

Prosperity Times

Your news for the **Global Future Cities
South East Asia Programme**

04 January 2021

Foreword

Message from Paul Hilton, Programme Director



It's been a busy year for all of us, one that was unexpected in shape. I personally expected to be on many more flights, starting the year with a sequence of kick-off meetings in each city. But here we are. COVID has impacted our communities, our stakeholders, our client and our families. The actions taken by you, our team in mitigating the impact of this, the steps you have engaged with to ensure you've

stayed state, remained happy and connected with the team and projects has been unbelievable.

To reflect on what has been achieved, we mobilise the teams fully, delivered the intervention plans on time. We have continued to deliver through the pandemic, with innovative and value solutions being regularly generated. We have had to take some tough decisions.

So today I'd simply like to say thank you. Thank you to all of you who have despite the many challenges supported each other and the programme in

2020. We are all immensely proud of what has been achieved this year and it's all down to you.

I wish you all the very best for the new year.

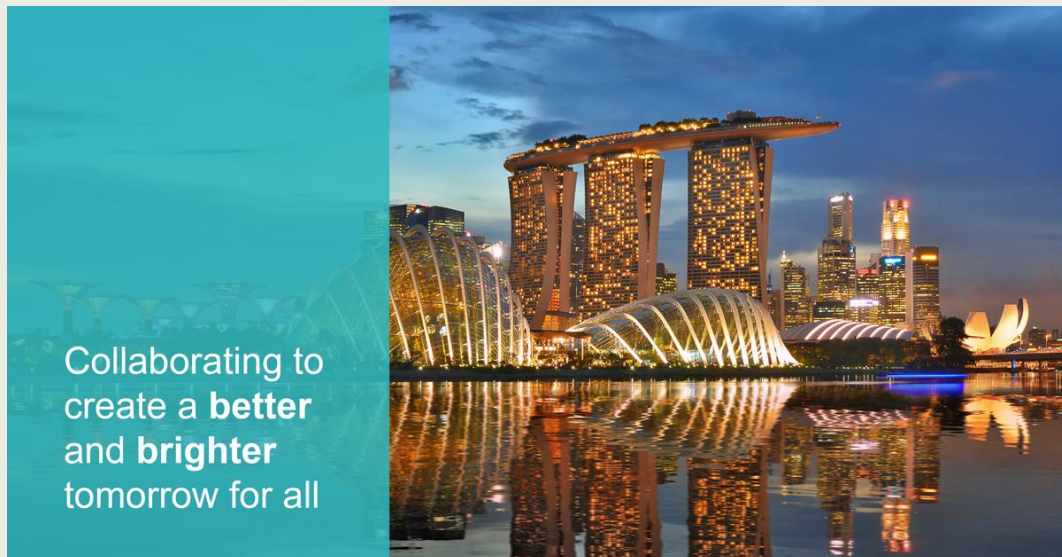
Content owner: [Paul Hilton](#)

Happy New Year!

We are proud of what we have been able to achieve together and look forward to continuing our great journey, driving meaningful and positive outcomes for the communities in South East Asia.

We hope you had an enjoyable break with family and friends and wholeheartedly wish you all the best for this year.

Happy prosperous New Year again!



Content owner: [Veronica Tang](#)

Global Future Cities South East Asia Programme 1st Anniversary



Global Future Cities South East Asia | 1st Anniversary Photography Competition

Announcement of winners!

In celebration of our first year milestone of the programme, we have recently launched a photography competition paralleling to the themes and drivers that our teams are delivering on Global Future Cities South East Asia Programme.

The competition was very well received with innumerable excellent entries. After multiple rounds of evaluation and careful consideration, the top 3 entrants have been crowned! Heartiest congratulations to:



Winner:

[Shaendy Widyaswara](#)

Location: Surabaya, Indonesia

“Surabaya is thriving itself as a modern, clean and green city. The city is ready to take on today’s greatest challenge by adopting Global Future Cities Programme that emphasizes social inclusion, sustainability, urbanisation, smart transportation and climate change.”



1st runner up:

[Chularat Tangmahasuk](#)

Location: Bangkok, Thailand

“Investing more in flood control can make cities more resilient and safer. Bangkok Decision Support System for flood management intervention can help make photos like this a thing of the past.”



2nd runner up: [Chaw Su Kyaw](#)

Location: Yangon, Myanmar

“The people of Yangon, Myanmar – a photograph capturing the essence of Gender Equality and Social Inclusion aspect of the Global Future Cities Programme. The Yangon intervention believes in delivering a socially inclusive design to the people, promoting the importance of supporting the marginalised groups within the community.”

Incredible effort to everyone who participated in this competition and helped make it an exciting and memorable first anniversary celebration!

Content owner: [Veronica Tang](#)

[Melaka and Iskandar, Malaysia](#)

Disability Access and its Impact on Mobility in Iskandar Malaysia and Melaka

The Iskandar, Malaysia Smart Integrated Mobility Management System and Melaka Green Transport Masterplan project teams are helping to tackle inequality caused by inaccessible public transport by delivering smart mobility solutions.

To recognise International Day of People with Disability on 3 December 2020, the Malaysia team connected with Ermy Jeffrey, a wheelchair user from Iskandar, Malaysia. Ermy shared with the team his day to day transport and mobility challenges when trying to get around the city. It was insightful to understand the struggles from the voice of a member of the Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) Consultative Group for the Global Future Cities projects.

Through the Programme, the Malaysia team is working to help the marginalised community, including people with disability, by transforming their public transport systems and cities to be safer, more connected, inclusive and accessible.

Read the full article [here](#).

Content owner: [Rola Alsdudi](#) and [Rita Reddy](#)

Iskandar, Malaysia

Technical Working Group and Steering Committee Inaugural Meeting for GFCP Iskandar Malaysia

The Inaugural Meeting for the Technical Working Group and Steering Committee for the Global Future Cities Programme (GFCP) Iskandar Malaysia was held on 15 December 2020 in Iskandar Puteri. As the largest urban integrated development in South East Asia, Iskandar Malaysia was launched in 2007 and is under the jurisdiction of MBIP, a key stakeholder for the SIMMS Pilot Project.

The meeting was chaired by YB Dato' Dr. Badrul Hisham Kassim, Johor Deputy State Secretary (Development) and organised by City Partner IRDA, led by Pn. Kamisah Mohd Ghazali.

Michael Curthoys and Sujatra Jayaraj, representing the Programme's delivery team in Malaysia, attended the meeting together with Carol Koh from the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO).

Curthoys provided updates on the latest activities, including project dashboards.

“We welcome the GFCP Iskandar Malaysia project team and hope that by working with the Programme's delivery team to develop the SIMMS Pilot, a

good foundation can be laid to progress the integration of mobility at the Iskandar Puteri municipality,” expressed Ms Chew Lee Ting of the MBIP Planning Department.

The Technical Working Group and Steering Committee plays a key role in ensuring that SIMMS gains the support of all stakeholders and meets the requirements of Iskandar Malaysia.



Content owner: [Rola Alsdudi](#)

Melaka, Malaysia

Impactful and positive engagement with Melaka Local Government Unit (UKT)

The Global Future Cities Programme (GFCP) Melaka team, following COVID-19 movement changes, had the opportunity to meet the Melaka Local Government Unit (UKT) on the 15 December 2020. This unit oversees and regulates public transport in Melaka. It was an opportunity for the project team to promote the project to the Principal Assistant State Secretary of Melaka. The presentation included an overview of the programme and a run-through of the goals and objectives of the Melaka

interventions, namely the Green Transport Masterplan, Green Bus Network Implementation Plan and the Heritage Area Integrated Mobility Plan. In the meeting, we explained to UKT that the project team is actively collating data from various stakeholders to support the baseline assessments. This includes data to undertake the Institutional and Policy Framework baseline assessment which UKT may hold, and therefore able to support the interventions. The project team also highlighted the programme's alignment with the United Nation's (UN) Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and how the project will be assessed against the SDG principles at various stages in the project lifecycle. The objective is to ensure that we work closely with stakeholders to deliver positive outcomes from both environmental and economic standpoints.

We discussed the importance of sustainable urban planning for Melaka, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. It was stressed that through effective planning and collaborative working with UKT, the team will help to promote gender equality and social inclusion, as well as provide the local community with more economic opportunities and improve quality of life by implementing more environmentally friendly projects.

UKT states that they are fully supportive of the Melaka interventions and are awaiting formal invitation to join the Steering Committee meeting which will be co-chaired by UPEN, our key City Partner. The positive response from UKT has placed Melaka in a great position to progress with the two interventions.



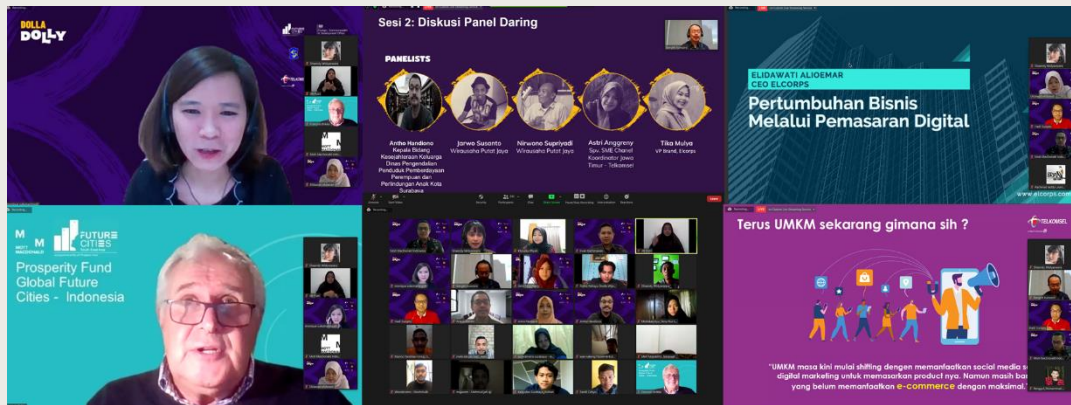
Content owner: [Celia Chai](#)

Surabaya, Indonesia

First Session of Surabaya Urban Transformation Webinar Series

The Surabaya urban intervention successfully held the first session of webinars on 15 December 2020 that focused on the topic of Digital Marketing and Kampung Business for the communities of Dolly and other kampungs around Surabaya. The session was participated by key knowledgeable resource people and members of the communities that sums to a total number of 246 participants. Practical panel discussion was well-received during the session with pro-active participation from the audience. The intervention is glad to know that this series of webinar will have a continuation with a successful first session.

These webinars are more than capacity building activities and events, they are a way to create a culture of innovation around the Global Future Cities Programme of South East Asia, as well as to strengthen and expand the network and communication with local stakeholders.



Content owner: [Monique Suksmaningsih](#)

Bangkok, Thailand

Successful UK-Thailand Smart City Roadshow 2020-21

The British Embassy has hosted the first of the “UK-Thailand Smart City Roadshow 2020” events in Chiang Mai, which aims to demonstrate the future benefits of smart infrastructure for Bangkok Metropolitan Administration (BMA) and international companies.

The session focused on three Smart City interventions in Bangkok – (i) an Integrated Smart Data Hub (IDH), (ii) Decision Support System (DSS) for Flood Management and (iii) Bangkok Transit Oriented Development Plan (TODP) – which are being delivered in partnership with the Global Future Cities Programme, funded by the UK Government.

By improving the BMA’s capacity to effectively manage their current operations and services, and prepare efficient long-term city planning, Thailand’s capital city will become a more prosperous, healthy and equitable place to live. Alongside the benefits of this work for the people of Bangkok, the interventions also aim to create opportunities and sustainable economic relationships between Thailand and international businesses.

The roadshow will move on to Chon Buri and Khon Kaen, Thailand next year.

Read the full article [here](#).



Content owner: [Harry Roovers](#) and [Adisak Rujiranupong](#)

Cebu, Philippines

Integration of Cebu delivery team insights in city's affordable housing resolution

Cebu, Philippines delivery team made a direct impact on the city partner's strategies and policies with respect to its affordable housing priorities. In August 2020, the delivery team produced technical notes outlining its approaches to the various components of the Global Future Cities Cebu City Intervention Programme. Focus areas included higher education, flood and drainage, traffic management, city data management, and strategic approaches to affordable housing.

Most notable was the technical note on the affordable housing strategy. Using data and trends from past censuses, the team projected the city population and households, and from income data, housing demand estimates from 2020 to 2040. The Cebu City Housing Board have used the data and recommendations presented in the Cebu delivery team's Technical Note 2 on Strategic Approaches to Affordable Housing in the development of a resolution calling for available public land in Cebu City to be used for

affordable housing developments. The resolution is currently under review and for signing by the Mayor of Cebu City to formalise it into law.

Read the full article [here](#).



Allen Williams (left), Team Leader for Cebu, Philippines intervention and Royston Brockman (right), Affordable Housing Specialist.

Content owner: [Arielle Nicole R Papa](#)

Meet the team

Here are some of the lovely colleagues working on the Future Cities programme. If you would like to be showcased in this section, please use the [GFCP newsletter – submission form](#) to submit an entry.



Alicia Leong

I am the Assistant Project Manager for the Iskandar Malaysia Global Future Cities Programme. My role involves supporting the project manager and team lead to ensure that the project runs smoothly. I provide regular project updates, organise workshops, coordinate meetings and issue subsequent minutes and documents. The aim of the project is to develop a smart integrated mobility management system (SIMMS). Through this, I've

come to realise the importance of data sharing and establishing standards.

This project has broadened my outlook, challenged me and honed existing skills.

In my free time, I enjoy dancing, painting and playing the guitar. I love trying new things and look forward to being able to explore further and see the positive changes brought on by our many interventions.

Content owner: [Alicia Leong](#)



Fany Wedahuditama

I am the Project Coordinator for Surabaya Earthquake Resilience intervention for the programme. My role revolves around: (i) Day to day management of the Surabaya Resilience intervention, including review and monitoring of progress, deliverables, financial situation, highlighting challenges and delay compared with workplan, communicating regularly with team leader and country team leader; (ii) Act as representative of the project with close consultation with team leader; (iii) Ensuring that the resilience focus is

maintained throughout the intervention; (iv) Reviewing of quality of reporting by suppliers and advise Team Leader accordingly; and (v) establishing and maintaining a meaningful stakeholders engagement both at National and Municipality level.

I consider myself to be very fortunate to be a part of an initiative that on one hand helps to address the problems on the ground, and on the other - helps to bring forward sustainable development on every possible way. Each project is carefully chosen and designed to comply to the noble purpose and value of the company.

Aside from the serious stuff, I really like playing pool. Nine balls, eight balls, you name it. I also like reading self-help and non-fiction books, to upgrade my brain. Three books that I'd like to recommend for everyone to read are 'Superhuman' by Rowan Hooper, 'Predictably Irrational' by Dan Ariely, and 'Ego is your enemy' by Ryan Holiday. These books will take you to another horizon!

Content owner: [Fany Wedahuditama](#)

Newsletter

Submitting your news

Please use the [GFCP newsletter – news submission form](#) to submit any announcements to be included in the next newsletter.

Contact us

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