prefectural Government mentioned the importance of making the best of "time-rich" school days to develop expertise and absorb useful lessons from the world at large, while describing her experience during a 4-month internship programme at UN Headquarters.

Approximately 100 participants, a majority of whom were students, attended the seminar. It is to be hoped that they were encouraged to think of becoming UN staff members as a result of their interactions with the panelists.

### **UN and UNCRD Photo Exhibition**

5-6 February 2015, Nagoya

### **UNCRD Photo Exhibitions**

18-25 November 2015; and 23-28 March 2016, Nagoya

The United Nations marked the seventieth year of the organization in October 2014, and to celebrate this memorable year, the UN presented a photo exhibition entitled "We the Peoples", including an excerpt from the opening line of the UN Charter. The exhibition celebrated the UN through images of people, both UN workers and the individuals they serve, with the aim of illustrating the UN's ideals, successes, and challenges over the past seven decades, presenting



viewers with the opportunity to consider why these activities are important for the world. The exhibition toured many countries including Japan, enabling UNCRD to take advantage of this opportunity to organize the “UN and UNCRD Photo Exhibition” in Nagoya on 5-6 February 2015. The Exhibition was arranged in two sections. One was for the UN which displayed selected photos from the “We the Peoples” collection. The other was for UNCRD and was presented according to the themes “Regional Development”, “Environment”, and “Disaster Management Planning” corresponding to UNCRD’s activities. Each activity area used photos and panels explaining their programmes and achievements. UNCRD also displayed photos and panels depicting the project on capacity-building and livelihood for Somali refugees from the refugee camp located in Dadaab, Kenya, a project conducted from 2012 to 2014 by the UNCRD Africa Office. The list of implemented projects through the Global Partnership Programme (GPP) was also presented with photos. The exhibition was held at a main open space in a commercial facility located in front of Nagoya Station, enabling a large number of passers-by to see the exhibition in addition to those who knew the event was happening on that day.



Following the above photo exhibition, another “UNCRD Photo Exhibition” was organized at an underground connection aisle in the Aichi Prefectural Government building from 18 to 25 November 2015, while a further exhibition was held at the Hoshigaoka subway station gallery from 23 to 28 March 2016.

These events were ideal opportunities to introduce UNCRD and its activities to the public at large as it is the only UN organization in the Chubu region. The events also contributed to increasing the visibility of both UNCRD and the UN in general.

### “Turn the World UN Blue” during the World Collabo Festa 2015

24 October 2015, Nagoya

At dusk on the first day of the World Collabo Festa 2015, UNCRD lit up Nagoya TV Tower, a symbol of Nagoya, in blue – the official colour of the UN – following a countdown on the main event stage as part of a global campaign to commemorate the seventieth anniversary of the UN, by illuminating 300 iconic landmarks from more than seventy countries around the world to “Turn the World UN Blue” as a way to address the UN’s support for peace and to seek for a better future.



Other sites to be illuminated in blue were the Leaning Tower of Pisa in Italy, Japan’s “Sky Tree” Tower in Tokyo, the Empire State Building in New York, and Australia’s Sydney Opera House, among many others.

Citizens were asked to get involved and take action by sharing their images through some social networking services (SNSs). Participating in the campaign offered a unique opportunity to help unite global citizens, promote the message of peace, development, and human rights. Leading local newspapers featured the lighting-up, to further enhance UNCRD’s visibility within the Chubu Region.

## Participation in Outreach Events

### World Collabo Festa

25-26 October 2014; and 24-25 October 2015, Nagoya  
A booth exhibition of UNCRD's activities was set up at the World Collabo Festa 2014 on 25-26 October 2014, and again on 24-25 October 2015 for another World Collabo Festa 2015. This festival is the biggest international exchange/cooperation event in the Chubu region. To gain better understanding of the UN, UNCRD and its activities, in an enjoyable format, such as 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.



### United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization World Conference on Education for Sustainable Development

10-12 November 2014, Nagoya

Another UNCRD booth exhibition was organized as a side event of the UNESCO World Conference on Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) held in Nagoya from 10 to 12 November 2014. UNCRD's activities were introduced with posters and information materials as well as project reports connected with the promotion of community participation for development, such as on School Earthquake Safety Initiative (SESI) and Community Based Disaster Management (CBDM), were distributed. Some of the publications were translated into six languages, so that a wide range of visitors could appreciate UNCRD activities through material in their own language.



### The Global Partnership Programme (GPP)

The GPP is a programme whereby the private sector, nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) and civil society collaborate with UNCRD to provide support to developing countries. UNCRD is promoting GPP, with the objective of raising the visibility of UNCRD and attracting support for its activities from the local community in the Chubu region, Japan while at the same time contributing towards improving living conditions in developing countries.

### Clean Water Supply System Project for Women's Empowerment and Children's Education in Lao PDR

2014-2015, Phonkham Village, Vientiane Province, Lao PDR

In almost every rural area of Lao PDR, women and children are living under difficult conditions, working as hard as men to help with daily family living. Additionally, women in the villages often have to travel long distances to obtain water for family consumption. Available water resources are unsafe and sometimes lead to family health problems.

Against this backdrop, a clean water supply system was constructed in Phonkham Village, one of the poorer villages in Vientiane Province, Lao PDR in 2014, within the framework of social dimension/human security activities by the Economic and Social Development Unit. The project, which consisted of a preliminary survey, borehole drilling, installation of pumps, construction of

water tanks, and electricity connection, was carried out through collaboration between local residents and the Vientiane Provincial Government, in consultation with UNCRD.

In 2015, in response to further requests from local residents, the Vientiane Provincial Government initiated the second phase and provided them with necessary materials such as PVC and steel pipes, connections, and tape, which were necessary for the extension of the clean water supply system installed in the previous year. In cooperation with the Vientiane Provincial Government, local residents conducted the extension work by themselves, which enabled the supply network to cover wider areas facing a lack or serious shortage of safe water in the village.



All of these projects were made possible by the financial contribution of the Nagoya Higashiyama Lions Club, Japan through UNCRD's GPP. The water supply system is expected to improve access to clean water and to reduce the water-carrying burden on women and children. The Nagoya Higashiyama Lions Club also donated outdoor play equipment, stationery, and sports gear to a kindergarten in the village. A certificate of appreciation from the Governor of Vientiane Province was handed over to the Nagoya Higashiyama Lions Club at an event commemorating the 50th anniversary of the Club in 2016.

### **Press Release/Media Coverage**

Press and media coverage on UNCRD's activities and projects was compiled into a "Record of Press Reports on UNCRD" for the period July 2014-June 2015 and July 2015-June 2016, respectively, for distribution to its related organizations including Japanese central and local governments offices and organizations. The reports were compiled not only from newsclips, but also articles published on websites. During the initial period, the UNCRD/UN DESA side event at the Second Meeting of the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development held in New York was featured, and the High-level Symposium on Sustainable Cities which was co-organized by Toyota City and UN DESA in cooperation with UNCRD was also covered in various media. This was clear indication of the high degree of interest in the subject. Concerning environment-related activities, there was multiple coverage for the IPLA Global Forum and the Eighth Regional EST Forum in Sri Lanka including a public event on EST in Asia. As for training-related activities, when training participants of the programme for Bangkok Metropolitan Administration (BMA) visited Kyoto City Government, it was reported in the local media. In the outreach activities, the public seminars on "Working at the UN" and the UN and UNCRD photo exhibition were covered. In the LAC region, in addition to the coverage of the international meeting on biodiverse regions and the international dialogue on solid waste management, the creation of the first Special Administrative Planning Region for the Central Region of Colombia, which UNCRD has been technically supporting the process from the inception, were covered.

In the latter period, various environment-related activities such as the Sixth Regional 3R Forum in Asia and the Pacific in the Maldives, the IPLA Global Forum and the Ninth Regional EST Forum in Asia in Nepal all received media coverage. In addition to other activities in Nagoya, there was coverage of the global campaign to commemorate the 70th anniversary of the UN, "Turn the World UN Blue", in which UNCRD participated. For the LAC region, media featured the meeting on a regional vision of Cundinamarca for the territory in 2035, the basis for the formulation of Territorial Planning Guidelines (DOT) as well as the Expert Group Meeting held in October 2015 in Monteria, Colombia.

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### **Renewal of UNCRD website**

During this period, following the UNCRD's English website renewal which was conducted in the prior period, the Japanese website was renewed in the same manner as the English website. For the renewal, UNCRD received the support of the UNCRD Cooperation Association.

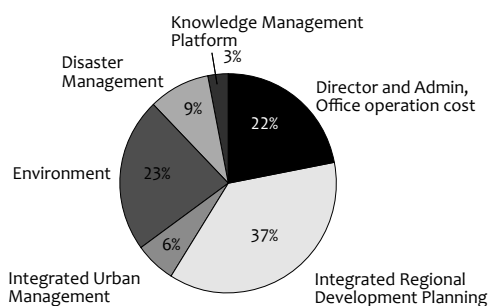
### **Information Materials and Dissemination**

As part of UNCRD outreach activities, the Japanese edition of the UNCRD Annual Report was produced, in addition to the UNCRD Highlights (newsletter in Japanese) which is available on the UNCRD's website.

Japanese materials are published with the support of the UNCRD Cooperation Association. The Association also covers the costs for organizing UNCRD seminars and meetings, photo exhibitions, and participation in the World Collabo Festa event, in addition to various others.

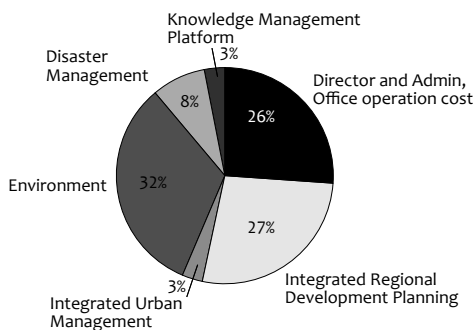
# Financial Statements

**Figure 1-1. UNCRD Overall Expenditures Breakdown, 1 January to 31 December 2013**



Director and Admin. Office operation cost	819,696
Integrated Regional Development Planning	1,380,764
Integrated Urban Management	226,150
Environment	870,671
Disaster Management	321,793
Knowledge Management Platform	108,452
	<hr/>
	3,727,526

**Figure 1-2. UNCRD Overall Expenditures Breakdown, 1 January to 31 December 2014**



Director and Admin. Office operation cost	693,908
Integrated Regional Development Planning	716,443
Integrated Urban Management	73,944
Environment	851,380
Disaster Management	220,298
Knowledge Management Platform	78,958
	<hr/>
	2,634,931

## STATEMENT OF CONTRIBUTIONS

**TABLE 1-1. STATEMENT OF UNCRD CORE FUND ACCOUNTS**

(in US dollars)

	1 January-31 December 2013 <sup>1</sup>	1 January-31 December 2014 <sup>2</sup>
Fund balance at beginning of period	3,364,015.61	2,571,282.03
<b>Add: Receipts/Income</b>		
Cash remittances	1,488,114.35	908,004.67
Investment income	18,714.44	15,833.48
Miscellaneous income	27,791.35	
Sale of publications	2,413.58	
Other Adjustments		-3,973.79
	<u>1,537,033.72</u>	<u>919,864.36</u>
Total Receipts/Income	<u>1,537,033.72</u>	<u>919,864.36</u>
<b>Less: Expenditure</b>		
Project personnel	1,764,869.81	1,151,332.27 <sup>3</sup>
Official travel	32,398.26	
Subcontracts	2,178.01	0.00
Training/Fellowship	6,247.94	-2,795.00
Equipment and supplies	164.58	19,280.94
Miscellaneous	<u>312,111.72</u>	<u>254,949.00</u>
	<u>2,117,970.32</u>	<u>1,422,767.21</u>
Programme support costs	<u>211,796.98</u>	<u>169,588.20</u>
Total expenditures	<u>2,329,767.30</u>	<u>1,592,355.41</u>
Net increase in Fund Balance	<u>(792,733.58)</u>	
<b>Fund balance at end of period</b>	<u><u>2,571,282.03</u></u>	<u><u>1,898,790.98</u></u>

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

<sup>1</sup> Contribution was made in US dollars, received on 18 September 2013; and

<sup>2</sup> Contribution was made in US dollars, received on 19 August 2014.

<sup>3</sup> Official travels are included.

TABLE 1-2. STATEMENT OF UNCRD CORE FUND ACCOUNTS, 1 JANUARY-31 DECEMBER 2015

	(in US dollars)
<b>Funding</b>	
Voluntary contributions received in Cash	779,631 <sup>1</sup>
Interest income	8,720
Miscellaneous income	22,720
<b>Total funding</b>	<b>811,071</b>
<b>Total Expenditures and Commitments</b>	
Staff and Other Personnel Cost	576,199
Supplies, Commodities, Materials	2,670
Contractual Services	92
Travel	14,501
Transfers and Grants	99,148
General Operating and Other Director Costs	209,029
<b>Total Direct Expenditures</b>	<b>901,639</b>
Indirect Support Costs (United Nations)	106,337
Indirect Support Costs (Implementing Partners)	7,445
<b>Total Indirect Support Costs</b>	<b>113,782</b>
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>1,015,421</b>
<b>Net excess/(shortfall) income over expenditures</b>	<b>(204,350)</b>
<b>Other Adjustments</b>	<b>1,544</b>
<b>Unspent Contribution Balance, Beginning of Period</b>	<b>1,898,791</b>
<b>Unspent Contribution Balance</b>	<b>1,695,986</b>

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

<sup>1</sup> Contribution was made in US dollars, received 9 November 2015.

**TABLE 2. STATEMENT OF UNCRD CORE FUND ASSETS AND LIABILITIES**

	(in US dollars)	
	<b>As of 31 December 2013</b>	
<b>Assets</b>		
Cash at bank and cash holdings	2,728,729.87	
Advances recoverable locally	<u>9,203.94</u>	
<b>Total Assets</b>		<u><b>2,737,933.81</b></u>
<b>Liabilities</b>		
Unliquidated obligations – current year	<u>166,651.78</u>	
<b>Total Liabilities</b>		166,651.78
<b>Fund balance</b>		
Initial balance	3,364,015.61	
Net increase in fund balance	<u>(792,733.58)</u>	
Closing balance		<u>2,571,282.03</u>
<b>Total Liabilities and Fund Balance</b>		<u><u><b>2,737,933.81</b></u></u>



**TABLE 3-1. STATEMENT OF CONTRIBUTION FOR THE UNCRD ENVIRONMENT UNIT****Active Project Name**

National EST Strategies and Capacity Building for Socio-Economic Concerns (Project Code: EST RAS05X03 for 2013 and 2014; and M1-32XES-000029 for 2015)

(in US dollars)

	1 January-31 December 2013	1 January-31 December 2014	1 January-31 December 2015
<b>Opening Fund Balance</b>	<b>920,490.92</b>	<b>822,850.19</b>	<b>712,466</b>
<b>Receipts/Adjustments</b>	298,948.53 <sup>1</sup>	282,170.27 <sup>2</sup>	245,581 <sup>3</sup>
<b>Expenditures</b>	360,535.69	354,141.33	405,523
<b>Programme Support Costs</b>	36,053.57	38,412.69	52,645
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	396,589.26	392,554.02	458,168
<b>Closing Fund Balance</b>	<b>822,850.19</b>	<b>712,466.44</b>	<b>499,879</b>

**Notes:** This contribution is afforded from the Government of Japan.

<sup>1</sup> Represents contributions received of US\$294,031.17 and interest income of US\$4,917.36.

<sup>2</sup> Represents contributions received of US\$276,854.93 and interest income of US\$5,315.34.

<sup>3</sup> Represents contributions received of US\$241,293 and interest income of US\$4,288.

**TABLE 3-2. STATEMENT OF CONTRIBUTION FOR THE UNCRD ENVIRONMENT UNIT**

**Active Project Name**

Promotion of the 3Rs (Reduce, Reuse and Recycle) in Asia (Project Code: RAS09X23 for 2013 and 2014; and M1-32XES000030 for 2015)

(in US dollars)

	1 January-31 December 2013	1 January-31 December 2014	1 January-31 December 2015
<b>Opening Fund Balance</b>	<b>442,150.31</b>	<b>476,559.35</b>	<b>466,627</b>
<b>Receipts/Adjustments</b>	217,763.41 <sup>1</sup>	224,739.17 <sup>2</sup>	242,669 <sup>3</sup>
<b>Expenditures</b>	166,685.78	210,401.89	488,329
<b>Programme Support Costs</b>	16,668.59	24,269.85	64,419
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	183,354.37	234,671.74	552,748
<b>Closing Fund Balance</b>	<b>476,559.35</b>	<b>466,626.78</b>	<b>156,548</b>

**Notes:** This contribution is afforded from the Government of Japan.

<sup>1</sup> Represents contributions received of US\$215,600.35 and interest income of US\$2,163.06.

<sup>2</sup> Represents contributions received of US\$222,628.36 and interest income of US\$2,110.81.

<sup>3</sup> Represents contributions received of US\$240,661 and interest income of US\$2,008.

**TABLE 4-1. STATEMENT OF CONTRIBUTION FOR THE UNCRD AFRICA OFFICE****Active Project Name**

Capacity Building Programme for Somali Refugees in Kenya aimed at Improving their Capabilities for Self-Reliance and Return to their Country to Engage in Economic Activities (Project Code: RAF12X01)

(in US dollars)

	1 January-31 December 2013	1 January-31 December 2014
<b>Opening Fund Balance</b>	<b>902,693.97</b>	<b>256,035.39</b>
<b>Receipts/Adjustments</b>	3,608.19 <sup>1</sup>	-0.02
<b>Expenditures</b>	591,151.61	226,579.99
<b>Programme Support Costs</b>	59,115.16	29,455.38
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	650,266.77	256,035.37
<b>Closing Fund Balance</b>	<b>256,035.39</b>	<b>0.00</b>

**Notes:** This contribution is afforded from the Government of Japan.

<sup>1</sup> Represents interest income of US\$3,608.19.

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**TABLE 4-2. STATEMENT OF CONTRIBUTION FOR THE UNCRD AFRICA OFFICE**

**Active Project Name**

Human Security in Africa: Assessment and Capacity Building to Promote Sustainable Development (Project Code: DES-AF-12-096)

(in US dollars)

	1 January-31 December 2013*	1 January-31 December 2014*
<b>Allotment</b>	167,735.34	137,315.71
<b>Disbursements</b>	6,683.01	82,269.76
<b>Unliquidated Obligations</b>	51,079.56	15,561.19
<b>Programme Support Costs</b>	3,575.57	6,848.17
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	54,655.13	104,679.12
<b>Closing Fund Balance</b>	<b>113,080.21</b>	<b>32,636.59</b>

**Notes:** This contribution is afforded from the United Nations Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UN OCHA) through the UN Trust Fund for Human Security.

\* Based on the Summary Expenditure Performance Report.

**TABLE 5-1. STATEMENT OF CONTRIBUTION FOR THE UNCRD LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN OFFICE****Active Project Name**

Capacity Building of Regional Development Planning and Management (Project Code: INT12X03)

	(in US dollars)
	1 January-31 December 2013
<b>Opening Fund Balance</b>	<b>71,613.07</b>
<b>Receipts/Adjustments</b>	65.62 <sup>1</sup>
<b>Disbursements</b>	61,155.22
<b>Unliquidated Obligations</b>	-
<b>Programme Support Costs</b>	6,115.53
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	67,270.75
<b>Closing Fund Balance</b>	<b>4,407.94</b>

**Notes:** This contribution is afforded from City of Bogotá, Capital District for operation of the UNCRD LAC Office.

<sup>1</sup> Represents interest income of US\$65.62.

**TABLE 5-2. STATEMENT OF CONTRIBUTION FOR THE UNCRD LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN OFFICE**

**Active Project Name**

Building Capacity for Integrated Regional Development Planning and Management (Project Code: RLA13X01)

(in US dollars)

	1 January-31 December 2013	1 January-31 December 2014
<b>Opening Fund Balance</b>	-	<b>81,085.98</b>
<b>Receipts/Adjustments</b>	107,130.18 <sup>1</sup>	81,139.58 <sup>2</sup>
<b>Expenditures</b>	23,047.97	67,222.55
<b>Programme Support Costs</b>	2,996.23	8,738.94
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	26,044.20	75,961.49
<b>Closing Fund Balance</b>	<b>81,085.98</b>	<b>5,178.09</b>

**Notes:** This contribution is afforded from City of Bogotá, Capital District for operation of the UNCRD LAC Office.

<sup>1</sup> Represents contributions received of US\$106,882.75 and interest income of US\$247.43.

<sup>2</sup> Represents contributions received of US\$81,085.98 and interest income of US\$53.60.

# UNCRD Calendar of Activities, July 2014-June 2015

## 2014

7 July	New York	UNCRD/UN DESA Side Event on “Promoting Resource Efficiency for Sustainable Urban Development” at the Second High Level Political Forum (HLPF) on Sustainable Development
1, 7, 14, 23 July; 18, 25 August; 1, 15, 17, 25 September	Bogotá	Series of Interinstitutional Meetings between Bogotá, and the Departments of Cundinamarca, Boyacá, Tolima and Meta (the Central Region of the country) in the Context of the Creation of the First “Special Administrative and Planning Region (RAPE)” of Colombia
28 July; 8, 14 August; 23, 24 September	Bogotá	Intermunicipal workshops (Bogotá and its surrounding municipalities) for the Constitution of a Metropolitan Area and a Territorial Integration Committee
29-31 July	Nakuru, Kenya	Workshop on Human Security Assessment and Capacity-Building to Promote Sustainable Development in Kenya
July-December	Phonkham Village, Vientiane Province, Lao PDR	Project of a Clean Water Supply System for Women’s Empowerment and Children’s Education in Lao PDR (UNCRD Global Partnership Programme)
14 August	Bogotá	Summit for Competitiveness Promotion in the Bogotá Sabana
3 September	Apia, Samoa	SIDS 2014 Conference - Parallel Event (Off-site): Expanding Waste Management Services of Pacific Island Countries through International PPPs
8-11 September	São Paulo, Brazil	IPLA Global Forum 2014 of ISWA 2014 Solid Waste World Congress
24 September	Boyacá, Colombia	Workshop for the Agreement to Constitute the Territorial Integration Committee
25 September	Boyacá, Colombia	Forum for the Constitution of the first Administrative and Planning Region (RAPE) of Colombia-Central Region, Boyacá, Colombia
21 October-1 November	Juja, Kenya	Africa Training Course (ATC) on Local and Regional Development Planning and Management
19-21 November	Colombo, Sri Lanka	Eighth Regional Environmentally Sustainable Transport (EST) Forum in Asia
20-21 November	Medellin, Colombia	Contribution to the International Meeting Uraba-Darien-Biodiverse Region
18 December	Lagos, Nigeria	IPLA Event 2014
19 December	Nagoya	Public Seminar, “Working at the United Nations (UN)”

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## 2015

15-16 January	Toyota, Japan	High-Level Symposium on Sustainable Cities: Connecting People, Environment and Technology, Co-Convened By the United Nations and Toyota City
5-6 February	Nagoya	UN and UNCRD Photo Exhibition
16-19 March	Aichi, Kyoto, and Osaka	Training Programme in Japan for Bangkok Metropolitan Administration (BMA)
19 March	Nagoya	Public Symposium on Environmentally Sustainable Transport (EST) in Asia
26-27 March	Bogotá	IPLA event – International Dialogue on Solid Waste Management Towards Zero Waste
14 April	Nairobi	International Guidelines on Urban and Territorial Planning – A Key Tool to Support the New Urban Agenda
24 April	Bogotá	Inter-institutional Coordination Meeting for the Confirmation Process of the Territorial Integration Committee (CIT)
24 April and 15 May	Bogotá	Inter-institutional Workshops (Bogotá and its surrounding municipalities) for the Constitution of a Territorial Integration Committee (CIT)
26 June	Bogotá	Internal Articulation Workshop of the Project “Promotion of Integrated Regional Development Planning and Management for an Equitable, Balanced and Sustainable Development”



# UNCRD Calendar of Activities, July 2015-June 2016

## 2015

3 July	Bogotá	Integrated Regional Development Planning Forum
12-16 July	Bogotá	Panel/Charrette (four) on Promotion of Integrated Regional Development Planning and Management for a Equitable, Balanced and Sustainable Development
17 July	Bogotá	Public Forum on Promotion of Integrated Regional Development Planning and Management for a Equitable, Balanced and Sustainable Development
23 July	Nagoya	Public Seminar, “Working at the United Nations (UN)”
30 July	Kathmandu	Multi-stakeholders’ Consultative Workshop on the Pre-Final Draft of National Environmentally Sustainable Transport (EST) Strategy for Nepal
16-19 August	Male, Maldives	Sixth Regional 3R Forum in Asia and the Pacific
30 September	Kathmandu	Launching of the National EST Strategy for Nepal
September-December	Phonkham Village, Vientiane Province, Lao PDR	Project of Extension of the Clean Water Supply System for Women’s Empowerment and Children’s Education in Lao PDR (UNCRD Global Partnership Programme)
6 October	Bogotá	Workshop on Territorial Planning Guidelines for Cundinamarca
6-8 October	Moscow	IPLA Global Forum 2015
27-28 October	Montería, Colombia	Expert Group Meeting on “The Role of Intermediate Cities in Strengthening Urban-Rural Linkages towards the New Urban Agenda”
4 November	Bogotá	First Session of the Territorial Integration Committee
17-20 November	Kathmandu	Ninth Regional Environmentally Sustainable Transport (EST) Forum in Asia
30 November	Bogotá	Forum on “Achievements of Regional Integration”

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## 2016

3-16 February	Bogotá	Subregional Training Workshops (seven) on Integrated Territorial Development Planning
25 February	Bogotá	First Session of 2016 of the Territorial Integration Committee of the Bogota Region
9-11 March	Hanoi	Special Session of the Third 3R International Scientific Conference (3RINCs) on Material Cycle and Waste Management
10-11 May	New York	Expert Group Meeting on Special Needs and Challenges in Developing Countries for Achieving Sustainable Transport
4 June	Nagoya	UNCRD Forth-Fifth Anniversary Commemorative Collaborative Event Public Symposium on the Collaboration between the United Nations and Local Communities for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
6-10 June	Paro/Thimpu, Bhutan	A Technical Mission to Bhutan for a Pre-feasibility Assessment of MRT/LRT in Specific Corridors of Bhutan between Paro and Thimpu

# UNCRD Calendar of Activities, July 2016-June 2017

## 2016

30-31 August	Nagoya	UNCRD Forth-Fifth Anniversary Commemorative Event Expert Group Meeting on “Regional Development in the Context of 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”
31 August	Nagoya	UNCRD Forth-Fifth Anniversary Commemorative Event Public Symposium “Wisdom of the World and Wisdom of Chubu ~Sustainable and Resilient Regional Development ~United Nations Centre for Regional Development”
1 September	Toyota	UNCRD Forth-Fifth Anniversary Commemorative Event Technical Tour
18 September	Tokyo	UNCRD Forth-Fifth Anniversary Commemorative Collaborative Event Special Session “Thinking about International Cooperation Through the Japan Association for Human and Environmental Symbiosis (JAHEs) Activities: How to Cooperate between JAHEs and UNCRD”
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		UNCRD Forth-Fifth Anniversary Commemorative Collaborative Event 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”
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)

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## 2017

6 February	Nagoya	Public Seminar on Implementing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in Communities of the Chubu Region
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

### Annex 1. Relationship between UNCRD and UN DESA

