

ForUm Newsletter

Southeast Asian - German Network for Urban Future
Yogyakarta Indonesia, March 2008
Review of Summer School Thailand and more...

Issue No. 8



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EDITORIAL

Dear Readers,

From February 17-29 this year already our third Summer School program took place, hosted and organized by our friends from Thailand. After the summer schools in Philippine and Cambodia on urban driving forces, this conference has been the first one with the new focus on Urban Coherence. In the first part, which was held in Bangkok, the experts bridged the gap between the theoretical concept and practice on urban coherence in Thailand, followed by the second part in Chiang Mai with intensive discussions, contributions and exchange of experiences from all over Southeast Asia leading to the development of the coherence and cohesion definition which ends up as a marvelous “pizza”.

In this 8th edition of our newsletter series we like to provide you a reflection and report of the Summer School activities created by Rini and Didit, a mosaic of funny photo impressions that shows the warm relationship and cooperation among the international participants, an overview of new participants, as well as the discussion guidelines on “The Challenges of Urban Coherence” from Prof. Frauke Kraas. You will find a review in and around ForUm network activities in 2007 from Hung and Christine, a report about “exchange by internship” and two valuable book references. And last but not least you will find a page with “Groups of Interest”, listed in Thailand and which is still open for other members of the ForUm to join.

Following our publication on “Urban Driving Forces” a new one on “Urban Coherence” is being prepared to accommodate the contributions and issues from the experts. And also our Thai colleagues thinking about a special Thai book with collected material and ideas of the last SS with open opportunities from other experts.

Likewise, in the wider global context, the summer school provided a continuing process on learning to fulfil our global responsibility and contribution to a sustainable urban development. The next SS 2008 on the issue of urban coherence will be held in October-November 2008 in Vietnam. It is our strong believe that the ForUm network and its expertise in the long run will contribute awareness and consciousness worldwide for a better urban future.

Sampai jumpa di Vietnam (see you all in Vietnam). We are glad having the chance to contribute to the network communication now it's your turn - please enjoy.

All the best
Indonesian Group



Review of the Summer School in Thailand 2008

Rini Rachmawati and Raditya Jati

Urban Coherence was the theme of the Fourth Summer School which took place in Thailand. This summer school was held from February 17th to 29th 2008 in Bangkok and Chiang Mai. The Workshop was attended by representatives from Germany (Prof Dr. Frauke Kraas as Supervisor, Christine Knie as Coordinator) and South East Asian countries, i.e. Indonesia (5 participants), the Philippines



(4 participants), Thailand (7 participants), Malaysia (2 participants), Vietnam (1 participant), Laos (1 participant), Cambodia (3 participants), and new comer Myanmar (1 participant). The welcome addresses and salutations, on February 18th, were delivered by Mr Theodor Proffe (Cultural Attaché of the German Embassy in Thailand), Prof. Dr. Manat Suwan (Head of the Geographical Association of Thailand), Prof. Dr. Frauke Kraas (Head of ForUm Network, University of Cologne, Germany), Prof. Lersom Sthapitanonda (Dean of the Faculty of Architecture, Chulalongkorn University who was represented by Dr. Daranee Bunchorntavakul), Prof. Nobpadol Suvachananonda (Dean of the Faculty of Architecture, King Mongkut Institute of Technology/KMITL), Associate Prof. Dr. Sekson Yongvanit (Head of the Geography Department, Khon Kaen University) and Dr. Schimdt Vogt (Asian Institute of Technology/AIT). The workshop started with an introduction of the conference schedule in Bangkok and an overview of the programme in the first week. The introduction was delivered by Dr. Monsischa Bejrananda. The second presentation was about the concept of **Urban Coherence and Social Cohesion** and was presented by Prof. Dr. Frauke Kraas. The other presentations were by Dr Chintana Chantachaeng (German-Thai Chamber of Commerce) concerning "German-Thai Cooperation and Projects"; Mr Santisouk Phongsavan (Population and Community Development Association/PDA) dealing with "Social Cohesion and the AIDS Positive Partnership Programme of the PDA"; and Dr Sopon Pornchokchai (Thai Appraisal Foundation) talking about "Housing Development and Markets in Bangkok - Boom and Busts of Markets and Land Prices". The long ceremony and presentations for the day was climaxed with a grand dinner on board a boat along the Chao Praya River.

On the second day, February 19th, the theme of the presentations was **Bangkok Urban Development and Urban Coherence**. Before the discussion of the theme, Mr. Jan Stevener from the DAAD Information Centre in Bangkok presented a subject concerning "Structure, Programme and Network of the DAAD" in Thailand. Then, Mr Kwansuang Atipodhi, by using a "giant map", explained the "Horizontal and Vertical Development of Bangkok". Dr Chaiyan Rajchagool gave a presentation on "Cultural Integration and Urban Coherence in Cultural Aspects". Other presentations talked about other aspects of Urban Coherence, such as the "Contribution from the Business Sector in Bangkok" (Mr. Sirichai Sakornratanakul, Import/Export Bank of Thailand and Win Mektripop, Foundation for Thailand's Rural Reconstruction Movement), "Urban Mobility" (Dr. Ralf Hasselbacher, Siemens Ltd. Thailand), "City Development of Bangkok" (Mr. Sompong Chirabundarnsook, Urban Planning, Bangkok Municipality) followed by a final presentation on "Eco-efficiency as a Coherence Principle: experiences from the Thai-German Programme for Enterprise Competitiveness" (Mr. Burghard Rauschelbach, GTZ, Thailand).



In the following three days, February 20th-22nd, participants were taken on **city excursions in Bangkok** led by Associate Prof. Dr. Sekson Yongvanit and Dr. Monsischa Bejrananda. The first day city excursion was a trip to the inner part and the old districts of Bangkok (Siam Centre, Central World, Pha TuNam, Kao Sarn Road, Chao Praya River, Tammasart University,

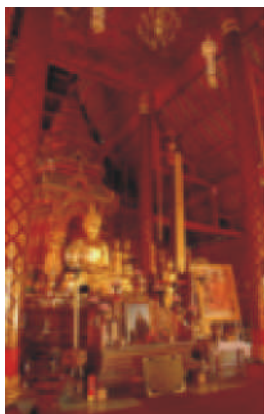
Pha Hurat, Pak Klong Talad, India Town, Tak Sin Bridge). In the second day Bangkok City excursion, the participants visited the Bang Krachao agricultural and natural conservation area of the city. In this area we had a chance to meet the actors and stakeholders such as the planning officers in the forestry department as well as developer's community representative. In the third day Bangkok City Excursion, the participants visited CODI (Community Organisation Development Institute) and were given a brief explanation about the programme and activities of CODI. During this visit participants were taken to the housing project site for the urban poor in Baan Mankong.



On the last day in Bangkok, February 23rd, member participants of each country discussed and deliberated on the **future activities of the ForUm Network**. The participants also made some **conclusions and reflections of the Bangkok urban development and coherence**.

At the beginning of the second week, February 24th, the Summer School activities moved to Chiang Mai. After lunch on the first day in Chiang Mai, we had a half day **city excursion**. Chiang Mai as a second destination city is well known for its night market selling cheap handicrafts. Prof.Dr. Manat Suwan brought the participants to look around the markets.

The first meeting in Chiang Mai, on February 25th, began with a welcome address by Prof. Dr. Seksin Sriwattananukulkit, Dean of the Faculty of Social Science, Chiang Mai University (CMU), followed by an introduction of the programme in Chiang Mai by Prof. Dr. Manat Suwan. **Presentations on Urban Coherence** from participants of the workshop was started with the group from Thailand namely Dr. Liwa Padthaisong (CMU) on the topic of "Challenges of Urban Population Development": Prof. Dr. Manat Suwan (Geography Department, CMU) on "Illegal Labour in Chiang Mai City: a problem that needs an official coherence"; Mr. Werner Kossmann (GTZ Thailand) on "Urban Waste Management and Social Cohesion"; and Mr Nopadon Thungsakui (Department of Geography, Khon Kaen University). on "Live and Work Together: Upgrading Urban Poor Housing in Khon Kaen Municipality". After lunch, presentations were continued by the participants from Indonesia and Myanmar. The topics from Indonesia included "Strengthening Urban Community Coherence" (by Rini Rachmawati, Faculty of Geography, Gadjah Mada University/GMU and Wadjarni, City



Planning Administration of Yogyakarta); “Coherence Relationship Among Academic-Business-Community and Government” (by Dr. Eni Harmayani and Mr. Harsoyo Oedijono, Faculty of Agriculture, GMU); “Urban coherence for Recovery of The Post Disaster Area” (by Mr. Raditya Jati, Yayasan Bintang, NGO); while the sole participant from Myanmar, Dr. Zin new Myint (Geography Department, Yangon University) presented a paper on “Formation of Local Tourist Management Organization”.

On the second day, February 26th, participants had an excellent overview of the planning and development processes in Chiang Mai by Prof. Dr. Sombat



Teeratrakuchai (Faculty of Architecture, Dept. of Urban Planning, CMU). This was followed by Prof. M.L. Surasawasdi's (CMU) paper on “Cultural Heritage and City Development in Chiang Mai City”; Dr. Suthinee Dontree's (CMU) paper on “Development and Urban Coherence in Chiang Mai City”; Dr Prasit Leepreecha's (CMU) paper on “Social Cohesion

and Ethnic Minorities in Chiang Mai City”; and finally an additional paper by Dr Dahrani on “The Roles of Mediating Groups in The Process of Adjustment to Urban Life: Rural Migrants in Bangkok Slums”. Then it was the Filipino's turn to present their papers starting with “Instituting Food Governance Principles in Land Tenure and Administration” by Mr. Danilo Antonio (ADB); “Modern Contraceptives Use and Urban Cohesion” by Dr. Noel, (CDO, CINREX, Capitol University Cagayan de Oro); “Improve the Environment by Urban Coherence” by Mrs. Roquesa Eduave, (CDO, City Local Environment and Natural Resources Office); and “Comprehensive Agricultural Development Plan” by Mrs Yvette Guanzon (CDO, Xavier University, Geoinformatics Centre). Presentations were continued by the contingent from Malaysia with “The Cost and Benefits of Urban Development” by Mr Tan Thean Siew, (Town Planning and Real Estate Management, Penang); and “The Unseen Walls of Ethnic Residential Compartmentalisation: an irreconcilable force in urban coherence” by Prof. Dr. Lee Boon Thong (Geography Department, University of Malaya).

The third day of presentation, February 27th, saw a paper from Cambodia entitled “Cambodian cities” which was presented by Mr. Lor Chunn Pau (Ministry of Land Management). The programme continued with a visit to the Chiang Mai Municipality to learn about City Development Programmes and then followed with an excursion to the suburban area in Chiang Mai to study housing development and illegal workers.

The last day's presentation, February 28th, began with a presentation from Laos entitled “Participatory Planning - New Master Plan for Vientiane (by Mr Thenekham Thongbon, Vientiane Ministry of Public Works and Transport). Two other presentations rounded up the entire Forum programme: one on a GIS project in the Philippines (by Mrs. Yvette Guanzon) and the other also on a GIS Summer School (by Mrs. Christine Knie). After the presentations, we continued on a group discussion on the future plans and activities of the Forum. Some agreements were expressed regarding a possible **book publication, strengthening joint research activities and enhanced cooperation and forming new interest groups**. The end of the Summer School programme in Thailand was a final **reflection and discussion on urban coherence by all participants**. It is anticipated that the discussion on urban coherence will continue with greater intensity in the next Summer School in October-November in Vietnam.

Participants and Presentations

Prof. Dr. Frauke Kraas, Germany, University of Cologne, Department of Geography:
"Urban Coherence and Social Cohesion", the topic of ForUm Network 2008

Dr. Chintana Chantachaeng (Mrs.), Thailand, German-Thai Chamber of Commerce, Bangkok:

German Thai Cooperation and Projects

Dr. Sompon Pornchokchai, Thailand, Thai Appraisal Foundation, Bangkok:

Housing developments and markets in Bangkok- Boom and busts of markets and land prices

Mr. Jan Stevener, Thailand, DAAD Information Centre Bangkok:

Structure, Programme and Network of the DAAD in Thailand

Mr. Kwansuang Atipodhi, Thailand, Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok:

1. Horizontal and Vertical Development of Bangkok
2. Social Cohesion and Urban Coherence in Thailand

Mr. Santisouk Phongsavan, Thailand, Population and Community Development Association (PDA), Bangkok, Chief Planning Officer of the Urban Health and AIDS Department:

Social Cohesion and the "AIDS Positive Partnership Programme" of the PDA

Dr. Chaiyan Rajchagool, Thailand, Chiang Mai University, Department of History:

Cultural integration and Urban coherence in cultural aspects

Mr. Sirichai Sakornratanakul, Bangkok, Import/Export Bank of Thailand (EXIM Thailand) and Win Mektripop, Foundation for Thailand Rural Reconstruction Movement:

Urban Coherence - contribution from business sector, the case of Bangkok

Dr. Ralf Hasselbacher, Bangkok, Siemens Ltd. Thailand: "Urban Mobility"

Mr. Sompong Chirabundarnsook, Urban Planning, Bangkok Municipality, Thailand:

City Development Bangkok

Mr. Burghard Rauschelbach, Bangkok, GTZ Thailand,

"Eco-efficiency as a coherence principle: experiences from the Thai-German Programme for Enterprise Competitiveness"

Mr. Din Somethearith, Cambodia, UN-Habitat, Phnom Penh:

Experiences of Urban Poverty and Housing in Cambodia

Mr. Ong Ratha, Cambodia, Ministry of Land Management, Phnom Penh

Mr. Nguyen Thanh Binh, Vietnam, Faculty of Urban-Natural Resource, Environmental Economics and Management

Dr. Liwa Padthaisong, Thailand, Chiang Mai University, Department of Geography: Challenges of Urban Population Development

Prof. Dr. Manat Suwan, Thailand, Chiang Mai University, Department of Geography:

Illegal Labourers in Chiang Mai City: A Problem that needs an official coherence

Mr. Werner Kossmann, GTZ Thailand: Urban Waste Management and Social Cohesion

Dr. Nopadon Thungsakul, Khon Kaen, Thailand, Department of Architecture, Univ. of Khon Kaen: Live and Work Together: Upgrading Urban Poor Housing in Khon Kaen Municipality

Mrs. Dra Wadjarni, Indonesia, City Planning Administration Yogyakarta and Mrs. Rini Rachmawati, Indonesia, Faculty of Geography, Gadjah Mada University, Yogyakarta:

Strengthening urban community coherence through participatory planning: Lessons Learned from Yogyakarta

Dr. Eni Harmayani, Indonesia, Faculty of Agriculture, Gadjah Mada University Yogyakarta and Mr. Harsoyo Oedijono, Indonesia, Gadjah Mada University Yogyakarta:

Coherence Relationship among Academe-Business-Community and Government

Mr. Raditya Jati, Indonesia, Yayasan Bintang, NGO Yogyakarta:

Urban Coherence for the Recovery of the Post Disaster Area: Lesson Learned from Aceh and Yogyakarta, Indonesia

Dr. Zin Nwe Myint, Myanmar, Geography Department, Yangon University:

Formation of Local Tourism Management Organization: An immediate solution for tourism development of Mrauk-U

Prof. Dr. Frauke Kraas, Germany, University of Cologne, Department of Geography:
"Urban Coherence and Social Cohesion", the topic of ForUm Network 2008

Dr. Chintana Chantachaeng (Mrs.), Thailand, German-Thai Chamber of Commerce, Bangkok:

German Thai Cooperation and Projects

Dr. Sompon Pornchokchai, Thailand, Thai Appraisal Foundation, Bangkok:

Housing developments and markets in Bangkok- Boom and busts of markets and land prices

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Dr. Chaiyan Rajchagool, Thailand, Chiang Mai University, Department of History:

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Mr. Sirichai Sakornratanakul, Bangkok, Import/Export Bank of Thailand (EXIM Thailand) and Win Mektripop, Foundation for Thailand Rural Reconstruction Movement:

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Dr. Ralf Hasselbacher, Bangkok, Siemens Ltd. Thailand: "Urban Mobility"

Mr. Sompong Chirabundarnsook, Urban Planning, Bangkok Municipality, Thailand:

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Mr. Nguyen Thanh Binh, Vietnam, Faculty of Urban-Natural Resource, Environmental Economics and Management

Dr. Liwa Padthaisong, Thailand, Chiang Mai University, Department of Geography: Challenges of Urban Population Development

Prof. Dr. Manat Suwan, Thailand, Chiang Mai University, Department of Geography:

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Mrs. Dra Wadjarni, Indonesia, City Planning Administration Yogyakarta and Mrs. Rini Rachmawati, Indonesia, Faculty of Geography, Gadjah Mada University, Yogyakarta:

Strengthening urban community coherence through participatory planning: Lessons Learned from Yogyakarta

Dr. Eni Harmayani, Indonesia, Faculty of Agriculture, Gadjah Mada University Yogyakarta and Mr. Harsoyo Oedijono, Indonesia, Gadjah Mada University Yogyakarta:

Coherence Relationship among Academic-Business-Community and Government

The Challenge of Urban Coherence

Prof. Dr. Frauke Kraas, Cologne University, Department of Geography

Excerpt of a presentation in the Summer School of ForUm Network, Cambodia 2007

<http://www.forum-urban-futures.net/activities/papers/urban-coherence>

Diversity of spaces, places, life styles, preferences Simultaneity of diverse sub-systems

- High dynamics of development
- Consequences: Disparities, fragmentation, tensions, conflicts. Loss of coherence, social cohesion, identity, responsibility. Diverse motivation, aims, direction of action of different stakeholders
- How to develop urban areas and societies coherently?
- How to handle different interests and spatial/socio-economic conflicts?

Urban coherence

Not yet a consistent theoretical concept on urban cohesion, it is still a visionary idea: challenge for us as a group of urban experts!

Terms: coherence, cohesion, connectivity, interaction, fitting, comprising:

- "fitting" of diverse, different developments
- complementing motives and directions of actors
- holistic, matching approaches
- fields of action
- integration of migrants, immigrants in urban society
- measurements of integration
- raising comprehensive quality of life
- formulate policies to solve these problems
- monitoring of social cohesion

Dimensions:

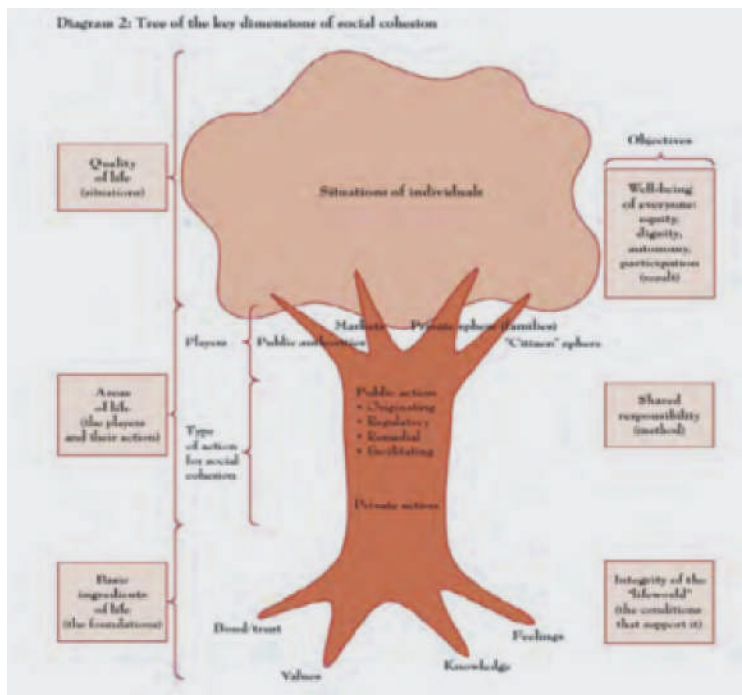
Physical Spatial - Economic Social Political - Cultural

At present most advanced: Concept of Social Coherence

Social cohesion of a modern society is a society's ability to secure the long term well-being of all its members. This includes equitable access to available resources, respect for human dignity with due regard for diversity, personal and collective autonomy and responsible participation.

A cohesive community is a community that has naturally many cross-links, where people from different race, age, background, feel free and glad to mix together in housing, in education, in leisure facilities. A cohesive community is one where:

- there is a common vision and a sense of belonging for all communities
- the diversity of people's different backgrounds and circumstances are appreciated and positively valued
- those from different backgrounds have similar life opportunities
- strong and positive relationships are being developed between people from different backgrounds in the workplace, in schools and within neighbourhoods



Council of Europe 2005

Five dimensions of social coherence (Jenson 1998: 15ff.):

1. Belonging: shared values, identity, commitment
2. Inclusion: equal opportunities of access
3. Participation
4. Recognition: respecting differences in pluralistic society
5. Legitimacy: acting in and with conflicts

Political demands to urban experts

1. Understanding of social cohesion should be further enhanced.
2. Social cohesion should be seen as a long term issue to be considered by all agencies, actors and stakeholders.
3. Local authorities and other public agencies need to develop a vision for the provision of services which ensures that they serve different communities.
4. Needs of vulnerable groups have to be particularly recognised.

http://www.coe.int/T/E/Social_cohesion/

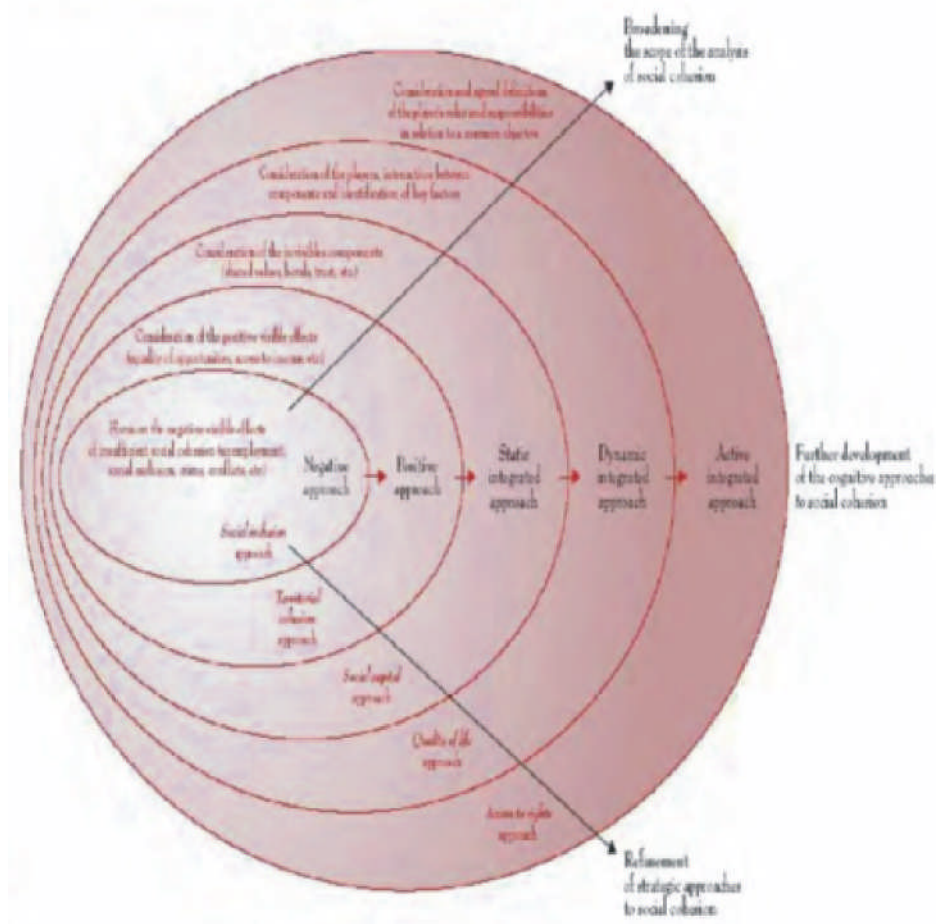


Table 6: Information needed on the six vulnerable groups with regard to their access to rights

Six vulnerable groups	The four dimensions of citizen well-being			
	Equity in respect of rights/ non-discrimination	Dignity/ recognition	Autonomy/ personal development	Participation/ commitment
Minorities	Absence of stigma	Integration into pluralist society	Assertion of identity	Participation in public life
Migrants	Absence of stigma	Image of immigrants Self-esteem	Non-separation of families	Migrants' organisations and institutions for the defence of their rights
Children	Access to education, housing and health care	Children's rights	Children's personal development	Participation in civic life Links between schools and society
Elderly people	Access to housing and services Decent income	Recognition of the role of elderly people	Possibility of living independently Absence of isolation	Participation in community life and social activities
People with disabilities	Adaptation of services Access to employment	Status of people with disabilities	Access to training, possibility of acquiring qualifications	Organisations of people with disabilities Participation
Women	Access to specific requirements – equal treatment	Dignity and recognition at work and in civic life	Equal opportunities	Women's organisations – participation in public life

Council of Europe 2005

Diagram 1: Progressive development of social cohesion strategies



Council of Europe 2005

Special Interest Groups

Summer School 2008 Thailand Chiang Mai, 02-28-08

(please note: all groups are open for additional interesting persons please send an e-mail to the coordinators and mention your interests as well!)

Urban Heritage	Mrs. Dra Wadjarni, Prof. Frauke Kraas, Dr. Zin Nwe Myint, Prof. Lee Boon Thong, Mr. Lor Chunn Pau, Dr. Noel Cornel Alegre, Mr. Ong Ratha, Mr. Tan Thean Siew, Ms. Ute Mann, Ms. Christine Knie, Mr. Kwansuang Atipodhi, Prof. Sekson Yongvanit, Dr. Eni Harmayani, Dr. Chaiyan Rajchagool
Urban Tourism	Mrs. Dra Wadjarni, Dr. Eni Harmayani, Prof. Frauke Kraas, Dr. Zin Nwe Myint, Prof. Lee Boon Thong, Mr. Nopadon Thungsakul, Prof. Sekson Yongvanit, Ms. Ute Mann, Ms. Christine Knie
Urban Social Forestry	Mrs. Roquesa Eduave, Ms. Christine Knie, Prof. Sekson Yongvanit, Mrs. Yvette Guanzon
Urban Spatial Structure	Mr. Jati Raditya, Mr. Nopadon Thungsakul, Mrs. Rini Rachmawati, Mr. Djaka Marwasta
Spatial mobility (movement) of people	Prof. Lee Boon Thong, Dr. Noel Cornel Alegre, Mrs. Rini Rachmawati
Urban Quality of Life	Dr. Eni Harmayani, Prof. Frauke Kraas, Dr. Zin Nwe Myint
Ethnic Segregation	Prof. Frauke Kraas, Prof. Lee Boon Thong, Prof. Manat Suwan, Prof. Noel Cornel Alegre, Mr. Tan Thean Siew
Green/Public Spaces + Urban public life	Mr. Nguyen Thanh Binh, Prof. Frauke Kraas, Mr. Kwansuang Atipodhi, Ms. Christine Knie, Mr. Jati Raditya, Mr. Nopadon Thungsakul, Mrs. Roquesa Eduave, Ms. Ute Mann, Mrs. Yvette Guanzon
Gated Communities	Mr. Nguyen Thanh Binh, Mr. Danilo Antonio, Prof. Frauke Kraas, Prof. Lee Boon Thong, Dr. Zin Nwe Myint
Waterfront Cities	Mr. Jati Raditya, Prof. Lee Boon Thong
Urban Environment	Mr. Danilo Antonio, Prof. Manat Suwan
Land tenure/management	Mr. Nguyen Thanh Binh, Mr. Danilo Antonio, Mr. Lor Chunn Pau, Dr. Noel Cornel Alegre, Mr. Ong Ratha, Mr. Tan Thean Siew
Urban Agriculture	Prof. Frauke Kraas, Mr. Oedijono Harsoyo, Mrs. Roquesa Eduave, Mrs. Yvette Guanzon, Dr. Zin Nwe Myint
Cost-Benefit Analysis of urban development	Mr. Tan Thean Siew
Slums/Informal Settlements	Mr. Nguyen Thanh Binh, Mr. Danilo Antonio, Mrs. Dra Wadjarni, Dr. Daranee Bunchorntavakul, Mr. Jati Raditya, Prof. Lee Boon Thong, Mr. Nopadon Thungsakul, Prof. Sekson Yongvanit
Urban-Rural Coherence	Dr. Daranee Bunchorntavakul, Dr. Eni Harmayani, Mr. Oedijono Harsoyo, Prof. Lee Boon Thong
Population/Demographic Issues (Urban Poors/Migrants)	Prof. Manat Suwan
GIS	Mr. Nguyen Thanh Binh, Ms. Christine Knie, Mr. Danilo Antonio, Mr. Oedijono Harsoyo, Mr. Jati Raditya, Mr. Lor Chunn Pau, Prof. Noel Cornel Alegre, Mr. Ong Ratha, Mrs. Roquesa Eduave, Mr. Tan Thean Siew, Mrs. Yvette Guanzon, Mr. Djaka Marwasta

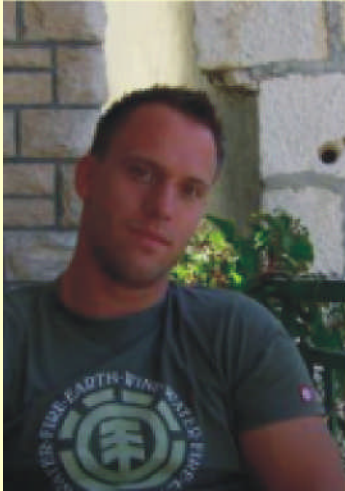
Funny Impressions of the ForUm Summer School in Thailand, Feb. 2008

With photos made by Prof. Dr. Sekson Yongvanit, Ute Mann and Raditya Jati



Christine

Upcoming internship of Swiss student at the Gadjah Mada University in Indonesia



My name is Sebastian Booz. I am 23 years old and I am studying Geography and Economics at Basel University, Switzerland. The course of studies in Geography at Basel as well as my work experience beyond the university pointed up clearly: Geographical work is manifold. The pluralisms and the openness of this discipline which unifies various subjects, conceptualized traditions, methodologies, cognitive interests etc., require the practices with undetermined knowledge structures. Therefore, I am sure, learning or getting to know of these different "Geographies" is a crucial condition for my future occupational career. Besides taking part in lectures and seminars at the university I try to gain applied experiences by putting my theoretical knowledge into practice.

As I am very interested in urban and regional development in Southeast Asia and its multi-factored socio-economic dimensions, impacts and dynamics, I started to learn more about ForUm via its internet platform. After studying the different fields of activities and interests of the ForUm-members, I decided to ask Mr. Khanh Hung Duong from the Geography Department whether or not there are possibilities of doing an internship in Indonesia. With his advice I started preparing my short CV and a letter of interest. Then I kindly send my request for an internship to some of the ForUm-members. It was finally Mrs Christine Knie who made contact to Dr. Sartohadi from the Geography Faculty at Gadjah Mada University. Because I am used to work with GIS and remote sensing data analysis Dr. Sartohadi gives me the opportunity to join the Yogyakarta Risk Management Project at UGM which is under his supervision. I am really happy about this great chance, and I am so much looking forward to being actively involved in this international project at UGM. There are still many questions that need to be clarified before coming to Yogyakarta in June 2008 for a 4 month period. So far, I know that I will be appointed for GIS and remote sensing work in the fields of geomorphology and land use. I also know that I will be involved in a team of the faculty of Geography. Again, this is a great opportunity for me to get hands-on experience in a research group.

There is another reason which drives me to go to Indonesia: The internship also offers the opportunity to improve my intercultural skills. I have just been to China and Pearl River Delta taking part in a 3-week excursion led by the Geographical Institute of the University of Basel. During this trip our focus was on urban regions under strong influences of economic globalization. I was fascinated by the dynamic and powerful development of the region. But without the strong exchange interaction with Chinese students (who visited us in 2006) we wouldn't have learned that much that we did. For me, gaining experiences in foreign cultures is therefore very important.

The last part of my studies has just begun, and the upcoming intern in Yogyakarta will surely be a highlight. I have heard and read a lot about this place that was hardly affected by the 2006 earthquake (thanks for the nice presentations from your Yogya-Seminar which I could download from your webpage). I am very curious about my stay and I am looking forward to meeting the friendly and open minded people from Indonesia.

To a certain extend my intention would not be possible without your ForUm-network as it was my starting point to check and to comb through the useful information offered by your webpage. Of course, I would like to thank all those who gave me their great assistance.

I send my best wishes from Basel to all of you at this time and hope to meet the Indonesian friends soon.

Sebastian Booz

Review on activities in and around ForUm Network 2007

Hung and Christine

“Urban Driving Forces” has been the main issue of our Summer Schools in the Philippines and in Cambodia in 2007. An instructive range of expert presentations were given and deeply discussed, and impressive excursions in Manila, Cagayan de Oro, Phnom Penh and Siem Reap highlighted the different hands-on experiences of urban driving forces. The valuable contributions and inputs of the participants led to a conceptualisation of a “Multi Layered DF Model” as a tentative theoretical approach. This model provides a cross-country framework for mutual understanding incorporating different ideas and perspectives on urban driving forces. Finally, a **book publication** of scientific articles on Urban Driving Forces is collecting the various expertises of the network participants.



It is an indication of our active network group that ForUm has been enriched until February 2008 by more than **30 new participants** and **new contacts** to academic organisations, institutions of city administration and development as well as organisations of international cooperation, like GTZ, DED, ECC, UNHABITAT, etc. **New ideas** have been born and need to be further developed like “excursion guides”, “country pages” on our ForUm homepage (www.geographie.uni-koeln.de/projects/urban-future), international e-conferences and additional expert seminars about specific topics like “urban heritage” and “land management”. Under the umbrella of ForUm network, partners from Asia and Africa will have the chance to join a method-oriented “**GIS - Summer School**”, supported by DAAD, in autumn 2008 in Vientiane, Lao PDR (call for papers and more detailed information is coming soon).

Exchange activities expanded by using the existing network contacts and **new network meshes** have been tied. Prof. Lee and his students visited Yogyakarta /Indonesia, and the colleagues at Gadjah Mada University arranged a **student excursion** programme for the guests from Malaysia. Dr. Monsicha Bej from King Monkuts Institute in Bangkok went with a group of students to Malaysia and visited Prof. Lee who guided the group and arranged an excellent field trip in Kuala Lumpur and the Klang Valley Corridor (see newsletter No.7).

Due to the short lines of communication within the ForUm network an **internship** in the field of risk reduction and disaster management in Yogyakarta/Indonesia could be arranged for Mr. Sebastian Booz, a Swiss Geography M.Sc. student at Basel University (see also page 15). Mrs. Adiyanti Sutandyo-Buchholz joined the “SPRING Colloquium” at the Faculty of Spatial Planning, University of Dortmund, with a **scientific presentation** about Solid Waste Management in Periurban Areas of Jakarta. The Geography Department of Cologne University was glad to host Dr. Zin Nwe Myint from Myanmar and Dr. Monsicha Bej from Thailand who both came for a **study visit** and collected material for their specific research topics. Dr. Zin Nwe stayed for one semester at the Department of Geography and gave a **guest lecture** for German Geography students on Urban Growth and related problems in Myanmar.

2007 was the first year within our three-step approach to urbanisation and urban futures in SEA. We have strengthened our network activities. Surely, according to the complexity of urbanism and urban processes we have dealt with controversial standpoints, and in some cases there may still be inconsistencies (rather than contradictions). All these activities have widened our individual perspectives, and we have developed a structure providing mutual understanding on “Urban Driving Forces”, a structure that will serve as a basis for the following years when „Urban Coherence“ and „Urban Civil Society“ will turn to our focus of interest.

New Summer School Participants in Cambodia, Oct. 07 and Thailand, Feb. 08
(new participants from Summer School Philippines, March 2006 see NL 6)

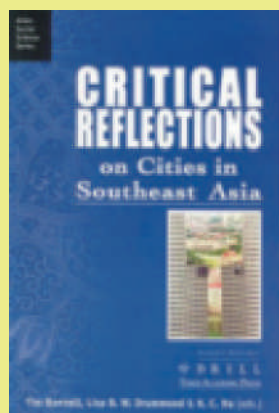
Cambodia				Germany
Mrs. Keo Davy Coordinator Urban Poverty Reduction Unit (UPRU), Phnom Penh Municipality 	Mrs. Beng Buneth Vice-Dean Ministry of Land Management, Urban Planning and Construction 	Ms. Ly Dara Volunteer Volunteer Housing Rights Task Force (HRF) 	Mr. Ong Ratha Department of Land Management and Urban Planning 	Ms. Ute Mann Junior Researcher Department of Geography, Uni. Cologne 
Indonesia		Lao PDR		Malaysia
Dr. Apriliana Laily Fitri Lecturer Negeri Jakarta University, Jakarta 	Dra. Wadjarni Prasadjati Rasdan Regional Development Planning Board of Yogyakarta 	Mr. Sompong Sitthivong ADB- Loan Small Towns Water, Supply Project, Vientiane 	Dr. Maysi Phommasonne Managing Director Lao-German Company, Vientiane 	Mrs. Lee Mei Ming Lecturer University of Malaya Kuala Lumpur, 
Philippines	Thailand			
Mr. Danilo Antonio Deputy Director Land Management and Administration Project, Manila 	Mr. Kwansuang Atipodhi Network on Research and Development of Civil Society, Bangkok 	Dr. Daranee Bunchornthavakul Head of Department Department of Urban Plan. Chulalongkorn University 	Dr. Chaiyan Rajchagool Lecturer Department of History Chiang Mai University 	Dr. Nopadon Thungsakul Lecturer Faculty of Architecture Khon Kaen University 
Vietnam	Mynmar			
Mr. N. Thanh Binh Lecturer Faculty of Urban-Natural Resource), Hanoi 	Dr. Zin Nwe Myint Lecturer Geography Department- Yangon University 			

Literature Recommendation

Critical Reflections on Cities in Southeast Asia

Edited by Tim Bunnell, Lisa B.W. Drummond and K.C. Ho (2002)

ISBN 981 210 192 6 Singapore: Times Academic Press, Leiden :Brill (paperback, 351 pages)



About this book:

Critical Reflections draws together the multi-disciplinary research of scholars working in/on cities across Southeast Asia. The fourteen essays collected in the volume are organised into three thematic sections: (re)conceptualisation, competition and intervention. Collectively, these reflections contribute to and interrogate the expanding urban and regional studies literature. The volume constitutes a critical corrective to the existing literature which all-too-often seeks to diagnose contemporary urban trends everywhere from a small number of, mostly Western, "paradigmatic cases". Yet, while acknowledging the increasing interconnectedness and shared global orientation of most cities in Southeast Asia, the volume is wary of positing an equally generalising regional model. Individually, these essays attend to the diversity of contemporary urban experiences in Southeast Asia (Source: National University of Singapore, <http://www.fas.nus.edu.sg/>).

These 12 revised essays originated from a July 2000 National University of Singapore workshop, which addressed issues being faced by Southeast Asian cities. The first section focuses on (re-)conceptualising cities in the region, including the impact of globalisation, telematic and multimedia changes, and national ideologies. The second group looks at competition between cities in relation to foreign investment and its preconditions. The remaining four papers address the nature and background of local priorities and interventions including civic, pro-tourism and anti-poverty activities. Each paper is referenced; together they explore a great range of knowledge and futurology (Source: <http://www.selectbooks.com>).

See also background paper for book publication:

Ho, K.C. (2002): Globalization and Southeast Asian Urban Futures. In: Asian Journal of Social Science, Vol. 30, No. 1, pp. 1-7.

[Http://www.springerlink.com/content/q2m57087h0044538/fulltext.pdf](http://www.springerlink.com/content/q2m57087h0044538/fulltext.pdf) (free download)



UNFPA state of world population of 2007

Unleashing the Potential of Urban Growth

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United Nations Population Fund

Thoraya Achmed Obaid, Executive Director

Introduction

Peering into the Dawn of an Urban Millennium

In 2008, the world reaches an invisible but momentous milestone: For the first time in history, more than half its human population, 3.3 billion people, will be living in urban areas. By 2030, this is expected to swell to almost 5 billion. Many of the new urbanites will be poor. Their future, the future of cities in developing countries, the future of humanity itself, all depend very much on decisions made now in preparation for this growth.

While the world's urban population grew very rapidly (from 220 million to 2.8 billion) over the 20th century, the next few decades will see an unprecedented scale of urban growth in the developing world. This will be particularly notable in Africa and Asia where the urban population will double between 2000 and 2030: That is, the accumulated urban growth of these two regions during the whole span of history will be duplicated in a single generation. By 2030, the towns and cities of the developing world will make up 81 per cent of urban humanity.

Urbanizationthe increase in the urban share of total populationis inevitable, but it can also be positive. The current concentration of poverty, slum growth and social disruption in cities does paint a threatening picture: Yet no country in the industrial age has ever achieved significant economic growth without urbanization. Cities concentrate poverty, but they also represent the best hope of escaping it...

http://www.unfpa.org/swp/2007/presskit/pdf/sowp2007_eng.pdf (free download)