Foreword

Message from Paul Hilton, Programme Director

Welcome everyone to 2022. I hope you are all well rested and that many of you were able to see relatives and family who had been out of reach for a few years. Across the Programme, 2021 was another year with a significant level of delivery. Many teams have outperformed, and we’ve seen some fantastic results. An example that comes to mind includes tying together and catalysing international partnerships between the Iskandar Regional Development Authority (Malaysia) and Transport for West Midlands (UK)—a real transformation and secondary benefit!

The Programme is approaching an exciting phase, and I hope you’re all energised for this last section. One of the most critical aspects of the Programme is reporting and benefit realisation. Ultimately, our client, the FCDO, evaluates, records, and communicates the effectiveness and quality
of the intervention resulting from their investment through this reporting process. Without a solid narrative and explanation of the benefits, even the most substantial technical project will struggle to receive due recognition. Through the strength of our closeout reports, opportunities to recognise our achievements will arise, so we must remain focused on the value of these activities. Getting this right and highlighting the accomplishments of the interventions not only benefits us as the Delivery Partner but also the recipient countries and cities. Cities with significant impacts and local outcomes are more likely to be considered for future investments. We should support their aspirations to improve and develop by presenting their cases and intervention outcomes. Let's do this well!

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

Content owner: Paul Hilton

Happy New Year!
We wish you all the best for the year 2022! We hope everyone had a wonderful time during the holidays and were able to spend time with friends and family. We are proud of our accomplishments and our interventions’ meaningful and positive outcomes as we look back on 2021. Looking ahead to 2022, we are excited to continue our efforts to imagine a better world in that year and beyond.

Once again, wishing everyone a joyful and prosperous New Year!
Global Future Cities Programme COP 26 Campaign

The Global Future Cities Programme (GFCP) launched a social media campaign in November 2021 following COP26. The campaign explores the actions that need to be taken to build climate resilience, mitigate risk, and provide vulnerable communities with the tools and capabilities required to overcome climate-related challenges. The campaign also promotes the efforts and achievements of the GFCP teams in driving change and developing strategies and solutions to help some of the most vulnerable communities navigate the challenges of climate change.
The team contributed perspectives and insights into the opportunities, challenges, and how the Programme has aligned with the Paris Agreement and the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change. Their sharing can be found in the links below.

Stephanie Tseng  
Agita Putri  
Ahlam Mokta  
Fany Wedahuditama  
Naida Suprapto  
Rola Alsdudi

Content owner: Veronica Tang

Melaka and Iskandar Malaysia

Persons with Disabilities in Malaysia benefit through GFCP transportation and mobility projects

The GFCP in Malaysia is improving transport and mobility in Iskandar Malaysia and Melaka. To commemorate the International Day of Persons with Disabilities on 3 December 2021, the GFCP Malaysia team spoke to representatives of the GESI community to learn more about the issues they face in their daily commute.

Al Asyraf bin Zulkefli, a Board Member of the Johor Cerebral Palsy Association (CPJ), shared valuable input on how the GFCP’s Smart Integrated Mobility Management System (SIMMS) in Iskandar Malaysia will improve transport and mobility for all.

Zazale bin Hassan, Vice Chairman of the Rehabilitation Centre for Persons with Disabilities (New) Melaka, talks about the issues that Persons with Disabilities (PwD) face in accessing public transport in Melaka and is optimistic that the GFCP’s Green Transport Implementation Masterplan and Green Bus Network Masterplan will improve the public transport network in Melaka.
3 December 2021 – International Day of Persons with Disabilities

Content owner: Roseanne Clarice

Melaka and Iskandar Malaysia
UKBEAG Malaysia-specific Capacity Building Event

The first session, "Framing and Knowledge Sharing", saw a presentation by Datuk Johan Mahmood Merican, the National Budget Director at the Ministry of Finance, who spoke about the 12th Malaysia Plan, a development roadmap for 2021 to 2025.

A presentation followed the first session, conducted by Kamisah Mohd Ghazali, the Senior Vice President (Lead) Resilient Environment at Iskandar Regional Development Authority (IRDA), who spoke about the Smart
Integrated Mobility Management System (SIMMS) that the GFCP is developing for Iskandar, Malaysia.

Shahrul Hafidz Ab Rahim, the Principle Assistant State Secretary at Unit Perancang Ekonomi Negeri (UPEN) Melaka, spoke about the Green Transport Implementation Masterplan and Green Bus Network Masterplan that are both currently in development by the GFCP in Melaka.

The second session featured two workshops, "Integrated Transport, from Policy to Practice" and "Delivering Effective Outcomes, focusing on next steps", both of which were presented by subject matter experts, Victoria Delbridge from International Growth Centre, Chris Lane from Transport for West Midlands, and Nick Goodwin from The Behavioural Insights Team.

The event provided an avenue for attendees to hear the success stories and lessons learnt as the interventions in both cities are gearing up for the next step, moving from planning and design to implementation.

Content owner: Roseanne Clarice

Iskandar Malaysia

Smart GIS Capacity Building Training sessions

The GFCP Iskandar Malaysia team conducted three Smart GIS capacity building training sessions over the course of three months, with the first two sessions on 25 October 2021 and 8 November 2021 and the final session on 6 December 2021.

These sessions consisted of hands-on learning about the tools of a GIS platform, with key GIS teams from Iskandar Regional Development Authority (IRDA), Iskandar Puteri City Council (MBIP), Pasir Gudang Municipal Council (MBPG) and Public Transport Corporation of Johor (PAJ) attending.
The first session covered the fundamentals of GIS, applications and practical use of the platform, while the second session covered data derivation, application to SIMMS, and a practical exercise. The third and final session delved deeper into advanced data analytics, followed by its applications and practical uses.

These sessions delivered more targeted training to the right audience and will enable the attendees to utilise the acquired knowledge in managing SIMMS that has been developed as part of the Iskandar Malaysia project.

From January 2022 onwards, further training sessions will be organised focusing on Intelligent Transport Systems (ITS).

Content owner: Roseanne Clarice
Meet the team

Elliot Chan

Hi all, excited to play my part in the Global Future Cities Programme, and I love hearing the great things we are doing for people around Southeast Asia. I am the current Communications Coordinator and am involved in compiling this newsletter, the Good News Stories on UN-Habitat's website, and the reports to FCDO. As someone who is new to the Programme and hears about Good News Stories, I find the interventions very insightful and exciting as they adopt a bottom-up approach and a people-friendly urban design, which is a novel approach and provides citizens with the opportunity to shape the communities they live, work and play in. So far, this has been an eye-opening experience, and I would love to hear more about your respective interventions, so do send in more Good News to let the wider public know and recognise the great work and benefits this Programme brings.

Content owner: Elliot Chan

Newsletter

Submitting your news

Please use the GFCP newsletter – news submission form to submit any announcements to be included in the following newsletter.

Community Urban Agenda Platform

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 organisations, 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 urbanisation 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.

Contact us

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