Surabaya, Indonesia

The Surabaya Urban Transformation of Putat Jaya Announced as Priority Programme for 2022

In March, the Surabaya City Government held a development planning meeting (Musyawarah Perencanaan Pembangunan/Musrenbang) to discuss the Regional Government Work Plan (RKPD) for Surabaya in 2022. This annual event aims to gather community aspirations and agree on priorities for the year ahead. The development theme for this and next year is "Accelerating economic recovery and structural reform".

The session was led by Surabaya’s mayor, Mr. Eri Cahyadi and attended by the Regional Apparatus of the City of Surabaya, the Regional Representative (DPRD) of Surabaya, Representatives of Women Agency, Youth Agency, Academics, and other stakeholders.

The introduction of Global Future Cities Programme (GFCP) in Surabaya was warmly welcomed by the city government of Surabaya and its citizen. This was proven by the integration of the intervention outputs of the Surabaya urban transformation team into the Surabaya City Regional Government Activity Plan in 2022, which was presented on 26 January 2021.
As part of the local Government work plan, the Global Future Cities Programme is included in the Surabaya Integration Tourism Planning. It explains the Dolly area as part of a cluster of new tourist destinations, integrated to develop religious, historical, and cultural tourism.

At the meeting, Mr. Eri Cahyadi stated that the Surabaya Urban Transformation of Putat Jaya will be the priority programme in the coming year. This decision shows just how far our programme has progressed in Surabaya and reflects the leadership and ownership of the local authorities for this intervention.

**Surabaya, Indonesia**

**Successful engagement with key stakeholders to build a better Risk Mitigation Strategy for Surabaya**

In March, the Surabaya Resilience intervention as part of Prosperity Fund Global Future Cities Programme conducted an insightful Focus Group Discussion (FGD) with local key stakeholders - Government (Provincial and City level), NGOs, academics, private sector, and local media. A large
percentage of the audience were participants from previous FGDs, and workshops organised by the team. This session of FGD is vital as it contributes to the development of the Risk Mitigation Strategy. One of the many important aspects in developing this strategy is to identify the risk reduction potentials and a range of existing mitigation, emergency responses and adaptation strategies. This plays an important role in ensuring the strategy developed takes into consideration the existing and required efforts, in line with the current and potential capacity of Surabaya City Government and the community. Following the successful FGD, the stakeholders shown great interest and are committed to be a part of the development process. Valuable inputs were obtained during the FGD and this discussion was covered by one of the most influential national media in Indonesia ‘Jawa Pos’. This has greatly contributed to increasing ownership of the project by local authorities. Read full article here.

Surabaya Earthquake Resilience: Virtual Focus Group Discussion

Content owner: Fany Wedahuditama

Melaka and Iskandar, Malaysia
Household Travel Survey in Iskandar Malaysia and Melaka – ‘PerjalananKu’
With rapid population and economic growth leading to congestion and journey delay, Malaysia’s cities need to plan for the future – despite the ongoing pandemic. The Global Future Cities Programme (GFCP), delivered by Mott MacDonald Malaysia with support from the UK Government, aims to make improvements to public transport services by understanding household needs, adding more services, and developing long-term planning based on mobility data.

The GFCP Malaysia Project Team has officially launched ‘PerjalananKu’ – an advanced and innovative mobile phone application – to help gather mobility data using smart technology. Under Covid-19 social distancing recommendations, it is important to reduce the number of face-to-face surveys. This application will replace the old-fashioned way of using in-person interviews for a Household Travel Survey (HTS) to learn travel and mobility patterns. Read full article [here](#).

**Screen capture of application available to download (left) and IRDA LinkedIn post promoting ‘PerjalananKu’**

**Content owner:** Roseanne Clarice

**Melaka and Iskandar, Malaysia**

**GFCP Malaysia Capacity Building Events Kick-Off**

The Global Future Cities Programme (GFCP) Malaysia team recently kicked-off their Capacity Building events for the year.

The first session on the Smart Integrated Mobility Management System
(SIMMS) for Optimising the Transport Network in Iskandar Malaysia was presented by the Team Lead of the Iskandar Malaysia GFCP, Sujatra Jayaraj, and drew over 60 registrations from IMechE and ITS Malaysia. Sujatra described how SIMMS is being designed to meet the needs of Iskandar Malaysia as a smart city – and how this transportation and mobility focused tool will enable better-informed, evidence-based urban and transport planning decisions.

The second session was a Knowledge Sharing Workshop on ArcGIS, presented by GIS Engineer for GFCP Malaysia, Nurul Sofiana Syafril, who spoke about data sharing to enable evidence based urban and transport planning. The session attracted attendees from Iskandar Regional Development Authority, Unit Perancang Ekonomi Negeri Melaka, Perbadanan Teknologi Hijau Melaka, Department of Statistics Malaysia and Plan Malaysia, among others.

The GFCP Malaysia team has a wide array of insightful Capacity Building events lined up for the rest of the year that will encompass nine focus areas, including GIS, ITS (Intelligent Transportation Systems) and GESI. Some of the events will be aimed at specific stakeholders, while others will be open to a wider audience, with the overall aim of increasing capacity and knowledge of transportation and mobility aspects in Malaysia.
Melaka, Malaysia

Steering Committee Meeting and PerjalananKu Press Conference

The Global Future Cities Programme Melaka Project achieved a major milestone on 2 March 2021 when the Chairman of the GFCP Melaka Steering Committee, YB Datuk Seri Utama Ir. Ts. Hj. Idris bin Hj. Haron officially launched ‘PerjalananKu’, a Household Travel Survey mobile application developed by the GFCP Malaysia Project Team together with UK BetterPoints Ltd.

The Chairman opened the Steering Committee meeting, followed by remarks from Kebur Azbaha, Counsellor, Head of Prosperity and Economics, British High Commission of Kuala Lumpur, who attended virtually.

The GFCP Melaka Programme Dashboard was presented by Michael Curthoys, Mott MacDonald Malaysia Country Lead, and encompassed updates on the Melaka interventions. He also gave a progress report on the Capacity Building initiatives planned and the Sustainable Development Goals assessments that will be conducted throughout the programme.

The subsequent press conference invited reporters from Bernama and
Melaka Hari Ini, among others. With the publicity raised through this event, the GFCP Melaka Project Team hopes that the public will support the project by downloading ‘PerjalananKu’ and so help to shape the future of the transport and mobility system in Melaka.

Read full press release here (For English, please use the translation function in browser):
https://www.melakahariini.my/melaka-lancar-aplikasi-perjalananku/

To find out more on how ‘PerjalananKu’ is helping the Melaka interventions, read here.

Michael Curthoys (far left), Country lead of GFCP Malaysia at the Melaka PerjalananKu Press Conference with Melaka EXCOs

Content owner: Roseanne Clarice
Melaka, Malaysia

Engagement with PerjalananKu App and Transport Perception survey

On 16 and 17 March 2021, the Global Future Cities Programme Melaka project team, along with other volunteers from the Melaka Youth Coalition Council (MGBM) set out to various locations across Melaka City to promote the ‘PerjalananKu’ application and convince the public to participate. Others engaged with the public through interviews and focused on travel perception survey.

It is vital to consider the public transport accessibility challenges that local lower income and marginalised community face daily. People’s Housing Program (PPR) Pantai Peringgit, Melaka Sentral, Dataran Pahlawan, Mahkota Parade, and Pasar Besar Melaka were among the places visited. The project team spoke with residents, shoppers, shop assistants, students, and small businesses owners and received invaluable input on the existing status of the local bus services and reasons behind the lack of public transport usage by the locals.

The team also had the opportunity to visit the Portuguese settlement and Chetti Community, where they spoke with residents and better understand their situations in order to help foster better outcomes through project approaches and gather feedback from them through the travel perception survey prepared.

To find out more on how ‘PerjalananKu’ is helping the Melaka interventions, read here.
Philippines

British Embassy Manila celebrates Women's Month

On 10 March 2021, the British Embassy Manila organised a Learning & Development (L&D) activity for their staff. The session was well-received with more than 30 staff in attendance. Political Counsellor and Head of Section, Ms. Becky Shah, opened the virtual discussion and Head of Prosperity Fund, Ms. Leonina Morillo, facilitated throughout. Both Ms. Becky and Ms. Leonina are from the British Embassy Manila.

Ms. Cecilia Fantastico, Gender Equality and Social Inclusion Adviser for Prosperity Fund Global Future Cities Programme (GFCP) and Low Carbon Energy was the first of three featured guest speakers at the L&D GESI session. Ms. Cecilia gave a rousing talk on advancing the GESI aspect in Prosperity Fund Projects. She celebrated the positive impacts made and touched on areas that can be further improved.

Next, Ms. Cherrie Nuez, the local FCDO representative of the Prosperity Fund GFCP, shared her presentation ‘Leave No One Behind: Redesigning Socially Inclusive Cities’. Finally, Ms. Jem Baluyot, Prosperity Fund GFCP Advisor Skills for Prosperity, spoke on ‘Gender Equality in Programme Work: Focus on Skills for Prosperity’.

The attendees found the sessions to be extremely positive and they expressed their interest in learning more about the Embassy’s GESI initiatives.

Bangkok, Thailand

Hearing our city partners’ voices: feedback from BMA on Integrated Data Hub intervention

At the end of February 2021, the Prosperity Fund Global Future Cities Programme Integrated Data Hub (IDH) intervention came to an end. During our 1-year journey, together with the Bangkok Metropolitan Administration
(BMA) Working Team, we managed the implementation successfully. In a challenging environment caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, our project team employed innovative ways of working and problem-solving with our city counterparts.

As part of the intervention’s close out, we conducted a customer satisfaction survey with members of the BMA’s Steering Committee and Working Team. Based on the survey results we received an overall satisfaction score of 88%. Our city counterparts provided positive feedback on the intervention’s outputs and team performance. They viewed the IDH intervention as an effective enabler that responded to BMA’s needs and addressed the challenges the city is facing. In their opinion, the capacity development provided excellent value to BMA personnel.

“The IDH intervention set clear goals and action plans. The IDH team is knowledgeable in the work performed, responsible, well-coordinated and following up closely. The intervention has helped in increasing the knowledge, understanding, skills and experience in data management of BMA's working team. This can be applied to the relevant missions of the BMA in the future.” – Mr. Prasopsook Pimpagovit, Deputy Director-General of the Strategy and Evaluation Department at BMA and Secretary of BMA Steering Committee of GFCP and IDH Working Team Leader
Prosperity Fund Global Future Cities Programme presents at “COP26 – Climate adaptation in the context of urban setting” event

Role of Digitalisation in Urban Resilience
UK Government in Viet Nam and UNDP invited Mott MacDonald to present on the role of digitalisation at the “COP26 – Climate adaptation in the context of urban setting” event on 25 March 2021. Viet Nam is one of the world's most vulnerable countries to the effects of climate change. Participants discussed specific challenges, benefits, best practices, as well as lessons learned on building urban resilience in Viet Nam. Derek Murray, Smart Technology and Data Cross Cutting Advisor of Prosperity Fund Global Future Cities Programme, presented how new approaches to organising cities are transforming the way resilience can be addressed in the context of digitalisation. Future Cities examples from Indonesia, Philippines and Thailand were shared to illustrate the digital innovation being brought to address a variety of resilience issues. Speaking at the workshop, British Ambassador to Viet Nam, Gareth Ward said: “COP26 - UN Climate Change Conference presents a significant opportunity to raise global ambition on this theme of strengthening urban resilience. In the run up to COP26, alongside with other development partners, the UK look forward to working further with the government of Viet Nam in this important agenda”. Among over 100 attendees, the event was also attended by senior UNDP representatives, UK government’s COP26 Regional Ambassador to Asia-Pacific and South Asia, C40 Cities Leadership Group, Asian Development Bank, and Viet Nam Ministry of Construction.
Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam

Successful 3rd Capacity Enhancement Programme Webinar: Climate change and flood forecasting

On 31 March 2021, our Country and Intervention Lead, Andy Girvan, celebrated his birthday by hosting a Climate Change webinar on the Global Future Cities Programme for Ho Chi Minh City. This session, the third in the series from our Capacity Enhancement programme, focussed on Climate Change and Flood Forecasting and consisted of 4 presentations from experts in Vietnam and the United Kingdom.

The expertise shared by our speakers provided a comprehensive introduction to climate change and resilience, applications of advanced AI, and data analytics technologies to forecast and monitor flooding phenomena.

These were presented by Liesl Keam, Senior Climate Resilience Advisor (Mott MacDonald) on Climate change: understanding, managing and adapting to climate change, Shanshan Wang, Senior Engineer (ARUP) on How to improve Shanghai’s water resilience, Alain Weisgerber, Principal Engineer (HR Wallingford’s Flood and Water Management group) City Water Resilience on Introduction to flood forecasting and Dr Charalampos
Karyotis, Senior data scientist and researcher (Interactive Coventry (IC) Ltd) on FLUD- Flood monitoring and forecasting platform for urban deployment.

Invitations were issued to staff from several departments of Ho Chi Minh City Government, Mott MacDonald and the FCDO. The meeting was left as open to allow invitations to be forwarded to colleagues and fellow professionals. The session was thoroughly insightful and well-received with more than 40 participants in the call.

Content owner: Andy Girvan

Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam

Smart Ticketing System (STS) featured on local online news

On 22 March 2021, the Ho Chi Minh Smart Ticketing System intervention was referenced in the local online news, ‘Lao Dong Online’, highlighting the investments in public transport, the need for alignment amongst the technologies that underpin the future of smart ticketing and the importance of the Smart Ticketing System (STS) intervention in ensuring this – to the benefit of the travelling public.

“Ho Chi Minh City is developing various types of public passenger transportation (metro, BRT buses, buses), but due to different projects, the technology in the management, operation, software and hardware of donors is also different. To overcome this problem, the transport industry in Ho Chi Minh City is developing a technical standard framework for smart ticket
The integration of smart ticketing within public transport system can help drive increased adoption of public transportation for a cleaner, more sustainable, and fairer city. Ho Chi Minh has a population of over 9 million and, for a city of this size, there are inevitably a wide range of existing and planned mobility services and related infrastructure. The use of smart ticketing alone will deliver significant benefits in reducing the need for cash handling and more efficient revenue control but ensuring interoperability by adopting the Technical Standards Framework (TSF) that is being developed as part of the STS intervention will deliver further benefits.

The broad adoption of the TSF will encourage and enable interoperability amongst independent large-scale investments in smart ticketing, whilst ensuring a broad variety of payment options to serve passengers of all backgrounds meeting gender and social inclusivity principles. The use of a single ticket improves accessibility and provides the opportunity for more sophisticated and equitable fare policies for multi-modal end-to-end trips. The current level of adoption of smart ticketing is about 19% of bus routes which means that a smart ticket user would still need to use cash. However the broad adoption of city-wide interoperable ticketing by all modes – including all of the planned metro and Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) lines, will not only mean cashless travel – will also provide a critical tool to enable city stakeholders to promote more sustainable mobility and influence preferences in favour of lower carbon shared public transport rather than fuelling growth in private vehicle ownership.

The STS intervention will develop technical, institutional and governance frameworks, informed by capacity-building at each stage of the project. It will also enable and provide data to inform age- and gender-responsive planning and investments in transport for all, as well as support HCMC Smart City ambitions.
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.
Tridti Patarakiatsan

I am currently team lead for the Global Future Cities Project (GFCP) in Bangkok Transit Oriented Development Plan (TODP) Intervention. My primary role in the project is not only to provide technical leadership in my area of specialization as an urban designer, but also to ensure and oversee all activities within the team, both internationally and locally, achieving project's objectives. As the project requires engagement activities with many in-countries external parties, my responsibility is also to coordinate with BMA and their working teams, responsible department from Central Government, FCDO, public and private organizations, institutes, and local communities. To deliver a sustainable and resilient transit-oriented development plan, the related principles for TODP include TOD planning, urban regeneration, participatory design, sustainability, tourism, and smart mobility which are also my interests. This has been a very challenging task to work on the complex project in my hometown with full supports from various experts from the team. I consider this as a great opportunity to expand my horizons from learning new skills, meeting new people, and discovering new possibilities. One example is that during the previous project stages while we were doing baseline analysis in the time of COVID-19 pandemic, I was fortunate enough to be back in Bangkok for required field works. Local teams and I conducted site surveys and engaged with local communities and stakeholder in our study site, Bang Wa Station and Klong Bang Luang (KBL) area. Having not been to the area before, I have experienced the charm of the old world of KBL community with scenic canals and old wooden houses, like a hidden gem, where the pace is slower, and the hectic modern life has not yet reached here. Local residents are also very kind, nice and very supportive. It is hard to imagine a place like this in Bangkok. It is clearly that this place needs to be preserved with a provided strategy to catch up with the modern trend. I strongly recommend paying a visit if it is allowed in the future. There will be no regrets.

Content owner: Tridti Patarakiatsan
Celia Chai
I am the Project Manager of the Global Future Cities Programme (GFCP) Melaka intervention. There are two interventions in this heritage city, namely the Green Transport/Green Bus Network Masterplan and Heritage Area Integrated Mobility Plan. In addition to general project management tasks which includes reporting to the PMO team and our client on project progress, I also get pretty hands-on with other facets of the project such as providing technical leadership and coordinating across all parties working on the project. I am also heavily involved in stakeholder engagement and capacity building activities.

Prior to joining this project team, I have been working in the UK for 14 years. Although I have managed many projects of varying sizes over my career in the UK, the Melaka project is proving to be a challenge. This is a fast-paced project with many moving parts that I have to constantly juggle. However, I am thoroughly enjoying the challenge and have learned a lot about Melaka, one of the cities with the richest heritage in the region. I particularly enjoy the stakeholder engagement side of things where I get to meet people from all walks of life, from political leaders to marginalised communities. I take pride in knowing that the work I’m doing will eventually benefit the disadvantaged communities within the city, and help ‘build back better’ in a post-pandemic world.

In my spare time, I love playing badminton and the greatest achievement that I had was being able to have a few friendly games with two of the national Korean players, namely Lee Yong-Dae and Kim Gi-jung. That was a once-in-a-lifetime experience!

Content owner: Celia Chai

Newsletter
Submitting your news
Please use the GFCP newsletter – news submission form to submit any announcements to be included in the next newsletter.
The New Urban Agenda Platform is the knowledge portal for gathering voluntary reports, best practices, and data - both quantitative and qualitative, for reviewing the progress made in implementing the New Urban Agenda to achieve the 2030 Agenda of the Sustainable Development Goals.

This platform is for national governments, subnational governments, local authorities, civil societies, UN entities, private sector, regional organizations and all other key stakeholders to voluntarily share their contributions to the implementation of the global agenda from the global, regional, national and local level.

As a one-stop shop for both reporting and learning, the platform supports knowledge exchange, encourages interaction, and supports capacity development to establish communities of practice for sustainable urbanization development.

We encourage you to sign up here and join the various groups for GFCP and post links to good news stories developed and published on the UN-Habitat knowledge platform to encourage discussions on relevant topics and promote engagement! This is a growing initiative aimed at creating and reinforcing partnerships among all relevant stakeholders and fostering collaboration, for transformative urban solutions and mutual learning.
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