

EVENT SNAPSHOT



URBAN CLIMATE
CHANGE RESILIENCE
TRUST FUND

Asian Development Bank

Creating Livable Cities: Regional Perspectives

Panel discussion on Regional Development Banks Joint Publication



EVENT DETAILS

Friday 8 November 2019, 1:30pm.

K-Hub, ADB Headquarters, Manila.

SPEAKERS

- Bambang Susantono, Vice President (Knowledge Management and Sustainable Development)
- Jiro Tominaga, Director, Strategy, Policy and Partnership Department
- Manoj Sharma, Chief of Urban Sector Group, Sustainable Development and Climate Change Department
- Sonia Chand Sandhu, Principal Knowledge Sharing and Services Specialist, Knowledge Advisory and Services Center
- Stefan Rau, Senior Urban Development Specialist, East Asia Department
- Ramola Naik Singru, Senior Urban Development Specialist, Central and West Asia Department
- Rana Hasan, Director, Economic Analysis and Operational Support Division

OVERVIEW - PUBLICATION LAUNCH AND PANEL DISCUSSION

The four regional development banks (RDBs) - African Development Bank (AfDB), Asian Development Bank (ADB), European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), and Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) - are working with emerging and developing countries in their regions to address challenges and to make cities more livable.

VP Bambang Susantono delivered opening remarks for the launch of *Creating Livable Cities: Regional Perspectives*; a joint publication by the RDBs. As this year's rotating Chair of the RDB Group, ADB led preparation of the publication as a collaboration between the Sustainable Development and Climate Change

Department (SDCC), Economic Research and Regional Cooperation Department (ERCD), Strategy, Policy, and Partnerships Department (SPD) and key authors from urban sector divisions.

The publication takes stock of key urban patterns, and examines the types of policy interventions and solutions required to promote competitive, inclusive, equitable, environmentally sustainable and climate-resilient cities - in short, "livable" cities.

Chief of Urban Sector Group, Manoj Sharma, and other contributing ADB staff participated in a panel discussion on urbanization trends, challenges, and urban development approaches across the regions.

"The comparative study between four regions will be very important for us to understand what is occurring, what is unique in each region, and what will be the features of future cities." - Bambang Susantono, Vice President (Knowledge Management and Sustainable Development)

URBAN CLIMATE CHANGE RESILIENCE LESSONS

Comparative analysis brings insight to common problems, challenges, solutions and lessons for resilience and livability. Data from the regions and cities can be further assessed to unlock 'what works' and 'what does not.'

Cities globally are threatened by environmental stresses and impacts of disasters and climate change. The '5E' planning approach of environment, equity, enablers, economic competitiveness and engagement' can jointly support resilience and competitiveness.

The bottom line of inclusive planning is 'putting people first'. Integrated urban action plans can help to bring people's voices into planning and decision-making.

Unplanned urban growth may determine the future of Asia's cities. Good urban planning has a lasting impact and determines whether a city becomes productive and competitive. In Asia there is a closing window of opportunity to get this right. ADB can draw on lessons from urbanized cities in Latin America, as well as China and India.

A differentiated approach is needed to address the challenges of shrinking cities. ADB can draw on lessons from Europe, such as clustering development and ensuring inclusive planning.

Integrated solutions for livable cities require a different way of working within ADB and cities. Solutions include stronger engagement upstream (including Country Partnership Strategies and Business Plans), enabling more multi-disciplinary teams, knowledge-sharing and peer learning.

FURTHER INFORMATION

- *Creating Livable Cities: Regional Perspectives*: <https://www.adb.org/publications/creating-livable-cities>