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Indonesia Development Forum 2017

## **Fighting Inequality for Better Growth**

Jakarta, 9-10 August 2017





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FROM LIVABLE TO PROGRESSIVE CITIES:  
**INCLUSION, EQUITY, SOCIAL LIFE  
AND SUSTAINING THE  
ENVIRONMENT IN ASIA**



# From Livable to Progressive Cities

Inclusion, Equity, Social Life  
and Sustaining the Environment in Asia

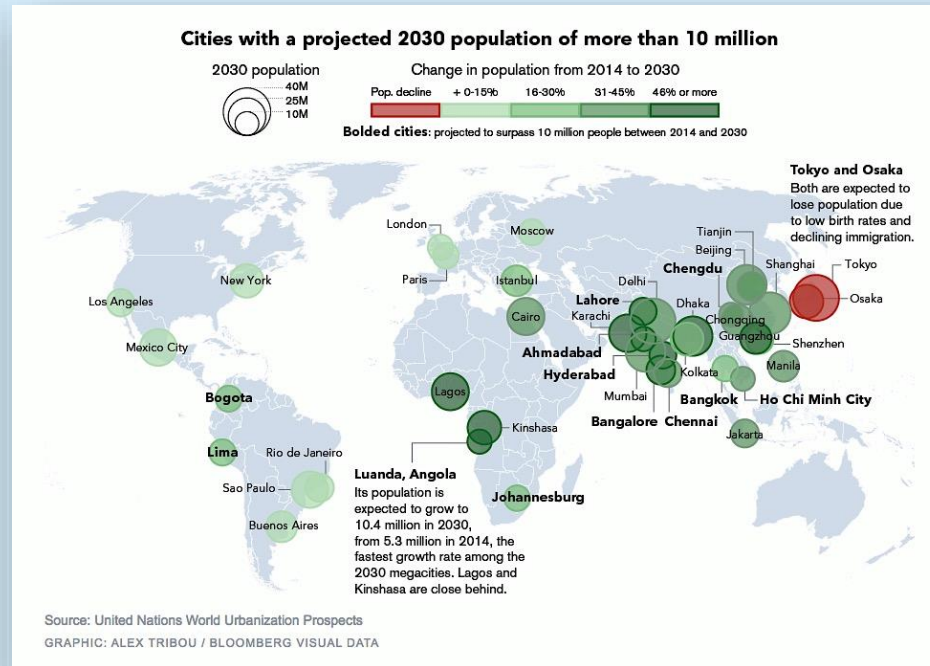
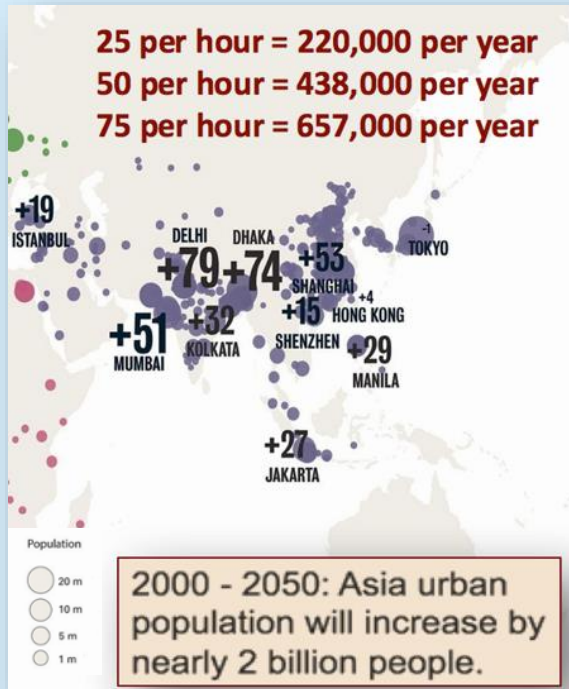
Mike Douglass

Asia Research Institute – National University of Singapore

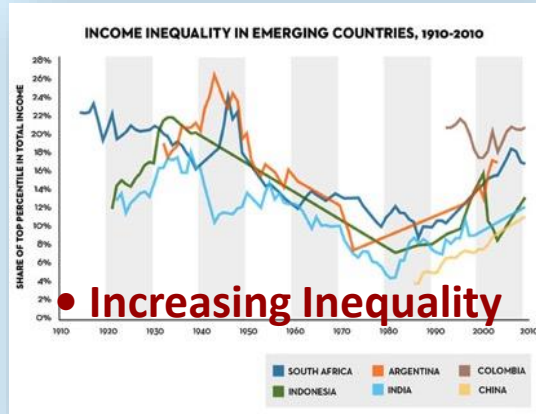


# Asia in Planetary Urbanization

## Urban Population Growth per Hour



# Disparities in Income, Well-Being & Life-Chances



## • Impermanent Employment - Precariatization

- ❖ Part-timer and sub-part-time labour = 1/3 Japan's and Korea's wage workers (2009).
- ❖ Shares are increasing, average wages are falling.

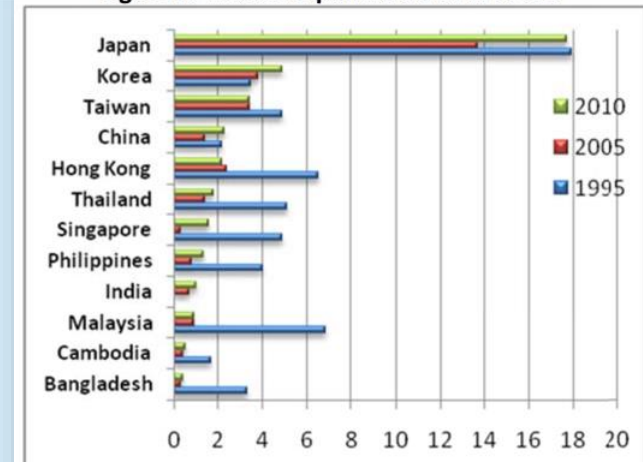


## Mega Slums by 2025



Asia: 470 million people in slums in 2010

Figure10 Social expenditure as % of GDP



Source: ADB(2013): Key Indicators for Asia and the Pacific

## • Intra-Asia Foreign Workers

Table 1. Foreign Workers and Populations in East Asia, 2007-2008

Destination	Legal foreign Workers <sup>1</sup>	Illegal foreign Workers	Registered Foreigners
Japan	477,000	130,000	2.2 million
Korea	480,000	230,000	1 million
Hong Kong <sup>2</sup>	225,000	n.a.	n.a.
Taiwan	374,000	300,000	570,000
Singapore	700,000	n.a.	1.4 million

Source: Migration News. Various issues 2008-2009.

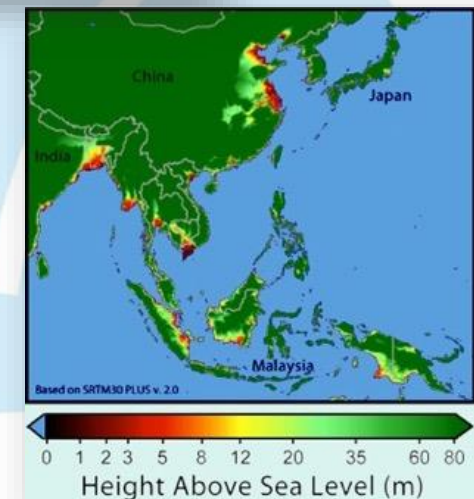
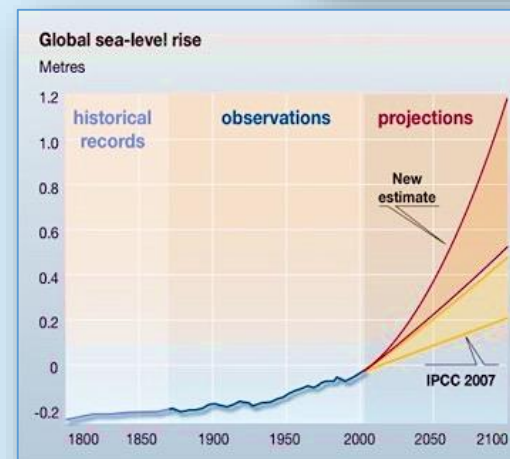
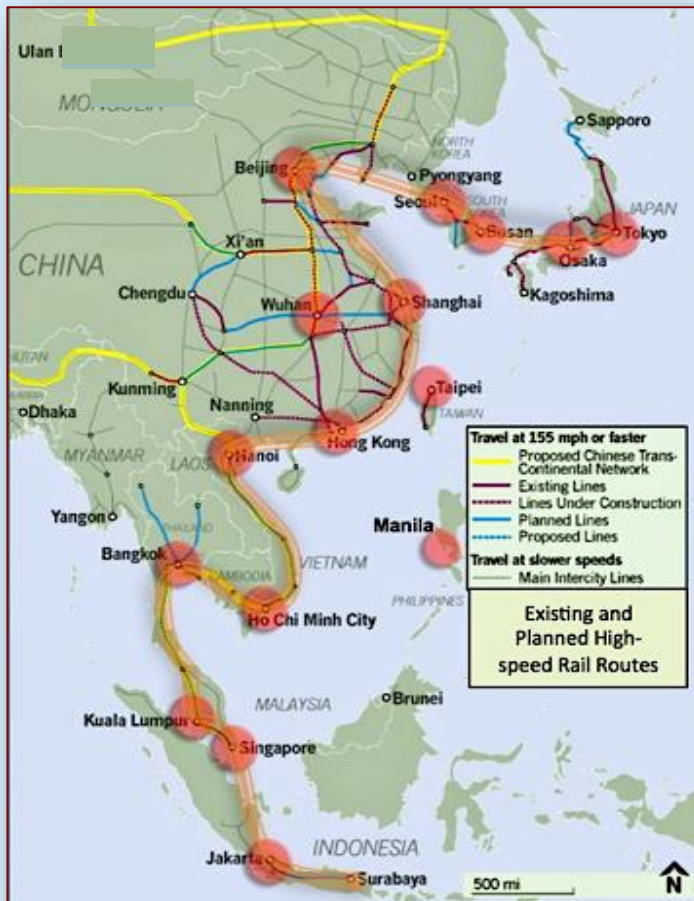
<sup>1</sup>For Japan legal workers include "trainees".

<sup>2</sup>foreign domestic workers and caregivers only.



# Urbanization into Harm's Way

## Pacific Asia Super Corridor

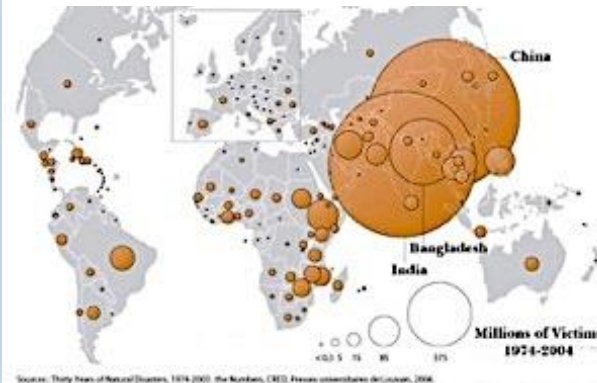


# Cities, the Environment and Disasters in Asia

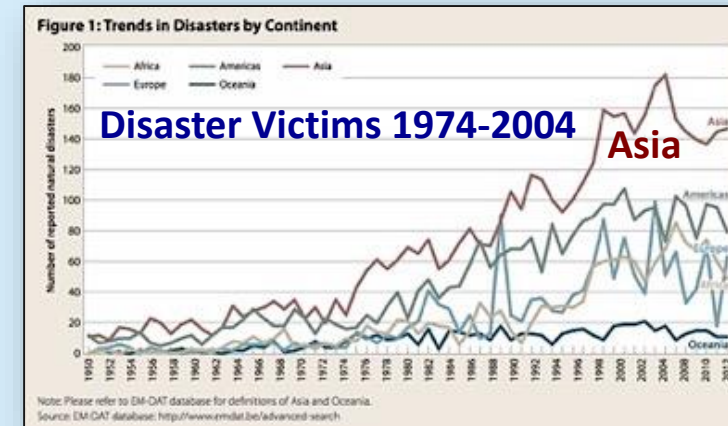
Marginalized Neighborhoods are the most vulnerable to environmental disasters



**90% Global environmental disaster victims are in Asia**



**Most of Asia's megacities are "Critically Unprepared" for major floods**



**Compound Disaster Impacts on neighborhood communities**

**Flood → eviction → loss of social support & livelihoods → destitution**

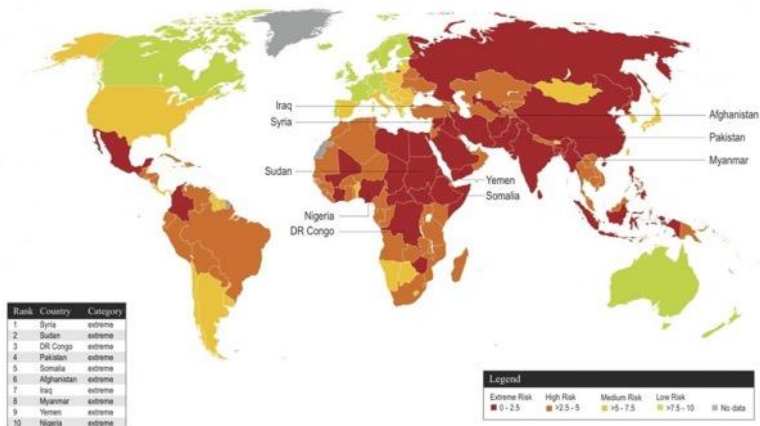




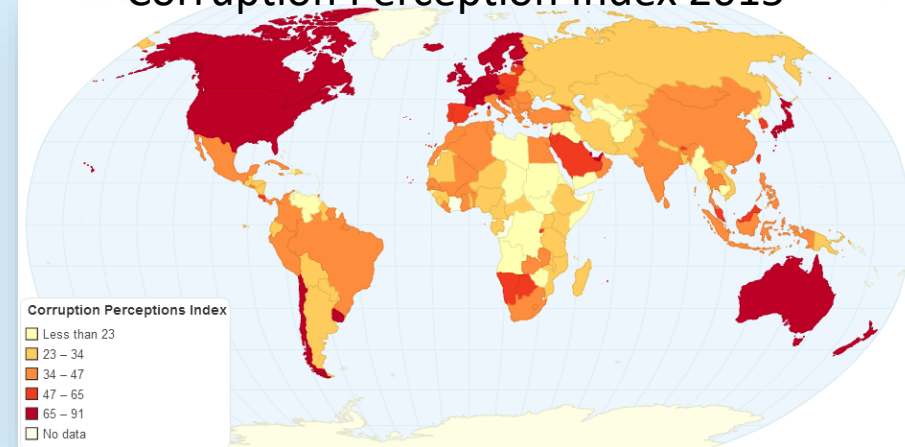
# Governance: Human Rights, Corruption, Democracy

United Nations: “Democracy is in Retreat” throughout the world

Human Rights Index 2017



Corruption Perception Index 2015



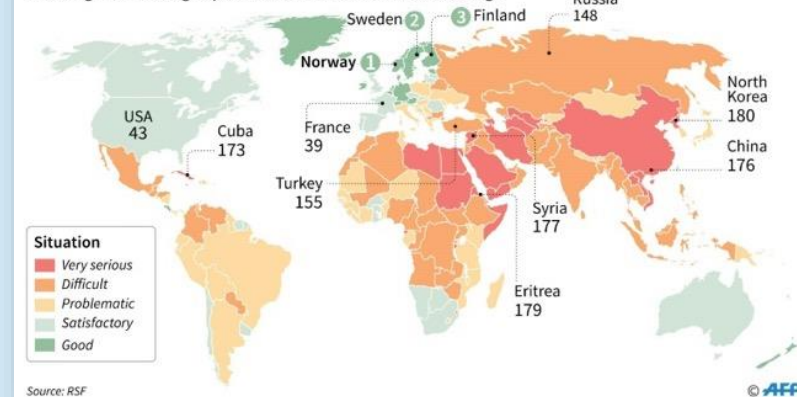
% Democratic Nations by World Region (2011)

	Ratio of Democratic Nations	Electoral Democracies	Total number of nations
Asia	26%	12	46
Africa	34%	18	53
Oceania	86%	12	14
North America	87%	20	23
Europe	91%	42	46
South America	92%	11	12

Source: Freedom in the world 2011 by Freedom House

Press freedom ‘never under so much threat’

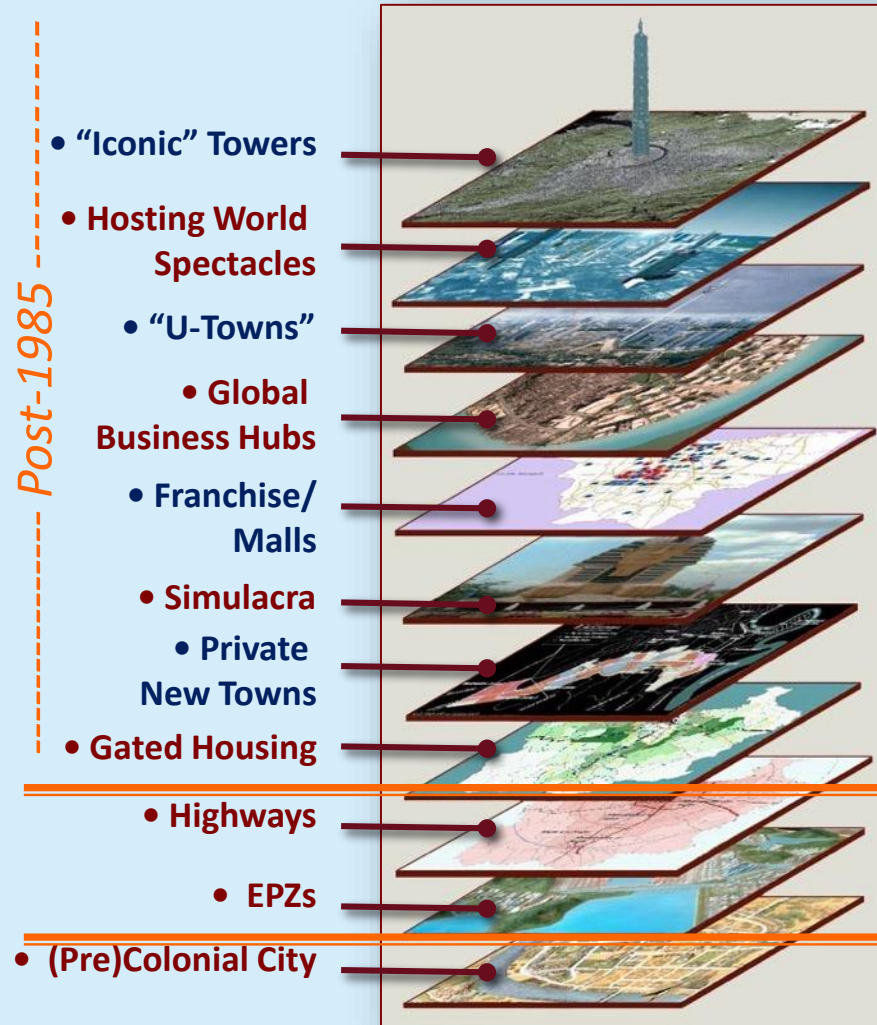
Media rights watchdog Reporters Without Borders' world rankings





# Urbanization or De-Urbanization?

Layers of Making Globopolis 1985-present



“If the current large-scale corporate land buying and mega-projects continue, It will alter the historic meaning of the city. Such a transformation has deep and significant implications for equity, democracy and rights.

- ❖ The spread of mega-projects with vast footprints inevitably kill much urban tissue: little streets and squares, density of street-level shops and modest offices.
- ❖ These megaprojects raise the density of the city, but they actually de-urbanise it – density is not enough to have a city.
- ❖ The capacity to make a history, a culture and so much more is today threatened by the surge in large-scale corporate re-development of cities.

*Saskia Sassen(2015) “Who owns our cities” The Guardian, 24 November 2015.*

# 4 Pillars of a Progressive City



## **Inclusion in Public and Political Life**

- ✓ The Right to the City
- ✓ Participatory governance
- ✓ Freedom of speech, assembly

## **Social and Distributive Justice**

- ✓ Fair and equitable access to public goods and services (health, education, welfare)
- ✓ Social housing
- ✓ Living wage
- ✓ Legal rights to dwell in the city

## **Convivial City with Active Community Life**

- ✓ Neighborhoods, community association
- ✓ The commons, public and civic spaces

## **Environmentally Responsible and Healthy City**

- ✓ Reduces pollution and ecological footprint
- ✓ Reduces risks of environmental disasters and their impacts.



## INCLUSION

- ✧ Participatory budgeting
- ✧ Direct citizen participation in city planning

## DISTRIBUTIVE JUSTICE

- ✧ Social economy & community enterprises
- ✧ Sharing city
- ✧ Community currency
- ✧ Collective tenure

## SOCIAL AND CULTURAL CONVIVIALITY

- ✧ (Re-) making the commons
- ✧ Transforming abandoned spaces into community centers
- ✧ (Re-)establishing open markets, public spaces
- ✧ Participatory art and cultural festivals
- ✧ Human scale architecture

## ENVIRONMENTAL WELL-BEING

- ✧ Reducing energy by “One less nuclear power plant”.
- ✧ Urban food gardens
- ✧ Alternative energy

# Policy Innovations by Progressive Cities

# Neighborhoods & Poverty Reduction

- ❖ **Sanctuary** of powerless
- ❖ **Mutual support** through reciprocity and redistribution outside the market
- ❖ **Place-making and identity** giving meaning to who we are
- ❖ **Social capital** – “the norms and networks of civil society that lubricate cooperative action are directly related to neighboring” (Putnam 2000).
- ❖ Eyes on the street: **Safety and security** in mixed-use, mixed-income, tight-knit urban communities
- ❖ Neighborliness to **counter anomie and loneliness**
- ❖ **livelihoods** and economic linkages
- ❖ Incubators of civic and **public life**

## “Neighborhood by Neighborhood: Reclaiming Our Cities”

*“Neighborhood: a small inhabited urban space that is cherished by the people who inhabit it and generates familiarity and trust”.*

*“I believe that we can re-humanize cities by focusing on and reviving urban neighborhoods.”*

(John Friedmann, 2009)



# Thailand's Baan Mankong Collective Housing Program

❖ **Total 2011: 277 cities, 73 provinces**

❖ Upgrading projects in 1,010 communities completed or underway in 226 towns and cities, in 69 of the country's 76 provinces, involving 54,000 households

As the 2011 flood came to Bangkok, the community organized to prepare sandbags, open a disaster center with a kitchen to provide food, and basic medical equipment.

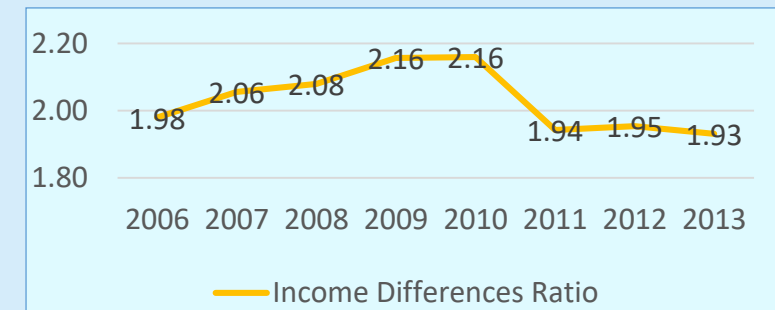


Initiated by the Community Organizations Development Institute (a public organization under the Ministry of Social Development and Human Security). January 2003

# Participatory Budgeting in Chengdu, China



Urban-Rural Household Family Income Differences, Chengdu



## PROCESS

- ✓ Local government decides categories and allocates funds (RMB 200,000 per village)
- ✓ Village Council collects household questionnaires, makes list of priorities, and sets timetable for implementation
- 50,000 projects decided and administered in > 2300 rural communities in Chengdu in 2012
- 4 categories: cultural literacy and fitness; basic services and infrastructure; agricultural training; community welfare, 'which includes, security patrol, sanitation, solid waste collection'



# Renovating the Community Commons

## *Thuong Dinh Ward, Hanoi*



Dense, low-income  
neighborhood

### Before Renovation

Walled, allowing drug dealers and users to remain unseen by residents



Unpaved, uneven surface

Derelict, dangerous equipment



# -- During Renovation





## -- After Completion



“Most places that are dear to people are the small places they live in. They care for the appearance of these lived spaces of the city because as we live in them, they become a part of who we are” (Hien and Thuy, NGO leaders).

### Positive results –

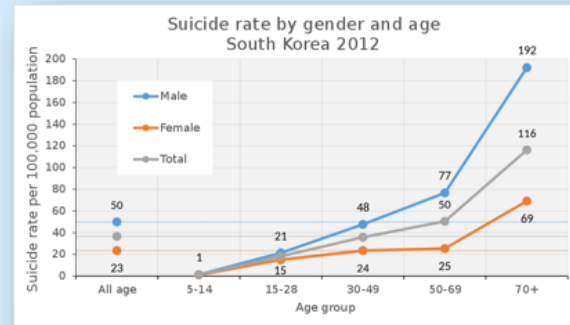
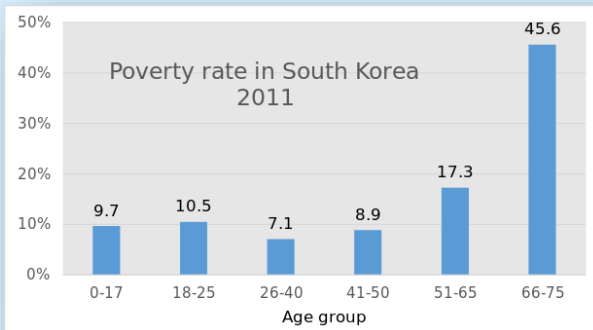
- ❖ Safe common space to play, meet
- ❖ New social activities initiated
- ❖ Greater sense of neighborhood.
- ❖ Strengthened community awareness and solidarity for more projects.
- ❖ Shops and income-earning activities appear in the community





# Aging Societies, Poverty & Loneliness

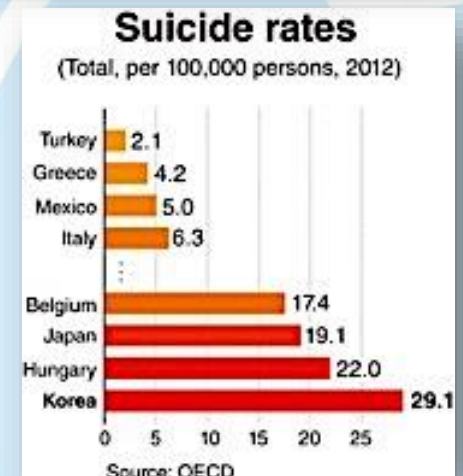
- ❖ Living alone, loss of incomes
- ❖ Decline of family and neighborhood support
- ❖ High suicide rate among senior men



## Innovating new types of households

- ✓ Assisted living
- ✓ Group living, co-housing
- ✓ Food gardens
- ✓ All generations in all apartment buildings
- ✓ “Starving Artist” placement in singleton homes (Kyoto)


**HAPS**  
Higashiyama Artists Placement Service  
東山 アーティスト・プレイスメント・サービス



# Art for Conviviality & Poverty Reduction

Taipei: Preserving a Squatter Slum by Inviting Artists to Reside with Low-Income Seniors



**Treasure Hill**  tripadvisor

55 Reviews | #88 of 554 things to do in Taipei

No.2, Aly. 14, Ln. 230 Sec. 3, Tingzhou Rd., Taipei, Taiwan

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**Book In Advance**

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Treasure Hill Walking Tour in Taipei **\$69.55\*** and up [More Info](#)





# Art Festivals in Declining Neighborhoods

Since 2001 Biwako Biennale is taking place in old merchant houses, built in the Edo period (1603 – 1868).



Omiyachiman,  
Shiga, Japan





# Neighborhood Art Festivals in Japan

Japan is experiencing a “cultural movement of art festivals or art exhibitions that are held in social spaces such as downtown areas and occasionally in old Japanese-style houses, closed schools, factories.

The increasing momentum of art projects has replaced the construction of museums and become the largest movement concerning Japan’s art spaces in the past quarter century.



## 3331 Arts Chiyoda, Tokyo (renovated closed school)

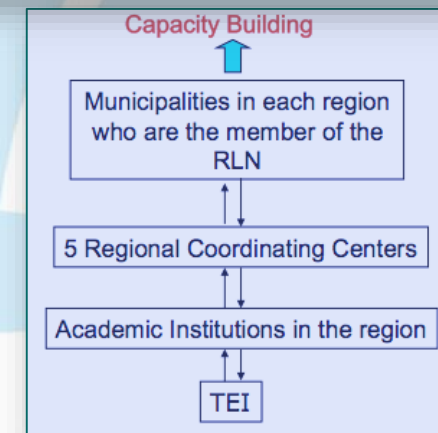
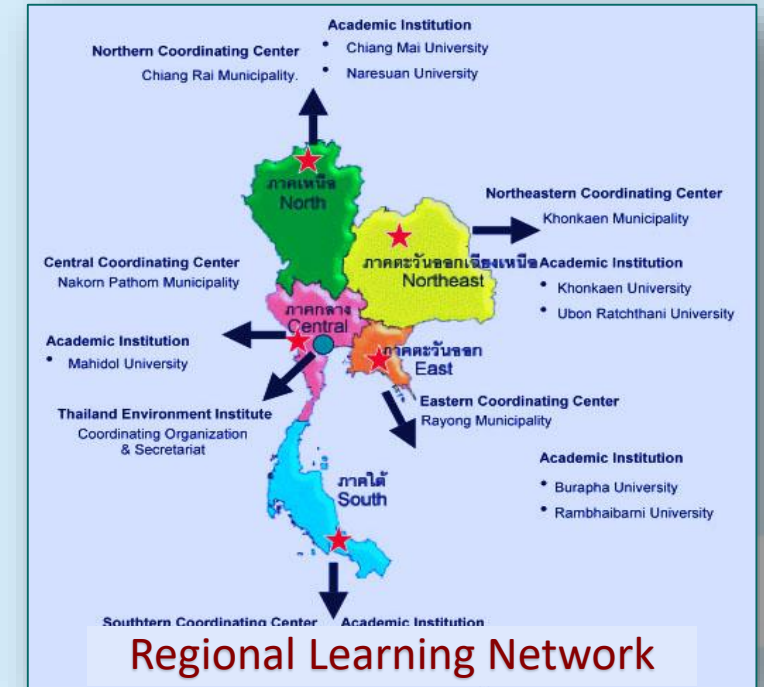
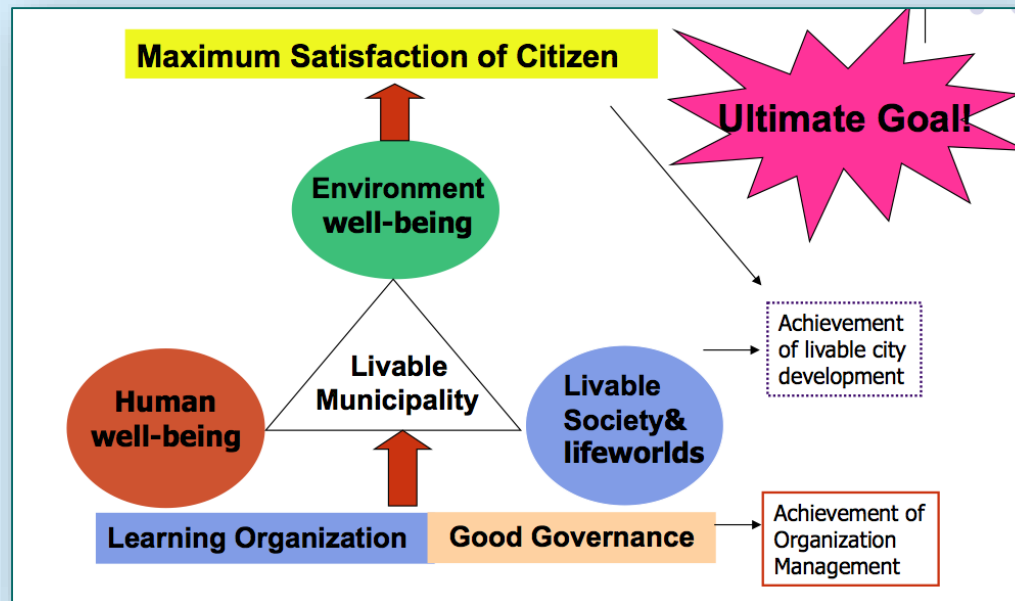
conducts cultural activities, such as exhibitions, workshops, and lectures, throughout the year, and art activities that focus on community relationships—both foreign and domestic—are frequently conducted



Art with significant civic involvement. Citizens from within and outside the community participate in the process of creating works of art in collaboration with the artists.

# Environment and Community

## Thailand's National Livable Cities Program



...To place people at the centre of the development process and making the central purpose of development as creating an enabling environment in which all people can enjoy a long, healthy, peaceful and creative life. (TEI)



# Klaeng Municipality, Thailand

## Revitalizing relationship with the Prasae River for livelihoods and recreation



- ❖ Water quality significantly improved; aquatic life increases
- ❖ Scenic value enhanced along the river
- ❖ Increased income opportunities from tourism, fishing and small-scale fish farms
- ❖ Local pride in river as the symbol of the municipality
- ❖ Continuing collaborative engagement of people in new projects
- ❖ Economic boom with river tourism and environmental sustainability tourism



# Conviviality and Environmental Healing

One with Nature



## Setouchi Triennale 2016 Linking 12 islands of the Seto Inland Sea with Public Art

in today's globalizing world, the Seto Inland Sea islands are losing their unique characteristics because of the aging of the population and the decline of the local area's vitality.

We are holding the International Art Festival, "Setouchi Triennale" in hope of bringing this vitality back to these islands, where nature and the lifestyles of the people have coalesced together. We aim to make the Seto Inland Sea a "Sea of Hope" for the world.

# From Urban Food Gardens to Neighborhood Markets



- ❖ **Seoul:** to become *“the world capital of urban agriculture”*
- ❖ **Singapore:** *“Community in Bloom”* programme with hundreds of community gardens
- ❖ **Hong Kong:** *“Rooftop Republic”* of food gardens.
- ❖ **Taipei:** *Garden City Program* 400 gardens; > 50,000 residents in food production training classes.
- ❖ **Bangkok:** *Food sovereignty* linking farmers with coops to lower food prices and provide healthy, safe food

# Public Markets

- ☼ The open public market is still the heart of most European cities. They are the center of economic, civic, social and cultural life.
- ☼ “The top reason why people say they love open markets is the experience: seeing other people, opportunities for impromptu conversations, the unexpected sensory delights. This is what draws people back, again and again, to their favorite markets.” *(Making Places)*

Research shows that people tend to have five times more sociable talks with people in an open public market than in a supermarket.





## 1. Seoul as Globopolis 2002-2011

### “Second Miracle on the Han”

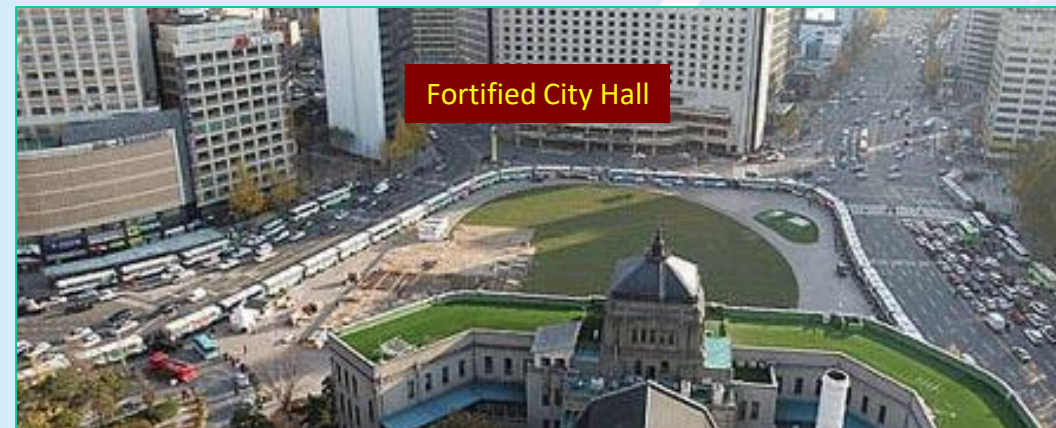
\$31 billion “Dreamhub”  
152 story building.



# The Seoul Experience

“Hangang Renaissance” plan covering a twenty year period and composed of twenty-two mega-projects. SCG to invest 672.6 billion up to 2010.

◆ Entire Han River to be an “iconic landmark, which will allow the city to have competitiveness” in the world”.



# Seoul as a Progressive City (from 2011)

## Inclusion – *“Making Seoul a city for the citizens and by the citizens.”*

- ❖ ‘Right to the City’ conferred to citizens with **citizen representatives mandated to formulate the 2030 Seoul Master Plan** through a collaborative planning process with a long-term vision of Seoul
- ❖ Citizen is mayor!: citizen mayor, opening mayor office, mobile mayor’s office
- ❖ Citizens’ committees on reform agenda: fair trade, energy saving, city planning, human rights, housing redevelopment, traditional markets, urban design, etc.
- ❖ Instituted participatory planning and budgeting

## Conviviality – *“I want to make Seoul a city full of fun.”*

- ❖ Mapo power plant converted to a culture plant, Seoul’s highline
- ❖ Designated 1000 future heritages
- ❖ Human scale urban design with neighborhoods, support for artisan business



## Environment – *“Make Seoul a City of Sunlight”*

- ❖ Sustainable development as core principle
- ❖ Renovation of Cheonggyecheon for environmental sustainability
- ❖ **“One Less Nuclear Plant” energy use reduction achieved in 2 years**
- ❖ Mayor Park elected Chairman of the World Mayors Council on Climate Change (WMCCC)



## Seoul – Distributive Justice

*“Welfare is not charity, but the endowed right of citizens”*

- ❖ **Stopping ‘City Massacre’**: residents’ referendum endorsed Mayor’s cancelling ½ of 606 residential renewal projects that were eradicating neighborhoods.
- ❖ Promoting **social economy** for through 975 village communities, 8000 cooperative to account for 5% of GRDP, 15% of employment
- ❖ **957 Urban Village communities and cooperatives put in place with > 3,000** community coordinators and the injection of 42.5 billion won(\$40 million) by 2017.
- ❖ Sharp rise of **welfare budget >30%**.
- ❖ Free school meal, housing allowance, job creation for the elderly, cutting Seoul City University tuition by half
- ❖ Campaigning **“Sharing City”** for a social just city.



# Progressive City Networks

**Local Progress** founded in 2012 as a national municipal policy network for progressive elected officials from cities around the country in the U.S.

➤ Over 300 member cities.

United by a shared commitment to:

- a strong middle and working class, equal justice under law
- sustainable and livable cities
- and good government that serves the public interest effectively.

Local Progress connects elected officials with one another, facilitates the sharing of effective practices, and coordinates policy campaigns across different cities.

“To drive public policy at the local level—an area of governance that is too often ignored by the progressive movement.”

“change is coming from the grassroots and working its way up—real, sustained and lasting change.”

<http://populardemocracy.org/campaign/connecting-elected-officials-local-progress>

# Changing the Discourse on Cities



Most Progressive

City!!