



United Cities and
Local Governments
Asia-Pacific

CLIMATE CHANGE: THE CHALLENGES FOR LOCAL AND TERRITORIAL DEVELOPMENT IN ASIA-PACIFIC

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ABOUT US



The International Union of Local Authorities (IULA) was established in 1913 in Belgium, while IULA ASPAC, headquartered in Jakarta, Indonesia was set up in September 1989. Secretariat is hosted by Jakarta City Government.

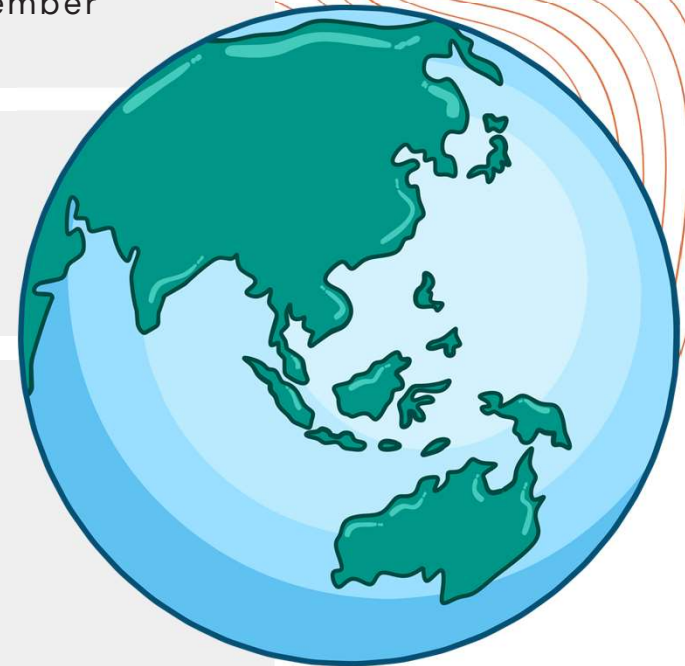


UCLG ASPAC was established in Taipei on 14 April 2004, as the new entity of IULA ASPAC.

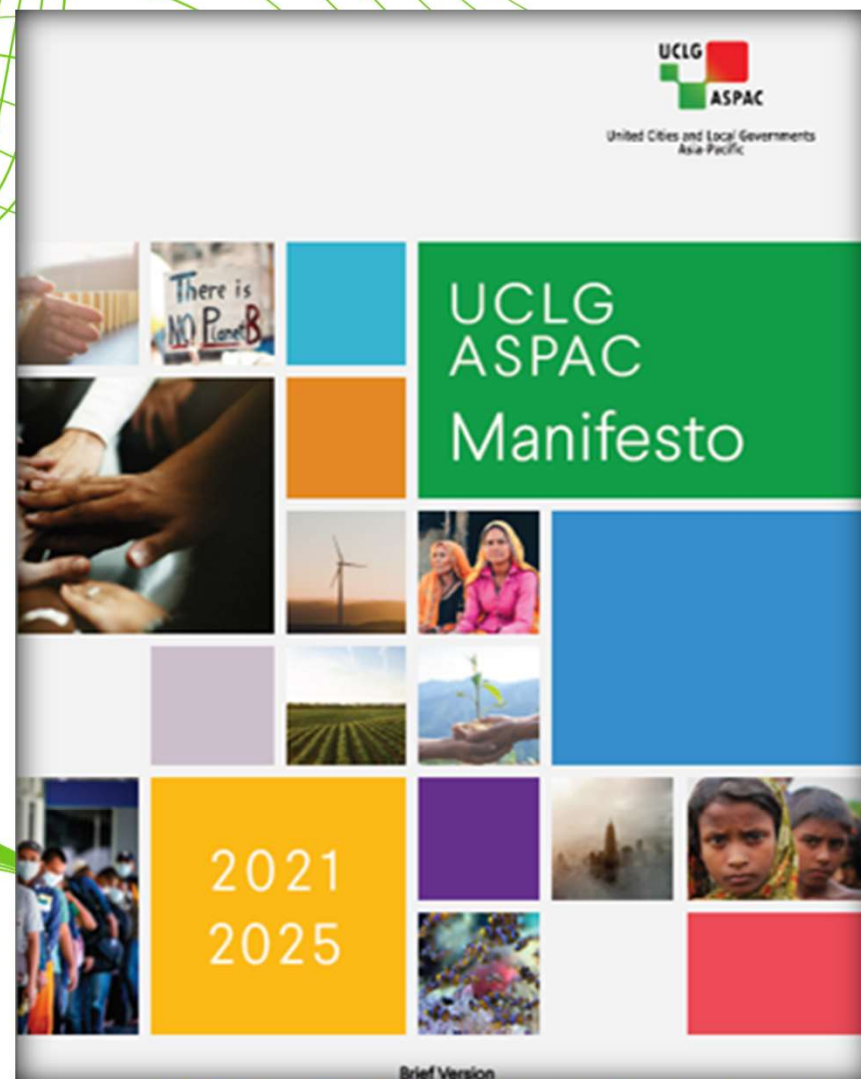


The Asia and Pacific region is the biggest regional Section in UCLG, linkages to more than 10,000 local governments. UCLG ASPAC represents well over 3.76 billion people.

All the regional sections of UCLG are decentralised.



- 1 Promote Effective Democratic Self-Government and Good Governance
- 2 Equal and Adequate Basic Services to Improve Quality of Life and City Resilience
- 3 Put Global/Regional Agendas and National Commitments into Effective Local Implementation
- 4 Aggregate, elevate and advocate for local voices and issues to national, regional and global levels
- 5 Empower and Enable COVID-19 Recovery and Resilience for Local Governments and Cities
- 6 Strengthen performance and service delivery of the Secretariat in order to achieve the aspiration of Manifesto 2020-2025



UCLG ASPAC STANDING COMMITTEES & COMMITTEES



STANDING COMMITTEE FOR
SOUTHEAST ASIA



STANDING COMMITTEE OF SOUTH
AND SOUTHWEST ASIA



FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT
COMMITTEE

PROMOTE & STRENGTHEN WOMEN LEADERS &
GENDER RESPONSIVE & PARTICIPATORY
PLANNING & BUDGETING



STANDING COMMITTEE WOMEN IN
LOCAL GOVERNMENTS



CULTURE COMMITTEE

MODALITIES: C2C or LG2LG Cooperation, peer-
to-peer learning, practical training on planning and
management.



LOGISTIC COMMITTEE
(NEXT PLAN)



HDP NEXUS COMMITTEE



UCLG ASPAC TOURISM COMMITTEE

**Standing Committee and the Committee are the
modalities of the implementations of actions
related to the thematic local cooperation**



BELT AND ROAD LOCAL
COOPERATION (BRLC) COMMITTEE



21ST CENTURY MARITIME
COOPERATION COMMITTEE
(21CMCC)



CIRCULAR
ECONOMY
COMMITTEE

**Several Committees are led by the Chinese Local
Governments (BRLC, 21CMCC, SCWLG, UATC, and to
be established a Logistic Committee) at the UCLG
ASPAC Congress in Yiwu, China, 13-15 Nov 2023**

PROGRAMMES AND PROJECTS



**CLIMATE
RESILIENT
AND INCLUSIVE
CITIES**

Climate Resilient and Inclusive Cities (CRIC) Project

The objective is to propose a long-lasting and unique cooperation between cities and research centres in Europe, Indonesia, and other countries from Southeast Asia, and to contribute substantially to sustainable integrated urban development, good governance, and climate adaptation/mitigation through long-lasting partnerships, and tools such as sustainable local action plans, early warning system tools, and experts panels. The CRIC Project is implemented in 10 pilot cities in Indonesia.

Results: Creation of multi-stakeholders climate task force at 10 cities, development of Climate Action Plans (CAPs), climate inventory, etc.



**GLOBAL COVENANT
of MAYORS for
CLIMATE & ENERGY**

Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy | Southeast Asia Secretariat

An international alliance of cities and local governments with a shared long-term vision of promoting and supporting voluntary action to combat climate change and move to a low-emission and resilient society. More than 227 city signatories in Asia.

PROGRAMMES AND PROJECTS



Urban-Act

Urban-Act: Integrated Urban Climate Action for Low Carbon and Resilient Cities

Urban-Act as an ambitious 4-year Collaborative Climate Action (CCA) support programme aims to strengthen the CCA and enhance the capacities of city governments to engage in a meaningful way in climate change dialogues and implementation across the programme's countries and within the region. This programme is funded by the German Government International Climate Initiative (IKI) and led by a consortium of partners including GIZ, UNESCAP, UCLG ASPAC, and universities (IREUS, TU Dortmund). It promotes climate vertical integration.

Target Countries: Indonesia, India, Philippines, China, Thailand



MuNASS II

Municipalities Network Advocacy on Sanitation in South Asia (MuNASS)

MuNASS Phase II objective is to strengthen the capacity of local municipal associations and municipalities on sanitation (SDG 6.2). MuNASS has assisted in the implementation of sanitation and investment plans, improving sanitation policy framework through collaboration with stakeholders as well as in developing the accessibility of financial options through different funding mechanisms. the project focuses Bangladesh and Nepal and shortly will be upscaled to Asia-Pacific region.

PROGRAMMES AND PROJECTS



Localise SDGs in Indonesia

The LOCALISE SDGs programme is supported by grants from the EU Indonesia, and implemented by UCLG ASPAC, in collaboration with the Association of Indonesian City Governments (APEKSI) and involving other LGAs of executive and legislative bodies (DPRDs), APPSI, APKASI, ADEKSI, and ADKASI. This programme aims to strengthen the capacity of local governments and their associations in implementing SDGs in 16 provinces and 14 cities in Indonesia, as well as networking with local and foreign local governments and other development actors.

Although the grant ended in 2021, the programme is continued. These include the development of VLR (Surabaya and Jakarta) and VSR Indonesia which were included in VNR Indonesia to show the perspective of LGs.



LEAD for SDGs

Local Empowerment, Advocacy and
Development for SDGs Localisation in Pakistan

LEAD for SDGs

LEAD for SDGs Project is localising the SDGs in Pakistan. UCLG ASPAC is committed to strengthening the local governments' roles in Pakistan in achieving the SDGs in the country. In Collaboration with the Association for Development of Local Governance in Pakistan (ADLG), the programme has been contributing to the progress of the localising of SDGs.

Result: Production of VSR Pakistan, more than 600 representatives of local governments and other local stakeholders were trained on SDGs, etc.

PROGRAMMES AND PROJECTS



ASEAN Mayors Forum (AMF)

AMF was originally conceived in 2011 when visionary mayors in Southeast Asia met for the first time in Surabaya, Indonesia, to demonstrate the importance of local contributions to ASEAN's regional integration.

Facilitated by UCLG ASPAC, the Forum has gained prominence since 2015, with successive AMF meetings to discuss the ASEAN community building and how LGs/Mayors/Governors can help accelerate its progress and benefits for citizens. In 2018, AMF was accredited as an entity associated with ASEAN, due to ASEAN member states official recognition of its common goals and contribution to the ASEAN's community building.



Jakarta Resilient City (Jakarta Berketahanan)

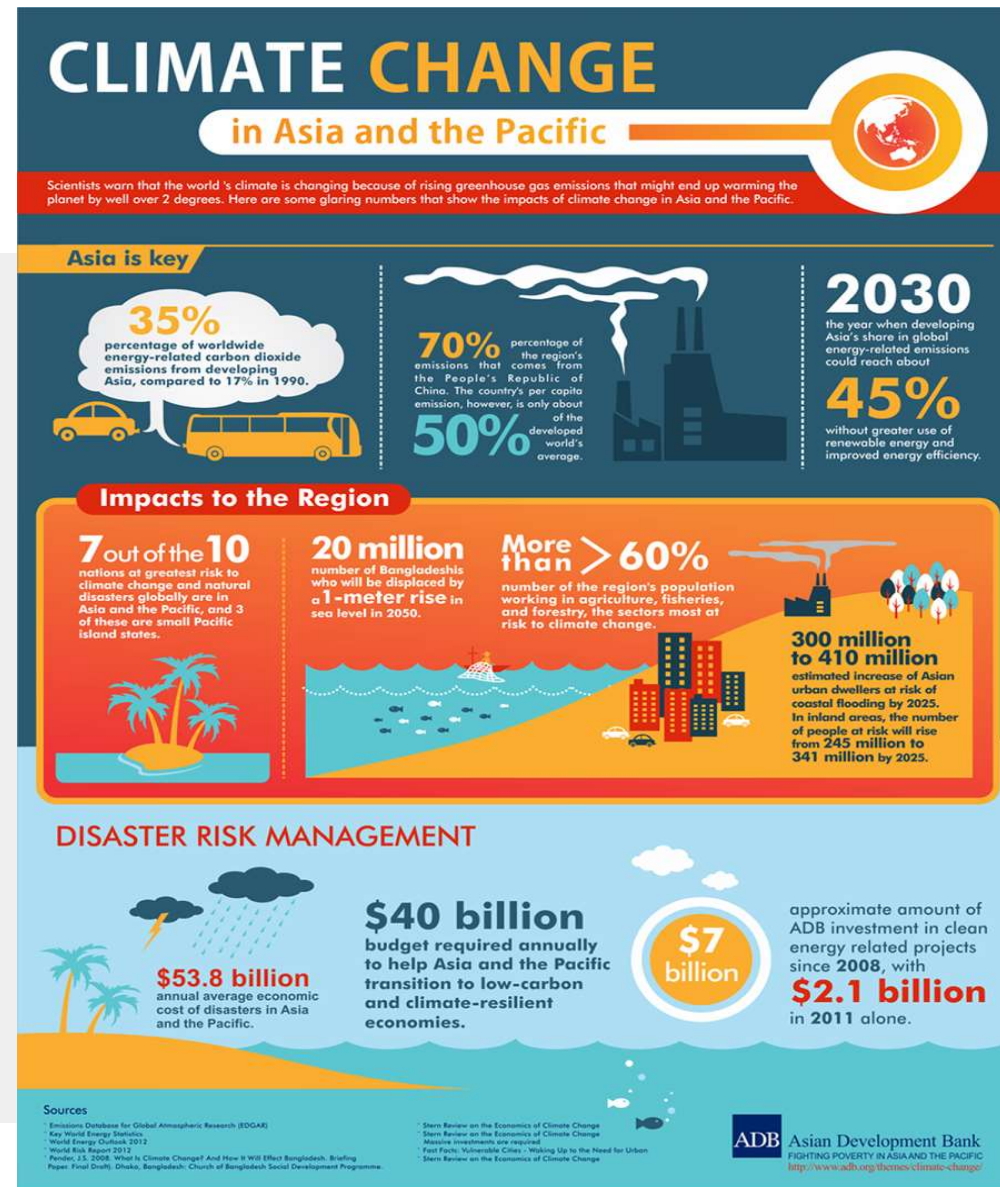
The 100 Resilient Cities Programme in the world/100 Resilient Cities (100RC) is a programme pioneered by The Rockefeller Foundation in 2013 which aims to help cities that are members of its network to be resilient in the face of increasing social, economic, and physical city challenges and issues, including globalisation, urbanization, and climate change. This programme supports and facilitates 100 cities that are its members to (i) identify and analyse social, economic and physical problems of cities; (ii) obtain service assistance from 100RC partners in building city resilience; and (iii) increase understanding of the concept of resilience and increasing the implementation of this concept globally.

CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACT

Cities:

- **Occupy 3%** of land space
- Produce **50%** of land waste
- Account for **60–80%** of GHG Emissions
- **Consume 75%** Natural Resources
- Produce **80%** of GDP

Source: Global Green Growth Institute



CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS ON HUMAN SYSTEMS IN ASIA AND THE PACIFIC



Unabated climate change would bring devastating consequences to countries in Asia and the Pacific, with the temperature increase over the Asian landmass expected to reach 6 degree Celsius by the end of the century under a business-as-usual scenario.

9 of the 10

countries with the most people living in vulnerable low-lying areas are in Asia.

FUTURE SCENARIOS

BUSINESS-AS-USUAL

Effective adaptation no longer possible

Expected temperature increase over land in Asia by the end of the century

6 DEGREE CELSIUS

CLIMATE CHANGE EFFECTS



BY SECTOR



VS

PARIS CONSENSUS

Expected temperature increase over land in Asia by the end of the century

1.5 TO 2 DEGREE CELSIUS

POSITIVE

Greater scope and potential for adaptation
More time to adapt
Reduced risk of crossing a tipping point
Most severe impacts on human systems averted

NEGATIVE

Even with a 2°C rise in global temperature
• Almost all coral reefs in Asia will still experience bleaching
• Uncertain shift in precipitation patterns will still be experienced and may have negative impacts on water availability
• Sea level rise will be a significant challenge

IMPACT ON HUMAN SYSTEMS

AGRICULTURE

50%

by which rice yields in Indonesia, the Philippines, Thailand, and Viet Nam could decline without efforts to combat climate change



MARINE ECOSYSTEMS

\$58 bn

of estimated cumulative loss in value of reef-related fisheries in Southeast Asia from 2000-2050 with unabated climate change



HUMAN HEALTH

26k

annual child deaths (under 5 years of age) will be caused by undernutrition attributable to climate change by 2030



URBAN AREAS

10 times

increase in the number of hot days in the fast-growing cities in Asia and the Pacific by the end of 21st century



CLIMATE LOSSES

\$52 bn

average global flood losses expected by 2050



Sources: Asian Development Bank

Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research

LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AS CRITICAL ACTORS TO TACKLE THE CLIMATE CHANGE

- Climate change is caused by human activities. The Local governments know better the local situation and are closest to the people, so they understand the needs and priorities of the communities.
- Local government is a strategic partner as they can work with citizens, businesses, CBOs, and NGOs, and academe at the horizontal level, and with the national government at the vertical level.
- They can leverage the partnerships and promote a multi-level governance system. The creation of the Climate Change Task Force at 10 pilot cities of CRIC demonstrates the cooperation of local governments and various other stakeholders in planning climate actions.
- LG can provide effective leadership for their citizens because they have an opportunity to catalyze and sustain behavioral change at individual and community levels for building community resilience.

WHY LOCAL GOVERNMENTS ARE THE KEY ACTORS IN TALD

- Local governments are political actors, they are not just managerial entities – they have a role in planning, initiating, promoting, and guiding local development (the principle of TALD).
- Local governments can contribute to development as the key partners of the national government by ensuring that development initiatives target the needs and priorities of citizens.
- Local government service delivery is critical in ensuring social economic growth as well as addressing poverty and inequality. They can mobilise additional resources from citizens, the private sector, and development partners.
- LGs and LGAs can provide capacity development training to enhance the knowledge in climate change among their units, and advocacy for climate actions at national and regional levels.



HOW DOES UCLG ASPAC TAKE PART IN THE LGS ISSUE?

Training for Trainers

Empowered and built the capacity of dedicated LRGs staff. These staff will serve as focal points to promote and anchor decentralized cooperation; SDGs localisation and capacity building for climate action plan strategy

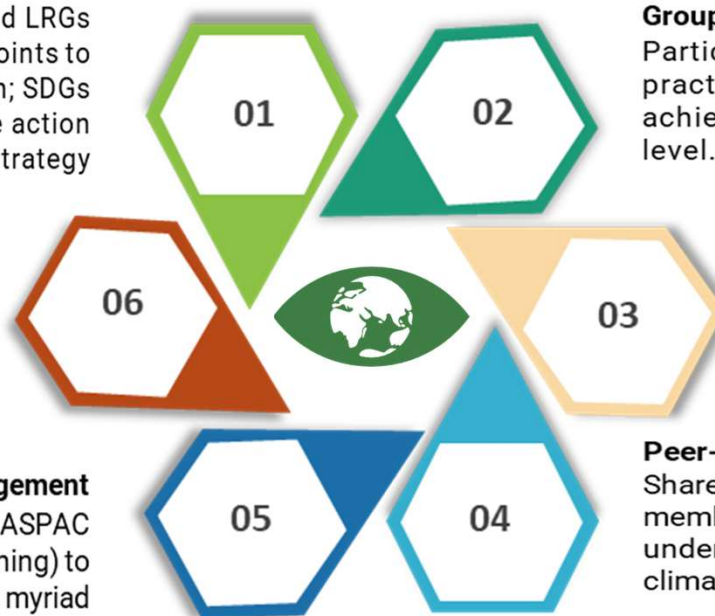
Programme Evaluation

Measured tangible outcomes of the project and capture lessons learned to benefit any future initiatives.

Knowledge Engagement

Utilise the platform of knowledge (UCLG ASPAC Dashboard, social media, website, and e-learning) to update cities and local governments with myriad activities and programme.

Establishing city-to-city cooperation as part of decentralized cooperation plays an essential part of the SDGs localisation process, which opens new fields and opportunities in international actions of the local and regional governments (LRGs).



Group Discussion

Participants shared experiences that can give practical know-how and case studies on achieving sustainable development at the local level.

Policy Brief

Arranged a policy brief that can be applied by local governments

Peer-to-Peer Learning

Share the good practice among the members and beyond to get comprehensive understanding in attaining the SDGs and climate action mitigation strategy

City Enabling Environment: An assessment that allows local governments to benchmark themselves against the minimum standards required for cities and local authorities to contribute significantly to the effective management of urbanisation

Context of City Enabling Environment (CEE): Challenges of the Global Development Agenda

Figure 2.1
URBAN POPULATION OF METROPOLITAN, INTERMEDIARY, & SMALL CITIES BY REGION

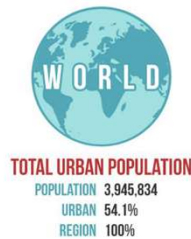
Population figures are in ('000)
(Number of units, inhabitants, % inhabitants by type of settlement/total urban population by region, % inhabitants of type of settlement/ world population of this type of settlement) - (% total population and % of world urban population)

METROPOLITAN AREAS (NO. 503)
• Population 1,626,455
• Urban 41.2%
• Region 100%

METROPOLITAN AREAS (NO. 228)
• Population 816,690
• Urban 44%
• Region 50.2%

INTERMEDIARY CITIES (NO. 4,222)
• Population 642,118,740
• Urban 34.6%
• Region 45.1%

SMALL TOWNS
• Population 397,189
• Urban 21.4%
• Region 44.3%



INTERMEDIARY CITIES (NO. 8,923)
• Population 1,423,282
• Urban 36.1%
• Region 100%

SMALL TOWNS
• Population 896,875
• Urban 22.7%
• Region 100%



*Realities & challenges
brought by
urbanisations, layers of
local governments*

vis-à-vis

*The promise &
challenges of global
development agenda*



4CS APPROACH

- **COHERENCE** of policies across national sectoral policies. Across different themes and ministries, the ultimate goal for sustainable development should encompass coherent efforts, also keeping in mind the balance of the economic, environmental and social dimensions;
- **COHESION** of national and subnational plans and strategies, paying the necessary attention to specific needs of subnational regions, particularly those that lag behind, in order to ensure more integrated and balanced regional growth and social cohesion;
- **COORDINATION** between national and subnational level to align strategies and ensure the necessary support to action at the subnational level. Mechanisms for multi-level governance also need to be considered for coordination among sub-national and local governments;
- **COOPERATION** among all levels of government and with all stakeholders will be key to the success of the 2030 Agenda. Establishing partnerships and involving civil-society, business, academia and local communities should be at the heart of the implementation efforts of subnational and local governments.

Figure 2.5 Roadmap for localising SDGs

The 2030 Agenda is a product of unprecedented global consultation and dialogue, in which local and regional governments have actively participated. Given the critical roles of cities and local governments in realising the Agendas, UCLG ASPAC has developed a roadmap for local governments to localise SDGs. Localisation SDGs refers to the process of adapting, implementing and monitoring the SDGs at the local level, taking into account subnational contexts.

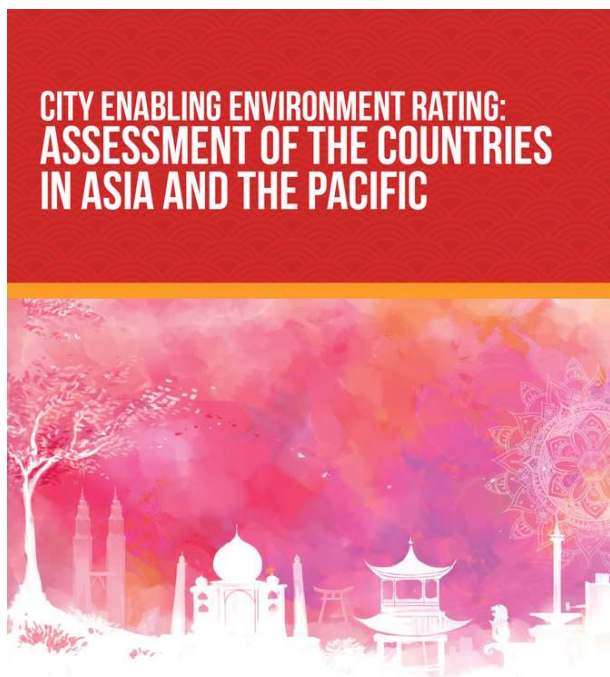


This roadmap is a tool which cities and local governments can apply to internalise the indicators of SDGs and strengthen their roles as key contributors. Once a roadmap has been set up, cities and local governments will be able to implement these global targets and indicators consistently according to the local context.

Source: UCLG ASPAC, 2016, *Roadmap for localising SDGs for local governments*

Source: UNFPA, 2014, *World Urbanization Prospects: The 2014 Revision*

CITY ENABLING ENVIRONMENT RATING IN ASIA PACIFIC



Why CEE Rating?

Catalyze Public Debate on
Urban Policy

Create Conducive
Environments

Increase Effectiveness in Urban
Management

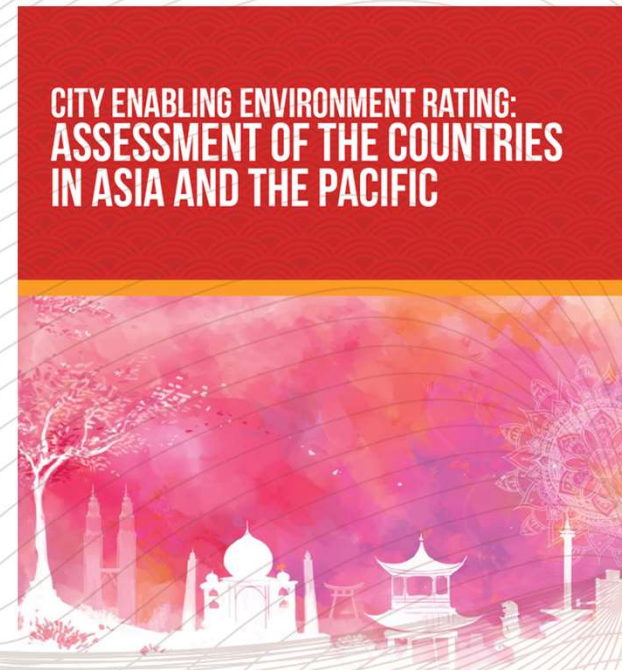
Productive, sustainable and inclusive
development

Helps Cities and Local Authorities Determine Actions at
National Level

City Enabling Environment: An assessment that allows local government to benchmark themselves against the minimum standards required for cities and local authorities to contribute significantly to effective management of urbanisation

WHAT A CITY ENABLING ENVIRONMENT (CEE) RATING FOR UCLG ASPAC

- Previous CEE Rating for Asia Pacific countries was published in 2018, which undertakes an assessment of the national institutional enabling environment for local governments in Asia & the Pacific to play an effective role in managing urbanisation.
- It allows us to identify and monitor the gaps in policy and institutional frameworks that are impacting local governments, particularly in the implementation of the SDGs.
- The rating analysis helps countries to draw lessons from each other and stimulates dialogue between ministers, mayors and development partners on the state of decentralisation.
- It helps local governments advocate with higher tiers of government for actions to increase effectiveness in urban management.



CITY ENABLING ENVIRONMENT (CEE) RATING ASIA PACIFIC

HOW WILL IT WORK?



30 Asia Pacific Countries



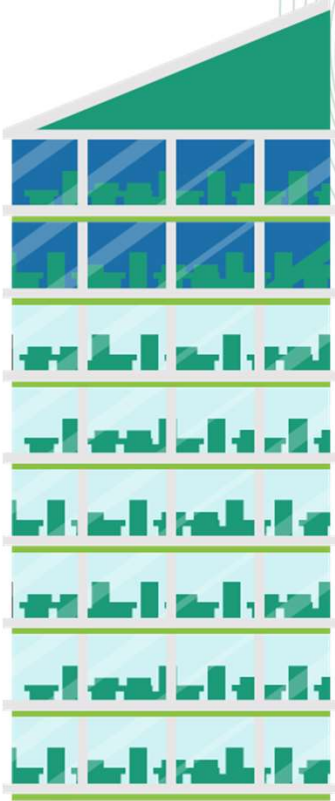
It adopts a **qualitative approach** by assessing countries on a scale from 1 (least effective) to 4 (most effective).



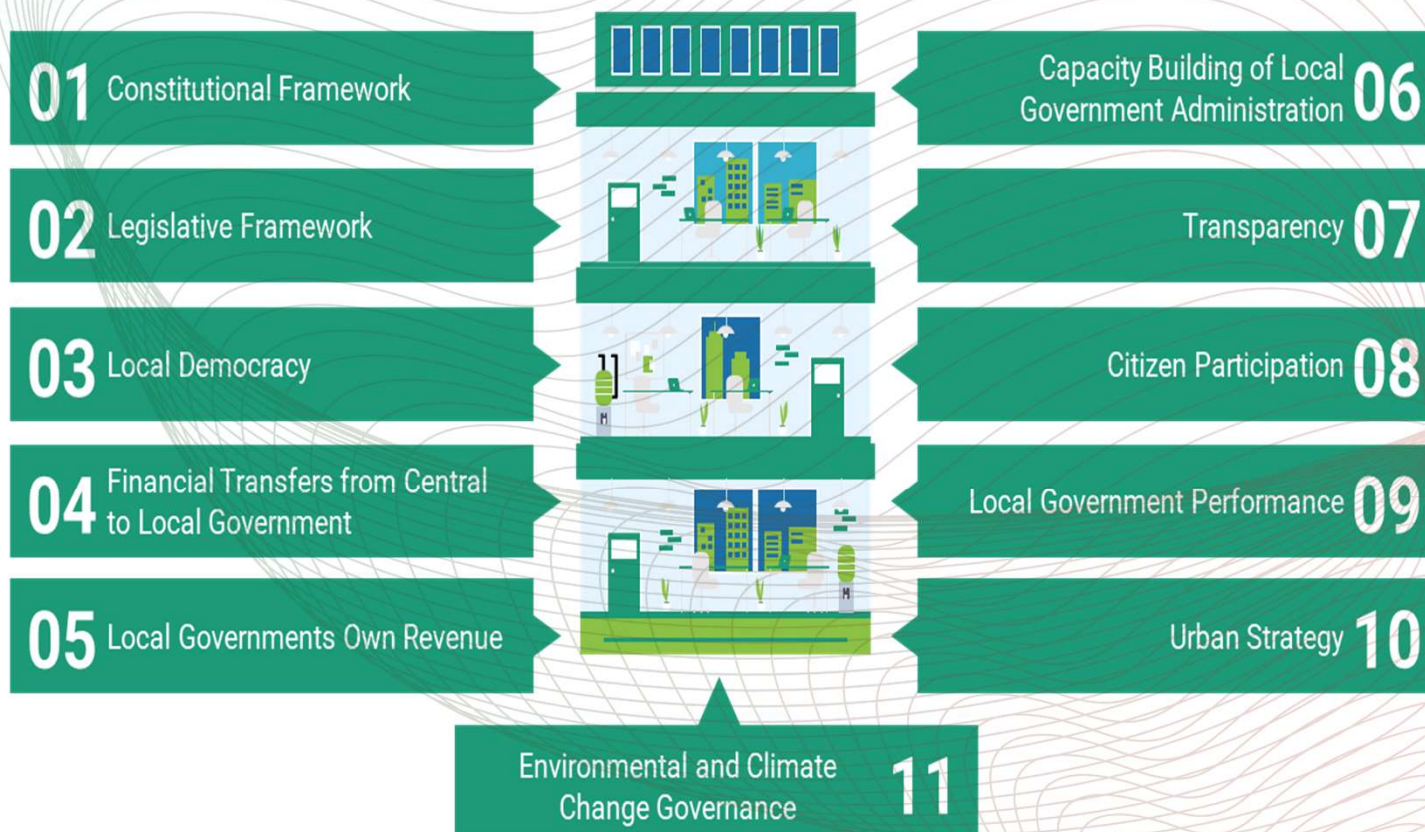
The indicators cover five areas – local governance, local capacity, financial autonomy, local efficiency and the national institutional framework.



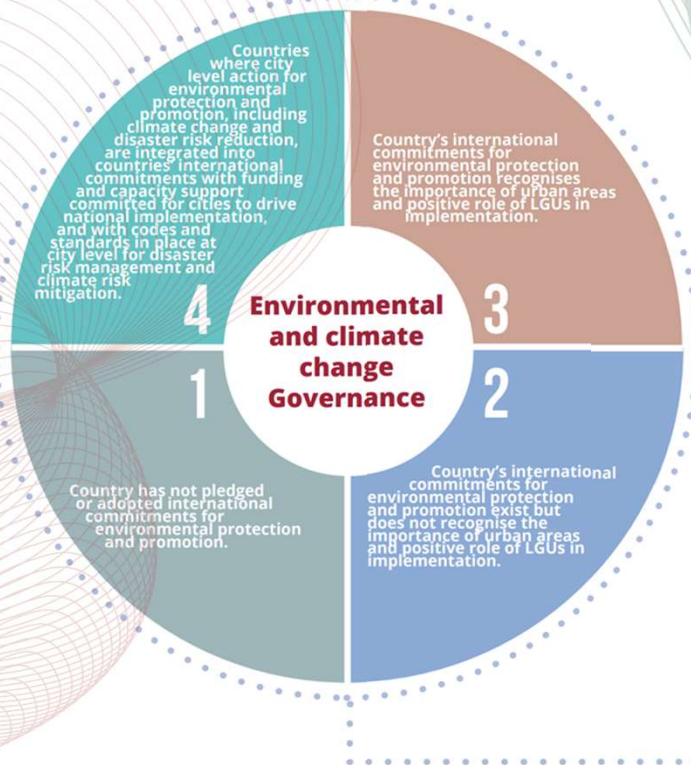
These five areas cover the essential elements of a city's institutional environment within the context of decentralisation and democracy.



CITY ENABLING ENVIRONMENT (CEE) RATING FOR ASIA PACIFIC



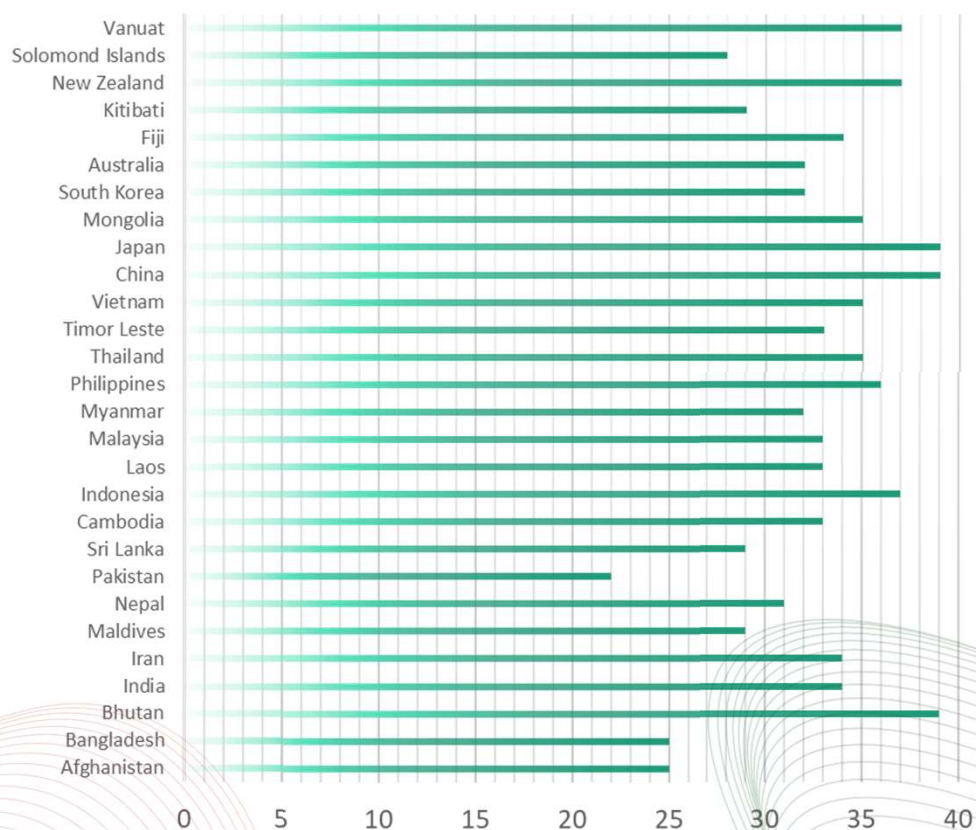
CITY ENABLING ENVIRONMENT RATING CRITERIA 11



11. Environmental and Climate Change Governance

Environmental issues have become increasingly important for Agenda 2030, particularly for cities. This is reflected in the UNFCCC COP21 Paris Agreement, the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, and the Convention on Biological Diversity/Aichi Biodiversity Targets. Local governments across Asia-Pacific continue to face difficulties in adequately addressing urban environmental challenges related to climate change, disaster risk and the overall promotion of the natural urban environment. Countries' international commitments and practical implementation support to cities in reducing greenhouse gas emissions, vulnerability to climate change, disaster related shocks and promoting biodiversity for the natural urban environment are key areas to be assessed.

Total Score by Country of CEE Criteria



Very High-Performance Countries (score over 33 points)

13 countries have scored higher than 33; these have the most favourable city or local authorities legislative EE in accordance with the adopted evaluation laws of local autonomy. It has the most favourable environment for cities for instruments of transparency, accountability, public participation, capacity building for cities and local authorities, and national urban strategy. Bhutan also scored highly; being a leader in sustainable development.

High Performing Countries (scores of 28-33 points)

12 countries, have CEE scores in the range of 27 to 33. The legal frameworks and legislation of LG exist serving as the umbrella for delegation of powers in government. Decentralisation has been functioning well for some years, enable LGs to manage their territories. Legal, policy and institutional reforms need to be undertaken to ensure that the cities have the fiscal spaces, and capacities to function and deliver their SDGs.

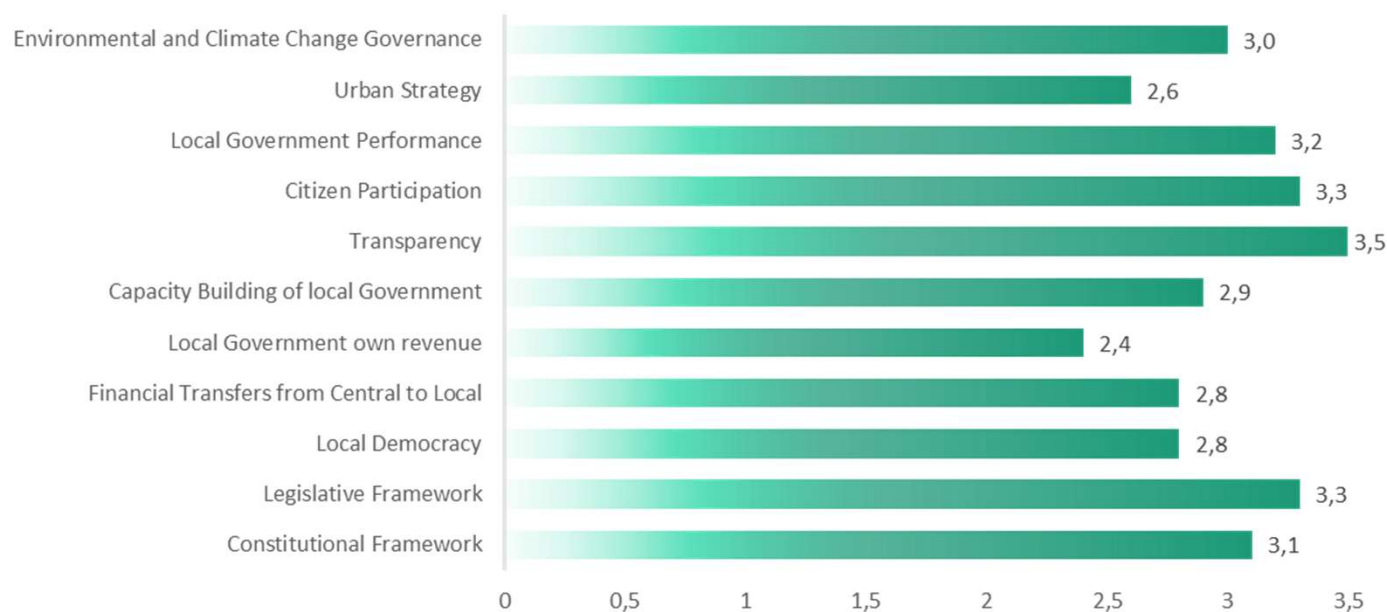
Moderate Performing Countries (22-27 points)

2 countries: Afghanistan and Bangladesh fall in the range of 22-27 CCE country scores. The countries in this range are progressing towards an EE for LGS which will require major reform efforts, when compared to the next group ranking. They have implemented decentralisation, yet some improvements are needed or in some cases, implementation of the reforms has been slow. Several areas of reform identified include legislation to define the role of LGs, financial capacity for local taxation, financial transfer from central government, framework for performance assessment.

Lesser Performing Countries (>22 points)

In Pakistan, many aspects of LG have become dysfunctional and reform has been slow. The central government has not delegated effective functional authority to the states, and this leads to significant conflict between levels of government.

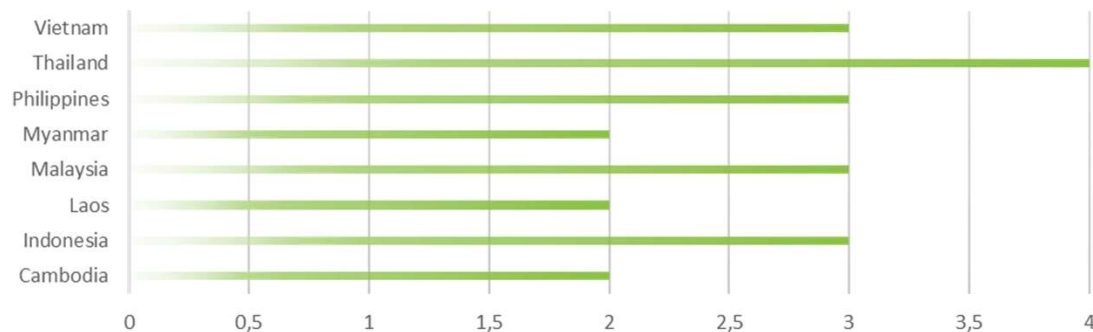
Average CEE Criterion Score Across All Countries



- Five criteria (constitutional framework, legislative framework, citizens performance, transparency, and local government performance) score above 3.
- The criteria of financial transfers from central government relate directly to the constitutional arrangements for decentralisation of administrative and fiscal responsibilities.
- There is a vertical fiscal imbalance between revenues collected by the central and local government that often results in complicated transfer arrangements.
- Local government revenue collection in many Asia-Pacific countries is poor. This is partly due to the limited powers of many local governments to set local property tax rates, local levies, and service charges.
- Lack of a comprehensive urban strategy is linked to poor planning and management of cities, leading to subsequent sporadic and unplanned development.
- Lack of urban strategy has contributed to serious environmental problems, congestion, and poor-quality building design and construction.

CEE Rating: Financial Transfers from the Central Government to Local Governments: Southeast Asia Cases

This criterion attempts to provide a performance measurement of financial transfers from the central government to the local government, and their predictability. This is important in allowing local governments to plan and use resources meaningfully; it scored the poorest overall and also in Southeast Asia



In terms of financial transfer from central to local governments, sub-region wise, reforms are needed in some countries Southeast Asia to improve reliance on the flow of funds under notional vertical fiscal resource sharing arrangements with local government to improve their performance in the delivery of essential legal and other local enabling environments services

Financial Transfer Issues from Central Government to Local Government

Local governments often face several problems in financial matters, especially in their finance infrastructure;

- Adequacy of local revenues and autonomy.
- Expenditure management and service delivery.
- Budget discretion.
- Intergovernmental transfers.
- Local government borrowing and investment finance.
- Management capacity.

Key Takeaways

- LG is the key actor in promoting TALD as they are in charge of local development and agent of change at the local level.
- The bottom-up approach in TALD is a key principle, therefore CEE Ratings are necessary to see the conducive environment in LGs. Most Asia-Pacific countries have enabling constitutional frameworks for LGs but the strengthening of supporting legislative frameworks, especially for fiscal devolution and inclusiveness is required to be developed for stronger decentralised, autonomous & self-sufficient LGs.
- Many countries do not have strong enabling frameworks for LGs to generate their own local revenues. In Sri Lanka, Laos, and many Pacific Island states, LGs are highly dependent on the state/province or national governments for funds to support the development of infrastructures and delivery of services.
- Climate offers a comprehensive framework for ‘integrating’ and ‘localising’ the SDGs as it links with various SDGs that provide local multi-dimensional focus.
- TALD is a territorial approach that allows development that is spatially integrated with physical, social, economic, and environmental sustainability. As the climate is a transboundary issue and goes beyond the local administrative border, applying TALD will require cooperation amongst neighboring LGs.

Key Takeaways

- LG capacity is an area requiring immediate reform & improvement. Improvements in knowledge, skills & the usage of technology are needed especially in finance, infrastructure & organisations management.
- In ‘Transparency’ and ‘Citizens Participation,’ local governments appear to be doing well, but there is scope for further improvements in some countries, and the possibility of certain problems going underreported.
- In assessing the ‘LG Performance’ in Asia-Pacific countries, more focus should be on whether or not recommendations from performance measurement and audits are considered and implemented. The process is generally an internal administrative process.
- Many Asia-Pacific countries do not perform well on the criteria of ‘Urban Strategy.’ There is significant room for improvement in this area, especially in the planning and management of urban development.
- For ‘Environment and Climate Change Governance,’ the scope for significant improvements to cities and LGs’ roles, in particular, is associated with waste management, climate change mitigation, and adaptation, pollution, flooding and sustainable mobility.





United Cities and
Local Governments
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Thank You

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