



Asian-Pacific City Summit Newsletter

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As we have informed you in the previous edition, the Asian-Pacific City Summit is scheduled to be held in Fukuoka on August 1-3, 2018. In this edition, we will begin with the article from Kumamoto City, which experienced a large-scale earthquake a year ago. The city reports the damages and efforts for the restoration.

I. A year on from the Kumamoto Earthquake (Article from Kumamoto City)

1. Kumamoto Earthquake Damages (2016)

Two fault earthquakes, a magnitude 6.5 foreshock and a magnitude 7.3 mainshock, hit Kumamoto in succession and caused serious damages to the city. The earthquake inflicted casualties, and also severely damaged infrastructure including roads, rivers, water works and sewerage, public facilities, industries like commerce and agriculture, transportation, and many houses. It greatly affected the life of the citizens and corporate and administrative activities.

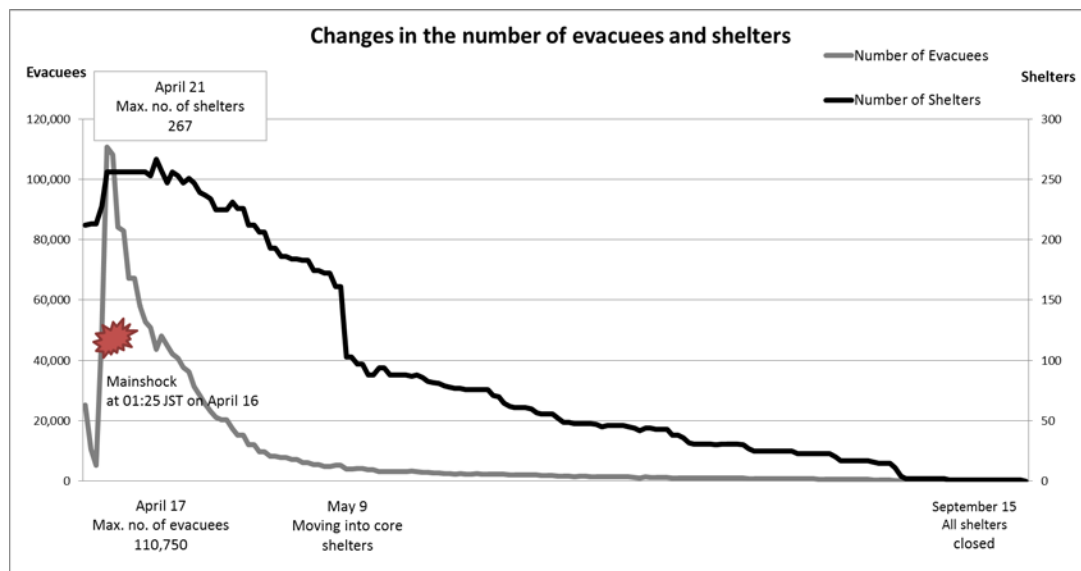
【Kumamoto City Data】

● Casualties (as of April 14, 2017)

	Number of people
Deaths	70
Serious injuries	738
Minor injuries	943
Total	1,751

● Damaged houses (as of April 14, 2017)

	Number of houses
Total collapse	2,454
Half collapse	15,159
Partially destroyed	99,503
Total	116,116





2. Kumamoto City's response to the earthquake

In order to restore and reconstruct the city after the earthquake, Kumamoto City developed the "Kumamoto City Earthquake Restoration Plan" in October 2016. In the plan, the city aims to mobilize the capacities of citizens, communities and public administration, and to revitalize and create a safe and secure Kumamoto. In this article, we introduce you to the restoration of Kumamoto Castle, and disaster risk management and awareness-raising activities for city employees and citizens.

(1) Restoration of Kumamoto Castle

Kumamoto Castle is one of the main cultural assets in Japan, and a symbol of Kumamoto, where about 1.7 million tourists from both home and abroad visit annually. It is indispensable and at the core of major urban planning policies of Kumamoto City and post disaster recovery.

For a year since last year's earthquake, Kumamoto City has been taking measures such as collecting parts of stonewalls and buildings that fell on city roads and private lands, and preventing turrets from further collapsing. However, many stone walls and buildings are still left collapsed. There are seven guidelines in the "Basic Guidelines on the Restoration of Kumamoto Castle" including "preserving value of cultural assets such as stone walls and buildings and their planned restoration", "early reconstruction of the castle keeps as it will be a symbol of recovery from the earthquake" and "showing the restoration process to the public in a phased manner and utilizing the process". With these guidelines, the city will mobilize many people including its citizens and people of other municipalities in Kumamoto Prefecture, and continue its restoration and recovery works.



[Castle keeps (just after the quake)]



[Emergency construction on Iidamaru Five-Story Turret to prevent collapse]

(2) Disaster risk management and awareness-raising activities for city employees and citizens

On the first anniversary of the Kumamoto Earthquake, in light of experience of the earthquake, the city conducted a drill involving opening and operating shelters, collecting and communicating information, and delivering relief supplies, which were challenges faced the city a year ago.

The city adopted the new system in which it preassigned its officers to each shelter even before a disaster, and in case of a large-scale disaster, officers in charge rush to their allocated shelters. Then they will work with schools (facility managers) and communities (school district community councils) to operate shelters. In this large-scale disaster drill with residents, one school from each of all five wards in Kumamoto City were selected as models and the drill was conducted.

With these initiatives, Kumamoto City will prepare for and increase awareness of future disaster.



[Meeting of the Headquarters for Disaster Control]
(Operation Room)



[Japanese Red Cross Society (Kumamoto) Disaster
(Medial) Response Vehicle]



[Emergency evacuation from a JR Kyushu train]



[Officers in charge of a shelter check the stockpile
warehouse]

II. News from UN-HABITAT ROAP-Fukuoka (The 13th installment)



Projects to achieve the "Sustainable Development Goals" - Solomon Islands to reduce risks of climate change -

Have you ever heard of the term "Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)"? These are the goals in 17 areas that have been adopted at the UN General Assembly for the international community to tackle by 2030.

With the common view of "leave no one behind", UN member states are requested to take concrete actions to achieve these goals.

Not only developing countries but advanced countries also face many issues such as poverty and gender inequality. In the modern era when people and goods move globally, many issues are complexly intertwined with each other across borders.

Actions by individual international organization and country are not enough; the international society needs to work together to address these issues. Furthermore, unless municipalities, private companies, and individuals take action, these goals are difficult to achieve.





Among the 17 goals, activities of UN-Habitat are especially associated with the Goal 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities. Cities and communities, the main theme of the Goal 11, are where people lead lives and engage in various activities. In order for cities and communities to be "sustainable", cooperative efforts toward achieving other goals are indispensable. Surely the Goal 11 is the binding point for all the goals.

How should SDGs-related activities be included in the community and urban planning? In this edition, we would like to introduce you to the initiative of the Solomon Islands, which adopt the Goal 13: Climate Action in their community planning.



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Cooperating with other UN agencies, UN-Habitat has been providing assistance to the Solomon Islands for reducing risks of climate change and natural hazards since 2013.

Flooding caused by heavy rain in April 2014 killed 22 people and more than 50,000 people were affected in Honiara, the capital city. Based on the bitter lesson of the disaster, not only local municipalities and related agencies of the central government, but also low income communities, the private sector, youth and women's organizations in Honiara spent six months to jointly compile the action plan for a disaster resilient city. The action plan was finally confirmed at a two-day meeting, where the Lord Mayor, city clerks, and high-level officials of national government attended.

Since the process of drawing up the action plan engaged various stakeholders, it impacted the urban planning and the plan for improving living condition of informal settlers of Honiara. The importance of climate resilient cities is also widely recognized. Specific activities have already started, which include capacity development by the National Disaster Management Office, awareness campaigns regarding climate change targeting women and youths, a disaster resilient community program by NGO that is supported by RMIT University.



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Deputy Mayor of Honiara in charge of climate change says, "The action plan drawn up by Honiara City Council is based on the deep understanding of the situation of vulnerable living environment of especially informal settlements that are prone to flooding. The improvement measures for this issue have been integrated in the plan, which makes this initiative significant. Landslides and disasters due to climate change have been aggravated year after year, but we are addressing these issues based on this action plan with the support of UN Habitat and other partners."

The Solomon Islands are building cities dealing with the risk of climate change. Cities are requested to adopt SDGs that are relevant to their area characteristics and issues, draw up specific plans, and implement them steadily. What kinds of initiatives are implemented in your city?

The Honiara Urban Resilience & Climate Action Plan, which the Honiara City Council drew up with the Solomon Islands Government, can be downloaded from the following link.

http://www.fukuoka.unhabitat.org/programmes/ccci/pdf/HURCAP_final_Endorsed.pdf





III. 2017 Fukuoka Prize (Article from Fukuoka City)



Asia is home to a diversity of ethnic groups, languages, and cultures, which coexist with each other and depend on each other. These diverse cultures have served not only as guardians of the priceless legacy of our long history and tradition, but also as sources of inspiration.

However, in the current era of globalization, there is a danger that Asian cultures may lose their distinctive features due to the encroaching standardization of culture. It is therefore vital to preserve, develop, and promote the harmonious coexistence of the diverse Asian cultures.

As Japan's cultural gateway, Fukuoka City has since antiquity played a significant role in promoting exchanges with other regions of Asia. This history, and a determination to promote and understand the distinctive cultures of Asia, and to further peace, inspired the inauguration of the Fukuoka Prize in 1990 through collaboration between academia, businesses, and the city authorities. Since then, there have been many prize recipients from almost every region of Asia.

Since cultural exchange looks to the future, it is not enough merely to preserve cultures with long histories and ancient traditions. New things emerge from the midst of change: it is necessary to observe them, respect them, learn from them, and build upon them. This is the aspiration of Fukuoka City and its citizens, as we strive to become a center for cultural exchange in Asia.

The Fukuoka Prize will continue to be a means of showing respect to those who have made outstanding contributions to academia, arts, and culture in Asia. We intend, together with the people of Fukuoka, to advertise to the world through our city, the diversity and the distinctiveness of Asian culture.

2017 Laureates



Grand Prize

Pasuk PHONGPAICHIT & Chris BAKER

Thailand/Economics, U.K./History

Prof. Pasuk Phongpaichit and Dr. Chris Baker are the worthy recipients of the Grand Prize of the Fukuoka Prize, because of their multidisciplinary and comprehensive analysis of the social changes which Thailand has experienced since the period of rapid economic growth in the 1980s, an analysis based on a combination of Western and Eastern intellectual approaches, and of methodologies from the social sciences and the humanities, which has added breadth and depth to academic research, in both subject-matter and methodology, in a fresh and distinctively Asian way; and also because of their active contributions to society.



Academic Prize

WANG Ming

China / Public Management, NGO and Civil Society Studies (Born in 1959)

Prof. Wang Ming is one of the leaders of NGO (non-governmental organization) studies and environmental governance in China. He founded the Tsinghua University NGO Research Center to introduce NGO studies to China, and also opened up the new academic field of Philanthropy. He has raised academic standards in this field in China, through field surveys which he considers vital, and by introducing socio-scientific methods from abroad. He has also educated many young researchers. For his continual commitment to the potential inherent in NGOs and to their application in the solution of social and environmental problems, Prof. Wang is truly worthy of the Academic Prize of the Fukuoka Prize.



Arts and Culture Prize

KONG Nay

Cambodia / Music (Born in 1944)

Having survived the turbulence of Cambodia's history, Master Kong Nay has become one of few remaining heirs to the tradition of chapey musical performance, handing on this legacy to a new generation. Through his performance and composition, he has spread awareness, throughout the world, the charm and versatility of this music, and has also contributed greatly to the training of young musicians, and to the UN's human rights activities and the events to support disabled people. For the activities he has undertaken through his music both at home and abroad, he is truly worthy of the Arts and Culture Prize of the Fukuoka Prize.

Please check the Fukuoka Prize website for more information:

Japanese: <http://fukuoka-prize.org/>

English: <http://fukuoka-prize.org/en/>

Chinese: <http://fukuoka-prize.org/cn/>

Korean: <http://fukuoka-prize.org/kr/>

★To all persons of contact for our member cities: We are waiting for articles from you.

Please feel free to send us information on hot topics and new projects of your city and your efforts to address urban issues that might be helpful to other cities.

(Newsletters are posted on the Asian-Pacific City Summit website and sent to member cities and other addresses via email.)

Future Asian-Pacific City Summit Conferences

Date	Name of the Conference	Host City
August 1-3, 2018	12 th Mayors Conference	Fukuoka City, Japan



Provided by the City of Fukuoka / Photo: Fumio Hashimoto

The Asian-Pacific City Summit has been building cooperative relations and networks among cities through Mayors Conferences, Working-Level Conferences and other activities, working toward solutions for urban problems in the Asia-Pacific region.

Asian-Pacific City Summit Member Cities 30 Cities from 13 Countries

Auckland (New Zealand)	Kagoshima City (Japan)
Bangkok (Kingdom of Thailand)	City of Kitakyushu (Japan)
Brisbane (Commonwealth of Australia)	Kuala Lumpur (Malaysia)
Busan Metropolitan City (Republic of Korea)	Kumamoto City (Japan)
Changsha (People's Republic of China)	City of Manila (Republic of the Philippines)
Dalian (People's Republic of China)	Miyazaki City (Japan)
Fukuoka City (Japan)	Nagasaki City (Japan)
Guangzhou (People's Republic of China)	Naha City (Japan)
Gwangyang (Republic of Korea)	Oita City (Japan)
Ho Chi Minh City (Socialist Republic of Vietnam)	Pohang (Republic of Korea)
Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (PRC)	Saga City (Japan)
City of Honolulu (United States of America)	Shanghai (People's Republic of China)
Ipoh City (Malaysia)	Republic of Singapore
Jakarta Capital City Government (Republic of Indonesia)	Urumqi (People's Republic of China)
Jeju Special Self-Governing Province (ROK)	Vladivostok (Russian Federation)

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