Accessibility remains a crucial consideration in sustainable urban development and is underpinned by global conventions such as the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD), national disability laws, equality legislation and universal design principles. **Accessibility** is a primary focus of the Global Future Cities South-East Asia Programme, which aims to promote equal access to the physical environment, information, transportation and other public facilities and services for persons with disabilities. Since its inception, the programme has considered accessibility as part of broader efforts to integrate Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) in the design, planning and implementation of transportation, climate resilience and urban planning projects.
Addressing accessibility challenges and promoting good practice in this area has been done in many ways. Firstly, at the programme design level, we adopted an accessibility lens to identify the impacts of project interventions on persons with disabilities. We also developed an inclusive results framework for the programme, which captures performance against key performance measures (KPIs) disaggregated on account of disability wherever possible. Secondly, at the programme implementation level, accessibility has been successfully considered across the city interventions through inclusive design approaches, disability-responsive consultation and engagement and capacity building activities.

**Surabaya, Indonesia**

As part of earthquake management planning in Surabaya, our intervention teams partnered with the School for Students with Visual Disability to design a disability-inclusive evacuation route. This was followed by facilitating evacuation simulations targeting communities with visual impairments to future-proof the routes.

*A simulation exercise for the visually impaired in Surabaya, Indonesia. We built a disability-inclusive evacuation route based on feedback from the teachers and students at the school.*
Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam

The Smart Ticketing System (STS) intervention in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, is expected to increase accessibility to public transport services, especially for marginalised groups. We prioritised consultation with persons with disabilities and representatives from local civil society organisations such as Disability Research and Capacity Development Vietnam (DRD). We also identified travel behaviours and the barriers faced in accessing public transport to determine the types and methods of smart tickets that people with visual, hearing and mobility impairments would prefer. This enables us to be more understanding and aware of the impacts of aspects of our interventions, including Smart Ticketing Systems, upon the community.

STS intervention team in Vietnam engaging with PwD to understand their needs and daily transport challenges.

Iskandar Malaysia & Melaka

In Malaysia, the Green Transport Implementation Masterplan, Green Bus Network Implementation Plan and Heritage Area Integrated Mobility Plan in Melaka, along with the Smart Integrated Mobility Management System in
Iskandar Malaysia, have created a GESI Consultative Group (GCG), which includes representation from persons with disabilities, women, youth and Indigenous people. Regular feedback from the GCG means that project interventions are designed with accessibility and inclusion in mind. It remains a community-driven feedback mechanism that the national authorities have indicated they will keep in place for future programmes.

The programme in Malaysia is also working to mainstream inclusion through the development of smart technology applications such as the Citizen Feedback Portal and the Orang Kurang Upaya (Persons with Disabilities). Through these applications, the public can submit complaints or suggestions related to the city’s infrastructure, which will then be escalated to the appropriate departments within the municipality for further action to be taken, providing a platform for vulnerable groups to communicate feedback directly to the system.

*Members of Cerebral Palsy Johor in a discussion with the GFCP team in Iskandar Malaysia*
Throughout the life cycle of the programme, we place great importance on the needs of persons with disabilities and reinforce the importance of delivering sustainable infrastructure assets that are inclusive and accessible for all. Accessibility is seen as a must-have, not an optional extra.

The Global Future Cities Programme in Southeast Asia has made progress in incorporating accessibility in urban development. Let’s continue talking, thinking and learning about how accessibility helps our communities to thrive.

Content Owner: Kimberley Green
Bandung Transport
Development and formalisation of Implementation Plan for the Bandung public transport intervention

On March 30, 2022, the Bandung Intervention team held an audience meeting with the Head of the City Secretary, regarding the transformation plan of the existing public transportation (Angkot). Following up on the meeting, the city agencies have started developing the implementation plan, with comprehensive assistance from the Global Future Cities team.

The implementation plan includes the selection of Angkot routes, which were integrated with plans for future Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Corridors. The implementation plan consists of the operational scheme, project timeline, detailed cost estimate, partnership mechanism, supporting regulation, supporting facility, funding mechanism, branding and campaign.
The team bonds over lunch whilst discussing the essential aspects of the plans – including the timeline, route selection, and estimated project costs.

In the latest coordination meeting on May 18 2022, the team met with the Head of the City Transport Agency to determine the first four fundamental aspects of the implementation plans: route selection, operational scheme, project timeline, and detailed cost estimates. The Head of the City Transport Agency was heavily involved in the discussion and conveyed his ideas and concerns. The Bandung team also submitted a formal letter to formalise the plans comprising these four important aspects.

Throughout the meeting, we noted that the senior authorities were much more aware and involved as compared to previous phases of the projects and interventions. Their enthusiasm is a good sign, and we are optimistic that their enthusiasm will lead to a better, more integrated public transport system and result in a more sustainable future for Bandung.

Read Bandung’s progress toward achieving sustainable public transport [here](#).

Content Owner: [Kenny Kapuasiana](#)
Melaka

GFCP Melaka Pilot Project progress meetings with key stakeholders

The GFCP Melaka team has been meeting regularly with key stakeholders for their green mobility-focused pilot project. On 17 May 2022, the team met with Unit Perancang Ekonomi Melaka (UPEN) and bus operator Panorama Melaka Sdn Bhd (PMSB) to discuss the pilot project as well as the official handover of the Green Transport Implementation Masterplan, Green Bus Network Implementation Plan and Heritage Area Integrated Mobility Plan documents by the GFCP to the State.

The meeting covered key components such as the promotional platforms, the launch event, location, tentative date and information to be showcased.

A follow-up meeting also took place on 25 May 2022 with UPEN, PMSB, Majlis Bandaraya Melaka Bersejarah (MBMB), Tryke, Tourism Melaka and Persatuan Pemulihan Orang Kurang Upaya Melaka (PPOKU). The meeting focused more on the delegation of tasks for the pilot project, the requirements, as well as an overview of the launch event programme.

While discussions continue to take place, the pilot project is expected to kick off in July 2022 with the Chief Minister officiating together with the British High Commissioner to Malaysia, local dignitaries and members of the media.
Citizen Feedback Portal wins GeoInnovation Award

The Citizen Feedback Portal (CFP), developed by the GFCP team in Iskandar Malaysia together with Majlis Bandaraya Iskandar Puteri (MBIP), has been named as one of Esri Malaysia’s 2021 GeoInnovation Award winners. The Award celebrates innovative geospatial technology solutions that help improve existing social, economic and environmental challenges in Malaysia, and the CFP’s smart GIS-based technology definitely hits the mark.

The CFP was developed using ArcGIS Enterprise – Crowdsourcing Reporter Template, which captures the accurate location of the complaint by enabling users to simply drop a ‘pin’ to the location of concern via its Geospatial Information System (GIS) functionalities, enabling MBIP’s report investigators to navigate to the exact location and take appropriate action to address the complaint. Through its interactive data visualisation and
monitoring interface, the entire process can be managed with greater transparency and efficiency.

The Mayor of Iskandar Puteri along with the Head of MBIP’s Planning Department received the award on behalf of the CFP development team at the ceremony, held on 25 May 2022 at Hilton Kuala Lumpur. UK Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (who funded the programme) and the Iskandar Regional Development Authority (IRDA) were also in attendance to celebrate the achievement. Following the award presentation, MBIP was given the opportunity to present the technology behind the CFP.

The win catapults the CFP to the forefront of innovative, inclusive and citizen-centric technology. It can pave the way for replication in the future to enhance innovation and inclusiveness amongst other local municipalities, stakeholders and companies.

Read more about the Citizen Feedback Portal in our latest article here.
Meet the team

Kristy Wan

Hello everyone, I'm a new intern in the Infrastructure, Development & Economic advisory team from Mott MacDonald Singapore. I'm also the Communications Coordinator for the Global Future Cities Programme SEA. Throughout the programme, I provide support and assistance to the team. This role is very meaningful to me as I'm able to interact with different people from different interventions. Throughout this role, my communication and project management skills have also improved quickly. I'm also very
delighted to be a part of this programme as these interventions bring tremendous environmental and social impacts to the cities. Please do send more interventions our way if you have any other positive news stories to share. Outside of work, I enjoy travelling, running, and watching drama.

Content owner: Kristy Wan

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