



MATERIAL

SECOND CONFERENCE ON MUNICIPAL PARTNERSHIPS WITH ASIA

19 to 21 June 2017 in Bonn | No. 95

The Service Agency Communities in One World

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CONTENTS

Intro	duction	1
Day 1	l – Monday, 19 June 2017	5
1.	Welcome addresses	5
2.	Keynote speech on municipal development cooperation	9
3.	Meeting face-to-face1	1
4.	Keynote speech: Sustainable and vibrant twinnings –	
	the role of public participation	3
Day 2	2 – Thursday, 20 June 20171	7
5.	Sharing experiences and lessons learned in story corners	3
6.	Keynote speech:	
	'The liveable city of the future: how does learning work?' 2	1
7.	Workshops	
	7.2 Gender issues in municipal partnerships	
	7.3 Climate change mitigation and environment	5
	7.4 Sustainable mobility	
	7.5 The 2030 Agenda and SDG 4: ,Inclusive and equitable quality education'25 Presentation of the workshop results	
8.	Evening reception hosted by Mayor Reinhard Limbach, and concert30)
Day 3	3 – Wednesday, 21 June 20173	2
9.	The Service Agency's instruments for financial and	
	human resource support3	3
10.	'Market of opportunities' for possible support for development projects 3!	5
11.	Final round38	3
Anne	ex40	
	Agenda	
	Mini-profiles	
	List of abbreviations	

INTRODUCTION

By invitation of the Service Agency Communities in One World, around ninety delegates including municipal administrators, policy-makers and civil society actors, as well as experts on Asia, met for the second Germany-wide conference on 'Municipal Partnerships with Asia'. The meeting was organised by the Service Agency in cooperation with the Federal City of Bonn, which this year is also partnering with Engagement Global. Alongside many actors from Germany, thirty individuals from seven Asian countries – Indonesia, Viet Nam, Sri Lanka, Mongolia, Georgia, the Philippines and India – also took part in the conference.



Participants arriving

As well as Germany's larger cities, smaller towns and municipalities also maintain partnerships with municipalities in Asia. These include for instance Baruth/Mark, which is partnered with Murun in Mongolia, Ebhausen, which is partnered with Lubang in the Philippines, and Herrsching am Ammersee, which is partnered with Chatra in India. One thing they all have in common is huge commitment, as reflected in a range of projects.

Under the slogan 'City of the future', the conference focused on how partnerships can be made vibrant and sustainable in the face of the global challenges. Various instruments were also presented that can support Germany municipalities in their engagement for development by providing them with financial or other resources. This support is designed to strengthen the municipalities in their cooperation with their Asian partners.

Together with a German municipality, every three years the Service Agency organises a conference on municipal partnerships with Asia. (In each of the years in between it organises one conference on municipal partnerships with Africa and one on municipal partnerships with Latin America respectively.) These conferences serve as a key platform for networking and expert exchange on municipal issues. Here, delegates including municipal policymakers and administrators, civil society actors and other committed individuals have an opportunity to discuss current issues affecting the work of municipal partnerships for development, and to establish and maintain international contacts. It often turns out that many municipal partnerships face the same challenges, and that sharing ideas and lessons learned on these challenges can provide fresh solutions and opportunities for further development.

DAY 1 - MONDAY, 19 JUNE 2017

The team of moderators - Karin Küblböck, research assistant at the Austrian Foundation for Development Research, and Dr. Ines Omann, research assistant at the Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research - welcomed the participants. (They also guided them through the agenda throughout the conference.) Dr. Jens Kreuter, Managing Director of Engagement Global, Martin Lübke, German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), and Stefan Wagner, Head of Department for International Affairs and Global Sustainability, City of Bonn, opened the conference. Dr. Stefan Wilhelmy, Division Manager, Service Agency, gave a keynote speech on municipal development cooperation. After participants had had an opportunity to get to know each other better, this was followed in the afternoon by a keynote speech delivered by Dr. Angela Jain. After that came an intensive discussion on participation involving delegates from the municipal partnerships Essen – Ulan Bator, and Nuremberg - Kalmunai. In her role as expert, Dr. Angela Jain of the nexus Institute for Cooperation Management and Interdisciplinary Research facilitated the discussion. It quickly became clear that participation by civil society and the passionate commitment of individuals are key factors for a sustainable and vibrant partnership. In the evening participants were able to enjoy a boat trip along the Rhine in glorious weather.



Dr. Ines Omann (right) and Karin Küblböck

1. WELCOME ADDRESSES

Dr. Jens Kreuter, Managing Director of Engagement Global, opened the conference. He welcomed the participants from near and far, and wished everyone a stim ulating and successful conference. He explained that networking municipalities was a key concern of Engagement Global and its Service Agency Communities in One World, and that the organisation therefore very much appreciated the interest and willingness of those present to enter into partnerships and work together. Dr. Kreuter underlined the shared challenge of making this world liveable for both ourselves and our children, and in this connection emphasised the key role of municipalities in implementing the 2030 Agenda. People live in municipalities, where they experience policy fields every day - which is why networking them is so important. He thanked Stefan Wagner in his capacity as representative of the City of Bonn for the excellent cooperation, which this year was also reflected in Engagement Global's yearlong partnership with the Federal City. The conference on 'Municipal Partnerships with Asia' was also part of this partnership in 2017, he added.



Dr. Jens Kreuter

Martin Lübke warmly welcomed the participants on behalf of the BMZ. He said how pleased he was to be able to welcome so many German-Asian partnerships to Bonn, and conveyed the greetings of Germany's Federal Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development, Dr. Gerd Müller. In his speech Martin Lübke emphasised the huge

dynamism and the different realities in the continent of Asia. Despite impressive economic development, many parts of Asia still face major challenges. According to Martin Lübke, it is our responsibility to use Asia's enormous potential and dynamism for sustainable development. This will require fresh approaches that are precisely tailored to the continent's various regions.

In his outline of German development cooperation's engagement in Asia, Martin Lübke referred to the key role to be played by the continent in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Over a third of greenhouse gases come from Asia. At the same time the continent is directly affected by the impacts of climate change. To help ensure that development in Asia is socially balanced, environmentally sustainable and peaceful, the BMZ has defined seven priority areas in its development policy for Asia:

- Develop global partnerships and regional cooperation
- Support sustainable and socially sound economic development and employment promotion
- 3. Manage the impacts of climate change
- 4. Tackle the causes of displacement
- Strengthen human rights, participation and the performance of public institutions
- 6. Promote sustainable cities
- 7. Improve health and social protection systems

Martin Lübke pointed out that megacities and the rapid growth of urban agglomerations in many Asian countries entail the challenge of meeting the demands of sustainable and balanced growth. The United Nations (UN) estimates that more than half the world's population live in cities. According to forecasts, the figure might reach 75 per cent by 2050. Cities will therefore play a major role in achieving the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) contained in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Paris climate agreement.

Cities are centres for innovation and development. They are interested in practical local solutions, and the debate on policy for sustainable development has become inconceivable without them. Munici-

palities not only possess broad technical expertise, for instance on how to guarantee reliable solid waste management; their close links with citizens also enable them to seek dialogue with the population, and actively network people. Municipalities are able not only to bring about changes at the local level. Through global partnerships, they can make a contribution towards sustainable development beyond their own boundaries. Both city networks and bilateral municipal partnerships offer an ideal basis for jointly turning the idea of One World into a living reality, and actively shaping this process. A willingness to learn from each other and working together on equal terms are key issues in this context.



Martin Lübke

The BMZ is currently supporting 217 municipal partnerships, 41 of them involving municipalities in Asia. A total of 620 municipalities are involved in the ministry's programmes. To achieve the target of 1,000 municipalities engaged in partnerships, since the present government came into office the BMZ has continuously increased the budget allocation for municipal development cooperation (in 2017 around 15 million euros). Since 2001, on the BMZ's behalf the Service Agency Communities in One World has been supporting municipalities in their engagement for development and offering them a broad range of advisory and other support services. On behalf of the BMZ Martin Lübke thanked the municipalities for their engagement, wished all participants a stimulating conference, and encouraged them to publicise the opportunities for development engagement in municipalities, in order to persuade more municipalities in Asia and Germany to embark on the adventure of a partnership.

After that Stefan Wagner, Head of Department for International Affairs and Global Sustainability, welcomed the participants on behalf of the City of Bonn. Speaking as its representative, he said how pleased he was to be able to stage the conference together with Engagement Global. He emphasised that the 2030 Agenda articulated the shared responsibility for sustainable development, and that municipalities have a special role to play here: The **number of megacities** is rising sharply, particularly in Africa and Asia – often at the expense of the environment, and social and ecological equilibrium. As Stefan Wagner explained, however, cities are not only a source of problems; they are also drivers of growth and innovation. Many innovations, particularly in the field of sustainable power generation or mobility, come from urban centres. It is therefore all the more important that cities worldwide enter into dialogue with each

other and pursue mutual learning.



Stefan Wagner

Stefan Wagner explained that for about two decades the City of Bonn has been maintaining project partnerships with cities all over the world that revolve around sharing knowledge and lessons learned. For many years Bonn has maintained a dialogue with Ulan Bator (Mongolia) on issues of sustainable urban development, and together with Buchara (Uzbekistan) the city has just completed a project to improve energy efficiency and promote sustainable tourism. Close cooperation also takes place in the field of youth work and the arts, involving for instance joint musical events and theatrical productions. To involve the local population the city works closely with partnership associations such as the German-Mongolian Society and the German-Uzbek Society. With support from the

Service Agency Bonn was also able more recently to implement projects in the partner cities themselves. These included a restoration project that also involved establishing an environmental education centre in Cape Coast (Ghana), and a solid waste management project in La Paz (Bolivia). Stefan Wagner thanked Engagement Global for the close cooperation, and in this context drew attention to the yearlong partnership. He wished everyone an exciting conference, constructive talks and fresh impetus for cooperation.

2. KEYNOTE SPEECH ON MUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION

Speaker: Dr. Stefan Wilhelmy, Division Manager, Service Agency Communities in One World



Dr. Stefan Wilhelmy

Dr. Stefan Wilhelmy first of all spoke about the current international resolutions that include local solutions for global challenges, chief among which are the 2030 Agenda, the Paris climate agreement and the New Urban Agenda. It took a long time to get there. Twenty-five years ago, the Rio Conference on Environment and Development laid the first milestone for international recognition of local authority engagement, in Chapter 28. There is now stronger political support, including support from the German Federal Government, the German Bundestag and the German federal states. This is reflected for instance in the Resolution of the Germans Bundestag 'Using the opportunities for development presented by urbanisation' of 11 June 2015,1 which calls for the strengthening of municipal partnerships, and in the 'Guidelines of the German Federal Government on international cooperation for sustainable urbanisation - Partners in a world of cities' published in 2015, which amongst other things emphasise mutual exchange:

'International city-to-city partnerships and cooperation arrangements [...] not only complement cooperation between nation states, but also inject vitality into bi- and multilateral relations and create numerous opportunities for direct exchange between people and local decision-makers. The German Federal Government supports international cooperation by German municipalities. Reciprocal knowledge sharing also enables German cities to benefit from the experiences of partner countries/cities with new technologies and forms of management.'2

In addition to this political recognition, the importance of municipal engagement is also being emphasised by the **scientific community**. Many special reports, including 'World in Transition – A Social Contract for Sustainability' published by the German Advisory Council on Global Change,³ strongly emphasise the role of cities and city-to-city partnerships, thus lending expert support. Cities should not be overstretched, however. For German municipalities, for instance, municipal development cooperation is a **voluntary task**, which means that the financial (and human) resources are often not guaranteed to the extent required. This is why we need the support of the federal and state governments.

This was also the setting in which, 15 years ago, the Service Agency was established as a joint undertaking of Germany's Federal Government, municipal associations and municipalities. Today the Service Agency, which since 2012 has been part of Engagement Global, is Germany's central competence centre for municipal development

Recommended resolution and report of the Committee on Economic Cooperation and Development: http://dip21. bundestag.de/dip21/btd/18/051/1805130.pdf.

² http://dip21.bundestag.de/dip21/btd/18/049/1804924. pdf.

³ http://www.wbgu.de/en/flagship-reports/fr-2011-asocial-contract

cooperation and sustainable local development. Its tasks also include translating the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs to the local level of action. Other areas of activity encompass migration and development, fair trade and fair procurement, and municipal partnerships.

Across these thematic areas the Service Agency also offers financial and human resource support through a range of measures, including for instance the Nakopa programme.4 To support the networking of municipal actors the Service Agency organises large-scale conferences on municipal partnerships for specific regions. These foster mutual learning, create spaces for sharing, increase the visibility of municipal engagement, build links between the federal and state levels, disseminate information on local solutions, and last but not least provide appreciation and recognition for daily engagement. Right now the Service Agency is supporting just under 40 partnerships in Asia. In 2016 municipal climate partnerships were launched in the Southeast Asia region, which led to the emergence of three new partnerships. By 2018 the municipalities involved will have developed joint programmes of action for climate change mitigation and adaptation.

⁴ Partnership Projects for Sustainable Local Development (Nakopa). There are currently five projects in the region.

3. MEETING FACE-TO-FACE

Participants subsequently had an opportunity to get to know each other better. Following a round of introductions and a number of line-ups in the room, participants arranged themselves in groups of three and discussed what motivated them to attend the conference and what they would like to learn. They each wrote down their experiences, interests and what they wanted to talk about in a 'mini-profile'. This method enables participants to quickly establish who is working in which area, or who has already gained experience. Equipped with this knowledge participants can also continue dialoguing and networking after the conference. The completed mini-profiles are included as an annex to these proceedings.



Introductions

Comparing notes in groups of three

Motives (a selection)

- → Gain fresh ideas/solutions at the local level
- → Make contacts, get to know people from all over the world (→ make use of the diversity of actors)
- Discuss new projects with the partner municipality
- → Share ideas on sustainable mobility and environmental protection
- → Mutual learning and sharing of lessons learned
- → Implementation of the SDGs at the local level

Learning (a selection)

- → How can the enthusiasm of a municipal partnership be maintained in the long term?
- How can links be established between the various themes, in order to develop holistic approaches?
- → How can we get citizens on board?
- What contributions can civil society make to municipal partnerships?
- How should we respond to continuous urban growth, particularly as regards environmental protection and mobility?
- → Get to know the opportunities for support
- → How can bridges be built between different communities?

4. KEYNOTE SPEECH: SUSTAINABLE AND VIBRANT TWINNINGS – THE ROLE OF PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

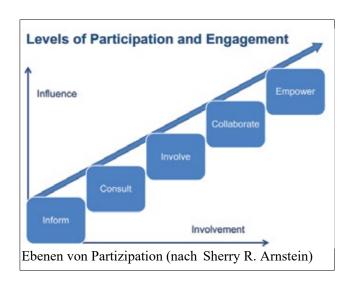
Speaker: Dr. Angela Jain, Area Management Infrastructure and Society, nexus Institute for Cooperation Management and Interdisciplinary Research

Dr. Angela Jain began by talking in general terms about the role of participation in development and decision-making processes. The city is based on the idea that it should provide basic services, and that citizens should make an active contribution (i.e. the notion of the caring city, in conjunction with active citizenship). This means the city is tasked to take care of public interests and common welfare, balance the interests of different groups and ensure demand-driven development. To establish active citizen engagement the city must provide support structures that meet certain requirements. Public involvement requires the right topics ('right' in the sense of relevant to people's day-to-day lives). Competencies such as cooperation and communication skills also need to be supported and developed. Active engagement also requires reliable and sustainable organisational structures.

There are various levels of participation for involving citizens in development and decision-making processes. As we move up the scale through inform, consult, involve, collaborate to empower, influence and involvement continuously increase (see diagram).

A city is attractive when it is developed for and with the people and when civil society is active.

But to achieve this the city must display openness and transparency, facilitate dialogue on equal terms, and provide accountability for its decision-making. When these conditions are created citizens identify with their city, assume ownership and responsibility for the city's projects, and contribute fresh ideas that are important for urban development.



International city twinnings provide an opportunity to jointly address the global challenges that affect cities. Responses to global challenges should be developed locally and adapted. The 'think global, act local' principle creates a liveable city with healthy and happy people. This requires good governance, which necessitates cooperation between policy-makers, administrators, the private sector and civil society in order to legitimise political decisions.

City twinnings can succeed when the goals and challenges are the same on both sides. International dialogue is important because it means that innovations and solutions are conceived and developed jointly. Visible and active exchange also gives a city an open-minded and global image.

A city twinning is dependent on active participation by citizens, because they are the ones who know best about the urgent needs and problems. There are many examples of where citizen participation can play an important role: resource-efficient consumption, social networks for disaster risk management, or tackling the challenges of migration and social inclusion.



Dr. Angela Jain

Where civil society is involved, cities should remember that certain actors such as associations possess formal status, while initiatives, self-help groups or individuals operate on a more informal basis. These informal groups require more support to ensure that they are able to contribute (e.g. by targeting them appropriately through clear and specific communication). Involving civil society can also provide city twinnings with a guarantee of continuity in times of political change, because their activities will outlast the mayoral period of office, for example. City twinnings can therefore also be a wonderful field of experimentation for vibrant participation - with citizens taking part in international dialogue on equal terms: 'Involve the people and make them engage!

4.1 Discussion involving the Essen - Ulan Bator and Nuremberg - Kalmunai partnerships

Prof. Dr. Walter Popp and Gantumur Tsagaan (the Essen [Germany] – Ulan Bator [Mongolia] partnership)

Mongolia is five times the size of Germany; half its population of three million live in Ulan Bator. The city is growing rapidly, and its infrastructure is barely able to keep pace with this trend. As a result, settlements without running water or heating are arising in peri-urban zones. This is creating numerous hygiene problems, including tuberculosis and hepatitis infections. The Mongolian Emergency Service Hospital Hygiene Project (MeshHp), which has existed since 2010, has set itself the goal of improving hygiene in hospitals and in Emergency Service 103 in Ulan Bator. This

is a grassroots project that was supported for just under four years by Germany's Federal Ministry of Health. The actors involved in Essen are the university hospital, the municipality and the MeshHp⁵ association, which was established in 2015. The partners on the Mongolian side are the Ministry



Gantumur Tsagaan and Prof. Dr. Walter Popp

of Health, the City of Ulan Bator, the emergency service and the hospitals. Cooperation agreements exist between the two cities and between the university hospitals. The project focuses on knowledge sharing. As result, more than 20 groups of experts (a total of approximately 100 individuals) from Mongolia have visited Essen, and training measures and hospital inspections are taking place in Mongolia. Positive results have been achieved with regard to hepatitis vaccinations and hand disinfection. In other areas the project team would have liked to achieve more.

According to Professor Walter Popp, one major challenge is guaranteeing the sustainability of international development cooperation projects. Often the ideas that foreign experts bring along with them or the equipment provided do not match the situation in the country. It may not be clear to local experts how they should operate the machinery, for instance, and in many cases expensive machinery cannot be repaired because the costs are prohibitive. Training measures are often conducted without reference to the local context, making them ineffective. A further common problem is the appointment of new officials following a shift in policy. Moreover, many

appointments are made on the basis of personal relationships rather than professional qualifications.

Gantumur Tsagaan added that over the many years of cooperation, the topic of hygiene had gained much more importance in Ulan Bator. The highlight of the project is the annual hygiene symposium, which attracts more and more participants every year. The project meets with a great deal of goodwill on both sides. The factors for success include long-term cooperation (which is not limited to the duration of the project), the focus on expertise (which strengthens people's interest) and the human components (close cooperation based on mutual appreciation).

Both partners see their joint work as mutually enriching from a professional, cultural and human point of view, and intend to continue their cooperation in the future. To do so they are seeking new sources of funding, including the Nakopa programme.

Dr. Norbert Schürgers and Dr. Fahmy Ismail (the Nuremberg [Germany] – Kalmunai [Sri Lanka] partnership)

Following the tsunami in Southeast Asia in 2004, the then mayor of Nuremberg decided to enter into a sponsorship scheme with a region of affected fishing villages (Kalkudah, Kalmunai, Kattankudy and Eravur) in Sri Lanka, with a focus on first-aid measures. The municipality invited people to participate in a round table, which met with a great deal of interest and an equally strong willingness to help among many citizens. Considerable sums were collected from donations, and in 2006 the round table became Nuremberg Aid for Sri Lanka. Since 2009 this association has continued its work under the name People of Nuremberg Helping People in Sri Lanka (Sri Lanka Aid Nuremberg).



Dr. Fahmy Ismail

So far, a children's intensive care ward and a health centre have been established in cooperation with the local authorities and other actors. There, young mothers and pregnant women are being trained in hygiene and nutrition issues. There are also courses for health personnel. Dealing with different religious groups on the ground did cause difficulties sometimes, as did cooperation with some private individuals in the area. Although there was no formal agreement, the basis of trust established through the first projects did make it possible to initiate further activities and continue developing the partnership. And although relations initially began unilaterally, the first green shoots of dialogue are now emerging. Since the projects

are also supported by the local population (on both sides), they were not affected by political changes.



Dr. Norbert Schürgers

Success factors

- → A municipal partnership requires general acceptance by the city council and active support by citizens.
- → The citizens should be kept informed of the partnership's activities. PR measures (e.g. cultural events) and involvement of the media (e.g. journalists accompanying project actors on journeys, production of a short film) can also make it easier for people to understand what the partnership is all about.
- Planners should be careful to ensure that they understand the partners' real needs. Projects should relate to people's everyday lives and be structured as concretely as possible.
- Emotions and trust play a major role in making partnerships succeed. People with a passionate commitment are the basis of a strong and vibrant partnership.

4.2 Panel debate

Seated at their tables, participants were able to discuss what issues were new to them, what they found interesting, what questions had arisen and what the German municipalities could learn from the partnerships. Together with the two partnerships presented, Dr. Angela Jain picked up these ideas in a panel debate. A number of key questions and insights are included below.



The panel

- 1) Both an exchange between professionals and informal exchange between citizens can enrich a partnership. How can these two levels be linked, and how can the contribution made by the informal level be incorporated at the professional level?
- → In the normal run of things, political decision-making often involves conflicts between citizens and the municipality. In municipal partnerships, on the other hand, the possibility exists of bringing everyone together around one table, and launching a dialogue on a topic that is inherently less conflictual. One joint topic or one project should be selected that affects people at the social level or even on an emotional level, and motivates them to get involved. Friendships and success stories are important for a successful partnership. We also saw that clearly in the examples presented. When relationships or projects between municipalities are long-term and reliable, this is often due to the persistence of individuals who are passionately engaged and committed. There will have been something that motivated these individuals, and was even able to provide a bridge across great distances. Energy and initiative on the part of citizens also enable things to be implemented more

- rapidly. Whatever the circumstances, however, both sides should ensure that the goals set are also realistic.
- → During the reciprocal missions the focus should be on peer-to-peer learning, i.e. practical lessons learned. The professional levels in particular are often able to work well together quickly. Yet given the possibility of changes in government, it is also important to bear in mind that different individuals will be appointed to relevant positions of responsibility, and to establish a strong civil society base in order to ensure the continuity of cooperation.



Questions from the audience

2) What factors enable a vibrant and long-term partnership?

- Reliable contact persons with whom the partnership can continue working even after a change of government.
- It is important to really understand the local context of the partner municipality, and manage things in line with that. This includes a country's culture, religion and history. The partnership should therefore include the various groups and key stakeholders and get them on board.
- → **Trust,** which grows over time, provides fertile ground for continued cooperation.

3) What vested interests do German municipalities have in international partnerships? What can they learn? How can we introduce greater mutuality into our relations?

- → Germany's administrative structures enjoy a high reputation internationally. Yet when it comes to mobile and online services, for instance, other countries such as India are much further ahead.
- → And we can also learn from each other with respect to climate change. In Germany there perhaps won't be any tsunamis, but there will be flooding. So what can we learn from each other with respect to disaster risk management and climate change mitigation?
- → There are many topics that are relevant to both partners. How can we involve migrants, how can we establish peaceful coexistence, facilitate resource-efficient lifestyles, practice sustainable land use free from exploitation, and in conjunction with that develop a new understanding of ownership and community? What role do older people and families play in society?
- → Working in partnership is a huge personal enrichment for human beings. It enables us to learn a great deal about interpersonal interaction and communication. Immersing ourselves in other life worlds often enables us to learn profound lessons, and shows us a great deal about our own world that we often then begin to question almost automatically
- We should ask ourselves what we can do together. In other words, we should also put our own problems forward for discussion. And perhaps we should ask not only what we can learn from each other, but also how we can learn together.
- There are many ways to learn from each other, but we need to look very closely in order to see these opportunities and make use of them. In particular, this includes a willingness and a mindset that is open to occasionally questioning our own lifestyle rather than assuming that ours is the only right way, and seeking to pass it on to other people.

DAY 2 - THURSDAY, 20 JUNE 2017

On day 2 of the conference, German and Asian delegates formed small groups so that they could tell each other their success stories in so-called story corners. The aim was to identify in each case the crucial factors and actors, so that each participant could gather fresh incentives for work in their own partnership. Following a keynote speech on the topic of learning by Prof. Colin McFarlane of Durham University (UK), the conference continued with various workshops. Amongst other things this included a discussion of how to implement the gender, health and education agendas in partnerships. Day 2 concluded with a reception at the historic Town Hall in Bonn, where participants were welcomed by Mayor Reinhard Limbach and H.E. Tsolmon Bolor, Ambassador of Mongolia. The evening was rounded off with a concert by the German-Indonesian band BonnIndo.

5. SHARING EXPERIENCES AND LESSONS LEARNED IN STORY CORNERS



Active listening - an element of the story

Storytelling is an ancient cultural practice that we human beings use to share knowledge and lessons that we have learned. For thousands of years people have been sitting around in circles and talking about their experiences and adventures. So we are not just talking about facts, but also about feelings and value judgements. This form of learning and sharing was selected for the next part of the conference agenda. At each table a stroryteller narrated from their own subjective perspective the impressions gained and lessons learned in their municipal partnership. The participants each focused on one particular aspect of the story ('listening for something in particular', e.g. with a focus on success factors or obstacles). After that, all participants listening with the same focus met around one table and compared notes on what they had heard.



Story corner: telling and listening to stories

Results:

1. How did the project/the idea/ the initiative emerge? Where did the energy come from?

- → There were some top-down and some bottomup approaches (e.g. initiated by the mayor, or emerging as a result of personal contacts made by citizens).
- → The personal commitment of individuals appears to be a central factor in projects getting off the ground
- → Often the two sides shared a common interest.

2. Who were the main actors? How did cooperation between different actors work?

- → Local councillors and administrators, mayors.
- → The local population.
- → Informal leaders from the local community, such as village elders.
- → Civil society organisations

3. What factors were key to success?

- → Political support and political will (appropriate human resources for implementation), if necessary also based on legal provisions.
- → Participation by local people, inclusion of minorities, gender-sensitivity
- → Orientation towards needs needs analysis in conjunction with a sound plan of action
- → Financial support, resources, technology
- → Formation of an expert committee that possesses the knowledge needed for project implementation
- → Monitoring, process-based approach, evaluation
- → Communication as a key factor for international cooperation
- → Personal relationships, networks and contacts
- → Similar interests and intrinsic motivation to solve problems together
- → Recognition of the results in the form of a national award
- Selection of a project approach involving various interlinked topics (such as education and environmental protection), possibly also impacting across the project region
- → Seeing challenges as an advantage, learning from mistakes, not giving up, but at the same time remaining realistic



Compiling the results

4. What obstacles or problems arose?

- Translating needs into a joint project appropriately and realistically
- → Lack of technical knowledge/information about the partner municipality, project management, finance
- → Lack of human resources/key contact persons (voluntary basis vs. continuity)
- → Lack of trust by the population
- Dealing with political decision-making, political support
- → Lack of time available to political decision-makers (e.g. for missions)
- → Finding suitable partners, motivation on both sides
- → Change of personnel during project work (lack of continuity)
- → Long-term perspective versus short-term activities
- → Lack of awareness of existing municipal partnerships
- → Language barriers
- Systemic gender-based or inclusion-based approaches
- → Large cities have several partner cities that in some cases compete with each other
- → Flow of information between the various actors in large cities
- → Agriculture: farmers possess little interest in science-based approaches
- → Climatic conditions

5. What can we learn from the story? Which of these lessons learned are also transferable to other municipalities/examples?

- → Base approach on local needs needs-based projects
- → Focus on knowledge sharing and identifying appropriate channels for this
- → Foster ownership to ensure sustainability of the project
- → Select multi-functional approaches
- → Seek support from local policy-makers
- → Balance between 'hard work' and 'passionate commitment'

6. What questions does this story raise?

Partnerships

- How can sustainable communication structures be established between the various actors within a municipality?
- → How can changes of personnel be managed within a partnership, and how can continuity be preserved in such cases (for interest with respect to knowledge, political orientation and personal relationships)?

Project

- → How can we manage human resource and technical challenges?
- → How can we guarantee the sustainability of a project?
- → How can we build bridges across the differences between the partner municipalities?
- → How can we generate financial resources?

7. Summary remarks

- → The story corners were a fresh and innovative way of talking about a project.
- Continuity in partnerships was an important issue for many participants. They therefore drew up a list of factors that help place cooperation on a reliable footing:
 - Involve actors that are independent of the government/political decision-makers concerned.
 - Enter into written agreements with local political decision-makers which 'document' that the partnership and related projects will be continued regardless of political/personnel changes.
 - Involve as many local actors as possible in order to put pressure on new governments.
 - Use media (especially social media) to inform citizens which is also a form of knowledge management.
 - Form alumni networks in order to include all actors who are so far been involved in the partnership.



Mimi Schlüter (Hildesheim) presenting results



Participants in dialogue

6. KEYNOTE SPEECH: 'THE LIVEABLE CITY OF THE FUTURE: HOW DOES LEARNING WORK?'

Speaker: Prof. Colin McFarlane, Durham

University, UK



Prof. Colin McFarlane

Given that urbanisation is a fact, there is international consensus that cities will play a key role in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. But what knowledge is needed in order to successfully accomplish these tasks? Where can we find this information? What understanding do we need as we approach a city of the future, and what is the significance of learning in this process?

Cities are places of learning – every day people learn how to navigate their life journeys through the city. It is virtually impossible to live in or shape a city without learning. And historically, many cities emerged in a continuous process of learning and exchange – including during the colonial period. This also affected culture, urban planning and urban development. In the age of globalisation, ideas and approaches regarding what urban development might look like are reaching cities from everywhere, and at higher speed. Startups, consulting companies, activists, networks, artists, blogs, social networks and global exchange are affecting this trend and shaping it towards 'creative' or 'smart' cities. But how can we design

learning processes in the city appropriately and successfully?

Learning can take place as knowledge transfer via experts or global expert networks, or alternatively through 'forums'. These forums revolve around citizens, who assemble knowledge and expertise from within their own midst and develop solutions for their own local context. In this case, they direct their gaze inwards rather than outwards. Participatory budgeting is one example of this.6 Participation of local people is vital to shaping priorities, but it requires commitment from local government to listen and include people in formal processes. This highlights the fact that learning is not just a formal process of adding up information. It is also about the different priorities and ways of seeing things that people bring to the problem-solving process. Seen in this light, learning is a kind of 'way-finding' that also involves making mistakes and stumbling through. The first path we take does not always lead to the goal. Then we need to try different approaches.

Professor McFarlane referred to the example of Slum/Shack Dwellers International,⁷ a network of local communities in over 30 countries that draws on the knowledge of people who live in informal settlements. Using this global platform, local initiatives are able to develop alternative options for their living environment and at the same time influence the global agenda for urban development. It is possible to distinguish **three levels of learning** that may well be interlinked:

⁶ Participatory budgeting involves citizens participating in issues involving all aspects of the use of public money. The population play an active role in the planning of public expenditure and revenue. The idea arose in Porto Alegre in Brazil, where it has led amongst other things to a significant improvement in infrastructure.

⁷ www.knowyourcity.info.

1. Translation (changing forms of knowledge from one form to another, e.g. translating a water shortage into a solution)

Data from settlements are collated, the key challenges are listed and life in the neighbourhoods is documented. These data can be used to negotiate with local governments. Furthermore, communities can use the platform to discuss communication (e.g. how they approach a government), and gain encouragement from success stories.



Participants in plenary

2. Coordination (systems that enable coping with complexity and facilitate the collation of information, e.g. through databases or forums)

When local problems cannot be solved by the municipality, the inhabitants often have to organise and coordinate in order to identify (sometimes temporary) solutions to their issues (e.g. self-built water pipes or the recycling of materials for construction of a toilet block).

The key question here is: what are the coordination tools that enable learning which reflects the needs and concerns of the local population? This is where the third level comes into play.

3. Dwelling

This level refers to ways of seeing and living in the city, i.e. the priorities people bring to the city based on their own lives and concerns. In this case learning is not abstract; it is a lived process centred around people (rather than experts).

The network attempts to integrate these different levels and work with local governments, in order to ensure that as well as lobbying and 'expert solutions', the problem-solving strategies of local people are also included and used. The network also sees learning as going beyond the end product, and includes other factors such as gender, so that learning can entail comprehensive positive change.

So the question arises of who we learn from and with in the city. What knowledge and which priorities do we include? Since exchange between cities will be intensified, it is important not to lose sight of the needs of the local population and to create forums and spaces where the voices of local inhabitants can be heard. Where we are talking not only about expert knowledge, but also about local learning - on the streets, in houses, local institutions or public squares – these places can become drivers of modernisation. As well as opportunities, this form of learning also entails major ethical and political challenges, due amongst other things to their complexity and non-linearity, and because they call into question existing power relations. A living democracy is based on different needs

and priorities, and requires an appropriate environment that enables these voices to be heard and seen.

7. WORKSHOPS

The workshops offered an opportunity to discuss topics such as gender, education and health in municipal partnerships. All the workshops revolved around the question of how municipal partnerships can pool their resources in order to help bring about sustainable urban development in Asia and Germany.

7.1 How to anchor partnerships within a city – the role of citizens

Moderator: Dr. habil. Nora Sausmikat, Programme Manager for China, Asia House Foundation, Cologne



Dr. habil. Nora Sausmikat

This workshop addressed the question of how partnerships can be mainstreamed within society. It focussed in particular on the role of citizen participation, which is essential if partnerships are to succeed. The workshop began by looking at the word 'anchoring' in a literal sense. What is the significance of an anchor for a sailing ship (in our case the partner-ship), and what will happen if the ship is not anchored?

Obviously, anchoring the municipal partnership means ensuring its stability and continuity. It can also add to the 'vitality' of a partnership, which is often seen as lacking. A brief digression on the topic of participatory budgeting, which is being tested in selected municipalities in Germany as a form of citizen participation, brought the discus-

sion round to the targets and visions underlying the 'anchoring' of municipal partnerships. Participants identified one such vision as being that of anchoring as a catalyst for innovation.

Any ship that wants to sail must know where to, what it will need (a sail) and how it is will set foot on dry land once it gets there (using an anchor). Referring to these key words, participants discussed the three sets of questions where to (vision), what (target) and how (resources). The first area includes questions such as: What additional benefits will anchoring the partnership generate? What is the vision for the future of a partnership? Can anchoring the municipal partnership help create mutual understanding between the inhabitants of the two municipalities? The second set of questions revolve around the 'what': Which topics are suitable for soundly anchoring the partnership within the population? In what thematic areas does the partnership go beyond cooperation within the confines of specific projects (expert exchange)? What location is the project targeting before anchoring? Finally, the third set of questions (how) involves the following ideas: What do we need in order to anchor? Which groups of people should we involve? What should we involve them in doing? What resources will we need to do this, and where can we obtain support?

For our partnership to succeed it is important that we know precisely what our own targets are, and thus which direction we need to travel in, which is best agreed with our partners. Furthermore, those responsible should clearly understand that it will not be possible to achieve positive results without deploying human resources. This raises the question of which other actors the partnership will also be able to involve in its work. When working in specialised areas such as solid waste management or climate change mitigation, it will be necessary to involve the relevant experts in implementation.

In a first session Kurt-Michael Baudach, Head of Department at the Service Agency, was asked to give a concrete example of anchoring drawn from his wealth of experience. He provided a number of pointers regarding possible ways of reaching a broad base.

- Communication and visibility: It is important
 to maintain a regular flow of information and
 communication with the actors involved and with
 citizens. To establish and develop relationships
 it is important that people feel the partnership
 is reaching out to them, involving them and
 taking them seriously. The examples Mr. Baudach
 gave included making the partnership visible at
 important public events (such as the Nuremberg
 Christmas market), the use of social media and
 the naming of streets or squares after twin cities.
 Involving media representatives in delegation
 missions can also help bring about more nuanced
 and detailed public reporting.
- 2. Involving stakeholders/participation: The partner-ship needs to be shouldered by multiple actors. We therefore need to identify those actors in the municipality and get them on board. They include for instance municipal departments, schools, students and private businesses. For each group, specific options for participation can be identified and used (such as school exchange schemes, student exchange). Artists of various kinds can also contribute fresh perspectives for addressing various issues in the partnership.
- 3. <u>Initiating trips for citizens:</u> People often only begin to identify with the partnership on an emotional level once they've been to the partner municipality themselves. This is why is makes sense for them to go there, in order to break down preconceptions and bring people closer together.

To begin the discussion the moderator, Dr. habil. Sausmikat, provided participants with an overview of the key components of a partnership, from establishment to anchoring. Participants were then encouraged to adapt this handout to their own partnership and use it as conceptual support. Participants spent most of the time discussing the actual nuts and bolts of anchoring a partnership – the question of what resources we need to stabilise a partnership, and where we can obtain them This was followed by a number of suggestions put forward by the workshop participants: the formation of learning networks involving the universities' area studies courses or fellowship programmes such as the city makers (supported by the Robert Bosch Foundation), transferring the concept of participatory budgeting, linking up with the Resilient City Programme, or the Alliance for Intelligent and Ecological cities (AIEC), or non-governmental organisations (NGOs) based in the cities (German-Mongolian Society, Bangladesh Forum, German-Indonesian Society, Asia House Foundation).

7.2 Gender issues in municipal partnerships

Input and moderation provided by Eva Engelhardt, freelance trainer

This workshop looked at how municipal cooperation and its projects can be made gender-sensitive, and what contribution projects can make to gender justice.



Eva Engelhardt

- → To get started on the theme the group began by clarifying a few key terms such as gender, gender equality and gender mainstreaming. It quickly became clear how differently participants interpreted these terms, and how widely their experience of working with the topic differed.
- The distinction between the terms gender (a sociocultural concept) and sex (a biological concept) clearly reflects the fact that gender, and the women/man-specific conceptualisations and attributions associated with it, are socially constructed. Gender refers to a social role that is learned in the course of socialisation and that affects behaviours, supposedly sex-specific capabilities, responsibilities and identities. The group agreed that in order to change entrenched gender roles, both women and men will need to be involved.
- A glance back at the history of women's rights and the gender approach shows that participatory elements and bottom-up approaches to support

- gender justice were developed and applied from the mid-1980s onwards.
- Gender mainstreaming, i.e. the cross-cutting institutionalisation of gender justice at both the international and local levels, was called for at Beijing Conference in 1995, and subsequently translated into national legislation in many countries.
- → The fifth of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) relates to gender equality, and focuses on equal participation in all social developments. Here we see the link to SDG 11 ('Sustainable cities and communities'), which aims to 'make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable'. The question arises of how we can ensure that the needs of women and men are known, that they are included in the urban development process, and that women and men participate equally in decision-making.

Eva Engelhardt presented various instruments for incorporating gender issues into municipal partnership work. She presented three needs analyses that examine and take into account the different circumstances and needs of women, girls, men and boys in the local context. The first example illustrated an analysis of the gender-specific use of urban means of transport, in conjunction with an assessment of their safety with respect to sexual assaults and corresponding genderspecific requests for improvement. The second tool measured the participation of women and men in decision-making processes in municipal partnership projects. The third case involved a gender-specific analysis of activities and needs in informal settlements. In the Khlong Toei settlement in Bangkok, for instance, a weighting matrix was used to study which social groups are involved in which activities within the settlement to a particularly marked degree. This tool can be used directly on the ground by inviting the population themselves to assess and discuss which tasks tend to be performed by men or women, girls or boys, and how these tasks are perceived. The analysis quickly generate a picture of the life situation of the population as a whole, as well as of specific groups, and what gender-specific needs, priorities and aspirations for change exist as a result. The discussion that followed focused on the issue of how municipalities can make use of these findings and take them into account in municipal projects.

7.3 Climate change mitigation and environment

Moderators: Jessica Baier, Service Agency, and Ricardo Marfiga, Local Governments for Sustainability (ICLEI) Southeast Asia Secretariat

At this workshop participants presented their municipalities and municipal partnerships, reported on the respective challenges they faced as well as their strengths, and discussed strategies and approaches for climate change mitigation and adaptation in Southeast Asia and Germany The challenges identified included motor traffic (Brunswick in Germany, Jakarta in Indonesia), social housing construction (Leipzig), deforestation and illegal hunting (Ho Chi-Minh City in Viet Nam), flooding and water pollution (Bandung in Indonesia, Manila in the Philippines), and solid waste management and sustainable energy production (Manila). Although some partnerships have not yet worked together on the topic of climate change and environment, the climate partnerships between Berlin-Lichtenberg and Hoan Kiem (a district of Hanoi in Viet Nam), and Herdecke (Germany) und Dumangas (Philippines), were already able to report on their activities. Both climate partnerships have existed since 2015, and in their joint programmes of action address topics such as renewable energy, mobility, deforestation and environmental education.

In Southeast Asia, climate change is having a particularly marked effect on food production and agriculture. The region is also hard hit by extreme weather events such as typhoons, which are increasing in both intensity and frequency. Disaster risk management and resilience are therefore important themes for municipalities. The ICLEI (Local Governments for Sustainability) is implementing various projects in Southeast Asia. Ricardo Marfiga presented the project Asian Cities Climate Change Resilience Network (ACCCRN), which is supporting municipalities in the Philippines and India in developing and implementing strategies for resilience.

By comparison there have so far been few signs of the impacts of climate change in Germany. Instead, climate change mitigation is at the top of the agenda. Germany has set itself the target

of achieving an 80 to 95 per cent reduction in CO2 emissions by 2050 (relative to the baseline year 1990). Municipalities will play a crucial role in achieving this target, because a significant part of implementation of the measures – in the fields of energy efficiency, transport, renewable energy use – will need to occur at the local level. To create incentives for municipalities, national programmes have therefore been launched that provide funding to support municipalities in designing and implementing strategies for climate change mitigation or adaptation.



Workshop on climate change mitigation and environment

Overall it became clear that climate change is affecting cities around the world, and that environmental and energy policy are always closely linked. The municipal level is pivotal for implementing projects addressing all kinds of issues related to the general topics of climate change and environmental prediction. Consequently there are numerous opportunities for international expert exchange between municipalities in this field. Municipal partnerships offer an appropriate framework for this. One initial way to approach this would for instance be to organise a themed mission from the partner municipality, during which staff from the relevant specialised departments of both municipalities would engage in dialogue and advise each other on a peer-to-peer basis. It is important to bring together staff with similar positions in the two participating municipalities (e.g. offices for climate change mitigation, urban planners) in order to create a sound basis for peer-to-peer dialogue on equal terms.

7.4 Sustainable mobility

Moderator: Prof. em. Dr. Einhard Schmidt-Kallert

Based on the experiences of the participants, this workshop looked at the issue of how mobility for all can be organised in a city of the future. Participants began by reporting on their **own everyday mobility behaviour** – how they get to work, how they get to the shops etc. The group then produced a **working definition of mobility**. On a general level in this context we are talking about people's potential for mobility, which can also be interpreted as a basic need that enables them to participate in social life. Transport, on the other hand, encompasses all the means that enable and facilitate mobility (vehicles, traffic rules, infrastructure etc.).



Mobility workshop

Professor Schmidt-Kallert reported on two cases in which he had recorded interviews on **transport behaviour** in cities. One story was about the transport behaviour of a young man in Kumasi (Ghana), who had to travel five kilometres every day to get to his workplace. It emerge that factors such as time, cost and risk had a crucial influence on his selection of a means of transport. The other story involved a woman from the metropolis of Jakarta (Indonesia), who as a successful middle-class businesswoman had established her own planning office. Because it took her almost two hours to get to her office during the rush hour, she organised a chauffeur so that she would be able to work while en route.

Survey of several cities

Ho-Chi-Minh-Stadt/Vietnam: There are many mopeds on the roads. The road network is currently being expanded, and public transport (bus rapid transit – BRT) is being established. Major investment is needed, for instance in order to create space, but demolishing buildings in peri-urban areas is very expensive. Working hours should be staggered in order to reduce rush-hour traffic. Private transport is already being limited through various measures.

<u>Jakarta/Indonesia:</u> Since 2004 the TransJakarta bus system has been in place. A metro system, a standardised electronic ticket system and the introduction of road tolls are currently being planned.

<u>Kalmunai/Sri Lanka</u>: The city is transected by a main thoroughfare approximately three kilometres in length. This is used heavily, and presents a challenge particularly for pedestrians. An urban development plan provides for the construction of a bypass.

Berlin (Germany): The city has a well-developed public transport network with a standardised ticket system, although services are not always as reliable as they might be. There are comparatively few traffic jams, and cycling accounts for a relatively high volume of traffic. The city has managed parking zones, car sharing schemes and polycentric settlement patterns, which relieves pressure on traffic hubs.

<u>Ebhausen (Germany):</u> There are few traffic jams and very little traffic. There is also no public transport.

After that participants reported on the **current** situation and trends in their home municipalities and discussed possible solutions.

In many Asian cities, informal (and formal) 'public' means of transport, such as minibuses or taxies, account for a particularly high proportion of road traffic. These can also be subsumed under the term paratransit. This sector is a source of income for many people. However, participants agreed that the sector needs to be better regulated. Regarding the BRT system,8 in Johannesburg there was a great deal of resistance from the paratransit sector because the BRT system was threatening to undermine its role. Complementary solutions therefore appear to be particularly important (one conceivable option would be paratransit as a feeder for the BRT stations or park-and-ride solutions). It was also interesting to discover that polycentric urban development can reduce traffic volumes. Last but not least, the attitude or awareness of individuals is also important because the car alone cannot be a sustainable solution.

Possible solutions

- → BRT (examples: Bogotá in Colombia, Curitiba in Brazil) → the system is flexible, and can be introduced quickly and at low cost. According to a study, however, people with low incomes use BRT less than lower middle-class people, for instance, and continue to use the paratransit system.
- → Cableway (example: Medellín in Colombia)
- → Avoidance of traffic jams using GPS navigation, radio announcements
- → Standardised ticket system for public transport
- → Taxes on the use of vehicles by single individuals or on the import of cars

⁸ Bus rapid transit:transport systems that strive to deliver a higher standard of quality than normal bus lines, e.g. by providing express buses or creating bus lanes.

7.5 The 2030 Agenda and SDG 4: ,Inclusive and equitable quality education'

Moderator: Petra Biberhofer, Vienna University of Economics and Business, Regional Centre of Expertise on Education for Sustainable Development Vienna

This workshop addressed the issue of what role education will play in achieving the SDGs, and how this can be delivered to a high standard of quality. The group looked at central concepts such as Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) and innovative organisational infrastructures/urban alliances that promote transformative education. Transformative education prompts learners to change themselves and society, for instance in order to help mitigate climate change, change consumption patterns, develop the foundations for a sustainable economy and lifestyles, or support marginalised groups. The group discussed how generic key competencies (involving a blend of knowledge, capacities and skills, as well as motives and emotional resources) can be developed, and what frameworks for this kind of education are needed in municipalities.



Workshop on education

To present a practical example, a former *welt-wärts* participant reported on the lessons she had learned during the year she spent working in a children's home in the Philippines. This lengthy stay gave her an opportunity to engage with new situations and ways of thinking, reflect deeply on these, and respond flexibly with a sense of humour.

Peter Reichenbach, author and initiator of the sevengardens⁹ project, presented some of its activities. It involves a network for social learning that takes a participatory approach to addressing relevant issues through art. One specific example he mentioned was a project with schoolchildren that creates coloured paints and dyes using natural materials. He explained that some mothers were still familiar with old-fashioned formulas for making these products. This enabled project participants to engage in mutual learning across generations and nationalities.



Hands-on demonstration of how to make coloured paints and dyes

Introduction to ESD

Learning should ...

- be fun and enjoyable
- reach out to people in the context of their life reality
- → be appreciative and respectful

Learning is facilitated

- through passionate commitment and direct personal involvement
- → on the basis of local needs
- → by meeting on equal terms
- → by reflecting on experiences

Learning with

the mind (knowledge), the heart (feelings) and the hand (body)

Key competencies for ESD

- systemic thinking
- proactive, strategic, normative, interpersonal skills
- → challenging the system as it stands
- → switching perspectives

Participants then formed small groups to discuss first of all challenges for implementing education for sustainable development at the local level. These included for instance courage, respecting one's own capabilities and boundaries, stamina, long distances, finance, channels of communication and gender justice. Secondly, the group also discussed the corresponding potentials. These included for instance environmental awareness, land use and a growing global awareness of education, new technologies and methods, gentle and sustainable tourism, and tapping potential through participation and by cooperating with partners. 10

Presentation of the workshop results

After the workshop the results were presented in plenary – silently. The groups were given several minutes beforehand to think about how they wished to express their key findings or conclusions using symbols, movements, a melody or another form. This produced a number of expressive images:



Social equality,



Everything revolves around the heart!



,Doing things differently for a change'



,Strength in numbers!

¹⁰ Recommended reading: UNESCO (2017): Education for Sustainable Development Goals. Learning Objectives http://unesdoc.unesco.org/ images/0024/002474/247444e.pdf.

8. EVENING RECEPTION HOSTED BY MAYOR REINHARD LIMBACH, AND CONCERT







Ambassador H.E. Tsolmon Bolor

At the end of day two of the conference, Mayor Reinhard Limbach Invited participants to an evening reception in the historic town hall of the City of Bonn, where he gave the guests a warm welcome. In his welcome addresses he said how pleased he was that Bonn had also been involved in staging the conference. He explained that Bonn was very interested in municipal partnerships, and had already implemented various projects together with its six partner municipalities in fields such as climate change, energy, mobility and participation. Mayor Limbach expressed a particularly warm welcome to the guests from Bonn's twin city in Mongolia, Ulan Bator, as well as the attending members of the German-Mongolian Society, which actively supports the partnership. He encourage the participants to use the conference for mutual dialogue that will enable them to learn and benefit from each other.

The Mongolian ambassador, H.E. Tsolmon Bolor, used his welcome address to thank the City of Bonn for the marvellous work in partnership. He explained that the partnership between Ulan Bator and Bonn has existed since the 1990s, and will be intensified even further in the future. He also added that the conference offered an appropriate framework for talks in this regard. The ambassador said that this partnership was a successful example of how such an arrangement can be maintained over a long period by involving different actors. He expressed his appreciation of the Round Table on Municipal Partnerships with Mongolia, which last took place in November 2016, as an important platform for mutual exchange. He closed his address with the Mongolian saying 'Having friends is like the endless steppes'. The evening ended with a swing thanks to the concert performed by the musicians of BonnIndo.







Concert by BonnIndo

DAY 3 - WEDNESDAY, 21 JUNE 2017

The final day of the conference was reserved for presentation of the various instruments through which the Service Agency supports the work of municipal partnerships by providing human or financial resources. At the end of the conference participants were able to document their impressions on evaluation flipcharts. Following a positive response and the concluding remarks by Kurt-Michael Baudach (Service Agency), plus a spontaneous karaoke session, participants had lunch together before finally returning home to their municipalities.



A lively exchange

9. THE SERVICE AGENCY'S INSTRUMENTS FOR FINANCIAL AND HUMAN RESOURCE SUPPORT

Speaker: Ulrich Held, Head of Department, Municipal Promotion and Mobilisation, Service Agency



Ulrich Held

Ulrich Held provided an overview of the opportunities available to municipal partnerships to receive support from the Service Agency in the form of human or financial resources.

1. Financial support

Eligible to apply are municipalities, policy-making bodies, municipal associations, or in some cases also municipal enterprises (such as water or waste management utilities). Civil society organisations can be project partners. Normally the support provided is equivalent to 90 per cent of the total amount, i.e. 10 per cent must be provided by the partners themselves or third parties.

- → Partnership Projects for Sustainable Local Development (Nakopa): Grants of 20,000 to 250,000 euros for development cooperation projects with a focus on sustainable services of general interest, good local governance or climate change mitigation and adaptation, running for a maximum of three years
 - www.skew.engagement-global.de/unterstuet-zung-durch-nakopa.html.
- → Small-Scale Project Fund: Grants of 1,000 to 20,000 euros for all measures and themes of municipal development cooperation in Germany or partner countries, running for a maximum of twelve months

www.skew.engagement-global.de/kleinprojekte-fonds.html

Read more https://skew.engagement-global.de/finanzielle-unterstuetzung.html

2. Human resource support

- → ASA-Kommunal (ASA: work and study internships programme): Placement of students and newly qualified young professionals aged between 21 and 30 in partnership projects, including a practical phase of three or six months. Implemented in cooperation with Engagement Global's ASA training and internship programme www.engagementglobal.de/asa-kommunal.html
- → Integrated Experts for Municipalities Worldwide (IFKW): Placement of experienced experts in cooperation with the GIZ https://skew.engagement-global.de/integriertefachkraefte.html
- Coordinators for Municipal Development Cooperation: Funding of a position in a German municipality to coordinate and implement municipal engagement for development for a maximum of 24 months (advertised annually) www.skew.engagement-global.de/koordination-kommunaler-entwicklungspolitik.html

Read more https://skew.engagement-global.de/personelle-unterstuetzung.html

Irich Held recommended that all participants interested in a particular programme should get in touch with the Service Agency as soon as possible in order to obtain advice. He explained that this was important not only with regard to the quality of the project proposal, but also in order to understand the legal aspects of grants and the criteria for support.

10. 'MARKET OF OPPORTUNITIES' FOR POSSIBLE SUPPORT FOR DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

After that, the 'market of opportunities' gave participants a chance to find out more about further options for support and to obtain advice.

1. Instruments providing financial or human resources to support municipal development cooperation



Participants obtaining advice at the table

Here the Service Agency provided a table at which participants could find out more about the options for support already presented. In small groups, participants were encouraged to think about which instruments best matched the planned objectives, available human resources and status of their partnership. Many other ideas can also be found among the examples shown by the Service Agency's online advisory service on funding. As well as practical examples, here users can also access current opportunities to apply for funding from Germany's federal states, the German Federal Government and the European Union (EU), as well as non-profit foundations:

<u>Website:</u> www.skew.engagement-global.de/finanzierungsratgeber.html <u>Contact:</u> Ulrich Held,

> ulrich.held@engagement-global.de, Phone: 0228 20717-336

2. Engagement Global's learning and exchange programmes for young people

Engagement Global also offers a range of learning and exchange programmes. These include for instance the volunteer service weltwärts, which incorporates a so-called South-North component in which young people from the Global South are able to perform voluntary service in Germany. Another option is the ENSA programme to support international school exchange activities for development. Many participants also approached the table to enquire about education for development materials.

<u>Website:</u> www.engagement-global.de <u>Contact:</u> info@engagement-global.de, hotline: 0800 1887-188

3. Educational Exchange Service (PAD) – school partnerships

The PAD of the Secretariat of the Standing Conference of the Ministers of Education and Cultural Affairs is the only public institution in Germany to support international exchange and international cooperation in the schools sector. Through various programmes it supports links between schools, school students and teachers. The Programme 'Schools: Partners for the Future' (PASCH) provides grants for exchange measures between partner schools in Germany and partner countries.

Website: www.kmk-pad.org/programme/schulpartnerschaften-der-pasch-initiative.html Contact: Johannes Gehrke, johannes.gehrke@kmk.org

4. Senior Expert Service (SES) – The future needs experience

The SES is a German sending organisation for volunteering experts who are either retired or taking a career break ('World service 30 + '). The

Senior Expert Service is supported by Germany's business associations and funded by the German Government. The idea is to make the experience of SES experts available to the private sector, public institutions, associations and social facilities in the Global South. These volunteer assignments focus on the sharing of knowledge and experience. Assignments last on average four to six weeks, or may extend up to a maximum of six months. In 2016 there were over 800 assignments to Asia.

Website: www.ses-bonn.de

Contact: Christina Müller-Gotzen,
c.muellergotzen@ses-bonn.de



Lively discusions around the tables

5. German Institute for Foreign Cultural Relations (ifa) – 100 years of cultural exchange and current offerings for intercultural encounter

The ifa promotes artistic and cultural exchange through exhibition, dialogue and conference programmes. As a competence centre for foreign cultural and educational policy it networks civil society, cultural practitioners, the arts, media and academia. To promote Germany's international cultural relations, the ifa provides support for the arts (e.g. by funding exhibitions, and through the Artists' Contacts programme). The CrossCulture Programme (CCP) fosters intercultural dialogue through internships and by strengthening networks between Germany and Islamic countries.

Website: www.ifa.de/en.html Contact: info@ifa.de

6. Fund for Small-Scale Development Projects

To implement projects with their partner organisations in countries of the Global South, nonprofit NGOs based in Germany's western federal states can apply to the W. P. Schmitz Foundation for funding from the 'small-scale development projects fund'. Projects must support people in improving their living conditions sustainably. The maximum amount of funding provided per project is 20,000 euros. Up to 75 per cent of the total project amount can be covered. The financial resources of the 'small-scale development projects fund' are provided largely by Germany's Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ). NGOs in eastern Germany can apply to the North-South Bridges Foundation for a similar kind of support (http://www.nord-sued-bruecken. de/english.html).

<u>Webseite:</u> www.schmitz-stiftungen.de/de/ez-klein-projektefonds

Contact: Marita Baaske,

mbaaske@schmitz-stiftungen.org

7. Hospital Partnerships – How can medical professionals strengthen health institutions globally?

The initiative 'Hospital Partnerships – Partners Strengthen Health' fosters social engagement and international cooperation between health facilities. It supports the transfer of knowledge, experience and innovations between doctors and other medical professionals across national borders. Together with the Else Kröner-Fresenius Foundation the BMZ supports partnerships between German hospitals and health facilities in the Global South by providing up to 50,000 euros for a maximum period of two years.

Website: www.klinikpartnerschaften.de

Contact: Stephanie Petrasch,

stephanie.petrasch@giz.de

11. FINAL ROUND

To conclude the conference, participants were given an opportunity to record their impressions on flipcharts. Kurt-Michael Baudach, Head of Department, Municipal Partnerships - Countries and Regions, Service Agency, thanked everyone for their active participation – pointing out that mutual exchange is absolutely essential for a lively conference. He said how pleased he was by the variety of themes and experiences from the various municipalities and countries, the intensive dialogue and the mutual networking. Kurt-Michael Baudach emphasised the importance of commitment, meeting up and maintaining personal links . He thanked the City of Bonn for their close cooperation, as well as everyone else involved, and wished them a pleasant trip home. On the spur of the moment several participants then got together and struck up a karaoke session with the entire group

The second formation of the se

Kurt-Michael Baudach

The network meeting clearly demonstrated that there is a great deal of potential for municipal partnerships with Asia that can be harnessed even more effectively in the future.

Some impressions from the flipcharts

,It was great to attend this conference and get to know so many people. Thanks very much for everything!

,Let's stay in touch and continue working together with passionate commitment!



Municipal Partnerships with Asia, June 2017

ANNEX

40 Agenda

Second Conference on Municipal Partnerships with Asia 19 to 21 June 2017 in Bonn

	Monday, 19 June 2017
12:00	Registration
13:00	Official opening by Dr. Jens Kreuter, Managing Director, Engagement Global gGmbH
13:10	Official welcome addresses
	- Martin Lübke, German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)
	- Stefan Wagner, Head, Department of International Affairs and Global Sustainability, City of Bonn
13:20	Keynote speech on municipal development cooperation, Dr. Stefan Wilhelmy, Division Manager, Service Agency
	Communities in One World
13:40	Group photo and getting to know each other
15:15	Coffee
15:45	Keynote speech: Sustainable and vibrant twinnings - the role of public participation
	Speaker: Dr Angela Jain, Area Management Infrastructure and Society, nexus Institute for Cooperation Management
	and Interdisciplinary Research
	Two examples of municipal partnerships: Essen (Germany) - Ulan Bator (Mongolia) and Nuremberg (Germany) -
	Kalmunai (Sri Lanka)
17:45	Final round and reflection on day 1
19:00	Boat trip on the Rhine with dinner

	Tuesday, 20 June 2017
09:00	Welcome and introduction to the story corners method
09:45	Sharing experiences and lessons learned in story corners:
	1) Ralf-Rainer Braun, Hagen: ,Only you: emotions as renewable energy'
	2) Peter Ilk, Baruth/Mark: ,Water for Chinggis Khan's heirs'
	3) Marion Schmid and Carolin Wiefel, Herrsching am Ammersee: ,A million drops can make a lake'
	4) Michael Weiner and Yudi Hermawan Aiwikarta, Berlin and Jakarta: ,What has a working visit got in common with a
	statue, a robot and me?'
	5) Ronaldo Golez, Dumangas: ,The journey
	6) Ulrike Schöneberg, Nuremberg: ,Together we are stronger'
12:45	Lunch
14:15	Keynote speech: ,The lieveable city of the future: how does learning work?'
	Prof. Colin McFarlane, Durham University, UK
15:15	Workshops, including coffee break
	1) How to anchor partnerships within a city – the role of citizens (simultaneous interpretation between English and
	German was provided) Moderator: Dr. habil. Nora Sausmikat
	2) Gender in municipal partnerships (English) Moderator: Eva Engelhardt
	3) Environment and climate change (simultaneous interpretation between English and German was provided)
	Moderators: Jessica Baier and Ricardo Marfiga
	4) Sustainable mobility (English)
	Moderator: Prof. em. Dr. Einhard Schmidt-Kallert
	5) The 2030 Agenda and SDG 4 ,Equitable quality education' (English)
	Moderator: Petra Biberhofer
17:45	End of Day 2 followed by drive/stroll to Bonn Town Hall
19:30	Evening reception in the Gobelin Room at the historic Bonn Town Hall hosted by Mayor Reinhard Limbach
20:00	Concert by ,Bonnido'

	Wednesday, 21 June 2017
09:30	Welcome and warm-up
09:45	Presentation of the Service Agency's instruments for financial and human resource support, with Q&A
10:45	Coffee
11:15	'Market of opportunities' on possible support for development projects
13:00	Final round
13:30	Lunch and depart

Mini-profiles

Baruth/Mark (Germany) Partner municipality: Murun (Mongolia)	Expertise/areas of partnership/projects: Urban development, water supply, wastewater treatment
Name: Peter Ilk Position: Mayor Email: ilk@stadt-baruth-mark.de	Interested in exchange/cooperation on: Exchange of experiences, exchange of information from the similar projects in other countries
Berlin-Lichtenberg (Germany) Partner municipality: Hanoi, Hoan Kiem (Vietnam)	Expertise/areas of partnership/projects: Climate partnerships, town twinning, international exchange, youth exchange
Name: Karin Strumpf Position: Commissioner for Partnership Towns Email: karin.strumpf@lichtenberg.berlin.de	Interested in exchange/cooperation on: Project experiences with Asian communities
Berlin-Lichtenberg (Germany) Partner municipality: Hanoi, Hoan Kiem (Vietnam)	Expertise/areas of partnership/projects: Municipal partnerships, environmental/climate projects, NGO work
Name: Susanne Laudahn Position: Program Manager SODI Email: s.laudahn@sodi.de	Interested in exchange/cooperation on: Other Vietnamese partnerships
Bonn (Germany) Partner municipality: Ulaanbaatar (Mongolia)	Expertise/areas of partnership/projects: Youth exchange, social work, participation, expert exchange
Name: Georg Goetz Position: Municipal Councilor, NGO German-Mongolian Society Email: goetz.cdu@bonn.de	Interested in exchange/cooperation on: Economic relations, sustainable municipal development
Chatra (India) Partner municipality: Herrsching (Germany)	Expertise/areas of partnership/projects: Integration of all political parties to implement any project
Name: Thakurdas Mallick Position: Mayor (Prodhan) Email: chatragp@gmail.com	Interested in exchange/cooperation on: Implementation of citywide save drinking water
Colombo/Kalmunai/Batticaloa (Sri Lanka) Partner municipality: Nuremberg (Germany)	Expertise/areas of partnership/projects: Local governance, environment
Name: Dr Fahmy Ismail Position: Retd. Deputy Municipal Commissioner Colombo Email: mfahmy@sltnet.lk; drfahmi.iyf@gmail.com	Interested in exchange/cooperation on: Sustainable water and sanitation, health, education
Dumangas, Iloilo (Philippines) Partner municipality: Herdecke (Germany)	Expertise/areas of partnership/projects: Climate field school
Name: Ronaldo B. Golez Position: Mayor Email: myr.onalgolez@yahoo.com	Interested in exchange/cooperation on: E-mobility, solid waste management

Dumangas, Iloilo (Philippines)

Partner municipality: Herdecke (Germany)

Name: Eugene Decastillo

Position: Municipal Agriculturalist **Email:** eugeddecastillo@gmail.com

Expertise/areas of partnership/projects:

Climate field school (focal person/facilitator)

Interested in exchange/cooperation on:

Environmental projects, mangrove eco-tourism, agriculture

Herrsching (Germany)

Partner municipality: Chatra, West Bengal (India)

Name: Ronjon Chatrabarty

Position: Adelphi Think Tank and Public Policy Con-

sultancy, Scientist, Project Manager **Email:** chatrabarti@adelphi.de

 ${\bf Expertise/areas\ of\ partnership/projects:}$

Environmental projects in development cooperation, near nature water treatment, sustainable development

Interested in exchange/cooperation on:

Funding of drinking water supply for communities, pilot projects, participatory development, feasibility studies, monitoring and evaluation

Hildesheim (Germany)

Partner municipality: Padang (Indonesia)

Name: Admi Landri Schlüter
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Expertise/areas of partnership/projects:

Municipal relations, smart cities, environmental issues and projects, educational exchange

Interested in exchange/cooperation on:

Environmental projects, educational projects, sustainable energy, other

NGO projects

Jakarta (Indonesia)

Partner municipality: Berlin (Germany)

Name: Yudhi Hermawan Aiwikarta

Position: Head of Subdivision for Sister Cities

Email: yudigoryeo2008@gmail.com

Expertise/areas of partnership/projects:

Exchange of experts, cultural exchange, city partnership program on official visits, sports and youth, training for officials

Interested in exchange/cooperation on:

Technical trainings for officials, exchange of students, feasibility studies

on city infrastructure projects

Kalmunai (Sri Lanka)

Partner municipality: Nuremberg (Germany)

Name: M. Nizam Kariapper **Position:** Ex-Mayor

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Expertise/areas of partnership/projects:

Renewable energy, city planning

Interested in exchange/cooperation on:

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Kalkuta (India)

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Name: Subramanian Venkat Raman

Position: Trustee, Kalkuta Trust for Human Develop-

ment

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Expertise/areas of partnership/projects:

Cultural exchange, mother and child welfare centre, communication and

networking

Interested in exchange/cooperation on:

Education, health care and sanitation

Ho Chi Minh City (Vietnam) Partner municipality: Leipzig (Germany) Name: Tran Phuoc Anh Position: Deputy Director General Email: phuocanh.tran@gmail.com	Expertise/areas of partnership/projects: Sister cities partnership, organization of visits, preparation of talking points Interested in exchange/cooperation on: Educational exchange, infrastructure projects, cultural activities
Padang (Indonesia) Partner municipality: Hildesheim (Germany)	Expertise/areas of partnership/projects: Tourism, disaster management
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Padang (Indonesia) Partner municipality: Hildesheim (Germany)	Expertise/areas of partnership/projects: Investment and public services, lone stop services
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List of abbreviations

ASA	Work and study internships programme
BMZ	German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development
BRT	Bus Rapid Transit
CCP	CrossCulture Programme
ENSA	School exchange programme for development
ESD	Education for Sustainable Development
GIZ	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH
ICLEI	Local Governments for Sustainability
IFKW	Integrated experts for municipalities worldwide programme
MeshHp	Mongolian Emergency Service Hospital Hygiene Project
Nakopa	Partnership projects for sustainable local development programme
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
PAD	Educational Exchange Service
PASCH	Schools: Partners for the Future (an initiative of the German Federal Foreign Office)
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SES	Senior Expert Service

PUBLICATIONS OF THE SERVICE AGENCY COMMUNITIES IN ONE WORLD

All publications and information leaflets of the Service Agency Communities in One World can be ordered free of charge (if not yet out of print) or downloaded on its homepage under https://skew.engagement-global.de/publications-en.html.

Please find below the list of publications available in English.

"Dialog Global"-Series:

- → No. 43: Network Meeting Migration & Development at the local level. 9 10 November 2015 in Cologne. Report. Bonn, October 2016
- → No. 40: 50 Municipal Climate Partnerships by 2015. Documentation of the third phase of the project. Bonn, May 2016
- No. 32: 50 Municipal Climate Partnerships by 2015. Documentation of the second phase of the project. Bonn, December 2014
- → No. 29: 50 Municipal Climate Partnerships by 2015. Documentation of the Pilot Phase. Bonn, May 2013 [German/English version]
- → No. 25: Participatory Budgeting Worldwide Updated Version. Study. Bonn, November 2013.
- → No. 24: International Congress on Models of Participatory Budgeting. Documentation. Bonn, November 2010
- No. 22: Migration and Development at the Local Level. An excerpt from the best practice guidelines. Bonn, November 2012

"Material"-Series:

- → No. 86: International Kick-off Workshop, 5th phase: "50 Municipal Climate Partnerships by 2015". 12th 14th July 2016 Science City of Muñoz, Philippines. Bonn, March 2017
- → No. 80: German-Latin American/Caribbean Mayors' Conference 'Urbanisation in Germany'. 30 to 31 May 2016 in Hamburg. Bonn, November 2016
- → No. 77: Second Conference of German-Palestinian Municipal Partnerships. 10 to 13 November 2015 in Jena. Bonn, July 2016
- → No. 70: International Workshop of the Municipal Climate Partnerships. Presentation of the Programmes of Action July 1 – 3, 2014. Bonn, February 2015
- → No. 60: International Workshop "50 Municipal Climate Partnerships by 2015 – Presentation of the Joint Programmes of Action". Documentation. Bonn, January 2014
- → No. 54: International Kick-off Workshop "50 Municipal Climate Partnerships by 2015" 14th -16th November 2011. Documentation. Bonn, May 2012

Others:

- → About Us. Bonn, February 2016
- → The services we offer. Bonn, March 2017

All current information, dates, activities, tips, and background reports can be found in the monthly ***Eine-Welt-Nachrichten*** of the Service Agency (only available in German). Free of charge! The order form is available on our homepage under: www.service-eine-welt.de.The order form is available on our homepage under: www.service-eine-welt.de.







































































Landeshauptstadt München











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On behalf of

