



Part1. Spatial Planning Platform Meeting Comments from Participants

Venue: Multi-Purpose Hall, 1st floor of Hyakunenkan SeinanGakuin

Date: Tuesday, July 31, 2018

Time: 14:00~17:00

Comments from Participants

1. Afghanistan
2. Bangladesh
3. Cambodia
4. China
5. India
6. Indonesia
7. Laos
8. Malaysia
9. Mongolia
10. Myanmar
11. Nepal
12. Philippines
13. South Korea
14. Sri Lanka
15. Thailand
16. Vietnam
17. Senegal
18. South Africa
19. Rwanda
20. Haiti
21. Dominican Republic
22. Uganda
23. Cameroon
24. Serbia
25. Iran

Q&A

1. Afghanistan

Mr. Roshan Wolusmal

[Geographic Features and Challenges for Spatial Planning]

Afghanistan is located in Central and South Asia. We have very good strategy and geographical location, by which we can connect Central Asia to South Asia. We have 35 million population, 34 provinces and 168 municipalities.

We have very high population growth rate which is going to be 4% a year. According to the World Bank, Afghanistan's unemployment rate is 34%.

Ministry of Urban Development and Housing is the key and focal ministry managing urban development, housing and urban strategies in our country.

We have a very long history of war, which goes to 40 years ago. 5 million of our population immigrated to neighboring countries. Fortunately, they are returning back to the country Afghanistan, and there are some types of challenges for urban environment. The major challenges that we are facing are: growing rate of settlements in our cities; unemployment rate; and occupation of agricultural lands.

Currently in Afghanistan, we are having a great demand for housing. In the whole nation, nearly 20,000 houses are required for housing demand.

[Recent Progress in Spatial Planning and Policy]

So far, the government of Afghanistan has taken some actions. First of all, we developed the new Afghan national program, which we are going to reach toward citizens, and rural areas in our country. We also have a very good program by Sasaki which is well known firm in architecture and planning. We have developed Kabul urban design framework.

Our 5 major cities are going to have urban design framework very soon, and that is going to be the first time to have a very solid plan for urban development in our country. We are also having the national urban policy spatial strategy, which the UN-Habitat Afghanistan is working on, and, probably we will have the strategy in a couple of months later. This is going to lead our government toward small and equity, and also to the parallel development strategy. Recently, we have developed subnational government policy which, for the first time, we have good action planning for connecting our rural areas to our cities. We are focusing more on regional infrastructure which will contribute to grow our economy. As you can see, we have quite big program which is going to be a very big project which is connecting from Central Asia to South Asia with pipe line. Turkmenistan, Afghanistan, Pakistan and India. We are also having the top program, which is going to bring energy from Turkmenistan, we Afghanistan, to Pakistan, this big projects and regional development can grow urban economy. Also, it will be positive steps toward urban planning. Afghanistan is committed to balanced development and inclusive city, equity, and city for all.



2. Bangladesh

Dr. Khurshid Zabin Hossain Taufique

[Geographic Features and Challenges for Spatial Planning]

On behalf of Government of Bangladesh, under the supervision of Ministry of Housing and Public Works, Urban Development Directorate is dealing with the physical planning of Bangladesh. As you know, Bangladesh is well known for her flooding scenario and reliance to it. Actually it is happening because of the mega-catchment area of water-shade of Indian Himalayan region which is passing through this small land. Whether we like it or not, all the water used to pass through Bangladesh. Considering our situation, we need to deal with our urban system in a very eco-friendly way. Otherwise, it will be very difficult for us to make Bangladesh survive. We have several different eco-scenarios to deal with and also related different urban scenarios . Except the Capital Dhaka, we have five big cities and urban scenario of those six cities used to monitor by six development authorities and rest of the urban scenario in the country deals with Urban Development Directorate.



Urban Development Directorate has a very long planning history to work with the urbanization process in this county since ,60s. Bangladesh has achieved significant economic phenomenon since '90 due to the development of garments industries. Maximum of those are located in Dhaka, the central place of Bangladesh. At the same time, due to regular flooding and river bank erosion, huge number of migration happened from rural area to Dhaka. Therefore, capital Dhaka has become a mega city of Bangladesh. It is now a challenge to deal with this urban centrality and create a eco-friendly equally distributed urban spatial system in Bangladesh. Urban Development Directorate is very glade to participate in SPP, and it is fortunate enough that this department got official approval from secretary of ministry of housing and public works to participate in SPP.

[Recent Progress in Spatial Planning and Policy]

Above all that, Bangladesh was a champion to achieve the MDGs. Now Bangladesh has a strong working force to achieve SDGs up to 2030. Under the supervision of Senior Secretary of Honorable Prime Minister's Office, all departments under the Ministry of Housing and Public Works is responsible with the SDG-11 fully, and deals with SDG-13 and 15 partly. All these 3 goals are critical for Bangladesh, because we have around 170 million population living in the very tiny and very fertile land. So we have long sensitive way to deal with urbanization issues in Bangladesh . Recently, proposed "Urban and Regional Planning Act, 2017" is approved by the cabinet of Bangladesh.

[Expectations for SPP]

We need to preserve land for agriculture production and at the same time to capitalize existing urban land and ensuring the multiple use that land. So the long term planning perspective for Bangladesh is very crucial. Speaking of Spatial Planning Platform, hosted by the Government of Japan, is a very good opportunity for Bangladesh and hope she will be benefited from this platform in coming future.

3. Cambodia

He. Dr. Beng Hong Socheat Khemro

[Geographic Features and Challenges for Spatial Planning]

The Kingdom of Cambodia is a country located in Southeast Asia. And we are member of Association of Southeast Asian Nations, ASEAN. We has shared our international order with Thailand, Laos and Vietnam. Our population currently is about 50.3 million. We have around between 27 and 30 % of people living in urban area. The capital city in Cambodia is Phnom Penh. We have three what we call economic poles in country, Phnom Penh is one of it, the second economic pole is Siem Reap and the third one is the important sea port Sihanoukville. Cambodia has been able to secure in the last decade, around 7% of annual GDP growth. We have been able to become lower-middle income country in 2015 and we have the ambitious plan to accelerate our existing economic growth and we should be able to classify as upper-middle income country by 2030 and we want to be high income country by 2050.



I try to respond to all 3 questions that passed to us. First, the challenge that we are facing in regard to spatial planning issue is rural-urban migration, which leads upon to urban housing demand. We are also encountering pressure on urban agriculture. Our urban agricultural land has been converted to other uses. We also have pressure on urban infrastructure and public services among all the cities, especially the center of economic poles. Although Cambodia has transformed itself from agricultural basic economic industry to service industry, our majority of population is still living in rural area. For this reason, rural development has been considered still as the priority in the government policy. For that, spatial planning for urban area is still somehow let behind of phase of urbanization. Likewise, resources are still driven to rural area as a higher priority compared to urban development. Much more critical data and information is needed for urban planning.

[Expectations for SPP]

My expectation for the SPP is that although spatial planning has been increasingly considered by central government, as a tool for better natural resource management, our country as a whole is still lacking human and financial resources. Therefore, not only conduct spatial planning, but also put those available plans into implementation. Being given the opportunity to participate in this global symposium on urban and territorial planning, I am grateful to learn and exchange know-how and experiences.

We are perhaps already contribute to SPP for 3 conventional key factors, namely, economic, social and environment factors. However Cambodia has added 2 more factors those are food security and national defense. For that, our spatial planning we have been able to try to maintain agricultural development, promote food security and develop longer international order which uses to be not very friendly situation. In this regard, as the contribution to SPP, we would like to be good pilot project for SPP to be conducted. For Cambodian contribution, we sure do our best to facilitate, to cooperate for development.

4. China

Mr. Zhao Yongge

[Geographic Features and Challenges for Spatial Planning]

Recent years since we've got some problems in China such as regional imbalance, ecological security and lack of high quality of province settlement, the central government has reorganized urban and spatial planning system. Ministry of Natural Resources was established to supervise the development, utilization and the protection of all kinds of natural resources. Also to build urban spatial system which is integrated urban planning and regional planning was held up by different ministries before. Our goal is to reform urban spatial planning system to build 4 systems. The first is formulation, permission system, the second is implementation and monitoring system, the third is policy system and the fourth is technical support system. This is newly happened just 3 months ago.

[Expectations for SPP]

In terms of SPP, we strongly support the establishment of SPP. We fully agree with its principals and from our side, we are willing to contribute our all day available resources for this platform.



5. India

Mr. Hitesh Vaidya

[Geographic Features and Challenges for Spatial Planning]

The urbanization in India is likely to be the biggest human event in next 10 years. Urbanization was seen as a necessary event. That merely tolerated, but not well managed. The development tool of managing urban of India is master planning, which prescribes land use, densities, roads, buildings, and other forms of hard infrastructure. As a result, we have all kinds of problems. However, recently, our Prime Minister has come given us the new slogan of transformation, and we are going to get into the transformation process. We are calling it not only transformation, we call it as “Transform the Nation”. This “Transform the Nation”, we have started 5 flagship urban programs, including smart city program. In these programs, we have now started to recognize cities actively as engines of economic growth and center job creation.

We are talking about balanced national growth. We have started the new urban mission to rural-urban development. Based on the Quito and the guidance from UN-Habitat, the government of India has started their own national urban policy framework, and we have an inspiration from Benjamin Franklin who said, “If you fail to plan, you are planning to fail”. This is why we have started NUP, which recognizes most of urban issues. To recognize urban issues is mainly part of municipal issues. All your policies have to be addressed to the local level.

[Expectations for SPP]

I think this SPP is very timely intervention. And I hope SPP helps us to learn, provide examples on issues of urban spatial planning. We are dealing with institutional fragmentation. Look at the mechanisms of decentralization and it strengthens legal regulation framework. Lastly, how to move toward to inclusive strategy, while mainstreaming the poor people in the poor framework. I wish this SPP will success.



6 . Indonesia

Dr. Eko Budi Kurniawan

[Geographic Features and Challenges for Spatial Planning]

As some of you already know, Indonesia is the largest archipelago country we have more than 17,000 islands, with population about 270 million. Right now, 50% of our population living in the urban area. It is true that not easy to manage. In managing space, such unique geography and large population, Indonesia has several levels of spatial planning. From national plan, which is prepared by central government, also it's prepared by districts, cities and municipalities. We are trying to integrate between top-down and bottom-up approach. We also have set up the law of spatial planning since 1992, central government regulation and local government regulation. There are many problems related to spatial planning and to deal with those problems. We also follow international and global agenda, such as Sustainable Development Goals and New Urban Agenda. We have translated New Urban Agenda into Indonesian language.

[Expectations for SPP]

I believe this meeting provides good opportunity to share knowledge, experience, success and best stories between numeral countries on spatial planning. We'd like to hear from Japan for example about your experience, especially about property development problem, there is the same problem in Jakarta. We'd like to hear from Chinese experience about successful spatial economy schemes.



7. Laos

Mr. Phomma Veoravanh

[Geographic Features and Challenges for Spatial Planning]

Laos is really small country. We have population, 6.5 million. The percentage of who living in urban is 33% of our population. Landside is about 236 thousand square kilometers. Laos we just started to make a spatial plan, so we are in the preparation stage now.

I would like to share about our current situation. In Laos, we have 5 ministries involve in planning but there is lack of horizontal coordination. Because of the lack of coordination, different ministries have different intervention of problems. Since we have problems to coordinate between ministries, urban national guideline will be very good for government to prepare national planning. I was also concerned about preparation of law and regulation for the planning.

[Expectations for SPP]

I hope this SPP will have important vision that improves our plans. I also hope with MLIT and JICA, we can do some pilot projects to our government to have appropriate law and guideline and planning system.



8. Malaysia

Ms. Kamariah Binti Ibrahim

[Geographic Features and Challenges for Spatial Planning]

Malaysia has already in place our own spatial planning system, which we refer as the Development Plan System. As you all know, Malaysia practices parliamentary democracy. The total land mass is 330,252 sq.km., almost the same size as Japan. Our projected population for 2020 is about 34 million with 77% of the population living in urban areas. The number is expected to increase to 46.1 million by 2040 with the urbanization capped at not exceeding 85%.



Malaysia will become an ageing nation by 2040 with 19.8% of its population aged 60 years and above.

In Malaysia, we practices the 3- tier government system consisting of federal, state and local government. Reflecting the government system, our planning system is also tiered into 3. Town and Country Planning is listed under the concurrent list of the Federal Constitution, which means both the parliament and the state legislation share the same power to make laws over planning matters. The law governing the town planning activity in the Peninsular Malaysia is the Town and Country Planning Act 1976 (Act 172), while in Sabah it is under the purview of Sabah CAP141 and Sarawak Land Code Chapter 81 is applied in Sarawak.

With regards to the Development Plan System, at the national level, we have National Physical Plan, or the NPP. The first plan was approved in 2005. We are currently at the third review of the NPP (or the NPP3) with the planning period up to 2040 (implementation period from 2016 to 2020). The goal of NPP3 is to achieve a resilient and livable nation. Our NPP is prepared in tandem with the 5-year Malaysia Plan (an economic development plan) and the current NPP has taken into account global agenda on sustainable development (namely the Sustainable Development Goals and the New Urban Agenda) in the formulation of the plan.

Our NPP is not merely a policy document but it also outlines strategies and actions to be carried out by the domestic agencies. Numerous mega projects have been identified in our NPP, such as the Central Forest Spine (CFS), rail transportation projects, and also regional economic corridors

Our NPP3 also sets the development targets for 2020 and 2040. For example, in terms of urbanization rate, we limit the rate to not exceed 85% by the year 2040. Among the strategies outlines are to utilize local resources, to enhance economic potentials of rural areas, to improve basic rural infrastructure and amenities for a better quality living environment, and to strengthen the urban-rural connectivity. We have also formulated the National Rural Planning Policies 2030 to support NPP3 by making our rural areas an attractive place to live, thus lessening the burden on the urban areas. Other targets include maintaining 50% of forest coverage and achieving 45% reduction of GHG emissions intensity from GDP (baseline: 2005).

NPP-3 also provides methods of monitoring its implementation through identifying the implementing agencies for each action and developing performance indicators for each thrust. However, we believe that there is still room for improvement, especially on the monitoring part. We do hope that we can learn more from other experienced countries.

With regards to community development, one whole chapter in the NPP3 is dedicated to building inclusive and liveable community, which is essential in developing a progressive nation. Policies outlined are aimed towards creating a comprehensive and quality living environment, creating a liveable community environment and to encourage community participation and collaboration.

To complete the Development Plan System, we have the Structure Plan (a written statement of policies and general proposals in respect of development and use of land in the State) at the State Level and the Local Plan (the main document referred to when applying for planning permission) at the Local Level.

[Expectations for SPP]

I think the launching of the SPP is very timely and will benefit the member countries. Malaysia is willing to share our experience in the implementation of our development plans. Though our planning system is quite in place, we still face many challenges especially on localizing the SDGs and NUA, and also on the monitoring of the development plans. To me, our discussions these past two days have been very inspiring. We all agree that the social participation is fundamental in realizing the spatial plans. With the new government of Malaysia, we tend to vigorously make the city-dwellers work. Engaging the public community will be, and should be our new way to go forward.

9. Mongolia

Mr. Gunbold Baatar

[Geographic Features and Challenges for Spatial Planning]

As must have you knew, Mongolic history of nomadic culture, but not many know that one of the first cities named Khar Khorum established in 1220. Khar Khorum is the capital city of Ulaanbaatar for more than 360 years of history. Until 1940s, Ulaanbaatar didn't have any decent constructions and infrastructures except some streets and very few temples, and governmental buildings. Master plan of the city was the start of the development of the city. Based on the scientific approach, contemporary urban development plan in 1954. From 1950s to 1970s, all the urban spatial projects happened especially by Soviet Union. Only introduction of the market economy and spatial planning has begun. Over the past 3 decades, due to harsh and extreme climate conditions, and increase of rural poverty, immigration to the urban areas has increased particularly to Ulaanbaatar city. Nowadays more than 70% of national population is concentrated in urban areas. This rapid population growth and lack of buildings in urban areas lead to expansion of Ger districts or slum areas which are source of air and soil pollution. Ger areas are caused by limited infrastructure and services, such as water supply, electricity supply. Therefore the government of Mongolia is seeking partners in developing project, national human settlement general plan or national comprehensive spatial plan of Mongolia, which is for the national sustainable development. IG-UTP will be used as a compass. In order to support national development initiatives planning, the government of Mongolia has been established national spatial data infrastructure. So far Ministry of Construction in urban development in Mongolia has been carried out some projects, collecting and updating fundamental spatial data into the database system by conducting collaborative approach with other ministries and other agencies.

[Expectations for SPP]

Mongolia is willing to contribute to establishment of SPP initiatives by sharing our unique experience and strengthening cooperation with other national agencies.



10. Myanmar

Ms. Aye Aye Myint

[Geographic Features and Challenges for Spatial Planning, Recent Progress in Spatial Planning and Policy]

Myanmar's population is about 52 million and urbanization rate is about 30%. There are 367 cities and towns in 40 states and regions. Every city in Myanmar is now expected to be double population in next 30 years. Myanmar has recently liberalized its politics and economy accelerated urbanization. The country is shifting more balanced approach, social and economic development which recognized importance of cities and urban sector, and contribute to much economic growth. By 2030, it is estimated entire urban population reached 25 million from 15.2 million in 2014. An important component for guiding organizations with comprehensive development is the National Spatial Development Framework Plan 2014, which is studying about how to connect between cities across the country. Myanmar adopts the Yangon and Mandalay Bi-Polar Development Policy which is concentrated decentralization and balanced development strategy, focusing on locational advantage and also economic potential. Growth Centers in respects of national level, regional level and special function areas as well as economic corridors have been identified for achieving competitive advantage with proper investment allocation with the country. Myanmar is now preparing national urban policy, which will support national spatial development framework and urban system planning. To match with current transformative urban situation, regional urban plan, new law have been drafted, and which is now on the approval process. In the new law, urban planning hierarchy is set with National Urban System Plan, Regional Urban System Plan, Urban and Regional Development Plan, Town Development Concept Plan, Master Plan and Detail Plan.



At the context of the elimination of urban planner, we only have 20 urban planners all over the country. Their capacity on urban planning was worked for the conceptual physical planning stage.

Based on the criteria, urban centers are now classified as 5 categories. More than 100 number of cities urban planning are prepared. Government of Japan, and JICA are giving assistance in city planning, as well as regional planning.

Myanmar's speedy urbanization needs huge infrastructures, parallel to environmental sustainability and regional balance with proper urban planning and spatial planning system. Further engagement for urban planning system, it is also required to set the policies that develop land use plan, illustrate urban network to evolve to resilient, sustainable settlement development, to make institutional strengthening, capacity building and training and improve our governance and our management. In the urban system plan, the polycentric development and rural urban linkages, climate change and resilient city planning, green growth will be created.

[Expectations for SPP]

We have enough opportunity here to learn from other country's experience at the SPP. It is also one of the major action plans of agenda which will implement for Myanmar.

11. Nepal

Mr. Padma Joshi

[Geographic Features and Challenges for Spatial Planning, Recent Progress in Spatial Planning and Policy]

Nepal's spatial planning has already started in 70s, but in last 5 decades, showed little progress. At that time, there was a concept of 5 development corridors, following that, we have several tools in place now. We have spatial land use policy. But this land use policy needs to be translated into the required acts. Also there is national urban policy. With this national urban developmental strategy, which has 5 growth centers including Kathmandu. JICA is also supporting transportation planning. Similarly, in other centers, the Government of Nepal is trying to come up with spatial plans. In our country, there is one major road which is called East-West highway and the central government is coming up with 3 more highways. On these crossing points, more cities will be developed under the governmental plans.

On the other side, there is a very important change of the history of Nepal. Nepal has converted to new constitution which made country to federal state. When we have federal state, there are three tier of governments. First, there is a federal government, 7 provincial governments, 763 local governments. In this context, we really need to see the planning in a different way. The local governments are very much empowering the planning activity. But there is a role for the central government. The capacity is one of the biggest challenges for preparing and implementing these kinds of plans.

[Expectations for SPP]

In this context, what I see is this Spatial Planning Platform, to be a very important platform where we can hear experiences, as well as we learn from the failure and successes from different countries. That can utilize development for the countries in planning activities. More than that, as we are translating to the country, into useable and workable documents. And we are talking about SDGs, particularly goal 11, and NUA all this need to be tested and implemented to country in a common way.

I really like to congratulate that coming up with this Spatial Planning Platform.



12. Philippines

Ms. Mercedesita A. Sombilla

[Geographic Features and Challenges for Spatial Planning]

Urban development is vital and lays foundation for the country to achieve sustainable inclusive growth and become high trust society with globally competitive knowledge.

Urban-related issues for the Philippines, however, are human loss and complex. They need to put pressure on achieving goals. A few critical and popular urban-related issues include traffic congestion in Metro Maria, which is also increasingly taking place in other major cities. Traffic congestion is so severe that the loss in time and operating cost is estimated to be USD 48 million per day.

Lack of affordable housing also causes urban families to live in high risk areas such as river banks. Accompanying housing problems are quality educational and health services for people. Due to increasing population in urban places, and increasing number of vehicles, these areas also have been experiencing increasing persistence of air and water pollutions. The Philippines is also explosive to disaster planning risks. Urban centers have a bulk of settlements along rivers and coastal areas which are prone to erosion. Rapid and unplanned urban development has increased flood risks in urban centers. Aside from flood, communities are also exposed to earthquakes plus slides and storms.

[Recent Progress in Spatial Planning and Policy]

We have new policies and programs to address these challenges.

In the Philippine Development Plan 2017-2022, it poses national spatial strategy which promotes regional agglomeration to the congested major cities and connectivity through massive infrastructure development.

A vulnerability reduction through the cooperation of disaster risk reduction (DRR) and climate change adaptation (CCA) measures in infrastructure development and mainstreaming of DRR and CCA in comprehensive land use plans and local government units. To address housing concerns, measures include strategic fast track, inventory lands for socialized housing, and strengthening of decentralization for housing and urban development interventions. To improve environmental quality, the government proceeds with strengthening the implementation of laws, the improvement of air and water quality, and the adaptation of sustainable consumption and reduction technology-centered businesses. And, the Philippines' New Urban Agenda and National Urban Development and Housing Framework call for better, greener, and smarter cities.

Furthermore, the Philippine government is pushing for passage of national land use policy which will provide for the identification of settlement areas to meet demands for housing of basic needs and basic services. In the natural hazard-prone areas, adaption of risk reduction measures, protection of environment of eco-system and others will be promoted. Despite all these broad strategies and initiatives, for urban and regional development, much of the detailed planning and actual interventions have to be done at the sub-national or local levels. To address such a variety of urban-related challenges, we now always provide venues for expertise, values, sectors -- such as transport, government, housing and management and disaster risk reduction.



[Expectations for SPP]

Exchanging views and experiences is important to come up with comprehensive and more strategic solutions for urban development concerns. I hope that the succeeding sessions can be a venue to explore more innovative and brilliant ideas for countries like the Philippines to respond to continuing development challenges. We look forward to having successful meetings in the near future.

13. South Korea

Dr. (Mr.) Se Hoon Park

[Geographic Features and Challenges for Spatial Planning]

First, I'd like to introduce 50 years' economic development and urbanization in South Korea. Economic development in South Korea was very fast from early 1960s to 1990s, and after some turbulent period caused by Asian financial crisis in 1998, we entered into low growth era. Economic development and urbanization walked hands in hands. That means urbanization was also very fast or the fastest



compared to other countries. This created another issue of uneven or unbalanced national development caused by the concentration of population in Seoul metropolitan area. The post-development era in the 21st century is faced with new issues different from those in the developmental era till 1990s.

We are facing with decrease in the number of rural-urban migration, population decrease in large cities, massive suburbanization, prolonged economic crisis, service industry oriented post-industrialization. Regarding urban policy issues, city-regional planning, controlling urban sprawl, urban regeneration newly emerged. As urban policy issues, how to respond to declining cities and towns has become important. According to the data, two-thirds of cities and towns experienced the declining in terms of population, infrastructure and economy. The last issue, I'd like to pose, is how to respond to fragmented governance, or how to fill more integrated and cooperative course of governance.

As planning rights devolved to local governments, it is increasingly difficult to respond to cross-border and inter-city issues which rise with high mobility across the border. Since planning system and practices were mostly developed and structured to respond to 'urban expansion' in the developmental era, it is very difficult to cope with the new issue of 'urban shrinkage' that we are now facing with. Because urban problems are complicated more than ever, inter-sectoral cooperation among economy, welfare, culture and urban development is increasingly needed.

[Recent Progress in Spatial Planning and Policy]

To respond the issue of declining cities and towns, the national government launched 'National urban regeneration strategies' in 2013 by injecting national fund into declining city centers nationwide. The new government, which came into office in 2017, vowed that it would support 500 areas with 'urban regeneration new deal project' in 5 years.

[Expectations for SPP]

Expected meeting will be effective tool for exchanging knowledge and capacity building, and implementing new urban development plan.

14. Sri Lanka

Mr. Bernard Vasantha

[Geographic Features and Challenges for Spatial Planning]

Sri Lanka is an island country in the Indian Ocean, and very near to India. Our total land area is 65,610 km². Population is 21 million. Among them, urban population is 18%, while rural 82%.

[Recent Progress in Spatial Planning and Policy]

Sri Lanka has National Physical Plan which has been already implemented. It promotes and regulates the land in Sri Lanka in an integrated manner with economic, social, physical and environmental aspects. To prepare this document, we gathered an inter-ministerial committee, and Ministry of Housing and Construction, Ministry of Megalopolis and Western Development, Ministry of Local Government and Provincial Councils made especial contribution to prepare the Plan. Then technical advisory committee for physical planning assessed the draft Plan. After that, the draft Plan was submitted to the Cabinet, and the Cabinet already approved the Plan.

The National Physical Plan elaborates on the many areas in Sri Lanka: citizens; settlements; infrastructure facilities; transport and access; communications -- especially IT; wildlife reservation; and forest conservation; airports and seaports; and economic development zones. Based on the National Physical Plan, general plans for all nine provinces have been prepared by the provincial councils in Sri Lanka. Especially we paid attention to the Western Province, which includes Colombo, and prepared the Western Region Megalopolis Master Plan. This plan basically focuses on Colombo city and Western province. Western Megalopolis Plan is based on the four fundamental pillars of: Economic Growth and Prosperity; Social Equity, Safety and Security; Environmental Sustainability; and Individual Happiness. Under the megalopolis plan, several major projects are identified. Those include Colombo city project, Atlantica city project, Mirigama Industrial City, Forest City, Malabe Knowledge City, and Plantation City. We already started to implement these main projects. The other project is the community mobilization program in Sri Lanka, especially based on our poor people to come back to town areas. This project aims to implement land resettlement program and land release for our development purpose, in order to give our people better life. Under this program, there are livelihood program, cultural and sports program, and savings promotion program.



15. Thailand

Ms. Pochanie Kajonpredanon

[Geographic Features, Challenges for Spatial Planning, and Recent Progress in Spatial Planning and Policy]

Thailand is located in the central part of Southeast Asia. With the population of 69 million, ranked the 4th after Indonesia, the Philippines and Vietnam.

As many countries, Thailand has accepted global agenda, and is formulating the national policy. Thailand 4.0 is the first 20-year strategic plan. It targets on some important sectors, such as traditional industry as innovative industry. Thailand 4.0 applies the concept of sufficient economy, which is the late King Bhumibol Adulyadej's philosophy and fits to Thai society.

To achieve tangible development through these policies is a challenge for our country. There are too many issues, including how to achieve disaster prevention and mitigation. Especially, to tackle flooding is important for the development of the country. Therefore, we provide new two plans in this national policy. One is watershed plan and public utilities plan. Second is how to strengthen local government's capacity to decide on their own plans. Meanwhile, the central government still plays the roles of providing national policy and technical assistance to local governments. The challenge is to connect the gap between comprehensive plan and implementation of action plans developed.

[Expectations for SPP]

A key to success in our challenges is building capacity. Therefore, we have expectation for SPP cooperation to transfer knowledge and experiences from other countries to Thailand. It will support to develop our tools, through making adjustment to Thai context, to promote Climate Change Resilient City, Low Carbon Society, Smart City and so on. Transfer of knowledge and experiences is surely important and necessary for local governments, but it still needs the supports of national government.

We can contribute to SPP through sharing information about Thailand 4.0 which focuses on competitiveness and economic growth along with environmental concerns. Most important development project in Thailand is Eastern Economic Corridor which aims to become one of Asian Economic Hubs. This project employs top down approach, and therefore, I think, there is an opportunity to apply some part of IG-UTP. I hope that, in the process of implementing the guidelines, experiences can be shared as useful lessons among member countries.



16. Vietnam

Mr. Nguyen Bao LAM

[Challenges for Spatial Planning and Recent Progress in Spatial Planning and Policy]

In 1986, with the "Doi Moi" policy, Vietnam moved into market-oriented economy from planned economy. So foreign investors and the private sector have more opportunities to take part in the country's development actively. Vietnam economy has been growing rapidly while cities are facing with rapid urbanization in the whole country that accompanied by economic system change. The spatial planning system has been revised to fit flexible economy. However we are still facing many problems in creating sustainable development such as environmental degradation, rural urban gap, poverty and job opportunity, transparency and accountability, corruption in land use change, etc.

The Urban planning law 2009 has been applied for nearly last ten years that need to be consider and evaluate to respond new objectives of sustainable development for the cities. The new planning law was approved by National Assembly and will be applied next year (01 Jan 2019) that trying to establish better comprehensive and integrated planning system. Since it is necessary to fill in the gap between National Policy from central government and implementation of planning. Therefore it need to have better bottom –up approach as well as having the good governance and transparency institution to support sustainable development planning.

The current planning framework need to be considered and encourage more participation of people community, private sectors, and civil organizations in planning process. How to combine the development plans of multiple sectors into an integrated planning system that can promote social-economic development while protecting environment and natural resource. It is also a challenge for planners, policy makers in planning, especially planning for people communities those who live in remote and rural area. How to improve quality of life in the city that is more important than city spreading.

[Expectations for SPP]

This conference is very useful and opportunity for improving Vietnam planning framework in terms of policy making and implementation, and I expect SPP will be as well. Through participating in the SPP, we would expect to learn from each country's experience to utilize it to improve Vietnamese planning framework as well as promoting further international collaborations. So we can sharing experiences in spatial planning system for improving quality of people's lives and for sustainable development and create livable cities.



17. Senegal

Mr. Abdoulaye CISSE

[Geographic Features and Challenges for Spatial Planning]

Senegal, in West Africa, is a country characterized by the context of urban population evolution. The situation requires for all decision makers and actors to work for better human and territorial planning in order to have more residences and urban settlements.

In the past, for many years, traditional planning system had several weaknesses related to low involvement of population in urban territorial planning. Also, the lack of statistic and demographic data which facilitate decision making, and the lack of territorial planning tools such as land use planning for most of local facilities, for example, were problems.

Non-application of planning tools and urban planning laws, and local authorities' ways to deal with human and financial resources caused these weakness in some part. Concerning urban and territorial planning, there is a need to meet the new challenges to promote administrative decentralization and more particular development of territory. This is connected to the application of Senegal Emerging Plan or a reform plan, formulated by the new authority of Senegal.

[Recent Progress in Spatial Planning and Policy]

We already have our national plan for management and development of territory. But Senegal is now seeking to make intense progress in planning at the territorial scale to promote harmonious territorial development with clearer institutional responsibility and more appropriate policy to correct deficiency in practice.

[Expectations for SPP]

We think that it is so important to participate in SPP. SPP is a good mechanism and we have the possibility of sharing experiences and learning best practices of other countries, including SDGs and New Urban Agenda. Through such a knowledge sharing process, we can set up collective action for better governance of our special urban and economic framework. SPP is also useful, for instance, to find ways for improved approach in monitoring of plans.



18. South Africa

Dr. (Ms.) Juaneë Cilliers

[Geographic Features and Challenges for Spatial Planning]

South Africa is the largest country in the southern Africa and the 20th largest country in the world by land area. We've got approx. 56 million people. Of course, there is a lot of spatial planning issues of the multi-phenomenal ones, probably the secretly guided development of the previous government which is now causing us various spatial challenges. One is the urban-rural divide. It is evident at different levels from housing provision to basic service provision, to mobility, and to public transport systems.



[Recent Progress in Spatial Planning and Policy]

A good thing or good news in 2013 is new Spatial Planning and Land Use Management Act was enacted and that now calls for municipal planning scheme. So, we now have the scope to creative and innovative planning and we have an opportunity to include green infrastructure planning, water-sensitive urban planning that we haven't been able to do to full extent up to now. We've got good planning systems and good scope, but we also lack capacity, expertise and resources to implement these ideas.

[Expectations for SPP]

Our expectations for the SPP are strong discipline across regional planning, to think about planning and to learn from each other. We share knowledge and experience on sustainable development and resilient efforts that all we know we should do it together and we should think about it together. And in essence, we expect that this platform will strengthen planning as a profession.

19. Rwanda

Mr. Nzeyimana Jean Pierre

[Geographic Features and Challenges for Spatial Planning]

The planning system of Rwanda is a top down system. After genocide in 1995, many people moved in cities where they felt secure. From 1995 to 1999, population became double. Population of Kigali is 1.35 million, expecting 4.3 million in 2040 according to estimation. In 2000, the central government established Vision 2020. From 2003, planning policies, urban planning law, human resources programs,

regulations have been adopted by the central government and cities. National master plan at national level shows a conceptual master plan, at city level detailed master plan, at district level urban design to elaborate and control city environment. Local governments have established one stop centers for urban planning and construction to promote service delivery.

Rwanda is one of 24 proper countries in doing business in Africa, second after Mauritius. Foreign investments have been made in 64 places from 2006. This is due to commitment of promoting technology and urban improvement.

Previously, seven secondary cities were selected to support by the city of Kigali. This is a center in territorial framework.

[Expectations for SPP]

IG-UTP and SPP are coming to considerably support existing our citizens in a proper way for welfare of citizens. I hope, initiating SPP will complement weak capacity.



20. Haiti

Ms. Rose-May Guignard

[Geographic Features and Challenges for Spatial Planning]

Haiti shares the island of Hispaniola with the Dominican Republic. We are about 11 million people on 27,000 km². A recent study by the World Bank estimated the urbanization rate to be close to 64%. It is the fourth largest urbanized area in the Latin America & Caribbean region. Rapid urbanization is occurring in the context of slow economic growth and weak public institutions. Haiti is at a major crossroad. Urban and spatial planning offers an entry point to tackle territorially-related problems. Urban and spatial planning can create economically productive territories protect investments, and reduce territorial inequities.

Haiti is committed to put an effective planning system in place. We will embark soon in the elaboration of a national urban policy. We will also assess the current spatial planning framework in the hope of making necessary improvements. We are embarking in this process in a participatory manner.

[Expectations for SPP]

We are very small team and we look forward to the opportunity to increase our capacity and to learn from each other through peer to peer learning processes. SPP may contribute to the reinforcement of sustainable land use practices and innovative decision making processes in the region



21. Dominican Republic

Mr. Omar Rancier

[Geographic Features and Challenges for Spatial Planning]

Planning in the Dominican Republic has been reinforcing by the law that created the Ministry of Economy, Planning and Development and created the National System of Planning, and It is consolidated for the mandate of the Dominican Republic Constitution of 2010, where it establishes the need to carry out a National Territorial Plan.



At present, the Ministry of Economy, Planning and Development of the Dominican Republic is committed to implement the National System of Planning and Public Investment, as say our law. Is in that sense that we are formulated a legal framework for territorial planning composed by three organic laws:

The law of Territorial Planning and Land Use.

The Law of Regional Planning.

And the law that creates the National Geographical Institute.

Of these three laws only was enact: the law that created the National Geographical Institute.

Nevertheless, now we are working both, in the formulation of several municipal territorial plans, as in two pilot processes of Regional Planning. We are also committed to the Metropolitan Plan and the medium sized cities planning, and it is in this process of urban planning that we are working with the implementation of New Urban Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals and the International Guidelines, working with different actors from government, municipal, academic and private sectors, trying to transform our cities into sustainable and resilient cities with the capacity to adapt to climate change. Cities of opportunities and with social and gender equity.

In this context “A spatial planning platform which enables stakeholders to share experience” contributed to build a new vision of planning required in developing countries for, trough know other experiences in similar, social and economic, countries, reinforce our spatial planning system.

This is a challenge and an opportunity.

For example, in the Dominican Republic, 75% of the population inhabitant in urban centers, but that does not mean that they have the adequate services to consider them "urban". For this situation is that the Dominican Republic raises that the programmatic lines taken from NUA should be reviewed and it must be implicitly included a programmatic line that addresses the urban-rural articulation, especially in developing countries, where the urban-rural separation line is blurred and where we have processes of rural urbanization and urban ruralization.

[Expectations for SPP]

With the SPP we can do that by knowing other experiences in other similar countries through the construction of a shared kind of toolbox.

For that, the expectations that we have of this Spatial Planning Platform is framed in the search of an operative instrument that allow to integrate a new territorial vision of development that reinforce our spatial planning system.

22. Uganda

Dr. Kayom Wilson

[Geographic Features and Challenges for Spatial Planning]

I would like to share a few milestones regarding spatial planning in Uganda. In 2017, the first National Urban Policy for Uganda was approved. The policy is now ready for implementation.. The country has also formulated a number of national policies and strategies with strong spatial bearing. They include: the National Land use policy, the National Land Policy, the National Slum Upgrading Strategy, and the National Housing Policy. Many other policies, plans and strategies are also in the process of being formulated.



Of significant importance is that, the rapid population growth in Uganda is putting pressure on distribution of services leading to urgent demand for spatial planning in the country. Studies have indicated that the Population growth rate in Uganda is one of the highest all over the world. Uganda's population growth rate stands at approximately 3.4% per annum. Whereas the current size of population in Uganda stands at about 39 million, it is projected that in the next 82 years, Uganda will become the 11th most populated country all over the world. Given this trend, there is urgent need to implement the policies, strategies and plans which have been alluded to, in the preceding paragraph.

Currently, Uganda's effort is directed towards formulation of the National Physical Development Plan/National Spatial Plan. Uganda is located in the East African region. Suffice it to note that, East Africa is one of the most densely populated regions in the world. This calls for spatial planning at all levels ranging from local to international. Accordingly, Uganda has been/is still working on its National Physical Development Plan since 2015 Fukuoka meeting on spatial planning therefore is so timely. A framework for the National Spatial Plan for Uganda has already been prepared. Intellectual debates are now taking place regarding which parameters should greatly influence the direction of the plan. For instance debates are taking place regarding environmental sector, tourism sector, social and economic disparity, and national connectivity. For example, there is an argument that, because the country is seriously prioritizing development of infrastructure, the National Physical Development Plan should therefore be encored on infrastructure development corridors. connectivity. Uganda's level of urbanization at 18% is almost similar to that of Sri Lanka. But the 5 % annual rate of growth of urbanization in Uganda makes it one of the fastest urbanizing countries all over the world. Urbanization therefore presents another challenge which calls for spatial planning in Uganda. Hence it is one of the areas also being discussed under the current formulation process of the National Physical Development Plan.

[Expectations for SPP]

I heard Mongolia is making National Spatial Data Infrastructure and will hold an international workshop and training in September 2018. That is good and if resources allow, Uganda will be

represented in that capacity development workshop to gain more insights regarding the intricacies of formulating National Spatial Data Infrastructure. This is because the process of formulating a National Spatial Data Infrastructure for Uganda has just begun. Spatialdata is critical for planning and it remains one of the main challenges affecting spatial planning in Uganda. Credit however need to be extended to the development partners like UN-Habitat, the World Bank, Cities Alliance, DFID for helping Uganda address some of her critical urban planning and management capacity challenges.

23. Cameroon

Name: Ms. Mokom Njang

[Geographic Features and Challenges for Spatial Planning]

I would like to present you planning system in Cameroon. I also look at city of Bamenda. They have a spatial planning program. Cameroon is located in the western central Africa. Our population is 22 million persons. We have a vision 2035 which sets the country as a democratic country, which provides an orientation of urban and territorial planning for the country. For the purpose, we have ministries for economic planning and regional developments. We also have Ministry of Housing. These ministries recommend territorial and urban policies and actions in relation with national spatial planning process. We have a ministry for working on coordination, the Ministry of Land. Land management is the base. In relation to land management, policies and plans of the county will be established.

City of Bamenda is the 10th city in Cameroon after Yaounde and Douala. Estimated population is 80 thousand habitats. For past years, we will soon prepare projects in relation to spatial planning. We have spatial planning at national level, implement national policies and master plan. We have a land use plan for cities which provides decentralized land use plan for Bamenda. The city is subdivided to Bamenda1, Bamenda2 and Bamenda3. It also provide special regulations to land use in the city. This already has decided but has not maintained yet.

City of Bamenda has a spatial plan for public spaces. The city takes an integrated approach by using participatory tools. Challenges so far have been capacity building to implement the plan financially technically. The city council has 10 million dollar budget which is difficult to authorize our actions

[Expectations for SPP]

We are interested in the SPP because we can get more knowledge, get new ideas, get different experiences, and get information about what is happening in international plan. Also, we can coordinate the national plan and smaller city plans.



24. Serbia

Name: Dr. Siniša Trkulja

[Geographic Features and Challenges for Spatial Planning]

This picture was taken in NY a few days ago in the Museum of Modern Art (MOMA). It is an exposition about architecture in Yugoslavia. In this picture, you can see urban plan of Belgrade from 1950s. At that time, New Belgrade was planned in one part of Belgrade. Now, more than sixty years later, you can really see benefits of spatial planning that was done and which contributes to better quality of life in that part of the town. If you take into account SDG11 targets like urban mobility, public spaces etc, it shows benefits of planning.



This is the National Spatial Plan of Serbia. You can see the use of term spatial plan. This is our first National Spatial Plan which was for 15 years from 1996 to 2010. Interesting thing about this spatial plan is that decision to elaborate it was made in 1968. The elaboration took 28 years and was adopted in 1996.

Second National Spatial Plan was made in 2010. It is currently in force until 2020. Its timeframe is ten years. We are starting the elaboration of the third National Spatial Plan with timeframe from 2020.

This year, we are making the first national urban policy. I was in Kuala Lumpur for the World Urban Forum and I had an occasion to see Malaysian national physical plan and national urban policy.

Besides National Spatial Plan, we have six other types of planning documents. There are nine regional spatial plans. Blue one on the right side, those are 150 municipal local spatial plans. The middle one is for special areas like infrastructures corridors, natural and cultural protected areas, mining areas, water storage, etc. So, the year 2015 is very important, because that year we had all regional and local plan adopted for the first time in Serbia. And, we also have three types of urban plans, General urban plan, General urban regulation plan, and Detailed urban regulation plan which are land use and zoning plans.

I want to mention about 2015. It was an important year for us because Serbia had the first time coverage by spatial plans of its entire territory. And it is the same year when International Guidelines for Urban and Territorial Planning were adopted at global level.

[Expectations for SPP]

This slide is to point out the international dimension of spatial planning. Serbia is a country of small size. So, international cooperation is very important for us. We are located at southeast of Europe which is also known as the region of Balkans. We have a diverse cooperation projects with neighboring countries and here in Fukuoka the participation in the SPP meeting can really bring benefits to our practice of spatial planning.

25. Iran

Name: Ms. Sara Habibi

[Challenges for Spatial Planning in Iran]

I am going to give you every preview spatial planning in Iran. Urbanization is a main concern in planning process of Iranian cities. About 74% of population lives in urban areas. In response to rapid territorial and demographic transformation, the government has implemented by using urban housing policies and several institutions guide urban transition in sustainable way.



There are some challenging issues in Iranian planning system. The strength is summarized that improvement of financial ability, strengthen sub-regional organizations, improvement of experts, increase in participation of non-governmental people and then positive attitude to decentralization.

Hierarchy of planning system in Iran is categorized to four levels – national, regional, sub-regional, and local level. At national level, we have a housing master plan emphasizes housing aspect of planning, especially for low income group in the country. In other example, in the national strategy documentation, we emphasize on utilizing deteriorated and under-utilized buildings.

National Physical Plan was prepared by the national government and documented in 1996. National Physical Planning Division was approved in 2016. As one of the main objectives of these divisions, this organization has been obligated to prepare national and territorial plan by 2019.

So, in order to address these issues, five national spatial policies and programs have started in 2017 in Iran with collaboration between UN-Habitat and Republic of Korea. It aims to develop national urban policies and small city strategy in Iran. And, in that form, foster synergy and capacity of mutual learning and exchange global experiences of national urban policy. As a sustainable urban development, we are addressing and identifying urban challenges. It is also instruments to prevail coordination between vertical and horizontal urban policies of the country.

Part1. Spatial Planning Platform Meeting Q&A

India:

What is a procedure to become a member of Spatial Planning Platform? How India can be a member?

Prof. Noda:

Membership can be accepted on the request basis. In fact, there is no specific obligation as a member. Just in the system of SPP, we can help each other as well as talk together to establish and formulate new and better urban territorial plan. That is a target of SPP.



India:

Who become the focal point? Are each country's local governments also included?

Prof. Noda:

The secretariat of the SPP is the focal point.

Local government can apply to the membership of SPP. In case of Japan, there are many local governments which formulated their own plans. They have many good experience and can work together with us.

Myanmar:

I understand that Japan use national land use plan and also have the spatial planning law. But, it is my understanding that you don't have national spatial plan. I would like to know the current situation.

Prof. Noda:

In case of Japan, new National Spatial Planning Act was promulgated in 2005 to formulate the new spatial plan by abolishing previous Comprehensive National Land Development Act, because previous law was too old. Based on the new planning act, the government already formulated the national spatial plans twice. So, the new national spatial plan is working right now. In addition, Japan have various planning laws. In Japan, the coordination mechanism is very strict. MLIT makes a draft of national spatial plan and distributes it to other ministries for coordination and having a consensus.

Philippines:

How regular would this meeting be held?

Are we looking second, third, fourth meeting of this platform?

What will trigger those meetings?

Prof. Noda:

Possible. The secretariat of SPP will establish the website and manage the system with other members. Through the website and mailing, we can share the information while the secretariat can respond to the questions raised by member countries. In addition, we are intending to organize this

kind of information sharing meeting once a year. However, it depends on the budget. We are trying to organize this kind of meeting once a year.

Malaysia:

Would you agree that economic planning should be together with spatial planning regarding how we allocate the resources? In our country, the spatial planning is under other ministry. How Japan deal with coordination between other ministries?

Prof. Noda:

In Japan, MLIT formulates a draft of spatial plan. Once the draft is completed, we distribute it to other ministries for coordination. There is a lot of discussion between ministries. Then, finally, there will be a consensus among ministries. The final draft will be brought to the Cabinet office for their decision and approval.

Malaysia:

As a reality, the biggest problem is between 3 tiers of governments, especially between central government and state.

Prof. Noda:

We incorporate the prefectures' many opinions into the draft plan to have a consensus with them. In addition, there are many political intervention in Japan as well. The Japanese bureaucracy is trying to appropriately respond to such political issues. Such intervention is taking place quite frequently in various fields.

Uganda:

Regarding coordination and allocation of resources, how can you get the budget for the spatial plan?

Prof. Noda:

In the past, national development plan had a financial framework approved by the Ministry of Finance. Now, it is very difficult to get an approval from them in terms of financial issues. However, based on the national spatial plan, each ministry formulates the draft budget and request the Ministry of Finance to approve it. At that time, national spatial plan is utilized to formulate the new budget. This is present system. But in your country, there is still space to negotiate with ministry of finance to establish the financial framework in the national spatial plan. So it's a challenge for your country.

Rwanda:

Is this platform limited to Japan? How can you keep the sustainability of SPP?

Prof. Noda:

We are going to establish the Spatial Planning Platform Secretariat in Japan. The secretariat will try to respond to questions and requests from member country. In this regard, I think the secretariat can keep the sustainability of SPP in the future.

Indonesia:

I want to know about Japan's experience regarding development of infrastructure.

In order to implement sustainable principals, sometimes urban planning is not enough.

We need infrastructure development with a recognition of sustainability. Feasibility study will be needed.

Prof. Noda:

We have sectoral plans such as road, sanitation and waste management. In such plans, the sustainable infrastructure development is well elaborated based on feasibility study.

Bangladesh:

We are facing challenges about speed gap between urbanization and planning. Can this platform help the capacity building at the national or local levels? Especially, education for our next generation.

Prof. Noda:

Member countries can help each other for the capacity building. We can share know-how and do peer-to-peer learning to improve the capacity building process in the SPP.